

# The Echoes

Upper Columbia Academy, Spangle, Washington Volume 45, Number 3, December 1996

## Students entertain at amateur hour

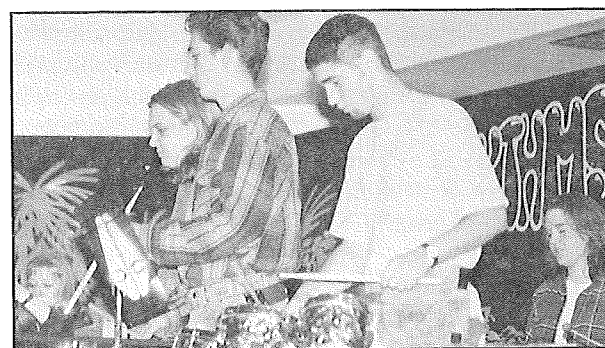
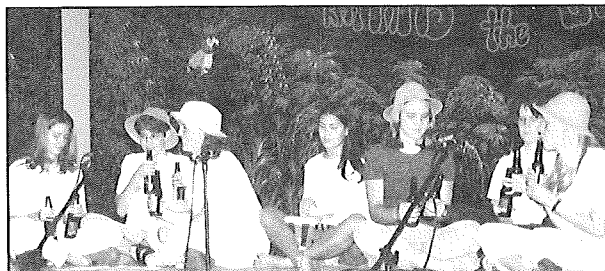
On the evening of November 16, the students of UCA, parents, and friends gathered in the gymnasium for the Girls' Club Amateur Hour. With prizes ranging from \$50 to \$75, all of the contestants were eager to get out and show what they could do.

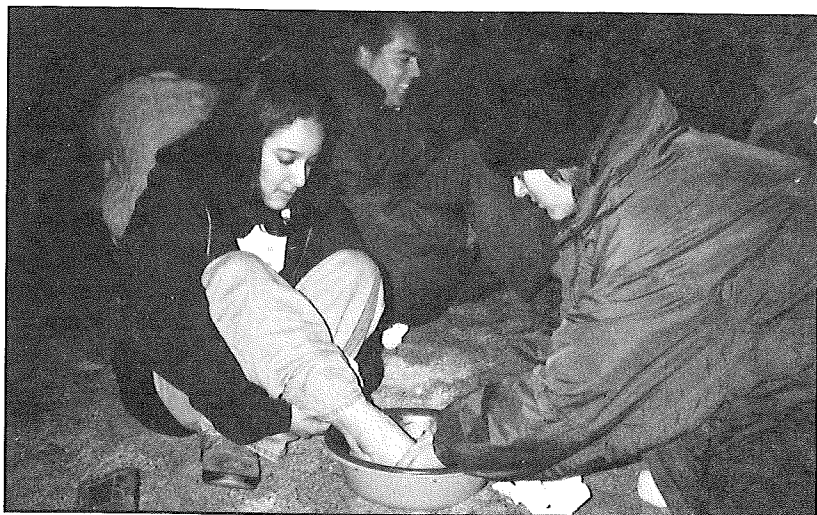
The program was scheduled for 7:30, but it took a while for everyone to get seated. It wasn't too long before the introduction of the Masters of Ceremonies. Tammy McGuire explained how "puns really are the lowest form of humor." She was then joined by Chuck Stevens, who is well known on campus for his famous (or infamous) puns, and who stated that if puns are the lowest form, they must be the foundation of all humor.

There were four categories with four performances each: novelty, piano, voice, and instrument. Judges chose one winner from each of the categories and one grand prize. Tanya McCreery's piece, "May Night," was the winner of the piano category. For the instrumental winner, the judges chose "Concertino," a flute piece played by Amelia Magnuson, a senior whose flute playing has won for the last three years. Renee and Melissa Hibbs won the vocal award with their duet "Love Can Build a Bridge." A percussion ensemble won the novelty section with their representation of a clock shop, "Pentatonic Clock." The judges' grand prize was a piece taken from *Fiddler On The Roof*, a song called "Do you Love Me," performed by Lindy Renck and Daniel Perrin. The audience also voted on their favorite piece which turned out to be "In the Jungle," a difficult piece played on root beer bottles by a whole bunch of girls.

