

Lange Hall

December 16, the choral department along with the elementary school bell choir gave the 60th annual sacred Christmas program twice so it could be held in the church rather than the gymnasium.

The following night during the secular concert, members of the Student Council presented Mr. and Mrs. Lange with a plaque announcing the music building would be named after Mr. Lange who is retiring from his position as band director at the end of the school year.



ASB makes a Christmas for kids

by Kati Winkle

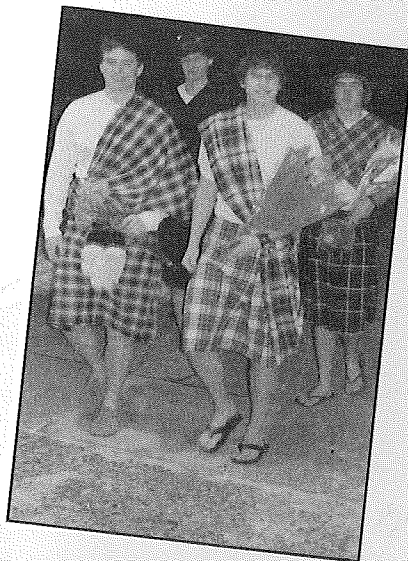
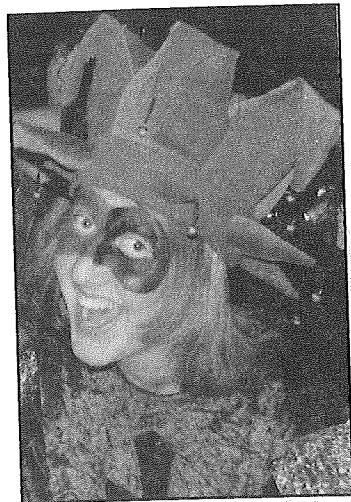
Some students and the ASB team helped to make some less fortunate kids' Christmas a little better. They held a Christmas party at the Salvation Army in downtown Spokane.

As all the children started to line up outside the doors to register and get name tags, it was easy to see they were excited about what would hap-

pen in the hours to come. First they were taken to JC Penney to choose new clothes and shoes. While they were away, many different fun booths were set up in the Salvation Army gym. There were booths for darts and fishing and tossing games and there was even a pinata. Cotton candy and pizza were served to satisfy their appetites.

At each booth every contestant won a prize. Laughter and screaming filled the gym as the children raced from booth to booth.

As the night died down, a quick glance at the smashed cotton candy and wrappers on the floor made it clear Christmas had been a little bit more special for the children.



Girls' Club Christmas banquet

by Rhonda Prokopetz

The evening of December 4 was not a regular Sunday night on campus. The air was full of nervous excitement. At five o'clock, guys started to file into the girls' dorm lobby. Their dates were called over the intercom and nervous screams filled the hallways as one by one girl's names were announced.

Everyone filed into the cafeteria and chose their seats. Laughter and small talk mingled with the excitement in the air, and many couples started to line up for pictures, many dressed for the medieval theme. Finally it was time to eat and Coach Soulé offered the blessing and began to dismiss tables.

The kitchen staff definitely outdid themselves with the banquet meal. The food was extravagant. Becky Perdew's favorite were the fish-shaped vegemeat pastries. The noise quieted down as everyone enjoyed the meal.

At about seven o'clock, everyone formed into two lines, and groups of twelve left the cafeteria and walked to the front of the girls' dorm where a limo was waiting. Most people who attended the banquet agree that the limo ride was the highlight of the night. The limo dropped the groups off at the gym where everyone was encouraged to get their dessert from a selection of cheesecakes.

By the time everyone had settled down in the gym, it was about quarter to eight. Then the evening's entertainment, a program of vocals, instrumentals, skits and a short movie clip, began.

After the program, people began to file out while others stayed around to get a few last-minute pictures. Many amazing banquet memories were made.

Saving lives

by Canda Lodge

On Tuesday, December 6, students milled around a table in the cafeteria to sign up at the last minute to give blood donations. Earlier, during a joint worship, the students had been shown videos of interviews of kids whose lives had been saved by donated blood from ordinary, everyday people like them. So, inspired by those stories, many students went forward and signed up, eager to help people in need.

