

the Houghton STAR

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Published by students at Houghton College

Charles Bressler Fired!

Campus Stunned as Professor is Forced to Leave

David Johnson

In what is fast becoming a year of change—music buildings, libraries, and personnel—one more casualty has been added to the list: Dr. Charles Bressler. The popular Lit. professor was contacted just before spring break to clear out his office or be physically removed. Needless to say, Bressler was as shocked as anyone.

When I first heard the news—through the grapevine of course—I immediately rushed over to Dr. Bressler's small office on the first floor of the NAB. The lights were out, with only the sun shedding some broken rays through the drawn blinds. And there the man sat, his back to the door, gazing into seemingly nowhere.

I knocked on the door, and several moments later he bid me entrance. As he swiveled to face me, the first thing I noticed were his eyes—how incredibly sad they were. He tried to be in good spirits talking to me, but those eyes betrayed him. The eyes of a man defeated.

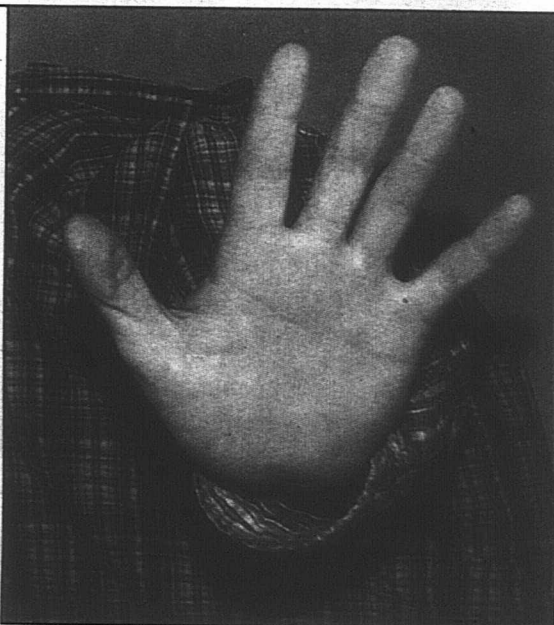


photo courtesy of Mike Tindall's hand

The college failed to give any reasons for his dismissal, but due to some sources who shall remain unnamed, it was because of his teaching style. Although Bressler's teaching is highly revered by many students, apparently a handful complained. I managed to track down

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WJSL to Change Format

Massive increase in listeners expected

Tammy Krekoreean and Deon Miler

As many students already know, there are many changes in store in the coming weeks for Houghton's radio station, WJSL. There will be modifications in facility, equipment, and management, but the greatest variation will involve the format of the station.

Station managers feel the fresh mix of Christian contemporary and modern rock just isn't garnering enough listeners, so the station will be expanding their playlist and dividing it up dependent on the night of the week. We here at the Star received an advanced listing of what music will be featured on what day:

Sunday: Speed metal night – all metal, all the time. Start the week off right with a healthy dose of blistering guitars and shrieking vocals.

Monday: Muzak night – everybody's favorite hits of today soulfully resounding from a Casio keyboard.

Tuesday: Bagpipe night – show your school spirit and tune in (note: DJ's will be required to wear kilts).

Wednesday: Contemporary Christian night.

Thursday: Hymn night – hymns, hymns, and more hymns, plus 15 different renditions of the "Hymn of the Month."

Friday: New Christian Music Spotlight with Matt and Sean.

Saturday: Super 70's Happy Time Flower Hour with your funky host Little Peavs.

The new format will be taking effect starting next week, and everybody at the station is giddy with anticipation. Although these changes are expected to generate some small degree of controversy, one spokesperson believes: "Change is important to maintain vitality and we feel such change at WJSL can only add to its already organically empowered status within the paradigms of radio programming...besides, I'm graduating this year."

Senior Class Gift Approved

Tametha K. and Dino Milestone

In a unanimous decision the senior class cabinet voted on the gift from the class of 1999—an ice-skating rink to be located in place of the quad.

