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the houghton STAR

Houghton College's Student Newspaper Since 1909

FROM THE EDITORIAL STAFF

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February 8, 2013 • Vol. 109, No. 14



Unauthorized Survey Causes Questions

EMILY MORROW

On January 28, 2013, a survey was sent out concerning the performance of Greg Bish, the Director of Student Programs, which was approved by neither the college nor the Student Government Association.

Ultimately, the technology services determined that the survey was sent out by a student, who has since deleted the survey, according to the maker of the survey. Concerning the availability and approachability of Bish, "The questions themselves didn't seem . . . biased in any obvious way," said Dr. Pool, Vice President of Student Life, who thought that the survey was connected to an academic class upon first reading it.

The student did not use a Houghton email address to send out the survey; however the email seemed official and legitimate. Unsuspecting students could easily assume that it was simply another survey concerning any number of programs or offices on campus, which are not at all uncommon, and many probably took the survey without realizing its illegitimacy.

In regard to the content of the survey, Colin Belt, sophomore class president, said, "It seemed like the sort of thing that could really illicit a certain kind of information." Belt was suspicious upon reading the email as it was sent around 3 A.M. by "Willard J Houghton."

Belt then notified the VP for Student Life of the unexpected survey, and Dr. Pool soon determined that it was not approved by any college authorities. He then contacted IT ser-

See SURVEY page 3

Jars of Clay's Matt Odmak Lectures at Houghton



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Matt Odmak visits Houghton College

MEGAN SPECKSGOOR

On Tuesday, February 29, Grammy award winning, Gibson guitar titlist of 2005 and platinum recording artist Matt Odmak arrived at Houghton, not to stage a show or book a gig, but to teach a class. Odmak came to campus of his own volition and at his own financial expense to lecture during one of Houghton professor Kevin Jackson's Pro Tools sessions, and the student response was overwhelming.

"The place was packed," said Jackson, including attendance by his students, students from other disciplines, and even three area high schoolers. The question and answer segment in particular was so engaging that it lasted one hour beyond the designated stopping point without Jackson ever having to resort to his written stack of preconceived prompts. Odmak's main focus was the concept of

creative listening and what it means to genuinely and actively absorb, process and attend to a song.

"He talked about what it means to really listen to music, something so deeply personal that it should be treated with extreme respect," said Jackson. Odmak addressed the importance of "understanding the weight of music" and that the practice of "listening in that way is a sacred act."

Odmak challenged students to "visualize" and internalize the music in a unique way, imbuing it with meaning specific to the individual. He urged the students to respect a body of music by interacting with it in full.

"Now . . . more and more, people use songs for playlists or background music, instead of absorbing the full collection or album as a complete work of art," said Jackson. "We break music into pockets

See ODMARK page 3

Houghton Students Attend Calvin Conference

STEPHEN HILL

Fifteen Houghton students and two professors attended the eighth-annual Faith and International Development Conference at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, last weekend.

The conference, subtitled "From Here to Shalom: Participating in God's Plan for Universal Flourishing," was intended to inform students of current development issues around the world, and to supply them with new perspectives on how to address them. For conference attendees it was also an opportunity to interact with potential employers.

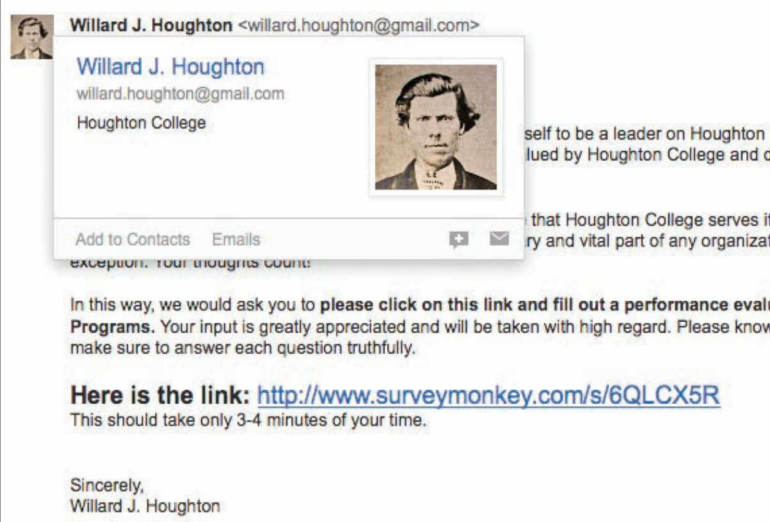
"It was a great chance to network with NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations), some that I would possibly like to work with in the future," said Moeun Sun, sophomore.

Approximately three hundred and thirty students from thirty colleges and universities attended the conference. It was organized by Calvin students with the assistance of their International Development Studies faculty, and featured representatives from twenty-five different NGOs. It lasted four days, during which attendees were able to enjoy the full extent of Calvin's snow-covered campus and ventured into Grand Rapids.

The conference was constructed around a number of general plenaries for all to attend, which were interspersed with smaller sessions, in which representatives of various NGOs gave presentations on the nature and goals of their organizations. These presentations ranged the full spectrum of developmental issues, including peacemaking, healthcare, advocacy, and the

See CALVIN page 3

Performance Evaluation of Gregory Bish (Director of Student Programs)



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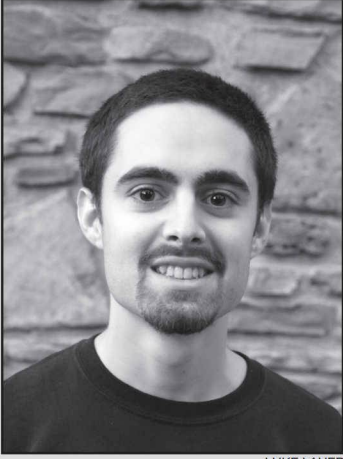


DEREK SCHWABE

A screenshot of the email containing the illegitimate survey

Students and faculty at Calvin College; not pictured, Alice Browning

SGA / NEW SEMESTER, NEW OPPORTUNITIES



LUKE LAUER

JOEL ERNST

Here we are; a new semester is upon us! I present you with a question: What are you going to make of your time at Houghton for spring 2013? Our new Vice President for Student Life, Dr. Rob Pool, recently challenged the Senate to reach our “Big Hairy Audacious Goals” (BHAGs), and he explained that the Office of Student Life exists to facilitate students’ working toward their goals. In the words of Dr. Pool, I encourage you as students to attain your “BHAGs” this semester! (You don’t have to call them BHAGs though.)

