

The Echoes

Upper Columbia Academy, Spangle, Washington Volume 44, Number 5, February 1996

Week of prayer effective?

During the week of January 15 to 20, UCA students' hurried schedules were interrupted by nightly prayer meetings. The student body voted for twelve of their own to lead the student body in bible study, prayer, and music. The twelve chosen included Emily Bonden, Lindy Renck, Bethany Smith, Shenalyn Horning, Katie Torkleson, Jay Ham, Walter Klein, Daniel Perrin, Jonathan Larsen, Jeremy Griffin, Shawn Dietrich, and Warren Wessels. Many topics were covered, and the group, with guidance from Ms. McGuire and Pastor Fred, prepared themselves and their talks diligently. Some students, however, have difficulty relating to such talks, or even to the speakers themselves. This presented a problem to the twelve. If they didn't choose their topics carefully, they might lose a majority of their audience before they could even start.

And so we come to the question: Is Week Of Prayer effective? The answer, I am certain, is that, yes, it is. Although some of the student body receive absolutely no blessing from Student Week Of Prayer, many catch a glimpse of God through the eyes of the speaker. Many of the students involved in the Week used techniques of speech delivery that captivated the audience. The student body was shown an interesting side of spirituality, and were "baited" to hear more. The leaders tried desperately to reach out to the student body and deliver the message God had



Student Week of Prayer speakers pause for a photo before heading out for song service. (l to r) Jon Larsen, Shenalyn Horning, Lindy Renck, Katie Torkelsen, Shaun Dietrich, Jeremy Griffin, Emily Bonden, Daniel Perrin, Walter Klein, Bethany Smith, Jay B. Ham, and Warren Wessels

given them. They realized that they *would* reach someone; even if only one someone.

What about the other 279 students, then? Were they supposed to sit quietly for an hour so that one person could receive a blessing? Although it seems silly to make the entire student body sacrifice study time for one person, we must realize that there is no way for anyone to tell *who* that one person is. Three-hundred students gather together, and maybe only one will be blessed, but, *which one*? So perhaps the attitude at Week of Prayer meetings should be one of hopeful anticipation. Each student has to go *wanting* a blessing, and must leave the rest to God.

And so we return to the question: Is Student Week of Prayer effec-

tive? The answer, however, is one only each of us can give ourselves. Did you allow Student Week of Prayer to be effective for you?

Warren Wessels

New ASB Officers for 2nd semester

President--Gary Beers
Vice President--Jon Sue
Treasurer--Carson Ferguson
Secretary--Sara Carr
Chaplain--Katy Harlan
Sgt-at-Arms--Brianna Beitz
Pianist--Rachel Jenks
Chorister--Angela Thornburg

Student council slacks off

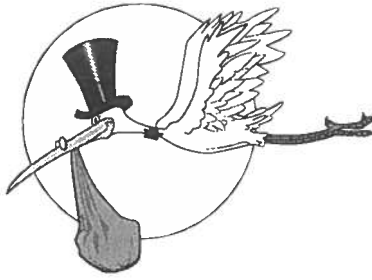
In the past few years at UCA, students have felt like they don't really have a chance to voice their opinions concerning the way some things are run on campus. The faculty decided to compromise by starting what is known on campus as student council. The council consists of 2 seniors, 2 juniors, 1 sophomore, 1 freshman, and vice principal Peter Hardy who sponsors this three-year-old program.

When a student has a problem or an idea as to how something could run smoother or a little bit better, they take their request to their class representative and tell them to pass the idea along to the rest of the student council. Then, the student council takes that idea, good or bad, to ad council to see if they can figure something out to accommodate the person and the students involved.

Student council is a very good idea, and if kept up with and plugged into the school, it could be a fantastic way for students to be heard. The problem is that students just don't seem to know about this concept and how it works. So far, the student council this year hasn't really been used to get anything done or changed. With a program like this, you would think the students would be pleased, but they're not. Some students aren't even aware of this program while the ones who have been here longer don't take it very seriously. Is student council slipping, or are they in desperate need of repair? Maybe it is time to request that the student council make the program work to serve the students just a little bit better.

Carson Ferguson

Blessed are they who
can laugh at them-
selves, for they shall
never cease to be
amused.



