

THE *ECHOES*

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Classes are Presentable on Election Night

Class organization, an annual event here at UCA, occurred on the night of October 9th. The purpose is to elect class officers for the present year who will lead, support, and bring the class together. The positions to run for included: President, Vice-President, Chaplain, Chorister, Sergeant at Arms, Girl's Sports Coordinator, Boy's Sports Coordinator, Treasurer, Secretary, and Pianist.

When the time came, we took off in four different directions to vote with our classes. At each location, school spirit was manifested as we shouted our nominations and later heard the outcome. The best part of the night was still to come -- presenting our officers to the other three classes. The object here is to come up with the most unique way of presenting your officers.

For one reason or another, all Freshman presentations seem more or less alike. It's difficult to come in as a new student and, together with all your new classmates, produce a creative presentation. The Freshman took the stage and a sponsor announced their names and offices as everyone cheered them on.

Fire is what the Sophomores will be remembered for this year. Their presentation centered around a fire-fighting squad "rescuing" people. It came out that the "survivors" were actually officers.

The Junior's presentation focused on a fashion show. Each officer was dressed in his/her own unique way, and paraded across the stage with a small posse of friends. Grant Flaiz, the Juniors' very own orator, "narrated" the show, letting us know what each person was wearing, and, of course, their office.

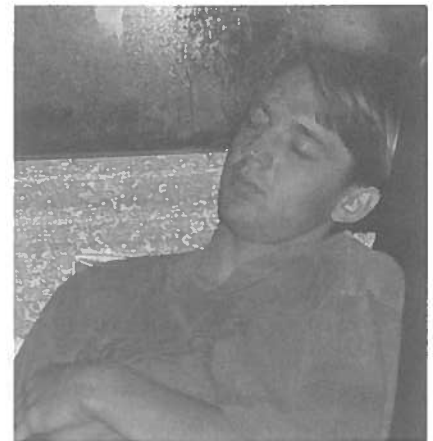
The Seniors are expected to have the best presentation each year, and this year kept up the tradition. It started out in a very depressing setting -- a morgue, with tables and tables of mummies. The test was to bring the corpse "back to life". Mr. Thayer, our basically-sane Chemistry teacher, came on stage proclaiming that he'd found the right chemicals to do the job. He injected the stuff, and in a matter of seconds, the Senior officers were discovered.

Congratulations to all who were elected to office. We wish you the best of luck in leadership for the year to come.

Enoch Dally



Mr. Thayer's Chemistry class finds that actual studying is the best way to pass a test.



Todd rests his over-stressed brain in preparation for another day of school.

Making the Grade

"What? You mean I actually have to study?!!" This is an exclamation heard quite often from panic-stricken students. A cruel teacher assigns a five-page essay. Three exams tomorrow. Geometry? What's that? Am I even in that class?

For many students, studying is made up of cramming as much information as possible into overloaded brains -- five minutes before the test. Others start on that certain essay the day it's due. Osmosis is a popular, yet ineffective, technique that includes putting a history book under a pillow and sleeping on it. Facts are memorized while exercising, and students are heard singing Bible verses in the cafeteria line.

No matter what method of studying is used, however, the agonizing hour finally arrives when the essay is due or the test is given. Ready or not, the time always comes, and the knowledge that the agony over this certain material is almost ended comes as a great relief to over-stressed brains!

Lisa Matson

Cleaning Up Our Act

If you were to look into the Lion's Den on Monday evenings right after supper, you would see a group of UCA students practicing skits for **The UCA Expressions**, our on-campus drama club. We have plans to tour with the gymnastics team, and we are learning skits and plays that will witness for Christ. We will be performing for church services and worship, both on campus and in some neighboring churches.

All this takes money, and to keep up with the expenses, we have "snack sales" in the dorms on some Wednesday nights. The money we raise goes toward costumes and other needed items.

There are many goals that have been set, and **The UCA Expressions** is aiming to reach our biggest one by speeding the good news about God to all.

