

echoes

May 2000

Guard your footsteps

"My brothers and sisters, God called you to be free, but do not use your freedom as an excuse to do what pleases your sinful self. Serve each other with love. The whole law is made complete in this one command: 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.'" Galatians 5:13-14

Each day we choose whom we are going to serve. All too often the majority of us choose to serve ourselves. I'd like to make the call to take a new step in a different direction. Like a path that forks, we always have two choices. At first the choices seem very similar, they are almost indistinguishable, but as we follow one or the other, the paths become farther apart. In the beginning, we can hop back and forth between the paths or even put one foot on each path, but the time comes when we have to commit to one path or the other, "the point of no return."

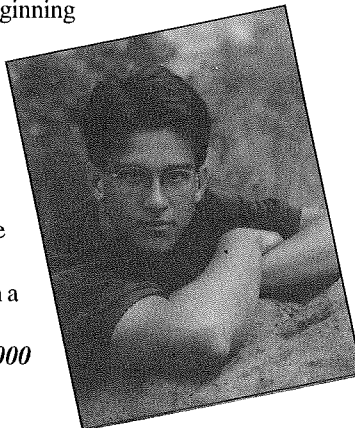
I can see in my own life that I have strayed from the golden path that Christ would have me walk. I used to be able to move freely back and forth between the two paths, but now I have a long walk back to where I need to be. It is discouraging to be incapable of returning to the golden path immediately. It seems so distant and out of reach. The devil is very good at discouraging us or using pride to cloud our vision. We are stubborn and often too proud to admit we are wrong. We hide behind various excuses proclaiming our self-righteousness and severely judging those that judge us. Instead of being defensive, we should admit we are wrong, swallow our pride, and take our first steps back towards Christ. It is His will that we serve each other with love. He, our example, was a servant. If everyone is a servant, everyone is getting served! If I give you my 100% and you give me your 100%, we both receive 100% and we're filled and satisfied!

We all have tried things that don't work. Some of us persist in doing things that don't work. Let's keep trying until together we find something that does work--something that brings us true happiness. Why keep doing stuff we don't enjoy?

Every new beginning is some other beginning's end. This year ends very quickly for us students, but it is just another beginning for all of us. Even now many of us are already starting to take our first steps on the next journey; we are making decisions about next year now. We're deciding where we'll work or where we'll go to school. People are wondering what will college be like . . . what UCA will be like. It will be what we make it.

"A journey of a thousand miles starts with a footstep." Guard your footsteps!

Staj Olson, President Class of 2000



CLASS OF
2000
AIM
IT MATTERS NOT
WHAT YOU
ARE THOUGHT TO BE,
BUT WHAT YOU ARE.

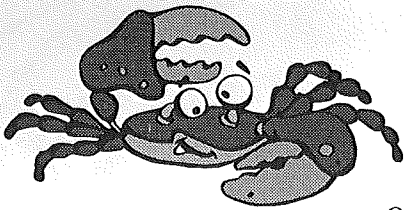
MOTTO
COMMIT TO THE LORD
WHATEVER YOU DO,
AND YOUR PLANS
WILL SUCCEED.
PROVERBS 16:3

COLORS
ROYAL BLUE, BLACK,
AND SILVER

this
is
it!



Upper Columbia Academy
Spangle, Washington



Marine Biologists take a break

One of the groups to go touring about the Northwest recently was the Marine Biology class. The Seattle Aquarium, the Whale Museum at Friday Harbor, and about six hours on a Marine Science Afloat Research boat in Puget Sound were a few things on the agenda. The group also stayed at Puget Sound Academy and Four Winds Camp on Orcas Island and spent over seven hours on various ferries.

Between the tours there was time to play basketball, practice gymnastics moves (by bouncing off the wall onto a mat), and enjoy very cold showers. (The academy's water heater was malfunctioning so all the showers were very, very cold.) At Four Winds Camp, the guys settled into rustic cabins where they built fires to stay warm. The girls found more luxurious accommodations in a dorm area. While there they did water testing experiments, examined marine organisms, gathered by Pastor Curtis and Dean Philpott, and ate Coach Soule's famous Bar-B-Q and Miss Denise's legendary cinnamon rolls.

