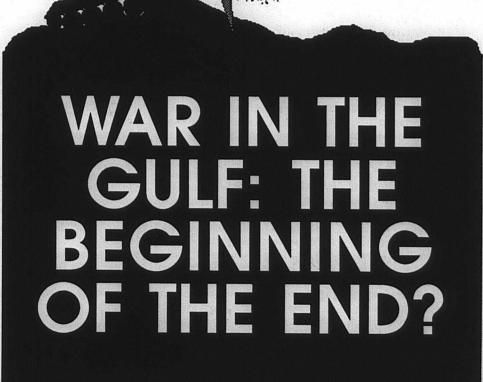
## THE HOUGHTON TARCH 1, 1991 \*\* VOLUME 83.12

L. David Wheeler & Ivan T. Rocha, Editors



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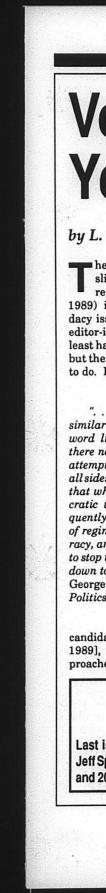
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THE HOUGHTON STAR is a bi-weekly student publication; its focus is on events, issues and ideas which significantly affect the Houghton College community. Letters (signed) are encouraged and accepted for publication; however, they must not con-stitute a personal attack, they must be submitted by noon on Monday, and they should be no longer than two double spaced pages. The editors reserve the right to edit all contributions.



#### EDITORIAL

## Voices From Yesteryear

#### by L. David Wheeler

The following editorial, with slight modifications, has been reprinted from the 81.17(April 1989) issue of the *Star*, the candidacy issue of a certain current coeditor-in-chief. That means that at least half of you have read it before, but them's the breaks; I've got stuff to do. Enjoy....

". . .Many political words are similarly abused...In the case of a word like democracy, not only is there no agreed definition, but the attempt to make one is resisted form all sides. It is almost universally felt that when we call a country democratic we are praising it: consequently the defenders of every kind of regime claim that it is a democracy, and fear that they might have to stop using the word if it were tied down to any one meaning." George Orwell

Politics and the EnglishLanguage

Since announcing my candidacy for *Star* editor [spring 1989], several people have approached me and asked if I plan to keep the paper in the "radical" mode of this year. Each time I was asked this question, I became puzzled and stammered some meaningless response. What has been so "radical" about this year's *Star*? Granted, the issues it has dealt with have been controversial, as questions of waste dumps invariably will be, and any controversial issue will spark strong individual opinions. Why should this make the *Star* "liberal" or "radical?"

The answer seems to me to be much larger than one year's newspaper or one waste dump. It lies in the "two camp," dichotomous approach to human affairs which has developed in American society (and consequently in Houghton). This approach includes the following assertions: There is a right. There is a left. Granted, there is a center, but they who reside there are obviously waffling coasters. If one is taking life seriously, one is going to reside firmly on one side of the political-religious-social center, and put up a mailbox and a picket fence.

When one finds it so simple to pigeonhole others' ideological frame-

works, it becomes much easier to attempt to actually define other people. To draw conclusions about an individual, one needn't even know such ideosyncratic details as, say, an individual's name, his favorite color, what he does on Saturday mornings, or if he kicks cats and small children. (L. David Wheeler, green, what are Saturday mornings?, only in self-defense.) An individual can simply be defined as "here" or "there": the "heres" by definition the divinely sanctioned guardians of the quality of life, the "theres" by definition the hated enemy.

Houghton's entrenchment in this erroneous view was demonstrated quite clearly in the fall of 1988, when all were defined by their campaign buttons. Depending on who you talked to, the Antichrist was alive, well, and living in Massachusetts or Washington (usually Massachusetts). Hawthorne's famed scarlet letter became a redlaced "D."

I myself am the possessor of strong opinions. But I would certainly hope that where I stand on capital punishment, Arminianism, or Dr. Meade isn't seen as the whole of what I am, or is taken to indicate how I will stand on anything else. Hastily-drawn labels are degrading, and I refuse to wear one.

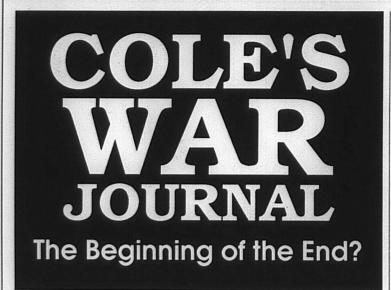
"Democracy" is salvageable. But "liberal" and "conservative" have got to go, unless they can be used correctly. The center of the line will always be defined by whatever point you rest upon, unless you quit looking for endpoints and centers.☆

### **CLARIFICATIONS**

Last issue included a letter from Jeff Spear (appearing on pages 19 and 20) denouncing the business department. What several people didn't realize, however, is that Jeff Spear is a professor of business

and that his letter was meant to be taken satirically, with a grain of salt.

#### COVER STORY



n an attempt to give a more detailed report of the occurrences between February 22 and 26, this column will not adhere to its previous format of a two-week journal; rather, it will concentrate on the period immediately before and during the ground war.

By Thursday and Friday (the 21st and 22nd) Allied forces had been offered an 8-point peace plan. Iraq, through the Soviet Union, offered the following:

 "Full and unconditional withdrawal of its forces from Kuwait." On this point, the U.S. wanted a firm timetable arranged.

 Iraq will withdraw "the day after hostilities cease."—The U.S. wanted to see the withdrawal begin before ceasing fire.

3) Iraq offered to withdraw "in a fixed time frame."—The U.S. wanted to give them specifically seven days: noon (EST) of Saturday the 16th to noon of Saturday the 23rd.

 Iraq wanted to end sanctions after 2/3 of their forces withdrew—The U.S. wanted first a complete withdrawal. 5) Iraq wanted all U.N. resolutions dropped after withdrawal the U.N. wants Iraq to pay reparations to Kuwait.

 6) Iraq wanted POWs freed immediately after the cease-fire.

 Iraq wanted withdrawal to be monitored by non-involved nations named by the U.N.

 8) Iraq wanted talks to continue, with reports made to the security council's "present members."

Gorbachev gave President Bush details of the phone call. Although taken as a good signal at the time, the U.N. saw problems with the lack of a timetable and the reparations to Kuwait. British Prime Minister John Major said that the Iraqis had known the demands of the U.N. since last year; their offer was encouraging, but the U.N. demands still stood.

Also on Thursday, U.S. forces were involved with skirmishes that supposedly destroyed many tanks and howitzers and took 450 captives. The US lost one soldier; seven were wounded.

