



echoes

December, 1999

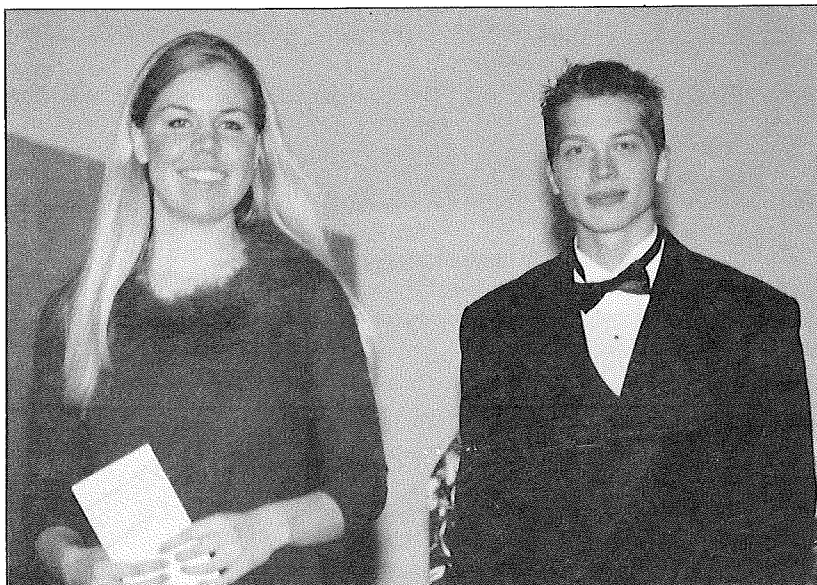
Amateurs mature for an hour

At the annual Amateur Hour the audience was surprised to see Michael Waters and Trissa Gifford win both the Grand Prize and the People's Choice Award. "I was surprised, happy, and then glad that I would never have to play that song again," Michael Waters said.

Winners Michael Waters and Trissa Gifford performed the piano duet "Hungarian Rhapsody." The winner for novelty was "Muck the Mike" by Hailu Gabriel, Dean Young, Michael Lopez, and Jared Gabel. There was a tie in the vocal category with "A Whole New World" by group 8; and "Aida" by Sandra Van Doren. Instrumental winners Chandra Lutz and Katrina Hollenbeck performed a flute duet, "Rondo," and winning the prize for best piano performance was Heidi Corder with "Malaguena."

There were sixteen acts divided into these four categories: novelty, vocal, instrumental, and piano. They were judged by Larry and Patty Marsh, Darin and Natalie Patzer, and Tammy McGuire. Prizes were \$50 for first place in each category and \$100 each for Grand Prize and People's Choice.

The audience also enjoyed the beautiful backdrop depicting an



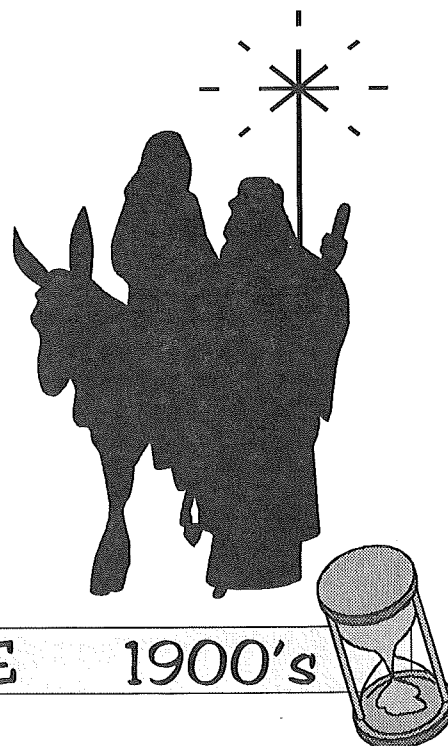
*Trissa Gifford and Michael Waters walk away with the cash . . . twice
More Amateur Hour pictures on page 7*

underwater ocean scene. Al Shrock, husband to Debbie Shrock, and junior Erik Thomsen made the backdrop.