The ferries were also entertaining. With such big decks, the ferries provided plenty for all to do. After the first day, at least half the students crashed on the seats and slept. Others played card games, talked, walked around on deck, or enjoyed the wonderful drum music performed by Bob Renck. There was plenty to do.

Hands-on learning and plenty of fun characterized the trip. All the sponsors were really great, and Mr. Thayer did a wonderful job of getting it all organized. As always, missing the days of school was worth it.



Another big improvement appears on campus. The old metal roof is taken off the maintenance shop in preparation for an asphalt-shingle replacement. Although not a regular Maranatha project, most of the work was done by volunteers, many of them Maranatha regulars.

8 indispensable guides for signing yearbooks intelligently

Being asked to sign a yearbook is an honor and a privilege. Years of experience have shown the following guidelines to be--err--indispensible.

1. Don't use pencils or crayolas. Use pen, but not the kind with ink that never dries on glossy paper. (It's a conspiracy.)

2. Give ink a few seconds to dry (or a few centuries if you ignore #1). The mirror image of your message on the facing page is only entertaining for a few moments.

3. Don't scribble or write over every photo of your face. After all, as horrifying as it seems, this may be the best you'll look in your entire life.

4. Spell correctly and write neatly. How do you want to be remembered anyway???

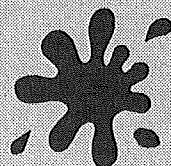
5. Avoid all variations of the tried-and-true meaningless expressions "It was fun knowing you this year" and "Have a fun summer". In fact, avoid the words *fun* and *summer* altogether.

6. Avoid crude and vulgar comments. If you don't, you'll wish you had--so will the dozens of people who end up reading them. How do you want to be remembered anyway???

7. Don't sign the book while eating pizza or ice-cream.

8. Return the book promptly.

Well, it sure was great getting to know you this year. Have a fun summer!



End of year excitement grows

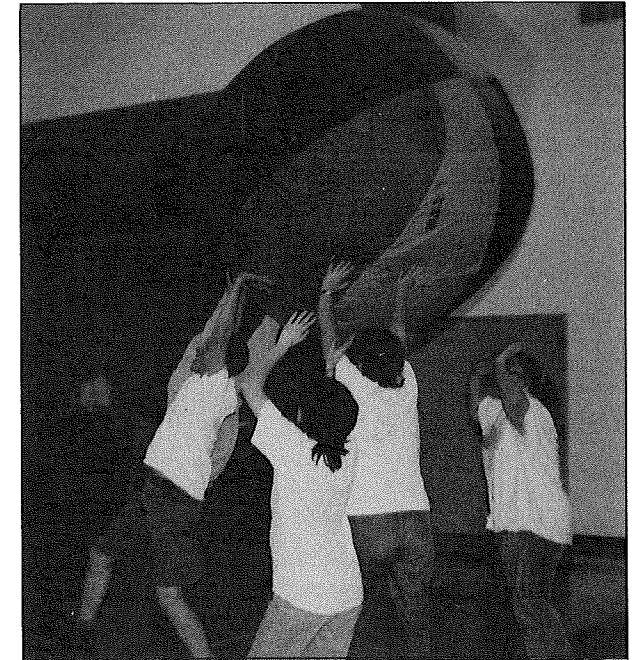
As the flowers bloom and the weather warms, students at UCA get excited about the end of the school year. "This year has been a blast, and I'm ready for graduation," said Alma Flores. With only a few days left until graduation and the last day of school, students have been very busy finishing projects, writing papers, giving class presentations, and studying for tests.

Although students are overwhelmed with all that has to be done during May, the excitement continues to build. The seniors take their class trip, the gymnastics team perform their last routines, and the music department presents its final concert.