On Saturday, Bush grimly noted that the deadline for Iraq to begin pulling out had passed.

As Sunday rolled around, Iraq continued to persist in occupying Kuwait, the White House said that "coalition forces have no alternative but to continue to prosecute the war." "We regret that ... (Hussein) took no action before the deadline to comply with U.N. resolutions. Military action continues on schedule and according to plan."

On Monday, that action enterred its "final phase." At first light the 101st Airborne, with over 2000 helicopter-borne troops, took over and fortified a zone 50 miles into Iraq; the installation that they set up would be used to fuel helicopters and leapfrog into other operations.

Allied troops drove into Kuwait, reaching the Kuwait City outskirts by nightfall. Armored columns and helicopters drove toward Basra in Iraq, trying to isolate Iraq's Republican Guards. The battle was the biggest American assault since WWII and involved over one million combatants and support troops.

Casualties were reported as "extremely light"—resistance was weak, although commanders stressed that no one had yet run into the Republican Guards.

By Tuesday, President Bush demanded that Hussein himself agree to a pullout in order for the war to end. Although Saddam supposedly had ordered troops to withdraw, the U.S. said that any moving combat troops would be treated as combatants unless: 1) they surrendered, 2) they left their equipment behind, or 3) there was a formal, direct agreement to a withdrawal on coalition terms.

On Tuesday, a Scud missile landed in Dhahran, killing 27 and wounding 98. Also, for the first time allied troops met members of the Republican Guards and claimed tremendous success. By this date, officials predicted the war to last days, not weeks.☆

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## AND IN OTHER NEWS

by mike ballman

#### Russia

About 100,000 people rallied in the Soviet republic of Russia on Sunday in support of Russian president Boris Yeltsin, who recently demanded the resignation of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. The demonstration in Moscow's Manezh Square, located near the Kremlin, was the third in as many days.

Last Friday thousands gathered to protest for free speech. The next day (the 73rd anniversary of the founding of the Soviet navy and army), 75,000 soldiers, veterans, and hard-liners protested in support of the military and government.

Many of the hand-painted signs displayed on Sunday's pro-Yeltsin rally proclaimed: "Gorbachev, the People Despise You" and "Uncle Gorby, My Granny and I Don't Trust You Anymore." Many of the hand-painted signs displayed on Sunday's pro-Yeltsin rally proclaimed: "Gorbachev, the People Despise You" and "Uncle Gorby, My Granny and I Don't Trust You Anymore."

#### Thailand

The government of Thailand's prime minister, Chatichai Choonhavan, was overthrown by military commanders Saturday in a bloodless coup.

The military leaders responsible for the coup, led by General Suchinda Krapayoon, announced that they want to return the country to democracy and to hold elections in six months. They also expressed the desire to amend the constitution to prevent the corruption that they insinuated had motivated the nonviolent coup.☆



He wants to do his taxes but he finds it too difficult to hold a pencil.

Without your help, he may not be able to do them.

Almost everybody has to file taxes, but not everyone can do it on their own. Volunteer and help make someone's taxes less taxing. Call 1800 424-1040.



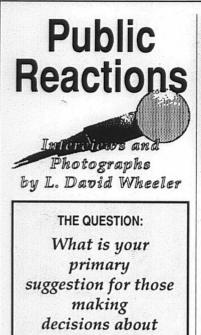


oughton College is one of two colleges in New York State selected to appear in the 1991 Templeton Foundations Honor Roll for Character-building Colleges. This marks Houghton's second consecutive year for this selection. Of 108 colleges and universities from 30 states, 27% chosen are private and 73% are church affiliated.

The Honor Roll is an annual listing of schools that "best exemplify campuses that encourage the development of strong moral character among students." It was compiled by polling college and university presidents and directors of development of all four-year accredited institutions of higher education across the country.

The Honor Roll is sponsored by John Marks Templeton and the Templeton Foundations of Jackson, Mississippi. Their goal is that "the Honor Roll might be of some help for future college students and their parents and to those whose generosity supports higher education."  $\hat{x}$ 

March 1, 1991





WENDY HOFFMAN SOPHOMORE

First of all, I am very glad Houghton is taking the time and effort to investigate the chapel proceedings in order to try to benefit all those involved. Personally, I would like to have chapel on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday consecutively; I realize they would like to spread it out more evenly over the week, but for me, I would enjoy a block with more days in between the blocks.



Mark Hollamby senior

I think what they [the chapel task force] are saying is good, in regard to content. I like the idea of three-days-a-week chapel; but as far as the attendance policy goes, it should be mandatory for everyone, as under the present system. Under a system of keeping one's own attendance, people would probably lose track or not keep accurate records. They definitely have to change the proposed schedule, particularly with regards to those who have fourth and fifth period classes.



chapel?

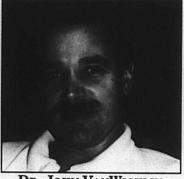
BRITTE KINNEY JUNIOR

I don't think it's a good idea to make people wait so long for lunch. If they're going to make them [chapels] longer, they should make sure that they have enough quality content to fill the specified time.



DAVID SAUNDERS FRESHMAN

If they're going to lengthen it, it would be wise to let those people with 1:15 classes eat downstairs in Big Al's for lunch. I am agreeing wholeheartedly with the possible agreement [content and scheduling] set up by the chapel task force.



DR. JOHN VANWICKLIN PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSOR

"Mandatory worship" is an oxymoron. I see worship as a free act of love and devotion to God; how can you mandate that? We need to recognize that people will be making decisions on their own soon; and if we aren't preparing students for that, perhaps we're doing them a disservice. In a mandatory environment, you externalize things (they're making me do this); in a nonmandatory environment, you internalize things (I'm doing this because it's something I want to do).

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# CHAPEL FORUS: A Discussion of Perspectives

by senate correspondent Barry S. MacTarnaghan

n Tuesday, February 19, a chapel forum was held in the New Academic Building to discuss the draft proposal of the Chapel Study Committee—the yellow sheets distributed thoroughly throughout campus, well in advance of the forum. The forum lasted approximately an hour and a half, and all parts of the proposal were discussed.

The original proposal, and consequently the final recommendations, were based on the beliefs, comments, and concerns of the faculty, the students, and the members of the committee (consisting of both students and faculty).

There was some discussion concerning chapel content. Many students and faculty expressed an interest in increasing the amount of music presented in chapel. It was stated that music is an important part of worship, and if chapel is truly going to take on a more worship-oriented format, then more music needs to be used more often. The increase in music would include greater use of hymns, choruses, and musical groups.

