

UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY

ECHOES

MAY 2003

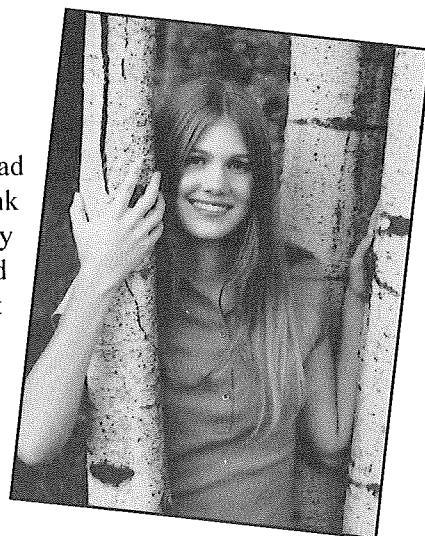
VOLUME 51

NUMBER 6

CLASS OF 2003

*by Amanda Jehle,
President,
Class of 2003*

It seems I've had to stare at a lot of blank things this year. Every day in AP, I was faced with that blank sheet of paper. In Oil Painting, I had to stare down that blank canvas. And I have been staring at a blank computer screen for a painfully long time. It's rather intimidating.



Class Motto: The more we dream,
the more we become.

Class Aim: It matters not what we
are thought to be,
but what we are.

Class Text: Philippians 4:13:
I can do all things
through Christ
who gives me strength.

Class Colors: Black Maroon & Silver

In fact, it's almost as intimidating as the biggest blank I know of: the future. You will actually have to do something about it after this little thing called Graduation. Do you have a whole lot of nothing staring right back at you . . . a blank canvas, taunting you, beckoning you to try your hand at life?

Maybe you're squirming in your seat right now, saying, "Well, you know, the Art Building is a nice place and all, and I'm sure painting isn't that hard. But actually, well, the truth of the matter is I can't really paint all that well." Yeah, I can't either.

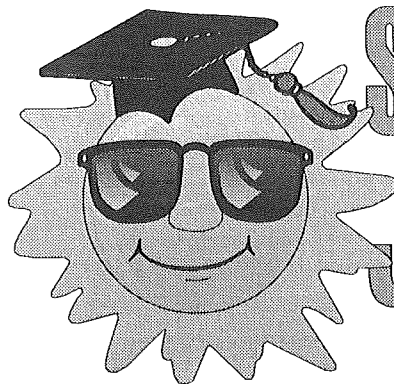
But it's okay. You don't have to be an artist to fill your canvas with incredible colors and patterns. You don't even have to touch that daunting blankness. Nope, all you have to do is hand your paintbrush to the Master Painter. He'll make your feeble attempts look like a toddler's finger-painting.

He's had your picture in His mind's eye for ages, just waiting for you to let Him paint. He sees all sections of the picture so clearly; even the ones that include college, career, and marriage. Not only can He envision the final product, but He also has the ability to paint it perfectly.

So, Graduate, pry your little fingers off the handle and place your brush in the big nail-pierced hands of the Master Painter. Let Him change your blank canvas into something beautiful.

COMMENCEMENT

SUNDAY JUNE 1





A trio of riders gets ready to hurtle through the BMX course that magically appeared this spring at the east end of the playing field

Gymnastics in the park?

by Stephanie Hickman

For the last HOPE Task Force day, the gymnastics team decided to go spread the gospel in the park, Riverfront Park.

Lead by Coach Soule' and Pastor Lundgrin, the team marched out across the park with mats and speakers, and, of course, all were clad in spandex. To the average person it was quite a spectacle. What were these kids doing? Since it was just before Bloomsday, it was the perfect day to attract a crowd with so many people in the park.

After finding a spot, the team plopped down all their gear and began to stretch out. Proudly wearing UCA t-shirts, some of the students talked to the crowd, telling them what our school was about and why they were in the park. The audience enjoyed the shows and even stayed for second rounds.

When all was said and done the gym team was applauded for their hard work, and smiles shone around the park.

