

THE ECHOES

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Upper Columbia Academy, Spangle, Washington

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Chattering teeth sing joyfully

The soft tinkle of laughter is heard in the distance. The crunch of hard-packed snow against feet echoes in the air as carolers go door to door. They come to spread Christmas cheer and raise money for disaster relief. Ingathering is a special time of year, a time to spread God's love in a gracious and practical way.

Students at UCA have good memories of ingathering. They feel it has been a blessing to everyone involved. They like seeing the smiling faces of children as they peeked around their parent's legs. It was fun to look at all the Christmas lights, the snowmen, the reindeer, and the mailboxes wrapped up like candycanes. Best of all was the joy that lit up the elderly faces when the group sang "Joy to the World." After the students were finished, they would come back to the school for hot drinks and cookies.

This year ingathering went well. UCA students have raised approximately \$700. Sarah Artz said, "It was excruciatingly cold, but fun."

Sarah Holmes

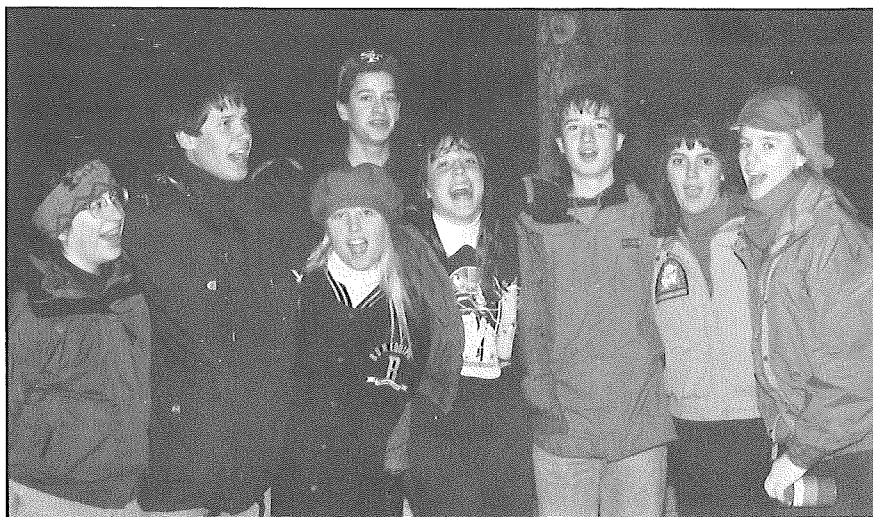
Dorm lighted

Front campus took on new light. Strings of red and green lights flashed color across the snow. The men's dorm, in particular, was decorated out front to a near inch of its life. The deans went to great *panes* to light the windows. Even a christmas-tree-like structure was erected on top of the dorm.

The girl's dorm was also decorated. Not as many lights were visible from the outside. They decorated their rooms. Ceilings, walls, and beds had interlacing lights creating the perfect study atmosphere while Christmas music streamed from every door (ha-ha).

Christmas is a time to remember Christ. He came to give us a true example of how we can let our lights shine out in the dark!

Charley Coleman



Sara Grable, Braden Pewitt, Amy Wesner, Doug Kincaid, Shenalyn Horning, Michael Messervy, Jennifer Larson and Johanna Reeve show the caroling spirit

77 Children leave happily

Music was playing in the background. There was a stage with presents piled high. Students milled around the cafeteria waiting for their guests to arrive. 77 children from a variety of different backgrounds and ranging from ages two through twelve started filing into the cafeteria around 5:00. Noisy, quiet, large, small--all types of children were there.

It was the annual ASB Christmas Banquet, and the festivities started with supper: pizza, salad, and a choice of drinks. Then Mr. Thayer called the children up to Santa's lap (who happened to be Mr. Soulé) to have their picture taken and receive their presents. After that, the children went back to their UCA student host and opened up their presents. While the children opened their presents, the students saw the happiness the gifts brought.

Hopefully, this Christmas, not only the UCA students, but other people, too, knew what it was like to give to those less- fortunate.

