

UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY

ECHOES

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Music-A-Rama

music at its best

by Stephanie Hickman

The audience hushed as the performers took their places. Parents and grandparents strained to catch a glimpse of the special someone they had travelled so far to see. Video cameras were ready. Then choir director, Curtis Anderson, gave the choir the signal and another Music-A-Rama was underway.

After two choir numbers, band director Jerry Lange tapped his baton and the band launched into "Brule River Celebration," the first of its many performances. Next, the Octet got into the concert, performing "Don't Worry Be Happy" with Dan Hudson singing lead. The Choraliers performed "Dirait-on" which was all in French along with songs from Lerner and Loewe. Soloists included Danelle Smith, Aaron Vizcarra, Joe Jenks, Luke Chilson, Nicole Morgan, and Bryan Kay.

Tiffany Penhallurick and Maranatha Hay added to the musical extravaganza with a piano duet.

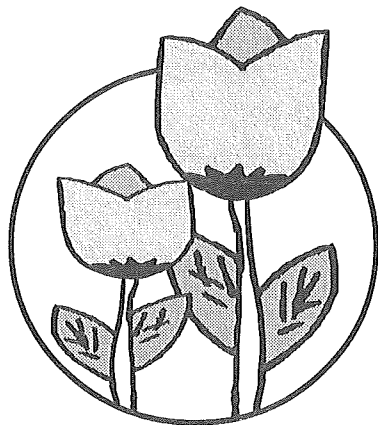
All in all, Music-A-Rama was once again an awesome performance.



Lively members of the brass section perform a unique warm-up ritual before the start of Music-A-Rama



One feature of the ASB Medieval Banquet on March 30 was a horse and carriage that gave knights, lords, and ladies rides around campus



IT'S SPRING!

Living life in the *fast* lane

by Danny Lamberton

Often times we humans get caught up in the flow of things in life, such as school, friends, entertainment, and other self-pleasures. I often find myself getting caught up and swept down the river of life with its many rapids full of distractions. I lose sight of the real reason that I am here. God created me and has a purpose for me. I might not know what that purpose is, but in His time He will make it known to me. And He can only work with what I let Him work with. It is the same way with you. When we get caught up in life and push God out of our way, we are limiting what God has to work with. He can't work with us if we don't let Him.

I also find myself wanting to do things that make me feel good. Ever since I was a little kid my dad has tried to instill in me where true happiness comes from. And this Spring Break I had the privilege to go on a mission trip to Belize. I helped build classrooms, paint buildings, and nail trusses. I worked with VBS for the young kids at night meetings. As the week went on and I continued to help, I began to realize what my dad had been trying to tell me all along: the more I helped others, the happier I felt! It was a great feeling to be able to do something that I enjoyed and then feel true happiness after it was all over. To experience the true happiness that comes from giving for the benefit of others is what we were placed on this earth for in the first place. By giving of yourself you are acting as Jesus did when he came and died for us.

I pray that you will take some time and stop and think what, how, and where you spend your time. If you want true happiness that never leaves, give of yourself and help others. I can promise that you won't be sorry when you're done!



A group takes a break along the waterfront in Belize during a UCA mission trip at the end of March.

Pickles and ice-cream

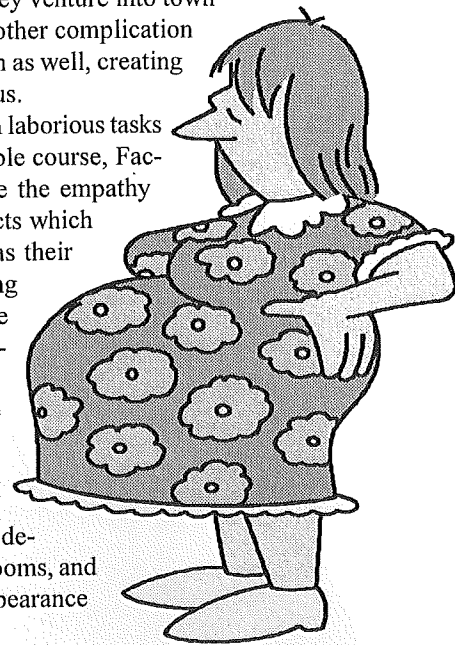
by Kimberly Warren

UCA is a highly-esteemed school, a school with positive moral values, a school which inspires and requires that its students become . . . pregnant? Yes, it's true, a number of UCA's students sprouted enormous bellies, began to waddle instead of walk, and developed a strong taste for pickles and ice-cream. These are telltale signs of pregnancy . . . or are they signs that Pastor Fred's Bible class is at it again?