How can SGA help you attain your goals as a student? Already this semester, the Senate has approved requests from clubs and student groups for over \$1500 in student

funds. If you are part of a Christian life club or a general student club on campus, we still have funds available. While I’m discussing clubs, I should point out that our student clubs have been very successful this semester—with a variety of activities hosted by Black Heritage Club, MercySeat, Global Christian Fellowship and Runnymede Pre-Law Society—just to name a few.

This spring offers you a great opportunity for community service, just as Make a Difference Day did last fall. Each year the college sponsors MLK Service Day in the spring, and this year’s event will take place on Saturday, April 13. Keep this event in mind, and look for ways to get involved in service to our surrounding communities.

On the topic of service, the SGA is working to expand opportunities to reach out to international students at Houghton Academy. One way you can start right now is by taking time to sit with Academy students who come to our dining hall on the weekends. And have you heard of the Highlander Commission? This is a student group working to promote school spirit by instating traditions including the Scottish Highlander mascot and our school colors of Purple and Gold. SGA Vice President Benjamin Hardy is heading up this effort, so ask him how the SGA is working to bolster our common identity as Highlanders in the next few months.

Speaking of purple and gold, be sure to thank the Campus Activities

Board for their hard work on Purple and Gold Week!

As a fellow Highlander and member of the Student Government, I pose another set of questions for you. What do you think of SGA? How can SGA better represent the whole student body? How can SGA be a group in which you want to participate? The Senate wants to know what you think about these questions, as we are looking at our current structure to find what would be the best way to encourage student involvement and representation through SGA.

Also concerning participation, SGA election plans for next year are already underway, and Wynn Horton will be spearheading these efforts as Election Commissioner. Contact Wynn if you want to run for an SGA position for next year.

Moving through this semester, be assured that SGA wants to represent your concerns well. The Senate is working with the Office of Student Life to improve communication regarding changes on campus. Thanks to the work of Senator Wynn Horton and others, there will soon be a page on the Current Students section of the college website for you to submit your feedback on any student issues to be reviewed by individuals from SGA and from Student Life.

What are you going to make of your time at Houghton for spring 2013? Let us know how we can help by contacting your senators or contacting sga@houghton.edu. Happy Purple and Gold Week, Highlanders!



Men’s RDs to Depart at End of Spring

JORY KAUFFMAN

The Residence Life staff is anticipating a smooth transition as Resident Directors Steve Mattiace, of Shenawana Hall, and Marc Smithers, of Rothenbuhler Hall, plan to leave their positions at the close of this spring semester.

Houghton already posted advertisements designed to find replacements for the two RDs. Jacobsen hopes for applicants who will potentially encourage variation among the Resident Life staff. He said, concerning any Resident Life applicants, “We like to get a little bit of variety in terms of experience and perspective.”

But such variety will not necessarily change the traditions and dynamics of Shenawana and Rothenbuhler Halls. While new staff may bring new ideas and skill sets, through deliberate transitional processes, former policies tend to remain in place.

In order to encourage a smooth transition between Resident Directors, Jacobsen said, “Typically we have the current RDs write something like an information packet for any replacement that comes in.”

Marc Smithers, current Resident Director of Rothenbuhler Hall, explains one detail of the transitional practice of passing on knowledge and experience to his future replacement. He said, “The outgoing RD [writes] a letter to the incoming RD informing them of hall culture/traditions and ex-

plaining the vision that we have had for the hall and what we hope it to be in the future.”

The future RD uses this information in adjusting to the new role.

In addition, incoming Resident Assistants for the 2013 fall semester receive hiring and training from the current Resident Directors, so that they might aid in making the transition from one RD to another a smooth one. Thus, being familiar with current tradition and policies, the RAs possess the abilities to help the prospective RD adjust to managing the dorm.

In addition, Jacobsen said, “We do try to get students on the RA staff in on the actual hiring process.” The RA’s play an important role in the transition between Resident Directors, not only by helping the replacement Resident Directors, but also by actually helping to choose who among the applicants might best suit their dorm.

Concerning the fluidity of the replacement process, Smithers said, “The RD position is one that typically has a fair amount of turnover.” As Resident Directors often come and go, the hiring process for the position is a familiar and relatively frequent occurrence, and Houghton seems to maintain a good system of transition. Jacobsen voiced his confidence in the system as well, and said, “Typically I

feel positive about our hiring process here.”

According to Smithers, Rothenbuhler Hall in particular will hopefully function the same as always, even as he will be absent next semester.

Smithers said, “I think an RD does his or her job best when the success or failure of a hall does not depend solely on his or her talents. I firmly

believe in empowering my staff to cultivate and carry on the culture and vision that we have collectively forged together in Roth, so that when I’m gone, there isn’t a big hole in the life of the hall but that somebody new can come in and add to what we’ve created.” ★

Want to write for
the *Houghton Star*?

Send an e-mail to:
editor@houghtonstar.com

Townhouse Kill-A-Watt Challenge Raises Sustainability Awareness

ANNELISE HEIN

Seven townhouses are competing throughout the month of February in the Kill-A-Watt Challenge, an initiative to raise awareness of energy consumption and reduce energy use on campus.

The competition is based on each participating townhouse's residents' reduction of energy use, which will be calculated by comparing weekly meter readings to a baseline measurement taken before the competition began. The winning townhouse will receive a pizza party after the Challenge concludes.

Brian Webb, the Sustainability Coordinator at Houghton College, has partnered with Student Life to spearhead this effort.

The key goal of the Kill-A-Watt Challenge, said Webb, is "to help students become aware of their energy usage," especially because they do not pay electricity bills directly.

Gabe Jacobsen, Director of Student Life, said, "It is not just about reducing costs, though that is a benefit. Rather, it is about helping students become people who care about how they use resources."

JL Miller, Resident Director of the Townhouses, said he supported the Kill-A-Watt Challenge because of his "professional goal of seeing the Townhouses

as a place of preparation for students' launch from Houghton."

Elizabeth Bailey, Assistant Resident Director of the Townhouses, said, "I think it's a neat idea and a great opportunity for upperclassmen to learn how to save on energy costs as many of us will be paying our own water, gas, and electric bills soon."

Senior Dianna Cornell is among the students participating in the Challenge.

She said, "I think it's a good idea. Energy consumption is something we don't really think about, so the competition makes us conscious of it."

Already, she said, she is more aware of ways that she can reduce her energy usage, such as unplugging her hair straightener and turning off lights that are not being used.

