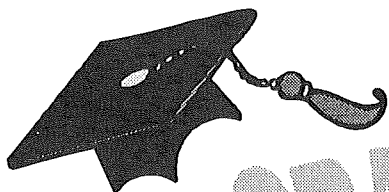
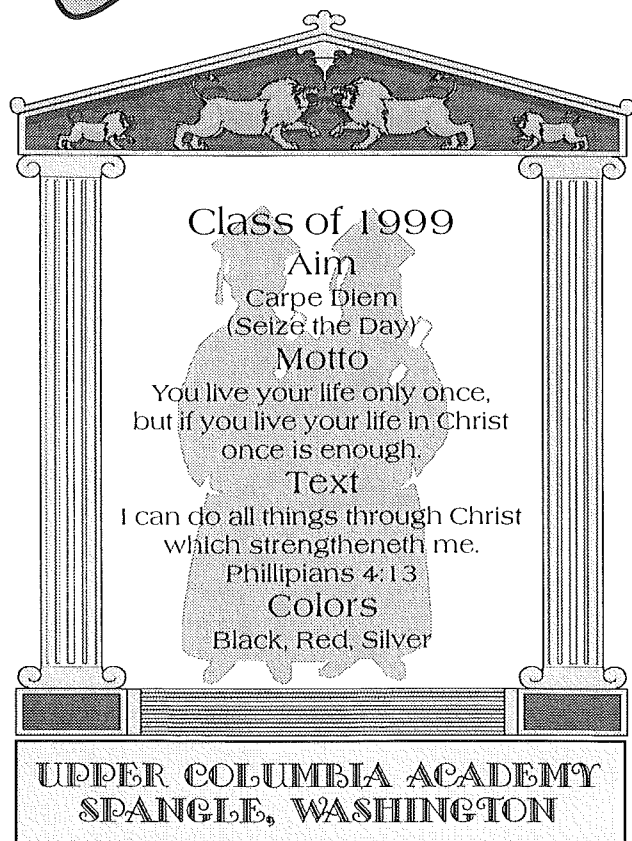


echoes

May 1999



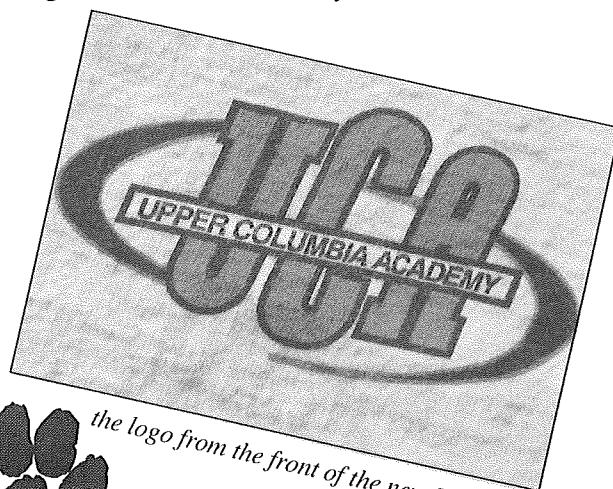
CONGRATULATIONS
SENIORS!!



Fight the good fight

After years of hard work and self-discipline, the Class of 1999 is on the brink of leaving behind the safe world of cafeteria food, old friends and predictable academy life. The time has come to set new goals. After cheers, laughter and a few tears, they'll head off to face increased freedom and the huge decisions that will alter the courses of their lives. Meanwhile, the junior class stands poised to step into their shoes and successfully lead UCA into the new millenium as the Class of 2000. Sophomores look forward to becoming upper-classmen. Freshmen can feel satisfied with having moved up into the ranks of experienced academy students. And in many places around the country, new students are waiting to come and make their unique, positive contributions to UCA.

As this year ends and we look forward to whatever lies ahead, let's "... pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness and fight the good fight of the faith." 1Timothy 6:11,12



the logo from the front of the new UCA shirt

Smiles tell all

The excitement that seeing old friends and acquaintances brings was evident again during this year's Alumni Homecoming Weekend. Seeing each other and catching up on each other's lives was something alumni had eagerly anticipated for months or even years. This year's honor classes were the classes of '29, '39, '49, '59, '69, '74, '79, '89, and the all-so-new inductees (alumni in waiting?): the graduating class of 1999.