Stephan Wescott, who played a trumpet piece in the evening's show, said "I consider it an honor to perform in amateur hour. It was a huge adrenaline rush." All in all, everyone enjoyed themselves, and aside from some disagreements about who should have won, and the evening was a huge success.

Andy Dougherty





Crissy Oster and Tara Wilson experience the foot-washing service on the sand bar at MiVoden

## Bible conference shows God's realness

"He is Real!" This was the backbone of the NPUC Bible Conference, held at Camp MiVoden November 7-9. The entire weekend was to prove God's realness to all those who attended.

The featured speaker was Don Keele, Jr., and Karl Haffner gave the special features. Terrance Richardson and Gary James shared their gift of music.

On Thursday evening the event's coordinators tried very hard to get people to mingle and meet, setting up "sharing time." Attendees were encouraged to sit by somebody they didn't know and exchange vital information like favorite foods and t.v. shows.

The introductory meeting led into free-time. The indoor pool opened, and quite a few people made their way down to either swim or sit in the hot tub. A few brave souls darted from the hot tub to the lake, giving themselves goosebumps until they hurtled back into the hot tub, shivering. For those who were not so aquatic, ping-pong, foosball, and table games were available. Many people opted for option C, doing absolutely nothing.

Friday morning consisted of meetings. Pastor Keele gave more information about himself, and many people noticed his friendly and

outgoing manner. Karl Haffner came up with a few more "mingling" games, and again Terrance Richardson and Gary James sang. Many people were blessed and left with a good impression. Sarah Webster said, "They were so in love with God, it inspired me."

Sabbath was like the other days, with special features, sermons, and music. Sabbath afternoon was a set aside for the schools to perform special musics and skits. Although not all schools participated, there were quite a few individuals who did not hesitate to let God's light shine. Sabbath evening there was a candlelit communion and footwashing service on the sandbar.

The Sabbath wound down, and after doing kitchen duties, UCA students sat (or slept) through the bus ride back. Some were glad to be back, while others wished to return to the sanctity of MiVoden. Hopefully something affected everyone in a special way. Becky Porch did not hesitate for a moment before saying, "It was a spiritually uplifting experience, and it's amazing how you can get to know people you never even thought you had a common bond with, through God." God is real, and whether or not this weekend proved it, He will always be real.

Lynn Rae Belles

## Gore speaks in Spokane

With the elections long gone, what will become of the many promises, such as those made by Al Gore when he visited Spokane on October 28.

Speaking to a large crowd of Democratic supporters at Spokane Falls Community College, Vice President Gore spent half of his speech drumming up support for local Democratic nominees. The remainder was focused on attacking the Republicans and making promises to improve access to higher education for the masses.

Among the measures promised were such items as the \$1500 tax credit known as the Hope Scholarship. The Hope Scholarship is specifically designed for community college students who on average have a tuition of \$1500. The tax credit would be available to any students who maintain a B average and are drug free throughout the period of the scholarship. The tax credit could even be obtained for a second year.

Another tax-related plan for increasing access to college education was a \$10,000 tax deduction to be used against funds paid for college tuition.

Despite the quickly-silenced rantings of a heckler far in the back of the gym, the Vice President defied the jokes portraying him as being less-dynamic than his podium. The crowd reacted enthusiastically to his increased vigor, cheering wildly at every attack on the Republican nominees.

Vice President Gore ended with a colorful anecdote. He portrayed the day after elections as being a bright sunny day with birds tweeting, breakfast cooking, the Macarena playing, and in the paper the announcement of a Democratic sweep of the elections. Then he described a miserable, rainy day with the newspaper announcing a Bob Dole victory. Oddly, November 6 was a very rainy, dismal day in Spokane, but Bob Dole isn't moving into the White House.