Rose Brower



Sunny triggers deluge Register this

It was another sunny, cool fall day. There was a light dusting of snow and a cool breeze. As I entered the Ad. building, I noticed a fellow student, Sunny Hornby, sitting in a wheelchair. At first glance, it looked as if he was just playing around, but with further investigation I noted that both his feet were in special shoes. Sunny had undergone an operation to remove pieces of bone from both of his ankles. Then, like water through a breaking dam, questions flooded my mind. Questions that I had never bothered to contemplate before. How does he get around on the slippery sidewalks? How does he go to classes on the second floor of the Ad. building? How does he get to his dorm room? There was only one answer: students had to help. Students aided Sunny by carrying him and his wheelchair up stairs. To go down, a student would hold on to his wheelchair as he bounced down the steps.

Handicapped access at UCA is limited to the ground floors of the Ad. building and both dorms. Only the gym and music building have full access for the handicapped. Students with limited handicaps do attend UCA. Fortunately, there has never been an instance when a fully handicapped student has applied. Because UCA is a private school, it has never been required to install handicapped access to their existing buildings.

One solution to the problem would be the new Ad. building that is planned. The new building would provide complete access for all people. The lack of handicapped access is just another prime example of why Upper Columbia Academy needs a new Administration building.

Matt Evans

If ignorance is bliss, why aren't more people happy?

Sparkling eyes and a smiling face were in the registrar's office today. They will be there to greet visitors for the rest of the year.

Mrs. Marsh became the new registrar in October after Mrs. Pascoe moved to Portland. She chose to work as registrar because she enjoys working with kids and her education and business background gave her confidence for the job. This job gives her a lot of opportunity to work with kids and to expand her experience.

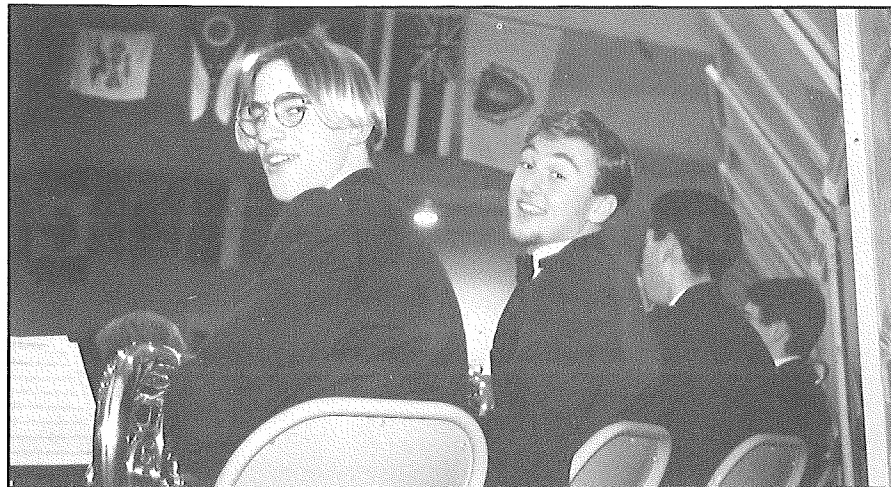
Mrs. Marsh says she comes into the office around 8:00 a.m. and finishes work at 6:00 p.m. on weekdays and at noon on Friday. During the day she visits with students and parents, or talks to other schools, and she works on the computer. She is in the process of learning three different computer programs.

This job has made her life much busier. Not only is she registrar, but she is also still working in communications. It has been hard trying to arrange her schedule while working both jobs, says Mrs. Marsh. However, she is becoming much more efficient in both jobs. She says she enjoys the work and is learning quickly.

Phil Cromwell



Mrs. Marsh



Chris Swisher and Jason Neil take a break during the Christmas concert

Christmas music plays

On the weekend before Christmas break there were two very festive Christmas concerts. Friday night the choir and choraliers beautifully sang some spiritual carols along with the favorite of many, "The Hallelujah Chorus."

On Saturday night a secular concert was held. This concert included the band, flute ensemble, keyboard students, choir and choraliers. This concert also included a Christmas reading from Mr.

Lacey. One of the special events in the concert was the student band director, Grant Flaiz, who directed the "Nutcracker Spectacular," a song with excerpts from the "Nutcracker Suite." After the concert everyone was invited by the administration to attend a reception in the cafeteria.

