

echoes

December, 2000

Ingathering spreads gladness

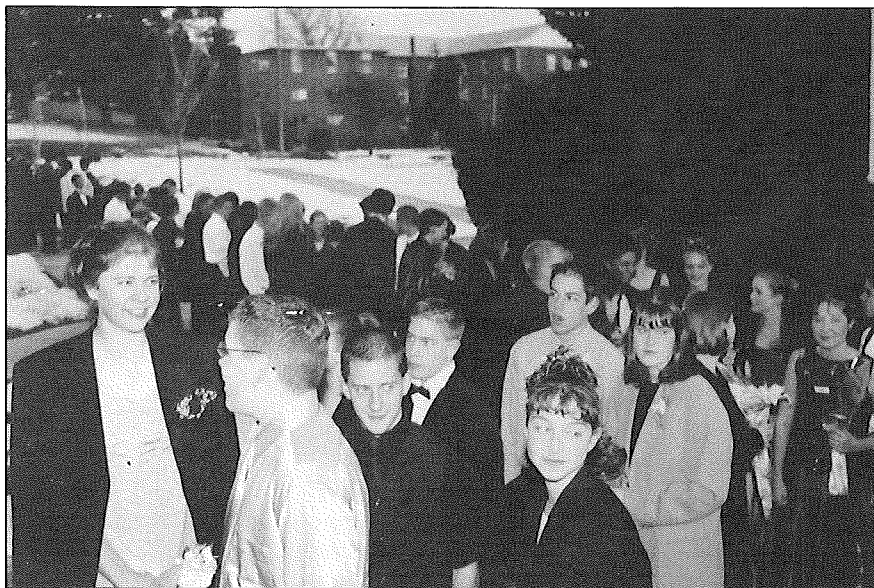
Every year, students and staff volunteer to go outside their comfort zones to bring the world gladness.

Ingathering can be a challenge, but excitement can be found out in the cold air each year. "I go ingathering to lift up Jesus, make friends for Jesus, and give people the opportunity to do something for Jesus," said Pastor Paul Lundgrin. Staff have two other good reasons to go ingathering: they help sing and solicit, and they supervise the students who volunteer for the activity.

The cold has caused many people to decide not to go ingathering in recent times, so in his sermon on Sabbath, December 2, Pastor Lundgrin tried to persuade members of the UCA church to participate. He hoped to see five groups of ten students volunteer. "It's a challenge to get people to go ingathering these days," said Lundgrin. But although winter air is cold, people who ingather maintain warm hearts.

On Sabbath afternoon, December 3, UCA students sang to patrons inside a bar in Spangle. Although this caroling involved no soliciting for ADRA (Adventist Disaster Relief Agency), it built friendship with the bar manager and benefited the patrons. This opportunity to warm the hearts of those in the bar brought new thrills to UCA students. A blue line marked the area minors legally weren't allowed to enter, but students enjoyed the warm inside air.

The warmth of students hearts transfers to others as they help our world. The money helps the world

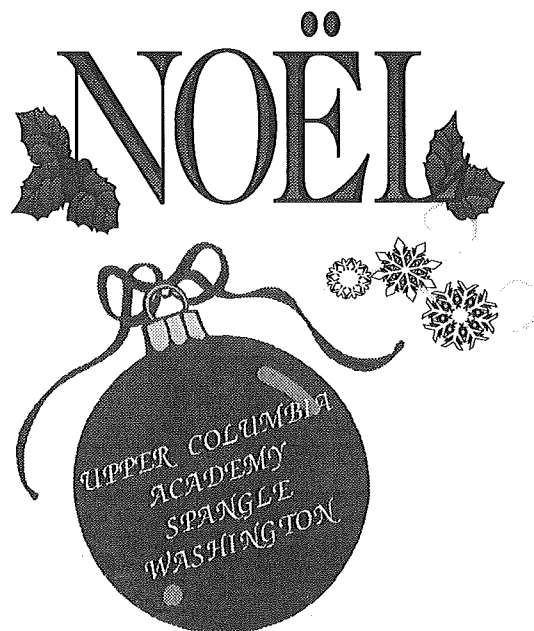


This year's Christmas banquet, organized by the Boys' Club, was held on December 3. As usual, part of the festivities included a photograph session. Here, happy but chilly couples line up in front of the Power House, waiting for their turn to be shot. After dining in the cafeteria, couples could either go ice-skating in Spokane or watch a movie on campus.

through ADRA. ADRA touches many people every year by providing hope, love, and basic physical needs. UCA students also touch lives through ingathering when they sing and pray for people.

