

# THE ECHOES

Volume 43, Number 3

Upper Columbia Academy, Spangle, Washington



*The Amateur hour winners (left to right) Zach Mason, Charley Coleman, Jason Smith, Mr. Jenks, Geoffrey Greenway, Amelia Magnuson, Matt Tolbert, and Grant Flaiz*

## Amateurs given hour

Nov. 12 1994: Convocation weekend for the parents, stress for the students. Around 2000 people showed up for the ceremonies. They came flowing steadily into the gymnasium for Sabbath School at 9:30 and then church. After church, the hungry horde mobbed the cafeteria. Seminars were given Sabbath afternoon by Terry Johnson, Paul Nelson, and Greg Nelson. The seminars were followed by a Wedgwood Trio concert to which everyone went (it was required).

The highlight of the evening, was put on by Amie de Coeur, more commonly known as Girls' Club. Talent was evaluated and selected, organized and rehearsed all for that prestigious event known as Amateur Hour.

Talent was abundant, and audience participation was definitely present. The crowd was kept going by two MC's from Walla Walla College who came especially for the occasion.

There were five section prizes and then a grand prize was awarded by both the audience and the judges. Grant Flaiz took the novelty section with his performance of 'Love Me Tender.' Geoffrey Greenway won the piano first prize. Matt Tolbert won the vocal section with a song from 'Les Miserables.' Chuckles, (Charlie Coleman) Lumberzack, (Zach Mason) Timbersmith, (Jason Smith) and Sawdust Henry, (Paul Jenks) took the audience grand prize with a bluegrass tune by Pickett Clovis. Finally, the judges' grand prize choice was Amelia Magnuson who in addition to the grand prize also won the first prize in the instrumental category with her flute solo.

The audience left satisfied, and, hopefully, a little more aware of the talent that abides in the halls of UCA.

## Phase two gets filed

Larger lab space and classrooms, modern architecture, and even fiber optic networking are the visions of some teachers. What will the new Administration Building really have? Many things are planned, and new options come up as technology improves.

The new Ad. Building is a conference project called "Project '90: Phase Two." Church and personal gifts have made up the majority of contributions. The project, however, has not received the major gift that would give it the boost it needs. Costs have been rising since the first estimate. Before the project can start, a new estimate must be made. The building was planned to start in the spring of '95 but this will not be possible says Principal Marsh. The hope now is to start the following spring if the funds are available. There is now around \$500,000 available for the new building.

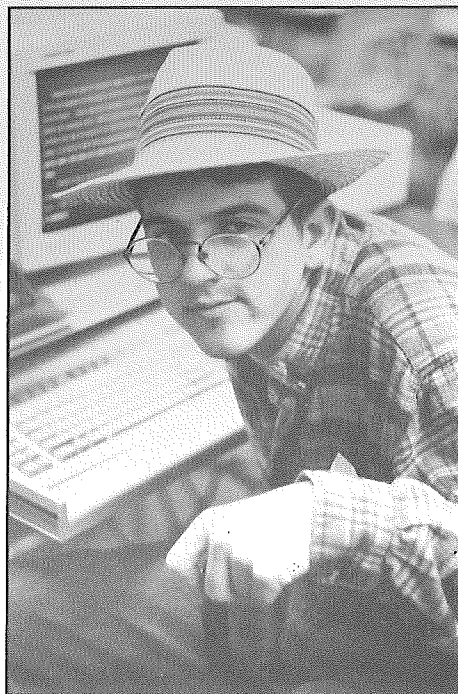
The present Ad. Building was here when the property was purchased fifty years ago. This building needs constant maintenance on the roof and wiring. The classrooms are not large enough and are beginning to limit enrollment. The labs are also too small and are not equipped as well they should be. The cost of renovating this building would be a major part of the cost for the new building.

The new building is going to have handicap access and other convenience features. Plans are to have a TV and VCR in each room, well equipped labs, larger classrooms, and maybe even a chapel.

The exact placement has not been decided, but it will be built where the old tennis courts are and will come fairly close to the back of the present Ad. Building site.

*Philip Cromwell*

*Zach Mason*



Sidney Phillips gives us a glimpse of his future during Spirit Week

## Showing true colors

Spirit week is a time everyone can loosen up and show their crazy side. Sometimes their true colors come through too colorfully and they show a side that would embarrass their parents.