Although there was rain instead of the usual snow, this weekend was a wonderful way to get everyone in the Christmas spirit.

Alisa Bowker

They take it apart

It lies within us all, that curious carnal desire to rip things apart and find out what's inside. Biology teachers revel in the insides of pickled frogs, piglets, worms, and other hapless creatures that have fallen prey to the preservative qualities of formaldehyde. Dissection is a major part of the learning experience even though it is performed rarely. It shows students, in a direct way, the inner workings of living organisms and helps them to understand better how their own bodies work.

Contrary to popular belief among many parents, dissection is often a highlight of the school year for students under the supervision of a mad scientist like Mr. Thayer. When confronted about the subject, Thayer was evasive, but did say that it was a popular activity with most of the students.

A few students, however, do not enjoy the art of dissection as much as the rest of their obviously-disgusting classmates. It usually isn't too bad though. Only two students are reported to have passed out during dissection, and they were not feeling well to begin with.

Dissection is an experience that students carry with them for the rest of their lives. They will never forget it. They will wake up in the middle of the night sweating, still almost smelling formaldehyde. The memory of a maniacal laugh fades slowly and sends them drifting back to sleep.

Zach Mason

Dunamus takes Newport by storm

Sit here with me so we can practice our lines!"

"Can we stop so I can visit the little girl's room?"

"I'm so excited; I can hardly wait!"

The comments, questions, and general hullabaloo echoed against the tin walls as Dunamus, the drama club, boarded the bus. They were headed on their way to Newport for their very first off-campus tour!

The drama club was full of excitement down to the last nerve as they contemplated their first off-campus performance. "We're gonna have so much fun!" one member commented. The bus left campus at shortly after 3:00 p.m. on Friday, December 9, to provide vespers for the Newport SDA church.

The group was greeted with a special treat when they arrived. Terry and Kathy Phillips, Sidney's parents, invited all 24 drama members to have supper with them in their home. The delicious home-cooked meal was a high point of the tour, as was the dessert.

The vespers itself consisted of four plays, discussion groups, and special music by Becky Quiring and Sarah Holmes. It was, in all, a tremendous success, and Dunamus is looking forward to more off-campus tours in the future.

Sarah Artz

The school's vehicle fleet expanded during Christmas vacation. A 1973 MCI bus was purchased. The bus adds to the fleet that has already grown this year by three pick-ups and a van, and there is a possibility that another van will be purchased.

Buying from state and army surplus made the vehicles good buys.

the ECHOES is a regular publication of Upper Columbia Academy, a non-profit Seventh-day Adventist boarding high school, Spangle, Washington 99031

This issue's contributors included: Sarah Artz, Alisa Bowker, Rose Brower, Kambra Buell, Rosemary Casareale, Charley Coleman, Angel Cox, Philip Cromwell, Matt Evans, Broc Finkbinder, Sarah Holmes, Zach Mason, Vashti Munson, Junelle Pellow, Amy Robinson, Justin Smith, Sarah Syth, Jennifer Wikoff, and Stephen Lacey, sponsor

Congratulations to Marty Schaffer for winning 1st place in a cutting contest held at Spokane Community College. Seven high schools and over 47 students participated in the competition. Marty won a cutting-welding set-up for his good work.

Girls show basketball ability

The sign for girls' varsity basketball tryouts read, "Be prepared to perspire or expire." The sign wasn't joking. When all twenty-five girls assembled Monday, Nov. 28, in the gym, McGuire worked them hard. First off was running lines, then came running laps forwards, backwards, and side-ways while dribbling with their non-dominant hands. The girls then had to play a scrimmage game and make three free throws before they could leave.

McGuire had the girls meet again Monday, Nov. 29, and Thursday, Dec. 1. More lines and drills were completed with sweat and tears. Most girls thought the tryouts would be over by Thursday night, Dec. 1, and the team chosen soon after. But Miss McGuire had another idea. Monday, Dec. 5, the girls met again and received a sheet of plays to be memorized by the following Thursday night when there would be a test to see how well each girl could perform the plays with teammates. Eventually the team will be chosen. It was a very hard decision.