Rrrriing! Rrrriing!

"Hello."

"Mrs. Martling?"

"Yes."

"I'm Fern Ringer from the Adventist Adoption and Family Service in Portland. Are you still interested in adoption? If so, a mother is due January 8."

Wow! What a surprise. That is how it all started. Less than two weeks later, Mike and Nancy were on a plane to Maryland to meet their baby.

A couple years ago, Mike and Nancy gave their names to the adoption agency just as an idea. They hardly expected that they would get the chance to really have a baby.

Five other families were "in the running" for the soon to come baby. The birth mother and grandmother looked over the profiles of the families and chose the Martlings to care for the baby. It helped that Mike was "a teacher in one of our schools."

The morning of December 22, the phone rang again. A baby boy was born. The next few days were a "blur" as described by Mike. Mike and Nancy quickly got tickets, packed, and called family members while their friends helped them stay calm and get ready for the baby.

They flew to Maryland, met Mike's aunt and uncle, and went in to meet Shannon Michael Britton Martling.

It was a unique Christmas for Mike and Nancy. While waiting for all the legal details to be worked out, they had to stay in a motel. They were stuck in Maryland for a week. The couple ate

Baby surprise comes to Spangle

Christmas dinner at Subway because it was the only thing open. They drove to Pennsylvania to Mike's mom's house for a few days. Finally, they got a flight home to Spangle with a new baby, Shannon.

Mike says it's a big adjustment being a father, a big responsibility. He also says that it's a little scary raising a kid these days because of degenerated morals and the low emphasis on family values. But Mike is confident that he and Nancy can do it with God's help. Mike's faith has been strengthened as he's seen God work for the good by bringing Shannon into their lives. He's taken comfort in the promise of Ephesians 3:20: "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us." He feels personal ties to Genesis 21:6: "And Sarah said, 'God has made me laugh, so that all who hear will laugh with me.'"

Adoption can take a long time and a lot of patience. Paper work and legal checks take time, but it's worth it. In the future, Mike and Nancy hope to have a baby girl of their own. They've learned that when you leave things in God's hands, you have to be ready for amazing results.

Bethany Smith



2% town trips

As a 4-year senior, I have seen a dramatic change in the attendance policy over the years. During my days as a freshman, everyone who was anybody skipped class because there was no visible penalty for doing it, and it was—well—fun. Of course, there was always the risk that if you skipped too many times you would be asked to withdraw from a class. But all you really had to do was be careful that you didn't get the big seven absences before the quarter ended. Fortunately, with each new quarter, you could start with a clean slate. But this is four years later, and things have changed. Now if you don't go to class, you will be awarded up to a 2% grade decrease for each unexcused absence.

Enforcement of this new policy has been left up to the teachers' discretion. They can either cruelly enforce it or mercifully take into consideration the students' hectic schedules. Despite having this choice, few teachers choose the latter. This leaves many frustrated students wondering about the fairness of this policy. Principal Larry Marsh reasons that this allows students to take responsibility for their actions. He also feels that the old policy was too relaxed and needed an additional penalty to encourage students to attend faithfully.

Thanks to these penalties, the art of skipping class has become more technical and restricted. So if you plan on skipping class any time soon, make sure you already have a strong A and go somewhere fun.

Cindy Girdharry

You can skip this one for me

Attendance, that bane of students everywhere. That precious right to assert your independence. The chance to get just 45 more minutes of sleep. Why do we skip classes, and why is the punishment the way it is?

The current attendance policy was started 3 years ago, according to Mrs. Gee. Before it was in effect, students were allowed a maximum of 13 absences in all their classes combined, and then they were asked to withdraw from school. I talked to Mr. Hardy to see if the new attendance policy has had a positive effect, and he said that it makes it more fair by basing it on individual classes only. This way, a student with a small number of classes does not have an unfair advantage.

Now, the policy is that if you have 7 absences with 4 or more unexcused and any number of excused absences that add up to 7, you have to drop that class. This is a workable policy, but I think it could be better. The policy of deducting percentage points for absences seems to be a little bit harsh. Mr. Hardy said that this part of the policy was to discourage skipping because with the new policy, a student could have 30 total unexcused absences without any consequences. Even so, you may have a good reason to skip a class that's not quite good enough to officially excuse it. If you know that it's not necessary for you to get a good grade in a class, then you should have the right to choose your priorities. I think that a good policy would be to allow one or two absences in a class with no deduction, as some teachers do already, but to keep the consequences still fairly harsh after that. This would give us the opportunity to skip a class to study, sleep, or take care of something that may be more urgent to us at the time.

