

UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY

ECHOES

OCTOBER 2004

VOLUME 53

NUMBER 1

Fall picnic adventures

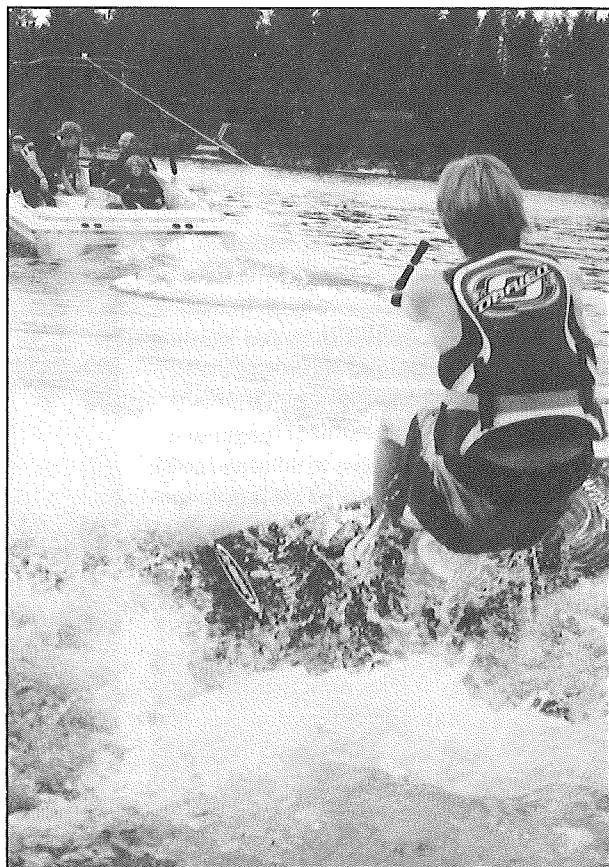
by Jessica Swena

Students with umbrellas, sweatpants and winter coats headed to the Upper Columbia Academy gym for assembly before the annual Fall Picnic at MiVoden on September 15th. The overall feeling seemed to be one of disappointment towards the cold, wet weather but the buses were loaded with hearts hoping that the day would get better.

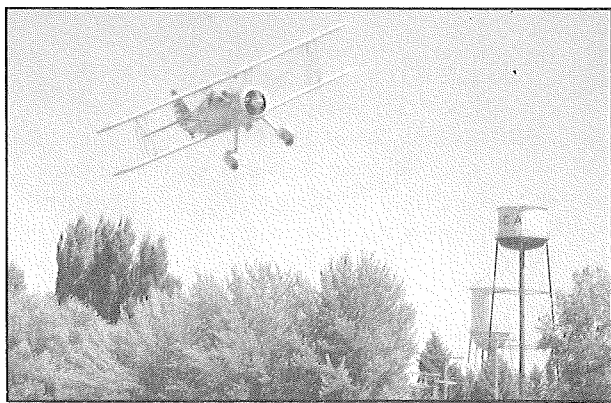
The picnic at MiVoden on Hayden Lake in Idaho has been a "long standing tradition here at UCA since the early 90's," according to Mrs. Lange. Due to camp schedules it was nearly canceled this year and moved to Priest Lake. The weather was more agreeable on the original date, but the vote was to postpone the activity until it could be held at the lovely and unforgettable MiVoden.

Overall, the day went well but there were a few injuries: Karlin Wolfkill cut a gash in his head when he collided with his wake board. He received ten stitches. Rachel Randall and Allison Mousseau had minor water injuries as well but seemed to recover.

Students passed the afternoon with various activities from wake-boarding and swimming to studying and videos. Among the 272 UCA students who were able to attend, the greatest complaint was growling, hungry stomachs, since most had devoured their sack lunches upon arrival and were anxiously awaiting supper, compliments of ASB. Supper was followed by worship and the long drive back to school.



