

# The Echoes

Upper Columbia Academy, Spangle, Washington

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## Mission team heads to Baguio for spring break

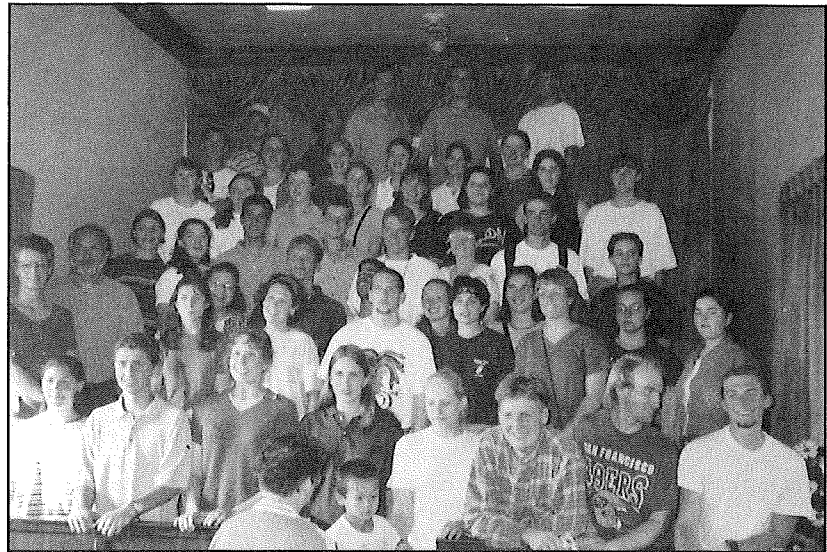
On Wednesday, March 15, 35 UCA students, three faculty sponsors, and a number of Conference workers embarked upon a mission trip to Baguio City in the Philippine Islands. They were to help build a church complex at the SDA mission there. On Friday, after 16½ hours of flying and eight hours of driving, the group arrived in Baguio.

Sabbath consisted of putting on church services at different locations in the city and . . . sleeping. Then, after half a day of shopping on Sunday, the group went to the worksite for the first time.

The site was a mess. Trash, debris, and piles of rocks were strewn everywhere. But the energetic group got busy right away and worked steadily for about five hours. Their task was to dig out a bank of dirt and dig two seven-foot deep holes to put columns into. They also had to build scaffolding on the roof and pour cement into the columns already erected. The sponsors called it "grunt work." It was a great start for everyone, though.

Monday started bright and early at 6:00 with breakfast and worship. Then it was off to the worksite. Work progressed through the week with groups going to the South China Sea on Tuesday and Thursday.

They had been warned of heatstroke



*The Philippines missionary team assembles in the choir loft of the old Baguio City Church on the day they left to return home. Local church members presented a cultural program and gave the team special t-shirts.*

and dehydration, so they drank a lot of water that was purified because the local water was not safe and the supply was limited. Taking showers was an experience all its own. Since there was no running water, the group had to bathe with buckets. After a hot day, the cool water felt great and refreshing. Thankfully, it never ran out.

There was not only hard physical work. Students also led out in ministries during the evenings. A group of three students and one adult sponsor would go to different local churches to put on children's programs and evangelistic talks. There was a group that went in the mornings to do visitations and invite people to the night meetings. Another group also visited prisoners.

Throughout the week, all remained

cheerful and energetic, though the work did not get any easier or lighter. Feelings of satisfaction were shared by all when the last load of cement was poured on Friday and the change in the compound, though small, was evident.

Again, groups went out on Sabbath, and the feeling of bitter-sweetness came over the group as they prepared to leave that night.

After an exciting cultural display by the people there, the group loaded onto the bus that would take them to Manila. Goodbyes were said and the group left for the last time. The journey home was safe, filled with unforgettable memories of the people they had met. One thought prevailed: "See you in heaven."

*Victoria Kildal*



The senior class sings a hymn on the platform during Senior Recognition Weekend

## Class of 1997 reveals talent

Ask anyone about the Talent Show during Senior Recognition and you'll probably hear something like, "It was great!" Everyone that I have talked to said that they really enjoyed the evening's show. With the exception of poor Mr. Thayer, whose computer technology predictably failed, things ran rather smoothly.