Some students enjoyed asking strangers to donate money to ADRA while most students sang. Talking to the strangers about our purpose for ingathering brings opportunities to do God's work in evangelism as well. "I feel that ingathering is God's work because it provides a chance to talk with people and pray with them," said Gina Grant, who talked to people at their doors.

Ryan Mundall



Honey, I love you

On November 18, the circle of students stood tall, anticipating the move of the one trapped inside. Slowly he turned, eyeing his victims carefully while selecting his prey. He chose a young girl on the opposite side of the room. Then he approached. He looked deep into the eyes of the freshman girl and sighed deeply. "Honey," he said, "I love you. Won't you smile for me?" The room exploded with nervous laughter as the freshman girl blushed deeply and then took her place in the center of the circle.

"The object of the game," Paul Lundgrin stated, "is to get the to smile within 30 seconds. If you succeed, they will take your place."

The freshman class party was simple this year. However, they enjoyed their few hours of fun. They participated in numerous activities ranging from "Honey I love you," to a change of clothes relay.

One of the highlights of the evening was the class balloon smash. Student tied balloons to their ankles and then chased the rest of the class around trying to pop their balloons. The last one with a balloon won. Within five minutes all the participants save five were sitting on the sidelines. Ashley Shelton was up against four boys, racing for victory. The boys thought they had an easy chore, but a few minutes later they too were sitting on the sidelines with Ashley standing proud, a balloon fastened to her ankle.

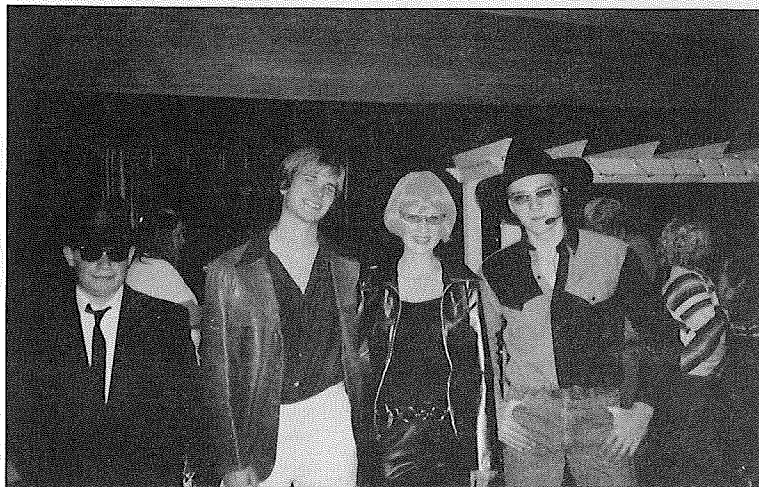
On the other side of campus, the juniors were enjoying a party of their own. Their evening began with a lively game of world ball, and then they had a short worship before the main events began. After a few songs led by the class officers, they split for various activities.

One group, afraid of the cold weather, trooped over to Dr. Evans house to watch Toy Story 2 while another group headed up to the field for Dare Base, Capture the Flag, and a sled ride pulled behind Pastor Fred's snowmobile.

A large bonfire was lit and happy juniors gathered around to make smores and warm their hands. There were also large fire barrels at various places on the football field so all could warm themselves with little disruption to the activities.

"The party was fun," Risha Opp said. "I liked being able to hang with friends. I'm normally too busy to just hang out."

Christina Wilbur



Colt Van Sky, Nick Lambert, Katie Frey and Patrick Bacon pause amidst their class party revelry in the cafeteria. Sophomores partied at a private home where they swam, played games and watched videos.

Girls get early morning call

At 1:30 on the morning of November 29, senior girls were running up and down the halls screaming Christmas songs and pounding on the doors of the underclassmen.

This has long been a tradition for the senior girls. One night before Christmas vacation they stay up after the underclassmen go to sleep and decorate the dorm for Christmas. After they are finished, they wake up the underclassmen and the serve them hot chocolate or apple cider and doughnuts.

Some of the students think that it is a fun idea, especially seniors. "I really was looking forward to doing it because they got me last year," said Michelle Corson. Even some of the underclassmen enjoyed it. "It is just one of those crazy dorm life things you do to have fun," said Danelle Smith. But not all the students were happy. Karie May said, "The lobby was nice but I would have rather wake up at 6:00 a.m. instead of 1:30 a.m. when I have an appetite for the doughnuts and the hot chocolate."

Shannon Tarbox

Students earn reward trips

All kinds of great trips and activities are planned this year for students who keep up their grades and have good attendance. Designed as a reward for students who have made an effort and worked hard to keep up their grades, these trips provide a chance to get away from school for a while and have some fun.

UCA plans to have several trips throughout the school year. Not all of them will be reward trips; some will be for anybody who wants to go although students will have to take money out of their own pockets to pay for a lot of the trips.