All in all, I believe the Administration did a good job with the attendance policy. It definitely is an improvement over the previous policy. However, change is good, and a healthy organization evaluates its policies frequently to see if they can be improved. Change does take time and effort, but I think our administration will continue with its good track record of choices.

Jon Larsen



At first the campus seemed like a winter wonderland; then came -30 temperatures and the quick thaw that sent water rushing over the road and flooded the cafe basement

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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David Perrin, Bethany Smith,
Melissa Tucker, Bonnie Twigg,
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Reporter enjoys new experience

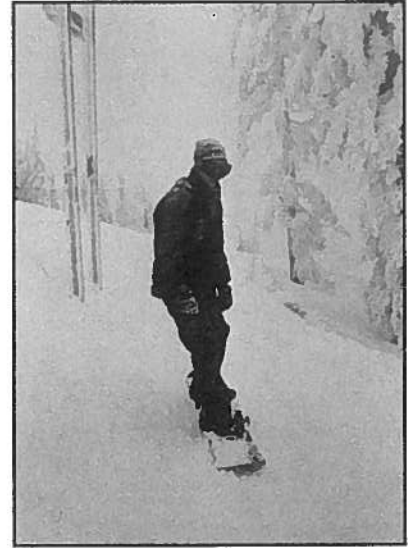
Skiing--you know, that sport in which participants don brightly colored clothing and skis, and gracefully ski down snowy mountain slopes. For a first-time skier, however, the experience seems quite different. To attach long, slippery objects to your feet and try to keep your balance with long poles presents very scary prospects.

The instructor finally persuades you to point them downhill; then, in a flurry of snow and screams, you find yourself falling, tumbling, and landing in a very uncomfortable position. Your yelling finally get someone's attention, and they come over to help you. When they reach you, however, you grab their hand, step on their ski, and fall over again, pulling them with you! Such things keep happening all morning until you're sure your instructor is tired of you.

Soon you start to get the hang of it, though, and can actually glide(?) along in an upright position for a few hundred feet without falling down or running into someone. Then, just when you think you're starting to figure out the bunny hill, your instructor somehow convinces you to attempt a run--with sharp curves, steep stretches, and, when you finally get to the bottom, a chairlift to get back up. Having accomplished that, with only a minor spill when you got off the lift, you head inside for lunch.

When your day is over, despite all your spills, crashes, tumbles, and screams, you find that you enjoyed it and are looking forward to the next session, to do it all again!

Gabrielle Kiele



On Winter Campus Day, students hit the slopes of Silver Mountain. . . Here, Jeanie Williams threatens the intrepid photographer after almost completing a dazzling snowboard maneuver

Fashion clashes on the slopes

The ski season finally started here at U.C.A., and everyone seemed to have had a lot of fun. Now one of the things that you'll notice if you are up on a ski hill is the many combinations of colorful ski outfits people wear.

There are some outfits that are so bright and colorful you would think that they ran on batteries. Then there are people who wear an all white ski outfit just to blend in with the snow.

Also there are ski outfits that will put you to sleep from the colorless combinations of brown, black, and gray.

Another thing that you'll notice on the slopes is the difference in the way skiers and snowboarders dress for their sports. Most skiers usually dress in the bright colorful ski outfits. Maybe that is so that they will be seen and not hit. Snowboarders are usually seen dressed in the baggy earth-tone colored snow suits. There seems to be no reason for this difference.

Who knows, maybe we've just stumbled across two new kinds of species in the human race that deserve to be studied carefully.

David Perrin



A cluster of snowboarders take a break at the top of the lift as they consider strategies for the next downhill run

Ski bloopers interest many

Every year UCA offers a wonderful ski season to the students. Between 6:15 and 6:30, half-awake students anticipate the day. All in all, everyone has fun--even those who seem to like skiing on their seats down the hill.