The instrument solos and accompaniment were sensational. The many singers did a heartfelt, tremendous job. Several numbers sent shivers down my spine, and I am told that I was not the only one taken away with Lindy Renck and Daniel Perrin's incredible performance of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "All I Ask of You."

Many members of the audience took advantage of the Silent Auction. A lot of delicious food was up for bids and many tried to claim the desserts they fancied.

A group of students had worked diligently on the backdrop for the show. Many hours were spent as the group labored over many details. The finished product looked fantastic. Even those in the back could make out the markings of the beautifully-rendered Riverfront Park.

As the evening drew to a close, the entire senior class took to the stage and sang "Lean on Me." It was a great close for a wonderful weekend. One more thing: '97 RULES!

Court Shrock



Seniors line up in the back of the gym before practicing their marching steps

## Seniors practice graduation moves

It can be called one of the highlights of the senior year . . . Senior Recognition Weekend. And the weekend of March 7 and 8 was no exception. The Sabbath hours were filled with special presentations.

The Friday night vespers message was brought to us by Elder Ben Maxson, father of four-year senior Benjie Maxson. He told the seniors about facing giants and overcoming them with "five stones."

Sabbath morning, Sharna Aaen's father, Dr. Victor Aaen, brought us an interesting slide show of his missionary adventures in Borneo, and the general lesson study was brought to us by Elder Stan Beerman, the father of Sherisa Beerman. The church service began with Mr. Marsh and the senior sponsors handing out personalized Bibles to all the seniors, and then the worship message was presented by Paul Jenks, Rachel Jenks' uncle. Mr. Jenks told the seniors how he wanted to show them God.

After the morning services, a special pot-luck was held in the gym for families of seniors as everyone looked forward to the senior talent show later that night.

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:5,6.

Alyssa L. Rana

97

## Dorm computers

Here at UCA many people have computers. Some use them strictly for homework. Others use them for homework occasionally but mostly use them for games. When taken to an extreme, computers can become a bad tool for kids at school. All some ever seem to do is play, play, play on the computer. They seem to be mesmerized by the monitors in front of them. This inspires them to skip classes so that they can finish the level of the game they have been working on.

Now, don't get me wrong. Not everyone that plays games gets so involved. There are those that get their homework done first and then relax by playing a game or two at night.

A computer network has been added to the dorm so that when the Internet is up, students will be able to access it through the network. The network will also give students the ability to play network games. That will be good when you and your friends get your homework done and have nothing to do on that boring Sunday.

Computers are great in the dorms for studying and typing reports and playing games against your friends. They are a good and useful tool as long as you can discipline yourself and only play games in moderation.

Mark Keymer



The old industrial arts building is demolished on March 12 to make room for parking next to the new administration building. Originally, woodworking classes were held upstairs and the metal shop was downstairs. Most recently the building was used by the maintenance department and by the radio station

## Volunteers help young cancer patients

Cancer. A potentially fatal disease that researchers are still trying to understand. Cancer wreaks havoc in the human body and tears at a person's emotions. Its presence destroys life, forcing a person to choose whether they will give up on life or fight for their right to live.

Cancer is what the volunteer program, Cancer Kids, is all about. All the children there have some form of cancer and numerous other problems and side effects. UCA students were given the opportunity to volunteer in the program and several participate every week.

Volunteers help the nurses wherever they can and play with the children. Play involves blowing bubbles, reading storybooks, or playing board games with the kids. But, more than that, play allows volunteers to observe a child's emotional development and reactions to the difficult events that are controlling their life. Through play, a child expresses his feelings, dreams, fears, and emotional conflicts. The volunteer's job, then, is to provide that child with emotional support, to ease their fears, and to create an environment of security, acceptance, and approval.

This reassurance is what helps the child gain maturity and happiness.