The Gymnastics Show and the Warren Miller show in Spokane were a couple of trips that students were able to go to and have a great time without having good grades and attendance. The school would like to have many other trips like these for students later on through the year.

One of the first reward trips was a December 6 Christmas cruise on lake Coeur d' Alene. Students could enjoy the Christmas lights and socializing while cruising on the lake. In order to go, students could not be on the D, F and I list or have multiple absences in any of their classes.

These trips give students an incentive to keep up their grades, and they also give students a chance to get away from school and be with friends.

Josh Bryan

Rec ski returns

It is that wonderful time of year again when you get to see the beautiful white snowflakes falling. It's the only time of year that you can throw snowballs at people and see how many different kinds of reactions you get.

It is also the time of year to head to the slopes for skiing or snowboarding. "I have waited all year to go snowboarding and it is almost here. I can hardly wait to go," said Kim Trudeau. Many of us love the feeling of carving through the trees and skiing over cliffs. Others get enjoyment from slipping down the groomed runs or sitting in the lodge watching other people do crazy things they would never attempt. For those who like to venture into the powdery world of bliss, it is now time to get all of you ski information and your money to the business office.

This year, the UCA recreational skiing program again will be heading up to Silver Mountain, Schweitzer, and Red Mountain on Sundays scattered between January and March. The cost will be \$165 (+\$85-\$115 for rentals) for recreational skiing, and \$170 (+\$60 for rentals) for skiing classes. All the money needs to be turned in by January 3 so the school can plan for transportation. If, by some chance, you are not able to attend, you can sell your ticket to someone else or get a refund at the end of the season. All the information is available in the business office, and Mr. Peach, as usual, is the man with all the answers.

Sarah Trudeau

Board of skiing

Who's really king of the mountain: skiers or snowboarders? Ask skiers and a likely response would be, "We are because skiing's been around much longer than snowboarding." David Waters said, "It's twice the fun. There's two boards instead of one." But snowboarders definitely have a different opinion. They argue that just because it's been around longer doesn't mean it's better.

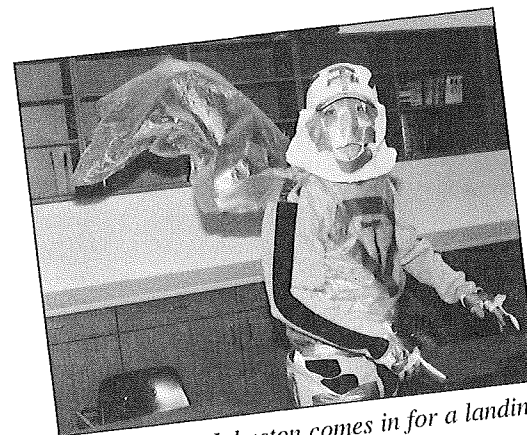
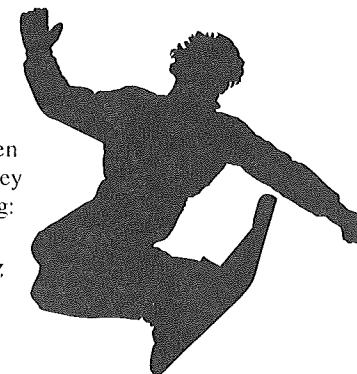
Several major ski resorts have found snowboarding detrimental to their business. A lot of skiers complain they don't like the attitude of snowboarders, and that they just overcrowd the mountain. The most popular resorts that don't allow snowboarding are Alta, Utah; Ajax, Colorado; and Taos, New Mexico.

Snowboarders believe that the amount of talent it takes to snowboard is reason enough to be allowed on every mountain. "After I mastered skiing, I decided to try something new, and snowboarding offered the perfect challenge," remarked one snowboarder.

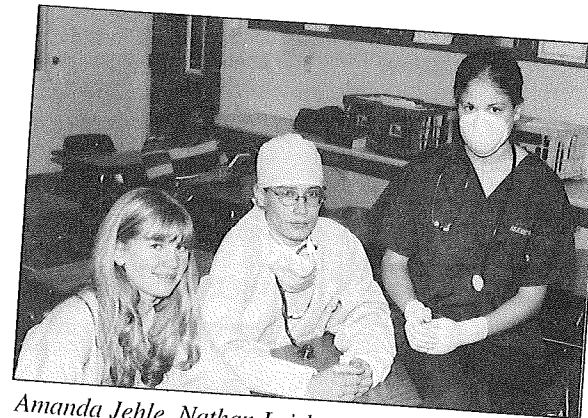
Snowboarders do have a reputation for bad attitudes. That could be because most are teens and skiers, who are mostly adults, don't understand where they're coming from and especially don't like change.