There is excitement at the end of the year, but it is also a time of separation. "I'm really going to miss my friends next year because I don't know if I'll ever see them again," said Talia Silva. Many friends and faculty impact the students, some more than others, but all will be missed.

The campus will be empty for a while as students get summer jobs, take vacations, or move on to college. But soon summer will be over and school will begin again. New and old faces will appear, friendships will be made, and nine more months of excitement will build until graduation.

Mistie Indieke



All kinds of excitement happen on open-weekend Saturday nights toward the end of the school year. Here, enthusiastic athletes battle in the gym with a rather large, uncooperative ball.

Large change lies ahead

No, we're not talking about big coins. As usual, almost half of the UCA student body will change between now and next school year. The seniors will be gone, and many new students will arrive. But this summer, several staff will be leaving their positions here and moving on to something new. It's good to know that God has good things in store for them and for UCA.

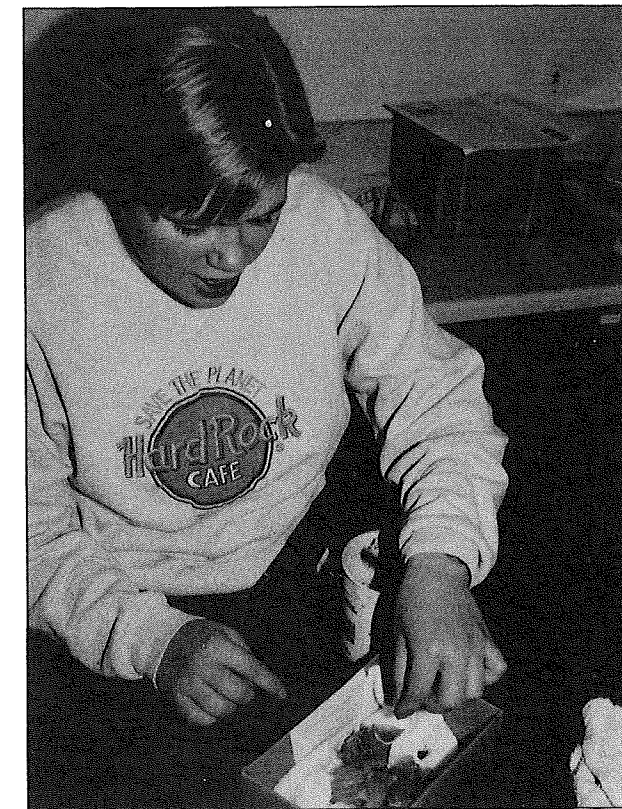
After eight years, Mr. Marsh is leaving his job as UCA principal to be an associate superintendent in the education department of the Potomac Conference. It seems Mrs. Marsh, registrar, feels she should go along too. Mrs. Marsh also will be working for the Potomac Conference as an administrative assistant. John Nafie, the current principal at Mount Pisgah Academy in North Carolina, has accepted the position as UCA principal.

After two years as vice-principal, Mr. Jenks is also changing jobs. John Winslow will be moving from his position as assistant dean in the guys' dorm to be the new vice-principal.

Pastor Curtis and his family are also leaving to pastor in Montana. Whoever becomes the new pastor will not teach any classes but will be the campus chaplain.

Ms. Perry is also striking out on a new adventure, so we can expect a new Spanish teacher and librarian next year.

Change can make us feel uncertain, but we must remember that God is in control and that we can depend upon His goodness. Our best wishes and prayers go with all the seniors and the staff who are leaving.



When their nest was destroyed by the reroofing of the maintenance shop, these baby birds were added to the menagerie in Mrs. Haeger's biology lab. Stephanie Gragg feeds them some very tasty worms.

UCA, EWU join forces

On the evening of May 12, Upper Columbia Academy and Eastern Washington University combined for a sacred concert at the First Presbyterian Church of Spokane. Each school brought their vocal groups.