Don't get too worried, these pregnancies are quite phony. Most consist of rice stuffed inside a swimsuit or various other ingenious contraptions. But the agony of carrying them is real. They have a weight requirement, and taking them off is not an option (except in the shower). And for some students, humiliation is added to the burden as they venture into town displaying their protruding bellies. Another complication is that boys can be required to wear them as well, creating quite a spectacle both on and off campus.

Each year Pastor Fred assigns such laborious tasks as an empathy project for his senior Bible course, Facing Life. While some students receive the empathy project, others receive child care projects which require them to carry eggs with them as their children--without breaking or damaging them. Another project is the Marriage Project in which students plan their weddings.

In previous years students have been able to choose which project they preferred, but this year, for the first time, Pastor Fred did not give them this luxury. Thus a mass of pregnant girls and boys developed and paraded in the halls, classrooms, and dorms. UCA certainly does give an appearance of prestige and positive moral values!



Seniors take the stage

by Mindie Getty

People crowded into the UCA gym at 7:30 P.M. one Friday night to await the beginning of the Senior Recognition program. They milled around, talking with their friends and family members. Some looked around and noticed no seniors were in sight. They asked each other where their senior friends were. Nobody knew.

Suddenly, the crowd rushed to take seats in the strange formation set up in the gym. The seniors had just appeared from what seemed like nowhere and were waiting to walk down the aisles on both sides of the gym.

One by one, the seniors walked slowly by while an organist from our past, Mrs. Underwood, diligently concentrated. They made quite an impressive scene as they walked up steps to the stage and stood in front of their seats until the last of their classmates made it up. Then, at last, they all sat down. Thus began Senior Rec.

The speaker Friday night was another person from the past, Dr. Donna Evans. Saturday morning for church the seniors once again put on their impressive display. All seniors were given a Bible with their names engraved on the front cover. Pastor Mark Witas had the sermon for church and talked about what "I AM and I AM NOT." Each senior was given a mirror as part of the point he was trying to make.

The senior talent program was Saturday night, and after that the seniors went to bed with those pesky dancing graduation thoughts in their heads.

Seniors show their talent

by Dani Pavlic

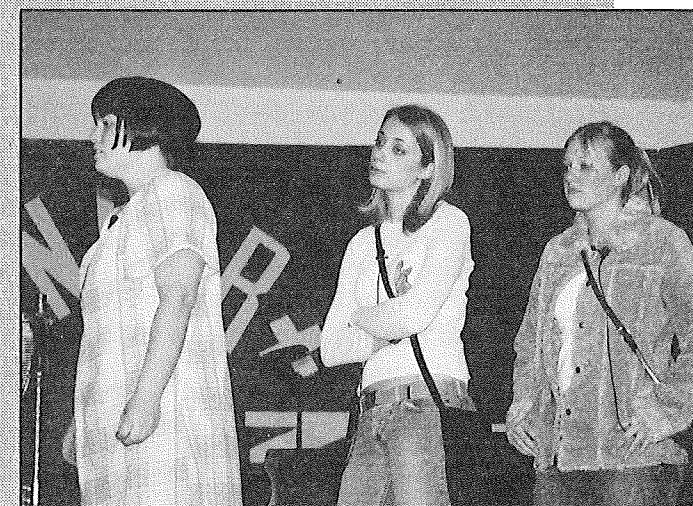
The theme for this year's senior talent program was Senior Night Live. The stage was decorated to have the appearance of the comedy television show Saturday Night Live.

Many of the performers were spectacular. Some favorite moments included Kelsie Sams and Kim Krueger who put on a hilarious skit "Miss Swan." Sean Hayes performed "Hungarian Dance" on the piano. The live news updates were hits, too, and have people still talking about them. The crowd especially enjoyed "Gone Fishin'," a duet by Luke Chilson and Matt Giem. And "Save Tonight," sung by Carl Canwell, was a great finish to the night.