Wake-boarding, a favorite activity at the picnic



*One of several aircraft that participated in the annual UCA Fly-in on August 29 makes its final approach.
Photo by Michael Steingas*

1st Semester ASB OFFICERS

President:	Rachel Randall
Vice-president:	Dustin Kelley
Chaplain:	Michelle Jahn
Treasurer:	Justin Davis
Secretary:	Chelsea Moore
Sgt-at-Arms:	Tony Peters
Chorister:	Becki Bigelow
Pianist:	Jessica Swena

Seniors survive week

by Simeon Redberg

The woods above Camp Mivoden were filled with make-shift shelters of plastic and duct tape from September 5 to September 10 as seniors from Upper Columbia Academy battled freezing cold baths and rock-hard beds.

"Mr. Hartman said it (the water) was about 38 degrees. That's freezing cold!" said Jeff Spady.

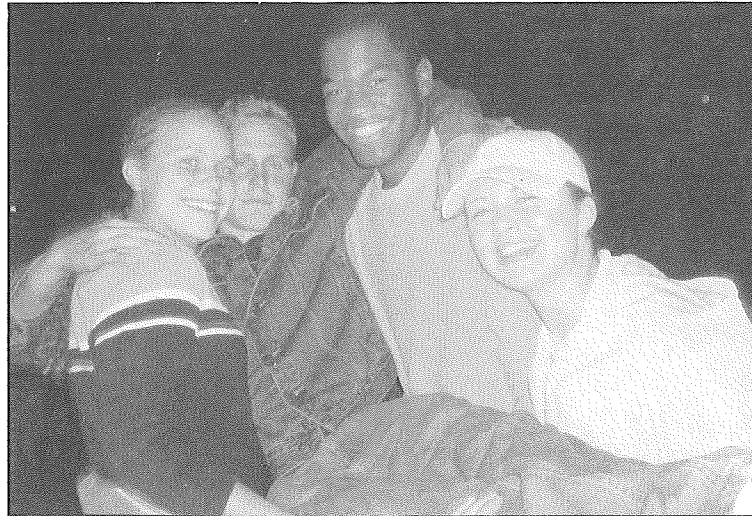
Despite hardships the senior class of '05 managed to come away with good attitudes and positive experiences.

"It wasn't all bad," commented one senior. "The activities were informative and the company couldn't have been better."

Daytime activities included learning wild edibles, learning to survive in the wilderness, spending time in *The Great Controversy*, and doing "initiatives", physical activities that forced the class to think and come together spiritually. Some of the most popular pastimes included learning how to stalk animals, building fires for cooking, and diving in and out of the water as fast as possible.

The most important aspect, however, was the spiritual growth experienced.

"I don't value emotional decisions, but being out in the forest was the most spiritual thing, and listening to the people (testimonies) was cool," said Krystal Blair.



Matt Kierstead survives Senior Survival with the help of Brittany Woodruff, Brian Belcher, and Jessica Swena Photo by Sarah Scott



Charlie Graves examines the cockpit of a plane during the Fly-in

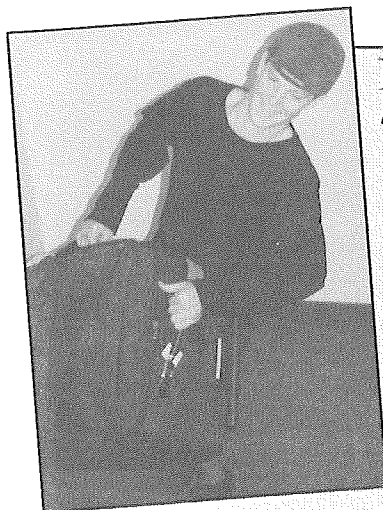
Registration day

by Sarah Scott

As registration day came upon us, a cool and misty morning disturbed the process of the long day ahead. Between all of the stations there were to visit, moving into the dorms, and meeting new people, there was hardly time just to sit and relax. None of the lines seemed organized, and although they were numbered, there was no real order that anyone was following. "It was great getting to see all of my friends again, but waiting in the lines took forever," Katie Schlehuber commented. Those who had never been to the school before had no idea of where to go; however, the ones that did were kind enough to give some sort of direction.