Seth Terry

## Turtles take over

If you walk through the Administration building, and stop to talk to Nancy Davis, you might notice her unique collection of turtles in the office. "They're my kids," stated Mrs. Davis as she showed them off proudly. Then she went on to explain how her collection started.

It began in the school year of 1973-1974 when she was a student missionary in Hong Kong and really wanted a piece of jade as a memento. But the jade pieces she found were too expensive. Finally, she found a tiny affordable jade turtle at a market. That was her first turtle.

Her second turtle came from Bangkok, Thailand, where she spent time with her missionary parents. This second turtle complemented the first.

From there, she just started collecting turtles from different places, and she started getting them from friends, teachers, bosses, and her husband. She also received many from

students after class, missionary, and Pathfinder trips.

She has many international turtles from places such as Africa, South America, Ecuador, and Mexico. Many turtles come from different states, as well.

The turtles are made from a wide range of material including molten rock, cocoa nut husks, pewter, crushed alabaster, ivory (which she was assured did not come from an elephant sacrifice), porcelain, and quartz.

These turtles also have some usefulness. Some are used as bubble gum holders, salt cellars, planter animals, and keyholders.

Lynn Belles was the first from UCA to give her a turtle, which was made of shells.

Mrs. Davis is not certain how many she has, but there are many more besides what is in her office.

Tiffany Wright



Mrs. Davis smiles as she tries to keep her swarming turtles under control

Merry Christmas

## Avoiding trouble with ad council

Ad Council, the mysterious, elite group of individuals that presides over UCA's student body. Arguably the most feared assembly of mortal beings. How can a lowly student stand up to the terrible onslaught of this questioning machine?

The following is a helpful handbook of suggestions gathered from some of UCA's finest. (What they are good at we won't say.)

**DON'T GO!** The best way to avoid a confrontation with Ad Council is simply not to get in trouble in the first place. However, for some this may prove harder than is sounds. For these few, a visit or two is inevitable. You may wish to avoid these people or at least make sure that you like them enough to stand up for them.

**BLAME IT ON SOMEONE ELSE.** For someone who is often in trouble, this is an essential skill. The

ability to pass the buck doesn't come naturally, but with practice, anyone can perfect it. For example, let's say that you get caught throwing flaming balls of Kleenex out your window. Rather than just admit you were breaking a rule and accepting your punishment, you say that your neighbor across the hall (who throws things at your door and keeps you up all night) ran into your room with a lighter and lit the wadded tissue. In an attempt to save the dorm from burning down, you threw the ball of fire out the window. However, don't ever try to use an overused excuse like blaming it on the school system. (They've already heard that one.)

**I WAS SLEEP WALKING.** This excuse only works in selected situations. For instance, let's say that you plugged up the shower drains and flooded the first floor of the dorm. It is perfectly believable that you could do this while you were sleepwalking. On

the other hand, if you skipped worship for a week, then you may wish to say that you were just sleeping as this is more likely than sleepwalking.

**THE TREE BRANCH WAS BLOCKING THE STOP SIGN.** I don't think I have to explain the limited capabilities of this excuse.

**PLEAD INSANITY.** Certain individuals may have a lot of success with this one. You may not want to use this, though, because it can have definite negative repercussions.

**TELL THE TRUTH.** If nothing else will work, there is always this old standby. While it may have limited effectiveness at getting you out of trouble, Ad Council has been known to believe this now and then, and it could get you off more easily than some of the over techniques mentioned. Besides, it's the right thing to do.

