

# THE *ECHOES*

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## ASB Christmas Party Warms Many Hearts

The evening of December 5 was crisp, cool, and clear. Pairs of gift-laden students were seen entering the UCA cafeteria. Joyful laughter and the twinkling Christmas tree lights filled the room with a relaxed, peaceful atmosphere.

Suddenly, at exactly 5:05, the doors burst open to allow sixty children, ages two through eight, to invade the tranquil atmosphere. The noise level rose drastically as ASB officers attempted to find the students to whom each child was assigned.

Within moments, the voices of student hosts and hostesses mingled with their young charges' carefree ones.

After a meal of salad, pizza, and ice cream, cries of delight filled the room. Santa Claus had arrived! Each child was given a candy cane, a small toy, and a gift from the students who had adopted them for the evening.

The fun-filled party soon ended and happy children reloaded the bus for the return trip to Spokane. In a cafeteria blanketed with bows, wrapping paper, boxes, and paper plates, the tired students of UCA attempted to relax while watching Free Willie. Outside, the cool night air carried the spirit of Christmas from UCA to various homes throughout Spokane, homes to which gift-laden, sticky-faced, chattering children returned.



*Lisa Matson*

*Tiana Pavlic treats her small guest to a higher view of the party.*

## Snowless Caroling Turns Out to be Fun

On the night of our first caroling trip, we all loaded into the buses and practiced singing Christmas carols all the way to South Hill. Once we arrived, we organized different singing parts. We were ready for the first song! At first we were a little nervous, but pretty soon everyone relaxed and sang right along. We had positive responses from most of the houses we visited. Yes, although there was no snow this year, we had a lot of fun anyway.

*Charley Coleman*



*Before we took off to carol, we had to organize. The cafeteria was full of faculty and students all ready to sing. Afterwards, we came back to the cafe for hot cocoa and cider.*



*The Drama Team fine-tunes their skit before the program. At least there weren't any speaking parts to memorize!*

## UCA Band Enjoys Playing Around

Band tour was fun. However, it came upon us quickly and some of us even left campus without going through what we packed. Later we discovered we had forgotten something very essential (like important parts of our band uniforms). We arrived in Sandpoint Friday evening, and some of the church ladies had prepared us a delicious meal complete with freshly baked cookies.

That night we performed our sacred concert. It went wonderfully, thanks to the direction of Jerry Lange. After the concert, we all grabbed our stuff and headed to various homes for the night. After church the next day, we took off towards Coeur d'Alene to give our secular concert that evening. By the time we arrived, we were famished. They, too, had a really great meal prepared for us which soon disappeared. After getting our stomachs filled, we set about preparing for the concert. We hurriedly changed into our band uniforms because some people were already starting to arrive.

We had another great concert that evening. After we got everything loaded again, we headed to our third and final destination, Taco Bell! It's not every day that two bus loads of teenagers invade the same fast-food restaurant at the same time. Needless to say, the workers were very busy for the next half an hour. After stuffing ourselves, we grabbed our pillows and attempted to sleep on the trip back home. All in all, it was a lot of fun. We would like to extend a big THANK YOU to all those involved; you made this weekend possible. We are looking forward to our next Band Tour.

*Jesse A. Dovich*

***"In all your ways acknowledge Him  
and He will direct your paths."  
Proverbs 3:6***

## Making a Scene

On the afternoon of Sabbath, December 4, at two o'clock that afternoon, students dressed in all black or all white were seen making their way to the UCA church. These members of the Drama Team were going to practice their Christmas skit for Sundown Meditation that night. Four o'clock found the cast eagerly waiting to make their entrance.

Their meaningful skit was one of the quietest UCA has seen. Silently, they filed out and took their places in a row, backs to the audience. The only movements were made by two "window dressers" and "window washers". Noiselessly, they turned the "mannequins" around, dressed them in clothes from Bible times, and arranged them to form a Nativity scene. When they were all positioned, the audience was treated to a fitting Christmas vocal duet, and Rose Parker, the Drama Club leader, had prayer. This skit was very well done and its message was thought-provoking.

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## Check it Out!

Classes are finally over, so I walk up to my room, drop my books on the floor, and drag out a long sigh of relief. Then, I see it ... the little white paper, barely noticeable, lying under a fresh pile of clothes on my bed. It's my room check slip!