Another enjoyable part of the show were the Masters of Ceremony Paul Jenks and Pastor Fred Riffel (Bubba). Paul and Bubba, as they called themselves, put on a great show between numbers. Most interesting was the time they forgot to shut their mikes off. They went backstage during a performance and began an amplified discussion on what they were going to do next.

Amateur Hour was organized by the boys' dorm this year. Next year it will be organized by the girls' dorm.

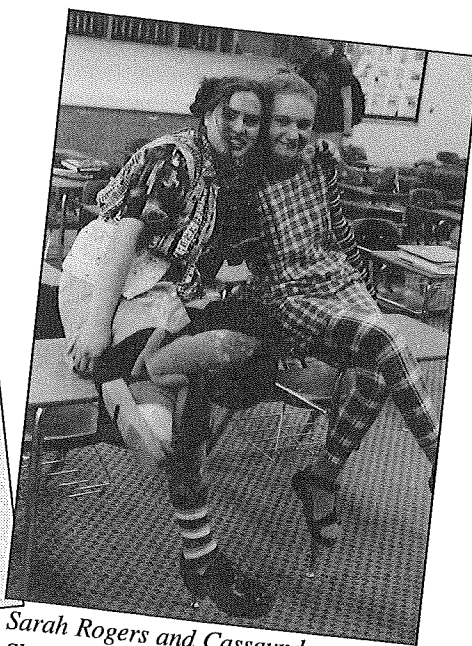
Brian Catelli



LAST ISSUE OF THE 1900's

Spirit Week Winners

Clash Day
Nick Lambert
Cassandra Shewmake
Hat Day
Christyn Clayville
Barbara Douglas
Colors Day
Nathan Cutler- senior
Patrick Bacon- junior
Laura Wade- sophomore
Rebecca Burke- freshmen
Twins Day
Amanda Parker and Jessica Engelhart
Lynnea Flerchinger and Shannon Keller
Sports Day
Tim Shannon
Brandon Clarke



Sarah Rogers and Cassandra Shewmake have a clashing time



Twins Jessica Engelhart and Amanda Parker



Melissa Holmes and Melinda Douglas don their hats

Students catch spirit

November 1 through 5, uniquely dressed students were seen all around campus as part of the annual ASB Spirit Week. Originally created to break the long monotony of winter, Spirit Week has grown to a much-anticipated event every year. Students are encouraged to participate appropriately each day by dressing according to the theme given. Winners are chosen each day and prizes such as lollipops and bubbles are given away.

The first event of the week was Clash Day. Outfits of different colors and designs were thrown together layer upon layer, creating great masterpieces of confusion.

For the next event students wore hats of varying shapes and colors. A fishbowl with live goldfish in it; a large foam cowboy hat; and a jester hat were a few of the hats displayed.

On Class Colors Day each class was given a specific color. Freshmen wore blue; sophomores, red; juniors, yellow; and seniors were decked out in green. The outfits ranged from a body suit made entirely from Mountain Dew products to tee shirts and jeans in the assorted colors.

Thursday, artificial twins roamed the campus confusing both teachers and friends alike. The majority of the participants were girls and the most common outfit consisted of overalls and matching shirts.

The final event of the week was Sports Day. Soccer, basketball, hockey, and football jerseys were worn on young blooming sports stars all over UCA.

When asked to comment on his opinion of Spirit Week, Troy Davis stated, "They all dressed like maniacs!"

"I liked it 'cause you could wear hats and glasses," said Ben Roth, "and they couldn't do anything about it."

Cassandra Shewmake

New class officers presented

As always, the class officer presentations this year were creative and funny. The officers were elected on October 23 and worked hard that night to come up with inventive ways to introduce themselves. Some of the classes had most of the voting done by the 23rd so that they could turn their full attention to the presentations.

The freshman knighted their officers into their positions for the year. A royal king that was soon to expire, played by Luke Chilson, chose the best mortals for the job. The officer was chosen out of two other possibilities. Bending low, the newly-chosen one received the title of the office that he or she was to hold for the remainder of the year.