After playing with and observing these kids, I am amazed at how much the human spirit can survive. Visiting with one eleven-year-old boy who has been going to the hospital for treatments since he was two, I realize how much I take for granted. He was cheerful and happy, actually eager to talk to the staff who had become his friends. Reflecting upon this, I realized how easily we "healthy" humans get depressed. A whole day can be ruined because of a bad paper, a problem with a friend, or just an overly-busy day. I wonder how I would react to going to a hospital for nine years of treatments to combat this elusive disease.

When I first signed up as a volunteer, I didn't know what to expect. I only knew I wanted to help. Now, after having gone only a few times, I've already come to admire the staff and the children there. I realize that nothing can be done to alter their situation, no matter how much anyone would like to. I just hope that I can add a tiny slice of joy to their lives.

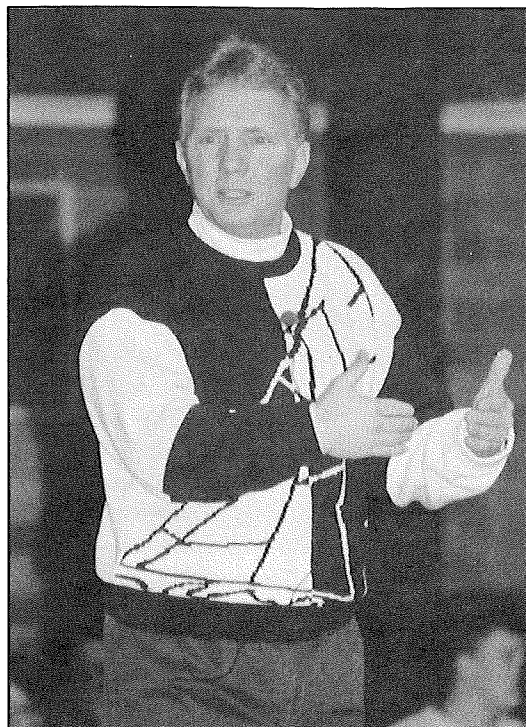
Krista Wagner

## The Echoes

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: Richard Davis, Mark Keymer, Victoria Kildal, Olivia Noel, Brenda Pewitt, Amity Pipkin, Alyssa L. Rana, Jason Riggs, Court Shrock, Krista Wagner, and Stephen Lacey, sponsor





Buell Fogg, from Union College, makes a point

## Fogg covers campus

Buell Fogg, the short guy with a smile as wide as the Mississippi River and a passion for popcorn and airline witnessing . . . But there was more to him than that, as we academy students soon found out.

Spring Week of Prayer was different this year. We found ourselves eagerly anticipating the morning and evening meetings. Pastor Fogg was like a breath of fresh air with his original comparisons, illustrative stories, and facial expressions. He had us sitting on the edges of our

seats in rapt attention, waiting for the next story and message.

But stories were not the only thing Pastor Fogg related to us. He conveyed to us a new taste of God through his actions. He would stand up front and tell us how much he liked us and respected us. This warmth and respect he showed us made us want to listen to what he had to say because we knew he cared.

One of the most interesting stories was the one he told about being in the army. Before he left home to go into the army, his father challenged him by saying, "Be a good soldier." Pastor Fogg compared his experiences to our daily walk as Christians. And it's true: you have the choice to either drift along with the absence of morals in your life or to choose to "Be a good soldier."

*Olivia Noel*

## HOPE cancelled

On Sunday, March 16, there was a tragic occurrence: HOPE Taskforce was cancelled for the first time, and students had to go to classes instead.

Eight faculty were in Florida for seminars, so with one or two sponsors needed per taskforce group, and with roughly a quarter of them gone, HOPE Taskforce couldn't be done.

HOPE Taskforce counts as a day of school. Since it was cancelled, we held classes on Sunday to make up for it. An extra HOPE Taskforce day may be added to the calendar when we move into the new administration building.