Every weekday in the Girl's Dorm, the R.A. (Resident Assistant) of each hall goes room-to-room, checking on their cleanliness, or, in my case, docking precious points. This little white paper has a list of ten items that our rooms are checked for: beds made, sink clean, clothes picked up, trash emptied, etc. If you get ten points you have a perfectly clean room.

I think they grade our rooms to make sure we aren't living in an "unhealthy environment". And, once in a blue moon, (or if my roommate reminds me to clean it) I'll get a ten on room check!

*Amie Chilson*

# Surveying the Results

Recently, a survey was taken at UCA about many people's favorite holiday: Christmas. The results turned out to be quite interesting ...

"Silent Night" is the most popular Christmas song by a slim majority of three. "Jingle Bells" is next, and "What Child is This?" is third. Some other choices were Elvis Presley's "Blue Christmas," "O Holy Night," and "Winter Wonderland."

UCA's favorite Christmas color is green. Only one-tenth of the students chose white, and about one-third chose red.

There were many unique answers to this question: What is your family's favorite traditional food? Turkey was by far the most popular, but fudge, pie, and eggnog ranked high also.

The majority of students at UCA never believed in Santa.

Most people at UCA prefer to exercise their willpower and wait until Christmas morning to open their presents. A popular method is to open one on Christmas Eve and save the rest for the next day.

As you can see, there are many different ideas of Christmas. Whether you like pumpkin pie or Christmas cookies, whether you prefer red or green, Christmas still holds the same meaning. Let's keep the Christmas spirit alive in our hearts this holiday season.

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

**December's contributors included: Sarah Coleman, Editor. Amie Chilson, Lisa Matson, Aaron Canwell, Enoch Dally, Charley Coleman, Jesse Dovich, D'Arcy Simanton, Typist; Stephen Lacey, Sponsor.**

# Appreciation

**Lisa Momb - Dean Janelle** because she's concerned for all the girls in her dorm and she tries to do the best for everyone.

**Johanna Reeve - Mr. Koenke** because he gets up at odd hours of the night to pick up kids from the airport and train station.

**Becky Quiring - Mike Threadgill** because he made me feel special and let me know he'd always be there if I had a problem.

**Jesse Dovich - Mr. Thorman** because he's always willing to help everyone as much as he can.

**LouAnn Munson** - I really appreciate **Linnea Torkelson** because of her wonderfully cheerful and spiritual attitude. On many occasions she has gone far beyond her call of duty to ensure our enjoyment and sanity.

**Anonymous** - I appreciate **Pastor Meidinger** for being so thoughtful and sincere. He treats students like they are important to him.

**Marcus Mundall** - I appreciate **Mr. Peach** for his knowledge of history and his challenging classes. He's very wise and I like his positive influence on the school.

**Amy Robinson** - I really appreciate **Mrs. Gee** for being very sympathetic and kind to all the students. She always seems to brighten someone's day.

# "Guess What Today Is?"

Peep! Peep! Peep! BEEP! BEEP! BEEP! Uuuugh! Crash! (No more alarm clock.) Where is the light? Thunk! Ooouuuch! Flick! Aaaagh! (Whoa, everything is so white.)

Towel around waist... Wait... take off shorts first... Now towel around waist... Shampoo... Bar soap... Door... Follow designs on carpet to bathroom... Find shower... Turn it on... (Gasp!)... Cold water... 10 minutes later... (Should be warm.)... Aaaaagh! Oouw.... Ouch... Hot, hot, hot!... Aaaaaaaa! Yes... What a wonderful shower.

Down to the cafe. Find line. Get tray. Full of water. Throw water on guy behind me. Wow! Pancakes. It may be a good day. Oh, man. Peanut butter in wrong place. Find seat. Sit down next to fine chic. Try to eat without looking like a pig. Oh, no, fine chic just left. Look at clock. Clock reads 7:14. Class in one minute. Time to inhale. One pancake gone. Yuck, half of it up nose. Next pancake quickly down throat. Sprint to tray racks. Head for Ad Building. Dive for seat. Aaaaa! Yes! In seat. Bell rings.

Mondays aren't really that bad. As long as you make it through the first 16 hours the rest of the night is fine--except when the undigested pancakes come back to haunt you.

