

## WINTER RETURNS Campus left powerless

by Daniel Ecklor



*At the end of November, single digit temperatures and snow left no doubt that winter had definitely returned to Spangle*

### UCA's new ride

by Susana Maldonado

With colorful, orange and black balloons, the eager crowd awaited the arrival of the new UCA bus.

After months of prayers and sending letters, UCA finally received their long awaited bus. A special assembly was held by the gym where principal Bovee spoke about the effort it took to earn money for the bus and encouraged students to get involved in raising money for another. Finally, Mr. North drove the new bus to the road behind the gym.

Everyone screamed and crowded around the bus with smiling faces. Students were asked to put their hands on the bus while a prayer for protection was offered up to God.

"It was good to see that our efforts yielded something good that could help our school prosper," said Courtney Smith, a sophomore at UCA. The excitement of the students was obvious, especially when a select few were allowed to take a joy ride on the new UCA bus.

A power outage caused confusion and disorder at the UCA campus on Monday, November 13. The power outage was caused by high 30-60 mph winds that ripped loose power lines and tore a transformer out. According to Jason Crew, maintenance taskforce worker, the power went out at about three o'clock in the morning. Because winds were still raging until late in the afternoon, county electrical workers couldn't repair the damage until about 1 pm.

Students waking that morning were surprised to find that no electricity-dependent devices were working and that the lights weren't on. The entire campus was practically engulfed in darkness. Cafeteria workers managed to feed the students a warm breakfast though. There was debate about whether classes should be held, but at about 9 a.m. it was announced that classes would go on as usual, so students made their way from class to class through the shadowy halls and ventured bravely into pitch black restrooms.

This wasn't the only power outage that occurred. There also had been one on Friday, November 10, and on Thursday, November 16, both resulting in some specific class changes.

Some thought that the power outage was good thing. "This is awesome, now I won't have computer lit today!" said Ryan Stiengas. It affected everyone in at least one way or another whether they liked it or not. Will it happen again?

*Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth peace, goodwill toward men.*

# Lower classmen party

by Kurt Jacobson

On the evening of November 18, all four classes went to four corners of campus for their annual class parties.. As seniors played foosball and explored a maze in the gymnasium and the Juniors ran around the cafeteria in their pajamas, the underclassmen were enjoying their own parties elsewhere.

In the elementary school behind the church, freshmen played board games and Stratego for over five hours and then watched the animated movie "Over the Hedge" in the multi-purpose room of the school.

Meanwhile, in the girls' dormitory chapel, the sophomores were playing twister and chess, eating donuts off a string and playing a game in which the boys and girls would race around blowing up balloons and popping them by sitting on them. They watched "Over the Hedge" as well. Apparently the sophomores were slightly more ecstatic about their party, using such words as "awesome" and "chaotic" to describe it.

There was one other activity that a number of underclassmen dubbed "party-crashing". It consisted of a variety of great sub-activities such as taking food from other classes and pulling apart the seniors' maze in the weight room of the gym.

In general, all members of all classes at all parties enjoyed themselves and had a lot of fun.



*Seniors party 'round a foosball table in the gym while stylish junior, Scott Guthrie, prepares to receive some ice-cream. Photos by Jennifer Seo and Jessica Schuette*



# Parties amaze upper classmen

by Nicholas Lauren

Junior and senior class parties took the upperclassmen by surprise. Held Saturday, November 18, the parties organized by class officers and sponsors gave students a chance to have some fun before the Thanksgiving home leave.

Thrilled and refreshed after the Junior party, Brady Weijohn exclaimed, "The games were awesome and the food was great. It was a blast!" The junior party, held in the café, featured human bowling, mafia, competitions where contestants had to eat bananas without their hands, and an ice cream drop where would drop ice cream into each other's mouths from tables. The juniors had lots of fun playing games, listening to music and just hanging out on the mattress set up.

After putting in more than five hours on the Thursday before the party building a maze with fellow class officers, senior Sergeant-at-Arms Spenser Zaharie told roommate Nicholas Lauren, "Dude, they won't forget this one," as he went to bed just after 2:30 in the morning.

The senior's main attraction was a two story cardboard maze that filled the weight room in the gym. It had dead ends, trapdoors, and roundabouts, but the best part was that contestants had to mouse through it in pitch black. Seniors crawled on their hands and knees for 30+ minutes to the finish the maze, and all came out laughing and smiling. Their party also had food, refreshments, four piñatas, Borneo sticks, a "Who's Line Is It Anyway?" feature, ping-pong, basketball, a series of mini-games, and the showing of "Cars the Movie."