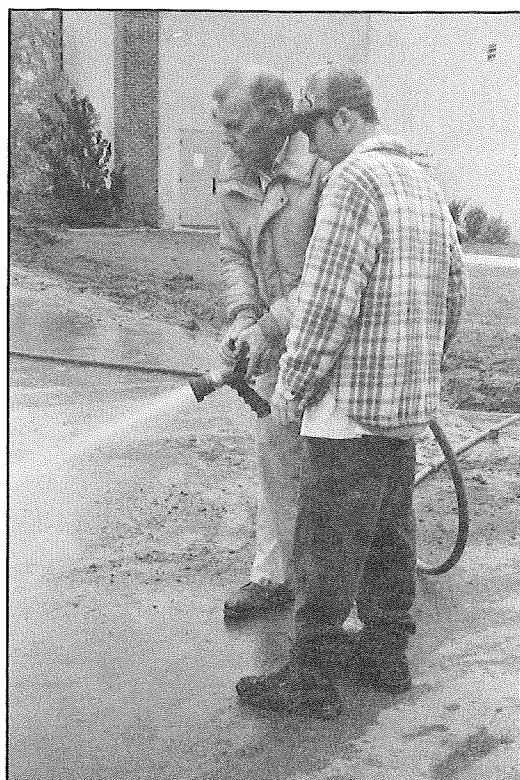
Andy Dougherty



## Family meets to fellowship

The family is an endangered institution. Divorce rates are higher now than they've ever been before. Unwed mothers are common and teen pregnancies are on the rise. Kids join gangs in an attempt to find a security. Millions of families are broken apart simply because they never get together. The family is in danger of disintegrating completely.

The Upper Columbia Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is placing special emphasis on the family. On the weekend of November 15-16, the UCC hosted their annual Family Fellowship Festival on the Upper Columbia Academy campus.



Mr. Lake and Michael Huggins hose away some of the mud before Family Fellowship Weekend

Many different activities were featured throughout the weekend. There were, of course, many meetings and seminars to attend. Steve Arrington, former diver for the Jacques Cousteau Society, came and gave his testimony, "Journey Into Darkness." He also gave the presentation "High on Adventure." One student remarked, "Listening to his story was exciting. If God can find him, God can find me."

Dick Duerkson, a well-known and gripping speaker, told the ice cream story on Friday night and preached the sermon for church on Sabbath. In his sermon, he presented four steps to a healthy family: work, listen, respond, and PARTY.

Steve Darmody, a renowned Christian recording artist, provided music throughout the weekend and put on a concert on Sabbath afternoon. Darmody was on campus last school year as the week of prayer speaker.

Marvin Thorman, Upper Columbia Academy's resident mathematician, led out in two seminars entitled "Four Success secrets for Small Group Bible Study" and "How to Lead an Inductive Bible Study." Later Mr. Thorman said, "It was really neat to see the Holy Spirit at work."

Also available in the afternoon were Bible Knowledge Bowls on the Old and New Testament where students, faculty, and visitors alike tested their knowledge against each other.

Saturday evening, the ABC hosted a book sale special "Time to Buy" in the UCA gymnasium, and Saturday night was the girl's club Amateur Hour. Students from the campus performed in many different musical and comedy numbers. This ended the weekend with a little good, clean family amusement.

*Amelia Magnuson*

## Ice hits area

A winter wonderland was not what many of us woke up to on the 17th of November. Instead of rolling hills covered with soft blankets of white snow, nearly every tree in Washington and Idaho was covered with about an inch of ice, and nearly half of Spokane County was without power.

Rumors of especially woolly caterpillars earlier this fall seem to have been founded in reality. The events of the week before Thanksgiving apparently proving that we are in for a very hard winter this year.

Estimates placed the return of power to all of Spokane County somewhere around the Thanksgiving holiday. Most people had power restored by the 24th, but large areas in the valley and other outlying areas were still without power. There were even sections in downtown Spokane itself which were without power, but they became increasingly few and far between. Compared to many places, the UCA campus got off lightly, only losing power for a few hours.

With snow coming down almost daily, and little hope offered by the weather forecasters, many of us will probably stay indoors until mid December while things settle down. One good thing about the snow and ice forcing us to stay indoors is that it allows us to spend more of that much-needed quality time with family and loved ones.

So, cuddle up with a good book and a cup of hot chocolate, and enjoy your Christmas vacation with the peaceful sound of snow falling to earth.