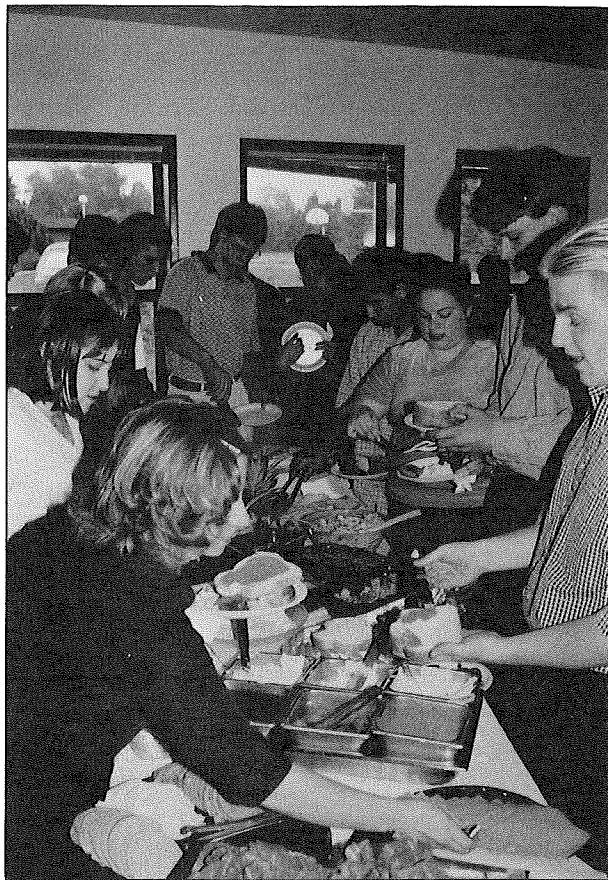
This concert was a first for UCA. The choral department was able to combine with another group from a different school. This has never been done before and was an awesome way to share what UCA is all about to people of other faiths or of no faith at all.

The concert consisted of the Faure Requiem, performed by the UCA choir which has 88 members. This portion of the program was the longest, and was very well done. The UCA Octet joined the EWU Chamber Choir for a song, and then the Octet did their own number. The UCA Choraliers then sang, followed by the EWU Chamber Choir, a group of about thirty members, who sang three selections. Next came a song by the EWU Symphonic Choir that has a hundred members. The last selection added the Octet to Eastern's choir.

One reason for the vespers program was to give the UCA choir an opportunity to sing in a large church with good acoustics. The two choral departments got together because Curtis Anderson, UCA Choral Director, is working on his Master's degree at EWU and is good friends with their choral director, Randy Wagner, a UCA graduate. So they joined heads and groups to offer a very nice evening of choral music.

All in all, the program went fantastically and may become a UCA tradition. Only time will tell.

Jonathan Engelman



On May 5 in the elementary school multipurpose room and prior to communion and the ordinance of humility, students help themselves to an Agape Feast buffet

Senioritis infects more than seniors

We have all heard of it, that infamous disease that spreads like wildfire. Most people call it Spring Fever, but to those who are preparing for graduation it is the dreaded Senioritis! This syndrome affects most everyone on campus at some point in time. But what about all of us juniors who can't wait to become seniors? This, too, can be called Senioritis.

It starts with the graduation countdown. Ask any senior around and they will tell you just how many days are left before they get their diplomas. For us juniors, this brings a realization that we will be seniors in that same amount of time. This is a frightening and exciting thought.