Vashti Munson

BMG brings down the house

Selling music is a multi-million dollar business, and companies have had to think of ways to get ahead of their competition in the music industry. Two such companies are BMG and Columbia House. They have deals good enough to snag any thrifty music shopper. "8 CDs for the price of one," says BMG. Columbia House claims "8 CDs for one penny." This is like going into a local music store and buying one CD. Then the clerk reminds the customer, "Oh, don't forget your additional 7 **FREE** CDs."

BMG's offer is fairly straightforward. A customer has the choice of 4 CDs free. After buying one at regular price within a year, he can choose 3 more free. That's it. There is no further obligation to buy from BMG. The customer can choose to remain a member. A member can buy one CD at regular price and get more CDs of equal or lesser value at 50%

off. Columbia House's service is very much the same, but the customer must buy six CDs at regular prices within one year after the initial 8 for one penny.

But is BMG's and Columbia House's service to the customer the same? BMG goes out of their way for the customer. Many students have said that BMG is easy-going and hassle-free. A problem will arrive with a shipment, and BMG will be glad to correct it. They'll even replace a faulty CD with no questions asked. But Columbia House has been described as a company that doesn't care about their customers. Their commercials on TV show an American company "entertaining America, one person at a time." With their all-American advertisements and personal ways of doing business, it would seem that they are doing their best to please the customer. But give Columbia House time.

Some former customers here at U.C.A. say that it didn't take long before Columbia House became annoying. If a customer doesn't buy any selections for a long time, Columbia House begins to press the customer to buy. If a selection is sent back, Columbia House begins to get irritated even more. If several selections get sent back, Columbia House is ready to cancel the membership completely. There is no "Good bye, Joe Customer. Thanks for helping to pay our salaries." At the bottom of the company's notice of cancellation will be an employee's name and his position, "Collection Manager." There is really no contest. BMG comes out far ahead in customer satisfaction. Columbia House harasses their customer until the frustrated customer fires them. Columbia House should pack up and go back home.

Broc Finkbiner

Inside snowboarding culture

Snowboarding looks like a blast and everyone who's done it says it is, so it must be true! Well, I talked to a couple of snowboarders and they told me lots of stuff. First of all, there are many different kinds of boards, and they vary in length according to the boarder's weight and height. Freestyles are the most popular and come in lengths from 135 cm to 155 cm and are more flexible than the raceboards.

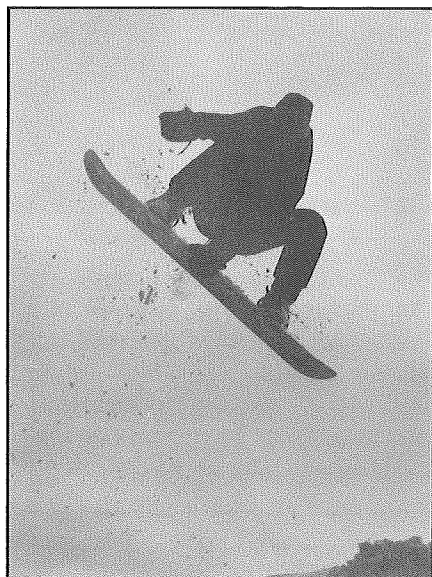
One day, I was looking through a Transworld snowboarding magazine, which has lots of neat pictures of cabbages, old ladies with poofy hair, and snowboarders going down slopes I wouldn't even try to climb down, and came across the Handy Dandy Board Finder. This could be a very helpful thing to a person who didn't know much about snowboarding. It was a little chart that asked you questions such as how much you weighed, how many boards you could afford, where you board the most and stuff like that. Then it told you what board to buy.

My sources also revealed the secret code language of snowboarders. Underneath a series of pictures in Transworld it said "Frontside 180 rewind." Huh? Well, here's the translation according to one of my snowboarder sources: "Ok, see, ya go off this jump, and then you do, like, a 180, you know, a half circle, and then you go back, like, reverse it." Stupid me. I should have KNOWN. There are a lot of other slang terms floating around, too. "Goofy" is when you ride with your right foot forward, "regular" is when you ride with your left foot forward, and "ollie" is when you bounce the board.