The sophomores came about the presentation from the showbiz standpoint. Waltzing gracefully through the crowds of flashing cameras, each newly-appointed officer was decked out in stylish attire as Mr. Jenks announced and interviewed each officer. Starting with the sergeant-at-arms they announced each one in a sophisticated fashion, finishing with the president.

The juniors came bolting down the center of the gym with the spotlight following each appointed. Each officer lunged onto the stage and was shot with a strobe light. After all the officers had made their way to the stage, they were announced again as the junior officers for this year.

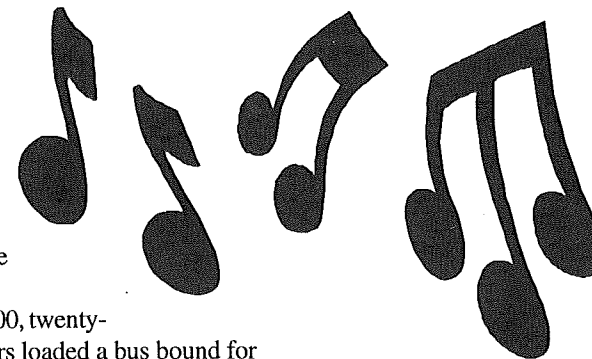
The seniors saved their president from the vicious grips of a felon (Miss McGuire), who didn't stand a chance against the most famous super heroes of all times. Some of the heroes were Superman, Superwoman, Batman, and Duct tape girl. Erin Griffin played the duct tape defender. "It was the stickiest situation of my life," she said.

A fun time was had by all in attendance. Thanks to all the students that put work into this evening, and congratulations to all the new officers.

Mandy Hebard

Choraliers first ever fall tour

On Friday, November 5, 1999, Choraliers left on its first fall tour ever, singing at Stateline school in Milton-Freewater, the Pendleton Church, and the Walla Walla College Church.



Friday morning at 8:00, twenty-nine Choraliers members loaded a bus bound for their first performance off campus this year at Stateline school. After a Taco Bell lunch the singers went to the school, performed a full concert, and left for Pendleton.

The afternoon activity to occupy our free time was roller-skating in Pendleton. While there, Michelle Mayle lost her wallet.

"After returning my skates," Michelle explained, "I looked and looked and couldn't find my wallet anywhere."

Choraliers and the UCA vocal Octet sang before an evangelistic meeting in Pendleton. After the meeting the Choraliers members were dispersed to different homes. Michelle went with Ashley Strickland, also a member of Choraliers. They were heading out of Pendleton bound for Walla Walla when they decided to turn back.

"I was telling Ashley's mom about my wallet," said Michelle, "when, just past the roller rink, she said, 'Let's turn around and double check.' We did, and Ashley found my wallet in the bathroom trash can when she was washing her hands. Finding my wallet was definitely a miracle."

On Sabbath morning Choraliers was able to sing at the Walla Walla College Church for the morning service. The church was packed with people, but the sound made by the group was nevertheless spectacular.

After a lunch in the cafeteria, Choraliers boarded the bus one more time for the trip back to UCA. Mr. Anderson, Choraliers' Director, said the trip was a success. He couldn't have been happier. Neither could the members.

Jon Engelman



CLASS OFFICERS

	Seniors	Juniors	Sophomores	Freshmen
President:	Staj Olson	Bob Renck	Casey Kapphan	Jared Segebartt
Vice President:	Aaron Wagner	Fernando Bautista	Holly Geisinger	Amanda Jehle
Chaplain:	Heather Kuiken	Michelle Mayle	Lindsey Smith	Tori Cook
Secretary:	Raelynn Spady	Ashley Ross	Megan Lacey	Rebecca Burke
Treasurer:	Erin Griffin	Kari Soule	Katie Boothby	Christine Ortega
Chorister:	Lisa Badzik	Ashley Strickland	Alicia Runnals	Lauren Bull
Pianist:	Andrew Perrin	Alecia Stentzel	Christina Jenks	Isaac Wendt
Sergeant-at-Arms:	Marcus Nutter	Colt Van Sky	Jason Campbell	Trenton Roth
Boys' Sports:	Hailu Gabriel	Josh Redburg	Devin Darrough	David Waters
Girls' Sports:	Karen Ellison	Carrie Boothby	Melanie Henneberg	Rhonda Coy