If you were to walk down the halls of UCA during this week, you would not find a normal group of students. Instead you might find the lead singer of the Cure, Robert Smith, or maybe Marilyn Monroe. You might see two Mr. Thayers or Soules. Look-a-like day had a few students trying their best to look like someone else.

The second day was future day. Students were supposed to dress up as how they were going to look twenty years from now. As I glanced down the hall, I couldn't help but stop and stare at my fellow classmates. I hated to think that they would look like that at our twenty year reunion. I hope they allow bums and bag ladies to come to the reunion because that's their twenty-year-from-now goal. A lot of them were hunched over and looked like my grandpa. Sorry, guys, but when I'm thirty-eight, I plan to be jogging with my nephews, not my grand-children.

Wednesday was career day. Students were to dress up and look like what they wanted to be-- a doctor, a ski bum, or maybe a professional mime. When I asked what some of the students were going to dress up as, their answers varied from safari tour guides to sumo wrestlers. But instead I saw teachers, doctors, a hockey goalie, snow boarders and prison escapees. This was very interesting.

On Thursday it was dress-your- best day. People dressed up in tuxedos and formal dresses while others just wore jeans and T-shirts.

Even though not every one participates, it's fun for the ones who do to break out of the normal and show their true colors.

Angel Cox

## U.C.A. students give community H.O.P.E.

What was once a dream now is actively helping hundreds of people each month. A community service program included as part of the curriculum has been a longtime dream of Mr. Marsh. He felt that teaching students how to be responsive to the needs of those around them should be part of the curriculum, not just an occasional side excursion or field trip. Service to others and to God was continually taught in the curriculum; however, as a school we were not putting action behind that thought.

During the spring break of the 91-92 school year the faculty voted to include community service in the curriculum here at U.C.A., provided that the school board would agree to fund the program. A group of U.C.A. teachers pooled their resources and came up with a motto (Helping Other People Everyday) and from that a name (H.O.P.E. Taskforce) for the new program. The school board agreed to support the program and to hire Mrs. Torkelsen as a part-time Community Service Coordinator. And so H.O.P.E. Taskforce was born.

When Mrs. Torkelsen first started out, she wasn't even sure where to get projects. The type of projects needed were so scarce that she had to look through the yellow pages to find enough. She also contacted United Way which keeps a list of projects for volunteers, unfortunately many of those required adult volunteers. Since then, H.O.P.E. Taskforce has grown and so has the reputation of U.C.A. students. H.O.P.E. taskforce currently does 25-30 projects a month and more people are calling Mrs. Torkelsen. People often call just to thank the students and the school, and sometimes they send donations to help with the work that H.O.P.E. Taskforce is doing.

Many students and faculty have expressed surprise at the quick turn-around in attitudes since the program first began. At first several students felt that community service was similar to a sentence that a judge would hand down for the crime of being a student. The parents had mixed reviews. Some parents liked seeing their children involved in an effort to reach out to the community. Other parents did not like the idea of not knowing where their child was going to be (the U.C.A. office has a list of where all the students are, who they are riding with and what project they are doing).

Mrs. Torkelsen hopes to continue expanding the amount of projects that are available to the students. She feels that each student has spiritual gifts that can be used to help people in different ways. U.C.A. students and faculty continue to learn more about God and others through their experiences each month.

Jennifer Wikoff

## UCA celebrates family

Friday afternoon. The air was highly charged as students and faculty scrambled to finish before sundown. They set up chairs in the gym and cleaned the whole campus. Interior Design students finished up their projects in the Girls' Dorm in preparation for the open house Saturday night.

It was the weekend of the Family Fellowship Festival. This weekend celebrates family values from a Christian perspective. The Festival is sponsored by the Upper Columbia Conference and hosted by Upper Columbia Academy.

Friday evening. The night was filled with the sound of high heels clicking on the sidewalk. Their rythmn was a backdrop to the many hushed and expectant voices of people toiling up the slick cement to the gym. They came for some "over-the-hill" music and a spiritual message. The Wedgwood's "O Sinner Man!" was a hit with the younger generation, but the adults enjoyed the other old standbys best.

Terry Johnson's message was heart-touching and extremely funny. The mood of the crowd was positive and relaxed. Terry Johnson's advice to UCA students was "God has a very special mission for each of us" and "make your commitment to God when you're young." Johnson has a sequel to his book For His Honor coming out soon.

