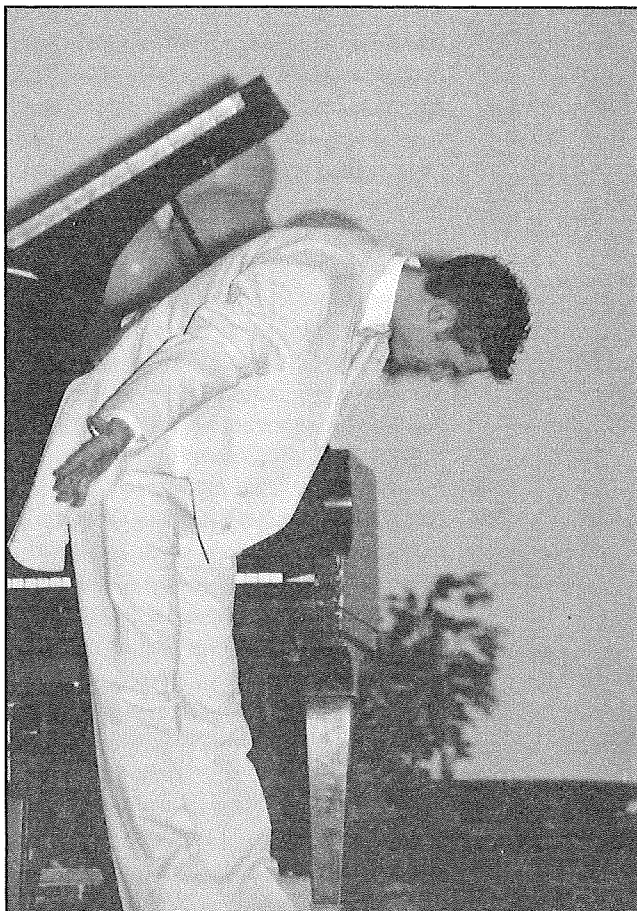


upper columbia academy echoes

April 2002



Ezra Foss takes a bow after his performance for the Senior Talent Show

THE GRADUATING CLASS OF

2002

COMMENCEMENT - JUNE 2

Music-and-Drama

At 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 30, choir and band members were scattering from their dorms and heading out across campus to warm up at the music building. This was another night for them to show how hard they had been working. It was the night of the annual Music-A-Rama, and in the audience were friends and family waiting eagerly for 7:30 when the program would begin.

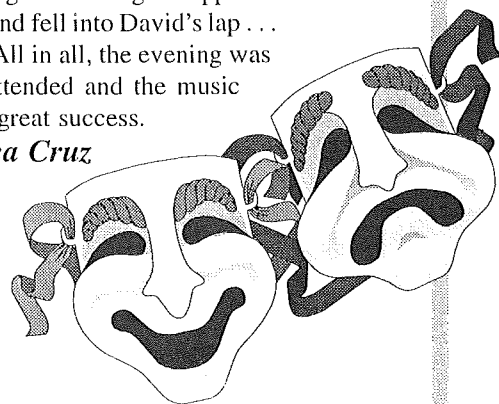
To start the evening, the guys from choir sang their hearts out in "Stand by Me." As soon as they were through, the girls with an "attitude" came rushing out and pushed them off the risers so they could sing. Wearing white shirts and jeans, the girls sang "Shop Around," as if making the statement, "take that, boys!"

Following the choir's performance, the band played several numbers including selections from the "Phantom of the Opera." The String Ensemble played from "Fiddler on the Roof," and Christina Jenks, Maranatha Hay, and Jennifer Pick played piano solos.

The Choraliers, a select vocal group, and the Octet, a vocal group of four guys and four girls alternated songs. Some of the songs were from "A Gershwin Portrait," and during the song "Gershwin in Love," David Lundgrin walked smoothly over to Emily Wilkens and sang, "I've got a crush on you." Emily blushed and had a hard time singing. After the song a certain girl tripped over something and fell into David's lap...

All in all, the evening was well attended and the music was a great success.