More student participation was stressed as a necessity. Students, it was argued, are more likely to pay attention and "get something out of chapel" if their peers are participating or if they themselves are participating. Opportunities for students to be involved should not be stifled. but these opportunities should not be propaganda or advertisements for campus organizations. Those chapels designed to be "information" chapels for organizations could be done as sets of multiple segments, rather than as entire chapels for each organization.

Another major portion of the

forum focused on the proposed schedule (maintain current period schedule with the lengthening of chapel by ten minutes). The concern here is that the proposed schedule will wreak havoc for those students who have both a fourth period class (ending at 12:50) and a fifth period class (beginning at 1:15). Within this 25-minute time span (provided the student is not released from class late) the student must get from class to the dining hall, stand in line, get lunch, find a seat. eat, take up his dishes, and get to his next class. The general consensus was, "Good luck!"

A few possible solutions to this problem were discussed:

1) Change the entire day's schedule. The Academic Affairs Council stated that this would not happen next year.

2) Change the afternoon schedule so that the fifth period class would start at 1:30, and all other afternoon classes would be changed accordingly. The ninth period class, which isn't used, would be eliminated.

3) The fifteen-minute buffers before and after chapel could be changed to ten minutes. Chapel would begin at 11:00, and fourth period would begin at 11:50 (ending at 12:40).

4) The final proposed solution was that the snack shop would provide food for students who have both fourth and fifth period classes. Their food stickers would be accepted as if they were eating in the dining hall. The problem of this last solution is that there would be a line at the snack shop consisting of these students (same problem, to a smaller degree, with the dining hall).

The main topic of discussion was about the two options for a seating and attendance policy. Option 1, as you should be well aware, is effectively the same as the present policy. There was some (Continues on page 8)

continued from page 7

discussion voiced in favor of this option, but most of it had to do with the importance of chapel. However, the support for Option 1 was not opposed to Option 2, because Option 2 still makes chapel mandatory.

Much support was given in favor of Option 2. Several students expressed their belief that the improved (or at least altered) content will encourage students to attend regularly, decreasing the worry about students lying about their attendance. Many believe that Houghton students have enough integrity to be honest about their attendance, but there was some doubt.

One student equated chapel attendance, under Option 2, with attendance of evening CLEW services. This, however, was not a valid argument, precisely because the CLEW services are in the evening. Anything scheduled in the evening meets with many conflicts, especially the demand for academic excellence which necessitates evening studies.

One concern with Option 2 was this: who decides who is more responsible or spiritual than others? Not all students in a particular class are more responsible or spiritual than all students in "younger" classes. A supporter for Option 2 stated that although that may be true, the seating and attendance policy (Option 2) can be seen as a rite of passage.

At the close of the forum, a vote was taken to get an idea of how much support each Option enjoyed. Only three people, out of approximatelyt fifty, voted to support Option 1.

The final decisions of the Chapel Study Committee were to be taken on Wednesday, February 27. Those decisions should be made public to the student body shortly after. $\Delta$ 





THE HOUGHTON STAR

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## Habitat Habitats Hereabouts

by Kim Voorhees

People helping people, local involvement, international committment, a matter of conscience. These are just a few of the words used repeatedly to describe Habitat for Humanity.

The ecumenical Christian housing ministry known as Habitat for Humanity is a group of interdenominational Christians working together to "eliminate poverty housing from the world and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience." There are many things involved in order for them to advance toward this goal.

First, it is necessary to find a building site for new housing. This can be done in a couple of ways: 1) the land may be donated by a corporation or 2) The government may sell Habitat land (sometimes whole streets) for a dollar because they know that Habitat will go in and develop it.

After a site has been selected, the next step is to find a needy family. This is done through a nondiscriminatory selection process whereby families put in applications and are picked according to need and willingness to work. Neither race nor religion plays a factor in this; in fact several Muslim families have received homes in the Buffalo area.

In order to be eligible and receive a home, the family must first prove it is willing to participate. As Laurie Merz, faculty advisor to the Houghton College chapter, said, "This is not a handout organization; it is a partnership organization." The families are required to put in "sweat-equity" in order to prove their willingness to cooperate with Habitat. They usually do this by working on houses for other families, but if this is impossible they can babysit or do desk work.

After the house is built, since the families are usually too poor to secure a bank loan, they are given a fixed time period in which to repay the cost of the house with no interest. Payments are put back into chapter funds and used to build more houses. Money and materials used to build come from chapter funds and donations.

The Houghton College chapter of Habitat is headed by sophomore Rob Scharf, president, and freshman Tim Thorton, vice president. It started off with a bang two years ago but interest has seemed to dwindle in recent months. At the beginning of this semester a new board and a steering committee were set up, and the chapter is currently planning a spring break trip to Savannah, Georgia, to work on-site with the Coastal Empire (Savannah) Chapter. Junior Debbie Howard, treasurer for the Houghton chapter and coordinator for this trip chose the site from a list of 20 to 30 different locations that have need of students to come during spring break. An application was sent in, informing Coastal Empire of the number of workers to expect, where the Houghton chapter wanted to work, and what type of labor the chapter had, as well as the parameters of spring break. The approved trip will involve leaving Houghton at 6:00 a.m. on Palm Sunday, working throughout the week in Savannah, and returning the following Sunday or Monday. The cost for the trip is only \$20 to \$40 for food, van rental, and gas. Students will stay in a dorm or cottage on the beach. The group in Savannah provides both the housing and cooking facilities. Howard currently expects ten to twelve students to take part in this trip. She also says that she thinks this trip will be a really "good working experience, and a really good group bonding time for getting to know people you don't normally see, people who aren't necessarily in Habitat, just people from on campus who have an interest in serving the Lord in this way."

The Houghton chapter is also planning to work on a site in Caneadea belonging to the Genesee Valley Habitat chapter. Because the Houghton chapter is not allowed to have its own building site, it works in conjunction with Genesee Valley chapter. The Houghton chapter raises money to aid in the building. while the Genesee Valley chapter provides a local site for students to work on. Up until this arrangement was made, the students have had to go to sites in Rochester and Buffalo to work because there were none in this county. But according to Merz, the nearby site has been cleared and the family selected. Now all that is needed are the funds, as well as warm weather in which to start the building. Presently the college chapter is working on fundraising for the project.