In spite of the conflict and competition between skiers and snowboarders, they all share one common thing: the love for snow.

Jon Koncz



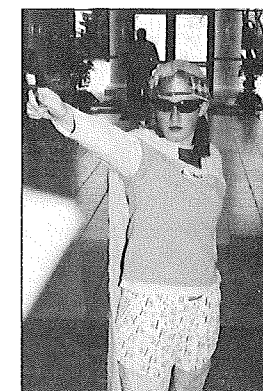
Mike Johnston comes in for a landing



Amanda Jehle, Nathan Leiske, and Kim Wahlman



Ashley Strickland



Leah Weichal

slaves to
fashion

Ready, aim, fire!

The room was noisy and the smell of food hung in the air. Everyone was laughing, talking, and shouting. Everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves, except a very small group of cafe workers.

Over in the far corner a group of students were throwing peas across the cafe and flinging potatoes at the ceiling. The targets responded by shooting frychick at the unruly group of students.

Meanwhile, in the center of the cafe a group of messy students were busy mixing their food to create new recipes.

All of a sudden from nowhere a horrible cry was heard, and a girl shot up from her chair and started chasing a boy. The boy had put juice on her chair and now she was determined to get him back. She caught him and put ice down his shirt.

Another student decided to give the salad bar attendant a hard time by changing the spoons on the different toppings and rearranging the salad bar.

As the time for rec neared, the cafe emptied and once again the cafe workers faced trays and cereal scattered over the tables, and food all over the floor.

Everyone was gone, and the mess was still there. As always it was left for the cafe workers to clean up. What a disappointment.

Lourdes Colin

The Upper Columbian



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

This issue's contributors included

Josh Bryan, Kathleen Boone, Lourdes Colin, Ben Crew, Laura Davis, Gina Grant, Timothy Hoffmann, Jennifer Justus, Jon Koncz, Casey Luport, Randy Mundall, Ryan Mundall, Shannon Tarbox, Sarah Trudeau, Christi Utt, Christina Wilbur, and Stephen Lacey, adviser

Prayer works

Prayer works if you really trust in God. I learned this on Hope Taskforce. I was part of the prayer team led by Pastor Paul.

Our day began at 8:00 a.m. on November 17. We had our first prayer for one of the buses because it would not start. We asked God to help them find what was wrong or to just fix it. By the time we finished our prayer, a student came and told us that the bus had started. This really opened my eyes and showed me that if we trust in God, He will help us through.

First we stopped at Spangle Wood Products. They have been in real need of orders so that students and and community members may continue to work there. We started off by praying in small groups of four to five. Then we got into one big group and prayed again. Then we walked around the plant singing songs.

Next we stopped at a couple of churches to pray that they will grow and continue to spread the word of God's love.

Our last stop was the hospital where we prayed for healing and strength for the patients. We also asked that God would give them courage to face whatever lay ahead. We also prayed for the newborn babies, asking God to guide their lives.

The whole experience was a reminder that prayer works and that God keeps His promises.

Shannon Tarbox

Teach or learn?

Christmas is that time of year when we gather with our friends and families, notice what we have, and remember what God has done for us. We also give each other presents and other things that we don't really need and repeat the overeating exercise practiced at Thanksgiving. But what happens with those who aren't as fortunate?

We teach that we should share our beliefs with others and offer them hope. But do we really do it? The annual ASB Christmas Party is one way that we can witness to others. Taking time with children who don't know what it's like to go skiing or what it's like to get lots and lots of expensive presents is taking time with Jesus. After all, Jesus told the disciples that whatever we have done unto the least of these we have done unto Him.

It is also possible that the children witness to us. Looking at them, we remember what it's like to be innocent and wide-eyed. The children don't concern themselves with wealth or poverty. They seem immune to the world problems and all other troubles. Can't we learn a lesson from them this Christmas? Can't we love unconditionally and find it easy to believe? A lesson of love and faith--isn't that what we really need to remember this Christmas? Take a lesson from the children; they are the best teachers.

Christi Utt

COMING UP

January 3	End of vacation
January 7	First ski day
January 14	Skiing
January 19-20	Heritage Weekend & Winter Band Concert
January 21	SAT's and skiing
January 22	HOPE Taskforce
January 22-27	Student Week of Prayer
January 28	Sunday School
January 31	Homeleave

Experience the magic

Walking up the icy pathway to his door, Jon Koncz imagines all the yummy smells, the family talking, the clamor of dishes from the kitchen, and the warm feeling he gets while thinking about the magic of the holiday season.

"I especially enjoy Christmas time because it's the only time of the year my whole family gets together and gives me gifts," said Jon. And, indeed, what an enjoyable time it is, especially when the family is around and there is so much cheeriness in the air.