Erica Cruz



Going out for God

It all started with not being able to go on an official mission trip. Like many other students, I faced Spring Break with little to do. I was destined to sit in my living room and watch another Sports Center highlight reel on ESPN or sleep until noon, but Kevin Ekvall invited me to go with him to Seattle. He had planned a mini mission trip to do street ministries. So I had a choice: I could waste the break or get out and share God. I chose to share God.

Ezra Foss, Ross Magi, Ian Shupe, and Matt Giem added to our small but powerful group. The Lord provided funding through generous contributions from parents and their employers. Some gave up to \$250. We stayed at Puget Sound Adventist Academy in Kirkland and received contact cards from Jerry and Shasta Burr who have recently started a church in downtown Seattle called Anchor Point.

Our first activity, a free car wash, was cancelled because of rain, so we improvised and went and sang at a nursing home. Ezra played his keyboard, Ross played the saxophone, Kevin and Ian were on guitars, and Matt and I sang along. The nursing home residents loved it and sang along with us.

Later that day we rode busses in the downtown area and handed out Steps to Christ, contact cards, and pop tarts. We really had to get out of our comfort zones.

On Sabbath we were able to attend the church service held at Anchor Point and afterwards we handed out flowers and sang in front of the Science Center. It was a good place to talk to people because a Saint Patrick's Festival was being held there.

On our last day we set up in a park overlooking the bay and asked people for their opinions about religion. The responses were shocking. The people were very grateful and accepting.

We all came to realize the great need that is out there and how much a little group can do. Instead of being at home accomplishing nothing, I was able to do something for God. It was one of the best feelings I have ever had. I can recommend leaving your comfort zones and taking a leap for Jesus.

Devin Darrough

New York

For their spring break 29 UCA students and 2 faculty members, Mr. Martling and Mr. Thayer, went to New York City on a mission trip sponsored by the Upper Columbia Conference.

The group stayed at the South Brooklyn SDA church. They had to put up with cold showers every morning, and green air mattresses that went flat. There were many other Adventist youth groups from around the country that stayed in the same church. In the evenings, students enjoyed the praise services put on by the X-tream Team, which was in charge of putting the ministries together.

Every morning the students would be split up into smaller groups and head out on an assignment. One of the most popular assignments was called Radical Street Ministry. Students would go into the streets and hand out buttons, stickers, flowers, and free hot chocolate. Sometimes the opportunity would come for the students to pray with people. A couple of students even got to spend a day cleaning a fire station near ground zero. For

two days groups also went to Safe Horizons, an agency that takes claims for government help from victims of 9/11. There the groups would file the claims. It was a tedious but rewarding process. Other ministries included handing out posters for a religious concert and bagging food at an Adventist Community Service Center.

Overall, although the trip was a rewarding experience, it was good to get back to dorm rooms and cafe food!

Jennifer Pielae


Mexican Mission Trips Quiz

Name _____

Matching
Match the details to the correct trip

A. evangelism
B. church construction

A peanut butter and jelly sandwiches
A cable TV and air-conditioning
B locked in and out
A paint church
B VBS
B watched by children
B beans
A work at orphanage
B loud music at 5:20 a.m.
A soccer loss, basketball win
A distribute food
B 12 guys in one room



Backstage

The Senior Talent Show is a prime event here at school. Friends, parents, and neighbours spring from all corners of the country to watch the seniors present a programme of amusement and skill. From saxophone solos to silly skits, the show provides the audience with a cheerful diversion from school and other responsibilities. That acts are so delightful, in fact, the spectators often forget there is one part of the programme that they are missing. The backstage scene, though hidden from the audience, is perhaps as entertaining as the performances themselves.