The traditional class parties of 2006 were just what UCA needed after 3 weeks of studying, homework

## Touring minstrels make music

by **Bob Gabel**

The first weekend in November saw a shiny new bus pull up in front of campus and fill to the brim with excited band members before heading off to Sandpoint and Hayden.

The first band tour of the year and Director Dean Kravig's first one at this school got off to great start: it five minutes ahead of schedule, a milestone in UCA history!

The bus took the eager instrumentalists to Sandpoint Junior Academy where they set up in the gym and then took a break for a delicious supper of baked potatoes put on by the awesome local ladies who turned out to feed them. After that, they all got changed, and after discovering they had forgotten some article of dress clothing, took their places on the risers and began to warm up.

The performance went very well despite the freezing cold and the wonderful acoustic qualities of gymnasiums (the right half of the band not being able to hear the left half). Afterwards, the students broke up into groups that were then assigned to various kindly people in the neighborhood who were happy to take two to six rowdy kids home for the night and feed them a delicious breakfast in the morning.

After said breakfast, the students were ferried back to SJA where they boarded the bus for the Hayden church. When they got there, they had an awesome lesson study and a small break before again getting up front to play.

This concert went even better than the first and the church enjoyed it very much. Some veterans got up to speak since it was Veterans Day, and then the whole group was treated to a delicious potluck generously served by the church. The kids ate their fill and got back on the bus, heading for school.

All in all it was a successful trip with a very comfortable and smooth



*Choraliers members John Lubke, Elle Seibly and Rhonda Prokopetz have a photographic moment on the bus during the Choraliers tour to Pendleton and Tri-cities.*

*Photo by Armand Rabanal*

## Cats litter biology room

by **Stephen Prewitt**

Poking, cutting, and slicing. Those are the things you would see if you went to go to the biology room.

Every year the advanced biology class gets the privilege to dissect cats. It is quite the process. Each student pairs up with another and they get their cat, and each pair, of course, is graded by how good their dissection is.

The whole dissection process takes about a week. Students start off by opening up their cats and carefully locating different parts of the body. Each day they identify and learn about a new body part. By the end of the week the cats usually look pretty . . . interesting.

If you were to walk into the biology room, or even by it, you would be able to smell the smell of all smells. The smell of the cats wafts all the way down the hall in the ad building. Some people find it disgusting while others don't seem to mind it that much.

Dissecting the cats is a very educational way to not only learn about the cats but also to learn about the human body and how it works.

## 4-year Senior Club Officers

|                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>President</b>      | <b>Sarah Hudson</b>   |
| <b>Vice-president</b> | <b>Andrea Cook</b>    |
| <b>Chaplain</b>       | <b>Canda Lodge</b>    |
| <b>Secretary</b>      | <b>Kati Winkle</b>    |
| <b>Treasurer</b>      | <b>Sadie Gonzalez</b> |
| <b>Sgt-at-Arms</b>    | <b>Tracy Age</b>      |

# Clinic reveals talent

by Ryan McGarvey

Students from across the surrounding regions gathered for a meeting with the UCA gymnastics team to learn stunts, perform in pyramids, and gain experience.

On November 7, 153 visiting students gathered in the gym to practice newly learned techniques that were taught by the gymnastics team. Each group of students went around to various stations where they learned a different part of the gymnastics routine from members of the UCA team. A group spent 45 minutes at a station, and then they rotated to the next one.

As the youths traveled through the stations, a few seemed to excel and have true talent, a talent in need of direction. Placing people in high elevators, moscows, and large scale pyramids, as well as showing skill in pair's routines such as t-stands and camels, these youth showed that they were capable.

Tumbling is sometimes difficult for people, but with help everyone was soon executing back-handsprings and back flips. It seemed that nothing was too hard for anyone, and smiles were abundant.

Along with all the flips and pyramids were the jugglers. Juggling was a station run by Sasha Kravig and Brock Walker. Sasha juggled knives as an example which made many eyes grow with the hope of doing that one day. Most were able to juggle a little by the end of their rotation.

After the day was done, smiles remained and new friendships were crafted with the visitors who may become

# Back bends three highs and moscows

by Kara Hughes

"Now performing for half time is the Upper Columbia Academy gymnastics team!" Those were the words bellowed into the microphone throughout the Gonzaga University stadium on November 16. It was the first half-time show of the year for the gymnastics team and the whole team was pumped with adrenaline. They were ready to display their carefully-planned show and wow the crowd with their daring stunts.

After the team was announced through the microphone, they ran out into the stadium and quickly rolled out the gym mats. They lined up and prepared for their first stunt.