After one week of the competition, more than three quarters of all townhouses saw an energy reduction, reported Webb. The leader, with a 33% reduction, is Perkins 48.

The competition is limited to the townhouses for logistical reasons: while each townhouse is on a separate energy meter, the entire upper campus (every building from Rothenbuhler Hall to Shenawana Hall, with the exception of Steese Cottage and the MacMillan

House) is on one energy meter. Webb is exploring options to install separate meters for each residence hall and hopes to have them in place for next year so that the Kill-A-Watt Challenge can include the dormitories as well.

Whether or not their energy consumption is measured separately, individuals across campus can reduce their energy impact in simple ways: Turn off electrical appliances, especially lights and televisions when they are not in use. Turn off power strips when they are not needed. Turn off computers at night (the myth that this harms computers is old-fashioned and untrue). Use microwave ovens rather than electric ovens, since they use less electricity. Energy-saving practices such as these and others can help to reduce the amount of electricity



WWW.HOUGHTON.EDU

Randall Townhouses

CALVIN from page 1

environment.

Sun said, "I was pleasantly surprised at how many different kinds of FBOs (Faith-Based Organizations) were represented there."

The individual NGOs held smaller sessions to discuss general ideas or issues and the means by which the NGO seeks to address them.

Senior Andrea Pacheco said, "As someone who has attended the conference for two years now, I found it to be very instrumental in learning about the field of international development, and what it involves."

"This year there were key speakers, such as Steve Radelet, that I think added much more academic and professional credibility to the conference," Pacheco continued, pointing out that many of the NGOs present have high-minded goals

ODMARK from page 1

and the effect is like lopping a painting."

Odmark also elaborated on the need to consider music as more than formulaic technique or advanced rendering of sound, namely as a relatable expression of the artist that is applicable to the audience.

Senior Dan Austin said he enjoyed listening to a song that Odmark played not from the standpoint of a record critic, but from that of a participant in the emotive energy of the song.

"We didn't have to worry about how the song was mixed, but what images and reactions it evoked," said Austin. "You can pick apart a song from the technical side to make it more cohesive, more marketable, catchier, or more radio-friendly, but ultimately it's about communication and there's something to approaching a song with a certain amount of reverence."

Austin also appreciated Odmark's sincerity and willingness to make himself available to Houghton students.

"Matt is a minor celebrity who drove to Houghton in a minivan on his own dime and then thanked us for allowing

while not necessarily having the necessary expertise.

The conference was not simply a collaboration of NGOs from different fields, but also from multiple denominations. Among the speakers and leaders were Mennonite, Reformed, and Episcopalian Christians. Readers who know Church history might appreciate the ecumenical development exemplified at the conference.

While the conference was overall a success, the information which was presented tended to be fairly basic. There is an inherent difficulty in organizing such a conference, as the attendees all come from different backgrounds. While some might find the information to be basic, it might be entirely novel to others, who are more recent to the topic. This diversity shows up even among the Houghton

him to interrupt our class time," said Austin. "I mean this is a man who has been heard by millions of people, yet he doesn't act like a rock star."

Senior Nick Cannistraci agreed. "I was uncertain of where Matt was going at first, but as he spoke it became apparent that he really loves music. It was comfortable talking with him, because he's just a humble, normal person. "He made himself vulnerable to us and it gave me a new way of looking at music," said Cannistraci.

Jackson also commented on Odmark's character; he said, "He truly has the scholar-servant attitude and mindset that we strive for at Houghton."

When Jars of Clay performed at the college this past October the band set up all of their own equipment, exchanged tips with the student sound technicians, and took a strong interest in Jackson's vision for the Houghton sound and recording department. After the concert, Odmark began communicating with Jackson via e-mail and phone conversations concerning the fruition of Jackson's ambitions for the department and immediately consented to teach one session of

students who went.

Freshman Matthew Munkittrick said, "I went because I am studying International Development and wanted to get to know a bit more about what I am going to be studying."

Additionally, the speakers generally focused on their own experiences and contextual situations. Pacheco says, "I'd like to see some more presentations on concrete, current research of the field." The attendance of Dr. Radelet was a step in that direction, but the vast majority of the speakers were still anecdotal.

Despite the criticisms some of the Houghton students had, they all enjoyed the conference, and everyone got more from it than they had anticipated. In the words of Munkittrick, "Overall, it was definitely worth the twelve-hour bus ride!" ★

Jackson's Pro Tools class.

"Events like this create momentum and validate what we are trying to accomplish," said Jackson, who has proposed some exciting major changes to the current structure of his music program.

Jackson is pleased to say that Odmark is offering the chance for Houghton students in the coming years to intern with Jars of Clay in Nashville for a period of two to three weeks over winter break or even a full three months. This experience will give sound and recording students the unparalleled opportunity to witness firsthand the inner operations of the professional music industry through the guidance of an acclaimed Christian band. Houghton students have the extremely rare possibility of being temporary apprentices to the man who won the Gibson Guitar Award over nominees like Bob Dylan.

To Jackson it's unbelievably evident that "God has had his hand in all of this" and he cannot wait to see how the overarching vision will grow and materialize through connections such as Matt Odmark and others who are willing to invest in Houghton's potential. ★

that is wasted.

Webb said, "With energy, a lot of it comes down to habit, and it doesn't take very long to develop energy-saving habits."

By raising awareness of sustainability issues and reducing energy waste, the Kill-A-Watt Challenge marks a step towards sustainability at Houghton College.

Jacobsen said, "Houghton is still in the infancy stage, in the residences at least, in addressing sustainability issues."

Both Jacobsen and Webb hope to see the Kill-A-Watt Challenge continued and expanded next year.

Although only students in participating townhouses are part of the Challenge, everyone on campus, from students to faculty and staff, can contribute. Simply knowing about the Kill-A-Watt Challenge raises awareness on campus and represents an opportunity to participate in Houghton's movement toward greater sustainability.

Jacobsen said, "From a theological standpoint, learning to be wise stewards of what we have fits in the general ethos of Houghton College." ★

SURVEY from page 1

vices, and they were able to identify the sender of the survey, a student at Houghton College.

When Dr. Pool spoke with the sender, the student did not fully realize at first how they were in the wrong for sending the survey.

"Most of the time students don't realize the implication of their actions until something bad happens," said Dr. Pool, who went on to advise students to talk to a person directly if they have a problem with someone, or even to go to SGA or Student Life.

Whether or not issues, personal or communal, actually exist concerning Greg Bish, steps are being taken to improve communication between the student body and Student Life. And thus far, administration has no reason to question his capabilities as the Director of Student Programs.