Sabbath. Most people went to Sabbath School in the gym. Both the UCA trumpet trio and UCA flute ensemble performed and the lesson was taught by Paul & Barbara Nelson.

"Praise to the Lord" was the theme of the worship service. Greg Nelson gave the sermon "Is There Child Care in the Desert?" There was an abundance of music, including our beloved UCA choir.

Most people spent the rest of the day going to seminar options where they learned new ways of living as a Christian in today's world. The Sabbath was closed by the Wedgwood Trio in concert playing all the old-time favorites.

Sarah Holmes



Amanda McCoy, Matt Tolbert, and Matt Williams provide historical commentary for song service during Family Fellowship Weekend

## Turkey bakes again

The aroma of thanksgiving dinner drifts through the house, bringing a steady stream of curious onlookers. Outside children are jumping in piles of orange and yellow leaves, while clanging dishes indicate the final preparations for the feast are still being made. Clusters of people are seen throughout the house as laughter echoes from wall to wall.

Is this where your Thanksgiving stopped, or did it go further? Did you acknowledge God's blessings that brought you to Thanksgiving? Did you remember the people who fought and died to make this country great?

Thanksgiving is physical (yum yum).

Thanksgiving is social (Friends and family).

Thanksgiving is also spiritual (God and country).

Why not stop for a moment and give Him thanks.

Rose Brower

*Nobody's Perfect  
When things go wrong  
as they often times will,  
When the road you're on  
feels like it's all up hill,  
When everyone around you  
seems to frown and sigh,  
And you want to smile  
but you have to cry,  
When life gets depressing  
and is just not worth it,  
Remember God loves you  
and nobody's perfect.  
Sarah Syth*

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

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



## More time to procrastinate

The leaves turned to green, yellow, and red. The blustery winds blew them from their branches. They fluttered to the ground like dying butterflies. The temperatures are falling lower and the days are getting shorter. Fall has come. Daylight savings has begun. Everyone now has an extra hour to procrastinate. With daylight savings comes the shortened Friday schedule at UCA.

This year's shortened Friday schedule is brand new. The morning classes are a regular 45-minute period, then lunch is at 12 o'clock. In the afternoon, there are three forty-minute periods. A student with afternoon classes gets out of class around 2:30 pm. Each week the schedule alternates between the first three afternoon periods and the last three periods.

Various other forms of shortened Friday schedules have been tried. The 91-92 schedule had a half-day with morning classes one week and afternoon classes the next. The 92-94 school years had yet another shortened Friday schedule. The morning classes were 39 minutes long and the afternoon classes were 18 minutes.

Morning classes are mainly freshman and junior classes. This causes a majority of the freshmen and juniors to dislike this year's shortened Friday schedule. While, conversely, sophomores and seniors are enjoying it. Teachers also have conflicting views on this year's new shortened Friday schedule. Some teachers think this year's schedule is much better than last year's and is more conducive to learning. Others think the schedule is detrimental to the learning process.

The change in this year's schedule, according to a teacher, was influenced by the school industry, Thunderbird. The new schedule allowed for a better work schedule for students on Friday. Whether this new schedule will adversely effect students academically shall be seen.

*Matt Evans*



*Sara Guth regresses for Amateur Hour*

## Winter snows, tears, and laughter

Snow: Precipitation in the form of small tabular and columnar white ice crystals formed directly from the water vapor of the air at a temperature of less than 32 degrees Fahrenheit. AKA: White, cold, fluffy stuff that falls from the sky. With the snow that falls comes a variety of emotions ranging from happiness to depression, from playfulness to laziness.

Some people go through every single emotion imaginable. The snow can be damaging or it can be helpful.

With snow comes ice, cold, rain, delays, and accidents. Sometimes whole schools close down because they can't get their busses on their routes. But with our school, the only things that might happen are that the heating system will quit working, or the village kids will get stuck at home. Everything goes on as normal when it snows at Upper Columbia Academy.

The worst thing that comes along with snow is the ice-- the ice which causes the accidents. The accidents cause deaths

## Bridge menaces the innocent

Across the road from UCA is a frightening circumstance. That old bridge over by the church is falling apart. It scares me, especially when my heels get caught in the knotholes. One of these fine Sabbath days, that ancient relic (circa 1974) is going to crumble while we're all walking to church and a whole herd of UCA people will tumble into the murky depths of the swamp. Ouch.