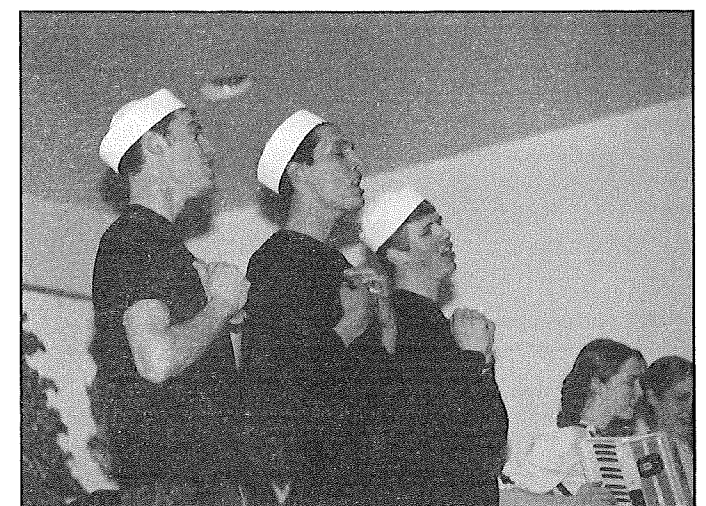
Hidden in the hallway behind the gym, jittery performers prepare to go on stage. Some warm up their instruments and adjust their costumes, while others nervously play in the drinking fountain. Wrapped in a sheet, a performer runs down the hall asking if anybody has seen his trousers. From somewhere in the chaos a flustered voice can be heard calling for help. "Mr. Lange! I locked my trumpet in the dressing room!" Everyone is caught in a tangle of nerves and excitement. Cameras are thrust into the hands of friends who snap photos of their costumed companions, and Mrs. Underwood makes rounds reminding everybody to get rid of their gum.

When the time nears for musicians to perform, they wait in a small room next to the stage. Stage hands adjust music stands and prepare microphones. As the final strains of the preceding number die and the audience applauds, doubt and mortification threaten to strangle capability. Before her performance in this year's show, Andrea Stout was heard muttering, "What am I doing? Why am I doing this?" Most performers share these sentiments. But when the announcer calls their names, all apprehension must be flung aside for parents, teachers, and siblings are watching. They can't back out. Walking across the stage, they wonder if the audience will appreciate their music. They think their parents might be embarrassed. Then they remember the boys in the back who can't find their costumes, and begin to play.

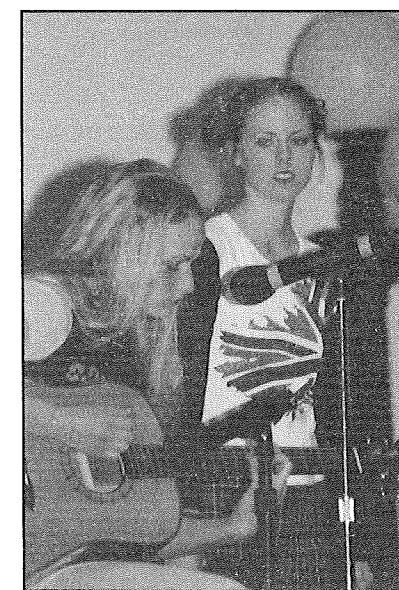
Megan Lacey



Brandon Leno and Ted Ames take a commercial break



Ezra Foss, Devin Darrough and Ross Magi



Becca Flaiz and Katy Bandy



Michelle Roe takes a bow

Village woes

What do you think of when you hear the words "village students"? Many people think they have it made. They can go home every day and eat home-cooked food, and when they're off campus they can do "whatever they want." They can also have off-campus jobs. But is being a village student really what it's said to be?

Village students are often forgotten. When a school event happens, they find out about it after the fact. Important announcements are often made at joint worship when they're not there.

Another issue is parking. Many village seniors get into trouble when parking. They would like to park in the gravel lot by the car corral, but this is not allowed. Dorm students are supposed to park in the corral, but they park on front campus in the village parking spaces.

Then there is the problem about having a place to go during free periods. Village students sometimes sit in the hall by the lockers because talking is not allowed in the library. They don't go to the Power House because it's too fancy for teenagers. Some are afraid they will break something when they're in there. And as luck would have it, it is rarely open at useful times. Dorm students can go back to their rooms, but village students are stuck.

Although village students are sometimes envied, they can feel resented, picked on and neglected. Few, though, would give up their freedom for anything.