When the Inland Northwest Blood Center van arrived on campus, students were ready. Inside the Power House, Mrs. Corder checked to make sure all students had parental consent then waved them on to the next table where they were given more paperwork by helpful volunteers. A sheet filled with crucial questions set the sobering mood as the students one by one trekked out to the van.

Once inside the van, students were offered water and ushered into a tiny room where a finger was pricked for a blood sample. Some students claim the finger prick hurt more than the actual drawing of blood. Next, the students reclined in what looked like semi-reclining leather car seats. A volunteer took their blood pressure and made a mark where the vein was. Then a rather large needle was injected.

If a student did not eat well or drink enough water that day, he or she may have started to feel dizzy or sick, but not too many were affected that way. Some did feel side effects, but afterward all of them declared the whole experience to be "worth it."

If you didn't give blood and feel guilty now... good! The INBC will be back in the spring for another life-saving blood drive.

Acting up

by Anthony James

Yes, folks, it was that time of year again. Snow filled the air and lights twinkled cheerily as the UCA campus prepared for the Christmas season. However, while most students and faculty stuck with stringing lights and singing off-tune to Relient-K's new Christmas album, there were some who chose to celebrate the holiday a new way.

Led by Tyler Morgan, the drama team (plus a few extras) decided to show their Christmas spirit by performing the play *Humbug* at the South Hill church in Spokane. With scripts in hand and only a few weeks to practice, the team went right to the task.

Lines were memorized (and promptly forgotten), costumes were located, and transitions were practiced. Makeup specialists (Canda Lodge to be precise) were brought in, and the directors spent many a minute pulling their hair out, trying to keep performers in line. Bedlam prevailed, but soon the pieces fell together revealing a finished masterpiece.

The night of December 9, the actors were shipped off in small crates and boxes to the South Hill church, itching to perform their best. Makeup specialist Canda promptly began to slather mountains of coverup and eyeliner on anyone within reach, including guys, and then with a word of prayer, the program began.

It went well, and only a few lines were forgotten. Christmas became real for the Drama Team as they portrayed the true meaning of Christmas spirit. Christmas was felt by all.



Emily Muthersbaugh shares information with other Drama Club members, Jon Gardner, Rebekah Ferguson, and Jessica Heiser before a performance of *Humbug* for joint worship in the girls' dorm chapel on December 15

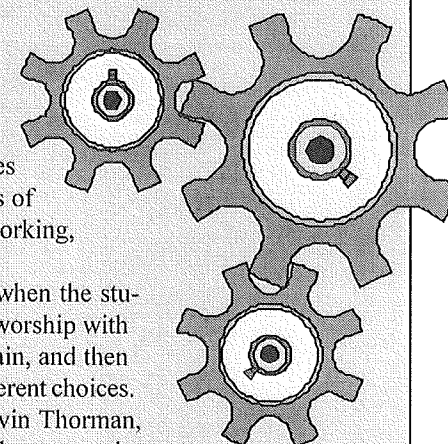
Students discover fields of technology

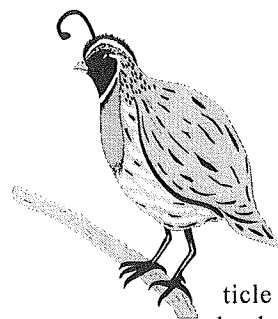
by Eddie McCune

The 2nd annual Technology Fair was hosted by Upper Columbia Academy on November 15. Over 180 students from 10 different academies came to learn about different aspects of technology such as welding, woodworking, and auto CAD.

It was a cold November day when the students arrived on campus. They had worship with Pastor Fred Riffel, the school chaplain, and then signed up for two classes from 10 different choices. Charles Paulson, Karen Mann, Marvin Thorman, Walla Walla College instructors and some students from UCA helped teach during the workshop. Automotive, Aviation, Auto CAD, Sewing, Fluid Power-Automation, Photography, Robotics, Desktop Publishing, Woods Technology and Welding were classes offered at this fair. "I was in charge of a small group in the wood shop where the students learned how to use tools safely and effectively," said Michael Tupper, one of the UCA student helpers. "Thankfully no one was hurt and everybody seemed to have a good time."