Things get really exciting in the winter when the ice is about an inch thick on the bridge. This would not be that big of a deal except for the fact that the class of 1974 saw fit to build the bridge in an arc. When church gets out, masses of UCA people crowd onto the bridge. Going up the bridge isn't so bad, it's going down that gets kind of hairy. Suddenly swarms of people go flying down the bridge, careening in all directions like a bunch of kamikaze skiers. Wearing Sabbath shoes doesn't help either. This situation could be easily remedied by the application of salt or another ice-melting substance to the pathways.

Apparently, this circumstance hasn't gone completely unnoticed. According to Pastor Meidinger, maintenance has nailed down some loose boards and there are tentative plans to rebuild that old bridge in the spring.

*Rosemary Casareale*

or critical injuries. This can put a big damper on the joy comes out of snow: the fun, the skiing, the snowboarding, the snowball fights, and, of course, the snowman making.

Each person copes differently with snow. Some people stay inside and read a good book. Other people go outside and play. One person told me that they don't really like snow but if they can throw someone in a snow bank they feel much better about it all. At one time or another wouldn't everyone like to throw someone in a snow bank?

*Amy Robinson*

## Grades worth money

Anyone that goes to this school has them. When going to a school, a student gets grades. When written out on paper, the letter grades present a wide range of possibilities.

Grades can show the strengths and weaknesses of students. Would they be better at a job that requires the reasoning of mathematics or a job being an editor of a newspaper? A high-tech company could see those high grades and turn them into profit by hiring the student. Grades can be used as a reference point for any career.

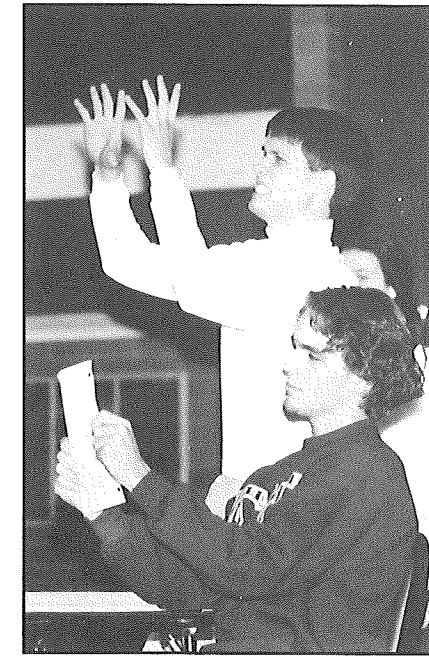
Colleges have found a way to motivate students to achieve good grades. Scholarships for a worthy g.p.a. are given at the end of every high-school year. But who gets the scholarships? Many students feel that grades don't give an accurate picture of intelligence. Albert Einstein did terribly in school and was considered to be dumb. Later he wrote about the theory of relativity. Maybe scholarships are for those who are willing to apply a science to their studying.

Are grades more important to the student or the parents? Parents are the people who give money to the school so their children can get a good education. Many just want the satisfaction of knowing that their young-adult is being industrious. Bad grades might raise more than just an eyebrow. Parents might wonder, "What is that child doing over there?"

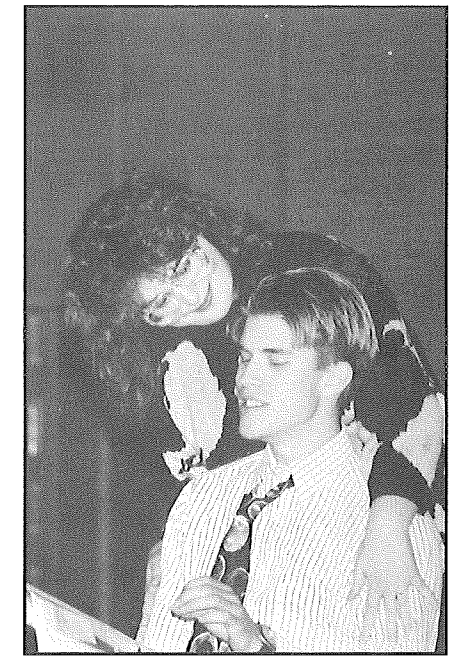
When the school year is over, all those grades will be in a file with a name attached. They will always be there for future reference.