Katie Rowe



Smile, Angie! Hard work is fun when you know you're helping someone else.



As you can see, it's incredibly hard work being on the Drama Team. Rose makes it fun for all of us.

HOPE Taskforce Keeps Up the Good Work

As you know, our school has a unique way of having Sunday School. Instead of sitting behind desks, we go out into the community and help others. Our last Ministry Day included these projects:

1. Going to the Convention Center for the Family-A-Fair and working as volunteers in different booths.
2. Helping out at faculty homes with the Faculty Relief Program.
3. Working on the Centennial Trail by moving two dumptruck-loads of gravel to build up the sides of the trail so it wouldn't crumble.
4. Taking Humane Society animals to a nursing home for the elderly people to enjoy.
5. Sorting and folding clothes for a clothing bank.
6. Singing and playing at the Salvation Army church. (After they witnessed there, the Choraliers and Brass Choir performed at a retirement center and hosted an ice-cream social there.)
7. Working on the Pioneer Cemetery again, cleaning it up.
8. Going in to Spokane and working at a Food Bank sorting food into categories.

There were a lot of other fun ministries we worked on. It is definitely worth it to be involved in this. Our name, H.O.P.E., is very appropriate. It stands for Helping Other People Every Day, which is what we try to do.

Sarah Coleman

Appreciation

Heather Heaton - "I appreciate Ms. McGuire for making her class so exciting!"

Broc Finkbinder - "I appreciate Mr. Paulson for being such an original person, and Mr. Lacey for understanding me and being easy to work with (Believe me, I can write a complete sentence!)"

Annalisa Torkelson - "I appreciate Mrs. Marsh because she has an upbeat outlook on life."

Sid Hardy - "I appreciate Mrs. Pascoe because she is a good boss, and she's always very patient and happy."

Alysia Wresch - "I appreciate Mr. Lange for being so encouraging, making band so much fun, and inspiring me to really practice."

Speaking to Our Hearts

Our Fall Week of Prayer meetings this year were presented by Pastor Joe Savino from Wenatchee. The week was a very spiritual time, and many people drew closer to God through the meetings. Here are some students "reactions" for some of the days.

Monday - "Pastor Savino talked to us about how to love yourself today. Not by giving yourself a hug every morning, but by having self-esteem and patience with yourself. A God-oriented life and daily prayer will get you started towards a better self image. With these pointers, I learned how to love myself a lot more."--Charley Coleman.

Wednesday - "On Wednesday, Pastor Savino talked about peer pressure. First, he gave us a clear explanation of what peer pressure is. Then he told us about the awful effects of peer pressure and how it can ruin people's lives. He gave us our options: we can live for ourselves and "the crowd" or live for God."--Jennifer Barton.

Thursday - "The statement I remember most about today went something like this - "If I had to choose between never having sex again or never having hugs, affectionate words, etc., I would choose not to have sex." That's a powerful statement, but love is what makes life meaningful. It has much more real value and lasts a lot longer. Besides, the relationship that should be the strongest doesn't even involve sex; it is our relationship with God. He gives us the assurance of his priceless love!" --Sonya Thayer.

Sabbath - "Pastor Savino concluded his Week of Prayer Sabbath morning by speaking on the Lord's Prayer. He went through it verse by verse, explaining why the Lord taught us to pray in that manner. It was a real blessing." --Marcus Mundall.

Yes, this Week of Prayer was really special. Thank you, Pastor Savino, for your great talks!

The Monitor's Tale

It's 7:15 a.m. and all is quiet. All except for the sounds of a lone piano. But that can easily be ignored. Boy. She's pretty good. I wonder what song she's playing? Anyway, back to Senior Soc. Now there's a flute playing. Hmmm. It's getting a little bit noisier in here. Harder to concentrate. C-mon, focus. Hey, is that a drum? And who's doing that "mee-meh-,ah-mo-moo" stuff? Great. A trumpet. So much for History. "You want to do what? Change your practice time?" Great. Why do they always do this at the end of the quarter? "OK, you're all set."

