

# The Echoes

Upper Columbia Academy, Spangle, Washington Volume 44, Number 3, December 1995

## UCA reaches out

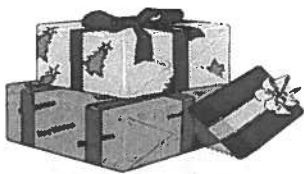
Wow! Something better to do on Sabbath other than the usual two and a half hours we spend in the Spangle church. The youth of U.C.A., along with Pastor Riffel, are sending groups to different churches in the conference, giving them a special blessing on God's day.

Kids, of their own accord, have rallied together to give churches a special Sabbath and to spiritually benefit personally by participating in preaching and teaching different classes. Fairfield and Waverly are just two of the churches that have benefitted from this program.

There are different contributions the kids can make to the program. Giving special music, reading the children's story, teaching the Sabbath schools and leading out in song service are just a few of the God-given talents that the youth share with the churches.

Willing participants in the mood for some good ol' Christian fun are invited by Pastor Riffel and company to join them on Sabbaths to share God with others.

*Rita Canaday*



*Tim Brockman and Shawn Dietrich play to win at this year's amateur hour*

## '96 marks golden anniversary

This year, the seniors at UCA have the privilege of being the 50th class to graduate on the UCA campus. Yes, that's right, not even Mr. Peach has been here that long. Over the years, of course, there have been changes. When the school was first purchased from the county in 1945 none of the buildings now on campus, except for the Administration Building and a different version of the girls dorm, was here. The top floor of the Ad Building was used for housing the guys for the first few years, and the girls dorm also housed the cafeteria.

Before the school property was purchased, it was owned by the county and used as a poor farm and hospital. Then, the Social Security Act was passed which made it possible for the Upper Columbia Conference of Seventh-day Adventists to buy the property. Most of the construction that made the school as we know it today took place in the 60's and early 70's. Projects completed during that time included new wings on the men's and women's dorms, construction of the industrial arts building, the cafeteria, and, of course, the church, which was completed in the spring of 1974. Include the recent additions of the gym and tennis courts, and you have the school we now know.

Because this is the golden anniversary of the UCA campus, there are sure to be celebrations this year. Alumni weekend will especially focus on the 50-year and graduating classes. Be sure not to miss any of the celebrations this year.

*Jon Larsen*

1946

50 YEARS

1996

## UCA powder play

In the early-morning darkness of Tuesday, November 7, all but a few eager students slept through this year's first snow-fall. All those not quite conscious at five o'clock that morning were greeted with the glistening joy upon venturing outdoors. There was only one conclusion in everyone's mind: Ski Season Cometh.

For many, this thought provokes memories of severe pain, or at least embarrassment, but for the most part, UCA students face the challenge of winter living with the hope of ripping their bodies apart on the slopes. "There's nothing quite like it," quips Jon Larsen.

Unfortunately, there is one thing stopping these adrenaline-junkies from flinging themselves down a precipice. Quite simply put, not even a hundred vicious students can force a resort to open until they're ready to. Schweitzer Mountain planned a weather-foiled Thanksgiving Day opening bash. At the end of November, Silver Mountain could only lay claim to 13 inches of snow at mid-summit, and 49-Degrees North wouldn't even answer their phones. So, UCA was stuck.

And what was the answer to this dilemma? A few die-hard fanatics resorted to schussing down the hills around campus, risking scratches to their equipment for a head-start on their endless winter. Those chronically-addicted to the slopes even purchased skiing-simulators for their computers.

Whatever your solution for the snow no-show, please attempt to keep that pre-dawn screaming to a minimum until Christmas, okay?

*Warren Wessels*

*Merry Christmas*



*Surely these happy cafeteria diners will eat all of their food*

## Victims become suspects in missing food scandal

Thousands of dollars each year are going down the cafeteria garbage disposal, say cafeteria workers. The money disappears in various forms, ranging from the Leaning Tower of Pizza to just your general compost pile.