Lots of students have had "falls" of various types. For instance, Shelly Smith was attempting a 360 when her boot mysteriously came out of her snowboard binding. She started becoming accustomed to sitting between the bindings on her board and using it to get down the hill. Vanessa Ekvall just couldn't seem to contain her laughter as Shelly tried to regain her composure.

Chris Flerschinger also had a fun tale to tell. He had decided to venture through the trees and seek adventure on the other side. Little did he know that he was going to regret what he did. You could hear a faint "ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhh" as the tip of his ski went under a tree stump and down to the root while the rest of his body was propelled over the stump leaving the other ski behind him as he tumbled down the hill. He soon warned Mike Pipoly and the others that it was not such a good idea to go through the trees.

David Perrin was going blissfully down a ski slope, immensely enjoying himself. Well, one thing that was bothersome. His goggles were fogged up and made everything look the same. Suddenly, he went off an invisible jump. . . All that David says is that he had a lot of fun doing a face plant that hit really hard.

Let's just hope that everyone has a lot of fun in the remaining ski trips.

Heather Garcia

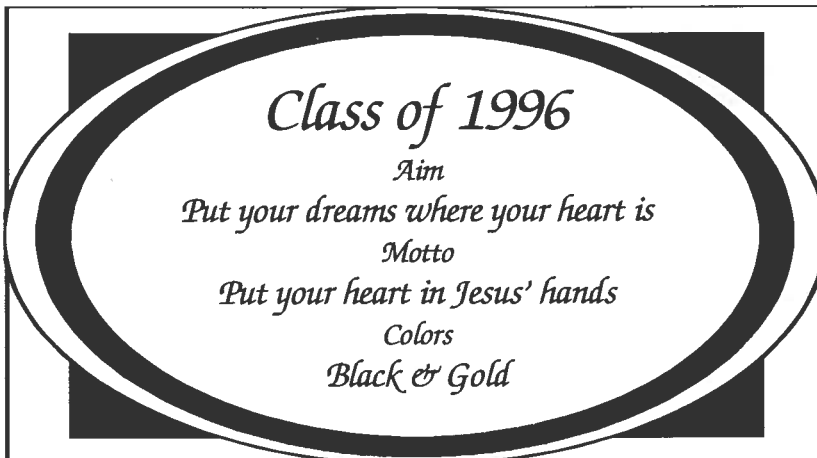
Skiing, boarding begin

January 7, 1996, began way too early for many as holding equipment, lunches, and other things needed for a day at Silver Mountain they stumbled around their rooms and down to buses. Twenty-one lesson skiers/boarders {including Wendell Adams}, and 78 recreation skiers/boarders filled two buses. We left about 6:30 a.m.

When we got there, the first thing we noticed was the weather. It was raining at the bottom of the gondola, but once you got off at the lodge it was snow--driving blinding snow in the face. The wind made the air much colder than was comfortable, but it was above freezing. Everything was melting. Actually, skiing wasn't so bad, but the lifts were the worst. Some of them had pools of water in the middle of the seat that you had to sit in. The snow on the slopes was wet and heavy and you got your skis stuck.

Three or four hours was more than many could stand. If you got wet, you stayed wet and very very cold. Some fled back to the lodge where they tried to dry jackets and gloves and sat huddled in groups drinking hot chocolate. Others bravely stayed out in the wind and cold water until 4. Lift #5, a beginner lift, closed around 2 p.m. They should've done it much sooner.

Jennifer Barton



Week of prayer speakers escape

Students who spoke for Week of Prayer escaped the fast life at school for a relaxing weekend in the mountains. The retreat gave the students an opportunity to prepare themselves mentally and spiritually for Week of Prayer.

After a long drive, students and faculty settled themselves in a mountain cabin west of Brewster. The weekend was planned for the students who were speaking so that they would become unified as a team and could learn how to prepare their message. Although they were not in school, Ms. McGuire still had class. The students received a quick lesson in speech.

The retreat gave the students time to bond with one another and have fun. It also was a time to pray and develop a closer relationship with God. "It definitely brought me closer to God and gave me an opportunity to put things in perspective and to get my priorities straightened out," stated Jon Larsen.

The students divided into groups and did activities to get to know one another. They also spent time alone to read, pray, and meditate.