Pastor Wilkens emphasizes a point

Week of faith

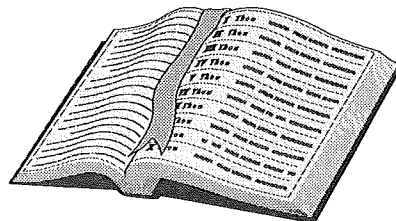
The UCA church was completely silent after Carl Wilkens, UCA's fall Week of Prayer speaker, announced "I quit." Week of Prayer started on the 18th of October and went until the 23rd. There were two meetings a day.

Carl Wilkens said, "Because everyone has already made up their mind whether or not they are going to like week of prayer, I quit." He was not joking either. He quit and let the Lord take over. "It was truly inspirational," said Janna Loss.

He talked about the many struggles God helped him make it through in Rwanda. How God was with him every step of the way even though sometimes it did not seem like it. He also shared some powerful stories in the Bible about God's awesome love for all of us and how all we need is just a little faith.

To end the week, Wilkens talked about the struggles Jesus went through in His last days on earth. The last days were very tough for Him and when He needed comfort the most, He felt forsaken. But to us God promises "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

Randy Johnson



Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
Philippians 4:6

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

Brian Catelli, Jon Engleman, Barry Grussling, Eric Hatton, Mandy Hebard, Mistie Imdieke, Randy Johnson, Brian Jorgenson, Sarah Rogers, Krista Schrader, Cassandra Shewmake, and Stephen Lacey, adviser

Bible conference uplifts students

The NPUC Bible Conference was a spiritual success October 28-31st at a camp located 15 miles from Auburn, Washington.

On Wednesday, the bus of UCA participants arrived at Auburn Adventist Academy for the night. A mourning campus greeted them because only two days before Travis Allen, one of their seniors, had died from leukemia.

Allen had been battling the disease for 10 long months, but it was not a battle lost. Even though Satan had beaten Allen physically, Allen had given it to God and had won the battle for eternity, bringing others to God along his way.

Thursday afternoon, after visiting classes, sponsor Barry Curtis drove the students to the Super Mall for food and a fun afternoon of shopping.

As the different academies arrived Thursday evening at the camp, students hurried to get settled,

registered and to head to the dinner that was being served.

After a quick meeting, Thursday night was spent playing basketball, volleyball, pool, and swimming.

Friday morning after an early rise, students headed to the first meeting at 9:00. *The Messengers* from Walla Walla started it with song service, and Joey Kibble of the group *Take 6* spoke. Kibble talked about how to develop and sustain a passionate relationship with Christ, and how to make God real.

Throughout the remaining meetings, the speakers continued to encourage and help the audience to grow closer to Jesus. "The speakers were very good," said Amanda Parker. And the Holy Spirit was very present.

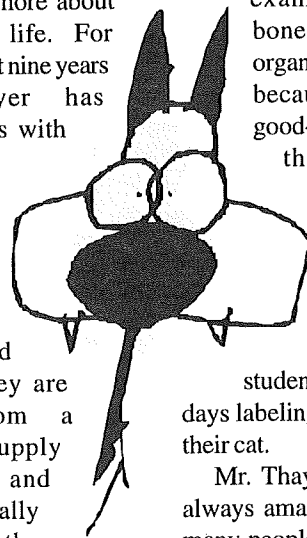
The Bible Conference definitely accomplished its purpose. It helped draw students closer to their Creator and Best Friend.