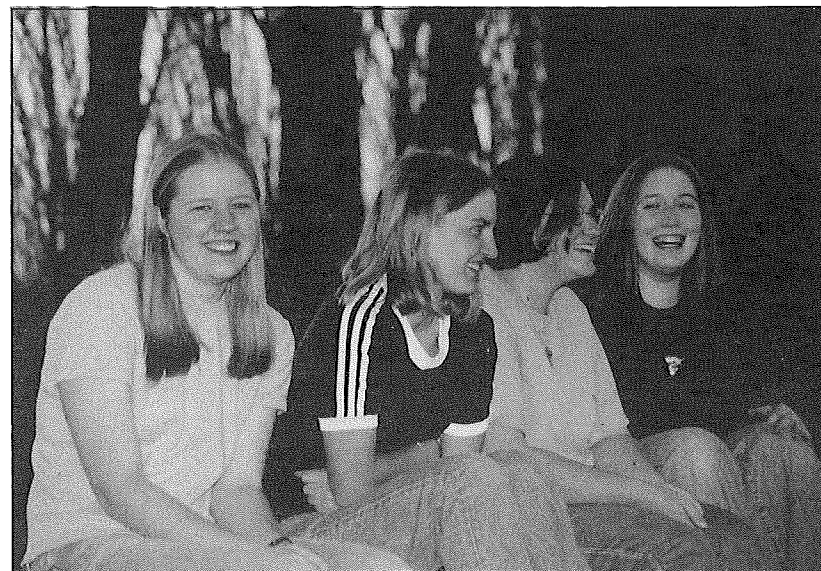
Another thing that comes with Senioritis is the wish to set homework aside and play. In that respect, May

can be the toughest month of the entire school year. We have to bite our upper lips just to survive. We have to force ourselves to finish the work that was started last August.

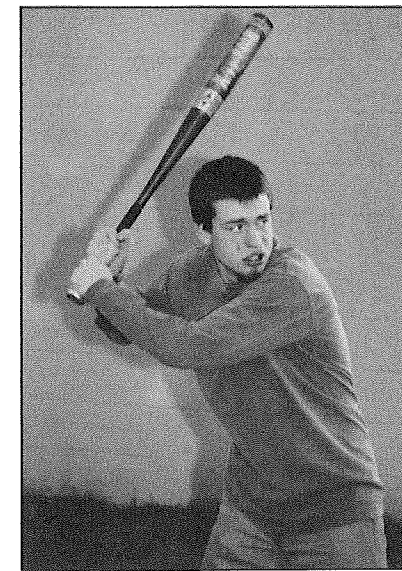
The change of leadership can always be hard. For one thing, friends have to depart. For another thing, leaders have to step up into roles they haven't filled before. This is scary especially with staff changes at the same time.

With the changing of the guard comes much responsibility. With the seniors leaving, we won't have older, wiser students to look up to. Instead, we need to look higher--to the Ultimate Source of Life, God. If we do this not only will the changes go smoothly, but also next year can be a spiritually uplifting year for all of us.