The handshake, along with worship, was a great opportunity to meet new people and to reunite with the friends that most had left behind over the summer. The staff of the school was introduced to everybody along with all of the officers for the upstanding ASB here at UCA. Information for the next day was given, and students were

presented with directions on what to do for the first day of school. As time dragged on, the excitement of the day evaporated and exhaustion quickly took over the crowd. After bidding everyone good night, everyone slowly made their way back to the dorms to get much needed rest for yet another long day.



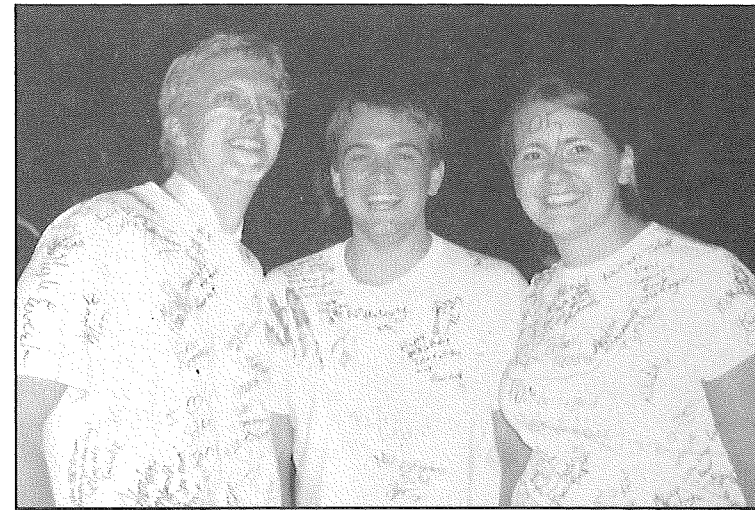
Victory of '05

by Katie Sailas

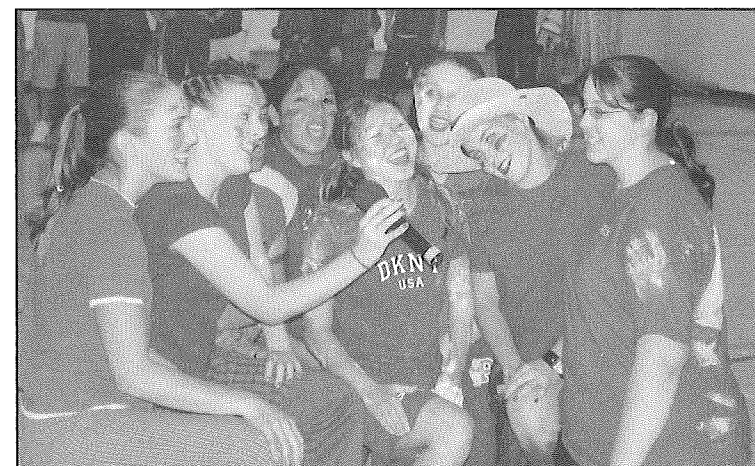
The gym was filled with screams from each class yelling their respective year on the night of Saturday, August 28. "I can't think of a better way to lose my voice!" said Jessica Swena who is a three year senior at UCA. Each class was represented by a color. All seventeen freshmen wore green, a blue sea of sophomores hollered in excitement, the juniors were red hot, and the seniors were heavenly in white raiment!

"Class night is a good way for everyone to get to know each other," said Michelle Vorpahl about her first class night. The night was filled with relays and games, including tug-o-war to who could sing the best version of "Happy Birthday." Four-year senior Justin Shipowick brought down the house with the best free style rap version of "Happy Birthday," claiming victory for the class of 2005.

Overall, Class Night was a great success. Sophomores Kati Winkle and Ashley Brito claimed they had the raddest time ever, and senior Zach Rearrick thought, "It was hot. Loved it!"