Yesterday, the cafeteria dishroom crew may have disposed of nearly 100 dollars worth of food. Yesterday was not an exception to the rule. Every day, students leave seemingly endless amounts of food sitting on their trays when they leave the cafeteria. This wastage adds up to big dollars quickly. Cafeteria Director, Peter Blankenship, estimates that over \$35,000.00 worth of food is wasted per year.

To put that in perspective, if each student were to throw out just *one-half glass* of juice per *day*, approximately \$5960.00 would be wasted by the end of the year. The approximate annual cost of wasted food is nearly six times that amount.

Although most students regularly waste small amounts of food, a good portion of the wasted food is from people who take more than they can eat and then throw it away. "People pig out," says Nutri-Group representative Sharon Robinson. For instance, one morning recently, three blueberry muffins were left untouched on someone's tray. This created a loss of \$1.29.

This pig-out-throw-out routine has been named by Robinson as a major cause of the lack of food at meals. "It's sad, but I've seen that a lot. We can cook a recipe for 400 and run out," she says. According to Blankenship, the cafeteria usually bakes about 960 cookies and still runs out. This is all to feed the 220 people who regularly attend meals.

Students are quick to defend themselves. "The food sometimes looks and *maybe* smells good, but can taste atrocious," says Jillyayne Mathis. Aleka Willey says it is "'Cause they find the food disagreeable with them."

Regardless of whether the blame rests with the students or the food itself, it's obvious that wastage is a problem that cannot be ignored.

*Melissa Tucker*

## Christian drama team unmaskes for action

The UCA Drama Club is back in session with a new team, name, and director for a brand new year. Unmasked, directed by Brian Yeager, has a cast of 6, plus a piano player, and 2 technicians. The schedule this year is rigorous. It includes two practices every week and a variety of performances both on and off campus. The emphasis of the group is to bring Jesus to the audience and to be entertaining at the same time.

The first major performance for the group was a vesper in the UCA church on December 1 at 7:30pm. The play performed was *The Fool*, a combination of nine miniskits dealing with Christians and how they relate to other Christians, friends, and strangers.

Another event for this drama group was a drama workshop they presented during Family Convocation Weekend, November 10-12. On Sabbath afternoon the team led a workshop in the fundamentals of drama. Everyone was invited to join them for some hands-on activities that were a lot of fun.

We are happy to have this team with us this year and are looking forward to seeing their performances. Welcome to the Upper Columbia Academy campus, Unmasked!  
*Wendi White*



*Unmasked members Jeanie Williams, Jon Larsen, Wendi White, Kirstin Elliott, Misty Park, Angie Sorensen, Cory Wetterlin, Brian Yeager and Merwin Currie*

## Advisors there to help

About eight years ago, a strange but useful phenomenon started at UCA. Advisor groups began in hopes of bringing the students and faculty closer together.

An advisor was to be someone to go to when problems came up. They were to be there for encouragement and support. The advisor groups were to give you a place where you belonged and would be noticed. They were to help you feel included and accepted. One thing that some advisors have been known to do is to stand with or in representation of students in Ad Council.

Unfortunately, it has not all turned out that way. The students and faculty do not get together enough to build the trust relationship needed to be open with each other. Ideally, the faculty would get together with the students at least every month, but it is hard for the faculty because they are already bogged down with stuff to do. Also, the calendar is so busy that it is hard to get together.

Advisor groups were also to be there for scholastic advice. That is why advisors give out grades. That way someone here on campus has an idea if you are needing help in school. They do look over your grades and see if help is needed.

A neat idea would be if students signed up for advisors on registration day. That way the faculty could encourage the new students that are struggling with homesickness. Some faculty are very helpful with this already, but there are lots of students they cannot reach. If faculty had specific students that they were watching out for, all the students would be covered.

Right now it seems like advisors just give out grades, host a party once a year, and give a couple of home vespers, but there seems to be a deeper usefulness of advisors just waiting for utilization.