Karen Mann, UCA Home Ec. teacher, introduced students to the latest in designing and creative embroidery. Each student in her class made a jean tote bag and embroidered their name onto a pocket. "They were amazed with what they were able to create, and I had a fun time teaching them how to sew," Karen Mann said. "I heard positive feedback from parents, student and teachers. I think the fair was a big success and everyone had a great time," said Charles Paulson, the event coordinator.





Birding on campus

by Jonathan Woodruff

As many of you know, Michael Woodruff recently was featured in an article printed in the *Spokesman Review*. A hardcore birder with a life list of 626 species, Michael spends much of his free time watching, studying, and listing birds. "Since I was eight, I've had a huge fascination and interest in birds. It's my sport," says Michael.

Since the start of this school year, Michael has seen 87 species on the UCA campus. In just three months he has already identified more species than the Marsh's did in four years. (Larry Marsh was an avid birder and UCA's principal.) Marsh's list, which totals only 69 species, combines with Michael's for a total of 117 different species on the campus, and as we get into different seasons, Michael will undoubtedly add to the list.

Michael enters his UCA lists into an online database called eBird. "It generates coded bar graphs that let me see at a glance the abundance of any species for a particular time of year," says Michael. With photography being another of his hobbies, Michael has taken hundreds of bird pictures on campus. Many of these can be seen on his website at www.flickr.com/photos/nightjar.

Sick of sick list

by Jennifer Dovich

When you're feeling downright exhausted, are coughing constantly, and your throat burns, sick list is your friend. Many people hate the idea of being cooped up in their rooms all day, but for those who are feeling under the weather, it's so nice. Being in your room all day allows you to rest up, catch up on some needed sleep, and relax your aching muscles... plus it helps start the healing process for whatever ailment you've got.

One thing that makes it harder for those who actually are sick is all the people who go on sick list faking that they are sick. Students do it to get out of classes, quizzes, or tests. It's so aggravating! Sick list exists for those who need it, not for those who are just feeling lazy. It makes it so unfair to those who really need to go on sick list. Getting help from the nurse takes forever because there is a long line of waiting people, half of them not needing to go on sick list.

Even though sick list is nice when you are really sick, it's better to just not get sick in the first place. It's really hard not to get sick during the winter, though, with all of the cold weather and snow. My advice would be to wear warm clothes (get rid of your shorts and flip-flops). Two other helpful strategies would be to stay away from the sugar and make sure you drink plenty of water.

Amateur Hour

by Sonja McDowell

On November 12, Amateur Hour, organized this year by the Boys' Club, again revealed great student talent in voice, instrument, piano and skit.

This year's theme was the 1950's. To some staff it may have brought back memories, but to UCA students it brought competition.

Students said they had a lot of fun at Amateur Hour but also wished there could have been more acts to improve the competition. Others, as usual, wanted more drums and guitars, but the students all agreed that Amateur Hour was good.

Conference celebrates 125 years

by Ashlee Morrill

Recognition for 125 years of the Upper Columbia Conference was held at UCA on November 11 and 12. For this event there were guest speakers, special music, and a Conference anniversary presentation.

"No Fear!" was the theme for this Family Fellowship Festival. Guest speakers, Arpad and Adela Soo, gave personal testimonies about their immigration from Romania, and told how God blessed them financially so they could become a blessing to others through their personal ministry.

Music was provided by the UCA Choir and guest singer T. Marshall Kelly, and in the afternoon, Patsy Wagner gave a presentation about the birth of the Conference.

For the youth, a feature presented by staff from Walla Walla College was held in the in the Power House. Singing, accompanied by guitars, violins, and enthusiastic youth, along with fellowship, filled the afternoon.

Throughout the Festival, continuous demonstrations of dedication to our Conference were exhibited.



The traditional Monty Python skit



Bob Gabel and Nick Johnson ask Who's on First?



David Mack and Tommy Poole with UCA Blues

Dispelling free labor myths

by Bethani King

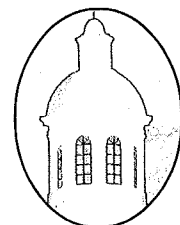
Free labor – those two words alone can make almost any UCA student cringe. Whether it's as simple as sanitizing door knobs, or as grisly as scrubbing mold off shower walls, the time factor alone is repulsive to anyone with a demanding social calendar. The threat of free labor makes students run across the grass on the way to vespers, or cram everything on the floor under beds and into closets before room check.