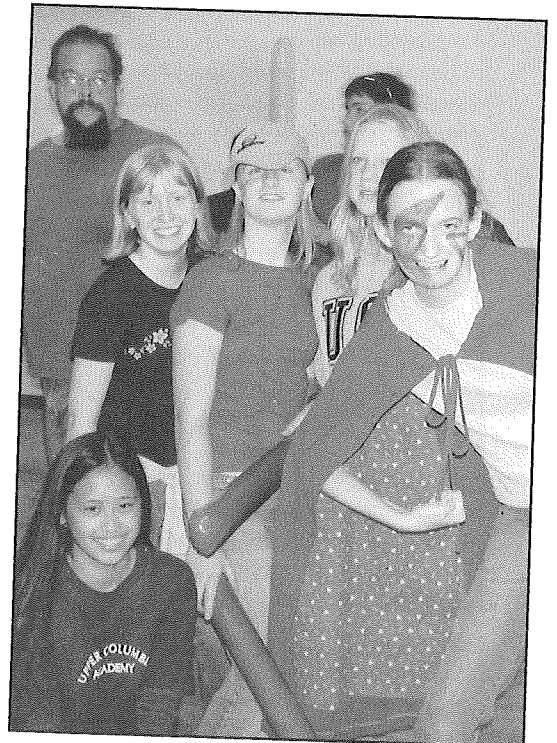
Seniors with their traditional white signed t-shirts Photo by Tony Peters



Members of the musical junior class sing Photo by Michael Steingas



Freshmen pose happily for the camera Photo by Michael Steingas



Sophomores . . . except for Mr. Paulson Photo by Michael Steingas

Where do you place?

by Justin Bullock

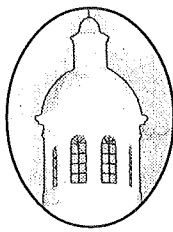
The scratching of pencils ceases. "Times up. Please put your pencils down." Everyone has heard those delightful words. Yes, that's right, ITED tests have once more come and gone leaving students exhausted in their wake.

ABCD-DCBA is just one of the many patterns people use to fill in their pages of circles. It is a game of dot-to-dot. Of course, there is always the select group (most of the class) that actually reads and answers the questions. What a profound idea!

Boredom starts to set in, however, and eyes wander more often to the clock. Time seems endless. Tick tick tick, the clock slowly etches its way around and around. Will the time ever end?

The tests are for students' benefit, so they can see where they place among millions of others and so teachers can adjust curriculum to meet needs. Or so they say. "They are just to pass time while the seniors are having a good time on senior survival," said Nolan Kinne.

So where do you place? Are you in the select group that actually uses the gray matter provided, or do you sit there in a trance playing fill in the blanks and twiddling your thumbs?