To break the ice, the weekend featured a vespers on Friday night, presented by the Class of '89. Only the early birds were able to enjoy this festive meeting. Most arrived just in time for Sabbath School the next day which was organized by the Class of '79.

A highlight of the weekend was the honor class roll call at the end of Sabbath School. Each honor class stood and was recognized as were some alumni from Yakima Valley Academy days. It is always interesting to hear from people who graduated back in the mists of time. So much has changed. So much hasn't.

Principal Larry Marsh gave the State of the School report, and the facts he presented were quite impressive. One such fact is that UCA has the highest enrollment of any Seventh-day Adventist boarding academy in the North American Division. After the church service from the Class of '69, the cafeteria provided lunch for everyone.

Sabbath was capped off with Sundown Meditation hosted by the mighty seniors--the graduating class of 1999! The highlights included several musical performances. The Class of '99 is where the music talent is!

Times of reminiscence during Alumni Weekends are said to be treasured forever. The Adventist system is a small world, and friends stay friends forever. Some alumni may even watch the hours of video they shot!

Jonathan Wagner



Peter Haug, Jody Straub, Angela Larson, Julie Gardner, and Ryan Knapp smile about the prospect of becoming alumni

Seniors head south to investigate

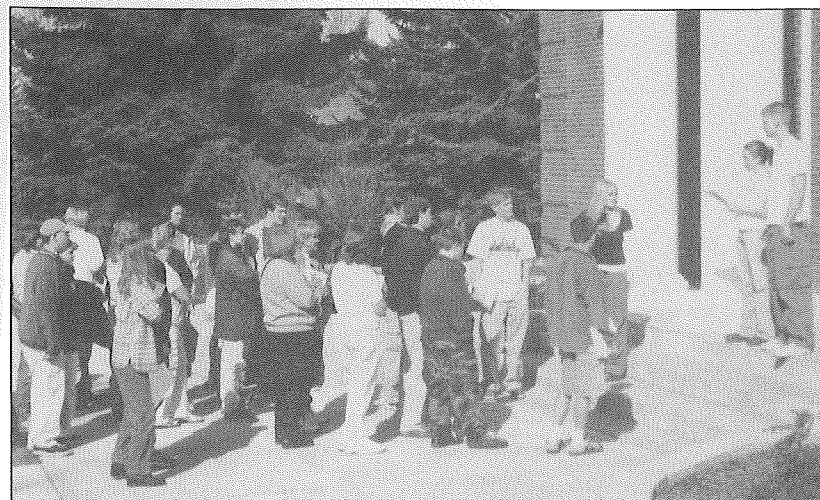
On Sunday afternoon, April 11, after ACT tests, the seniors left UCA to experience the wonders of college life for a few days. Upon reaching Walla Walla, everyone vacated the busses and invaded the campus of WWC. Seniors from many different schools were there, and that first evening they enjoyed supper on the lawn and then swimming, ping-pong, or just hanging out with friends. The pool was very nice.

The next day after meeting for worship, the seniors could choose to visit classes, acquire information about possible future majors, investigate jobs, or try for scholarships (36 of which

were won by the intrepid UCA class of '99). Eating in the cafeteria and staying in the dorms was an eye-opening experience. In the afternoon, they were given a chance to talk with genuine WWC students and after supper and ice-cream there was an amusing talent program in the gym.

Walla Walla College Days were fun. It was a good break from regular classes, and a good opportunity to investigate college life. The experience will help seniors answer the big question they all must face: "What am I going to do next year?"

