

THE ECHOES

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Upper Columbia Academy, Spangle, Washington

DOWNHOME CHRISTMAS

The LeRoy Wheeler Down Home Christmas Show was a big success. Held during joint worship on December 16, it had many unique selections. The show opened with LeRoy himself singing what he called "The Ultimate Christmas Song," a combination of just about every tune in the book. Next, Charley Coleman, Mr. Jenks, and Aaron Canwell livened things up with a twang-twang version of "Deck the Halls." Mr. Jenks, of course, played bass guitar while Charley and Aaron strummed and finger-picked along. The third number was a skillful Christmas trumpet solo by Ryan Crisman with Mr. Lange as accompanist. LeRoy just couldn't stay away, and the next song was done by his room-mate, Jason Hunt, and him. Number five, as LeRoy put it, added class to the evening--Adam Ferguson sang a great solo, "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas." Once more, LeRoy joined in to "murder a classic." He sang "Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer" with a whole new twist. The last piece was unforgettable. It was a modern-day version of "The Twelve Days of Christmas." Mr. Jenks, Priscilla Fernandez, and Amy Chilson "sang" hilariously about faulty Japanese transistor radios and the like--

All in all, everyone did a great job. It was a very entertaining program and we are proud of LeRoy and everyone else who helped to give us a great night.

Sarah Coleman

HALF-GONE...

The school year is more than half over already. We are certainly thankful for the safe journeys made through the blizzards of Christmas vacation and for having survived the trials of first semester. Some familiar faces are no longer with us and we miss them. We certainly wish the best to those who left school sooner than we would have liked. Keep walking in the light!



Sigma Kappa Sigma officers stand before the admiring crowd at their banquet!

BOYS' CLUB BANQUET

On the evening of December 13, the dimly-lit cafeteria was the site for the annual boys' club banquet. Trees hung with twinkling lights and candles at every table provided a festive, romantic atmosphere. Showing great chivalry, the boys' club presented each young lady with a red long-stemmed rose. Keyboard, violin, flute, and guitar music (provided by Mrs. Anderson, Marsh, Thorman, Gragg, and McFeeters) softly played while we filled up on a turkey dinner. Well, it wasn't exactly turkey, but it did have a certain shape while it was in the pan... Mr. Blankenship's well-done "gingerbread house" made the first of its many appearances (maybe we'll see it again next year!), and his tree ice sculpture glistened at center stage. When the banquet was over, many went to the gym to enjoy the always-amusing *Snowball Express*.

Well done, Sigma Kappa Sigma! And by the way, we like those shirts and hats!

CLOWN MINISTRIES

Clown ministries is an outreach program that allows 6 to 8 UCA students to venture into the Shriner's Childrens Hospital once a week. The object of this ministry is to cheer up the sick children there at Shriner's with the make-up, strange hair, and outrageously-funny costumes we wear during our visit. It is important for us as role models to be positive, funny, out-going, and to always represent Christ in all we do and say around the children. I've really enjoyed spending time with the children. It makes me feel really good about myself and what I'm doing each time one of them smiles back at me.

Jessica Evans

CONCERTS

The UCA music department has presented several concerts in the last few weeks, including the Christmas concerts on December 18 and 19 and the Winter Band Concert on January 16.

The Christmas concerts included the band, choir, and Choraliers. On Friday night, December 18, the choral department delivered a fine worship in song. The following evening, the band, choir, Choraliers, and solo pianists performed while the snow whirled around the gym, threatening to strand many in the audience.

The Winter Band Concert featured the band and various ensembles. The band felt they had done a good job, and the audience proved it with a standing ovation, calling for an encore.

After the concert, a challenging basketball game was played between UCA's best and former best. The former best won!

Kristine Hillmon



The brass section of the band in various states of readiness for the next number

PTA

(Party Time Already)

At 5:00 o'clock in the UCA cafe on December 6 of 1992, the ASB-sponsored Christmas party started with the laughter and excitement of 55 kids arriving for a party. They didn't know what all was in store for them other than fun-and-games, gifts, and exotic cafe food.

The children were from low-income housing and would not have had such a great Christmas at home. This was the chance for the UCA students to share their care and love with the small town of Spokane.

Students who were willing to take the responsibility of looking after a child and giving a gift had signed up in the registrar's office asking for a boy or girl in the age range of their choice. Many signed up as couples for a "date."

The party was a hit as the kids had a good time making new friends and receiving their gifts. The party was closed by watching a couple of cartoon movies and then saying good-bye as the children boarded the school's bus to get back home.

LeRoy Wheeler



Roni Sue Scott and Aaron Canwell enjoy the ASB party with their new friend

KUCA 105 fm

KUCA is a great radio station to listen to on Friday and Sabbath. It is the first radio station ever on the campus of UCA, broadcasting with enough power to reach the whole campus! Our hosts on the station are Amie Chilson, Priscilla Fernandez, Geoffrey Greenway, Sam Hatch, and Jason Hunt.

We play great music by artists such as Michael Card, Steve Green, and Steve and Annie Chapman. We also take requests and dedications on the station and our music library is growing.

KUCA is a small station, but it sure has a lot of potential. So remember, when you need R&R on Sabbath, just tune in on your secret radios to 105 fm (or listen to it over the dorm speakers!)

Priscilla Fernandez

THE ECHOES is a regular publication of Upper Columbia Academy, a non-profit, coeducational, Seventh-day Adventist boarding school. Spangle, Washington 99031.

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Derek Ginter battles the icy clutches of winter on the sidewalk between the ad. building and the boys' dorm

Snow Song

*If you listen through the wind
To the sounds laced through its blowing,
You can almost hear the sound
Of snowflakes gently snowing.
The music of the snow is like
A cobra-tamer's song.
It beguiles you, haunts and prods you
To follow along.*

*Just try to catch a snowflake
As it blows across the sky—
It lifts and dips and teases you,
Then falls when you blink your eyes.
If I were a snowflake,
I think I'd never land.
I'd just flit and float around
And follow the will of the wind.*

Sarah Coleman

He is able!!



LeRoy Wheeler puzzles the crowd at the Downhome Christmas Show!

THE THAW...

Lurking in the back of our over-worked minds has been this question, "What will happen when all this snow melts?" On Wednesday morning, January 20, we got part of the answer.

It seemed white-water rafting down the ad. building stairs might be a possibility as melting snow found its way through the ceilings, into the upper-level classrooms, and down the stairs. Classes had to be cancelled or relocated to avoid the fast-falling water while clever bucket and plastic-sheet experiments were arranged on the floor.

Mr. Thorman's room was the hardest hit, while the dorms, gym and other campus buildings proved that they, too, were no match for the slush.

Is this just a small taste of what is to come? Wetsuits, everyone!

REC. SKI

What is there that's a whole lot better to do on a Sunday than to get up extremely early, grab your squashed sack breakfast (and, perhaps, lunch), and rumble off campus in first-class UCA transportation for a day of skiing at some exotic locale? Studying?? Nah.

Sunday recreation skiing is in full swing again this year, a golden opportunity to satisfy those cravings for the slopes and earn credit!

Trips this year have been scheduled for Mt. Spokane, Silver Mountain and Schweitzer in Idaho, and Red Mountain up in Rossland, British Columbia.

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Ingathering certainly was a joyous experience!



In a few months (five or six) this will all be a memory!