"There have been tensions between Student Programs and SGA, but we are working through those," said Joel Ernst, president of the SGA. Even before the survey was sent, meetings were conducted with the aim of improving communication and resolving issues.

Students can take some important information from this situation.

As Dr. Pool said, "nothing you do on the web is private."

No matter how much confidentiality the internet alludes to, the IT department has access to the information accessed over the internet in the Houghton network.

There are also better ways of communicating in this type of situation.

"I think we would just all benefit better if it [communication] was transparent," said Dr. Pool.

Overall the survey caught Student Life by surprise.

"I had never seen anyone, especially a student, do an anonymous survey about an employee of a college," said Dr. Pool. ★

Indie Rap Goes Mainstream



GOOGLE.COM

Still from Macklemore's music video for hit single "Thrift Shop"

ANDRE NELSON

Don't waste another minute if you haven't yet heard Macklemore's album *The Heist*; get on iTunes, YouTube, Pandora, Grooveshark, or Spotify and listen to it. It is by far the best rap album of 2012.

Ben Haggerty, known by his stage name Macklemore, in conjunction with young producer Ryan Lewis, released his first studio album on October 9th 2012. *The Heist* quickly rose to the top of the charts, landing number 1 on iTunes within hours of its release, number 2 on US Billboard 200, and selling over 78,000 copies within the first week, all without any mainstream promotion or support.

Macklemore is not your typical rapper. He studied at Evergreen State University, and during his time as a student he worked with Gateways for Incarcerate Youth. He is an intellectual humanitarian activist and gay rights advocate, and he is concerned with reaching the younger generation and educating youth about cultural identity.

The most notable aspect of *The Heist* is its vulnerability. Macklemore doesn't simply expose his life in any voyeuristic fashion, nor does he get carried away whining about the hardships of wealth and popularity. Instead, he is honest about the socio-economic issues that affect so many of us.

While Haggerty did check himself into rehab for drug-addiction in 2008, this only further fueled his desire to take a stand against drug use. With lyrics like, "That's the same stuff Weezy's sippin'... And tons of other rappers that be spittin' hard," he calls out Lil Wayne and other mainstream artists whose work makes light of drug abuse. He continues to sing in *Starting Over*, "If I can be an example of getting sober, then I can be an example of starting over."

The Heist is also filled with theological and philosophical contemplations that have been lacking in popular music. In his single *Same Sex*, he addresses the long lasting homophobia that exists not only in our culture but especially in rap, singing, "If I was gay, I would think hip-hop hates me."

He continues to write, "It's the same hate that's caused wars from religion, gender to skin color, the complexion of your pigment, the same fight that led people to walk outs and sit ins, It's human rights for everybody, there is no difference... No freedom till we're equal, damn right I support it."

Another issue Macklemore engages with is our cultural addiction to consumerism. He addresses this with a hint of humor in his hit single "Thrift Shop," attacking the ridiculousness of consumerism with witty lines like, "oh that Gucci - That's hell a tight. I'm like, "Yo - that's fifty dollars for a T-shirt... I call that getting tricked by a business."

Macklemore doesn't stop there, though; in *Wings* he continues to discuss how consumerism does more than just take our money -- it destroys lives. He raps about a boy being killed for his Nike Air Force IV's. He writes, "I'm an individual, yeah, but I'm part of a movement. My movement told me, be a consumer and I consumed it... I look inside the

See **INDIE RAP** on page 5

Purple and Gold BBall Spirit

MEGAN SPECKSGOOR

If you weren't among the dual colored throng of fans crowding the Nielsen bleachers last Tuesday night for the women's and men's Purple and Gold weeks games, you missed out on a night of collective school spirit, CAB prizes, a chance to show off a snazzy gold shirt, and some pretty entertaining basketball.

Although the men ultimately lost to St John Fisher with a final score of 75-62, head coach Drew Hannan said that "the game came down to the last minute" and that he's optimistic for the success of the team's near future, despite setbacks.

"We have struggled all year to put together a forty minute team effort, but of late we have begun doing that and putting ourselves in position to beat some of the best teams in the conference (Nazareth, Ithaca, St. John Fisher, etc.)," said Hannan. "The last five games have been by far our best games all year and, as a coach, all I can ask is that our guys continue to work and continue to get better."

Although Hannan said the team needs to hone their ability to "make plays late in a game, whether it be executing on offense or getting stops on defense," he's exceedingly proud of their "resilience and perseverance."

"The sheer amount and types of adversity we have faced this year would cause most people to lose their edge, their motivation," said Hannan, "but



KATHRYN HORNIBROOK

Mark O'Brien and Mike Ball

not these guys, which is our biggest asset." Hannan attributes the team's positivity and determination not only to the character of individual players and the moral of the group but also to the enthusiasm of fans.

"The fans of late have been the best, most supportive group since my time here," said Hannan. "Their support during games and encouragement away from them is what is helping to keep these guys going through this tough stretch."

Hannan added that the fans were

See **BASKETBALL** on page 5

CALENDAR

2/8

- Faculty Recital: Conor Angell, baritone and Sharon Johnson, piano
- MBB @ Utica College
- WBB @ Utica College
- Dodgeball Tournament

2/9

- T&F @ Cornell
- WBB vs. Alfred University
- MBB vs. Alfred University
- SPOT

2/12

- Coffeehouse: Luke Crawford
- WBB @ Ithaca College
- MBB @ Ithaca College

All information from
<http://athletics.houghton.edu>

Things to Eat

HANNAH HANOVER

When asked by prospectives what Houghtonites "do for fun," students can direct them to the carefully worded "101 Things to Do" on the Houghton website, sporting events, CAB activities, lectures, and concert series. Or students can tell them the truth that, for the most part, they simply make their own fun, and one of the ways they do this is by preparing food. Houghton students make a lot of food.

From Muggins and waffle-ice-cream birthday concoctions in the Dining Hall to cookies, pastas, vegan muffins, banana breads, curries, rice, Mac-n-Cheese, and stir-fry, Houghton students, like so many in the world, find community through food.

Facebook is awash with pictures and comments on the food Houghton students create and share. The location and equipment of Shenawana Hall's basement kitchen is more of a hall rumor than a source of community, but the other dorms, townhouses, and CLOs are full of students meeting their basic human needs with flare, generosity, and plenty of pure vanilla.