*Richard Davis*

### FOUR-YEAR SENIORS

There were 34 freshmen when the 93-94 school year started. 16 (almost half) are still at UCA and will graduate in June. They are:

Brianna Beitz	Karl Meidinger
Jon Evans	Katie Nelson
Cameron Gray	Celeste Orcutt
Paula Kildal	Brenda Pewitt
Don Lopes	Amity Pipkin
Seth Lunceford	Tressa Ranalla
Amelia Magnuson	Ginger Robinson
Benjie Maxson	Laura Way

**STAYING POWER!**

## Four-year seniors frolic close to home

"It was a blast! I'd do it all over again in a minute!" said Ginger Robinson. Being together reminded us that we had survived four years. As Brianna Beitz said, "It was a great trip and we had a good time."

Our first night was spent at the Conference Office. Mrs. Lange really enjoyed making pizzas for us. She thought we were a responsive and cooperative group. Our evening entertainment consisted of a bag full of videos, a table piled with games, and lots of elevator rides. After some good laughs, we finally hit the sack.

The next day we spent at Riverfront Park, enjoying unlimited ice-skating with short stints of the SR2 and IMAX before they broke. That evening we checked in at the Coeur d'Alene Resort and hurried off to the 3rd Street Cantina where we enjoyed Mexican food. Then we went back to the Resort for swimming and a midnight snack.

Monday morning we had a miniature golf tournament, followed by a bowling tournament in the afternoon. Cameron Gray and Benjie Maxson easily won these "competitions."

We enjoyed a delightful meal at the Spaghetti Factory before a rambunctious ride back to school. We all had to agree with Benjie, "It was cool!"

*Brenda Pewitt & Amity Pipkin*



## Monument Valley trip repeats success

When we got to Monument Valley High School, Mr. Martling's sister was there to welcome us. She introduced us to some of the school faculty and showed us where we were going to stay. We stayed behind the school in a Navajo hogan made of many cedar logs and packed with mud on the outside. The way the logs are put together symbolizes many things to the Navajos but is really hard to explain.

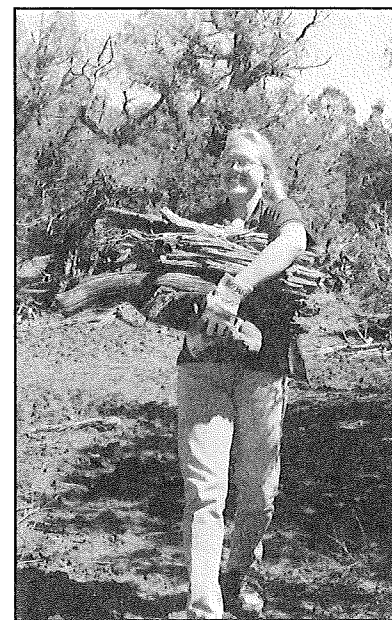
Our group went on many hikes while we were there. Probably the most exhilarating and memorable hike was Fat Man's Squeeze. That hike required a slide down a very steep grade of sandstone and a squeeze across a crack in the rock with your feet on one side and your back on the other. It was quite a rush.

As for the community service part of our trip, we didn't do as much as we wanted, but our efforts were greatly appreciated by the people. One day we were supposed to do some cleaning, but there was a big sandstorm so we went and sang to some elderly ladies. They were a little hesitant at first, but by the end they had tears in their eyes. Another day we went up to a place called Cedar Mesa and spent the day chopping firewood for an elderly couple.

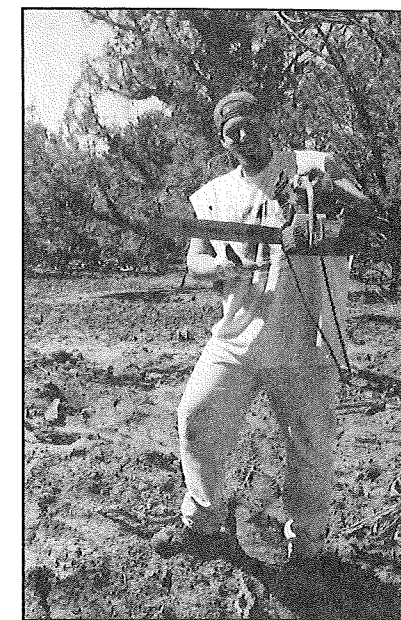
We were also in charge of an assembly and field day for Monument Valley High School. For the assembly, we presented a skit and had a couple of musical numbers by Shanin Olson and Becky Porch. Mr. Martling also gave a presentation about the Civil War.