When the idea was first introduced to the cabinet, there were questions of the practicality of an ice-skating rink in the middle of campus. Yet, as the senators talked to other students about the idea, interest began to rise. Even faculty members seemed to approve, citing it would balance out the campus perfectly, especially with the new music building.

The next step was to get it approved by the campus beautification committee. At first, the committee balked, but later made a

compromise—it would be fine as long as Houghton banners would hang from the dome and there were flowers surrounding the rink.

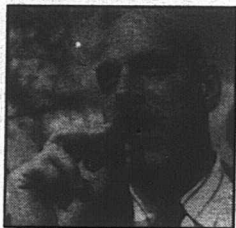
The final approval was needed from the Board of Trustees. The class cabinet was fearing complete opposition from the trustees. "We thought they would be pretty unreceptive," a senior class senator said. "But it turns out they really enjoy ice-skating."

The project will slightly exceed the allotted \$2,000 the class has to use for the gift by roughly \$1,978, 463. Fortunately, the other three class cabinets were generous enough to give from their budgets to cover the difference.

Construction is slated to begin in July, with completion scheduled for late September.

Academic
Dean
Hired

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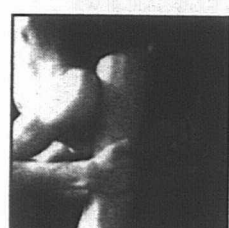
SGA
Las Vegas
Expose

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Final
Artist
Series

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Star Trip Approved!

Staff Heads for New York Again

Tammi Krikorian and Dionne Miller

Last year, four Star staff members journeyed to New York City to attend a college media convention. They were housed in the Marriott Marquis in Times Square where they also attended various seminars on newspaper writing and production.

and saving on printing costs-the current editorial staff will be bound once again for the Marriott Marquis. The trip was approved by the student committee advisory board and is slated for April 17-April 21.

The seminars offered vary from business to design to editorial. Examples of the lectures offered are "Writing and Editing the

makes available professional writers and journalists who review and criticism of the paper. Last year, the critique proved extremely helpful in developing a more professional publication.

The trip will cost slightly more than last year's excursion due to an increase in the rates for the

conferences and seminars and an upgrading in hotel rooms.

The seminar is an annual conference put on by the New York State College Press Association. Invitations are extended to colleges and universities all around the country. Awards are given out to the top papers.

The tentative price for the trip is close to \$4,000 and will include room, board, train and cab expenses, and some spending money for a day of sight-seeing, just before the return to Houghton.



Knicks fans Dave and Mike, in a courtside moment with long time friend and mentor Patrick Ewing

And this year, the staff will head for the Big Apple once again.

Thanks to a surplus of funds-due to the running of ads

Sports Column," "Graphic Design and You," "Balancing the Budget With Money to Spare," and "Finding the Feature Stories."

The conference also

HOUGHTON IN UTICA

For about the price of a semester in the bustling metropolis of Houghton, you could be studying in the Cess Pool of America!

Spaces are still available for the Fall 1999 Program.

Information and applications can be obtained from 'Snake' in the alley behind the NAB.

Applicants must be entering their junior or senior year in the fall, and have a GPA of at least .075.

Don't miss out on this.....um....'opportunity'!

For all the times
you got stuck with the bill,
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J. C. HEEP

Bressler Cont.

(from p.1)

one of the students involved in the debacle. He also requested to remain anonymous.

"I'm sure he's a nice guy," he says, "but I feel he often makes me feel stupider than I know I am. Besides, his tests are so hard."

As a former student and advisee of Dr. Bressler, I will refrain from publishing any opinion in this article, but I leave you, the readers, to grapple with this statement.

And what about the suddenness of this action? Is it a coincidence the college waited until spring break to deliver the news? Perhaps they feared a student response, an action that would have undoubtedly happened.

Yet as it stands now, nothing can be done. Things have been

set in motion that can not be undone.

I asked him what his plans are and he responded he was unsure. He's not going to move as his wife is still employed at the college and his daughter is a student.