Not all of this dread is fairly merited, however. To some, the phrase "free labor" conjures up a hazy image of endlessly scrubbing door jams with a toothbrush. A more typical free labor assignment would be sweeping the stairwells or sterilizing computer keyboards.

Even so, it's not just the students that don't appreciate free labor. According to Christina Jenks, Task Force Dean of Girls and free labor coordinator, "Free labor is a pain in the neck. It's more hassle for us than students may realize. I just wish people would be good and go to their meetings!"

The remaining question would be, "Why DO we have free labor if neither side is fond of it?"

The only satisfactory answer to this comes from Shari Fogelquist, head janitor of the girls' dorm. "Some stuff just needs to be done, and the janitors don't have time to do it all."



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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Sonja McDowell, Ashlee Morrill,
Dayton Osborn, Rhonda Prokopetz,
Jessica Purviance, Lauren Stingl,
Kati Winkle, Jonathan Woodruff,
and Stephen Lacey, advisor

AMATEUR HOUR WINNERS

Grand Prize:	Brendan Hay
People's Choice:	David Mack & Tommy Poole
Instrumental:	Jonathan Woodruff
Piano:	Aletha Woodruff
Skit:	Bob Gable & Nick Johnson
Vocal:	Rhonda Prokopetz & Elliot LaPlante
50's Costume:	Katie Lenz & John Lubke



Amber Whitman sits with Agnes Gilbert, an elderly lady a HOPE group often visits

Weekend RA's pull through

by Dayton Osborn

Starting from 7:00 PM on Friday and often lasting until 3:00 PM on Sunday, the weekend RA's are on the go. Chris Lawson is an RA that has had to fight it out during weekends while everyone else danced around and had fun.

The job may seem simple to some, but the real truth is that it's very tiring and the long hours contribute to grumpiness and a massive lack of sleep.

I asked Chris why he chose to become an RA. He said, "I became an RA because I've always wanted to become a leader and I guess it was my time to step up to the plate."

Chris is one of the few RA's who both chose and was chosen to take on this leadership responsibility. He also says, "I like the fact that I get to know all the people in the dorm and actually learn all their names for once."

Being an RA is a hard job and a big responsibility. It's necessary to think past all the negative things about the job and focus on the positive of spending time with the other guys and hanging out.

Both dorms need dedicated quality RA's every year. The best thing for anyone to do when deciding whether to apply for or accept the job is to pray and ask God if it is the right path to take.

UCA students give with thanks

by RoniLea Lombard

On November 18, the Friday before Thanksgiving break, UCA students went out on almost 30 different tasks in their community. This particular H.O.P.E is exciting because students get a chance to help other people during the crazy holiday season. It is also the last H.O.P.E. day for two months. In the past, about 60 students from the school have helped the Salvation Army put together bags for those who are less fortunate and don't get a normal Thanksgiving meal. This year was different, though. The Salvation Army didn't need UCA's help, so Mrs. Corder had to find 60 new spots for students to fill. Although extremely busy, Mrs. Corder stated, "The Lord provided other places, so that was cool."

Several other groups were involved with Thanksgiving events around the area. Mr. Lange took music ensembles to Riverfront Square Mall to play music for holiday shoppers. A lady stuck around while they played the Bavarian Carol, and afterwards she commented on how it reminded her of her Polish background.

Mr. Patzer took a group to South Hill to participate in Tom's Turkey Drive. While they were there almost 150 turkeys and 300 turkey dinners were donated. These are just two of the opportunities students had to be a blessing during the holiday season.

Thanksgiving in action

By Jessica Purviance

As Thanksgiving and Christmas came and went, people were reminded of how much they had to be thankful for, especially since so many were hit with misfortune in 2005. Remembering this, students from UCA decided that they again wanted to help less unfortunate people by going on mission trips to Mississippi and Borneo.

A small number of students decided to participate in the conference-organized mission trip to Waveland, Mississippi, during Christmas vacation. The cost was \$595 per person, but that is a small price considering the positive impact on the lives of the students and on the lives of the people they help.

