

1985 MUSIC LOUNGE QUEEN IN CONCERT

# Houghton Star

ISSUE NO. 14 - MARCH 14, 1986

**RANDY  
STONEHILL:  
WHAT ABOUT  
THE BLOB?**



**GANG OF FOUR IN RECITAL**



**SOVIET  
EMIGRÉS  
PERFORM**

**STEVE TAYLOR**

**IN JAMESTOWN**



# Houghton Star

## Cutting Stones for a Home — part II

Midsemester doldrums set on us now with plaster of Paris hands — squeeze and harden, and few would think this so much fun. Winter was nice, but it's now time that it was on its way. Classes weren't even as nice as the winter, so they can be gone as well. It's March now and just about everyone around has said just about as much as they really need to say, myself included. But in the way that is both typical and ironic, nobody stops talking long enough to see how little needs saying at this point, myself included. Perhaps I've said too much already, and perhaps I expect too much already.

Perhaps the addiction we have to shaking the air around us in important ways is a natural by-product of the queer resort we've come to. A college where where the intent is to nurture the articulation of ideas will undoubtedly bring out a good deal of talk (both the worthy and the unworthy), and this is all very well. It should be no other way. But what does a person do when he gets weary of it? How am I to feel at all cemented to a place where the main activity can be so erosively boring. The problem lies in the purpose and function of our queer little resort, which is not at all to say that this purpose is the problem.

The problem of being a person for three quarters of the year at college is that the college cannot, and never was intended to, fulfill the whole person. The college has a specific and temporary task: to educate; and the student a specific and not so temporary task: to learn. Granted, Houghton College goes well beyond this most basic goal in pursuit of developing Christians and fitting them for an impact on our culture, but only so much can be expected.

Melvin Dieter said just recently that the Christian College may operate as an organ of the church, but it is *not* the church. In the same way, our college plays a role in our lives, but Houghton College, as an institution, was never meant to be a home. And the activities that surround the academic life were never meant to the full activities of a life (except for a few, and even these have their compartments). It's no wonder that the talk grows stale, that the institutional relationships of the organizations on campus grow sour, or even that we tire of seeing the same basic age group represented at each meal. It's not full life, and the parts that Houghton can't provide for, we'll have to take up on our own.

It seems like a simple observation, but remarkably, the closed setting of Houghton — its seeming self-sufficiency — tempts us to expect too much. We have plenty of expectations of the college, and rightly so, but it can't be mother and brother and home town all at once (although "in loco parentis" not only seeps in through the fabric here, but also makes up a good bit of it). The student who bemoans the inadequate provisions for all his human needs here on campus isn't going to be happy anywhere. We are provided what you see. The rest should be left to a certain amount of personal responsibility.

Maybe we wouldn't need to drag ourselves through so much talk if we spent more time trying to catch sight of deer in our headlights. Or maybe we might attend local churches outside of Houghton and find some connection with the people that have a true connection to this land and aren't just passing through in apathy. Do as many of us know as should know how comforting route 19 can be under streetlight? There are ways to live in Houghton instead of just going here to school — even ways in our campus activities. Many of them have to do with waiting and watching, finding a few good people to latch onto, and finding a place where we are instead of continually whining and pining after some geographic relief.

Talk a little less, and we might hear a home around us.

J. Craig Henry



The Star gives particular appreciation to Yuri Hreschshyn this week for his saving magic Apple IIc that backed up our decrepit copy processor, and for his all-night consultation.

We also give thanks to Al Yanda for his generous cooperation.

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The Houghton Star is a weekly publication representing the voice of the students of Houghton College. The Star encourages thought, discussion, and the free exchange of opinion; but the opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Star or of Houghton College or the editors. The Star encourages signed letters to the editors, however, the editors reserve the right to edit all contribution. All letters for inclusion must be submitted by 9:00 am Tuesday. The Star subscribes to the Washington Post Writer's Group, the Universal Press Syndicate, and the National On Campus Report.