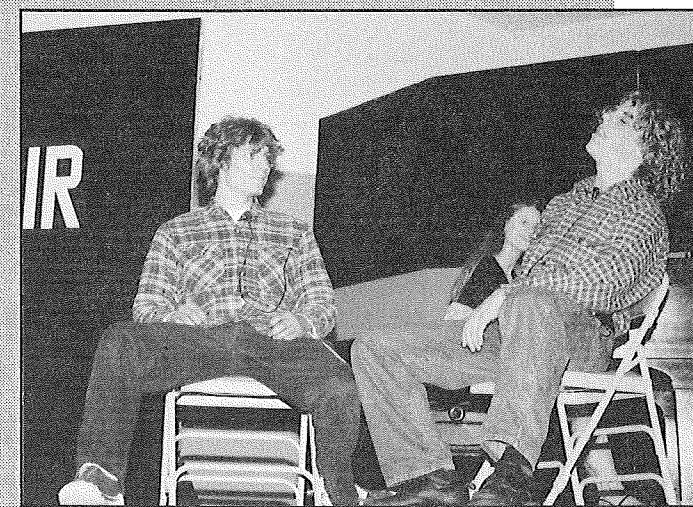
"The whole thing was great," said Alyson Lavarney. Kristen Opp felt that it was good, although several performers repeated throughout the night. Lana Burke said, "Some parts were good while others were not quite as good." Kris Pavlic simply gave it a thumbs up. All in all, it was a night filled with remarkable entertainment.



Maranatha Hay and Amanda Jehle share happy news



Kelsie Sams, Kirsten Lane and Shauna Dyer-- "Miss Swan"



Matt Giem and Luke Chilson have "Gone Fishin"

Music breaks out

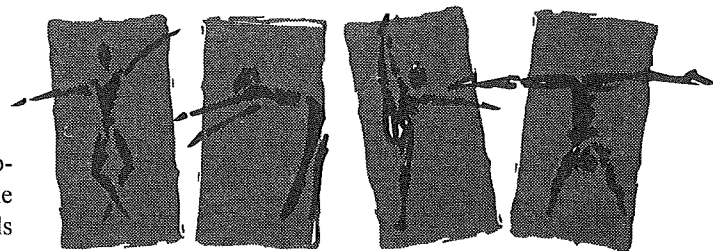
by **Katreena Sumagpang**

There was an outburst of visitors on Thursday, February 20, as students from several elementary schools came for the long-anticipated UCA Choral Clinic. The schools included Tri-Cities Jr. Academy, Lake City Jr. Academy, Harris Jr. Academy, Yakima Adventist Christian School, Milton-Stateline School, and Pend Oreille Valley School.

The Clinic lasted from February 20 through February 22 under the leadership of Mr. Curtis Anderson. Students were kept busy the minute they arrived--registering for dorm rooms, getting name tags, listening to rules, and following the Choral Clinic Schedule. The schedule consisted mainly of 45 minute practices and 15 minute breaks, where kids could mingle and meet new friends.

Getting started took quite some time as everyone tried to figure out their seating positions. After that, however, everything seemed to fall in place. Students came knowing their music. As a result, they were ready when Saturday, the night of the concert, finally hit.

The performance included a variety of secular and religious songs, some of which were "Spiritual Jubilee," "Agnus Dei," and "Music Brings Us Together." The guys had the privilege of showing off their vocal abilities with a song entitled "We're the Men," while the ladies sang a memorable choral arrangement of "I Will Remember You." Energy filled the gym as the mass choir of 300 students sang their hearts out. Music *did* bring everyone together!



UCA hosts gymnastics clinic

by **Lynnea Flerchinger**

Kids swarmed campus on February 25 for gymnastics clinic. They came to UCA to learn a variety of moves from our own esteemed gymnasts. The Clinic started at 10:00 in the morning and ended at 4:00. It was a long and exhausting day for everyone.

Coach Soule split the gym into five stations, where the children could take turns practicing different skills such as pairs, acrobatics, beginning tumbling, balance, advanced tumbling, and juggling. The juggling resulted in balls strewn across the gymnasium, which frustrated the other gymnasts. Stephanie Hickman remarked that it was extremely hard to do other things with tennis balls all over the gym.

