Out the door goes '94

Okay, class of 1994, you've finally made it to the end of the road—well, perhaps not to the end but definitely to an intersection! The school will lose you. You will gain that freedom you've been crowing about for months, but your once-in-a-lifetime senior experience will have ended. Despite all denials, graduation is a bittersweet experience.

Many different decisions must be made as you leave academy days behind forever and head out on the next stage of life's journey. Some of you will return to stand around awkwardly at alumni weekends and other events and, for a while, will feel strangely disconnected from the school. And although all are welcome, others may never return. But to each we wish a full measure of joy and success with the hope of us all getting together again at that big alumni gathering 'round the throne.

Keep in touch '94. It won't be long.

Well done, Seniors!

Speeding out of state

The senior trip—the thing most of the class of 1994 have been waiting for since kindergarten. Well, now it's over, and those of us seniors who are not asleep are sitting in classes going through the memories of the fun we had together as the class of 1994.

Those who wanted to brave the Gorge for a full day of windsurfing left front campus around 6:00 am on Sunday. From the reports and sun-burned faces, the surfing must have been a blast. Those who were a little more lazy hung around the school until 11:00 am and then headed out of state. Once the class arrived in Portland, we spent a little time at the Organ Grinder (now there's some music for your pizza).

After dinner at the Organ Grinder, the class went on their way to do whatever they felt would be the most fun. Choices included golf, white-water rafting, and shopping.

The Oaks Amusement Park was opened for us on Tuesday night. There were rides, mini-golf, and, of course, bumper cars. For some that night the motto was "ride until you can't stagger any farther."

The senior trip holds a dear and special memory for each senior involved. It was a blast and will never be forgotten, even though we weren't allowed that Chinese fire drill!

Brynn Maish

Michigander heads west

On August 15, Upper Columbia Academy will be pleased to welcome a new faculty member for the 1994-1995 school year. This new addition to our campus will be Charrissa Cray. She will come all the way from Kalamazoo, Michigan to help us out here at Upper Columbia Academy as our new Adventist Youth in Action (AYA) leader.

She was the Vice-President of her graduating class at Great Lakes Academy in Michigan, and now has a four-year Sociology degree from Andrews University.

Charrissa chose to come and work at Upper Columbia Academy because she thought it would be a very good experience for her before, possibly, returning to college. She will be living in the Girls' Dormitory in the soon-to-be-remodeled Clinic.

It is always scary trying something new, so let's do all we can to make her feel more than welcome when she arrives here at U.C.A.!

Sarah Duke
Losing blood saves lives

On Monday May 9 students gathered in the gym to give the gift that keeps on giving. It didn’t cost anything, but it was the most valuable gift anyone could give. It was the gift of blood. The blood drive was a success and each donor felt a sense of accomplishment.

When they first walked into the gym, the donors were given papers to fill out and crackers, cheese, and juice to eat if they hadn’t eaten a meal before they came. Next, they had a little medical examination which included taking blood pressure and pricking the finger to test for iron. After that came the blood pressure cuff around their arms to get their veins to pop up. Then iodine was put on their arms to sterilize them. Next one of the medical personnel there put the needle into their arms. It only took seven minutes to fill a pint bag, but during that time some people began to feel light-headed and had to have their feet elevated. If that didn’t work, they were given ice water to drink.

Finally, the needle was taken out and they were told to take it easy while standing up and to go over to a table where they had more cookies and muffins to eat and juice to drink. When they were ready to leave, they were escorted to wherever they needed to go.

Forty donors (up a little from last time) participated in our second blood drive of the year by “losing” a pint of their blood. That gift will help babies, children, and adults survive to see another day.

Hardy wins presidency

In this month’s elections for next year’s first-semester ASB officers, junior Sidney Hardy won the top spot. The other winners included:

- Priscilla Fernandez--Vice-President
- Lisa Momb--Chaplain
- Trisha Wasieczko--Secretary
- Allyson Wasieczko--Treasurer
- Jason Smith--Chorister
- LouAnn Munson--Pianist
- Kiff Christensen--Sgt.-at-Arms

We hope they all get well-rested during the summer for the hard work that lies ahead!