Krista Schrader

Cats give all for science

The Advanced Biology class has been dissecting cats to learn more about anatomy and life. For eight of the last nine years Gary Thayer has dissected cats with his class. The cats, which cost about \$49.00 each, are around three years old and skinned. They are bought from a biological supply company and shipped, usually by UPS, to the school. Any breed is used. This year there are 31 cats being examined.

In the past, the scientific community has been concerned as to the origin of these cats. For a while it was thought the cats came from the humane society. These cats actually originate in Mexico where they are humanely gassed.



Students, working in groups of two or three, examine muscles, bones, tissues, and organs. Cats are used because they are a good-sized mammal that has many parallels with human composition such as organs and locations. The students spend 12-15 days labeling and exploring their cat.

Mr. Thayer says, "I am always amazed to see how many people are so excited to dissect cats. It is incredible to see how much they learn." During this assignment Mr. Thayer's class uses hundreds of rubber gloves. Over 70 pairs are used daily. When the project is over, the cats are tactfully disposed of in a solid waste disposal facility.

Barry Grussling

Sacrificing our Sundays

Students at Upper Columbia Academy sacrifice their Sundays once every month. This is odd to many, and a burden to others. "I really don't appreciate Sunday school. I need my rest," says Joe Stewart. After all, Sunday is part of the weekend, a time of relaxation and a break from the everyday stress of school and work. Why should we have to go to school on our precious Sundays?

Poor village students are hit extra hard. They lose a day to sleep late. Dorm students still get a late start on Sabbaths, but village students often have to get up early to attend other churches which don't have the UCA church's late starting time of 10:00 a.m.

We can't forget the teachers and other staff members either. They work diligently on Sunday as well. I am sure the staff would rather enjoy the relaxing qualities of Sunday. They need a break from teaching and students. . . . But how bad is Sunday school . . . really? Jeremy Welser says, "I like Sunday school, and getting a long vacation is well worth it."

This is why Sunday school is not such a great sacrifice. You give up one thing you like and receive another that is better. Since Upper Columbia Academy is a boarding school and most of the students are dorm, there are not many chances to get home and see family or friends. Homeleaves address this problem, and Sunday school makes possible that four-and-one-half-day vacation. This is why many people do not mind Sunday school. It is a sacrifice of one day out of a weekend in order to get an extended vacation and more time with family and friends.

Eric Hatton



CONFESSIO

Yes, we made a few mistakes in our second issue. First, Erica Lomeli is not a member of the varsity volleyball team, but **Erica Cruz** is. Then there's the little matter of our blindly following the school calendar and boldly informing all readers that the clocks went back on October 24. They didn't. Lastly, we're not sure what is happening with the student council we wrote about so glowingly. Council members were *not* elected along with class officers. But Student Council does seem to be materializing now, and we are certain it will be a mighty power for good.

Gymnasts support each other

Since finishing tryouts, the 1999 UCA Gymnastics Team has been building, tumbling, and falling as they worked on their routines for their first show in December in Spokane.

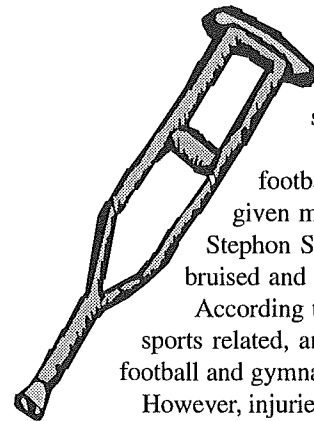
The 30-member team, which includes 15 guys (including two jugglers) and 15 girls, is the biggest team UCA has had recently and the only one bigger had 31 members. Each member is selected after the first few weeks of school during which they have a chance to get familiar with some basic tumbling and pyramids.

After tryouts, the real work began as the team began to put together a show for the 1999-2000 touring season. A typical show runs 45 minutes to an hour but takes several months to put together.

The Gymnastics Team does the most touring of any group on campus. Last year they went on four tours including a five-day trip to Oregon and California, and at the end of the year they put on their annual home show.

Coach John Soule said, "This year's team is the most talented team I have coached." "We get things done faster this year than others," said Raelynn Spady, a three-year veteran of the team. Jessica Mechling, one of the new gymnasts this year, is "learning new stuff and having lots of fun."