All in all, I feel that this trip was very enlightening, adventurous, and successful. I hope future students will have the opportunity to experience Monument Valley for themselves.

*Jason Riggs*



Seniors Becky Porch and Jason Riggs help with the wood-cutting project during the Monument Valley trip



## Fire cancels classes

On Friday afternoon, March 7, while students were happily engrossed in their classes and seniors were busy getting ready for Senior Recognition, the fire alarms sounded and the administration building was casually evacuated for what many thought was a fire drill. But it was the real thing.

A table placed too close to the exhaust from a generator in the dungeon-like girl's dorm chapel basement caught fire and sent smoke into the chapel and through the steam tunnels into the ad building.

The situation was easily controlled, and little damage was done. Most teachers cancelled their remaining afternoon classes, the Senior Recognition weekend program continued smoothly, and the ad building was fumigated the following Sunday to get rid of the smoky aroma.

More fire drills seem likely in the future so teachers and students can become accustomed to what to do and evacuate buildings with more speed and precision.

## KUCA blesses another building with its presence

Campus radio station, KUCA, started in the old industrial arts building. That building was demolished, so the station moved to the front Quonset portion of the old BJK felts building. Now that building is going to be demolished (just the front part) to make room for the rerouting of the road behind the new ad building, so KUCA has had to find another home--this time in the old power house.

Through all the turmoil, the gallant KUCA staff has bravely continued sending their signal to the campus every weekend.

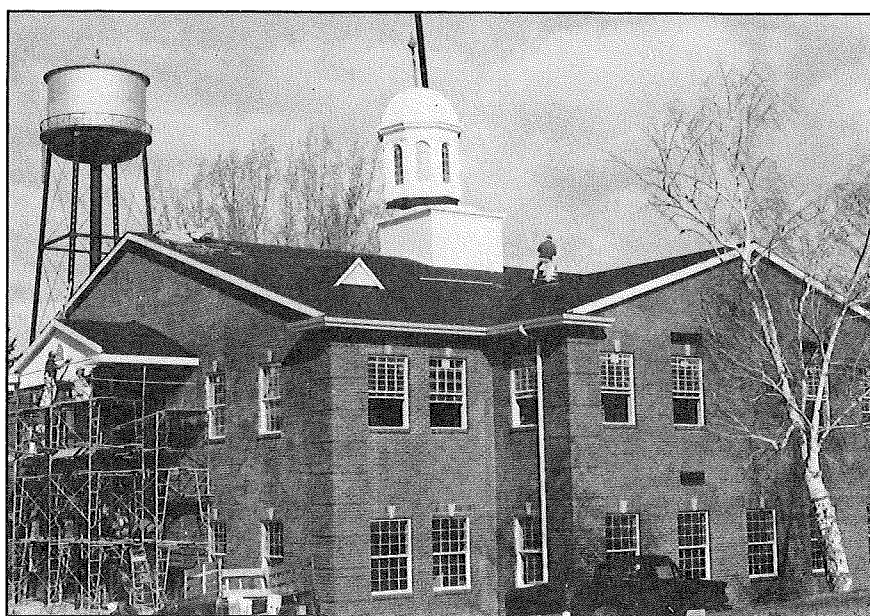
There is a plan to remodel the power house, rather than tear it down, as it will be one of only two original buildings left on campus (the other being the Home Economics building). The space could be used for the student center, radio station, and other services. But, if the pattern holds, KUCA's presence signals that the power house will soon be demolished! We shall wait and see.

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Brian Flemmer, Don Lopes, Benjie Maxson and Cameron Gray help carry rolls of carpet in the new ad building in preparation for the final push to finish for Alumni Weekend



After languishing in the mud and snow all winter, the cupola is lowered onto the new ad building roof

***ALMOST THERE!!!***