Alumni Weekend *by Dani Pavlic'*

The theme of this year's alumni weekend was "To the Glory of God." The weekend illustrated the ways of giving Glory to God through music and art. The music was performed by the choir and brass choir throughout the church service. Both groups were privileged to have several alumni perform with them.

Many artists displayed art around the inside of the gymnasium for this occasion. One of the many paintings that will stick in our minds is the large painting

of the four horses of the Apocalypse by Nona Hengen. There were also many other great works of art. Several students including Lauren Stingl, Daniela Garcia, and Lauren Bull commented that they really enjoyed all the art.

Amanda Ward and Brian Belcher said the highlight for them was Ms. McGuire's talk entitled "A Peon's Path to Glory. Other students had the usual thoughts about the weekend, saying that it was too long and a bit boring. However, when we come back for our reunions, we'll appreciate it!

A new clock, a gift from the Class of 1952, appeared on front campus just in time for Alumni Weekend. Also, the Prayer Garden beside the Power House was dedicated, and, after many years, lamps reappeared on the planters at the front of the school

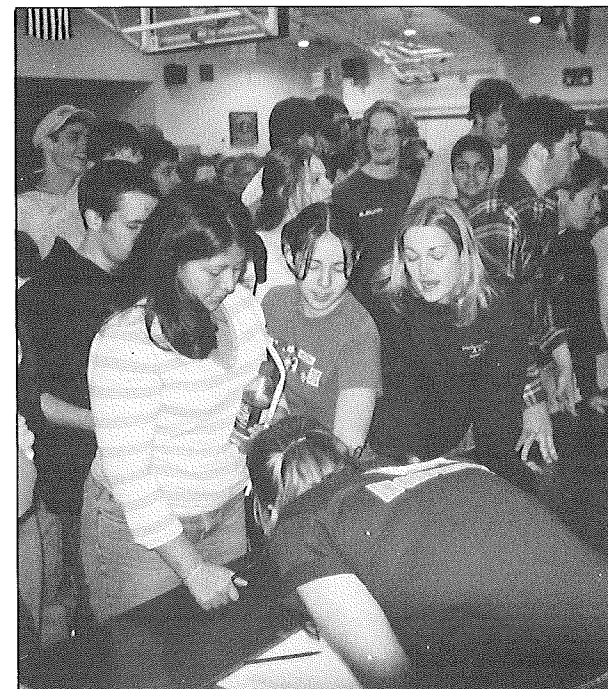


UCA Bloomies

by Dani Pavlic'

On the fourth of May, several UCA students participated in running or walking the annual 12k Bloomsday race in Spokane. There were also several race volunteers from our school including Rhonda Coy, Laura Grinnell, and Cary Hann who helped things to run smoothly for the approximately 45,000 runners and walkers who participated.

Many UCA students saw Bloomsday as a social event and went in groups of friends. Ryan Haberly and Peter Vercio ran together, and at 55 minutes were some of the fastest runners from our school. Peter Vercio and others enjoyed giving the nuns high fives, the bands, and many other entertaining events which happen along the course during Bloomsday. It was a fun day enjoyed by all.



Students rush to get their new UCA t-shirts in the gymnasium after assembly on the evening before Academy Day

Choraliers reach perfection

by Brian Kay

The Choraliers left for Walla Walla on April 18th. They had two concerts to perform: one in the Walla Walla Village Church, and the other in the Richland Church. The Choraliers were confident since they had performed their songs before. Octet had a couple of songs they hadn't sung before, but they, too, were confident.

The first concert was a vesper program at the Walla Walla Village Church. It was perfect--the best concert the Choraliers had ever sung. They were relaxed and had lots of fun. After the concert, everyone divided to travel to their host houses. These houses can often be the most memorable and exciting part of a tour. This time, all the men got to stay in one house. They had fun together, telling jokes and pulling pranks. The girls also had good overnight stays. Some of them were telling stories about swimming pools and jacuzzis. Most everyone had a fun night.