Brian Jorgenson



Students limp across campus

After just a couple of months of school, nineteen students from UCA had been injured.

One student, Michelle Mayle, received a concussion playing football, which put her out of commission for one week. She was given medication and told to get plenty of rest. Another student, Stephon Schulze, was in gymnastics class when his collarbone was bruised and tendons torn.

According to John Soule, about 80% of the injuries here at school are sports related, and the two sports with the highest number of injuries are football and gymnastics.

However, injuries can happen away from sports events too. Nicole Hori was getting a little exercise running across the front campus and twisted her ankle. Tori Cook, who was playing basketball, bent down and her knee popped. "I think I will be a little more careful next time I play a game," she said. She will have to have surgery on her knee later in the year. Another student, Amber Hayden-Gates, was jumping up and down excitedly and dislocated her knee.

Like all schools, UCA is tries to lower the risk of injury by establishing rules governing things ranging from flip-flops and skateboards to frayed electrical cords. It seems almost certain, though, that limping students will remain a regular sight at school.

Mistie Imdieke

Thanksgiving remembered

The Pilgrims first celebrated Thanksgiving in mid-October of 1621. Thanksgiving was not celebrated for many years after that. It did not become a national holiday for over 200 years. Today, Thanksgiving is the holiday that brings more families together and closer than any other holiday.

A group of Pilgrims was fleeing religious persecution in 1609. They moved to Holland where they prospered. However, their children began speaking Dutch and had become attached to the Dutch lifestyle. The Pilgrims feared the Dutch ideas would threaten their children's education and morality.

The Pilgrims agreed to work seven years for the Merchant Adventures in exchange for a trip to the New World. They set sail on September 6, 1620, and did not see land for 65 days. The Pilgrims landed in November, just in time for winter. Out of the 110 people who landed, less than 50 survived the winter.

On March 16, 1621, an Abnaki Indian who spoke English walked into the Pilgrims settlement. Samoset left the next day, but returned shortly with Squanto, another Indian who spoke

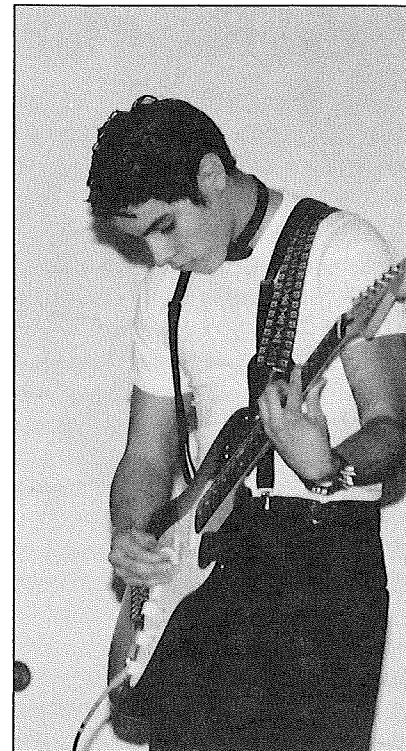
English. Squanto had visited England and Spain and was fluent in English.

Squanto saved the Pilgrims. He taught them how to tap maple trees for sap, how to plant Indian corn and other crops, and to know which plants were edible and which ones had medicinal powers.

By mid-October the Pilgrims had a plentiful harvest that would last them all winter. They had built homes and they were at peace with their Indian neighbors. To celebrate, Governor William Bradford proclaimed a day of thanksgiving that was to be shared by all colonists and neighboring Indians. Chief Massasoit and 90 braves attended the celebration that lasted for three days. They played games, ran races, marched and played drums, and, of course, they feasted.

The next year was a hard year for the colonists, and in 1622 there was no Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving was lost for many years. Then in 1854, William Bradford's *Of Plymouth Plantation* was rediscovered, creating great American interest in the history of the Pilgrims.