Janine Fetke



Nathan Lull and Cherie Stabel lead a tour to the ad building during Academy Day

Band delights communities on final tour

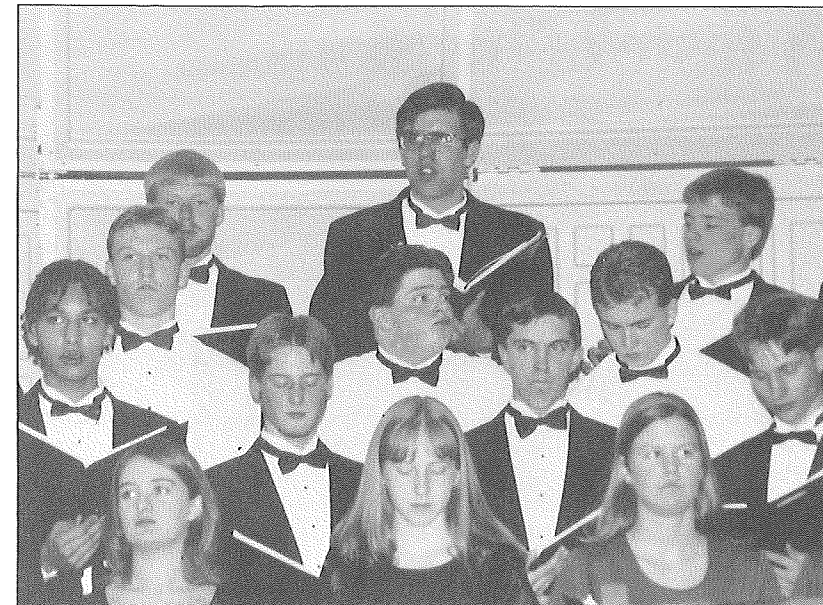
The Upper Columbia Academy Concert Band hit the road again the weekend of April 16-18. It's a grand affair to take a road trip with your colleagues, a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Experienced travellers know to get to the coach early so they can secure the best seats, the ones which act as catapults whenever the bus comes to a graceful stop. This results in a slight flattening of the nose, but it's a small price to pay for being on band tour!

In between bus rides, the time is passed by giving a concert or two. On this tour the band stopped off at Wenatchee, Brewster, and Moses Lake. The folks at these towns must have felt considerably privileged to witness our performances which will undoubtedly be the topic of conversation at social gatherings for weeks to come. Those who attended the Moses Lake concert were particularly fortunate as they were able to witness stuntman Nat Magnuson send his drumming mallet soaring high above his head. Only on rare occasions is anyone able to witness something as entertaining as this.

The last tour of the year was a success partly because of the talented musicians who practice faithfully everyday, partly because of the people who are willing to drive the coaches and let us invade their homes, but mostly because of the organization and direction of Mr. Lange, the band director. Thanks for a great year, Mr. Lange.

Megan Lacey



A portion of the choir practices various facial expressions during Music-A-Rama

Music-A-Rama

Once again the gym filled with supportive parents, grandparents, and friends. The UCA band filed into place as the choir clambered up on to the risers. Upper Columbia Academy's Music-A-Rama weekend began its traditional concert finale.

After directing band at UCA for thirty years, Jerry Lange rose to the stand with his usual poise. Mr. Lange rarely cancels any band practice, instrument lessons, or ensemble practice. He just keeps on going. A plant and a kazoo were given to him for his years of service. However, seeing and hearing over ninety students play almost perfectly was likely his biggest surprise.

The choir started the concert with several secular numbers. A favorite of the choir's was a medley of portions of songs from *Fiddler on the Roof*. Jered Kostenko, the choir's regular accompanist, was joined for the medley by Breanna Roth on violin and Crystal Towler on clarinet.

After twelve years at UCA, Ms. Carmen Swigart is known as director of choir and Choraliers as well as the instructor for voice, clarinet and saxophone lessons. Her knowledge is appreciated by her many students.

Rounding out the musical program were Bryan Larson and Heather Schultz, two of Mrs. Synnove Anderson's piano students. As well as teaching keyboard, Mrs. Anderson also is an enthusiastic member of the band's trombone section.

Although music was the main attraction, arts and crafts by different UCA students were displayed around the perimeter of the gym. Also available to view were displays of recent UCA mission trips.

Once the program was over, senior class members swept floors, cleaned bathrooms, and stacked chairs to earn a little more money for the annual senior trip. Parents drove toward home, again humming the melodies from yet another successful UCA musical program.

Kyndre Corbett

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

Kyndre Corbett, Jason Demiar, Jim Drake, Janine Fetke, Joel Geisinger, Daryl Hamilton, Sabrina Kiele, Megan Lacey, Angela Larson, Bobby Sanborn, Jonathan Wagner, and Stephen Lacey, advisor

A taste of missions

Mexico

On March 14 a mission trip composed of 48 assorted students and sponsors flew out of Spokane for Baja California, Mexico, where they would help an orphanage.

The trip was a little different from other mission trips in that the main project was the completion of an RV park. Other things were different too: we had hot showers, flushing toilets, and a heated home to stay in. But despite these differences, this mission trip was similar to the others because our goal was to help the people.