Congratulations

Book business (or "Where are my books?")

It has come to the attention of many that someone has a problem with books and book bags left in the hallway. If everything is not cleared out by a certain time, students come back to find their books parked somewhere other than where they left them.

Why is it so bad to have books languishing about the premises of the school? Instead of thinking of it as clutter, why can’t we think of it as knowledge that can be picked up at any time? If that is not possible, there could be provision made for student books. For example, a few extra shelves could be made to accommodate all the books. Something could be worked out so the school can stay clean but not obsessed with the fact that there may be a little piece of knowledge lying around the corner.

Laura Maxson

Jaime Schultz
Rained-out fundraiser

On Sunday, May 15, approximately 12 girls were found at the Spangle Food Center holding a car wash to raise money for the mother-daughter brunch. Approximately 8 to 10 cars were washed before the girls were rained out and had to end their fund-raiser early. In spite of the rain, the girls had a lot of fun, and were disappointed when they had to quit. Approximately $50.00 was raised, and considering the circumstances, that made it a very successful project.

Melissa Harris

Old tradition revived

Alpha Delta Chi brought back the tradition--The Mother/Daughter Banquet. The Girls’ Club Officers and sponsor worked on the plans for many weeks. This year the banquet was a brunch held May 22 in the Girls’ Dorm Chapel. All of the 186 moms and daughters who pre-registered showed up. We had a full house! Mr. Blankenship prepared the special foods that were served: croissants, fresh fruit, cheesecake, fruit juice, and many other tasty things.

A pianist from Spokane, Dan Frickle, provided live entertainment during the two-hour event. Girls from the dorm also performed some numbers. Flowers from Mrs. Hardy's “Elizabeth Anne’s Floral Gifts” business were available for daughters to purchase for their mothers, and professional pictures were offered for the mother-daughter pairs who chose to show their charming smiles.

The brunch was planned to let the moms know how special they are and just how much they mean to us.

Annalisa Torkelsen

Romping in Rosario

Beginning April 24, forty-seven Advanced Biology students along with Mr. and Mrs. Thayer, and Mr. and Mrs. Martling began a journey to Rosario Beach. That night was spent on gymnastic pads in the gymnasium of Auburn Adventist Academy. Before going to bed, some went swimming in Auburn’s swimming pool.

The following day, the students went to Seattle and went out on Puget Sound and watched divers bring up different organisms for them to examine. They finished the day unpacking their stuff at Rosario Beach and having worship with Columbia Adventist Academy students who were also using the Marine Biology Station at Rosario.

On Tuesday, they took off for Useless Bay to look around and comb the beach for crabs and barnacles. En route they stopped at Deception Pass for the kids to get off the bus and walk across the bridge. After they returned from Useless Bay, the students worked at a few projects at Rosario including landscaping and cleaning.

Wednesday morning the students packed their stuff and went to an estuary at Pedilia Bay to learn all about mud flats and all the little animals that live in them. A couple of kids got into mud fights.

I asked some of the students what their favorite part of the trip was, and here is what they said:

Tara - Staying the night at Auburn.
Amy - The nights on the beach with Columbia Academy.
Sunny - The hot dog roast on the beach.
LouAnn - Watching Kiff jump in the bay at Rosario, and making Nachitaluca glow.
Kiff - The boat ride and jumping into the water.

Lori Robinson

Even at the end of the year, juniors find there is still work to be done

Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

2 Corinthians 13:11
What is stuff?

This month the deans of the guys' dorm put on another one of their great activities named the WEEK OF STUFF. The week started with an egg drop in which the participants made contraptions to hold an egg and tested them by dropping them from the fourth-floor of the dorm. They had to try to get as close as possible to a frying pan that was set in the grass below.