*Seth Terry*

## The Echoes

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

this month's contributors were  
Lynn Rae Belles, Andy Dougherty,  
Amelia Magnuson, Seth Terry,  
Tiffany Wright, and  
Stephen Lacey, sponsor

## More Amateur Hour pictures . . .



## Holidays bring thanks and heartache

Students race home as fast as they possibly can, meeting their friends, relatives, and parents with great hugs and much laughter at airports or bus stations. They climb into familiar vehicles amid constant chatter for the final trek home. At home they sink into their own beds under their handmade quilts and dream of all they have to be thankful for. And happiness frames their sleeping faces. They are content. When they awake, it is to the aroma of the beginnings of a grand meal.

But for so very many, life has no such joys. There is no time for Thanksgiving. There is nothing for them to be thankful for. Their homes consist of tiny, grungy houses which have too much unneeded ventilation. They live among small (and at times, large) rodents. However, some people are not even that lucky. Sometimes they have only a fire in the middle of a back alley. Their beds consist of rough concrete; their blankets, tattered clothing; and their stomachs remain empty. Their dreams are not on the present, but rather on the future. They dream of the day that times will be different, or they feel resigned to their fate and dream of nothing beyond their own walls of misery.

Then there are those families who have plenty of money to spare. They make huge feasts, invite many guests, and lack nothing--nothing except the genuine holiday spirit. Amongst all of the silverware clanging on expensive china and false laughter, how many are truly having a good time? Most of those guests keep their eyes glued to the clock, awaiting the time when it would be "proper" for them to leave. Surely, thankful spirits do not reside in these homes.

And then you see the poor families who do not have all the extra trimmings. They may have only potatoes and turkey, but they rejoice because they have a family to share it with. They give their earnest thanks and enjoy every minute of the holiday.

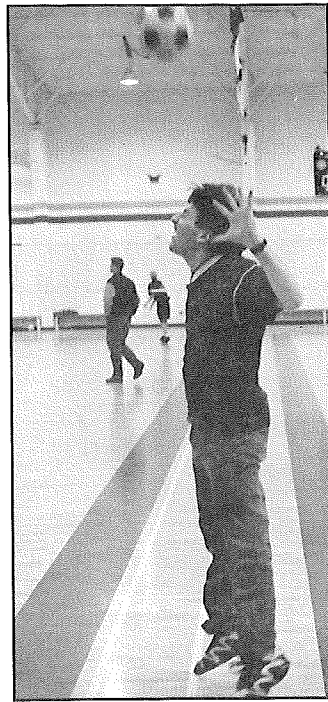
If you think about it, holidays are funny things. They bring so much heartache and so much joy at the same time.

*Tiffany Wright*





Students crowd down the one stairway in the old ad building . . . the new building has two



Gaelan Katz uses his head

## Band hits the road

When you're at a boarding academy, band tour is one of those events that you don't want to miss. It doesn't matter whether the band is large or small, the thrill of getting out on the road as a team is an exceptional experience.

According to one student, if you get on the bus with your friends, the bus ride can be the best part. No pressure, no deadlines. Just sit back and enjoy the ride. There is time to think, visit, read, sleep, or even do homework. It's a time to escape pressure, to kick back and relax.

But as soon as the bus arrives at its destination, peace and solitude become a thing of the past. Suddenly, everything becomes a mad rush. Unload the truck: first the hanging clothes, then instruments, percussion equipment, and, lastly, the music stands. Forming a human chain, the students pass each item along the until everything is unloaded. Then the food is served. Students fight through the long lines and then chow down quickly so as to have time to change into concert dress before it's time for warm-up. There are always a few who slide into their chairs just as Mr. Lange raises his baton, and they breathe in relief if he seems not to notice.

Playing the concert is a lesson in perseverance all its own. Highly technical combinations of balance must be present in each section for the band to pull together and reach the highest level of competence. More often than not, somewhere the balance is not quite right, and getting back together once someone is lost is a tricky business. But when it is all over, and Mr. Lange takes the last bows, you know it was all worth it. And somewhere inside you glow with a feeling of satisfaction in a job well done.

*Amelia Magnuson*

## There was something in the air

The snow seems to have finally brought a temporary end to a campus pest. That the Bible teachers plot the annual descent of clouds of little bluish flies to help us better appreciate the plagues of Egypt is doubtful. However, the flies do come, and for some time they present us with a challenge. How does one move along the sidewalks without boosting protein intake or turning one's hair into a fly condominium?