"Ready set," yelled Ashley Brito, and the show began. The team ran quickly from stunt to stunt making sure they didn't exceed their time limit of five minutes. Even though the show went by quickly, the whole team thought it was worth all the practice. "All the practice we did was definitely worth it, and you know why? Because we stuck every single pyramid. We did everything perfectly," said Kristen Milligan. Kristen's statement is quite true. The gymnastics team performed every stunt without messing up, and undoubtedly impressed the crowd.

Time and time again it is proven that hard work always pays off in the end. It's like Coach Soule always says, "Perfect practice makes perfect."

## Time changes; students rejoice

by Bill Lenz

This year, like all past years, time fell back an hour to accommodate the change in the daylight hours. For UCA this means that we get to go to shortened Friday schedule which is a welcome tradition to many.

Students all over campus are delighted that during the winter they get to leave campus for the weekend three to four hours earlier because of sundown being so early. And on the weekend of the change they get an extra hour of sleep, or just more time to stay up late watching movies. For dorm students the extra three hours to drive home or get ready for Sabbath is a great blessing. For village students it is just plain nice to get to say goodbye to the campus and not have to sit in classes for the full 45 minute periods.

Although this may be a great thing at this point in time, it is always a rude awakening when spring rolls around and everyone has to skip an hour of their weekend and get up an hour earlier for school. So, students, enjoy this time while it lasts and don't take too much advantage of it because when spring comes back it will haunt you.



UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY

## ECHOES

Is a regular student publication of  
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### this month's contributors included

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Bill Lenz, Susana Maldonado, Ryan McGarvey,  
Tyler Quiring, Armand Rabanal, Jennifer Seo,  
Kristen Trueblood, and  
Stephen Lacey, adviser





*Jonathan Schreven runs with the ball during the first game of the Fall Classic football tournament on November 12. UCA lost the first game to Old School but won the remaining three games.*

## Girls' sports lack bounce

*by Sasha Bothe*

Girls' sports at UCA have been pretty humdrum so far this year with a total of four games between the football team and volleyball team. It seems that girls' sports are not taken as seriously as boys' sports are.

The UCA volleyball team was pretty devoted this year to becoming the best team they could. They practiced hard, and they were so committed that they even had a 4:00 a.m. practice. The team was ready to conquer anyone, but Dean Willis could only provide them with three games. Last year's team played more than double the games, but the girls had a fun season despite the fact they didn't have many games.

The girls' football team suffered the most this year. The only game scheduled against Walla Walla was cancelled at the last minute. With a lot of recruiting and convincing, the girls finally got a team of mothers to play. The mothers were easily hammered by the girls' team. With all of the hard practice in the cold weather, the girls showed their stuff in only one game.

There is hope for girls' basketball, though. They usually have many teams to play against, and they will set off for the Friendship Tournament at Walla Walla at the end of the season. There definitely will be a lot more basketball games than volleyball and football games. Basketball seems to be more of a crowd favorite as well.

Hopefully, in future years, people will learn to value the importance of girls' sports instead of pushing

## Students make changes

*by Kelli Kostenko*

Every year classes elect Student Council representatives. Student council is one of those clever organizations designed to link the student body and the staff to generate ideas, make compromises, and make beneficial changes on campus.

Each class has student representatives. Justin Davis and Tana Armitstead are the two senior representatives, Chris Nelson and Mikki Montgomery are the two junior representatives, Kristin Stratte is the sophomore representative, and Tiffany Caldwell is the freshman representative.

To make sure everything runs smoothly, advisors Mr. Patzer, vice principal, and Mrs. Wickward, history teacher, sit in and listen to the weekly meetings on Fridays. So far this year, the meetings have generated many exciting ideas for changes around campus.

Last year, student council began a co-ed study hall in the library of the administration building. It was held once a week, and Student Council would like to get that started again. This is an example of just one of the projects the Council works on.

Student Council was not created only for its members and their ideas. It involves the entire campus – everyone at UCA including staff and the student body. If you have creative ideas on how to better the school, talk to one of the Council members at any time. They will present it during their meetings, and you might just see your idea put into action. Suggestions are wanted, needed, and can make things happen!

## Banquet spurs creativity

by Bill Lenz

When the Christmas Banquet was announced November 8, hunting season began. Girls became open season and prey to random gifts of flowers, chocolate and the question: "Will you go to the banquet with me?" But when tradition just wasn't enough, the guys portrayed their creativity in some amazing ways.

One such display was on a Friday in the cafeteria when Steve Martinez announced a game of "The Price is Right." He called four female contestants to the front and had them bid for prizes. Then as each girl "won," she would get asked by a guy to the banquet in front of everyone. This was quite entertaining. Another creative way was demonstrated by Brendan Hay when he asked Susana Maldonado by putting balloons in her room, one of which contained a note asking her to the banquet. She had to pop all the balloons until she found the right one.