# Beyond Coneadea

by Holly Winters

PRESIDENT REAGAN, CONCEDEING THAT THE PROPOSED \$100 MILLION AID PACKAGE FOR THE NICARAGUAN REBELS FACES AN UPHILL BATTLE IN CONGRESS, SAID ON MARCH 11 THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD A "MORAL OBLIGATION" TO PROVIDE THE ASSISTANCE.

Mr. Reagan, in a speech here to about 200 conservative supporters, added that he believed congressional support of his plan was growing.

"This is an uphill battle in which we are engaged, but we are making progress," Mr. Reagan said. "You can sense that the tide is turning in favor of the democratic resistance," referring to the insurgents fighting the Sandinista Government.

White House officials said privately that the proposal for \$70 million in military assistance and \$30 million in so-called humanitarian aid would be defeated in both houses if votes were taken today (March 11). They said Mr. Reagan was prepared to compromise with Congress, but was rejecting such a suggestion for now in the hope of getting the strongest aid package possible before the House votes next Wednesday.

The official said White House lobbyists were heartened by the favorable reception given the measure by several influential House members. He singled out Representatives Dante B. Fascell and Claude D. Pepper, Democrats of Florida, and Les Aspin, Democrat of Wisconsin.

SOUTH AFRICA'S POLITICAL PROTEST WAS REPORTED TODAY TO HAVE SPILLED INTO ONE OF THE NATION'S SO-CALLED TRIBAL HOMELANDS, Lebowa, where the police said they shot and killed seven black demonstrators over the weekend.

The killings brought to 22 the number of people slain in political and tribal fighting since President P.W. Botha lifted the nation's state-of-emergency decree on Friday.

Brig. William Beetge of the Lebowa police said six people were killed when police opened fire on a crowd of about 2,000 blacks who had marched on a police station at Motatema, 100 miles northeast of Pretoria, on Saturday, March 8. In another area of Lebowa, he said, a seventh person was shot dead when a crowd stoned a police vehicle.

DEFENSE MINISTER JUAN PONCE ENRILE HINTED YESTERDAY THAT HE FAVORED EXTENDING THE LEASE ON US MILITARY BASES ON THE PHILIPPINES when they expire in 1991.

The minister, who played a key role in the rebellion that led to the overthrow of Ferdinand Marcos, said a decision on whether the bases should remain was up to President Corason Aquino. But he said he personally believed an American presence was needed in the region to balance the Soviet military bases in Vietnam.

And a communist-dominated political coalition yesterday criticized what is called US efforts to take credit for the overthrow of Marcos, and said a continuing American presence means Filipinos "will never be free."

# NEWS

## STUDENTS FIGHT FOR TAP

by Barb Pinto

On Monday March 10, nine Houghton College Students and Financial Aid Counselor Troy Martin set off for Albany's Empire State Plaza to Lobby for an increase in TAP.

Legislation increasing awards and extending eligibility for students under New York State's Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) has been proposed for Governor Cuomo's 1986 budget. The TAP bill has not yet been included in the budget.

Houghton Lobbyists met with senators and assemblymen from their home districts on Tuesday morning to encourage their support for the proposed TAP legislation. According to Assemblyman Richard Coombe, "Aid to education is very important; especially TAP. Lobbyists need to keep the pressure on to get results."

Houghton Students also participated in a question and answer session with Senator Jess Present, representative of the Allegany County area for the past 18 years. According to Present, "There is good support for TAP in the Senate and I think it will be placed on the Governor's budget."

On the whole, Troy Martin was pleased with the trip. "I'm convinced our efforts were successful and it looks like TAP will go through. There doesn't seem to be

much opposition this year." An increase in TAP was proposed last year, but the legislation was not approved.

Martin adds, "We spoke to many of the key people involved with the issue and got to see actual results. While we were in Senator Riford's office he signed a proposal to increase TAP."

Martin also thought the session with Senator Present was beneficial. "... He really was very interested in our lives, not just in the issue."