*Seth McNeill*

## The Echoes

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

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This issues happy contributors included (in festive alphabetical order):

Jennifer Barton, Rita Canaday, Carson Ferguson, Kim Follett, Heather Garcia, Cindy Girdharry, Geof Greenway, Katy Harlan, Gabrielle Kiele, Kirstin Kiele, Jon Larsen, Seth McNeill, Misty Park, David Perrin, Bethany Smith, Chris Swisher, Melissa Tucker, Bonnie Twigg, Warren Wessels, Wendi White, Elizabeth Wieland, and Stephen Lacey, sponsor

## Campus radio station inspires. . . faculty

In the midst of wheat fields, forty five minutes from civilization, KUCA faithfully provides music for UCA's faculty. The small radio station is located on campus. KUCA reaches an area of about one mile. After a long and hard week with teenagers, faculty like to kick back and relax with inspirational music. Radios are not allowed on campus, but students can enjoy listening to KUCA while eating in the cafeteria on weekends.

Mr. Lake is the station's manager, and the students volunteer their time to DJ. KUCA provides an opportunity for students to become familiar with radio broadcasting. The station also participates in community service. The annual Silent Night Marathon, a two-hour program of different versions of "Silent Night" raises money for children of inmates.

KUCA also interviews guests that come to UCA, and provides the weather update and other short programs.

*Misty Park*

*Christmas is. . .  
lights on the guys' dorm  
a warm, fuzzy pair of slippers  
fresh powder on the ski hill  
homemade snow ice-cream  
snowflakes on your dog's nose  
ten extra pounds  
chickadees in the driveway  
the frosting on the cake of the  
year  
being pulled behind the car on  
skis  
sweet-smelling kitchens*



*Evelyn Hillmon and Ryler Adams volunteer their time to keep KUCA on the air*

## Certain seniors recall four long years

Recently the 4-year Seniors met to elect the class officers for the 4-year Senior Club. Under the direction of the Langes, officers were chosen out of the 25 4-year seniors that represent a wide variety of views and backgrounds.

Each year the seniors who have attended UCA for at least three and a half years band together to form their own special club. This club is a club for students that have weathered the storm, that know how things change during 4 years, that have survived. Twenty-five students fit this category, some of them being officers in that original freshman class. But, the ballots are in, and the officers have been chosen. Laura Marsh was selected as President, with her right hand woman being Michelle Wagner. Not to be left out, Jennifer Wagner was elected as the Secretary/Treasurer. A shocked Melissa Tucker noticed when she returned from a trip outside during the vote, that she had been elected the 4-year Chaplain. And although Mr. Martling would have trouble finding her in his history books, Kathryn Mundall became the club Historian. Geof Greenway was elected Sergeant-at-Arms, with high hopes of making some sense out of who was elected. He was also glad that in the midst of the women, he could be a male officer, expressing the interests of those not feminine.

Already, the officers have talked briefly about plans and thoughts that would make this 4-year Club something special. Some ideas thrown about included digging up some interesting stories from the years gone by and publishing them in a sort of newsletter, raising "bucko bucks" to go on an "out of this world" 4-year trip, and getting to know each other even more in this last year of high school.

If the first meeting was any indication, this year's 4-year Senior Club is ready to take UCA, if not the world, by storm, not content to let things happen without them. This can only be a good thing if used in accordance with God's will, for the Bible says, "We can do all things, through Christ, who strengthens us." *Philippians 4:13*

*Geof Greenway*

# The on-rolling ball and chain

What does U.C.A. think about couples inhabiting the premises? Why do people at U.C.A or anywhere else for that matter think it is necessary to have the commitment of "going out"? Is it to have a back-up for when things are going rotten, or is it because, being human beings, we tend to be selfish in wanting somebody's affection all to ourselves?

A small survey was taken to see what the students at U.C.A think about couples. Here are the results.

Guys' comments were:

"I think most couples are annoying" -Jon Sue

"It's ok just as long as they don't get too graphic." - David Fisher

"Stuff happens." - Jeremy Griffin

"I think it's kind of dumb because there isn't much to do here." - Benjie Maxson

The girls' opinions were:

"Couples at U.C.A seem to be kind of fake." - Heidi Juhl

"In some cases being a couple at U.C.A seems to exclude you from the way you might usually act around your friends." - Kris Giese

"Too many rules and stuff at U.C.A to actually have one." - Shiloh Shuman

"If more people were into it, it would be fine." - Bonnie Twigg

"They're pretty funny up here." - Carman Griffin

"Hmm." - Emily Bonden

Another good question to ask is whether it is healthy for students this age to have a serious commitment with another.