Music Building life. It starts at 7:15 a.m. and ends at 6:00 p.m. You enter a world where everywhere you go there are new sounds. There's Mr. Lange giving a Saxophone lesson, while in the band room someone's flailing away on the snare drum. Upstairs, Mrs. Anderson is teaching someone the importance of counting, and on down the hall a piano and an occasional instrument make their presence known. On the third floor, Ms. Swigart is telling a voice student to "drop that jaw. Act like you're yawning." A couple of other people in various practice rooms sing about a rising and setting sun.

Yes, life in the music building is quite interesting. You should come and visit some time. "The sounds of music are only what you make them to be."

Malissa Griffiths

Sounds Great!

"It's not luv, it's lahve." And that's what we in Choir and Choraliers do. We love to sing.

Each practice session is a brisk vocal workout. We start out with warm-ups up and down the scale, then get into our songs.

We have been practicing diligently, thanks to Ms. Swigart, and all our hard work has paid off. Choir has performed once at the UCA church, and Choraliers have performed four times. We are kept very busy, but it's nice to be challenged.

The latest Choralier performance was on the 5th and 6th of November at the Tonasket and Omak churches. Choir sang for the Family Fellowship Festival on November 14.

Whether you're in these classes for the credits or simply because you love Ms. Swigart, one thing is for sure: We lahve to sing.

Marci Collins



These instrumental weapons are noteworthy for breaking many a monitor's concentration.

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

November's contributors included: Sarah Coleman, Editor. LeRoy Wheeler, Marci Collins, Malissa Griffiths, Heather Heaton, Emily Bonden, Amie Chilson, Junelle Pellow, Katie Rowe, Lisa Matson, Enoch Dally, and Stephen Lacey, sponsor.

Connecting With God

What could get students on fire for God? What would bring a more spiritual atmosphere to the UCA campus? How could we help? These were the thoughts going through a few heads at the beginning of the year. These people didn't want to just sit; they wanted to share their religion, to do something fun for God! So they formed a group and gave it a name: **The Connection**, symbolizing the connection between Christ and us. They came up with a plan and got organized. There would be meetings every Monday and Thursday night during recreation. Anyone would be free to come and join in. There would be a song service, an activity, and a discussion. They could plan fun things like parties, concerts, banquets and games. Rose Parker agreed to be the supervisor, but they were basically on their own. All the ideas and all the leadership came from them. It was exciting and a little scary. Would it work? Would people actually want to be a part of something like this? Soon enough they found out.

At the first meeting, the Lion's Den was jam-packed. Everyone had a blast, and the talk at the end was great. IT was a big success, and the students kept coming for each meeting. Not only the participants but also the leaders found themselves becoming closer to God.

The Connection will continue throughout the school year, meeting and praying and singing. The Connection leaders include: Cody Kellison, Nikia Furman, Johanna Reeve, Jerremy Foss, Sarah Coleman, Marcus Mundall, Junelle Pellow, Alysia Wresch, and Lisa Matson. It's a challenge to come up with unique ideas, but the great discussions we have show that it's worthwhile. Jesus is coming closer and closer to our hearts.

Sarah Coleman

Guys Play Dirty in Annual Mud Bowl

Out in the wheat fields, guys are yelling, whistles are blowing, and mud is flying everywhere. It's the Mud Bowl, sponsored by the Boy's Club, and they're playing tackle football. To achieve the perfect mud consistency, a fire engine was taken to the game field and the area was soaked. The mud is so thick that the players can't wear shoes or they'll get stuck.

The two teams are picked and named the Shirts and the Skins, but when the game is started, it's hard to tell the difference between them -- they're all wearing mud.

In the end, the Skins win the game. It has been a tiring match, but the players aren't through yet. Many innocent bystanders are surprised to suddenly find themselves thrown into the mud. To clean off, everyone lines up and gets sprayed off by the fire engine hose.