If you are interested in joining Habitat, stop by the Habitat office located three doors away from the *Star* office in the basement of the Campus Center. $\Rightarrow$ 

## Remembered IN A Photographic Retrospective

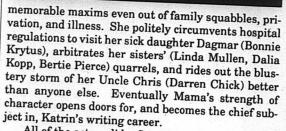
Mama

by Brad Wilbur photographs courtesy of Dean Liddick

n February 14-16, Bruce Brenneman, student director Barry MacTarnaghan, and their English Expression Club troupe took the chill off of a weekend with their heartwarming rendition of John Van Druten's play *I Remember Mama*. Sound performance by some Houghton stage veterans, added to a large dose of new talent, made for a delightful evening of theater.

The story meanders through a series of domestic vignettes featuring the Hansens and their extended family, all Norwegian immigrants living in 1910 San Francisco. Structurally, the action is bound together by John Boy Walton-style retrospective narration from author-daughter Katrin (Elizabeth Oswalt).

Thematically, everything is anchored by the loving pragmatism of Mama Hansen (Kathryn Andersen). Mama is a constant in each episode, squeezing sunny,



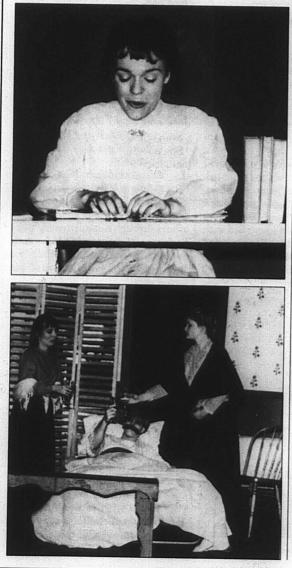
All of the actors did a fine job, each one careful of meshing with the ensemble rather than calling attention to himself—an especially important consideration in a drama. Their individual characterizations were thoughtfully crafted without verging on caricature; the audience laughed—and perhaps cried—naturally without being coaxed by hamming. And enough cast members succeeded with the Scandinavian accent to carry those who couldn't quite manage.

The forementioned players were supported by Matt Roth, Julie Patrick, Aron Cole, Doug Pereira, Kim Caouette, Jim Hilliard, Dan Uitti, Holly Wissinger, Christine Williams, Ginger Earl, and Carolyn Basham, with a special appearance by Ryan Bence.

As opening night approached, many friends of mine who knew about my past associations with Houghton theater asked if I were disappointed at the prospect of having to experience this play from a somewhat unfamiliar side of the curtain. I told them I was pretty certain that watching I Remember Mama would be every bit rewarding as any acting I'd done-and a wonderful cast proved me right. So thanks, Bruce, Barry, and Co.—We'll always remember Mama, too!

Le Pa

Be Bo rer his Ma Left: Mama (Kathryn Andersen) with Papa (Matthew Roth). Below: Katrin (Elizabeth Oswalt). Bottom: A dying Uncle Chris (Darren Chick) shares a final toast with his mistress (Kim Caouette) and Mama.







Top: Uncle Chris (Darren Chick) instructs Arne (Ryan Bence) in the fine art of Norwegian vulgarity. Above: Mama affirms support for sister Trina's (Roberta Pierce) marriage plans.

NEWS

### We're Not All Left-Wing, Anarcho-Vegetarian, Humanities Majors...

A Discussion of the Hazlett-Leonard Houghton Fellowship by Valerie Perkins

Koinonia groups, outreach groups, Bible study groups, prayer groups—"sharing and caring" groups of all sizes and shapes—have been on Houghton's campus for a long time. There is a widespread recognition that "the Christian walk" ought not be a purely solitary experience. One certain group, the Hazlett-Leonard-Houghton Fellowship (known more simply as "HLH"), has been pursuing the goal of small group discipleship for over twelve years now. But aside from this general description, just who are they?

"About 10 years ago we were known as a bunch of fundamentalist/dogmatic types. Then the charismatics presumably took over for a few years in the mid-80s. More recently, we've been identified with ESA and other such 'radical' groups," says Sociology professor Rich Perkins, who helped form HLH over 13 years ago. "Of course, none of these



▲ Hazlett-Leonard Houghton Fellowship Fall 1990 (photo by Eric Brown)

images ever tell the whole story, but they haven't been entirely incorrect either."

"We are not all left-wing anarcho-vegetarian humanities majors down here." So says Darren Chick, member of HLH. What all the members do say about themselves is this: that they are a group committed to discussing their conflicts and other difficult issues fairly, choosing to trust each other. whether or not they will ever become friends. "In other words," says Theresa Hoffman, resident of Leonard Houghton House, "we are trying to improve our abilities to care for each other. Christ's disciples are supposed to be about the business of building his Kingdom here and now. At HLH, we are creating a group living situation in which we can practice this sort of commitment."

Easier said than done. "American culture is often long on individual rights and freedoms, and rather sketchy on ways to practice love for others through commitments," says Perkins. "If we're going to be serious about being Christian disciples, we are going to have to get ourselves into a group situation where such commitments are made and carried through. When you look around our society, and even on this campus, you see that those opportunities can be hard to find. That's why we started HLH."

If you are interested in knowing more or becoming a member in the fall, please contact any of the people you see pictured. "I am not only willing, but eager to share with interested persons why HLH has become such a vital part of my life over the lastfour years" says Tamara Burr, a former student member and now one of the leaders of the group.

If you wish to write for more information, including a copy of the HLH Statement of Purpose, contact Theresa Hoffman (box 982). 2 B

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### Prints, Drawings, and Mixed Media: Scot Bennett Shows in Houghton Gallery

#### By June Johnson

From February 25 to March 21 it will be a privelege for all who make the effort, to view the art gallery show by Houghton's art department head, Scot Bennett. Bennett began his undergraduate studies at Roberts Wesleyan with hopes of becoming a sculptor. With a change of emphasis towards printmaking, he completed his graduate studies at RIT.

Since coming to Houghton in 1986, Bennett has had two shows in the Houghton art gallery. The first show, which included work by professors Ted Murphy and Gary Baxter, was a display of only nonobjective (abstract) work.

Bennett's personal committment to non-representational work has been a carry-over from his second year of graduate school, when he made the decision to stop using photographic imagery in his work. Bennett felt his rendering of realistic images was becoming a crutch on which not only he but viewers of his work were leaning. He has since tried to avoid excessive realism in order to take viewers past easy image classification to greater depth or meaning.

Bennett's second Houghton show was two years ago, and began a commitment to more identifiable religious iconography. He describes this as a big challenge and one which he was apprehensive about attempting. Bennett is highly aware of the fine line between being too candid and too subtle, as well as the danger of religious images appearing "trite and cutesy."