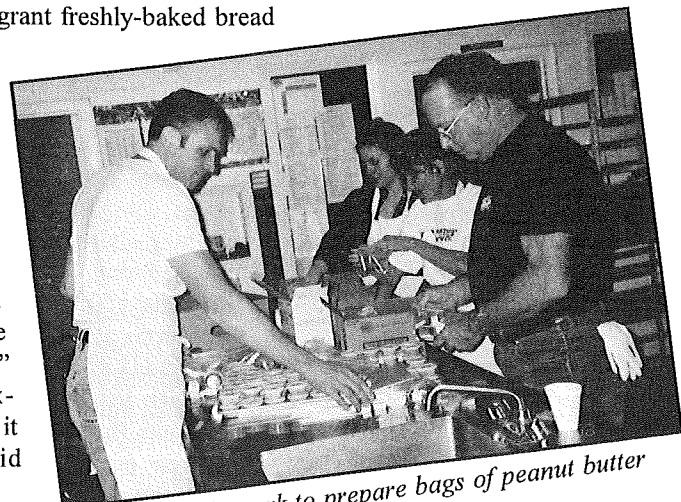
It was a very good turnout. The gym was filled with 278 kids from 14 different schools from all over our area. Coach Soule commented, "I want to thank the gym team for their devotion to the program." They did a tremendous amount of work, and I'm sure that after the day was over the gymnasts got a well-needed rest.

Loaves, no fishes

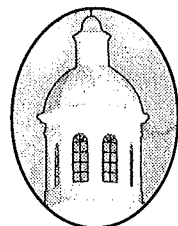
by **Stephanie Hickman**

Girls scattered to their rooms as they heard the voice on the intercom announce, "Ladies, men will be on all floors." Guys rushed to their doors as they heard the call over the speakers, "Women will be on all floors." Assorted faculty were invading both dorms with their annual delivery of loaves upon loaves of fragrant freshly-baked bread from the cafeteria.

Every student received a loaf and a supply of peanut butter and jam. It is a well-loved tradition judging by what the students have said. "Now I don't have to go to breakfast!" Shauna Dyer exclaimed. "I scarfed it in one bite!" said Danelle Smith.



Staff diligently work to prepare bags of peanut butter and jam for the great bread delivery



UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY

ECHOES

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Only one cure

by **Tasha Ham**

The definition and diagnosis: inflammation of the brains and egos of the Senior Class of 2003, causing mild to severe cases of restlessness or contempt for anything to do with high school. The symptoms: there are three outward appearances of senioritis. The first is having too much to do and lacking the motivation to do any of it; the second is having excess amounts of free time with too little to do. Seniors who exhibit both symptoms are the third and most well-known category.

What do these cases have in common? They all share anxiety and eagerness for leaving high school and beginning their new lives. Freedom calls from the other side, drawing minds away from the task at hand. This growing desire to be done with the last year of high school infiltrates every aspect of each remaining school day. Whether at work or at play, the mind of the high school senior cannot help but wander to the approaching big weekend.

It penetrates to the depth of senior souls, clouding the present dangers of homework, upcoming projects, and tests. The only documented cure is experiencing graduation weekend. So don't lost hope, my fellow senior friends. The first of June will be here sooner than we can imagine!

Witness through music

by **Katreena Sumagpang**

Have you ever heard five sisters singing in four and five part harmony? Fortunately, UCA was privileged to hear the Cadet Sisters in concert during Grandparent Weekend, March 28-29. The sisters are home-schooled and have toured many places and appeared on 3ABN.

Their main concert took place on Sabbath at 3:00 P.M.. They sang different variations and arrangements of hymns such as "Fill My Cup, Lord," "Wonderful Words of Life," "No Night There," and "Jesus Loves Me." They kept the crowd guessing who was singing the bass part.

After the concert was a question-and-answer time. Surprisingly, UCA learned a few things. First of all, these five girls have never fought in their life! They talk and resolve problems. They enjoy spending time with each other and practicing for about an hour every day.

The oldest, Natalie, who is 17, was blessed with perfect pitch. She arranges most of the music they sing. She says God has given her a gift and knowing God wants her to minister to people through music keeps her going.

The Cadet Sisters undoubtedly touched many students, parents, and grandparents at UCA. The harmony of their voices and the message of their songs helped to remind people that God has given each person specific gifts and talents to use for His glory.