All in all, it was a good game. There were no major injuries, and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Amie Chilson



Charley, Jerremy and Heather clown around after potluck in the new Davenport Church.

Students Host Church

On October 16, a group of sleepy-eyed students set out for the Davenport SDA Church. It was early on a Sabbath morning, and most of us were still waking up. But we had a goal--Pastor Meidinger was taking us to this church because we were going to put on the service. It was a scary thought, and there was a lot of nervous tension in the air. On our way, we worked out last-minute details and ate our sack breakfasts.

Upon arrival, we were greeted by Chauncy, our former "cafeteria man". He helped us get a little more organized and then it started: a blur of prayers, song-services, speeches, special musics, and discussions. The high point of the morning was Cody Kellison's heartfelt sermon about how he came to know the Lord better.

The Davenport church members served us a delicious potluck dinner to send us on our way. Our group, which consisted of Chris James, Heater Heaton, Sarah Coleman, Jerremy Foss, Nikia Furman, Cody Kellison, Charley Coleman, and Pastor Meidinger, left Davenport with a satisfied feeling. The trip was definitely worth it, and we had formed some great memories together.

*Heather Heaton
Sarah Coleman*

Surviving the Dorm

Beep! Beep! Beep! Diving through the air, my hand crashes down on top of my alarm clock and fumbles for the "off" button.

As I struggle to maintain consciousness, a swarm of insecure questions loads my mind. I wonder if being an upperclassman is really as great as they say it is. I wonder if I'll like my room mate. What will dorm life be like? Will I miss home?

Now, after two months of school, my questions have been answered. I never dreamed one school year could be so different from the last. I have experienced a whole new world.

Last year, when I was a village student, I hardly ever went to rec, I very rarely showed up for joint worship, and I had never seen an inside picture of what dorm life is really like. Let me tell you, it's nothing like I imagined. I think village students miss out on a lot of the fun things. I never knew what UCA was really like until I was in the dorm. There are so many things that happen here, and I didn't even know about them.

Now that I'm in the dorm, I see what I missed out on during my freshman and sophomore years. Not only has my year been a lot more fun, but it has been much less stressful. Living in one big building with all your friends can get pretty exciting. Whenever I get lonely or bored, I know that moral support isn't that far away, and it's nice to have a great roomie to talk to any time.

Moving into the dorm also helped me find faith in myself. I'm on my own and it's kind of scary. I know some of you may think this is backwards, but, before, I felt caged up. Now I feel free. I have tested my wings. Although my responsibilities are greater, I found my independence when I moved into the dorm.

Junelle Pellow

Class Parties are Screaming Success

Who had the most fun? Was it the Juniors, Freshmen, Sophomores, or could it have been the Seniors? Whether it was the traditional hockey game or the passing of marshmallows on a toothpick, everyone had a great time.

The Freshmen this year decided to have a barn party. As their stomachs were filled with hot apple cider and caramel apples, they watched old black-and-white films. There were games such as sardines and blowing a penny across a plate.

The Sophomores loaded on to a bus and headed to Spokane for a hockey game. It was the Spokane Chiefs vs. the Tri-City Americans. Go Chiefs! They had a great time, and in the morning some found out that they were a little hoarse. But it was a small price to pay.

The Juniors, in an effort to make everyone happy, gave the students a choice. They either went to the hockey game or to the Salvation Army. At the Salvation Army they could swim and play basketball or goof off in the recreation room. I'm sure they were exhausted when they got back to school!

The Seniors had their own costume party here on campus. If you had visited them, you would have seen Raggedy Ann and Andy, Donald Duck, a cow or two, and even a dinner for two. There was pizza for everyone and plenty of games.

Of course, at the end of the night everyone was talking about what a great time they had. It was lots of fun, and we're already looking forward to next year's class parties!

Emily Bonden

It's Snow Big Deal

Well, it was that time of year again -- that time when everyone goes to sleep hoping and wakes up to be disappointed. It was the time of year when Jack Frost roams the campus, and when coats are a necessity until noon.