*Carson Ferguson*



*A couple of senior "couples," Deeanne Akers, Bill Hendricks, Bethany Smith and Shawn Dietrich show their school spirit during Spirit Week.*

## Students sneak into suspension

It is a dark and chilly night. Preparing their escape, shadowy figures lurk behind cars. Soon they will be on their way. Why do students sneak to town and risk the consequences of getting caught?

Apparently, the main reason is that students want to experience the thrill of sneaking out-- the anticipation of getting away with it. It's only natural to want to go against the laws of the land. Just imagine the excitement of riding to town strapped to the engine block of a speeding car.

Others just feel the need to get away for a change from UCA's diet. The routine schedule of meals gets too boring for the adventurous residents at UCA. An occasional trip to Taco Bell or Denny's adds variety and flavor.

It's all very innocent...until they get caught. Then, there's gnashing of teeth and loss of privileges or even suspension. But some still take the chance and feel that it is worth it.

One student says, "Do it as much as you can." Most students aren't trying to be rebellious but complain that no one is ever around to ask so you just have to go. "It happens, but it won't be a problem until it gets out of hand," said another student.

If this practice is overused or found out too many times, problems could arise. So if you're planning on sneaking into the mall or out to dinner, beware--the wrath of the UCA administration could await your return.

*Bethany Smith*





*Dean Peter Ellis*

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## New dean on duty

There is a new dean residing in the men's dorm. His name is Peter Ellis and he comes to us from Walla Walla College. We needed another dean because Joe and Mike Threadgill have had their hands full with the many responsibilities in the dorm. Having one more dean around helps to keep things running smoothly.

Some of the things that Peter has to do are keeping the dorm in order(day and night), helping students with personal or school-related problems, and helping bring a spiritual atmosphere to the dorm and the school.

When students were asked about how they felt about the new dean, most of them did not have a problem with another authority figure around the dorm even though we now have to be extra careful when listening to those forbidden radios.

So from all of us here at U.C.A. we welcome you and hope you enjoy life on our campus.

*David Perrin*

## Warning: students escaping from classrooms

Field trips are one of the tools teachers use to lure students to their classes. For example, if students were told that for Art class they could go to Paris for a week, imagine how many students would sign up! Or what would happen if the Journalism teacher was known to take his class to Taco Bell every week?

No, field trips like these haven't taken place (yet!), but there are several classes which do have fun things planned for this year. Peter Hardy and Marvin Thorman each took a group of backpacking students to the Wallawas for Outdoor Education class. Donna Perry took her Spanish 3 class on a trip to a Mexican restau-

rant in Spokane to practice their growing Spanish vocabulary. On a recent weekend, the UCA Concert Band performed concerts at Lewiston, Idaho and Clarkston, Washington. Golf, Advanced Auto Mechanics, and Exploring Technology are some other classes which have had field trips this year. Biology and Marine Biology students also have field trips to look forward to near the end of the school year.

Yes, UCA teachers have many creative, fun ways to teach their students, and these trips help at least some of their students learn the subjects better and enjoy them at the same time.

*Gabrielle Kiele*

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## Improving girls' dorm

Holes in the ceiling and many other problems have already been repaired this year in the girls' dorm.

The bathrooms on west wing have finally been completed. Shower and bathroom stalls have been put in and the drainage problem has been fixed. The holes in the ceiling on second floor have also been repaired.

You don't have to look too hard to see all the improvements that are taking place outside the dorm either. The old half-dead bushes have been pulled up and new ones planted. Trees were trimmed. Another improvement that took place over the summer is the fences along the walkways.

Many more repairs are going to be completed soon, including a sagging laundry room ceiling, chipping doors, and overhauling the guest rooms.

The girls are really thankful for the changes and hope they keep coming.

*Elizabeth Weiland*

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## Buried under homework

At UCA, there are students with all kinds of class loads. Some feverishly work on all their assignments and never have time for rest. Others seem to take about three classes, sleep 'til noon and stay relaxed about "this whole school thing." There are some, though, who actually WANT to take harder classes for a challenge so they won't get bored.