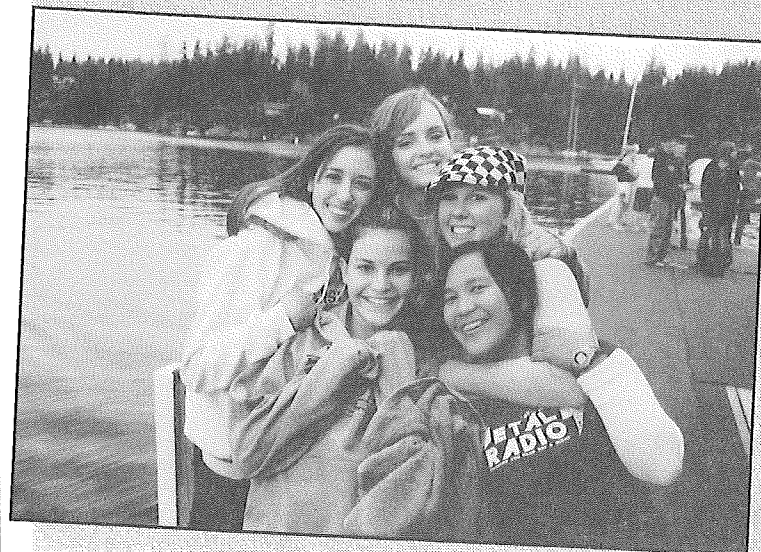
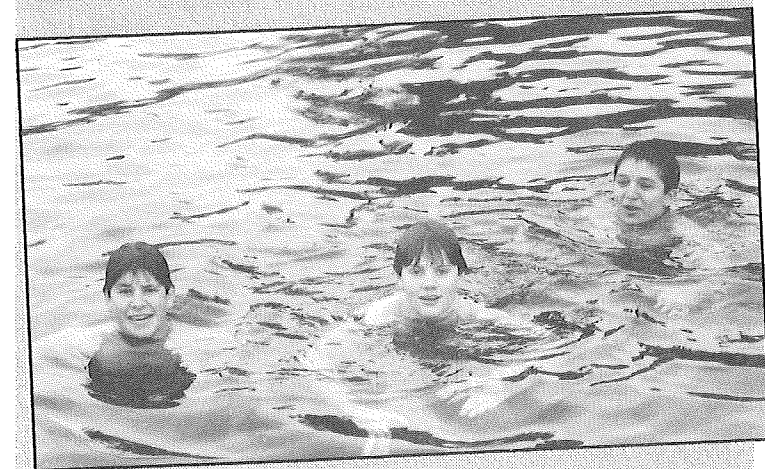


UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY ECHOES

Is a regular student publication of
Upper Columbia Academy,
3025 E Spangle-Waverly Road,
Spangle, WA 99031

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Tiffany Muff, Tony Peters, Simeon Redberg,
Katie Sailas, Sarah Scott, Michael Steingas,
Jessica Swena, and Stephen Lacey, advisor

Fall Picnic



Life in the men's dorm

by Ryan Billington

A home away from home, the dorm plays a big role in how students remember their days at UCA. Dorm life usually is very exciting and filled with new experiences—most of which are good.

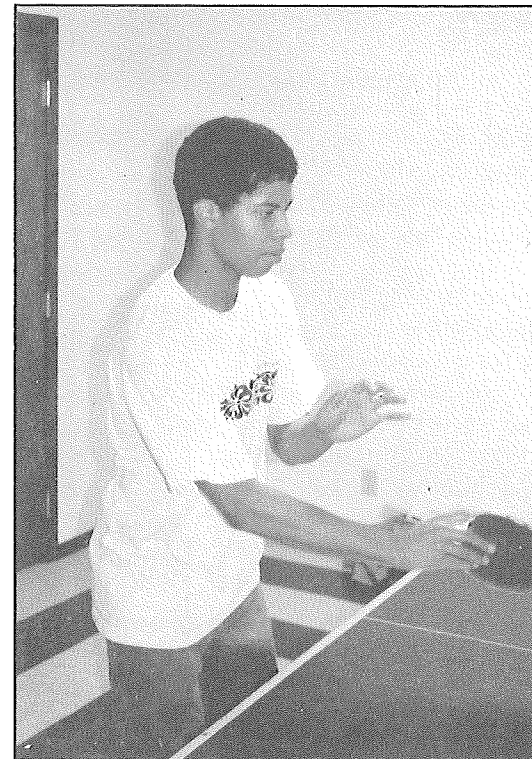
If there's one thing that is very prominent in dorm life, it's the camaraderie felt among the lads. A feeling of belonging is another way to describe it. Being able to walk across the hall and get help with math or have a prayer with someone is an amazing feeling to experience.

The men's dorm has undergone some changes this year. They are adjusting to life with four new deans: Head Dean Willis, Assistant Deans Tyrone and Janke, and, all the way from Southern Adventist University, our Task Force Dean Henson. They, along with the RA's lead out in worships, are always there to talk to, and make sure everyone stays in line.