The next day, everyone got up and traveled on the bus to the Richland Church. They were to perform the previous day's songs for the church service. No one was nervous since the last concert had gone really well and everyone's morale was up. The concert went well but not as well as the day before. Perhaps there can only be one perfect performance on a tour.

After the concert, they ate a potluck lunch, boarded the buses, and headed home.

So many new faces!

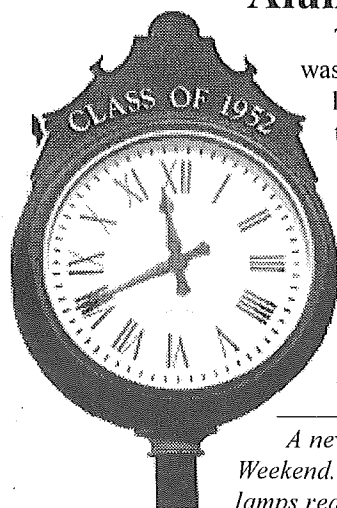
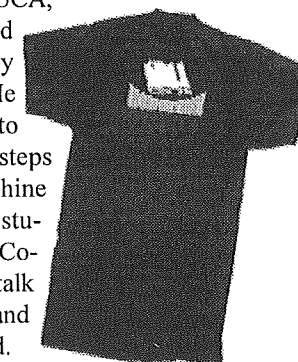
by Natasha Ham

On Tuesday, April 15, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., the UCA campus was officially open to next year's prospective students, their teachers, sponsors, and parents. Also known as Academy Day, this event included informative and friendly campus tours and assemblies, lunch in the cafeteria, and departmental contests and activities in the gym. One highlight of the general assembly included beautiful vocal and instrumental performances by the UCA music department, that gave our visitors a small taste of what they can become part of. Another activity was the fast-paced four-square volleyball games held outside near the gym, with 80 to 100 players a game. The lively awards, prizes, and scholarships assembly was followed by the grand finale of sub sandwiches served on UCA Frisbees. A few student groups had to leave early because of the distance they had to travel home, but the vast majority of our 210 guests were able to stay and participate in all the day's fun events.

Only morning classes were held for current UCA students, with attendance of the afternoon general assembly required. Many students expressed how nice it was to have a relaxed day with, schedules permitting, fewer classes. Jennifer Pielat was happy that the choir and band had the chance to perform for the visiting students. "It was an informal relaxed and free time to share the joy of our music with them," she said. Tiffany Penhallurick really enjoyed giving tours and getting to know some of the visitors.

Academy Day is designed so that current UCA students take an active role in showing visitors what being a student here is all about. And what were the visitors responses? The group from the Portland area thought the tour was very informative, loved the lion statues on front campus, and enjoyed meeting the teachers. The group visiting from Tri-cities gave the cafeteria rave reviews, including the remark "the chips are crunchy...wow!" Shared by nearly all were comments on how friendly the tour guides, staff, and students were.

During the morning worship and orientation, Pastor Paul shared that "if God leads you to UCA, awesome! If not, then we hope and trust you will continue to be led by Him, wherever you decide to go." He encouraged the visiting students to "call on Jesus; He will lead you in steps of righteousness so that you will shine brighter every day." The visiting students concluded their time at Upper Columbia Academy with Pastor Fred's talk on the value of Christian education and with a prayer of commitment to God.





Dawn Lawson seems quite comfortable and relaxed as she donates blood in the UCA Power House on April 14

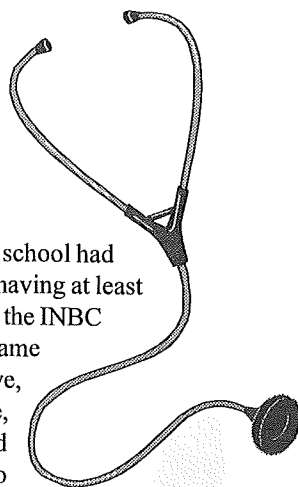
Saving lives one pint at a time

by Dawn Lawson

On the 14th of April 2003, our school had another blood drive with the goal of having at least 50 people donate blood. People from the INBC (Inland Northwest Blood Center) came to the UCA Power House for the drive, and I, along with several other people, donated a pint of blood. Some wanted to donate, but they were either too scared or too young to do it. Others were disqualified by foreign travel or because they weren't feeling well. Some had such a fear of needles that they couldn't donate blood because of the risk of fainting.