Tuesday's event was a dorm croquet tournament. Players went through a field set up in front of the dorm. Wednesday's event was “Splat-Masters.” Players batted produce, such as apples, lettuce, cantaloupe, tomatoes, and peppers for a chance at cash and other prizes.

Thursday's event was a Three-on-Three basketball tournament and a Slam Dunk contest held at the outdoor courts. The grand finale was a chance to make a full-court basketball shot for a prize of one hundred dollars. Nobody made it!

The total cost for the week was two hundred and fifty dollars. The dorm again was pleased with the plans and events that the deans came up with.

Eric Bordeaux

New honor for students

The National Honor Society is an organization that anyone can participate in who meets certain requirements. It was founded in 1921 by Edward Rynearson. Rynearson was principal of Fifth Avenue High School in Pittsburgh, which was awarded charter number one of the National Honor Society. Our charter number will be sent to us in six to eight weeks. The UCA chapter was just formed with its first members.

Membership in local chapters is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is by a faculty council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities. The required cumulative GPA is 3.5 or above. Students have to show outstanding leadership, but do not need to hold an office. Each year the faculty will choose new members based on these criteria.

Just recently our faculty picked the following as our new National Honor Society members:

Andrea Bender
Emily Bonden
Aaron Canwell
Sarah Coleman
Marc Collins
Chris Drake
Jenel Finlayson
Jeremy Foss
Renee Harms
Andy Hennesberg
Greg Lambert
Jared Lange
Laura Marsh
Lisa Matson
Dustin McGuire
Marcus Mundall

Troy Patzer
Braiden Pewitt
Ginger Pifer
Jeni Rasmussen
Johanna Reev
Laura Renck
Jeremy Roper
Roni Sue Scott
Bethany Smith
Jennifer Wagner
Michelle Wagner
Allyson Wasiczko
Leah Westerdahl
Erik Wiggins

More Congratulations!

Julie York
Lori McCain

Blooming results

May 1, 55 students from UCA took part in the annual Lilac Bloomsday Race. This event takes place in Spokane on the first Sunday of May. The course runs for 12 kilometers through Spokane and the surrounding area. The idea is to welcome the Lilacs that are blooming.

Some students trained for months in advance to make the best time possible. For others, the extent of their training was eating spaghetti the night before the race. Whatever their training techniques, all the participants were in place by 9:00 Sunday morning. Those expecting sunny weather did not get it. The day began cool and cloudy, perfect weather for the runners.

There were more runners than walkers from UCA. Out of those participants four students made it in under an hour. Marcus Mundall was in first place with a time of 47 min. 55 sec. In second place was Karl Northrup at 49 min. 53 sec., followed by Travis Hornby at 54 min., Glyn Marsh at 56 min. 18 sec., and D'Arcy Simanton with a time of 59 min. 7 sec.

No matter their finish time, all the students (and some heroic faculty) enjoyed being a part of the world's largest timed road race and claiming one of those wonderful green t-shirts.

Lori McCain

Rally sparks enthusiastic response

Friday, April 29, brought many people to the U.C.A. campus for the start of Upper Columbia Conference's annual Bloomsday Youth Rally. Friday night services were held in the U.C.A. church. Pastor Keyes had the devotional message. He told us about growing up in New Jersey, and how he grew to know Jesus. We were also privileged to hear the musical talents of many young people visiting us for the rally.

Sabbath took us to the Spokane Opera House where Pastor Keyes continued his talk on how he learned to trust Jesus, and how we can, too. After a short lunch break in the park, Steve Arrington gave his testimonial, telling us how God had come into his life and changed him for the better. Following this meeting was a Bruce Carroll concert. Carroll sang and played his guitar and told us how God had changed his life, and how he grew to trust in God completely.

The rally was an inspirational point for many people. Over 500 people attended the morning meeting, and over 750 participated in the afternoon activities. The rally was very interesting and enjoyable to all. We hope next year's rally will be as successful as this year's.