One of the high points of the trip for Martin was his interview with Dick Wesley. "I really think I increased his awareness on the TAP issue and what students' needs are here at Houghton. TAP is good for everyone. The more aid that comes from the state, the more college aid is available to other students."

He adds, "I think the trip benefitted the students that went. It was a good experience in state politics and how to lobby - everyone was well informed."

Students attending the trip, which was partially funded by Student Senate, included: Bill Wichterman, Kim Johnson, Steve Bariteau, Sonja Covert, Dan McCormack, Laurie Simms, Neil McBride, Holly Winters, and Barb Pinto.



# The Russians Are Coming

The Soviet Emigre Orchestra, renowned for its "luxurious, passionate, and golden" sound, will perform tonight at 8:00 in Wesley Chapel.

Under the leadership of Lazar Gosman, the chamber group was formed in 1979 as part of a music festival celebrating the artistry of performers who left the Soviet Union to enjoy greater personal and artistic freedom.

Gosman, a beloved figure in his native Russia, founded and led the Leningrad Chamber Orchestra for 17 years. Their more than 40 recordings are available throughout the world and are considered among the finest renditions in the repertoire. In addition, Maestro Gosman's personal rapport with Dmitri Shostakovich and Benjamin Britten has made him an authoritative interpreter of their music.



In 1977 Lazar Gosman and his family moved to the United States where the Maestro is currently Professor of Violin and Chamber Music at the State University of New York at Stonybrook, Artist-in-Residence at the University of Missouri, and Music Director of the St. Louis Kammergild. In August, 1984 Lazar Gosman became an American citizen.

The orchestra under Gosman has captured the imagination and support of an international audience, and members of the orchestra now include Soviet emigre musicians from Moscow, Leningrad, and Odessa.

Artist series tickets may be purchased at the door for \$7.00. After the concert a dessert reception with the orchestra can be enjoyed for an additional \$1.65.

## Musicians on Wheels

Houghton's mixed choral ensembles—the chapel choir and college choirs—will be touring the northeast over spring break. The chapel choir under the direction of Bud Nelson and the college choir under the direction of B. Jean Riegles might be stopping near your home. Here is an itinerary of the choir's concerts scheduled for the break.

The College Choir itinerary is as follows: March 22 1st Baptist Church, Westerlo, NY; March 23 McKownville United Methodist Church, Albany, NY, and Loudonville Community Church, Loudonville, NY; March 24 Leptondale Bible Church, Newburgh, NY; March 25, New Village Cong. Church, Lake Grove, NY; March 26, Stony Brook Christian School, Stony Brook, NY, and Hilltop Presbyterian Church, Mendham, NJ; March 27, Westminster Elementary School, Westminster, MD; March 28, Christian Fellowship Church, Vienna, VA; March 30, Grace Brethren Church of Greater Washington, Temple Hills, MA, and Northern High School, Qwings, MD.

The Chapel Choir Itinerary is as follows: March 16, First Presbyterian Church, Honeoye Falls, NY; March 23, First Alliance Church, Erie, PA; March 24, Corry Evangelical Church, Corry, PA; March 25, Calvary Baptist Church, Bristol, PA; March 26, Mercer Christian Academy, Trenton, NJ, and Goshen Baptist Church, West Chester, PA; March 27, First Presbyterian Church of Montrose, PA; and March 28, Community Alliance Church, Butler, PA.

## BEYOND EVEN ORANMEL

### ROCHESTER

#### THEATRE

FENCES BY AUGUST  
WILSON Feb 18-March 15  
Ge Va Theatre  
75 Woodbury Blvd  
TICKETS 232-1363

#### ART

LILACS—  
AVANT GARDE  
IMPROVISATION  
Village Gate Art  
Center March 15  
3-5 PM - FREE -

#### MUSIC

MAKEM & CLANCY  
IRISH MUSIC  
Arts Center  
4245 East Ave.  
March 14 at 8pm  
586-4240