Every night, all of the guys get together in the chapel for dorm worship. They sing, pray, and listen to talks about real life experiences and advice from Jesus. It's one of the best things about the dorm: spiritual togetherness.

Other amazingly interesting experiences involve the enjoyable and intriguing rewards that are handed out for being late to worship or being in the hall after lights out. These rewards can include the fun and infamous "quarter races" and "duck walks."

All together, the dorm is something that will never be forgotten by those who live there. The support of the deans, RA's, and friends makes it an unforgettable place. Though sometimes homesick, most guys are very glad to have the opportunity to be here. Laughter bounces off the concrete walls in this place where memories are made.



Kessle Hodgson proves his table tennis skills during the Fall Picnic

Soaked smiles

by Kris Kostenko

This year's junior class set out in various directions one Friday morning to experience the "great" outdoors. Unfortunately for them, the weather was not as cooperative as it was for the previous year's Outdoor Ed trip.

Those who enjoy hiking on muddy trails, carrying a heavy pack, and sleeping on the floor, left with Mr. and Mrs. Martling and the Williams and headed toward the Idaho and Montana border in the middle of the Bitter Root Mountains. After a much desired pit stop before a weekend with no such facilities, the vibrant crew of 10 headed, with packs on back, down the treacherous 3 mile trail toward Stevens Lake.

The hike in was less than desirable for some since the rain poured down on them unforgivingly the entire way. They set up camp in the rain, they ate in the rain, and when breakfast finally came rolling around it seemed as if a flood reenactment was in effect. Small, growing ponds formed under their tents as almost simultaneously hail and sleet showered down upon them. Where was the ark?

Mr. Martling made the decision of the day that morning when he decided to have the explorers pick up camp and head home. They arrived back at school from their excursion around 3:00 pm Sabbath afternoon.

Now, somewhere farther west at a place called Priest Lake a bunch of junior class canoeists had just about the same amount of luck. They headed out Friday morning and enjoyed a hardly relaxing weekend forming mermaids in the sand and leaving certain helpless individuals stuck in canoes in the middle of the lake without a paddle.

Even though the weather was not as good for Outdoor Ed as it was for Senior Survival, the juniors had a wonderful time and built memories that will last a lifetime . . . perhaps

Who cares?

by Ian Holm

Every individual cares about something. For some it is their work and for others it is their schooling or friends. In the world of work, the way an individual cares about their job will determine how good a job they do. For someone to do a good job, they must care about the finished product.

Outside the working world, optional tasks will get done on the basis of how much people care about them getting done. Here at UCA there are many tasks to be done. Some do get finished while others remain dormant for long periods of time. UCA's school sign is among those that appear to have reached dormancy. Two others are the boys' dorm recreational computers and the Class of 2003's class gift of a swing set to go by the tennis courts.

Some people may attribute this state of dormancy to laziness, but there is another possible reason. While not caring about a task may be a problem, caring much about a few tasks will also cause others to be left unfinished. Every task is labeled based on its priority, and this label will remain attached until the task is finished.

In the end, individuals can't accuse people of being lazy until they know the full story. All have things they care about, but some just care more than others. Hopefully, around UCA, these supposed dormant tasks will eventually become cared about enough that they might get finished.

New year fires up with firebowl vespers

by Tiffany Muff

True to tradition and thanks to good weather, this year's Friday night worship started off with Firebowl Vespers. It's a satisfying experience for students to worship outside and get to know the staff better.

Held on the hill behind the gym, Firebowl Vespers always includes staff members who give a worship thought or a personal testimony. This year, new student teacher, Mrs. Brophy, told how unsure she was about coming to UCA but how God led her here. From past stories and ones told this year, it is quite evident that this school is brought together by God's leading. Students were also given a chance to give their testimonies which added to the conviction that we are exactly where God wants us to be.