*Aaron Canwell*



*When there's snow on the ground, even Mondays seem bearable!*

# Spirit Week Brings Out UCA Pride

Early each morning during Spirit Week, students all over UCA could be found rummaging through their closets. They searched in mountains of clean clothes and dug through piles of dirty ones to find the perfect outfit. The items they were looking for were a little out of the ordinary ...

Monday was Farmer Day. Students tried to replicate the garb of a farmer. Girls sported braids and freckles with flannel shirts while guys wore old jeans and hats.

Tuesday was Nerd Day. Many of us learned how to imitate the clothing of a nerd with three-inch glasses, pants pulled up past the midriff, mismatched socks, and the inevitable "Kick Me" sign. Our very own Chemistry teacher, Mr. Thayer, would have to be given credit for the best "look;" he kept his students laughing all day.

Wednesday was Career Day. This one actually took more time, for we had to contemplate our future to come up with an outfit. We dressed as we thought we would look in twenty years.

Thursday was Hippie Day. Frizzy, unkempt hair, lots of peace symbols, baggy clothes, and even platform shoes dominated the day. The atmosphere was that of the seventies. It was interesting to observe that some of the styles from that time period are making their way into students' everyday wardrobes. As they say, "What goes around comes around!"

Friday was Culture Day. This was interesting. Students dressed up as though they were from foreign places.

Spirit Week was a real success. Not only did we survive Nerd Day unscathed, but we also gained a feeling of unity. Most of the students participated wholeheartedly and that gave the school a sense of pride in being UCA.

*Enoch Dally*



*This group of nerdy-looking students seem to take "You look like a misfit" as a compliment!*

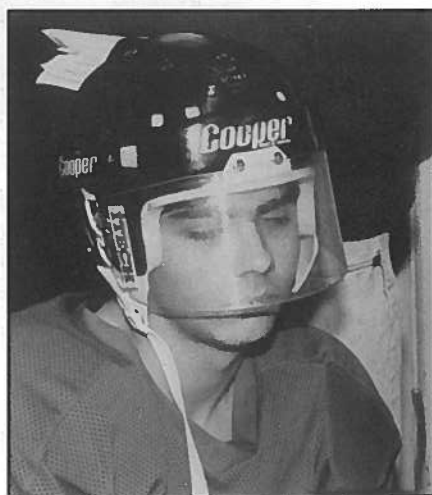
*"He has achieved success who has worked well, laughed often, and loved much." Elbert Hubbard.*



*David Workman explains the details of being a hippie to the cameraman. Groovy!*



*Jim Edwards smiles mysteriously. What has he been up to?*



*Warren Carver (in his hockey outfit for Career Day) takes some quality time out to relax.*

# Amateur Hour

Well, it was finally here, that night awaited with eagerness, excitement, and, sometimes, fright. That night where students have a chance to exhibit their talents and, maybe, even win some prize money. Amateur Hour had arrived.

The gym was filled with tension as family after family poured in. Again, there were more people than expected (a rather nice predicament). The audience talked excitedly among themselves about the upcoming program.

When it actually started, though, the crowd quieted down. There were many entertaining and difficult numbers, all performed very nicely. Randall Thorpe, our Emcee, kept us amused between acts with his stories and jokes.

At the end of the evening, the panel of judges awarded prize money to the different category winners: Novelty, Vocal, Instrumental, Grand Prize, and Audience Grand Prize. Any participant automatically received twenty dollars, so everyone was a winner.

All in all, Amateur Hour was a great success. Thanks to all those who worked so hard to decorate, prepare, and keep the program running smoothly. You did a great job!