A Christian lifestyle and the Houghton location invites many to an even more thoughtful and gracious relationship to food and food sources. Shopping at the co-op embodies necessity, community, and blessing

intertwined and is a lifestyle choice which engages the local economy in a stewardship-minded fashion.

Houghton students were provided with ample opportunities to explore both their relationship to food and food's relationship to faith during PRAXIS week. The upcoming season of Lent is a time of fasting and contemplation, a chance for all participants to reevaluate their personal idols, dependences, and priorities through food restriction. Yet even during Lent, fasting is meant to be followed by feasting, and the Christian Sabbath becomes a focused time of fellowship and community.

My roommates gave me a taste of this community the other day with a spontaneous snack, made from ingredients as local as possible -- our yard. They doled out "snow ice-cream," Paula Dean-approved and Professor Lipscomb-recommended, from a large Christmas-red bowl. We topped it with a reheated peanut-butter-and-chocolate mixture -- the failed coating for a batch of Puppy Chow -- and sat around the table, giggling like children and eagerly devouring the sweet, cold concoction.

So on Sundays, when your Lenten fast is put on hold for Jesus-approved feasting, make your own fun by making your own food -- like snow ice cream! -- to share with Houghton friends and family. To make snow ice cream: Combine 12 cups snow and one 14 oz. can sweetened condensed milk. Serve with topping of choice.

BASKETBALL *from page 4*

particularly uplifting. They were “amazing and into the game,” said Hannan. “The effect is obvious if you just read some of the posts our players made after the game. They were all about how great the fans were and how much the guys love, appreciate, and need it.”

Team member Seth Shay agreed with Hannan’s appraisal of the spectators. “Our fans were extremely involved and supportive. This kind of home court

support is crucial in close games and I truly believed it affected the way we played,” said Shay. He added “The school spirit here at Houghton College is as good as I have ever seen it in my 4 years. I’m proud to be a Highlander when I look to the stands and see a mass crowd of purple and gold. As a team, we want to thank all of you for your support!”

The women also lost their game to St. John Fisher with a final score of 70-80, but senior teammate Michelle

Persons said that the Houghton team rallied during the second half. “The second half was much better offensively and defensively,” said Persons. “We talked at half time about communicating better on defense, which in turn would help our offense flow better as we made it a team effort.”

Persons said that the accuracy of the Fisher player’s foul shots hurt the Houghton team and that if the women “had played a better first half, the outcome definitely would have been different... The team stepped up the intensity the second half immensely, we just couldn’t close the gap.”

Several players are currently recovering from injuries which have created additional obstacles for the team, and Persons said, “They bring a lot to the team and we would be very glad to have them back.” ★

INDIE RAP *from page 4*

mirror and think Phil Knight tricked us all, these Nikes help me define me, but I’m trying to take mine off.”

Macklemore’s music is refreshing. *The Heist*, as its name suggests, is attempting to “steal back” any preconceived notions in regards to rap. Macklemore is concerned with the socio-economic, gender-based, racial and religious issues that plague us as a society. This album is more than just a chart topper; it is one of the most important critiques of our society and a fantastic piece of artwork.



KATHRYN HORNIBROOK

The Highlanders practice during Fall Ball

Athlete Profile



ANDREA PACHECO

Kristen Moose

LAUREL WROBLICKY

Junior captain Kristen Moose came to Houghton from Swain, New York to play basketball. Although she has had to sit out the past couple games due to illness, Moose continues to lead the women’s team.

“Moose is a quiet leader, she is not vocal, but she leads in her actions and her work ethic. Her teammates catch on to that and it motivates them to work hard too,” said Coach Alicia Mucher, “She is definitely an asset to a team and in a lot of ways she is a coach’s dream to have. Very coachable, listens, right now we just wish she were healthy.”

“I think her sickness has affected our team, but I think it has caused Moose to reflect on her role on our team more,” said

freshman teammate Maggie Reynolds.

Moose has been playing basketball since she was a little girl. She began playing with her dad, starting organized competition in elementary school. She competed in soccer and softball as well, but basketball won out as the more favored sport.

“Sometimes it’s probably a bad habit, but I tend to put basketball ahead of school. It probably isn’t the right thing,” Moose said, “But generally it is pretty easy to balance school with basketball.”

Moose is studying both physical education and health at Houghton. She aspires to be either a teacher or coach post-graduation. Her teammates and coach foresee her excelling in this field.

“Moose is definitely one of the hardest workers I have ever coached, if not the hardest worker. She has worked so much and put so much time into her individual development that she is really starting to reap some of those benefits,” said Mucher, “There is no question she is an outstanding basketball player.”

Last year, Moose received player of the year in the American Midwest Conference. This year, she leads the Empire 8 in points per game, averaging at 17. She leads the team in turnovers, field goals, three-pointers, assists, and free throws. She has earned player of the week twice this season as well.

“Moose is a very hard worker and that’s her style of play,” said Reynolds, “She does a good job pushing our team to excellence.”

“I just always want to be the best that I can be. I don’t ever want to look back and regret it,” said Moose, “The better I do individually, the more I can help the team out.”

Things to Do



WWW.GOOGLE.COM

Vidler’s Five and Dime Store

KATHERINE BAKER

It may be a bit far, but East Aurora is an inviting little village worth a visit sometime during your tenure at Houghton. Main Street has a certain small-town charm, with its old-fashioned theatre marquee and historic Five and Dime Store called Vidlers.

Vidlers itself is a unique attraction; it is the largest five and dime store in the world. Other attractions in the area include the Millard Fillmore House, the Roycroft Campus, and the Elbert Hubbard Museum.

Another fun fact: Millard Fillmore, the 13th President of the United States, lived in a simple clapboard house in East Aurora for four years before beginning his political career.

Fillmore’s house has been designated as a National Historic Landmark, and according to the Village of East Aurora’s website, “The 1825 structure is restored to that period and features some original Fillmore furniture of the era, as well as items from Fillmore’s presidential years.”

The Roycroft Campus in East Aurora has also been designated as a National Historic Landmark, and it features guided walking tours, artisan

classes and demonstrations, unique handcrafted artworks, and a copper shop gallery, according to its website.

The Campus is described at its website as “the best preserved and most complete complex of buildings remaining in the United States of the ‘guilds’ that evolved as centers of craftsmanship and philosophy during the late 19th century.”

To continue this historical journey through East Aurora, visit the Elbert Hubbard Museum, which “features an extensive collection of Roycroft books and Arts & Crafts pieces,” as stated on the Village of East Aurora’s website.