There are so many other things that make this time of year so magical. For some people, the décor makes the season what it is. Brandon Clarke said, "I like Christmas time because of all the lights and decorations. It's really cozy."

For others, preparing for Christmas day is the best part. "I enjoy the preparation more than the actual day," said Heidi Reese. All the hustle and bustle of shopping and hearing all the classic Christmas songs really gets people in the spirit. Risha Opp said, "My favorite part about Christmas is the music, the shopping, and the food."

And snow. Snow can create a mood that no-one can escape. The soft white flakes silently blanketing the ground remind us that this wonderful time of year brightens so many peoples' lives. Skiing, snowboarding, snowball fights, and snow angels are all symbols of this awesome season—and vacation. "Christmas is my favorite season because of that long break," said Tiffany Lindsay.

To a lot of people, this is undoubtedly the greatest, most joyful, time of the year. But we have to remember, the only reason it's all like this in the first place is because of Jesus. His birth is the real meaning of Christmas because He came here to save us from our sins.

Casey Luport

Parents reward for results

Some parents with slacking children wonder whether they should reward their unproductive progeny for good grades in order to help propel them out of their self-dug abysses. It's like paying bonuses at the work place, they say. If workers do an extra good job, they are rewarded with cash. The same should be done with students.

Some people think giving rewards makes students try harder for good grades. And if parents are only looking for good grades, the end justifies the means, and, therefore, there's nothing wrong with giving rewards.

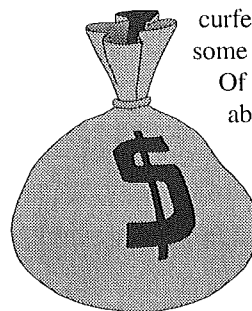
However, the opposing party argues that giving rewards twists the motivation behind getting good grades. It's not students' hard work and integrity that count anymore, but that nice little hundred-dollar bill in their pockets. And if that reward is in the form of cash, money's on a pedestal, and hard work and integrity are belittled.

Granted, not all rewards have to be money. They come in several different enticing forms, including extra TV time, a treat of ice cream, or later curfews. Still, money is probably the most widely used. And, for some parents, it may be the easiest to give.

Of course, everyone knows what the students themselves think about this problem. Sally Roth, a freshman at UCA, summed it up, stating, "Sure, I'll take the hundred dollars. If there's anything that could be a motivator, it's money."

In reality, though, parents are the ones who must decide the matter. It's better yet if parents are blessed with smart, self-propelled kids so they never have to.

Kathleen Boone



Christmas spirit for sale

'Twas the night before Christmas and the modems were humming throughout the house. The online shoppers were looking for overnight shipping and the kids were negotiating for how many gifts they could get. This year, a cradle with baby Jesus is again being replaced with the almighty dollar.

Of course, Christmas means something different for everyone. For stores it is all about sales. For the customers it is all about prices and managing gift lists. Christmas is both a spiritual holiday celebrating Jesus Christ and a fantasy holiday with elves and reindeer.

Yes, Christmas is about buying, shopping, and budgeting. Stores make at least 20% more profit during the Christmas season than during any other time of the year. This is why Christmas products and commercials come out before Halloween. When people were asked what they thought of when they heard the word *Christmas*, most said gifts, shopping and family. Every year the focus turns more towards the buying and the true spirit of Christmas gets buried under all the commercials and financial stress.

But there is hope for a stress-free, happy Christmas without money and gifts. "Christmas started as a celebration of our Lord and we should spend our time with our family in that light," said a holiday shopper. Simple gift giving is a symbol of appreciation for someone. It's the thought that counts, not the price tag. And Christmas spirit can no more be bought than can happiness. Instead of all the shopping, commercials, money, and buying, people need to spend time with both their heavenly family and their earthly families. People can chose to commercialize the holiday spirit, or they make it personal.

Timothy Hoffmann

Join the troops

It was the night of triumph—November 11. A full moon shone. The battle began with fanfare as the Girl's Club officers were escorted to the front. The warriors prepared behind the scenes as the scouts, Principal Nafie and Pastor Lundgrin, announced their coming, one by one.

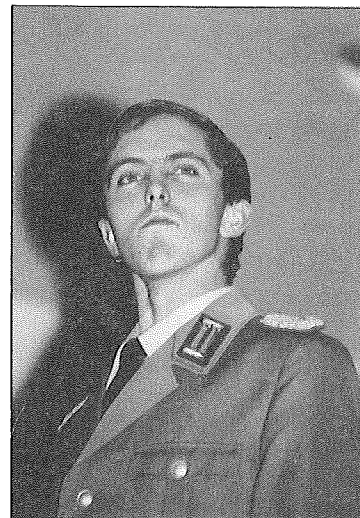
Many participants came out victorious and received honors, but all participants gave it their best, fighting to the end.