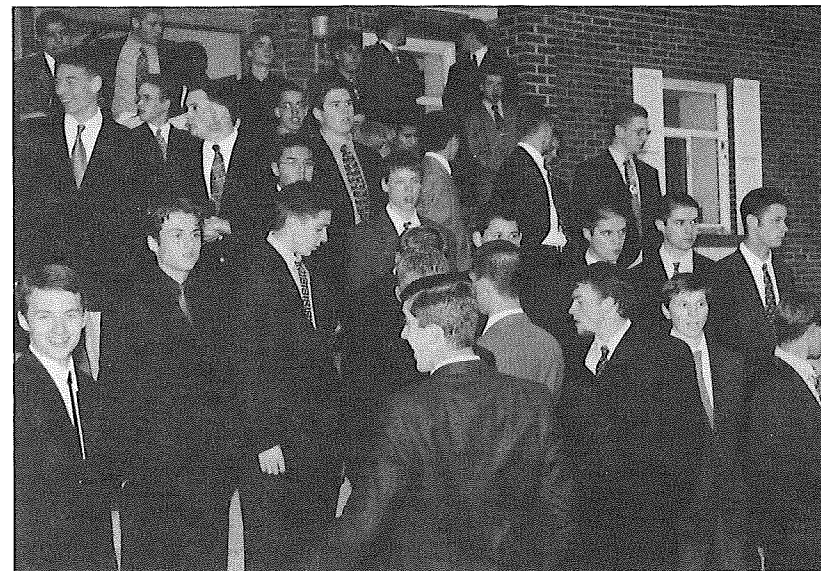
Jonathan Engelman



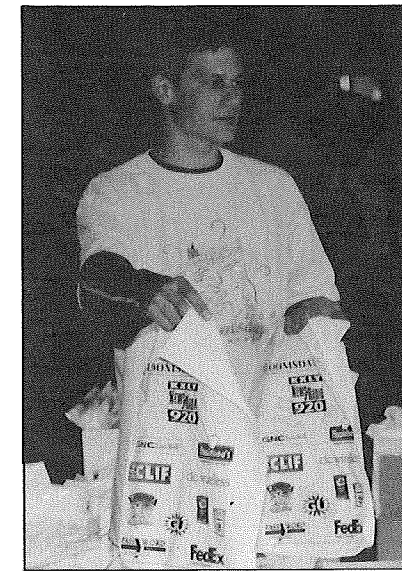
Rachel Nelson, Melisa Schimke, Shari Strickland and Breann Pimental enjoy watching a softball game from the bleachers on a balmy spring evening



Nathan Katsma frightens the ball



The gentlemen of the men's residence hall assemble for their traditional photo



Taylor Wilkens hands out bags at Bloomsday registration

Upper Columbia College?

Did you know you can earn college credit while you are still at UCA? All you have to do is make sure you have an Advanced Placement class in your schedule. If you pass the final test, you have instant college credit. UCA currently offers AP classes in English, history and calculus although there are over 30 subject areas.

About 700,000 high-school students take AP tests in the 14,000 schools that offer this option. Last year over a million exams were taken. The AP tests usually consist of a multiple-choice section and a free response (essay) section. A machine grades the multiple-choice responses, but the essays are graded by college professors who evaluate them for good organization, good mechanics, and relevant facts.

To actually receive college credit, you have to score at least a 3.0 on the test, but unlike the normal gpa scale which ends at 4.0, the AP scale goes to 5.0. Some schools add the AP score into a student's gpa and so make it possible to have a gpa above a 4.0.

Taking an AP class can add a little variety to your schedule and eliminate a boring college class from your future.

Luke Cockerham

The Upper Columbian

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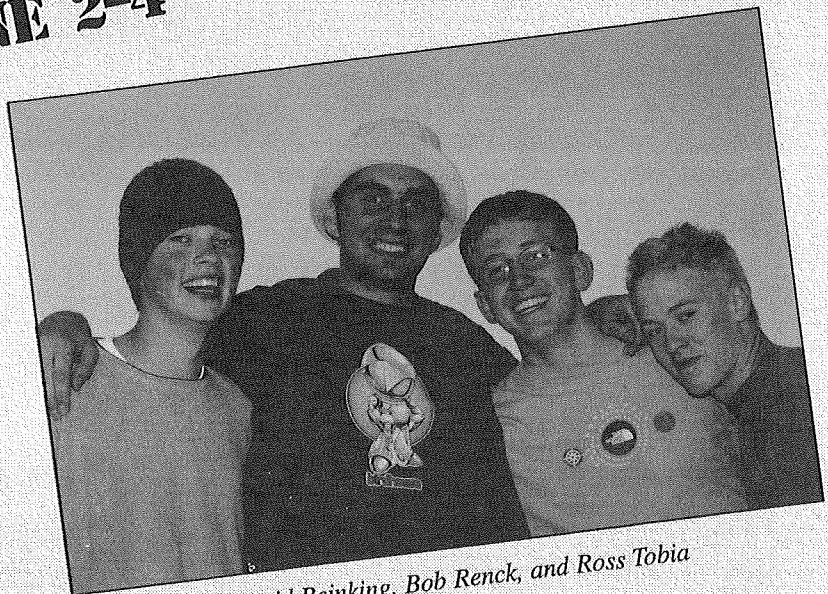


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GRADUATION JUNE 2-4

**REGISTRATION
AUGUST 27**

**SEE YOU
NEXT
YEAR!!**



Everett Craik, David Reinking, Bob Renck, and Ross Tobia