### RPO - 'BEETHOVEN'

Jerzy Semchar,  
Conductor  
Eastman Theatre  
8:30 pm  
454-7091

#### FILM

LITTLE THEATRE  
240 EAST AVE  
232-4699

RAN (R) 1:45, 5:00,  
8:15

TRIP TO T.I.S.,  
BOUNTIFUL (R) 9:45

MISHIMA 1:20, 3:25  
7:15, 9:45

### BUFFALO

#### THEATRE

42ND STREET  
Shea's Buffalo Theatre  
646 Main Street

OSCAR WILDE'S  
THE IMPORTANCE  
OF BEING  
EARNEST —  
Studio Arena  
Theatre 710 Main St.  
Feb 20-March 22

#### ART

THE ART OF PAN-  
AMERICA  
Art Dialogue Gallery  
403 Delaware Ave.

#### MUSIC

VIENNA BOYS  
CHOIR —  
Kleinhans Music  
Hall, March 18  
7:30 pm  
TICKETS:  
QR3-0067





## MICHELE PILLAR AND BAND

In Concert

Saturday, March 15, 1986 8:00 p.m.

## MARY JO SERVES CHOPIN and COFFEE

By Gerry Szymanski

Mary Jo Roth will end her Senior recital on Wednesday, March 19, 1986 with the unorthodox serving of coffee at the buffet reception. She begins her recital at 8 pm in Wesley Chapel, playing works for solo piano.

Mary Jo, an Applied Piano major studying under Dr. C. Nolan Huizenga, will perform works ranging from the Baroque to the Contemporary. She begins with Bach's *Prelude and Fugue in G Major*, followed by Paul Hindemith's *Sonata No. 3*. Another sonata, Mozart's *Sonata in B-flat* is next, with the recital ending on Chopin's expansive *Ballade in G minor*.

Mary Jo says that she is angry because her recital is "on the same night as *The Crucible*! And I wanted to go to the Steve Taylor concert, too."

She is the 1985-1986 Pressor Scholar, an award given to seniors of high musical merit; but she is probably most famous for her appearance and coronation in last Fall's Homecoming Parade as the 1985 Music Lounge Queen, featured on the cover of that week's *Star*.

With her first lesson at the age of six, Mary Jo became proficient on the keyboard to the point that she played a Mozart concerto in a high school competition. She is a bassoonist, as well as an accomplished harpsichordist, as she showed in playing the virtuosic harpsichord part of Bach's Fifth *Brandenburg Concerto* last Spring.

She remarks that she "played for everything and everybody in high school," and one look would seem to indicate that she has done the same here. She is a member of the College Choir and she has accompanied opera productions as well as individuals such as Kathy Dennison, Barb Kenney and Craig Henery. This past summer Mary Jo toured for nine weeks with the outreach group "Cornerstone." Last Fall she performed the first movement of Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 1* with the Houghton College Orchestra.

Her future plans are to attend graduate school—either Hartt School of Music in Connecticut or the University of Cincinnati/College Conservatory of Music in Ohio. Mary Jo would like to eventually play in a touring chamber ensemble or teach on the college level.

## STRINGS SING

Kim Harker, a senior from Vineland, N.J. and Elizabeth Tinker, a senior from Olean, N.Y. will perform a string recital on Thursday, March 20th at 8pm in Wesley Chapel, on violin and cello respectively.

Liz will perform movements from Bach *Unaccompanied Cello Suite*, as well as a Sonata by Grieg. She is accompanied by Steve Mitchell.

Kim will be heard in pieces by Eccles and Borowski. She is accompanied by Becky Johnson. The duo will join together in Schubert's *Piano Trio in E-flat* as a finale, with Lisa Bilheimer on the keyboard.

Kim is an active member of the Equestrian team. Liz is an accomplished clarinetist, and won a competition with a concerto the Houghton College Orchestra will reprise on April 10.