According to my knowledgeable sources, a person could get famous snowboarding. There's Shannon Dunn. She's famous and she's a girl too, so that's pretty cool because from what I've seen, snowboarding seems to be a male-dominated sport. And then there's Terje Haackensen. We don't know where he's from, but we know that he's not from around here.

My sources also informed me of a sad circumstance. They said that snowboarders and skiers don't always get along. In fact, there seems to be some real animosity going on here. This is definitely a SAD THING, especially since they have to share the slopes. Apparently there have been situations where snowboarders and skiers have actually called each other naughty names. Can't we all just GET ALONG?

Rosemary Casareale



Daniel Greenlaw blasts off the jump on the world-famous Mount Spangle run. Greenlaw and other enthusiasts enjoyed the snow before the great pre-Christmas thaw and rain.

Asleep in the dorm

Sleep is the restorer of life and the ultimate healer. Sick people have been miraculously healed just by sleeping. But when the right to sleep becomes a rare thing, it is time to stand up and take action to preserve the right to sleep.

Sleep here at UCA can not be properly explained or its importance given in just a few paragraphs. After all, some Seniors sleep all day and others sleep only a few hours a night. There are students that stay up all night and sleep all morning while others who stay up all night go to class in the morning.

The Junior year is the roughest for sleep. Juniors must get up every day at 6:00 a.m. and face the heaviest class load. Getting up so early really shortens the possible sleep time. Who doesn't look forward to a long night's sleep after a rigorous day at classes and work? That sleep heals and gives the information learned that day a chance to sink into the brain. That is why sleep is so important.

But every person asked about sleep here at UCA said they did not get enough. This included people who get 9-12 hours a night. Sleep is just something that students cannot get enough of.

Justin Smith

Rec Ski Rocks

Every winter when the snow falls, the same questions are asked time and time again, "Have you gone skiing yet?" "When can we go skiing?" The anticipation is the same for snow boarders and skiers. The first snow this year again found skiers and snow boarders alike out on the hill behind the church getting air off any jump or bump they could find.

The hill behind the church can not suffice for the whole school of snow boarders and skiers; therefore, the school has created a plan to help us all out. Olin Peach has sponsored Rec Ski for at least 15 years. Every year the school gives a chance for the students to go skiing at Silver Mountain, Schweitzer and Red Mountain in Canada.

It only costs \$155 to go on Rec Ski six times in the ski season. After the last ski day, participants go out for pizza and can eat as much as they want, including dessert pizza. But the best part is that attending five out of the six times, gets class credit for doing what we love best. If you miss a ski trip for some odd reason (your dog gets sick or you are too tired to wake up that early in the morning), the school will refund your money. Therefore, it's a win-win situation.

There are always two bus loads of bundled-up students early Sunday morning sleepily dragging their skis and boards to the bus. Now and then some late soul will come flying out of the dorm half-dressed, tripping over whatever equipment they're going to use for the day, trying to catch the bus before it leaves. Most of the time they catch it, but sometimes they are left and are stuck in the dorm with nothing to do on a clear, crisp Sunday when they know the snow is powder and everyone is having fun without them. You miss out when you're late.

On the slope you may run into fellow classmates, sometimes literally. Several accidents have happened causing broken jaws, collar bones and noses. All this has happened from running into walking trees and getting hit by flying rocks (But most bizarre was the time Andy Toms, a senior last year, broke his jaw in a collision with the Spangle fire chief). But every one has fun no matter what may happen and always wants to go again.

When the ski day is over and the buses load up at 4:30, everyone is pooped and ready for a fun ride back to the dorms on the dimly-lit busses. This is surely an adventure for everyone.

Angel Cox

Hard work pays off

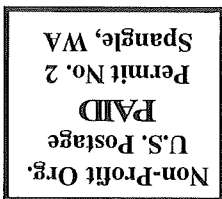
Yes, holiday season came again, and to many girls (and guys) it was the season to gain some weight. Who can help it with all those chocolate, cookies, cakes, fudges, brownies, and other 500-calorie treats? Oftentimes the students struggle with this problem. They try to find some way of exercising and dieting that will fit their busy schedules here at school. However, it is hard to do aerobics in a dorm room with such limited space, and have you ever tried to jog in the dorm? With so many different personalities, it becomes frustrating trying to do something that will not annoy at least one person.