Self-appropriated challenges such as this are at the core of Bennett's work and motivation as an artist. In an effort to produce work that is neither stale nor contrived, Bennett consciously sets up "problems" for himself on both technical and conceptual levels. When tackling such problems, he doesn't begin with a concrete idea of the end result, but concentrates on each working moment to solve the problem as he goes along.

Bennett believes this constant state of decision-making is necessary to avoid falling into the mindset of "this works so I'll do it again and again. . .". Such a moment-bymoment approach requires the ability to concentrate on the marks being made without, as Bennett says, "over-philosophizing too much while working." This is only possible through "reliance on a solid foundation." Bennett emphasizes that this foundation must not only be in art, but in faith and in disciplines such as his other undergraduate major, philosophy.

The progressive changes in his work, as well as the themes and driving forces behind his images, are evident in Bennett's third and latest show. Through prints, drawings, mixed-media paintings, and assemblages, viewers will see that his present work is a combination of non-representational elements with realistic imagery. Bennett often achieves this through the juxtaposition of modern objects and images with the antique. As a processoriented artist, Bennett does not attempt to hide his techniques. Instead, he emphasizes the complement given to his works by his reaction to the problems and processes that he uses.

Scot Bennett explains his work as being "about trying to use religious symbols in a different way. I do use [for example] an angel, but I want to lead someone who would recognize an angel to a different, more meaty recognition or thought." $\alpha$ 

### Houghton Wesleyan Gets a Facelift

Improvements Include New Handicapped Access by Matthew Harvey

t's served the Houghton community well since it was built in 1932, but the Village Church building also has its problems, especially in the areas of handicapped access and restrooms.

According to senior pastor J. Michael Walters, the church has been aware of these problems for some time, but since nearly all of the church's services were being held in Wesley Chapel they never seemed too pressing. However, since the 8:30 a.m. service was begun five years ago and the Sunday evening service was moved back to the Village Church three years ago, these shortcomings have been increasingly felt.

The most pressing problem has been the lack of handicapped access to the sanctuary, since the Houghton community has a rapidly increasing handicapped and elderly population. Also, because of the likelihood of New York state legislation requiring handicapped access to public buildings, the church desired to begin considering the possibilities right away.

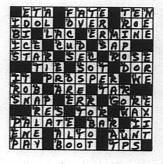
The height of the front stairs would make the construction of a ramp at the front of the building an impossibility, so another way had to be found. At first the plan was to add a wheelchair lift in the new section of the church o provide access at the rear of the sanctuary, but this was decided to be too discriminatory. In Pastor Walter's words, "Everybody comes in the front door."

Because of these problems, as well as the lack of adequate restrooms and the dilapidated condition of the front steps of the building, a plan was under way to build an entirely new structure. After much consideration, however, it was concluded that the current problems did not merit the cost involved in building a new church. Instead of building a new church, the church's board of trustees decided to redo the entire front of the current church, solving all of the problems at once. The project will include the tearing out of the old front steps and the building of a new entryway with doors at road level. It will include an indoor wheelchair lift to the sanctuary, a larger foyer, new restrooms and coat rooms, and two new Christian education rooms.

Some may be worried about the impact that this new construction will have on the look of this fine old building, but Pastor Walters assured that the new plans were very carefully made up to maintain the aesthetics of the Village Church.

The groundbreaking is tentatively scheduled for March, in which case the building should be completed by the start of school in September. The plans were done by Mr. Art Davis, who has also helped with many of the building projects at the college, and the total cost is estimated at \$150,000.☆





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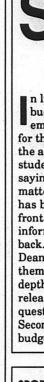
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#### SENATE

### Some Stuff About Senate commentary by senate correspondent Barry S. MacTarnaghan Senate

n light of the much-talked-about | budget cuts, Senate would like to emphasize a few points. First: for those of you who complain that the administration isn't letting the students know the whole truth, stop saying such things. The truth of the matter is that the administration has been very cooperative and upfront with the student body about information; nothing has been held back. In fact some, particularly Dean Bence, welcome you to talk to them if you want to talk in more depth than the information already released. Don't hesitate to ask questions or seek clarification. Second: Houghton has a balanced budget, and the college will balance

its budget again this year. Houghton, unlike many other Christian colleges, has had a balanced budget 13 out of the last 14 years. Thus, the budget cuts are not an attempt to relieve *present* financial trouble, but an attempt to prevent *future* difficulty. Third: these budget cuts, contrary to popular belief, have not been suddenly thrust upon the college. They are part of a long-term plan that started two years ago. Lastly, everything is being cut—not just faculty. In fact, faculty is the last thing to be cut.

Anyway, on to other business. Houghton is in search of a universal logo. Presently there are several logos that represent Houghton (or some part of it), but now an effort is underway to make a single logo official. The official logo will be printed on all Houghton College material (for example, all letters and envelopes). No other logo will be used once the official logo has been decided upon. The purpose of this is that when you see the logo there will be no mistake that it represents Houghton College or a subsidiary organization. People who currently receive mail from Houghton often see many different logos, but from now on they will see only one. If you have an idea for an official, universal logo, contact Lisa Bennett.

Do you remember the 24-hour study lounge? It has been neither forgotten nor abandoned. Finally receiving approval, the lounge is making progress. Work is being done; completion is not far around the corner. A tentative opening date has been set for April 15.

A couple statements concerning some other business:

Petitions for the repair of Campground Road (the gym road) are still circulating, so find one and sign it. The adult degree program through Buffalo Campus has finally been approved. Also, if you were thinking of being in Senate next year, then get moving; cabinet elections will take place on March 15.

Until next time, be well and do good.☆

SPORTS

Men's B-Ball Ends 5-20 Season

by Dan Noyes

The Houghton men's varsity basketball team ended the season with two losses. On Wednesday night they dropped a tough overtime loss to Penn State-Behrend before a host of Houghton hoops hounds hailing from Pennsylvania. Darren Berkeley kept Houghton in the game with 23 second-half points, including free throws with two seconds left that put the game into overtime. Houghton, however, then failed to score until there were only 34 seconds left on the clock and lost 68-63 after hitting three three-point shots in the final 28 seconds. Junior Dave Binkowski had ten points and eight rebounds for the Highlanders.

Houghton came up short again against Geneva on Saturday night. Berkeley was the story again, throwing in another twenty-six in an 18point loss, putting Houghton's 1991 record at 5-20.