Do girls really like these creative ways of being asked to the banquet? From the girls I asked, I found that they love it when guys get creative, but they would rather have them be creative in a private, not public, way. Guys enjoy making it fun to ask people to the banquet, but many find it hard to do something original.

Guys, never forget to be yourself and have fun first and foremost. Get out there and ask whom you want to ask. If you don't get up the courage, go skiing.

## Science club explodes with fun

by Sasha Bothe

Separating DNA, star gazing, and rocket launching are just a few things that the Science Club has experimented with this year, but the year has just begun for UCA's Science Club members.

When the club meets, they plan the experiments and activities anyone can participate in because this club is not for members only—anyone can join in on the adventure of learning!

The club has experimented with mouse mazes, and it throws many amazingly themed parties around such activities as star-gazing and rocket-launching. For Steve Irwin fans, even a Steve Irwin party has been planned.

The Science Club recently went on a trip called Hutch High. The club got an invitation to apply for the event that only 400 students in Washington could attend. They were accepted and went to a cancer research center in Seattle. There, they studied microbiology and did four labs. In one lab, the students did DNA spooling, or the separating of DNA. The trip lasted two days, and UCA students were very fortunate to have attended an event desired by many science clubs all over Washington.

The club plans on taking more trips in the future. For now, they need ideas for experiments and trips and want you to join in on the fun.



*Lizzy Kim and Mikki Montgomery fold t-shirts at the UCC office during HOPE Task Force.*



*Kayla Schroetlin, Blake Gimbel, David Thruston and Janae Rose discovered it was the 90th birthday of the elderly woman whose home they were cleaning for HOPE Task Force, so they went and bought her some flowers.*

# Sunday school

by Rainey Davis

If you happened to stumble into a UCA classroom the Sunday before a homeleave, you might be surprised to see students faithfully sitting at desks as if it were a normal weekday morning. However, if you looked a little closer, you might notice that none of the students was awake, though the teacher was busily chattering away.

The once-a-month Sunday school days at UCA are a must in order to get enough school days in a year, but to the students it is a day to be endured rather than cherished. Most people don't even bother getting out of their pajamas; they simply toss on a sweatshirt and shuffle to their 7:15 classes with their shoes untied. Homework due on Sunday is usually not finished until the period before that class starts. If you ask someone how they are doing, the answer will always, without exception, be "tired."

Thankfully, the teachers are usually pretty lenient on Sundays. Some hold off quizzes until the next day, or they might show a video in class. Others, however, are not as sympathetic and give the poor, sleepy-eyed students several assignments to keep them awake that night, maybe because they are just as agitated as the students that they have to teach on Sunday. But pretty soon, the day comes to a close and everyone remembers that there is a homeleave to look forward to. Students go to bed with tired but happy smiles on their faces...until their alarm clock rings and they remember that there is yet another 7:15 class to attend.

# The SAT scares all takers

by Kristen Trueblood

The SAT is this nation's oldest, most widely used college entrance exam. It is also one of the most terrifying and stressful tests. It is taken by thousands of high school seniors every year, causing late study nights, stressful situations, and tons of caffeine in-take.

The SAT has three sections and three scores, each on a scale of 200 to 800. The average score is about 1,538 points (520 in Math, 510 in Writing, and 508 in Critical Reasoning). The SAT consists of analogies, sentence completion, reading comprehension, standard math, and quantitative comparison items. It does not include advanced math topics nor does it attempt to assess higher-order thinking or reasoning skills.

The SAT is valid for just one purpose: predicting first-year college grades. Many colleges base a potential-student's entrance on the SAT. More schools, however, are starting to accept ACT scores, which means high-school seniors may only have to take one test. Top schools will expect you to achieve an SAT score of 2,100 or more. A score above 2,100 puts you in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile, meaning that you scored better on the test than 90% of test takers. A perfect score (which is rarely achieved) is 2,400 points.

If test day is just around the corner, there are a few things that you can do to help you do your best. Be well rested. Get a good-night's sleep the night before the test. Eat breakfast the morning of the test. Bring acceptable Photo ID and your SAT Admission Ticket. Bring two No. 2 pencils and a good eraser. (Mechanical pencils and pens are not allowed.) Don't forget to study! Follow these tips for the test, and you're sure to do well.

# Students plan to get booted

by Tyler Quiring

When it snows, those signed up for the ski program at UCA will strap planks to their feet and race down the mountain at Schweitzer ski resort in Idaho on six different occasions.