# CELESTIAL SOUNDS

by Denise Yourth

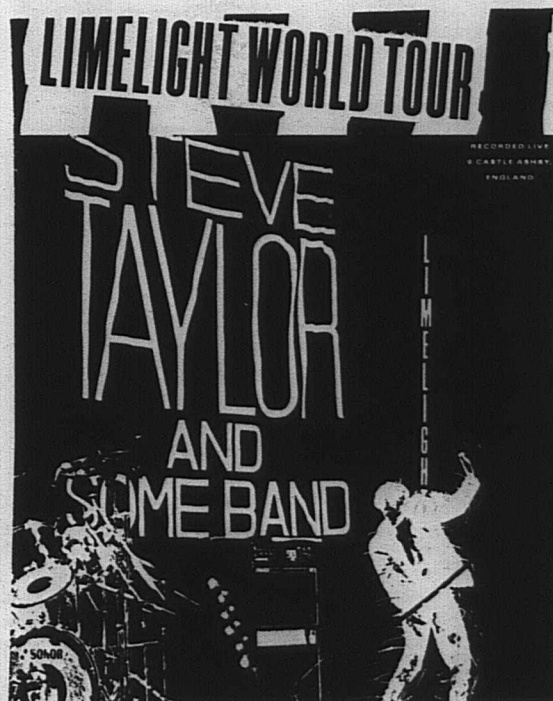
On Monday, March 17 Celeste Joy Wagner, an Applied Piano Major, will take the stage for her senior recital.

A student of Mr. Gary R. Rownd, Wagner, from Lehigh, PA has been playing piano for 16 years. Her memorized repertoire includes Poulenc's *Improvisation No. 2 in A-flat*, Chopin's *Nocturne B major*, Mozart's *Concerto in A-minor*, *Allegro*, accompanied by Bob Speicher on the orchestral part, *Night in Grenada* from *Estampes* by Debussy, and all three movements of Beethoven's "Tempest" Sonata.

Wagner, a member of the college choir, is currently an accompanist at the Higgins Church and has four private students. Her accomplishments include direction of two Christmas Cantatas, an Easter Cantata, the part of Gretel in the opera *Hansel and Gretel*, and during her freshman year, membership in the music outreach group, "Malachi."

Wagner's future plans include a Masters in Piano Pedagogy.

The recital will take place at 8:00 in Wesley Chapel.



STEVE TAYLOR & SOME BAND

MARCH 19 7:30 PM

PALACE CIVIC CENTER

116 E. 3RD ST.

JAMESTOWN, NY

TICKETS: \$7 IN ADVANCE AT HOUGHTON COLLEGE BOOKSTORE

# INTERVIEW

## RANDY STONEHILL: WHAT ABOUT THE BLOB?

Saturday night, March 1<sup>st</sup> marked a major event in Houghton history. Randy Stonehill, dynamic musician, experienced actor, and Grammy award nominee, performed live in concert before a capacity crowd of enthusiasts in Wesley Chapel. The Star was there, and after the performance, after Randy had greeted his numerous fans, after Randy got a drink, after Randy sat down, the Star was still there. Star reporters Mark Best and Gerry Szymanski asked a very tired, sweaty, and bedraggled Randy eight simple questions about his life and thoughts.

Mark: We have eight simple questions to ask you about your life and thoughts.

Randy: And I've got eight simple answers for you, by golly.

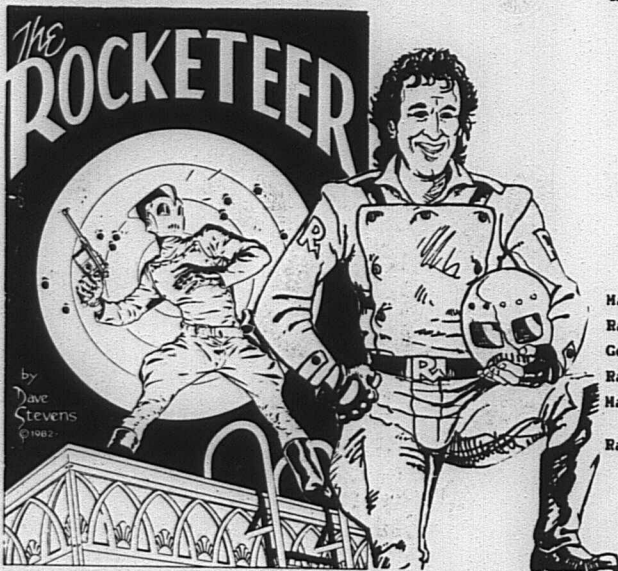
Mark: So, are you a Christian?