The preferred fly-avoidance technique seemed to be finding some object that increased the surface area of the hands and flapping it nonchalantly just in front of the face: brooms, notebooks, late assignments and small friends appeared to be the most common choices. Closed-mouth talking was vital, of course, but had the alarming effect of making every clever comment sound the same. As fate would have it, some flies did make contact and could be counted upon to fall into food or crawl across a hapless soul's face just before he dropped off to sleep. Squashed fly remains added an interesting feature to otherwise normal faces.

Seniors who learned about the benefits of eating bugs during Senior Survival eyed the blue clouds with interest, but not one, as far as we know, was spotted sprinting along with mouth open and tongue lapping up the delectable treats. So much for application of learning. Desperate, procrastinating Biology students, hoping to double the size of their insect collections, discovered with much disappointment that the little blue marvels were much too small to pin into their shoe boxes. Next year's students, however, should remember the glue and paper mounting technique.

Now, as we battle falling snow, this whole adventure is just a happy memory, but we can count on the flies to return next October. People interested in a fly-avoidance seminar should sign-up in the principal's office.

## Take me to your leader

Transforming the Spokane Arena stage into another planet, the Newsboys performed a concert on Sunday, November 3rd.

Plankeye started out, dealing with the dullish crowd by bringing on the electric guitar and bass overload and exciting a few ready-moshers to run to the front, only to be reprimanded by the green-coated guards.

The guards had less to worry about with Geoff Moore and the Distance, for their Springsteen-esque music brought more clapping than moshing. After warming up the crowd, Geoff Moore had them all chanting, "Why should the devil have all the good music?"

Finally, with the stage made up with reddish rock and a banner stating "We come in Peace," the Newsboys arrived, descending from above the stage on three hanging platforms.

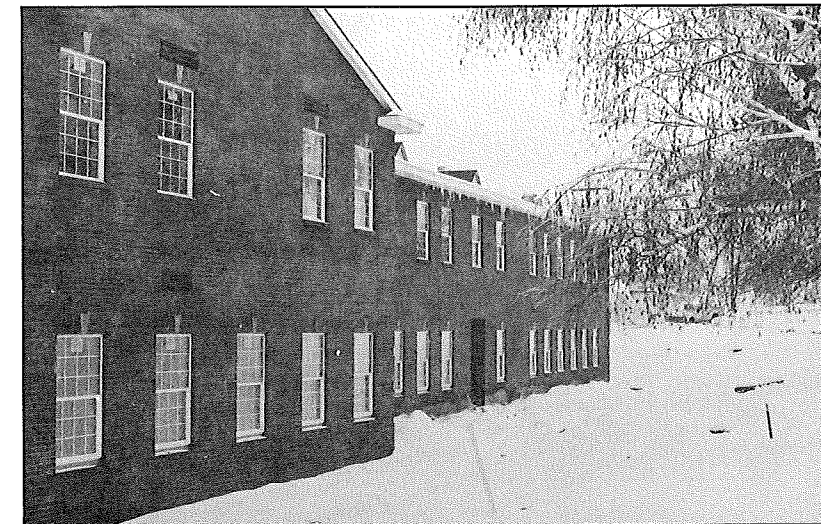
To all who are unaware, the Newsboys are a Christian band that originated in Australia, with three members coming from there, and the other three coming from America. They have been recording since 1989 and have 6 albums out. This tour is named after their current album, "Take Me to Your Leader."

The set was designed to appear as a planet (other than earth) which the Newsboys landed upon. Red Rock covered a large portion of the stage, and the Newsboys donned space suits and wandered upon this alien land for their hit, "Take Me to Your Leader." Senior Paula Kildal was very impressed with the way the stage was set up. She said, "I thought the decoration for the set was very good, and tied in well with the theme."