The Rec. Ski program was started over 20 years ago by Mr. Olin Peach, a former teacher here, and one who has been associated with the school for around 50 years, says Mr. Blankenship, food service director and the one currently in charge.

Rec Ski generally goes to Idaho every year, but this year will be different with every trip going to Schweitzer Ski Resort. In the past, Silver Mountain and other resorts have been visited by the group.

This year the program features a season pass, and transportation provided by the school. Although it is far cheaper to buy the season pass, students can participate just once or twice if they want to. In fact, Mr. Blankenship encourages this. But to get PE credit, students must be signed up for the Rec Ski program and participate at least five of the six times.

Rec Ski is open to anyone who loves powder, and according to Mr. Blankenship, the purpose is "to allow vigorous outdoor activity in a beautiful natural setting."

The future of the Rec Ski program is uncertain due to bargain prices for season passes and the increased cost of transportation. There may be no Rec Ski next year, or it may continue for another 20 years.

Last month the list of Junior Class Officers got jumbled, so here they are

**President:** Emily Muthersbaugh  
**Vice-president** Doug Wheeler  
**Chaplain:** Rosemary Welser  
**Secretary:** Mindy Schreven  
**Treasurer** Jessica Schuette  
**Chorister:** Jon Gaskill  
**Pianist:** Kaitlyn Fitch  
**Sgt-at-Arms:** Brady Weijohn  
**Boys' sports:** Jose Alcala  
**Girls' sports:** Lizzy Kim

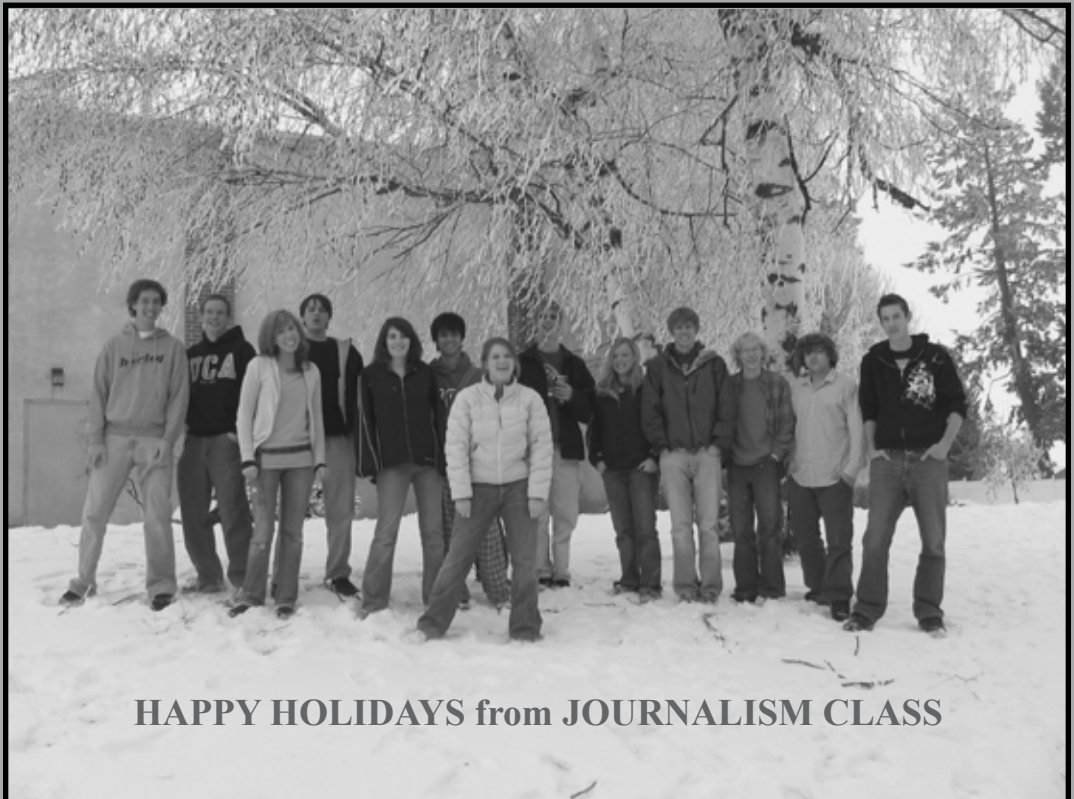
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## UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY

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December 15  
Sacred Christmas Concert  
December 16  
Christmas Concert  
December 17 - January 2  
Christmas Vacation  
January 3  
Classes Resume  
January 12  
End of 1st Semester



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS from JOURNALISM CLASS**