The final attack was presented by seven seniors who fractured the onlookers with laughter with a rendition of "The Spanish Inquisition," a Monty Python novelty.

Amateur hour, called "Jungle Myths," was a success according to Andrea Stout who commented, "It was a whole lot more amusing than last year."

As the competitors returned home carrying the spoils of war (large amounts of cash), they were congratulated by their comrades and kin.

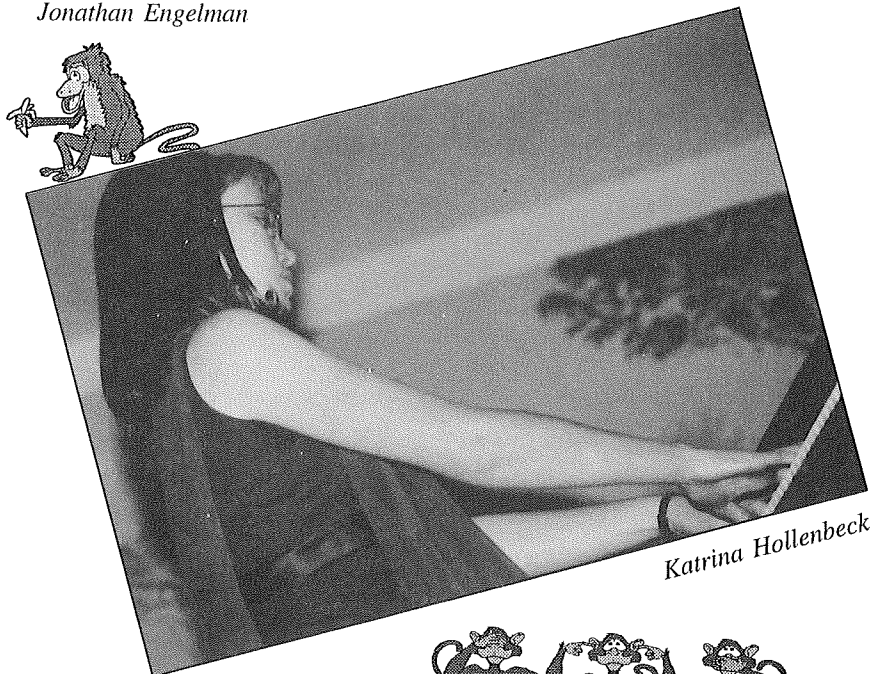
Laura Davis



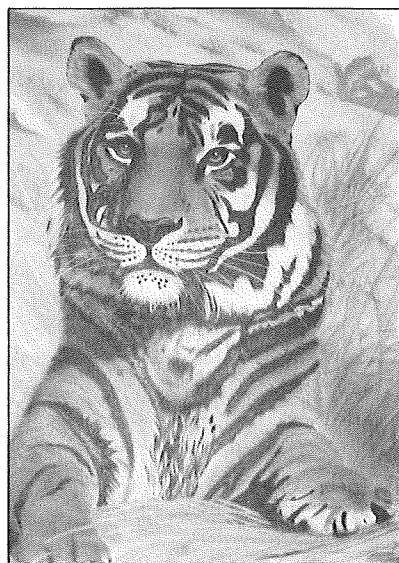
Jonathan Engelman



Michelle Corson



Katrina Hollenbeck



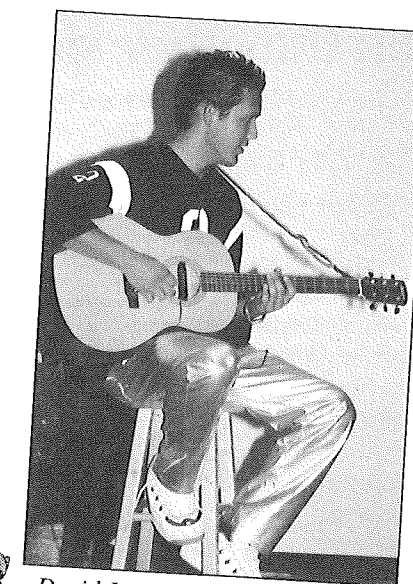
Risha Opp, Melissa Slawson, and Julie Cain