For those who enjoy the outdoors, the Sinking Ponds Nature Preserve “offers hiking trails and a natural habitat for migrating geese and other animals,” according to the village’s website. In addition, there is an outdoor ice skating rink in East Aurora that is open to the public on the weekends during the winter.

Spend a Saturday away from campus discovering the historic treasures and charm of East Aurora sometime during your stay in Western New York; the opportunity is a riveting one.

What Malcolm X Taught a Black Christian



LUKE LAUER

JULIAN COOK

I believed the lie. For most of my life I, like many of you, saw Malcolm X as the violent and less-successful opponent of the docile MLK. There he stood, angrily signifying, indicting white America for the ill-treatment of its darker brothers and sisters. Malcolm said that black was beautiful and that white society possessed no divine standard by which the black community needed to measure itself. Malcolm's analysis troubled me. His palpable anger made me uncomfortable. The white society that he described, infused through and through with the philosophy of white superiority, sounded nothing like my bevy of white friends at my college preparatory high school in downtown Chicago. He was divisive. He was arrogant. He was nothing like our good Baptist saint MLK. And most importantly, he wasn't a Christian – he was a Muslim. Appraising his ideology and religious affiliation as less than stellar, I had respect for Malcolm but no need for him. Or so I thought.

In October of my junior year at Houghton, I obtained a copy of the best-selling *Autobiography of Malcolm X* in the college library and committed

myself to reading the entire memoir. Commitment gave way to utter captivation as I consumed the entire book with an almost sacred delight. Upon finishing the book, I read and watched everything that I could find about Malcolm. Consequently, I came to see that I had been mistaken – flat-out wrong – in my premature interpretation of Malcolm X. Malcolm was no violent, victim-playing vigilante. He was courageous enough to speak the unmitigated truth to American society about the horrors of the black American experience. He hated no one, but he loved black people too much to dilute the reality of their condition. Getting to know the real Malcolm X changed my life, sparking within me an interfaith dialogue that left me more Christian than ever.

Malcolm taught me that I must have a Christianity that addressed me totally – including my blackness. It is not secret that Evangelical Christianity has largely been interpreted in Euro-centric perspective, often devaluing, intentionally and unintentionally, Afro-centric religious presentations. Seeing a theology that justified white superiority, Malcolm saw American Christianity as an aid in enslaving the black conscience. As a devout Christian and lover of history, I take issue with Malcolm. It was also the black church that had the greatest purveyor of black dignity. Black Christianity was in and of itself liberating.

However, I could not dismiss Malcolm's contention. Too often black Christians have espoused a Christianity that ignores their blackness instead of appreciating and speaking to it. Even I had been guilty of this, tricked by the illusion. Malcolm reminded me that though I am at Houghton – a predominantly white institution – that I am black, and that my faith would have to be able to work outside of

the safe confines of this community and speak to the violence and poverty of the largely black and brown Chicago community from which I come. My faith would have to speak to me wholly.

Malcolm was loud and honest about black injustice. Possessing a swift silver-tongue and a keen intellect, he was able to communicate what Dr. Cornel West terms, "black rage" like no other. Even MLK, who purposely avoided such rhetoric in an attempt to avert inciting violent reaction, comes second to Malcolm in this respect. Malcolm was upfront about black frustration with American racism, and as a result he is scary. He was a prophetic voice, issuing the clarion call in a strange and desolate land. Malcolm proved to me that empowerment and reconciliation sometimes means being honest about the horrors of oppression.

Too often, in the interest of cheap, rapid

I believed the lie.

reconciliation, we are encouraged to forgive and forget; to be silent about the atrocities of abuse. Malcolm said that it was OK, in fact, morally obligatory, to be angered by injustice. True reconciliation is impossible without an acknowledgement of and repentance from the wrongs committed. Some dismiss Malcolm as divisive and unhelpful for his honesty. He showed me that "crying aloud" means "sparing not", even when the truth is hard and painful to hear.

Perhaps one of the greatest lessons I learned from Malcolm X was taught to me not by his strengths, but by a weakness of his. While Malcolm's ability to communicate black beauty, self-reliance, and rage is unparalleled, his early methodology for handling the issues of the black experience was limited, even tenuous. Thus, he is a compelling reminder that communicating the plight of the oppressed is a means to an

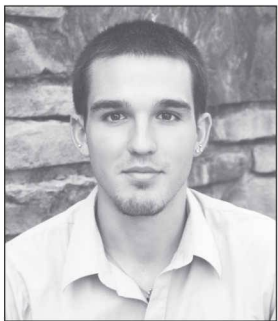
end, not an end in itself.

This is where Malcolm is most weak in the first years of his career (1959-1962), and I believe that he knew this. It is clear following his departure from the Nation of Islam (NOI) in 1964 that he, no longer bound by the exclusionary policies of the NOI, sought to implement a program of political liberation for black people – Black Nationalism. Meaning, as he said, that black people "should control the politics of [their] own community." Malcolm came to see that talking about black dissatisfaction with the system was only effective when coupled with activism to bring about sustainable change. He "gets" this by 1964, but is unfortunately killed before his maturing revelation can come to fruition. Malcolm reminds us all that powerful prophetic voices also seek to be solution-finding voices.

Malcolm X wasn't supposed to teach me anything. My education and earliest exposure to him sought to assure this. Malcolm is dangerous. His dedication to communicating the woes of the marginalized and his appeals to self-reliance pose a threat to the maintenance of the status quo. I found in Malcolm a challenge to be realistic and intentional about dealing with justice and a renewed dedication to Christian methodology in the fight for human dignity. My hope is that the entire community will seek to learn more about him. Allowing his prophetic voice and spirit to motivates us to speak-up and act out. Let us not believe the lie – Malcolm has something to say and it is worth hearing "by any means necessary."

Julian Cook is a senior music & Biblical Studies major

Ex Mea Sententia / Rap: Reflection of Culture; Not An Instigator



LUKE LAUER

ANDRE NELSON

I'll confess, I love rap. And not the clean Christian substitute that started making an appearance with groups such as The Cross Movement and Reach Records. I'm not even a fan of clean secular artists; Will Smith may very well have been the worst thing that ever happened to the rap industry. No, I like the raw, uncut, uncensored rap in all its vulgarity, and, in no way does that mean that I am misogynistic or racist. Rather, I think it is important for us to hear these words for the harsh critique of what our society is. The Marilyn Mansons and Eminems in this world are not responsible for shootings and rapes; rather, they expose serious problems that society struggles with.