While people were in the process of donating, they got a tiny glass filled with water, which they could have refilled as many times as they wanted. After the needle came out and a band-aid was in place, the donors had to stay in the building for ten minutes where they got to drink juice or water and have donuts.

When I first gave blood, I was scared but it was something that I have always wanted to do. I know that it sounds scary and that some people are afraid of needles, but I can tell you that when you give blood, you are saving lives. So, just remember, if you want to do some good in the world, donate blood. Reach out and lend a helping hand.



Away we go

by Nels Wenberg

The weekend before the final homeleave, band went on tour. Once again under the expert direction of Mr. Lange they shared their talents with fortunate communities in Washington and Oregon.

The first stop was Tri-cities Junior Academy in Pasco, Washington. The band started with "Home Stretch," a piece that gives that impression of a home stretch battle for first in a horse race. Another wonderful, challenging piece they played was "Robin Hood," a compilation of bits and pieces from the soundtrack of "Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves," a popular film from the early 1990s.

After a short stop at the mall in Tri-cities, it was off to Hermiston Junior Academy in Hermiston, Oregon, for the next concert. Arriving early gave the band members some time to relax or burn off surplus energy from the bus ride. Supper was provided by local church members. Some of the pieces performed by the band included "Abide With Me," "I Sing the Mighty Power of God," "All Glory Told," and "Are You Washed in the Blood." The Brass Choir, accompanied by Carl Canwell on timpani, did a wonderful job of "March for Timpani and Brass." After the concert in Hermiston, local church members took band members to their homes for the night stay.

After church the next morning, the band continued on to Pendleton, Oregon, for the final concert of the tour at Harris Junior Academy. A short sacred concert was followed by a devotion by Amanda Jehle, the band chaplain. Then, after a short secular concert, the band hurried to load the equipment and get on the road. Arriving back to school after a long bus ride, they were eager to get to bed.

Talent exposed at Moses Lake

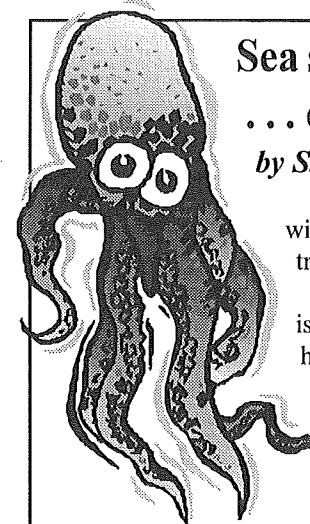
by Katreena Sumagpang

It all started out when the very skilled and energetic UCA gymnastics team left for Moses Lake on Friday, April 11. They arrived and had dinner and worship at the Brito's house. Afterwards, they were split into various groups--the girls went to two different houses while the guys got the gym.

The next morning, the team went to church and took part in the children's story and special music. The rest of Sabbath was spent at a potluck and at a park with sand dunes where students had the opportunity to chill.

The Gymnastics show started at about 7:00 pm on Saturday. It started with a vocal duet of *The Star Spangled Banner*, sung by Danelle Smith and Kristen Opp. The rest of the show went well, considering the team was missing five valuable members and had only been able to practice for half an hour before the performance.

The UCA Gymnastics Team has done really well throughout the school year and their final home show on May 11 was received enthusiastically.



Sea squirts, anenomes, and clams

... oh my!

by Stephanie Hickman

Mrs. Haeger sure had her work cut out for her with three Advanced Biology classes to take on a trip to Seattle.