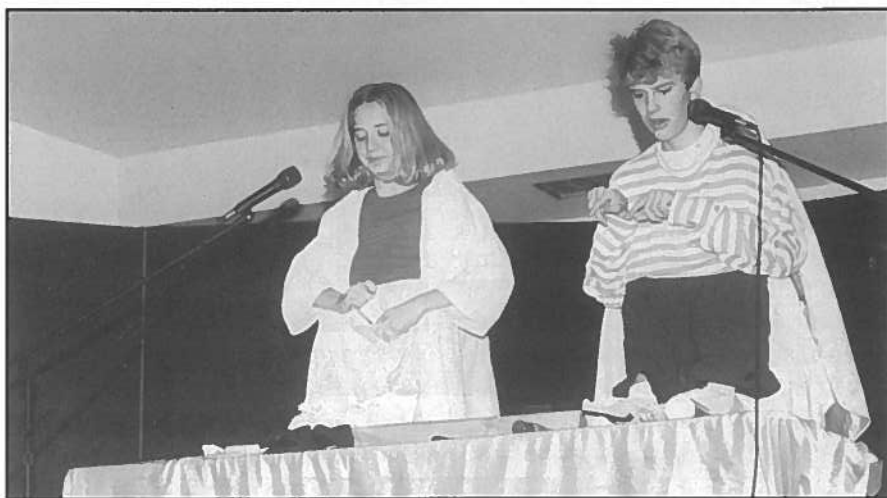
*LouAnn, Sonya and Renee concentrate on playing their "Clarinet Polka." It was a difficult song, but they performed wonderfully.*



*Cara Fisher plays "The Phantom of the Opera" for an enchanted audience.*



*Geoffrey Greenway, Grand Prize winner. Other winners included: Jon Volyn, vocal; Jesse Dovich and Chris James, Keyboard; Sarah Coleman, Novelty; Jay B. Ham, Instrumental; Shawna Kettner, LouAnn Munson, and Jana Searson; Audience Grand Prize.*



*Jesse and Laura play the "up front" parts in this skit, while Aaron and Lisa are behind them all the way.*

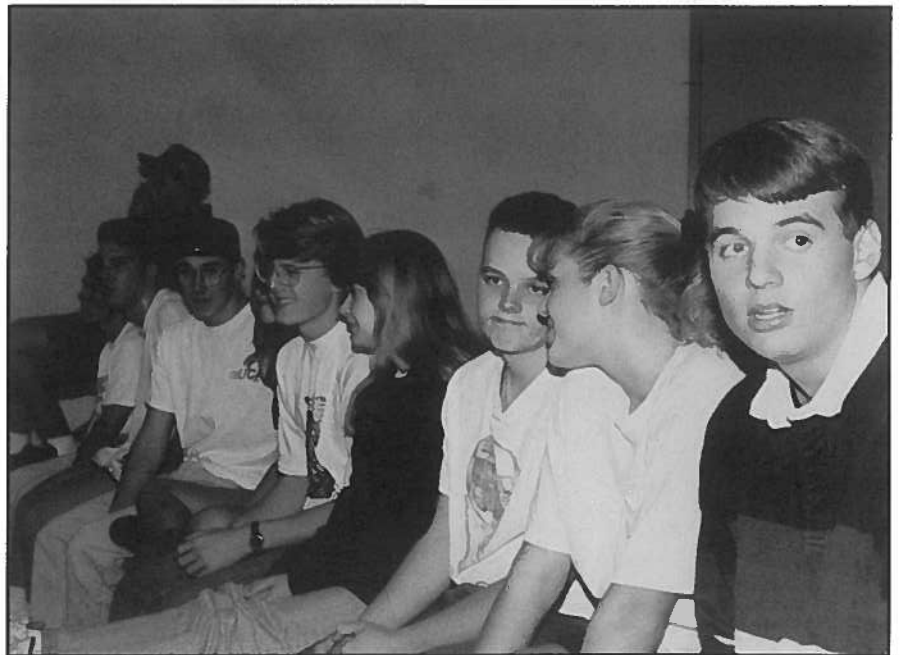
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# THE ECHOES

Friends. Sometimes we take them for granted. They're always there anyway, so why worry? But are we there for them? Sure, we like to have them sit with us and talk with us. It's fun to have people to do things with. But when they're having a really bad day, do we notice? Do we really offer to help? Or do we just say "Oh, sorry," and continue on our way? Friends are like our support groups here at school. We (dorm students, anyway) don't have our parents around to give us advice or to talk with about our problems. Naturally, we go to our friends. But what if they have a problem?

Jesus has given us the perfect example of friendship. He will never leave us just because we're having a terrible day. In fact, He'll do extra-special things for us to cheer us up. And He's always there to talk to, no matter when it is. Jesus is the kind of friend I'd like to be, wouldn't you?



*This group of friends sits in the gym during recreation to watch an exciting game.*

# Happy Holidays!