The students arrived back to school feeling closer to God and prepared to give a message for Him.

Misty Park

New year brings study room

Two new couches and a T.V. disappeared from the Girl' Dorm T.V. room during Christmas vacation. Several tables, chairs, and two orange couches with big flowers on them appeared in their place.

Soon it became common knowledge that the T.V. Room had been moved from Senior Hall to the first floor clinic, and the study room for D, F, and I girls was relocated to the old T.V. Room on second floor.

According to Dean Sharon Adams, the school board was concerned about the long list of D, F, and I students. They decided something had to be done, so the Study Room was moved to a larger room (the T.V. room).

Dean Jane Graves explains that "it provides a place for D, F, and I students." With the T.V. Room near the Deans' Office, the deans have more control over which programs are watched. "They were wasting too much time with talk shows."

What do the girls think of the move? "It's absolutely disgusting!" says senior Bonnie Twigg. "It's Senior Hall. Having study hall on Senior Hall is ridiculous."

Jeanie Williams, junior, says, "It's easier to find something else to do. A lot of my friends have more time to spend with me." The temptation is gone.

"I don't think they considered all the options," says Cindy Girdharry, senior.

Kim Follett added her senior wisdom by suggesting that D, F, and I students go to the library during study hall. "It's beneficial for all, even people not on D, F, and I." Computers, encyclopedias, dictionaries, and a variety of other study helps could be made available to the girls.

But, is the library an option? About three or four years ago, UCA tried to have a study hall in the library. Guys and girls each had two nights a week to study in the library.

Donna Perry, librarian, says, "Ideally, it's a good idea, but people decided to go other places. The library got trashed. Food was on the floor." Guys snuck over on the girls' night to be with their girlfriends. It turned into a problem, instead of a help, for the students.

Can the students repair the damage they have done? That decision is made by the administration. If our student body shows that they would like to have a better study place and still keep their T. V. in a big room, they will have to prove it and hope that the "powers that be" agree with them.

Katy Harlan

The women of UCA

It was a cool crisp evening when it all started. Girls from every direction were climbing the steep hill to the field where Coach Heidi Threadgill stood waiting.

The time had come, 6:15 p.m. sharp, names were taken, rules were told, and the first girls varsity football practice of 1995 began. The coach had the girls do several exercises and warm ups before they actually got down to things. The girls met two to three times a week, slowly changing positions into offensive and defensive sides. Even though the hardest winds came up and the severest rain storms came around, the girls still showed up and practiced their hearts out. They even showed the guys' varsity team a few different moves as they watched from under the protected shelter on the field.

Even though several tried out, only a few of the bravest women survived coach Threadgill's hard-core practices. A team was formed, games were scheduled, and soon the varsity team played their very first game. Crowds of people showed up and lined the sidelines, some cheering the home team, others making noise for the visiting team. They played only four games, winning all but one. Their opponents were middle-aged women, yet they played like they were in their prime, planning moves and going through with them like they had done it all their lives. Yet they were no match for UCA's Varsity.

Even though the visiting teams were always church groups, they still had deep emotion and competitiveness. Names were called, words were said, and nails drew blood. Yet everyone claimed to be having fun.

Rita Canaday

Southern belle turns dean

This year at UCA the girls' dorm has a new Task Force Dean, Dean Cowen. Dean Cowen was born in Oswego, New York. Her family moved to Georgia when she was ten. She attended Southern College in Tennessee. She spent 4 1/2 years there and majored in Art and English, with a minor in religion. For three years she was a student assistant dean. She loved her time spent as a dean. So when it came time to look for a job, Dean Cowen had to decide whether she liked people or computers better, since her major was in computer art. Deciding that she liked people better, she chose to pursue deaning.

Because she spent all her life in the eastern U.S., you are probably wondering how Dean Cowen happened to take a job at UCA. Her explanation is that "it was a complete accident." She had heard about the job but wasn't really interested because it wasn't full time and she had already applied at the Review and Herald for an internship in graphics.

At Southern College, she met Dean Patricia who was going to take Dean Cowen's place as student assistant dean. While in training, Dean Patricia managed to talk Dean Cowen into calling Mr. Marsh about the job opening for a Task Force Dean at UCA. Dean Cowen prayed about the job. She knew what Dean Patricia had been paid and that she could not live on that amount. When she talked to Mr. Marsh she was offered more than what she had prayed for. Dean Cowen considers this "a direct answer to prayer."