Everybody was hoping, expecting, and wishing for it. But it kept waiting. Then, there was the morning we were sure it had happened. Mindless of the cold morning chill, we sprung from our nice warm beds to the window. We woke up our roommates yelling about it. But ... we found we were mistaken. It was just a heavy frost. We tried to laugh it off, but we were really disappointed.

We knew that it couldn't be much longer. The days started staying colder. Jack Frost had spread himself all over campus. Then, it happened. Late at night, just before lights-out, we all saw it. A single snowflake. That was it for a while, and then it was followed by another. And then the light, steady snow-fall started. Not much at first, but it increased into a regular "blizzard."

Both dorms erupted into excitement. (It scared some students to see them do that.) This was great. Winter was finally here!

The snow slowly built up on the ground to an accumulation of 1.25 inches. Many students stayed up all night waxing snow-boards and skis. Many deans stayed up all night trying to control half-crazed students.

And so went the first snow here at UCA.

It melted by noon the next day.

LeRoy Wheeler

Sign up to save a life in the first annual blood drive at UCA this December. It's worth your time!

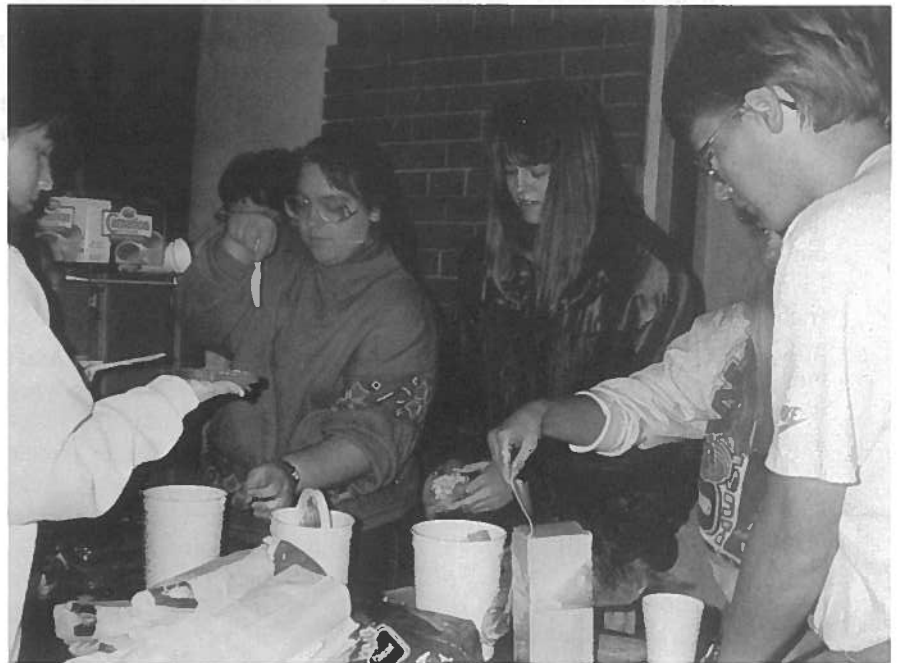
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THE ECHOES

Well, it's here. That holiday where we all gather around the traditional vegi-turkey with our relatives and proceed to eat more than is healthy for an elephant. From Thanksgiving on, the house is loaded with cookies, pies, candy and sweets, all for our consumption. We are in a great-tasting deluge of good things to eat, and since we're home, we take every opportunity to enjoy them.

But in all our feasting, do we ever think why? As we stuff our faces with holiday cheer, do we ever realize what our forefathers went through for us? Starvation, death, freezing cold winters - they lasted through it all to have religious freedom. This Thanksgiving, lets remember just how hard it was for the Pilgrims. We have a lot more to be thankful for than Grandma's pumpkin pie. Little things we take for granted, like a warm bed or plenty of clothes are just as special. Every blessing is from God, and He's the one who deserves our gratitude.



This group of people gives others a reason to be thankful during their weekly Feed the Hungry outreach.