Afterwards, students and staff gathered around the fire to sing, talk and praise God. "It's my favorite time," said Gage Curry. "You mostly sing, but you really get to know people too." It's also a time to see some students' talents as those who play guitar rise to the occasion. The guitars are played and songs are sung till late in the evening when the students wander back to the dorms, each with a good experience and some new memories.

Freshmen unite

by Brittany Blankenship

Begun last year, the Freshman Class Camping Trip is a relatively new item on the school calendar. Filled with group activities and initiatives, this campout was planned in the fashion of Outdoor Ed. and Senior Survival with the purpose of drawing the class together to become a vibrant part of UCA's student body.

Sabbath afternoon was the designated time for the team-building initiatives. In one of these activities, a freshman was blindfolded and led by their partner through a challenge course. The real challenge was finding creative ways to lead the blind (without voice commands) while both the seniors and the adult sponsors attempted to distract them and lead the unseeing and unaware down the wrong path.

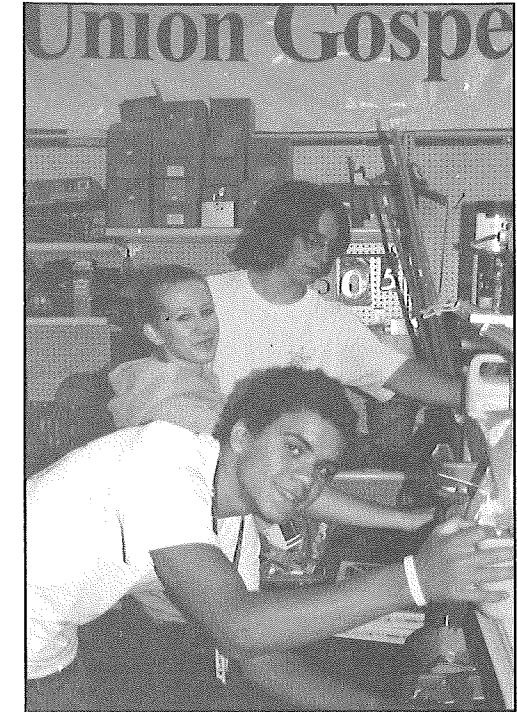
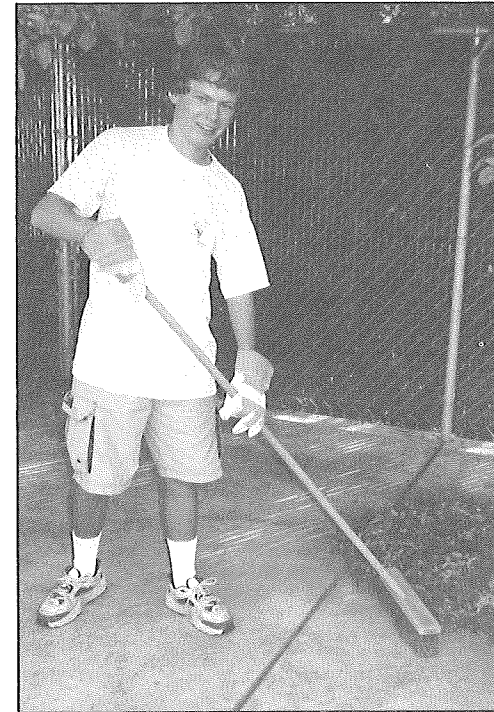
Another initiative saw the entire group tied together at the ankles and marched in a line down the road, around a bend, and up a hill. Every few minutes their progress was paused so that two of their comrades could be blindfolded and two could be muted. This encouraged more creative communication, group cooperation, and leadership among some of the quieter ones who were forced to step up and lead while classmates were handicapped.

Their last project was to turn over a small tarp while the whole class stood on it. After Elliot LaPlante and Aubrey Littman were hoisted up on to shoulders, Emily Muthersbaugh patiently took charge of the situation. With the whole group pulling together, it was a splendid success.