The orphanage is named El Oasis, and to many children the orphanage is a welcome oasis in their troubled lives. The orphanage is run by International Children's Care and is just one of the many orphanages ICC has worldwide. The children live in homes with "parents" who try their best to provide a homey atmosphere and meet the children's complex needs. Although they only have about 27 orphans currently, they have room for many more.

We accomplished many different tasks during our stay. We poured concrete slabs for RV's to park beside and laid sewer and water lines to all the RV sites. The weather did not cooperate for the first day or two. It rained for the first time in four months. It also hailed

on us and there was snow in the mountains right above us. So thanks to the weather, we started several inside jobs. Some painted the inside of a shop/warehouse, while others worked on wiring rebar together to go into concrete pillars that we poured later. Another large outdoor project was clearing the land along the main road that passed the orphanage. Vacation Bible School was yet another activity some of our group were involved in.

In all the activities, everyone worked extremely well together, and a positive attitude was generally seen despite the bad weather that first greeted us.

Many people have questioned why we should build an RV park. The RV park will attract snowbirds and other travellers and so will provide income for the orphanage. They also hope it will encourage some retired folk with RV's to go down and volunteer to mentor the children and help in other ways.

Our stay in Mexico concluded with a day at San Felipe and the beach. Most then went on to San Diego for a couple of days of fun (sleeping on the floor of San Diego Academy's gym), and then returned to Spokane.

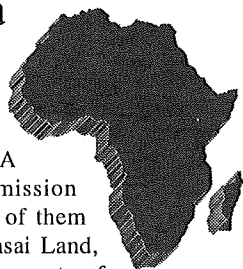
Although it may not have been a typical mission trip, it was a blessing to all those involved.

Jim Drake



Andrew Bigelow tries (rather unsuccessfully) to blend in with Maasai men

Africa



During spring break, UCA had three mission trips. One of them was to Maasai Land, three hours out of Nairobi, Kenya.

We were all tired and wanted to sleep when we arrived, but we got to Maxwell Academy, showered, and drove out to Maasai Land. The only way to get there was with a serious off-road vehicle, and even then we got stuck more times than we can remember.

When we got to the work site, we set up camp and the really tired people went to bed. We stayed in tents that were designed for the United States, making them very inadequate for the local climate. If the wind was not trying to blow them over, the rain was flooding them out. But the next day was Sabbath and it was a good day to rest.

We had church with the Maasai people. It was really interesting to see people coming out of the middle of nowhere. They sang for us, and we sang for them. One could learn more from listening to the Maasai sing than from any sermon. The way they praised God from their hearts and expressed their love for Jesus was incredible.

While there, we built a church/elementary school. We also held medical clinics for the immediate area and at a church about 45 minutes away.

Most all of the construction in Kenya is of stone. Each stone has to be custom fit, which takes a considerable amount of time. All of the sand and gravel for the mortar and concrete had to be trucked in from the nearest suitable river bed. We made good progress, however, and were able to finish all but the last couple of pieces on the roof, the glass in the windows, and the last row or two of an interior wall.

The Maasai people in the area were happy and friendly. They helped us see how we too can be happy without having "things." True happiness is not found in possessions, after all, but in Jesus Christ.

*Daryl Hamilton
Angela Larson*

Academy couples just waste their time

The grass was green, the birds were singing, and couples began to appear all over campus. "It must be spring," I told myself. There were a number of fine ladies on campus and I wondered if I should find myself a special person. I sat in deep contemplation for at least a second or two and then I was hit with a stunning realization. Couples at Upper Columbia Academy, no matter how serious their relationship, are wasting their time.

Many of the couples on campus seem to be in a relationship for selfish reasons. In a relationship of this sort, one or both of the people involved are trying to get their needs met. They may be in it for the social status "going out" brings or just to look cool. This is not a healthy foundation for a lasting relationship. When the needs are no longer met, the couples break up. Some may learn from their experiences, while many just go on and continue the cycle with another. Since this type of relationship is unhealthy, and it will have negative effects on their relationship skills in the

long run. Their time could be used to prepare for a better relationship later on.

Another interesting social phenomenon that appears on campus is couples getting hitched up together just for a hobby. They want something to do, so they go and get themselves a special person. This gives them something to do. They can always have someone who is "supposed" to spend time with them, smile at them, and go to the banquets with them. I have often heard someone in the men's dorm remark, "I have got to get a woman." Are women the latest toy that everyone has to get? Doing something just to be doing it is extremely harmful when you are "playing" with human lives and emotions. Their time could be used better.