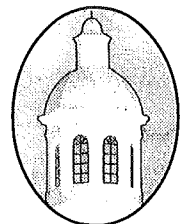
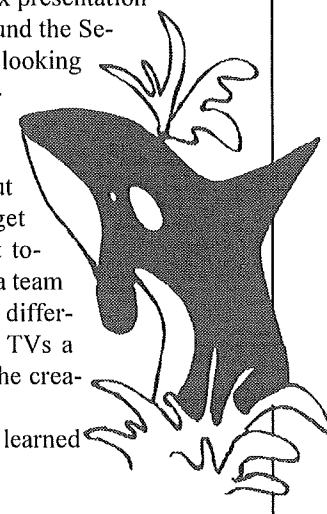
The classes journeyed off to the San Juan islands to check out the killer whale exhibits and, hopefully, catch a glimpse of a cooperative whale itself. Although the whales were not cooperative, the classes did get to talk to a scientist about them and hear some sounds that the killer whale pods made.

Mrs. Haeger also took her classes out to the beach to check out the tide pools. Students found all sorts of different creatures living attached to and under the rocks. They were also able to stay at Rosario and relax in their new comfortable cabins near the beach.

While in Seattle, the class enjoyed an Imax presentation of "The Living Sea." After that they walked around the Seattle Aquarium going on a sort of scavenger hunt, looking for all sorts of animals from small tide pool dwellers to those living in the large dome aquarium.

Not only did the students on this trip have a good time together, but they also learned about ocean pollution and how marine biologists get samples from the water. The students also got together on a big boat called the *Argosy*, and with a team of helpful instructors caught and examined many different types of organisms. They also watched via TVs a diver go down with a video camera to explore the creatures in their natural habitat.

It was a very exciting trip and the students learned a lot.



UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY

ECHOES

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Upper Columbia Academy,
3025 E Spangle-Waverly Road,
Spangle, WA 99031

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This issue's contributors included
Tommy Cutting, Lynnea Flerchinger,
Mindie Getty, Natasha Ham,
Stephanie Hickman, Dan Hudson,
Amanda Jehle, Brian Kay,
Danny Lamberton, Dawn Lawson,
Kimberly Warren, Nels Wenberg,
and Stephen Lacey, adviser

Seniors visit Walla Walla College

by Lynnea Flerchinger

On April 6-8, the seniors from Upper Columbia Academy, along with those from many other academies, attended Walla Walla College to sample everything they had to offer.

The first night after everyone got settled into their rooms, they had a little assembly along with dinner. In the evening everyone attended the Walla Walla Prism Concert. During the concert, the seniors had to follow lights around the room to see what was next. All of the lights were off during the concert, except for the lights on the performing person or group.

Throughout the next two days, the seniors were running back and forth from one activity to the next. There were some meetings that were required, but the rest of the time they were on their own. The students had the choice of attending a variety of general sessions, where they would learn about different programs and majors. After the general sessions they could visit different departments or sit in on classes and learn more about the classes they would take if they decided to attend Walla Walla College. Other activities included scholarship meetings where scholarships could be earned.

The students and faculty at WWC were very helpful and kind. Overall, the experience was very helpful. Many of the students realized that the college was very different from what they had originally thought--this writer included. For many students this trip was the deciding factor on whether they would be attending Walla Walla College.

Give it all to God

by Danny Lamberton

Wow! What a year. I can't believe I actually made it through my first year at boarding school. And I made it through in one piece too. As I look back at where I've been, I remember all the fun times, the stressful days, the new friends, and the new things I have learned. One of those new things is that you stay away from the café on Fridays because dinner will be leftovers from the whole week. Actually, it's not that bad. A friend asked me, "What one thing from this year will you take with you to next year?" I have had so many fun times this year I don't want to leave any out. But when I had really thought about it I knew what I would take.

Throughout this year I have had to rely on God so much! There was no way I would have made it without Him. We have all had them, days where we have two, three, or maybe four tests. "How," we think, "can I do it all?" The truth is we can't. You can't. I can't. None of us can. Only God can! I have found myself turning over my stress and worries to God. Oh, I still try by myself, but it just makes life miserable. But, thankfully, I am learning, and it does feel good not to worry about how everything is going to get done. The truth is that we can give God everything. He will take it. So, learning to give God everything--not just my stress--is what I want to take with me for next year and the year after that . . . no let's make that forever! I want to always give God everything, and that is my challenge to you: give God everything.