Eminem writes, "That's why we sing for these kids who don't have a thing... or for anyone who's ever been

through [hard times] in their lives." This is the reason that rap is one of the fastest-growing and furthest-reaching musical genres in history and why everyone seems so intrigued by it.

Lowkey was right when he sang, "You can never avoid the voices of the voiceless," and rap gives the voiceless a voice. We can't ignore the helpless. We must face it, but in facing it we run into layers upon layers of misconceptions, one of which is the notion that rap is evil. After all, any industry that glorifies murder, violence, drugs, rape and general hedonism must be evil, right? But this is the biggest misconception. Rap tells the story of broken people, not a tale of evil's glorification.

Another misconception is that rap has strayed away from its glory days, that it has somehow lost its way and left its roots. The truth is that there never were any "glory days" that were somehow lost and forgotten; what has happened is simply a cultural paradigm shift. We are faced with different problems and the music industry has shifted its focus to reflect these problems. The poetry of these artists has changed from the socio-political platform it once held in the 70's, 80's and even early 90's to the position it now holds:

The violence that plagues the hood has yet to hit the suburbs with the influx of mainstream "gangsta rap."

talking about the accumulation of wealth, drug use, and promiscuity.

During the days of Afrika Mambaataa and the Zulu Nation and the early days of Ice Cube, Eazy-E and Dr. Dre, the issues that needed addressing were those of the outstanding racism in our nation, the economic and social repression of minority groups, and the violence in underprivileged neighborhoods. Obviously these issues have not disappeared, and many are the rappers who still sing about them. But what we are currently experiencing is something different: the Great Recession and a world dominated by a small percentage of elite.

And this has changed the focus of the songs being produced.

If you think that the "hood" is a worse place because of rap, you are mistaken.

The violence that plagues the hood has yet to hit the suburbs with the influx of mainstream "gangsta rap," you just need to look at the decrease in crime rates over the last 20 years to see that. What *has* happened though is that the negative aspects of our culture, the homophobia, misogyny, racism, violence, promiscuity, and substance abuse are being exposed for what they are. Rappers are reflecting a developing trend; not setting examples for youths.

Rather than attacking the rap industry, our time would be better spent addressing the social issues within our culture. Rap is not the cause of the issues. Ice Cube performs a satirical song titled "Gangsta Rap Made Me Do It"—a witty twist on the famous "The Devil Made Me Do It"—in which a professor condemns gangster rap for the ills of society during a classroom lecture. The teacher says, "Prior to gangster rap music the world was a peaceful place. And then all of that changed, violence, rape, murder, arson, theft, war, they are all things that came about as a result of gangster rap." Ice Cube goes on to list horrific things such as "if I shot up your college, ain't nothin' to it, gangsta rap made me do it." The purpose of this line is not to blame the musical genre for society's ills, but to recognize the problems' origination and the need to fix them.

The issue with trying to produce "clean" rap is that it too often leaves out the sting that this genre carries with it. It detracts from the message that is trying to be conveyed; the cries of a hurting society. In all this, I am not trying to say that there is no place for Christian rap. By all means, keep "ridin' with your top down listening to that "Jesus Muzik," but do not be so hasty to throw away the rest of rap.

Andre is a senior communication major

FROM THE EDITORIAL STAFF / South Park and Sex: Censorship at Houghton

Censorship is one of those ever-present issues on campus that seem to only accentuate the disparity between the student body and the administration. Let's be honest: who here has not received one of those obnoxious "web filter violation" notifications? The worst part is reading the category in which it throws those websites you always thought were innocent before coming to Houghton. The bright side is that we all get a kick out of it when a professor tries to pull up an educational site that is classified under pornographic material. The question, however, that we need to grapple with is not simply whether or not fart-sounds.net should be blocked, but should *anything* be censored?

Censorship is a tricky issue due to the fact that most items fall into a fairly large grey area. With drugs and alcohol it is fairly easy to regulate. Don't drink. Don't use illegal substances. But how do you legitimize not watching South Park? Is its content more objectionable than that of some of the DVDs in the library's collection?

The issue of censorship inevitably comes down to how much is too much. We ban pornography, but what about movies and shows whose entire premise revolves around sex? And honestly, what

show on American prime-time TV does not revolve around casual sex? *Friends*? *How I Met Your Mother*? *New Girl*? *The Mindy Project*? The innocence of *Leave it to Beaver* is long gone. Yet I can guarantee that most of the student body and a significant chunk of the faculty watch these very shows, if not similar ones.

As far as the usage of language is concerned, Houghton College attempts to maintain appropriate standards. In

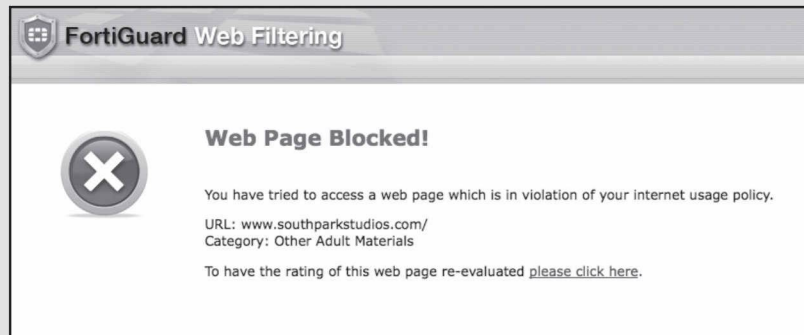
standards. Define any one of their descriptors for inappropriate language. For some there are few words in the English language that they would deem inappropriate. For others, however, that list may span quite a significant chunk of Webster's dictionary.

The fact is that it varies from person to person. The issue with censorship is that it inevitably limits a large group for the sake of the comfort of a few.

making out? Now cuddling? Even without going into more detail, it is clear that the line, for some, dividing sin and not-sin does not reside in intercourse alone. Where does the loss of virginity then occur, from a moralistic point of view? It is decided by the conscience of the individuals involved.

This same reasoning can be applied to almost anything (besides maybe murder). What constitutes offensive language varies greatly. What constitutes adult material varies significantly. What defines appropriate dress attire? if you're an international student from Asia Minor or North Africa you might see a bunch of loose promiscuous women walking around campus; on the flip side, if you're from southern California you may see a bunch of conservative odd balls. The fact is that some things cannot be defined by a general, overarching statement; and this is exactly what censorship does.