I can't forget my visit with him in that dark, dark office. We talked, he and I, for a long time. I tried to make sense of the situation, and I felt he was trying to do the same. And as our conversation came to an end I stood up and shook the hand of one of the most noble professors, friends, and human beings I have ever had the great pleasure of knowing.

So I left Charles Bressler's office for the last time, and while I walked away, I saw the dim light of the sun fighting through the blinds dance on his face, and illuminate a single tear as it fell all alone to the floor.

Hogoflysks Coming to Houghton!

Norwegian Contortionists Perform Final Artist Series

Tamela Milly and Dionne Warwick

When it was finally verified the world-famous Hogoflysk family was making their first appearance in Western New York, the excitement spread around the campus like the flu. So finally after years of trying to get them, the Hogoflysks will amaze Houghton with their mind-defying contortions.

The Hogoflysks became world-renowned in 1984 when they were part of a traveling carnival in Norway. Crowds would constantly flock to catch a glimpse of the amazing maneuvers and physical impossibilities the family would showcase.

"They really are quite unbelievable," a faculty member says. "I saw them perform in Paris two years ago and they really brought the house down. They're incredibly flexible."

But the Hogoflysk show is more than a group of people in spandex pulling their legs over their heads (but the press release assures plenty of that). Their presentation includes the singing of ancient Scandinavian folk hymns (while stretching) followed by

interpretative dance.

Lately the group has been incredibly hot and very much in demand. They have made appearances in Radio City Music Hall, The Superdome, Central Park, and other high profile places all around the world. They begin their New York



tour here, later moving on to Buffalo, Troy, Westmoreland, and finally a huge show in Utica.

The Hogoflysks are made up of five members: Tisartikkel Issfulovcrep, Dayfjahn Siniskuul, Heesvurry Guutlukingu, Weirwaysing Yertyme, and Gidding Paydfert.

Seats are \$25.00, and free for students if they reserve tickets early. Be sure to attend the show!

The World Out There

Congress Revokes Daylight Savings Time

Washington D.C.--Republicans, led by Sen. Jesse Helms, have successfully led a campaign to revoke Daylight Savings Time, which turned all clocks one hour ahead last Sunday morning. Convinced the entire practice is actually a Communist conspiracy that began with the known anti-American, Marxist leader Benjamin Franklin, Helms and associates carried the majority on a vote to end the 'despicable shifting of our nation's precious time' forever.

Critics, who feel that Republicans are mistaken in their conviction that Daylight Savings Time is 'actually a ploy to give Communists, and possibly immigrants, more light with which to plan the destruction of democracy', have lodged protest and plan to take the case to the Supreme Court.

They expect the vote, which was held on Tuesday morning at 6:45, to be overturned. 'The vote cannot be upheld, as only 12 people were there,' said head of the Committee for Daylight Reclamation (CDR). Helms could not be reached for comment, but a spokesperson for his group replied simply 'We can't help it if they didn't get the memo.'--USA Today, Tuesday April 6: 1A

David Johnson Recognized in National Egotism Study

courtesy of the AAAP

The American Association of Abnormal Psychology (AAAP) has just completed a study of 2,000,000 U.S. students in order to detect traces of extreme egotism. In its findings, the AAAP names our very own David Johnson as, by far, the most egotistical person in the country. 'We can say without a shadow of a doubt,' says Dr. Sara Haze, 'that test subject #301 (David Johnson) shows the most remarkable tendency towards egotism of all students studied.'

The study ran over four years of college, following students as they interacted with peers and professors. 'Mr. Johnson showed no real tendency towards extreme egotism until the beginning of his Senior Year (see graph). We can only tie the sharp rise of egotism to his becoming the

Editor-in-Chief of his college newspaper. It seems the responsibility gave him an inflated sense of power, leading to severe delusions of grandeur. This elevated ego was deflated only a few times, as can be seen by the graph.'