It is obvious that there is a problem. Or at least there was a problem. There has always been a recreation room on the 3rd floor of the girls' dorm with a few weights here and there but nothing that you could use for serious exercising. But now, thanks to the 2:54 PM Interior Design class, there is a pleasant atmosphere and better equipment in the room to work with. The class painted and put a new treadmill, stationary bike, and free weights in the room.

The class also has redone the 2nd floor television room. It was painted and new couches were bought along with a study table, lamps, and hanging pictures. A television and VCR were purchased for both the television room and the exercising room for those who have exercise tapes they would wish to use to work off those unwanted pounds. However, the televisions have not yet been set up because of a lack of communication before they were bought.

The girls have sold Christmas ornaments and their Amateur Hour has helped somewhat with the costs of these items. However, the full cost has not yet been covered. The dorm hopes to raise enough money so that they can enjoy the televisions. Yet, if the costs can not be met, the items will be returned.

Sarah Syth



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THE
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The magic lingers on

The night air was crisp outside but warmth enveloped the cafeteria on the evening of December 11, 1994. It was the annual Christmas Banquet and the air was buzzing with excitement and anticipation.

The winter wonderland scenery set the quiet mood. Real trees of all shapes and sizes, green or snowy white, filled the room with

Christmas cheer. Yet the atmosphere was subdued by the dim light of twinkling candles.

This year's splendid banquet was put on by the Boy's Dorm Council. They arranged everything from decorations to the menu and entertainment.

The four-course meal was served on real china dishes and served by staff and students. Each table had two servers and the meal ran smoothly and quickly. The menu was exquisite. Some things were new to some but were a welcome change from everyday food. The desserts were rich and delicious and enjoyed by everyone.

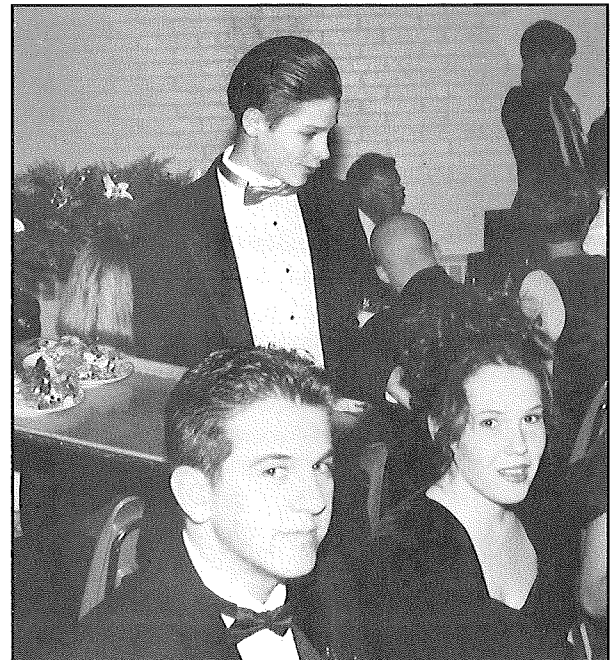
When Grant Flaiz was asked, prior to the banquet, what the entertainment would be like, he said there was going to be a wide variety of music. He gave it his personal guarantee of excellence. The featured performers included Jon Larson on the Sax, The Trumpet Trio, Geoffrey Greenway and Chris James with a piano duet, the famous quartet (Mr. Jenks, Zach Mason, Jason Smith, and Charley Coleman) with a medley of songs, and Grant Flaiz singing "Blue Christmas".

While the evening was still young, most everyone headed for the gym to watch *The Grinch That Stole Christmas* and *It's A Wonderful Life*.

It was not required to have a date for the banquet and many people did not. There were several tables with a group of single friends. For those that did not feel like going to the formal banquet there was an informal banquet held. They took on the party theme and served pizza and watched a movie.

And so another Christmas Banquet has come and gone. The decorations have all been put away and the cafeteria put back to normal. But for many, the memories will take a lot longer to fade.

Kambra Buell



Chad Vercio practices his five-star serving skills at the banquet while Shannon Bowerman and Sidney Phillips wait patiently