RJ Henneberg



Tiffany Penhallurick



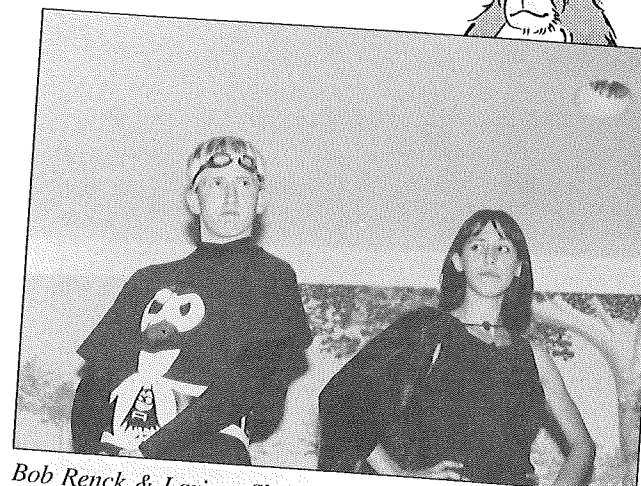
David Lundgrin



Emily Wilkens



Danelle Smith & Melissa Ekvall



Bob Renck & Larissa Skinner

THE WINNERS

Grand Prize	Katrina Hollenbeck, piano
Audience choice	Danelle Smith & Melissa Ekvall, vocals, with Kevin Ekvall, Andy Hanson, RJ Henneberg and Bob Renck
Instrumental	RJ Henneberg, saxophone
Keyboard	Tiffany Penhallurick
Vocal	Jonathan Engelman
Novelty	"The Spanish Inquisition" with Nick Corbett, Laura Davis, Nick Lambert, Ben Nickel, Bob Renck, Larissa Skinner, and Alecia Stentzel

The grass is still greener on the other side

"What is the difference between dorm life and village life?" I posed this question to a number of UCA students and all saw advantages and disadvantages with both situations. Here are their responses.

DORM LIFE

Pros:

1. You get to live with your friends and can visit them whenever you want.
2. You are a part of the school all the time.
3. You develop closer relationships with people.
4. You don't have to commute, and it takes you a minute to get to class.

Cons:

1. You can't leave whenever you want.
2. Adjusting to school food
3. RULES
4. Lack of privacy. You don't have your own home.
5. No radio, CD, TV, or movies

VILLAGE LIFE

Pros:

1. You can leave whenever you want.
2. You can go out at night and on closed weekends.
3. You have radio, TV, movies, and privacy.

Cons:

1. You have to work harder at being a part of activities after school.
2. It's more difficult to be correctly informed about changes at school or at work.
3. You waste time and money driving to and from school every day.

If students had to make a choice between being village or dorm, it could be difficult. But most students just don't have a choice. Too many unchangeable factors make one of the choices impossible. Some live too far away to be village. Others can't afford to be in the dorm. Whether you have ended up in the dorm or the village, remember this: "It is not where you are, but who you are with." Luke Chilson.

Jennifer Justus

Boys get scratched

The deans and RA's in the men's dorm have invented and implemented a unique form of discipline known to residents as the "Claw of Death." The Claw is a Halloween hand with a bag in the center. In the bag are more than 60 pieces of paper on which numbers are written. There is also a clipboard which has a list of each of the numbers and a corresponding punishment.

A fine young man who carelessly slips up and deserves discipline is asked to reach into the Claw and draw out a number. Then he is read his punishment from the list. Some of the punishments include carrying a mattress up and down the stairs, giving a dean or RA a foot massage, walking backwards around the dorm several times, or singing a solo at worship.

There are also rewards in the Claw. A resident might get lucky and draw a free item from the dorm store or an hour of TV after lights out.

Is the terror of the Claw contributing to peace and harmony in the dorm? Only time will tell.

Ben Crew

Happy re-birthday to you

Over the weekend of November 11, Family Fellowship Festival brought many families to hear LeClare Litchfield, Spiritual Roots, the Messengers, Pastor Lundgrin and others. The festival was entitled "Born Again" and reminded people of their re-birthdays.

The weekend started with Vespers at 7:00 Friday night—half an hour earlier than usual. The Messengers, a quartet from Walla Walla College, was expected to lead the song service but didn't arrive on time. Fortunately, they eventually arrived and were able to sing some songs. The congregation was also blessed by Spiritual Roots, a quartet from Venezuela, and Litchfield's talk.

The next morning, Sabbath School followed the "Born Again" theme with the congregation instructed on how to have a happy re-birthday. A family of new Adventists was interviewed to celebrate their re-birthday, and then Doug Venn led the Sabbath School lesson. Unfortunately, many students left to warm up for band and choir and so missed the lesson.

The church service started with opening praise by the band who also played for the opening hymn. Curtis Anderson led the choir, the band, and the audience for the opening hymn. The band and the choir also gave music at various other times during the service. Litchfield spoke again for the sermon.

There were various seminars in the afternoon. Richard Parker led a Bible Bowl for youth with prizes for winners. Only a few people showed up, so instead of having teams, questions were asked to one person at a time. With plenty of prizes on hand, one person could win several prizes for correct answers.