In contrast to the two previous, rather shallow, relationships, we have the rare exception of couples who are really serious about their relationship and are together because they really love each other. At first someone may think that there is nothing wrong with a relationship like this. However, having a special relationship can inhibit the couples' relations with other

friends. Often they become so close that they do not maintain proper communication and interaction with other people. A relationship can only go so far before the people involved either have to get married or separate. It is highly unlikely that even a serious relationship that is started in high school can make it until the couple is ready for marriage five or six years down the road when they have a better chance of staying married. A large amount of time is wasted in a serious relationship during this crucial period in a young adult's life.

Having a special person, otherwise known as going out, requires wasting a lot of time. Instead, young adults should spend this time maturing and becoming good candidates for marriage. This requires forming a quality relationship with God, having a balanced life, getting an education, and developing social and communication skills. This is next to impossible while you are spending time with a special person.

Jim Drake

Caf food: you've gotta love it

Caf food. We eat it every day, and almost everyone complains about it. A lot of people say it's really gross. They joke around about mice, bugs and other things adding extra protein, but the food isn't *that* bad, of course. In fact, caf food seems to fit into three different categories: good (yes, *good*), OK, and gross.

First of all, in spite of what people say, some caf food is actually really good. One example of good caf food is the egg noodles and stroganoff. Boy, is that good! Some other good things are the grilled cheese sandwiches, turnovers, vegetable pie, and lasagna.

Then there is the OK food. For example, those enchilada kind of things with mushrooms in them are OK, but they don't taste as good as the "good" good. Waffles and pancakes are also OK. They don't taste really bad, but they just aren't my idea of great-tasting food. A lot of the caf food is like that.

And some of the food is just plain...unappetizing. A lot of the breakfast food fits into this category. One example is the breakfast links. They're too spicy and greasy. Nonfat milk and cottage cheese are also pretty grim. They just don't taste right. The main problem with nonfat milk is that it's watery. It's like they took some

regular milk and added a bunch of water to it.

There are some things like the breaded fried cauliflower and tater tots that actually do taste pretty good, but they're too greasy. Other items are just far too sweet. Most of the cereal is too sweet, and the cookies are so sweet I can only eat one or two.

Some of the food is mysteriously good sometimes and bad at other times. Cottage cheese is like that, and sometimes the orange juice isn't mixed well and the lettuce looks as if it should be in retirement.

Other foods are served so often that I get really tired of them. Mashed potatoes lose their appeal after being served for Sabbath lunch for who-knows-how-many weeks in a row. Sandwiches, too, can get really boring.

What the caf really should do is cut down on the grease and sugar, serve fresh food, and not serve the same meal too often. Then there wouldn't be so much to complain about. Of course, the problem is that some strange students will have exactly the opposite opinion. They like sweet foods, nonfat milk and breakfast links. Oh well, caf food is all we've got to eat, and we have to have *something* to complain about.

Sabrina Kiele



While the Marine Biology class was away, frolicking at the beach, Biology students Samantha Chang, Shari Strickland, Melisa Schimke and Colleen Brennan study the flora and fauna at the Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge

Summer camping awaits families

With the school year almost over, students' thoughts turn to those wonderful family camping trips. Camping is a pleasurable activity, a great way to spend time with people you love and to get a break from arduous summer jobs. And there are several different approaches to the ideal camping trip.

Camping in a motorhome is one way that many people camp. It's an easy system because motorhomes have all the luxuries of home. While this may seem ideal to some, it does not allow campers to fully experience the great outdoors. They sleep in a soft beds, eat food cooked on real stoves, and use a bathrooms with hot showers and flushing toilets. Maybe they even sit inside while watching their favorite movie. This is cheating. They may as well be home.

Tent camping, however, is much less expensive and is a lot more fun. Campers drive to the desired remote location in a car full of grouchy kids and Loma Linda products. Once there, they unpack and attempt to erect the tent. A campfire is usually ignited somewhere in the vicinity and before long everyone will have grubby feet and hands and smell like campfire smoke. Camping in a tent provides the delights of sleeping on hard ground,

wearing damp clothes, and scratching mosquito bites. People quickly begin to appreciate a hot fire on a cold morning and long for a slightly-less aromatic bathroom experience. Yes, this is a great way to have family time and get away from the stresses of everyday life.