President Abraham Lincoln finally made Thanksgiving a national holiday

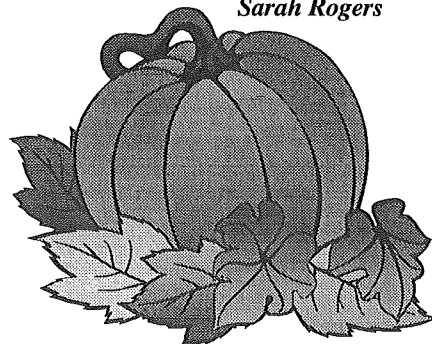


Erik Thomsen

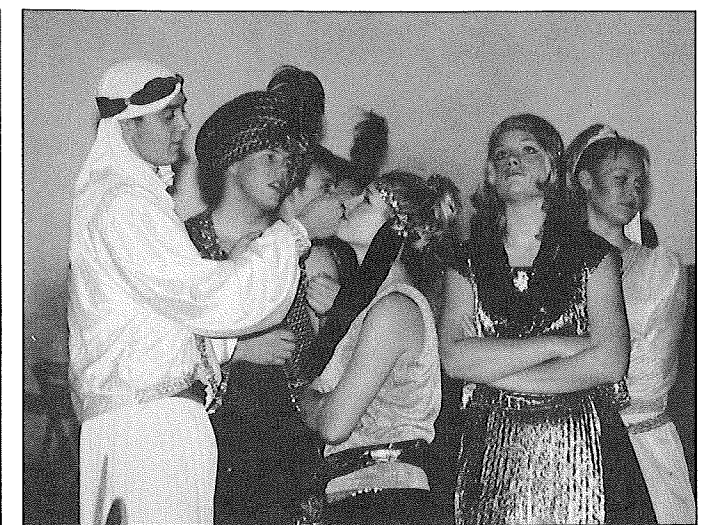
with his 1863 Thanksgiving Proclamation, designating the last Thursday of November as Thanksgiving Day. In 1939, President Franklin Roosevelt changed it to the fourth Thursday of November so that Thanksgiving would never be the fifth Thursday of the month. It was over two hundred years after the first Thanksgiving that Thanksgiving became a national holiday.

Thanksgiving helps people slow down for as Mrs. Davis said, "We get so busy we forget to be thankful for the things we really should be thankful for. Thanksgiving gives us a chance to remember them." For Kimberly Maxted it is the family traditions that are carried out every Thanksgiving that make the holiday special.

Sarah Rogers



Mr. Jenks and Pastor Riffel



Group 8



Heidi Corder



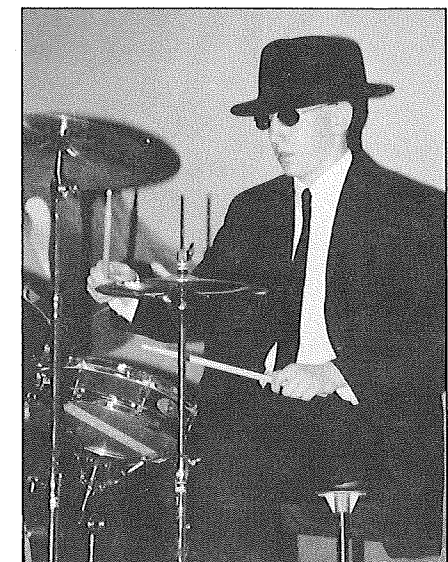
Jennifer Swisher and Stephanie Dyer



Sandra Van Doren



Michael Lopez and Dean Young



Bob Renck

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Perhaps real and imagined millennial fears will make people less concerned this Christmas about buying or receiving the perfect gift. Maybe they won't worry so much about that perfect meal, party, or vacation. The lights on the house might be left a little askew. Could this rare moment in time lead people to remember that wondrous moment with eternal consequences that happened long ago in Bethlehem? Will they think of God's unspeakably valuable and perfect gift to the world that rejected Him? Let's hope so.

As we remember how Christ opened the gates to eternity so we could step through, let's be thankful and rejoice. Merry Christmas.