With more village students every year, these issues will have to be addressed.

Holly Geisinger

Class of 2002 steps on to the stage

March 1 and 2 brought the very special weekend of Senior Recognition to the UCA campus. Friday night at 7:00, the seniors marched up the aisles in the gymnasium and sat on the stage. Families and friends from far and near came to acknowledge the seniors and share in the joy of anticipating graduation.

Former history and PE teacher Amy Wolfson came back to present the Friday evening address. She focused on what the students would or could do with their lives. Also she helped the students to see how God had led her in finding the right course for her life.

On Sabbath morning after Ty Gibson gave a stirring Sabbath School lesson study and the school had presented every senior with a new Bible, Megan Lacey introduced her father, Stephen Lacey, a current English teacher here on campus. Mr. Lacey prompted the seniors to understand that there is nothing we can do to make God love us more and nothing we can do to make Him love us less. In addition, he explained to the class that they were free to make their own choices and that no matter where they ended up God would still love them. God, he said, wants to bring us in, not keep us out.

After the church service, UCA served a free lunch for everyone in the gymnasium. Parents and other guests were pleased with the food as well as the organized method of handling such a large crowd.

On Saturday night, the senior class shared their many talents through the traditional Senior Amateur Hour. The musical numbers were performed between the seniors' own brand of "commercials." The message was well-received. "Can you hear me now? Good."

Julie Cain



The school surprised students with another Winter Campus Day on February 26. Here senior girls pose by the rink at Riverfront Park

Valentine's Banquet

Ah, the banquet . . . It conjures up good memories of guys in penguin suits and girls in big flashy dresses. But why do we have banquets? Is it just to get together over glorified cafe food? Is it the only time and place couples are allowed to get together and . . . date? If you go to the banquet, are you "going" with the lucky person or are you just going to have fun? I went around campus and asked a few people who, for their own safety, will remain anonymous. Here are a few of their responses:

"The banquet is nothing more than an opportunity to get together and have fun. Anything more than that is up to the couples to decide."

"Banquets are whatever you make them. Period. They can be as entertaining or boring as you

make them."

"Banquets are the source of learning for freshmen in need of etiquette."

The yearly banquets, of course, are a great source of stress and joy in both dorms. It is almost a surefire way to get a date, and many creative ways of asking appear every year. Creative clothing is also on the increase.

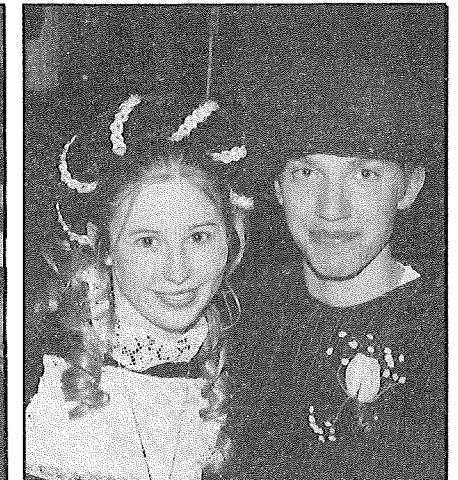
We really need more opportunities to get together and have fun. I'm told that's what rec is for, but rec is completely different from a formal occasion. It seems unlikely that more formal occasions will be added to the calendar, so we must simply enjoy the banquet times we have now.

Byron Moore

Stepping back to Medieval times . . .



The happy crowd in the cafeteria on February 24



Jennifer Pick and Marlan Glover



Bob Lenz and Tiffany Penhallurick



Nils Jordan and Jessica Williams

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The Echoes is a regular student publication of Upper Columbia Academy, a non-profit, Seventh-day Adventist boarding high school in Spangle, Washington

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echoes

EVENTS

April 24-28
Last homeleave

May 5
Bloomsday Race

May 12-15
Senior Trip

May 22
Awards Banquet

May 26
Spring Picnic

May 29
Last day for freshmen
& sophomores

May 31-June 2
Graduation



Students head out to Winter Campus Day activities which included skiing, skating, snow-mobiling, bowling, swimming and shopping