Backpacking is the most exciting and strenuous way to camp. Comfortable shoes are a must. Packing 150 pounds of the basic necessities of life on their backs, the tough campers head into the mountains for a time of adventure. Everyone hikes until they think they are going to die, but when they reach their destination they forget the pains of the hike and stand (slightly bent) in awe of the beauty that surrounds them. Backpackers may use a tent, but it is more fun if they do not. Usually, there are no toilets, sinks, or showers. Food is cooked over a campfire or on a small gas burner. If they are fortunate, the campers will get to experience a bath in a refreshing alpine lake. This is the ultimate camping experience and allows campers to enjoy God's nature to its fullest.

Camping is fun and relaxing. Everyone camps a little differently, but the goal is the same: to have fun in nature with friends and family.

Janine Fetke

Y2K political mess or major problem?

With the coming of the year 2000, the world is becoming increasingly scared. Many believe that because of the Y2K bug everything is going to crash and the world, as we know it, will end. They are preparing to hide out in the hills. But for the most part the Y2K bug has become more of a political agenda item than a major thing to worry about. One side is saying every thing is good while the other side is saying the opposite. Somewhere in the middle is the right answer.

The U.S.A. is one of the more prepared countries. In a report by the Gartner Group, which specializes in Y2K projections, the U.S.A. should experience 15% or less of companies' mission-critical systems failing. Unprepared countries may cause the major portion of any Y2K problems.

The North American Electricity Reliability Council has announced that there should be few to no blackouts in the U.S. The blackouts that may occur are supposed to happen only in small, sparsely populated areas and should easily be fixed. The NERC said that more problems would be caused by riotous groups and drunk drivers than by Y2K.

There may be a few problems that crop up because of Y2K, but they can be fixed as long as things do not get bogged down in bureaucracy. What will most likely cause the most trouble is the worst-scenario type planners who are telling every one to withdraw large sums of money, buy lots of non-perishable foodstuffs and hide out in the woods. If every one follows this way of thinking, the economy will crash causing more problems than Y2K ever could on its own.

If every one goes into the year 2000 with a level head, we should come out all right. The more moderate advisors are saying to prepare like you would for a long weekend. They are saying to have enough food and cash for about three to four days and not to panic if anything does happen. Problems will be fixable, and most people, when seriously under the gun, will come through.

Next year at UCA, an extra long Christmas vacation is scheduled to accommodate any disruptions that may occur.

Daryl Hamilton

Discover your aptitudes

Toward the end of their senior year, teachers and parents begin asking students more frequently what their major will be in college. A majority of Seniors will say "I don't know." While many students do not know before they enter college or will change their major several times, there is a solution to this problem: testing.

One company of many, The Johnson O'Connor Research Foundation, Human Engineering Laboratory, has been researching aptitudes for over 50 years. Their testing programs provide a way for people of any age to discover why they may prefer office work over outdoor work, or why they prefer following instead of leading. Johnson O'Connor also provides a series of tests to determine whether you are of objective or subjective personality.

When the results are in, the consultant compares your scores with every person in your age group, and gives the you a percentile reading of your aptitudes. Then, in consultation, the test administrator will present a list of occupations that will use most of your aptitudes.

Many people are not satisfied with their jobs because of their inherited aptitudes. A student in school who is pressured by adults to become a doctor or researcher, may discover much later through testing that their aptitudes point them toward music, literature, or even engineering. This test is one of the best ways to determine *beforehand* the occupation you should choose.

Joel Geisinger

It's time to kill the death penalty

As we consider the millions who have been executed according to some justice system, one question prevails. Did they deserve it? At what point is another equal human being able to say that his fellow man has committed a crime worthy of death? There are two fundamental problems with the death penalty: It is in conflict with the message of Christ, and the decision is always subjective.

Christ taught the quality of each life. He valued a life enough that he would die to save it, regardless of what the sinner might have done. I don't mean to discount accountability, but that to which we are all ultimately accountable, death, was put aside on the cross. When we say that we are justified in killing another human, we challenge not only the sixth commandment but also the wisdom of God.

Besides the theoretical morals, there is a very real practical problem with the death penalty. All you need to do is look at how many people have been absolved by a jury no wiser than that which convicted them. Unless I can say without doubt that the person I am executing deserves what I am about to do, I won't flip the switch. Even if you are not the executioner, you should not ask him to do something you don't believe enough in to do yourself.

No matter what your concept of justice or how severely you believe various crimes should be punished, listen to Jesus for the last word, "Let him who is without guilt cast the first stone."