Randy: Yes! The answer is yes! I am!

Mark: Okay! Next question, did you sing "We Are The World" at the Grammys with everyone else on stage?

Randy: No, I was just in shock from the whole event. I thought it was an accomplishment just to be standing at that point. I'm easily pleased, but see, you have low standards for yourself, and you succeed, you see? That's the method to my madness. G'head.

Gerry: What do you think of the direction of Christian music today?



Alleged "Randy and the Rockets" and Dave Stevens' Rocketeer.

Randy: Well, it's going in several different directions, really. I think, by and large I'm encouraged in that I think that more of the church is getting stirred up and spoken to and that's gotta be constructive. There are more artists doing diverse things, picking up the baton and trying to run with it into the middle of the mainstream. You've got guys like Dave Perkins who is doing an album now for Myrrh on Word Records, who I think is going to be a major figure just in rock'n'roll. He's a beautiful Christian. Then you've got characters out there like T-Bone Burnett who are doing something of substance — we're not quite sure what it is, but we like it!

So I see some healthy things happening, I still see a lot of people taking in other people's laundry, playing it safe and building their own private industry within that particular pond called the Christian sub-culture. But, hey, I think God is patient and faithful and works with us — not only with us but even around us. All in all, it's surviving and it seems to be growing, more slowly than I'd like for it to, but there are good vital signs there. It's got a pulse, by golly!

Mark: What do you think about non-professing bands that seem to have a strong Christian message yet don't profess to be Christians, say for example, Simple Minds or U2?

Randy: I don't think you could put them in the same category. Really, I think there's a lot more ambiguity in terms of people like the Violent Femmes or Mr. Mister or Simple Minds than there is on U2's part. Maybe I say that partly because — he said, dropping this name — because I've met those guys and I know people that are close to them, and I know that Bono will come off stage from playing to 60,000 people and if you want to talk to him, he wants to talk about walking in the Spirit. That's just how he is — he's really a special man of God.

But anyways, in terms of non-professing bands, I guess there's a place for them. I suppose you never know if these people are just sort of confused stumbling mystics, or what the heck they are. You have to interpret what they do in your own way for your own benefit. I don't think you can necessarily look at them and say "Oh, they're believers, and everything they say is based on scripture, and whoopee!" You should probably enjoy it and interpret it as you like and use caution.

Mark: Can we talk about skeletons now?

Randy: Skeletons?

Gerry: As in "in your closet."

Randy: Oh, I don't know. Maybe we can and maybe we can't...

Mark: What about the Blob? What about Cindy Williams? What about "Cocaine Cowboy?" Talk to us Randy.

Randy: (in Woody Allen type voice) Well yeh know, eh, when you're a young Christian, you're not as focused on the particular nuances of the, eh, faith, you might say. (in a regular voice) Yeah, the Blob, well, it was a biobular moment for me. It was my first film part, and mercifully it was just about my last. I think God knew what He was doing. And that was a lot of fun. I watch myself getting eaten by the Blob two or three times each year with Elvira mocking the brilliant dialogue of that film. Cindy Williams is a lovely character, who I never saw again; it's her loss, folks, let's face it, huh?

\*Randy was spotted by Mark and Jeff Crocker at Jam appearing in "Beware the Blob."



The "Cocaine Cowboy," or "Mr. Coke" whatever; it seemed rock 'n' roll at the time. It was plain stupid, what can I tell you? I have not even thought about that in 15 years! Isn't there some kind of statute of limitations on crime, so we can that...I was supposed to be a Hollywood hippie kind of guy, so the song seemed appropriate for the setting. I think all seventeen of the viewers who saw the film were probably not traumatized.