After the concert there was a signing with all three bands. The Newsboys were gracious to all the adoring fans who brought all sorts of paraphernalia to have signed. The small Evangel bookstore was crowded, and there was a line around the building with about 200 people waiting to get signatures. After meeting them and getting her picture taken with members of the band, Crissy Oster was taken with their kindness. She said afterwards, "They are soooo nice, I could have talked with them for hours!"

Although meeting the Newsboys was very cool, many who didn't aren't discouraged at all. Paula Kildal did not have the chance to meet them, but she says with confidence, "When I get to heaven, I'm gonna sing with the Newsboys."

*Lynn Rae Belles*



The new administration building gradually gets a more finished look

## Some dare stay for open weekends

Although most students leave on open weekends, there are always a few who for various reasons are left behind. "I stay here because there's no place to go," said one student. So what do the students who are here on open weekends do? What is there to do?

Of course, a few activities are provided. There is always Vespers on Friday night, Sabbath School and Church on Sabbath morning, and Sundown Meditation on Saturday night. Almost always, a hike is planned on Sabbath afternoon, and sometimes singing bands are available. On Saturday and Sunday nights, the gym or the ball field will be available for recreation. Once this year, ASB planned a scavenger hunt for the Saturday night activity. This activity involved groups of people who, with a faculty member, drove around Spokane and took pictures of themselves doing everything from bowling and standing on a fire hydrant to sitting in a stranger's tub.

Other than that, life goes pretty slowly on open weekends. "I'm never here on open weekends," said Desiree Wagner. "There's nothing to do if you're stuck here." However, not everyone who stays on open weekends thinks it's a drag. When asked whether she liked staying at UCA on open weekends, Sharna Aaen replied, "Yeah, it's great! There's nobody else here. That's a good thing." "There is plenty of time to do the things you don't have time to do during the week," another student said.

So what do you do on open weekends? According to Kristi Harlan, you can "Sleep-in. Talk to friends. Play volleyball. Do laundry." Other popular activities include walking into Spangle, doing homework, playing computer games, cleaning your room, or simply doing nothing at all.

*Amelia Magnuson*

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# The Echoes

## Not your average bear

What happens to old fur coats when they die? Many find a new lease on life right here on campus in the home of Pastor Fred Riffle. Pastor Fred, sophomore Bible teacher and all-around nice guy, collects old furs and transforms them into adorable Ruffle-Rock Bears.

This all started with his sister, and last Christmas vacation it spread to the rest of the family. Now, he and his sisters are all making Ruffle-Rock Bears.

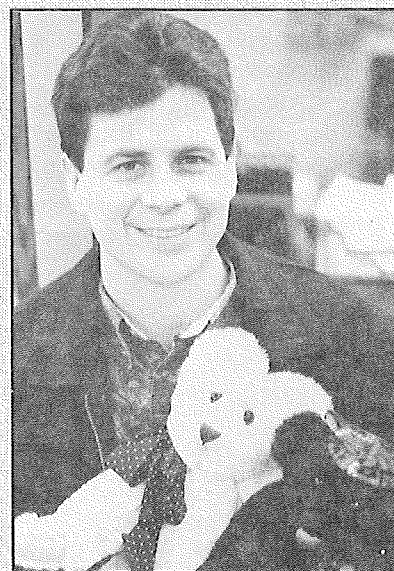
Pastor Fred also does a specialty type of bear called Resurrection Bears. If you have a loved grandparent or other relative who wore furs and passed away in Christ, Pastor Fred will take that fur and make it into a special Resurrection Bear. These special bears serve as a reminder that one day we will see our loved ones alive again.

For those with specific tastes in teddy bears, Pastor Fred will make just about any type of bear: from cute and cuddly Koalas to the ever-classic polar bear (great for those cold winter nights). In the near future there might even be sightings of Ruffle-Rock Buffalo.

But why does he do it? According to Pastor Fred, he finds it "very relaxing." He also likes seeing the results because "even though I use the same pattern, they turn out different every time."

So, if you're in the market for some quality hand-made cuddliness, give Pastor Fred a call.

*Seth Terry*



*Pastor Fred and two of his bears*

W A P P Y H O L I D A Y S