Bobby Sanborn

Board sports popular with students

One often looks around during recreation period and sees people playing field sports and stops to think, "What do they do that is more fun than this?" The answer at UCA seems to be wake, skate, and snow.

The Inland Northwest is a perfect place for a person to experience three boardsports in great conditions throughout a year.

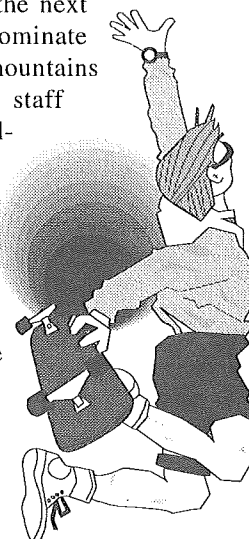
Wakeboarding takes hold of the summer with kids pulling flips, 360s, and various other tricks while being pulled behind a boat. The wakeboards of choice seem to be those from Hyperlite and Rusty. Most wakeboarders seem to find refuge at Hayden Lake, Newman Lake, Lake Pend O'Reille, and Lake Coeur d'Alene.

Skateboarding is an older board sport, popular around the world. Types of aggressive skateboarding range from street to halfpipe. Skateboarding is most popular of the boardsports because all that is needed is a board and a street. Birdhouse, Shorty's, World Industries, ATM, and Independent seem to be the choice names in skateboarding. UCA once supported skating but that changed over the 1997-1998 school year when the park and all its contents were removed. Public skating has been banned in most cities and towns and skaters have been labeled "criminals". The city of Spokane has a fairly new skate park located under Interstate 90. Cities across the United States have placed stirrups on handrails to prevent rail grinds and wax deposits. Most public skate parks have been replaced by a half pipe in a friend's backyard or a park at the local YMCA.

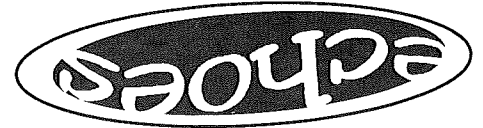
Snowboarding is an increasingly popular winter sport that UCA caters to with the Rec-Ski program. The third quarter P.E. session gives you credit for barreling down mountains over snow, ice, sleet, trees, rocks, and, of course, skiers. *Transworld Snowboarding* released information stating that within the next five years, snowboarders will dominate in numbers over skiers. The mountains frequented by students and staff include Schweitzer Mountain, Silver Mountain, 49 North, Red Mountain, and Bluewood.

There has been an increase in boardsports within the last twenty years. Surfing, skating, snowboarding, wakeboarding, skysurfing, and windsurfing, have made their way into the recreational activities of this generation with more soon to follow.

Jonathan Wagner



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World waits for Armageddon

Although 1999 is not the mathematical end to the millennium, as the year 2000 approaches, people wonder more than ever what will happen in the near future. Many believe that the end of time must be near and that the second coming of Christ will soon occur.

It is likely that we are in the last days of Earth's history. Bible prophecies have come true. Wars, chaos, natural disasters, false prophets and other things the Bible describes have already happened. Recently we were horrified by the school shootings in Littleton, Colorado, and the NATO bombing of Serbia reminded us of how quickly war can erupt. We are also still involved with air strikes in Iraq. Peace is just a distant memory for a lot of people. Natural disasters are more frequent in most places and an even worse hurricane season is forecast for this year.

Some of the students of UCA think that God will come sometime soon. Jeremy Smith said, "God may not come for years, but we need to be ready as if He were coming tomorrow." Alma Flores also

commented, "I think God may come in 20 years."

The end of time may sound frightening. Climatic events will come one after another. Persecution, plagues, assorted dramatic events and other things will test the faith of any Christian. Thinking of these things makes some people afraid. Others look forward to this time because they know they will be going to a better place. Knowing they have a strong connection with God and having tested their faith, they don't fear the Apocalypse very much.

Unfortunately, some people don't think that God will come very soon, and they plan to procrastinate till they think it will happen. These people will be caught by surprise and it will be too late. Now, that's something to fear! As Jeremy Smith said, we should start now, and be ready as if God were coming tomorrow because He is coming very soon.

After all the chaos, there will be happiness for everyone in a new Earth with God. Are we ready to go home to a better place? Jesus is coming soon!

Jason Demiar

REGISTRATION
IS AUGUST 29