*Broc Finkbiner*

Christmas  
vacation  
is nearly  
here!



*Braden Pewitt plays one of Jim Edwards' good angels in a recent drama club production for joint worship in the church*



*Sarah Artz and Broc Finkbiner play rather confused (but caring) parents in the same drama club production over at the church*

## Banded

This is it. What you do now you can never take back, so play well.

It was almost time as nearly ninety band members lined up to go. This was band tour, touring first Tri-Cities and then Moses Lake. The concert was to be held in a gym where a silent audience sat waiting for the director, Jerry Lange, to cue the poised performers. Sound gushed forth as the baton's rhythmic motions guided the band.

Then the real excitement began. Students were assigned to houses where they would spend the night. Several students mentioned the fun they had with those who had invited them home and the REAL food that was served.

On Sabbath, students were given the choice of which church they wanted to attend, and several band members had special music. The day flew by and again it was concert time.

At Moses Lake, everyone played with enthusiasm. The concert was a total success. Everyone felt themselves (band)ed together for the Lord.

*Charley Coleman*

## Sleep-walking through school

"Ahh, Sunday Morning... Oh no! It's Sunday school!"

The question of why we have Sunday school was recently brought up. Why do we have to have Sunday school? After a little research it was found that in order to go home on Tuesday for homeleave, the administration is required to get in an extra day of school so that the students will have enough days to go on to the next grade and eventually graduate. When Roni Sue Scott was asked how she felt about Sunday school, she said it wasn't cool having to go to school on Sunday, but she added that getting to go home a day earlier makes up for it.

No matter how one feels about Sunday school, the best thing to do is to grin and bear it. Remember, you get to go home one day sooner.

*Vashti Munson*

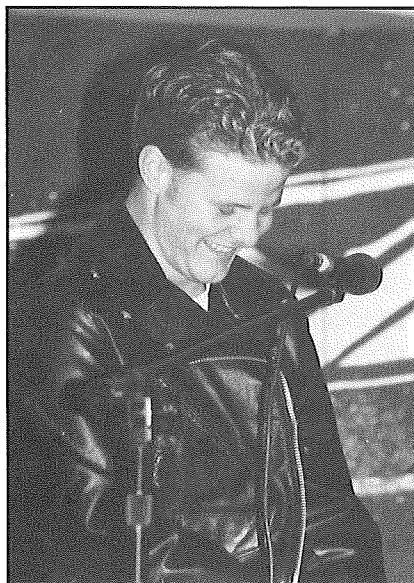
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## Putting the emphasis on God

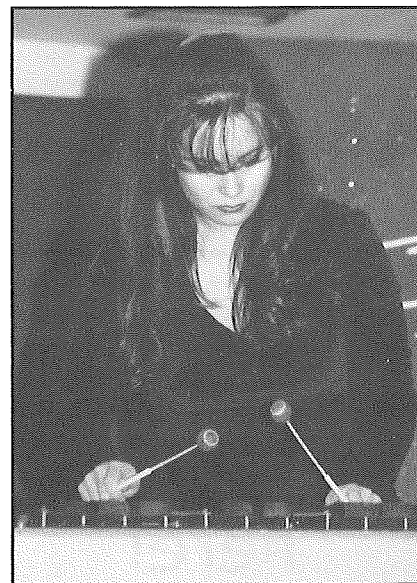
On Thursday, November 17, Spiritual Emphasis Weekend began. Mr. Jenks and Pastor Meidinger were hard at work making this weekend a wonderful and uplifting experience for all the students. The main theme of the weekend was being a servant to God and to others. On Thursday, Bobby Michaels came and gave an afternoon assembly and then a concert. His story of his life and his songs seemed to shed a new light on life for many students.

On Friday, Mrs. Torkelsen had planned a H.O.P.E. taskforce community service day where students could go out and help others. Then on that Friday night for vespers and the next Sabbath for church Elder Jose Rojas, North American Division Youth Leader, talked to us about how we all can be servants to Jesus Christ. The weekend seemed to effect many and helped us understand how we can help others learn of God and His soon coming.

*Alisa Bowker*



*Grant Flaiz gains composure during Amateur Hour*



*Rachel Walter was another participant in this year's Amateur Hour*

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