When asked for feedback after the ordeal, many expressed the desire to return to UCA as part of the school's leadership. Richie Cullen said that he knew their class had the potential and ability to stand up to everyone else, to stand together and make a difference for God—even against the tide of popularity and seniority.

It's not the size of the lion in the fight that will make a difference; it's the fight in the lion. Motivated by each other and empowered by God, these freshmen returned from their experience ready to shake things up a bit, ready to make a difference.

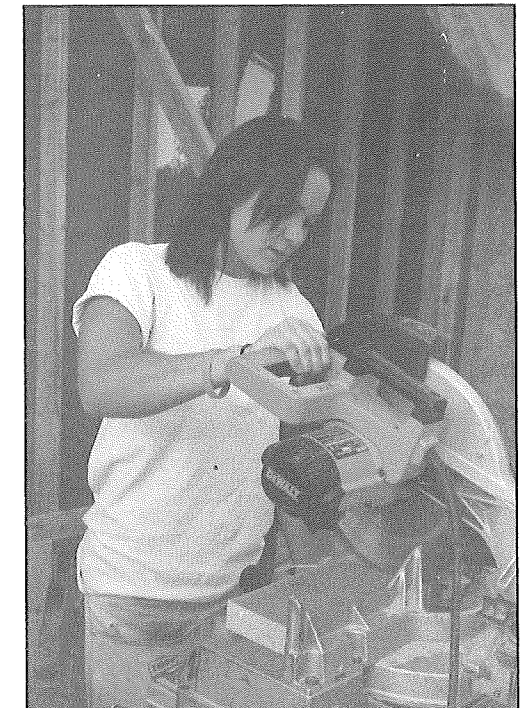
2008



HOPE

The first HOPE Task Force outreach day of the year on September 8 included the usual wide variety of projects, including sweeping at the Red Cross, stocking shelves at the Classy Rack and helping build a house at a Habitat for Humanity project.

Seniors, surviving in the woods near MiVoden, missed the day.

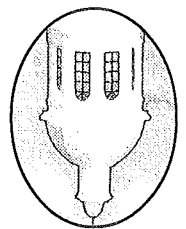


UPCOMING EVENTS

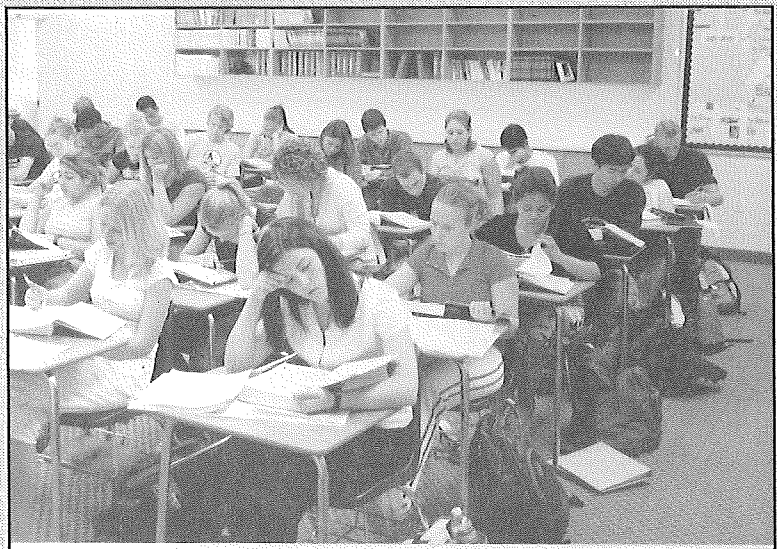
October 17	HOPE Task Force
October 20	Homeleave begins; 1st quarter ends
October 31	Daylight savings time ends; clocks go back
November 5	Winter Friday schedule begins
November 7	SAT
November 13	Girls' Club Amateur Hour
November 19	HOPE Task Force
November 21	Sunday School
November 23	Thanksgiving holiday begins

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*New UCA principal, Jeff Bovee,
settles in behind his desk*



Seniors begin their last year of high-school classes