#### SPORTS

## Major League Baseball Preview

As the snow still falls in Houghton, thoughts begin to turn to Florida as the pitchers and catchers report for spring training. Yes, baseball season is just a few weeks away. And, with a little help from a friend, I thought we would put together our perspective on the 1991 season. What kind of surprises are in store for America's pasttime this year?

#### National League - East

1. Pittsburgh Pirates: A repeat of last year's performance? I say, no! This year will be an improvement. With arguably the best outfield in the major leagues (1990 MVP Barry Bonds, Andy VanSlyke, and Bobby Bonilla) solid pitching led by 1990 Cy Young winner Doug Drabek, and an excellent manager (1990 Manager of the Year Jim Leyland), the Pirates will be at the top at the season's end.

2. New York Mets: Darryl Strawberry left for Los Angeles, but now the Mets are even better. An always tough pitching staff and solid defense will keep them in the pennan hunt.

3. Philadelphia Phillies: With the burden of playing in N.Y. lifted, Lenny Dykstra broke out and by sports editor Dru Christian and staff writer Jamie Lindsay

became the leader. Also, perhaps leaving the oppression of being the only star in Atlanta will make Dale Murphy the MVP he once was.

4. Chicago Cubs: The Chicago Cubs are hopelessly stuck in a void. Injuries and lack of pitching power will prevail again this season. Even the hitting of Ryne Sandberg and Andre Dawson can't carry the team.

5. Montreal Expos: The Montreal Expos will give everyone the impression that they can play, but by the season's end they will falter as usual.

6. St. Louis Cardinals: Coleman is gone, the manager's job is in turmoil without Herzog, and the Cardinals will be last.

#### National League - West

1. Cincinnati Reds: Will they repeat? I doubt it. Owner Marge pays too much attention to her dog. The Reds can win in this weak division but they won't get by the Pirates a second time.

2. San Francisco Giants: Manager Roger Craig has done a little shuffling and should be able to bring the Giants close to the Cincinnati Reds. 3. Los Angeles Dodgers: Adding Darryl Strawberry is a plus for the Dodgers. His power will help a weak lineup. The major problem for this team is weak pitching. A strong starter would be helpful.

4. Atlanta Braves: The Braves are no longer the patsies of the National League. They only lack one or two relief pitchers before they can contend. This is still a young team and the finishing touches are being put on a long series of rebuilding years.

5. San Diego Padres: The Padres are too busy fighting amongst themselves to worry about winning. The management doesn't help the matter much either; they keep trading away all the decent players.

6. Houston Astros: The Astros are too weak as a team. They can't win on the road and winning solely at home can't get you anywhere.

#### American League East

The American League East is probably the least competitive division in baseball. Many of the teams in this division have little or no potential for particularly good seasons this year.

1. Boston Red Sox: The Red Sox are one of the best hitting teams in baseball today. With players like Wade Boggs, Jody Reed and Ellis Burks I believe they will repeat in first place. Their pitching was hurt by the loss of Mike Boddicker to the K.C. Royals, but they still have fine hurlers in Roger Clemens and Jeff Reardon.

2. Toronto Blue Jays: The Blue Jays have not played up to their potential the past few years. With pitch like they andt than 3. N kees gotte Steir ising They place 4. B theC Cal I veter don't mucl Thir belie an e The air. waul all h very for th in fif (odd)

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SPORTS

pitchers like Dave Steib and hitters like Kelly Gruber you would think they would have a better recordand they will this year, but not better than the Red Sox.

3. New York Yankees: The Yankees are on the upswing. They've gotten rid of owner/millstone George Steinbrenner and have some promising young players like Kevin Maas. They should be able to obtain third place.

4. Baltimore Orioles: Although the Orioles have proven players like Cal Ripken and the newly acquired veteran Dwight Evans, they really don't have the pitching to compete much higher than fourth place. Third place is a possibility, but I believe the New York Yankees have an edge.

The remaining spots: Up in the air. The Cleveland Indians, Milwaukee Brewers and Detroit Tigers all have a good player or two, but very little else. A probable lineup for the last three places is: Brewers in fifth, Tigers in sixth and Indians (oddly enough) last.

#### **American League West**

The American League West is one of the best, if not the best, divisions in baseball today. As an illustration, the Chicago White Sox were in second place last year--yet they had a better record than anyone in the American League East. Read further; you may see some surprises in this year's picks.

1. Chicago White Sox: This team has been reaching for the division title at their fingertips for some time now without success. I believe that this year the White Sox will obtain their long-awaited goal no matter what the Oakland Athletics' fair-weather fans say. They have strong hitting and fielding in players like Ozzie Gullien and veteran Carlton Fisk as well as strong pitching. They have the only reliever in the American League who could claim to be better than the Athletics' Dennis Eckersley: Bobby Thigpen.

2. Oakland Athletics: Don't get me wrong. I don't think the Athletics will have a bad season, but I think the White Sox can edge them out. The A's appear to have everything they need to win but I suspect that many of their players, notably Jose Canseco and Bob Welch, are destined to have less productive seasons this year.

3. Kansas City Royals: The Royals have a very good team this year. Pitcher Bret Saberhagen seems to be getting more consistent; the acquirsition of Mike Boddicker from the Red Sox can only help. If Mark Gubiza can improve on last year the Royals may surprise many people with their pitching. In the hitting category Bo Jackson and veteran George Brett should do well. The Royals should finish with a very respectable season.

4. Minnesota Twins: Ever since they won the World Series the Twins have been stuck in the middle of the division going everywhere but up. They have some excellent players such as Kirby Puckett and Kent Hrbeck, but they just don't have the pitching to compete with the previous three teams.

5. Texas Rangers: The Rangers have the best pitcher in baseball history in Nolan Ryan and he just seems to get better with age. Still, one incredible pitcher does not make a team a winner.

6. Seattle Mariners: Like the Rangers they have one particular standout player in Ken Griffey, Jr., and not a whole lot more.

7. California Angels: I'm not sure if the Angels have anything. If a slumping Mark Langston can improve that will be good news, but not good enough to work the Angels out of the cellar.  $\Delta$ 

### Houghton Track Team Ends Season

#### by David McMillan

The Houghton College track team completed its indoor season at the Cornell University Invitational on February 16--transportation problems forced a no show at the University of Toronto Invitational on February 23--and is preparing for the start of the outdoor season on March 23.

Because of the level of competition Houghton faces at invitationals (the Cornell meet included 23 schools including a couple of NCAA Division I teams) and the small size of Houghton's team, Coach Ken Heck emphasizes individual rather than team goals during the indoor season. Coach Heck told the *Star* that he looks to see records broken and team members qualifying for nationals rather than winning team performances, because he sees the indoor season as training for the outdoor season.