With so many classes to finish before graduation, students end up taking huge class loads to get the necessary credits. Four-year seniors don't have much to do (unless they want to). But those who come to UCA as juniors or seniors have to catch up on all the requirements. One student takes so many classes because she came to UCA as a senior. She has to have a certain number of credits to graduate, and she loves music so she *has* to take Choir, Choraliers, and Voice lessons.

With so much to do and so little free time, there is cause for stress and exhaustion. But most of those who take lots of classes do so because they enjoy their schedules that way. Everyone gets stressed out occasionally, but over all, the busy people are content with their non-stop school lives just as they are.

*Jennifer Barton*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

## Girls' club emerges from hibernation

Girls' Club is prepping up for a fantastic year. The Christmas Banquet is the big event of the year for the Girls' Club. However, several smaller activities are planned.

Many hours of planning go into the banquets each year and this year is no exception. The theme will be an old-fashioned Christmas. Erica Willinger, President; Deeanne Akers, Vice President; Wendi White, Secretary; Kris Giese, Treasurer; Katy Harlan, Chaplain; Vicki Kildal, Chorister; and Laura Marsh, Village Representative have been planning for weeks to make the Christmas Banquet an enjoyable evening for everyone.

After October homeleave, a Fall Frenzy happened on the field. Apples, caramel dip, hot chocolate, apple cider, and marshmallows were enjoyed by many of the girls. Mr. Marsh built a fantastic bonfire for roasting marshmallows and keeping warm. The weather was cold, but Denae Hunt thought the marshmallows were worth it and she would like to do it again. According to Melissa Tucker, the apples and caramel were a messy affair. "The caramel got on my nose!" she complained. She didn't seem too upset about it though.

Who knows? The guys dorm may have some competition this year!

*Katy Harlan*



## Cafe can't change Jeff

Jeff Stonebraker, a four-year senior, has graced us by his happy personality these past four years. Now he puts a smile on the student bodies' faces from 11:30-12:15 Monday through Friday because of his new job as a cafe worker.

Jeff admitted that working in the cafe wasn't his first choice of employment, but now, watching him work, people can honestly say that he loves it. It gives him the chance "to meet new people and put a smile on their faces." Mrs. Robinson, his boss, says, "I enjoy Jeff's happy, free spirit. He's a joy to work with."

One of Jeff's favorite pastimes is golfing. He has golfed in the cities of Lewiston (there he's able to drive a heated golf cart),

Spokane, and even Palm Springs. Last year, Jeff taught a golf class here at U.C.A.. One of his respectful students says, "Jeff is knowledgeable in golf. I learned a lot from him." Jeff has certainly recruited this golfer.

Jeff is a proud owner of a basset hound named Ralph. Ralph has been part of Jeff's family for the past 5 years. "Ralph is one of those irresistible dogs that you just can't help petting," says a friend of the family.

So next time you see Jeff in the cafe, think to yourself, "Have I hugged this cafe worker, golfer, and dog owner today?"

*Kim Follett*



*Jeff Stonebraker*

## Students reach out for help

Students with troubles learn to cope with them at UCA where there is always a way to resolve them.

At UCA many of the students find themselves with problems or troubles of some sort. There is always a person to turn to. One of the many solutions is a friend who is a good listener. But they are not always there to talk to. At those times, staff can step in and listen to anyone's problems or just to what is on their heart.

In the girls' dorm there is the S.O.S. to God team. First floor has a prayer room on the west wing. 2nd West has a special mailbox in which girls can put their letters to the team. Someone on the team will reply to the person's code name. They will always give helpful advice that will give you hope and keep your eye on God. In the 1st West room there are prayer books in which you can write your problems on a chart. People will come in and write advice and let you know that they are praying for you. If you feel the need you can write if your problems have been solved. God always opens a door when another one is closed.

Just remember Romans 8:28: "All things work together for the good of those who love and serve God."

*Heather Garcia*

**UCA**  
**50 YEARS**

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*HAPPY HOLIDAYS!*