During spring break, a much larger group of students will be traveling again to Sarawak, Borneo. They will be building two churches this year, and the group is one of the largest from UCA to travel to Borneo.

The trip will be from March 13 to 26 and will cost \$1800 per person. Letters are being sent out with the hope that friends and family will donate generously. For some students this will be their first time overseas, but for others it's another chance to travel and share God's love.

New SAT means changes in test prep

by Lauren Stingl

Some tap a foot nervously while others rub their tired eyes, but all 21 Upper Columbia Academy students anxiously anticipated the new 2005 version of the Scholastic Aptitude Test the morning of November 6. The test is taken on Saturday, November 5, for most of the country, but for religious reasons, UCA students were in their test-taking desks with #2 pencils early on Sunday.

The College Board, which creates the test, said it is changing the test to better reflect what students are learning. Ann Wright, president of enrollment at Rice University and a member of the College Board Research and Development Advisory Committee, said the changes are in response to the fact that writing has become much more important in high school and higher education.

Indeed, writing has more emphasis in the 2005 SAT. First administered on March 12, 2005, the new SAT added a student-written essay section, eliminating the analogies section and the SAT II writing subject test.

For the writing section, students are given an opinionated quote then asked to plan and write an essay developing their own point of view. Students are expected to be able to support their thesis statement with a variety of examples and demonstrate critical thinking abilities. The essays are graded by high school or college teachers with at least three years of experience teaching writing. Students who struggle with written language can practice responding to prompts using a general formula such as introduction, body, and conclusion format. A warning about this section is not to take too much time away from thesis development and support by focusing on basic organization and idea development at the beginning. The College Board does not expect a student to write a perfect, final-copy essay response within the 25 minutes given.

An addition of Algebra II questions to the math section causes concern for parents who see third-year college-preparatory math questions as a disadvantage to their children. But considering most students take the SAT twice, once in the spring and once in the fall, Algebra II concepts should be covered by at least the time of the spring test. Also, students do not have to complete all of the questions in any of the sections to earn an above average score.

Why students subject themselves to 3 hours and 45 minutes of standardized testing is much like why one might wax their upper lip: to make the best impression. College admissions look closely at the SAT score of applicants, but students can find comfort in the fact that college admissions also look at high school grades, levels of courses, and trends in the performance of an applying student.

Class party night

by Brittini Bryan

Saturday night, November 19, was Class Party night. The officers of each class had worked hard to make the night fun for all.

The freshmen had their party in the girls' dorm chapel, the sophomores went to Mrs. Wickward's house, the juniors partied in the cafeteria, and the seniors had a great time in the gym.

The different activities included ping-pong, movies, board games, card games, Borneo pole dancing, crazy relay races (involving hula hoops, mattresses, and candy bars) and the traditional senior maze made from cardboard boxes in the gym loft.

There was also plenty to eat: pizza, crispy bean burritos, veggies and dip, fruit, hotdogs, smores, apple cider, hot chocolate, pop, Italian sodas and Hawaiian haystacks.

At some of the parties music was played that added to the class spirit and the party fun.

Everyone seemed to have a great time and became a little more connected with each of their class members.

Students teach students

by Crystal Kablanow

Nineteen students sigh with relief as Mrs. Wickward steps to the front of the classroom signaling the end of four weeks of *Student Teaching* in which five groups taught five chapters of Pacific Northwest History.

Student Teaching allows students to teach in the place of their teacher. A group of three to four students is assigned a chapter that they must study, prepare, and teach.

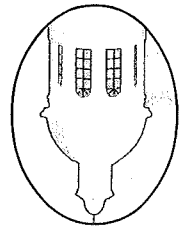
These groups must find creative ways to present their chapter and assess their class. This is important because the group must keep the attention of the class and know whether the class understood.

The groups present their information in many different ways. Some of the groups techniques were to lecture and require notes, play games, role play, watch movies, and complete worksheets with reading. Assessments included oral quizzes, candy quizzes, map quizzes, written quizzes and tests.

This is an effective way to teach five chapters in a short time, gives the students a chance to see teaching from their teacher's perspective and helps them to appreciate their teachers more.

This technique helps the student teachers to understand their section better than if they were to listen to a teacher's lecture. Also, students often listen and learn from their peers better than from their teacher.

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