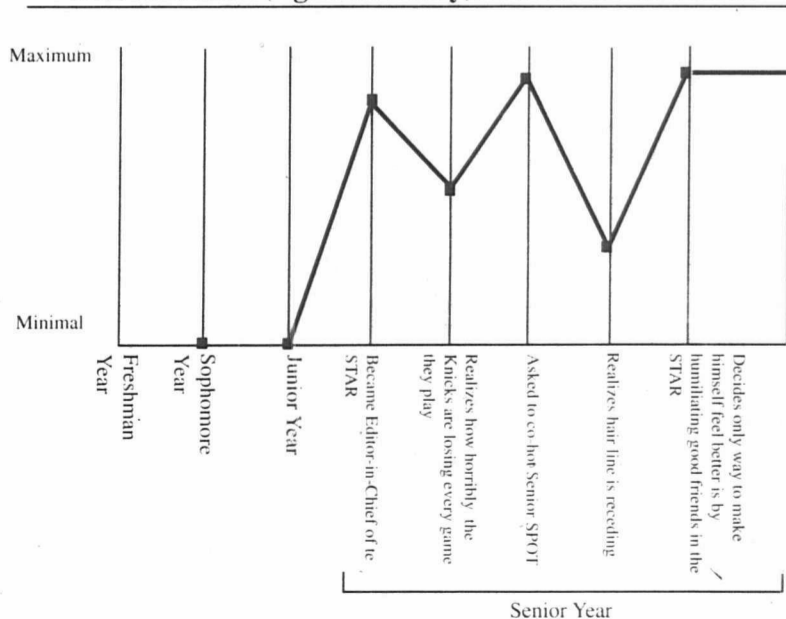
The most amazing result of his BHS (Big Head Syndrome) is that in order to maintain the maximum level of egotism to which Mr. Johnson had

grown accustomed, he felt it necessary to publicly humiliate friends in order to bolster his own powerful self-image.'

Houghton ought to recognize Dave for this great ac-

complishment. And so, we at the STAR suggest that when you see him, you shake his hand, and tell him how much you appreciate him and his enormous ego. If you don't, he may take it out on his friends.

Case File #301 (Egotism Study): David R.V. Johnson



It's Spring Break, Do You Know Where Your SGA President Is?

Tameka Delorean Dionne Sanders

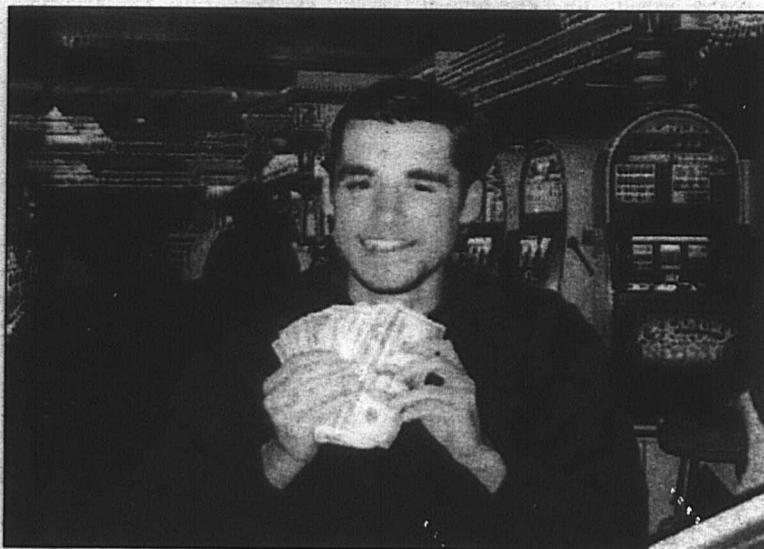
Do you ever wonder where your student activity fees go? Why not ask SGA President and local con man Seth Taylor. Taylor and several unidentified 'associates' spent Spring Break (not to mention student money) in a Las Vegas gamble-o-thon. For the past two semesters, Hoodlum-in-Chief Taylor has been slowly funneling SGA revenues to a Swiss bank account for the express purpose of this past week's 'gaming' at many prominent Las Vegas casinos.