The afternoon seminars were followed by a Spiritual Roots concert and a testimony by Pastor Paul Lundgrin.

Randy Mundall

Not-so-new staff

We planned to have entertaining, in-depth reports about each new staff member but have not made much progress. So while each has a hundred tales to tell, we'll make do with their pictures *for now*...



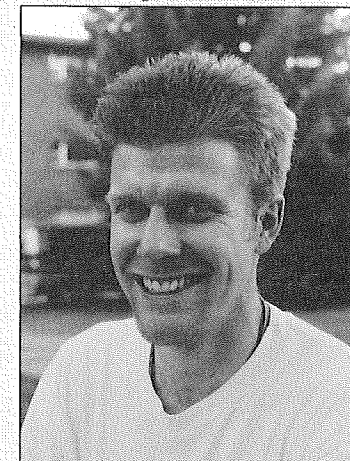
Karen Gee, Registrar



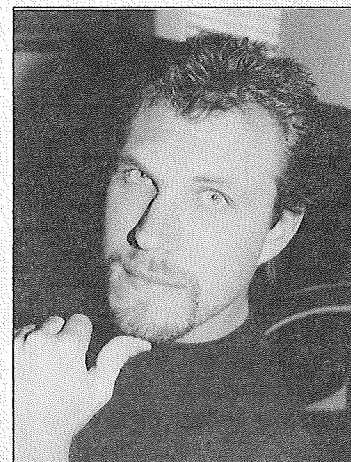
Esper Lundgrin, Librarian



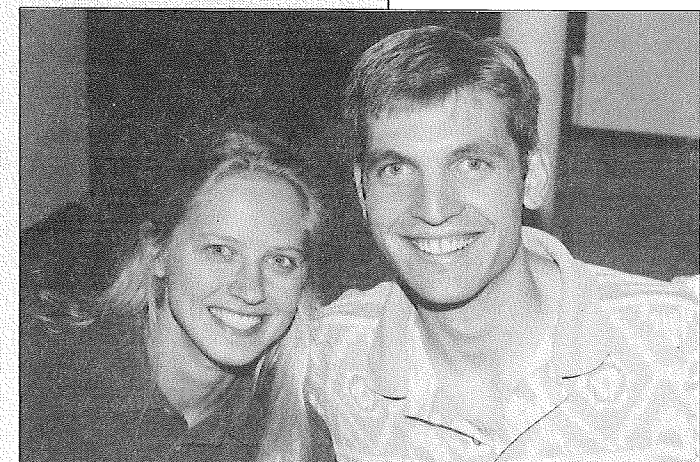
Paul Lundgrin, Pastor & Chaplain



Hanns Rookstool, Taskforce



Ken Scribner, Boys' Dean



Vanessa & Tyson Willey, Nurse and Assistant Boys' Dean

Winter

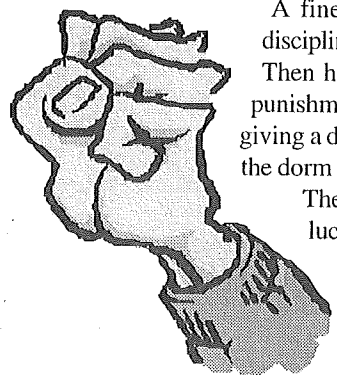
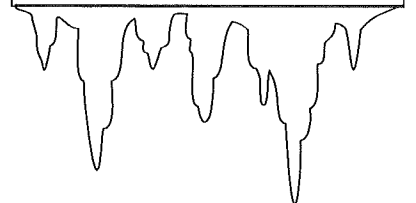
He came last night. Slipping past my window, he brushed the big oak tree, and though his gentle touch didn't stir a leaf, I felt him. Instinctively, I pulled the blankets tight around my head. He paused there only for a moment and then was gone.

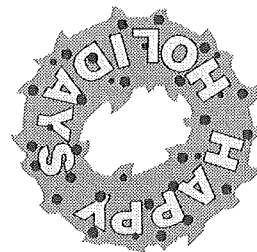
The green carpet he replaced with a plush, pillowy white. Old red, the rusty wagon, became a ski slope for juncos. With a breath he sent the last dangling leaf on the plum tree drifting to rest on the collecting snow; and as if to protect it from the biting air, clothed its bare branches in a frosty shawl of delicate weave.

Finally all was perfect. Only one thing was lacking. From deep inside his white carpet bag he pulled carefully-chiseled crystal spires and hung them with deliberate detail from the roofs and street lights.

Admirably I tip-toed to the window and watched as he strung the last icicles. The last snowflakes settled into place and with a wave he was gone. Winter had come.

Gina Grant





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