Midterm arrives

by **Kimberly Warren**

Whenever midterm rears its ugly head, it sends UCA students into a fit of turmoil. Tests must be taken, back work must be turned in, and worst of all, below average grades must be sent home and to the dorms. It is a time when parents yell and deans punish, and all dorm students with low grades are sent to the dreaded D-F-I. But there is a bright side to everything, and, as Mr. Lacey states, "Midterm is a time of both anguish and delight."

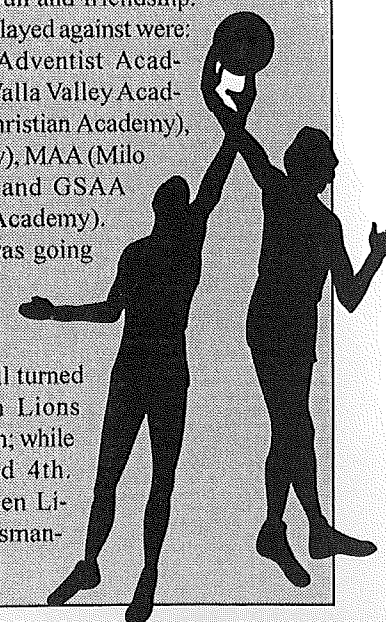
When all our tests are finished and all our work is turned in, we are free to breathe again, and we can see that this midterm cloud does indeed have a silver lining. We are now half way through the quarter and charging towards summer and graduation. This fact may not make up for the hours spent studying for midterms or sitting in D-F-I, but for a student like me, whose days are numbered and carefully counted, the last midterm will be a mile marker I am only too happy to pass.

Tournament challenges UCA Lions

by **Dawn Lawson**

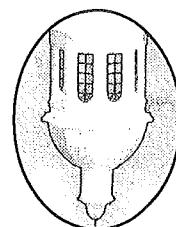
Cheers filled the air as the UCA Lions shot a three pointer down in Walla Walla on February 13. The squeak of tennis shoes added to the noise of the ball bouncing and the coaches shouting to the players. What made this so important? The Lions were down in Walla Walla for the Friendship Basketball Tournament, a tournament of fun and friendship.

Some of the teams they played against were: PSAA (Puget Sound Adventist Academy), WWVA (Walla Walla Valley Academy), CCA (Cascade Christian Academy), MEA (Mt. Ellis Academy), MAA (Milo Adventist Academy), and GSAA (Gem State Adventist Academy). More than one game was going on at once. While the girls played in one place, the boys were in another. In the end, it all turned out well. The Women Lions were 2 for 2, placing sixth; while the men Lions placed 4th. Along with that, the men Lions also won the Sportsmanship Award.



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Cutting*remarks

by Tommy Cutting

When living in a dorm, there inevitably comes a time when a picking-up of one's room is in order. Typically, this comes about from either catching wind of an impending room check, or, perhaps, as a result of your roommate's desperate pleading. For me the deciding factor is usually the floor being too messy to struggle across.

When the power goes out and you stumble across the room to open the door, there is nothing worse than to turn and see that you've trodden down your graphing calculator, your violin, and your roommate who happened to be kneeling on the floor pleading for deliverance. This simply won't do. It is a sure sign that the room needs more than just a picking up--it needs cleansing.

In my case, such an undertaking resembles a groundbreaking archaeological dig. But drastic times call for drastic measures, so with pick in hand I dive into the mess with a class and style that would put Indiana Jones to shame. Two and a half hours later I'll have the room in a new state of cleanliness . . . immaculate. So satisfied I am with my work that I typically sprawl out on my bed for a well-deserved nap. It is usually at this time that I awake with a start to find that I have once again dozed off during English class. This further strengthens my belief that dreams are an awfully unfair business.



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| APRIL | |
| 15 | ACADEMY DAY |
| 18-19 | BAND TOUR |
| | CHORALIERS TOUR |
| 20-23 | ADVANCED BIOLOGY FIELD TRIP |
| 23-27 | LAST HOMELEAVE OF THE YEAR |
| MAY | |
| 2-3 | ALUMNI WEEKEND |
| 11-14 | SENIOR TRIP |
| 30 | GRADUATION WEEKEND BEGINS |