An anonymous student who happened to be passing through Las Vegas discovered Taylor's diabolical scheme. 'Mr.

X' noticed the spend-happy President eagerly throwing away large amounts of hard-earned Houghton cash at countless roulette tables,

blackjack games, slot machines, and various other 'gentleman's games' (the details of which this reporter has, of course, no work-

'At one point he lost a cool million on the red 23 and went out of control. He picked up an oil tycoon who was standing next to



A maniacal Seth Taylor holds up a handful of winnings (or soon-to-be losings) in some dank Las Vegas casino

ing knowledge). 'I've never seen anyone look like him. He had a fire in his eyes that scared everyone around him,' reports Mr. X,

him and threw him into Wayne Newton who was exiting the performers lounge. It took five security guards, Siegfried and Roy,

and three cigarette girls to hold him down!

Taylor stayed, ironically enough, in the 'Presidential suite' of the Mirage hotel and casino resort complex. Room service, lobster dinners at 3 a.m., expensive massages, manicures, and a constant supply of warm towels helped him 'unwind' between casinos, in which he would spend 14 hours, and \$200,000, or more at his new 'hobby'.

How did Seth Taylor manage to pull the wool over the eyes of an entire college? Sources indicate that help in planning as well as the necessary cover-up came from Commissioner of Finance, Erica Curell. Witnesses suggest she may have been the red-wigged, sunglasses clad woman seen with Taylor at several casinos.

How much did this little 'outing' cost the average student? Although the figures are quite sketchy, it is believed that each student lost an average of \$32,000,000, thanks to Seth 'Scorese' Taylor. And how much did our local disgrace make in winnings? Why don't you flag down his brand new BMW next time you see it and ask him?

Houghton Lands Prized Recruit

Lithuanian All-Star Signs Contract

Big Papa Krikorian and Lil' bit Miller

When Coach David Lewis first received the phone call verifying Glenda Puchinko's decision to play for the Houghton women's soccer team, he literally shouted for joy. "I was so happy we had gained such a high-caliber player," he says. "She's going to be something special for years to come."

Glenda Puchinko is one of Lithuania's top soccer players, male or female. She led her high school team, the Klysthgow

Monoliths, to the national championship. She was voted League MVP for the third straight year and has appeared on a slew of Lithuanian radio shows, with one notable appearance on a TV sports show.

She has in one game scored seven goals and logged in two assists. She leads the country in Girls' High School Soccer point total and goals scored. Perhaps the most noteworthy aspect of her game is her incredible versatility. She can play any position-literally.

In fact in one game, where the Monoliths were seriously thumping their arch-rival, the Matadors, Glenda played goal, logging in four saves in limited minutes.

But Glenda wasn't always the soccer success she is today. In fact, she didn't even want to play soccer until the eighth grade. Her main love was bocce, but because of a thumb injury she was forced to give up the sport. Glenda tore ligaments in her thumb while moving a refrigerator and she immediately knew her sports career would be affected.

Through a literal process of elimination,

Glenda settled on soccer. She intensely practiced through the summer of her 8th grade year and went out for the junior varsity 9th grade team. Unfortunately, to her disappointment, she sat the bench, seeing only eight total minutes of play the whole season.

But Glenda persevered, and through more summer practice, plus participation in a summer league, Glenda honed her

skills and secured a spot in the first string of the 10th grade team. After that it was all smooth sailing, as Glenda registered huge numbers through her high school career.

David Lewis first heard of the foreign phenom through Soccer Recruit Monthly. Glenda was the featured women's player and immediately caught Lewis's eye. Through heavy correspondence between Glenda, her coach, and family, Lewis pitched the Houghton soccer program.

Glenda made her decision



Glenda at her prom with high school sweetheart Yltivinoff

to play for the Highlanders for a number of reasons, the main one being the desire to be an Outdoor Recreation/ Old Testament major. She also loves the countryside.

Houghton will welcome the recruit next year and the campus will soon come to appreciate the impact this soccer superstar will make.

the Houghton STAR

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