Heck did see many school records broken this season. For the women. Heather George set standards in both the 400 and 500 meters; Lisa Strand broke the 500 meter mark; Marion Austin set a new 3000 meter mark; Carolyn Schiller broke the school record in the 20 lb. weight throw; and a new high jump mark was set by Lisa Thomas. On the men's side, Eric Runion set a new record in the 3000 meters, Tim Thurber broke records in the 1000 and 5000 meters, and Dan Lingenfelter set a new standard in the triple jump.

# that man behind the curtain SIN

The Sunday School that I attended defined sin as "anything you do that is against the will of God." (Why I would remember such a definition verbatim is a topic for a future column.) That worked all right for a time. In the past I was likewise content to view God as *He* had been presented to me. God was a father figure, chiefly concerned with making sure that I turned out to be a good kid. Thus, He had to punish me once in a while. You know, "spare the rod...."

Recently, though, I've begun to view God as feminine, taking on a more maternal, nurturing role. In my mind, this stresses God's love over God's anger or punishment. This view of God has made me rethink my old Sunday School definition of sin. If love is God's predominant characteristic, then God wouldn't just arbitrarily set up certain things as righteous and others as sinful. Love's boundaries are purely for the benefit of the loved one. It is only when we fully comprehend the meaning of God's direction in our lives that we can truly be free. Thus, I tend to see sin as that which harms yourself or another. If you closely examine what God calls sin, you will see that it meets this criterion.

Since that may be too vague for some (yes, me too), there are deeper ways to look at sin. First of all, it is helpful to view sin as a relational, and not a moral, category. If we concentrate on the stuff of sin, we miss the point. God's not concerned so much with what we do as why we're doing it and what that indicates about us. My Sunday School mentality would make sin the opposite of perfection or morality or even God. *I* would make sin the opposite of trust. It is difficult to feel safe outside of the love of God. This lack of safety is what leads to sin. When one doesn't feel safe, he has a hard time trusting anything. This lack of trust is sin. When we don't trust God, we see God's instruction as confining, not liberating.

It is this lack of trust that leads us to view God as an angry or vengeful deity. We reject the love that God offers us because we mistake it for punishment. The irony is that this rejection of God's love eventually leads to further separation from God. Adam and Eve, after disobeying God, hid themselves in fear from a God who had shown nothing but love to them. It was this rejection of God's love—this lack of trust—that was the true sin that cast them from the garden, not the eating of a piece of fruit.

To "flee from sin" then is not to run from any situation that we perceive as morally culpable, but to run—in trust—toward a God from whose love nothing (death, life, angels, demons, the present, the future, powers, height, depth, to name a few) can separate us.

Peace, Love, and Understanding, Rand



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### Black Hole M. TAYLOR

I couldn't find an appropriate quote for this issue's column. I wasn't suprised, since the subject deals specifically with what few people think or speak about. But, hey, that's what this column is all about, right?

The concept that I wish to address is: Nothing is ever really important until it directly affects you. Simple, eh? Yes, it is a fairly simplistic concept. I believe that the nature of its simplicity is what makes this notion so forgettable. But it's true. If you were never exposed to a certain thing, it wouldn't have any effect on you at all. This goes without saying in many instances. I will agree that sometimes things you may never be exposed to will affect you in some way, but these instances are few and irrelevant to my purpose this time. So all you picky and rare philosophy and sociology majors out there can calm yourselves now.

It is true, isn't it? Think about your own experience. What are you passionately for or against? Who are your heroes and villains? Now ask yourself: Why? Why do you feel the way you do about these things? My guess is that you have had some exposure to whatever it is, in some form, that has charged some response in your fiber that makes you think and care about whatever it is. Am I right? If I'm not, stop reading. Don't waste your time. Why? Well, obviously, this subject isn't important to you, so why bother? "This is stupid! So what? What has this got to do with me?" you say with emphasis on the subject of your last sentence (not to mention the object of the preposition).

These types of feelings and responses are just the ones of which I write. I am talking about incidental apathy. If it doesn't affect you directly, you couldn't give a flippin' rip about it.

Incidental apathy is vastly evidentright here in Allegany County. Did anyone here care about nuclear waste in other parts of the state before last year? How about other parts of the country? The world? Did they care about *waste* in general? Your answer may lie on route 19, in a full Hefty bag, halfway to Fillmore.

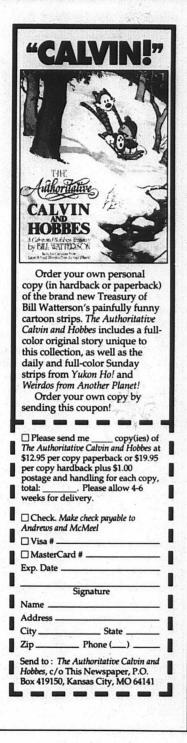
Did anyone care about war before their sons, daughters, mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, or second cousins got called to Saudi Arabia? How about when they found themselves sitting in a dune forty miles west of Khafji?

Will you care if your whatever is whozited or your whoever is whatzited? It doesn't matter what a whozit or whatzit may be. What matters is that whatever the whozit is, we should care. Should we care before that fact? What's the use of doing that? No one can see what lies ahead but God. But we can see things that need to be recognized and dealt with for what they're worth. Shall I make a list for all of you, or can you think of some yourself? I think you can. There are situations out there that need some serious consideration by everyone. Just think, if some of these situations had been considered before, they wouldn't have to be considered now.

Remember, if it doesn't concern you now, it may later. The reason that it may is because you're not the only one that isn't concerned with what isn't concerning you at the moment. And if enough people aren't concerned with what doesn't concern them, that concern may become very concerning to all those unconcerned at a later time.

So come now, good people, and care about stuff. Even stuff that doesn't concern you. Even if stuff doesn't care about you. You may find during your new-found concern that whatever it is, it might just concern you after all. Don't be selfish with your time and your concerns. Be real. Be caring. And be careful. Care!

I hope that I haven't blown too many cerebral cortexes with this column, and I apologize for the plentiful rhetorical questions. All I ask is that you ask yourself some of these questions, and dwell on it a bit. That is, of course, if you believe that all of this concerns you. $\hat{x}$ 





#### Dear Dave and Ivan:

Ever since the crisis in the gulf began, I have been struggling with my personal feelings about the conflict. Where should I stand: first as a Christian and then, perhaps, as an American? I think I've finally come to the only conclusion possible. I know it won't be popular here. I am sorry.