Erin Wiggins

Troy Patzer
Braiden Pewitt
Ginger Pifer
Jeni Rasmussen
Johanna Reev
Laura Renck
Jeremy Roper
Roni Sue Scott
Bethany Smith
Jennifer Wagner
Michelle Wagner
Allyson Wasiczko
Leah Westerdahl
Erik Wiggins

Lori McCain

Troy Patzer
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Leah Westerdahl
Erik Wiggins

Lori McCain
Fun in the sun

It was a groggy day when we, the 4-year Seniors, left to go rafting down the Salmon River. We hoped the day would brighten up before the trip was over, and fortunately it did. We got to our camp site at about 7 p.m. and ate dinner. Then we set up our camp in the sand! The next morning we drove up river 25-30 miles and got into kyaks and rafts and started down the river. When we got to our camp site we stopped, ate dinner, and then got ready to go up to some hot springs.

The hot springs were on the other side of the river so we had to ride across on a sort of cable car that we had to pull. The hot springs were in a very dark cave with bats that flew out at us when we got up to it. After we got a flashlight, we went in.

The water was really warm, and at the back of the cave it was like a sauna. After we got out of the cave, we went up to a bath house where there was a hollow log with warm water running into it. It felt really good to relax in.

Tuesday morning we took our camping gear down, got into the kyaks and rafts, and floated on down the Salmon River through huge rapids. One of the kyaks tipped over twice! At the nearest town we got out, put the rafts on trailers, and drove back to UCA. Luckily for us, we didn't have to attend classes Wednesday because we were still on vacation. Several of the 4-Year Seniors went home Tuesday night because homeleave began the next day.

Overall, the trip was fun even though we came back with sunburns. The sunburns will go away, but our memories will last forever.

Michelle Harris

Hula-partying upper-classmen

On the 11th of May, most of the Juniors and Seniors met over in the cafe for their Junior/Senior party.

It was to be a real Luau! When they walked in through the door, they received a lei, and there was a small Hawaiian band that played. The players were Mr. Koenke, Mr. Jenks, Jason Smith, Aaron Canwell and Charley Coleman.

The cafe was filled with lots of fun and games. One of the games was the limbo, and LeRoy Wheeler did a stunning version of the hula. Some of the food that was served included fresh fruit, breaids, and “shish-kabobs”.

Up on the ballfield there was the dreaded messy food pool. It was a small kids’ pool filled with all kinds of smelly leftover food. Foods like sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, beans, tomatoes, and beets were included. Volunteers were blindfolded and then asked to find a troll hidden in the murky depths. For the less courageous there was a balloon popping contest.

A Luau can be a real fun experience, but this one also proved to be a messy.

Stacey Allgood

Taking a musical trip

The biggest problem with listening to a radio on a school trip is that someone will complain about the music played. Here at UCA there is a wide variety in music preference. Tastes range from head-banging music that makes no sense (played loudly with lots of bass) to eastern blues. What is liked by some is intolerable to others.

There is another factor that becomes an issue: UCA is a Christian-oriented establishment that has a set of standards to help keep that Christian atmosphere. Much of today's music doesn't meet that standard. This music can cause a problem with the Christian attitude at our school.

Headsets have their problems too. By the time the headset is loud enough to get over the noise of the bus, it simply adds to the noise. Maybe there is a solution to this problem: We could play soft classical music or talk the band into playing live music in the back of the bus...

LeRoy Wheeler

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

This issue's contributors included: Lori Robinson, Stacey Allgood, Jon Beitz, Eric Bordeaux, Sarah Duke, Melissa Harris, Michelle Harris, Brynn Maish, Laura Maxson, Lori McCain, Julie York, LeRoy Wheeler, Jaime Schultz, Annalisa Torkelsen, and Stephen Lacey, sponsor.
And finally...

GOODBYE!

Have a wonderful summer and remember registration is on August 28. See you then!