As for you seniors, I also challenge you. May God bless you as you move on and may you remember Christ's words in Matthew 28: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Goodbye UCA

by Kimberly Warren

The end of the school year is near and UCA is beginning to show its anticipation. Summer is coming and it is hard to keep smiles off faces as we anticipate sunbathing, trips to the beach, and freedom from school. But this happiness is somewhat tainted at the thought of leaving our friends behind, whether it be for three months, or for a lifetime. Life is never the same when school starts again, and while in some ways this is a blessing in others it is a pit of agony.

When the last classroom door is locked and the last yearbook signed, we will each hop into our car seats, bus seats, or airplane seats and be dispersed amongst the world. But we will each hold one thing in common: the memory of the 2002-2003 school year at UCA, and the bonds of friendship and fellowship we have created. To all of my friends and peers, thank you for sharing your lives with me. And to UCA, thank you for giving me the opportunity to meet the wonderful people who have blessed my life. I'm going to miss you all more than even I realize.

The year in the mirror

by Dan Hudson

First off, let me say that when I say "the year in the mirror," I mean reflections on the year, not that I spent my year in a giant mirror. Now that that's squared and away, here's what I thought about the past year--it consisted of many ups and downs. "How profound, Dan!" you might say. Well, I know every year gives its share of turns on the roller coaster of emotions that plagues teenagers like flies plague melon rinds. So what am I trying to say? Can't rightly say I know myself, but let me try.

Junior year was by far the most hectic for me yet. I had nothing to do my freshman year (freshmen are slackers), not much to do my sophomore year (sophomores are slackers), and won't have much to do next year (seniors are slackers). Yes, I had an arduous year filled with blood, sweat, and tears. (Blood from blood drive, sweat from P.E. and rec, and tears in my nice new khaki slacks on mission trip.)

I took the liberty of writing a brief poem about the past year . . . but I'll spare you the agony as it really had nothing to do with what actually happened and I'm sure it would get edited out. But I will look back on this year with fondness at the friends made and the memories gained. Farewell, 2002-2003!

REGISTRATION FOR NEXT YEAR
SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

A great moment in Dan history

by Dan Hudson

"I come to you now at the turn of the tides." The words of Gandalf the White rang true when at the change of semesters I moved into the famed Sigma Kappa Sigma. After scouring the dorm from top to bottom to find someone willing to room with me, I met the acquaintance of one Josh Glidden, a truly inspirational individual. I thought him to be the prime candidate. (Not to mention the possessor of a great room.) And so I sneaked on in one Sunday afternoon and made the official switch from village to dorm life.

Let me tell you, after spending the first two and a half years of my attendance at UCA at home, it was a bit of a change. But I was adjusted in no time at all. With the help of the best RA in the world, Carl Canwell, and the best hall in the dorm, Third North, I was properly integrated in the proverbial twinkling of an eye.

I notice a few benefits and disadvantages to dorm and village life. For those of you interested in making the switch to dorm life, let me lay down the benefits:

1. You don't have to drive to school.
2. At any time, you can go to your room and take a nap.
3. You get to spend a lot more bonding time with your friends.

I won't mention the disadvantages because I'm sure they are well-known. But I must say, my experience in the Men's Dorm has been one of sheer bliss.

Cutting * remarks

It has always been a tense world in which we live, save for the occasional homeleave. And in light of recent events some individuals are inclined to ponder the end of the world. One needs only to take a close look at today's society for the threats to be evident: the best golfer is black, the top rapper is white; France finds America obnoxious; and Germany doesn't want to have war. However strange these occurrences may be, they certainly aren't cause for any great alarm. Yet drastic people will take drastic measures when they get in a drastic sort of mood. Some choose the doomsday approach, stockpiling gasoline and peanut butter in their bomb shelters. Others make up their minds to keep a watchful, if not rather paranoid, eye on things, imagining a terrorist behind every shaggy beard and a case of SARS behind every coughing Canadian. No matter what way we look at it, we can't help but mull over the occasional thoughts of doom and destruction.