When viewing the war, there can only be one loyalty — to Christ. It is time to put away our flags and take out our Bibles. Our responsibility as Americans is only of consequence if we are responsible to Christ first. We must separate the two. Before ever thinking as Americans we must think as people, free of all national loyalties, for whom Christ died. Hopefully, this viewpoint will bring the war to a much more personal level than I believe it is being seen presently.

In Matt Taylor's latest article he states that God hates killing, but that he also hates "evil men that turn from Him." The assumption Taylor makes here is that God hates evil men more than he hates killing; therefore, it is all right to try to kill that evil man. I cannot agree.

The poet Wilfred Owen, a British soldier killed in World War I, felt much the same way I do. I'll let him speak:

"Already I have comprehended a light which will never filter into the dogma of any national church: namely, that one of Christ's essential commands was: Passivity at any price! Suffer dishonour and disgrace, but never resort to arms. Be bullied, be outraged, be killed; but do not kill. It may be chimerical and an ignominious principle, but there it is. It can only be ignored: and I think pulpit professionals are ignoring it very skilfully and successfully indeed.... Christ is literally in "no man's land." There men often hear His voice: greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for a friend. Is it spoken in English only and French? I do not believe so. Thus you see how pure Christianity will not fit in with pure patriotism."

It is time to stop and think about patriotism and start thinking about people; people, by the way, whose sins Christ has already died for. It is time to wonder if Christ would blow an Iraqi soldier's head off with an M-16. I do not think he could; therefore, how can I?

In his letter to the editor, Randy Thomas proposed that the Lord is using America as His tool of vengeance, in full compliance with Romans 12:17-21. I abhor his reasoning. It is contradictory and it is absurd. By suggesting that man is God's instrument of revenge, Randy denies that vengeance is the Lord's. Just think of all the things we could do to others if we just said "Hey, who's to say God isn't using me as His heavy?" We could justify anything.

God's children are murdering each other in the desert sand. Because I am a Christian it makes me sick. Because you are an American it makes you proud. Pride is a much nicer feeling. I wish I could feel that way; yet, someone holds me back. I think I know his name. He died for me.

Sincerely, Matthew Roth

#### Dear Dave and Ivan:

In your last issue of the Star (Feb. 15, 1991), Jeff Spear offered a tongue-in-cheek analysis of why we don't need a business major at Houghton College. He identified his motivation for this piece as "righteous indignation." I presume that he is indignant (he **may** have been righteous) because he believes that the business program is often unfairly vilified as either non-Christian or out of place in a "liberal arts" College.

I wish to address the irritation behind his sarcastic "obviously, the liberal arts and business are mutually exclusive."

First. I note as a fairly reliable rule-of-thumb that it is the powerful and the entrenched elements which complain most loudly when the slightest criticism is directed their way. Consequently, I have some advice for my business colleagues. "Come on guys! Let's quit the whining!" You are a strong and thriving major here at Houghton. There is no need to be so touchy. You remind me too much of a woman who was observed haughtily insisting upon her virtue; hearing her protests, a sceptic remarked from the sidelines, "Methinks the lady doth protest too much." Jeff Spear protests the purity of business too much.

Second, I will feel more comfortable with a large business program at Houghton when its members accomplish the following two tasks:

(a)hire a member of their profession who represents the left-wing of current business and economic thinking.

(b) actually recommend to one of their majors that they take an upper-level philosophy class.

As soon as those are accomplished I will join Jeff Spear in sarcastic rejection of the claim the "the liberal arts and business are mutu-

#### Dear

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#### ally exclusive."

p.s. Jeff, you did get off some nice shots! Indignation becomes you. Brian Savers

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#### Dear Dave and Ivan:

I don't know how my last letter was received, but I felt I should clarify a few things.

I am not pro-war! If any of you were in my speech class or any of my other classes last semester you would know.

But--and this is it--who will stop Hussein? I feel sorrow for the civilians and innocent Iraqi people that will die because of this war. Yet what about the Kuwaitis? What about the little girls raped to death? What about the pregnant women who are stabbed with bayonets and their babies ripped from their wombs? What about the elderly who are beaten to death?

These and more things are the cruelties that Saddam and his troops are inflicting on the Kuwaitis. So we are agreed that he must be stopped. But who is strong enough to do it? None of the neighboring countries are strong enough.

It would be hypocritical for the U.S. to say someone should stop him, and then step back and wait for someone else to do it.

We must pray for the world and pray that no one like Hussein comes to power ever again.

**Randy Thomas** 

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To the Students of Houghton College:

After reading last week's issue of the Star, I felt a good deal of frustration. I had just read student responses to the question, "How would you propose that the administration deal with the perceived need for budget cuts?" I thought the question was a very good one in that it would cause the students to confront the present situation of the college.

Some of the answers were well thought out and provided good insight, but underlying other answers was the sentiment that the administration isn't telling the students what is going on. I don't want this, to sound like an attack on those students interviewed, because I've heard the same sentiments from many others. I have a problem with that line of thought because it's just not true. The administration has made efforts to ensure that students were aware of the actions being taken.

The problem is that students aren't making an effort to find out what is happening. This is not a frustration that I have just with this budget issue, but with many which have surfaced this year. I often hear people saying that the students aren't consulted, but often the impression is given that the students don't care. The Student Senate attempts to keep constituents abreast of issues in many ways: we put the minutes of every meeting by the mail room; we have an article in the *Star* each issue; we have 20 hours of office time every week for the cabinet alone; and, most recently, we have a discussion table in the campus center to address student issues.

At some point the students need to take responsibility for their lack of involvement. Instead of talking among friends about how bad things are. takk to a senator or cabinet member and move towards changing things. Election week is approaching, which presents all students with an opportunity to get involved with Houghton student activities. Student Senate has the power to impact the campus. if students take the prerogative to use it as such. This will take effort on the part of the students, but I believe the result will prove worthy of the effort.

My main point is this—Students of Houghton College, take an opportunity to use the resources provided to you, and stop complaining about problems that needn't exist.

> Sincerely, Mary V. Biglow Student Senate President

Student Senate Elections S POSITIONS AVAILABLE include PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, AND TREASURER

SPEECHES: FRIDAY, MARCH 15 ELECTIONS: MARCH 15 LUNCH & DINNER

•Candidates must attend all Senate and Cabinet meetings up to the election date •Petitions with 75 signatures must be submitted to senate no later than March 8, 5:00 p.m. • Platforms must be submitted to the Houghton Star for publication by March 8, 5:00 p.m.

#### CALVIN & HOBBES



THE HOUGHTON STAR