Even though she knew she would be able to get a job as a full time dean, Dean Cowen decided to take a job as a Task Force Dean for practice with high school students. She has discovered that students at UCA face different problems than students in college do and says that she is enjoying her experience immensely.

Kirstin Kiele

Third watch and all's. . .uh-oh

It was a typical night in the girls' dorm. At 11:30 the only sound was the R.A.'s quiet knocking on doors as she made her rounds.

Suddenly the silence was broken by the sound of a door slamming. Two girls, who only moments ago had seemed to be sleeping, made a mad dash for a room down the hall.

Within moments, confusion reigned. The noise from the recently-entered room roused a few angry sleepers, several curiosity seekers, and one girl who insisted she was having a personal crisis and needed to visit the other end of the floor. I leaned against the wall and realized that there was a good reason I had chosen never to be an R.A.

The R.A. tried desperately to quiet the noisy bunch, but it was a wasted effort. When she finally did manage to drag the two trouble-makers out of hiding, they refused to return to their own room until we promised to inform the dean that they were asleep, and that they loved her and hoped she was having a good night. (They had to drag me into it!)

As they disappeared into their room, the R.A. and I looked at each other and burst into laughter...just in time for the head R.A. to come around the corner and blame us for the ruckus.

Groaning, we continued to the other end of the dorm. There we discovered that the girl who had gone there earlier in search of a solution to her personal crisis had only gained another. Now over an hour late for her curfew, she had to find a way back to her room without walking past the open dean's office door.

I made the mistake of pointing up. "You take her," said the R.A. So up the stairs we went to senior hall. There we were greeted by the blank stares of seniors clearly suffering from their late curfew. The only person looking remotely awake was the second north R.A. who demanded to know what we were doing running through her hall so late at night. "I'm taking her to bed," I responded innocently and kept right on running.

Upon returning to first floor I was relieved to find that the R.A.'s work completed with my involuntary help was finally over. (At least for one night.) But, like I said, it was a typical night in the girls' dorm.

Melissa Tucker

My name is. . .

People identify themselves many different ways. It usually depends on where they are and to whom they are talking. One of the places they identify themselves is when they knock on a door and are asked, "Who is there?" Being an RA has given me the opportunity to try out many different responses.

One of the most common answers is "It's me!" This leaves the question, "Who is 'me'?" The most different one I have heard is "Newt Gingrich and Bob Dole." When asked why he said this, the person said, "Because I'm weird." Some other interesting ones are "It's your mother." or "It's your uncle." (or some other relative). Probably the most fun one to say is "The dean." This is particularly entertaining if you can hear a radio or some other "illegal" thing inside. There are several drawbacks to this reply, though. The panicking residents may break something in their wild scramble to hide it, or they may come after you once they do get around to opening the door.

Another way to reply is with a question. Some people say "Who do you think?" Of course, there are some people who just say their name when asked. The last class of people are the ones that don't say anything. This is particularly annoying if you are on the inside of the room.

People identify themselves in various ways when waiting at doors. This is especially apparent in the dorms.

Seth McNeill

50 YEARS
UCA

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The Echoes

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UCA's melting pot

August 28, 1995, started the beginning of a new school year. For many students it was just another typical school day at UCA--the same routine as past years. But for others, it was the start of a new way of life and a beginning to many new friendships.

UCA has had its influence on students from all over the world. What brings students so far from home to a school in the middle of rolling wheat fields? Kevin King, from Guam, stated that the quality of schools there is not very good and that his application to UCA was accepted. Michelle Dulhunty, from Nepal, said she heard UCA was the best boarding school to go to so she decided to give it a try. Sean Oliver from Alaska came to UCA because he wanted to try something new for his last year in high school.

The wide variety of culture and beliefs from students around the world is what makes UCA such a unique place. It gives us a chance to get to know each other, making a closer student body and broadening our view of the world.

Bonnie Twigg



At the end of the Senior Talent Show during Senior Recognition Weekend, the seniors give a rousing rendition of the UCA school song

Fifty Years of Pride