There are too many grey areas in life to be able to regulate in such seemingly clear cut ways. Ban sex, alcohol and drugs, but once the practice is begun of disciplining adults for what they wear, say and look at, it becomes much too difficult to maintain appropriate standards.



the student guide for the 2012-2013 year it is written, "Houghton College students are expected to honor God in both speech and lifestyle. The taking of God's name in vain or the use of offensive, abusive, profane, crude, racist, sexist, or obscene language is prohibited and may result in disciplinary action."

We, the editorial staff, are disturbed by the threat of disciplinary action for an area of life with such ambiguous

A year ago, 2011-2012 *Star* Opinions Editor Elisa Shearer wrote an editorial in which she grappled with the issue of sexuality. The reason we think it is so important and relates to censorship is that it isn't clear cut. Yes, sex can be scientifically explained; but what about all the other ways in which our bodies and minds are stimulated? As a Christian should we feel guilty for hugging someone of the opposite sex? How about kissing them? Or

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the article from last week's *Star* entitled, "People Kill People—with Guns." The author asserted that assault weapons are "violent killing machines" that make a person act violently, so she called for a ban of these assault weapons. I believe she is incorrect in these assertions.

In the second amendment to the Constitution, citizens were granted the right "to keep and bear arms" in order to secure their personal freedoms. Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1787, "What country can preserve its liberties if its rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance? Let them take arms." When citizens have the right to bear arms, the rulers of the country are reminded that their power is derived from the consent of the governed. The freedom to own guns is an important right that citizens have. In order to keep our freedoms, we must continue to have that right, while acknowledging that there needs to be boundaries (i.e. gun control).

I cannot explain all that happened in Newtown on that December morning. The actions of Adam Lanza on that day were some of the most cruel, inhumane, and destructive in our country's history. I believe he should be held respon-

The mission of the Houghton *Star* is to preserve and promote the values of dialogue, transparency and integrity that have characterized Houghton College since its inception. This will be done by serving as a medium for the expression of student thought and as a quality publication of significant campus news, Houghton area news, and events.

sible for his actions, not the guns he was using. Lanza had four guns with him that morning, but none of them were assault rifles (CNN). I am not sure where people got the idea to reintroduce this assault rifle ban. Banning these weapons would be an injustice to individuals who use them recreationally and safely. The difference between these individuals and Lanza is sanity. Lanza was not sane; no sane person would do what he did. In this understanding lies my answer to this issue. President Obama is correct in saying that we need stricter sanctions on how people get guns. Increased background checks and mental health evaluations are two

viable options. These solutions will not prevent another Newtown, but they should make these tragedies less frequent.

The fact is, if an insane person wants to get a gun, they will do so anyway they have to: legally or not. Our government could make sure that guns would not fall into destructive hands by raiding each home and taking them from each person by force. However, if that happens, we will have more problems than just guns.

Tyler Miller,
class of 2014

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2012-2013

ARTIST OF THE WEEK

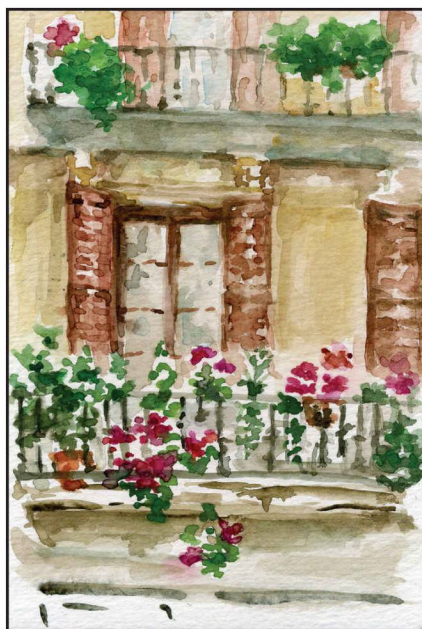


ANDREA PACHECO

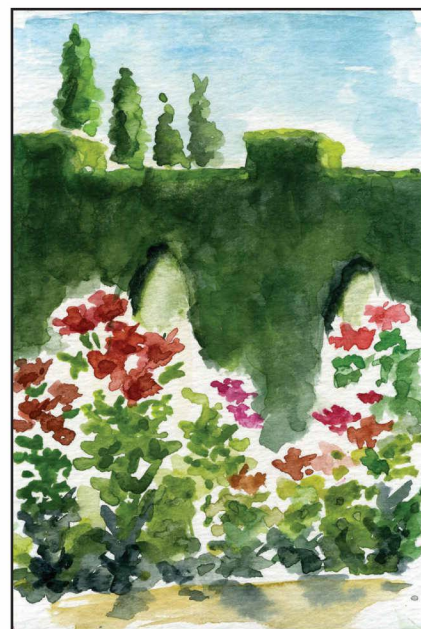
LINDSAY BURGHER

Art is my harmony, sensation, and never-ending exploration. Creating art gives me a chance to share with others my thinking through a visual experience. As an artist, I tend to gravitate more towards capturing the human figure, but watercolor is something I take with me wherever I go. This allows me to record places, objects, and moments. How I treasure looking back on paintings I've done during my journeys. Whether it was across Spain or in my backyard, all hold a unique and special memory.

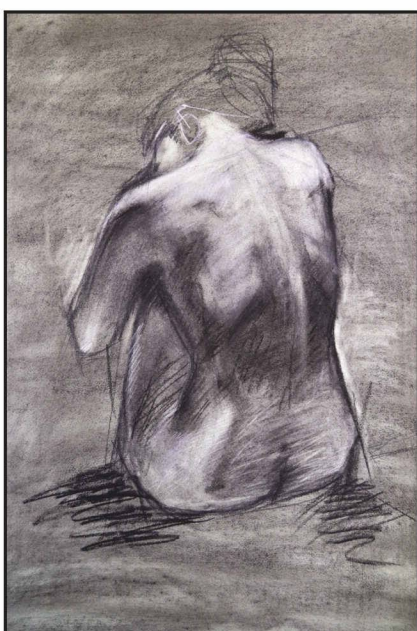
Lindsay is a senior pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts.



Barcelona balcony, Watercolor



Alhambra gardens, Watercolor



Untitled, Charcoal



Calm beginnings, Watercolor

SUDOKU

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To see crossword solution from 2/8 go to www.houghtonstar.com/crossword

Last week's winner was SYDNIE CUNNINGHAM! Your Java card will be sent to you through campus mail.

To enter a drawing for a free Java drink, bring your finished puzzle, clearly marked with your full name and CPO, to the Star office in the basement of the Campus Center by 6 PM on WED 2/13.



Brandon Cooper

Adventure Sports Mayterm: A reminder of warmer days.