Such thoughts weighed heavily on my mind last Tuesday night as I caroused through the halls of the guys' dorm. My junior privileges about to expire for the night, I made what I thought to be the rather clever decision of returning to my room. However, I had hardly settled down for the night when a great disturbance in the doorway roused me to partial alertness. Thinking it to be Josh Glidden attempting to steal my John Lennon poster, I made a grab for a stick and headed for the doorway. But when I arrived, I found to my great dismay that I was not dealing with a mere intruder, but rather Saddam Hussein himself!

Knowing that the stick I bravely clutched was not known to perform well against oppressive regime leaders, I was given no choice but to invite the man in. I must confess that I wasn't expecting a very positive outcome from the whole ordeal. I supposed he would require my life or a least a barrel of oil before departing. Yet, to my great astonishment, he implored me only for a cup of soup before taking his leave. Upon his exit, I locked the door and checked to make sure he hadn't stolen my John Lennon poster.

The next day, while on my way to yet another English class, Joe Frausto gave me a pat on the back and thanked me for the soup. By the end of the English class I was finally able to surmise that it had not been the end of the world the previous night, rather Frausto had simply neglected to shave his moustache.

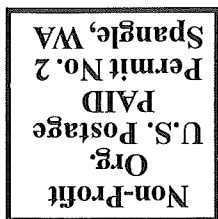
MiVoden offers rest for the weary

by Mindie Getty

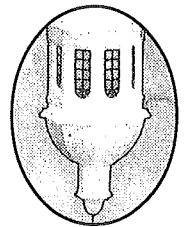
On April 11th and 12th, the Brass Quintet and Flute Ensemble packed a few things and went to Camp MiVoden to play for the Streams of Light retreat. In attendance was everyone who had contributed to Christian Child Development; whether through Camp MiVoden, the KEEP scholarship program, or bibleinfo.com. All the conference leaders were in attendance.

Although they played on Friday evening and for church the next day, it was a great opportunity for the instrument players to just sit around and relax. Most of them were sick, and so the opportunity for rest away from the bustle of school life was welcomed with open arms.

On Sabbath afternoon they came back rested and ready to face school once again.



UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY
3025 E Spangle-Waverly Road
Spangle, Washington 99031



HOPE never ends

by Kimberly Warren

Six times a year we all crowd around those murals of colored papers which adorn our halls. HOPE Taskforce begins anew and students are eager to sign up for their desired positions. We all know that HOPE is a community service project, and we're all familiar with Mrs. Corder, the HOPE director who is much loved for her "cookie days." But you may not know that HOPE began in 1993, before even public schools developed strong community service programs. And did you know that UCA students and staff donate over 12,000 hours every year to community service? Our school is busy proving that the Christian attitude is not limited to Bible class or church.

For the senior class May 2 was the last in a long series of HOPE Task Force days that we will all remember. All of us have been blessed with the opportunity to touch lives during HOPE Task Force whether we know it or not. Whether we build homes, clean kennels, or go door-to-door, our impact is felt by the community and by many individuals. It may be the woman who was too poor to plant seeds until the Joyspring Church group brought seeds to her during their door-to-door project. Or perhaps it is the family who moves into the house you helped to build. Or it could even be the man who sees you outside the grocery store collecting cans for children and asks about your religion. In each case we have done a tremendous deed for our community and we should wear the stylish HOPE t-shirts proudly.

For the students who are not graduating in 2003, you have time to experience these blessing again. Sure it's a day off of schoolwork, but recognize that HOPE Task Force is much more than that. It is an opportunity to share your love, your faith, and your gifts. For those who are graduating in 2003, don't forget these times, and don't be fooled into thinking they're over. Community service is not confined to HOPE Task Force, and you are not limited to the extensive options strewn across Mrs. Corder's colored papers. Go out and make a difference.