Gerry: Was it like a special effect kind of thing? Did they throw something at you? Or use a Blue screen?

Randy: Oh, come on now, no, no, no! I don't hear the wrinkling of crisp cash here. You're asking me to divulge the inner secrets of Hollywood, and there's no money changing hands here, folks. It's unacceptable. I think it needs to remain a mystery, what do you think...your silence is overwhelming. (long pause) Silicone and red plastic, okay? And reverse camera work. And a lot of stupidity at four in the morning. And Larry Hagman! J.R.! went on to be even more sinister, he was the director. He wandered around on the set with this ankle-length furcoat and this cowboy hat drinking beer and going, "I LOVE IT!" It's a keeper! It's a wrap. Let's party..." It was... I was nineteen, and I had no idea what I was doing there and it was pretty funny.

Gerry: You're forgiven.

Randy (sheepishly): Okay.

Mark: What performers influenced you? Who are your favorite artists?

Randy: Well, uh, the Buffalo Springfield going back to the 60's who later went on to become Ritchie Furay who founded Poco and Steven Stills who (laughs) smokes Marlboros - I don't know what he does these days. Neil Young and those guys, they were like to me, they were like the Beatles of America doing the synthesis of rock 'n' roll and country. It was magic to me. The Byrds, who later influenced Tom Petty and a lot of the whole new psychedelia stuff coming out of England - England meets Roger McGuinn. It's really some wonderful stuff. Joni Mitchell and back to Harry Belafonte. We're talking early influences here like the Kingston Trio. So there you have it. That and spending a lot of time going around in my mother's dryer-around and around-and I came out and it all made sense.

Mark: Have you ever seen the Rocky Horror Picture Show?

Randy: I did, I saw it live at the Roxy on Sunset Strip, and it was UNBELIEVABLE! and I thought, "These people-wonderful artists-they're going directly to Hell!" On a greased pole, ladies and gentlemen! Now what can you say? It's sort of a statement about, uh, No, they're going directly to Hell! It's a statement about the disintegration of the culture and it was a lot of fun. I mean, disintegrating cultures are always good for a couple of laughs, don't you think? No, it was fun, and Tim Curry who played the main guy, was like Mick Jagger from Hell. Theatrically and artistically it was stunning. As a matter of fact I went back to see it-just to know exactly more specifically how to pray, of course! and I never did see the movie, but it sort of became a cult classic and THEY'RE ALL GOING TO HELL! That's right, we said it three times and that's the charm.

Mark: We'd like to discuss potential libel suits here.

Gerry: First of all, we want to ask you what you think of this issue of the Wittenburg Door (Aug/Sept. 1984) and its page of "Randy Notes."

Randy: Oh yeah, I saw the Randy Notes. It just broke me up. You know what they say, I don't care what they say about me as long as they spell my name right! That sort of goes with this, I think. They're good people, and um, THEY'RE GOING DIRECTLY TO HELL! No, they're great people and I just took it as a compliment and tried not to think about it anymore.

Gerry: Secondly, we'd like to ask you about your ad for "Love Beyond Reason" and your Randy and the Rockets Fan Club. We have noticed that it bears an uncanny resemblance to Dave Steven's comic book character "The Rocketeer." Randy (flabbergasted): My goodness!

Mark: We just wondered about copyright laws...

Randy: Well, actually, this is a surprise to me. I think if things start to get ugly, we'll just have Dave Stevens put to sleep. It'll be humane and we'll use gloves. They won't know who did it. No, I didn't even know about that, and frankly, I don't care. If he gives me any lip, I'll make him an honorary member. Dave! If you're out there listening, you booby, I LOVE YOU! No two dollar entry fee. What do you think? Ah, come on, fair's fair, all right?

Mark: One last question that Gerry has for you. He wants to know...

Gerry: Can I ask this?

Mark: He wants to know...

Randy: Gerry, apparently you can't. Gerry's right here with us and if he could, if he could talk he would say...It's kind of like a "Planet of the Apes" kind of deal.

Gerry: How tall is Amy Grant really?

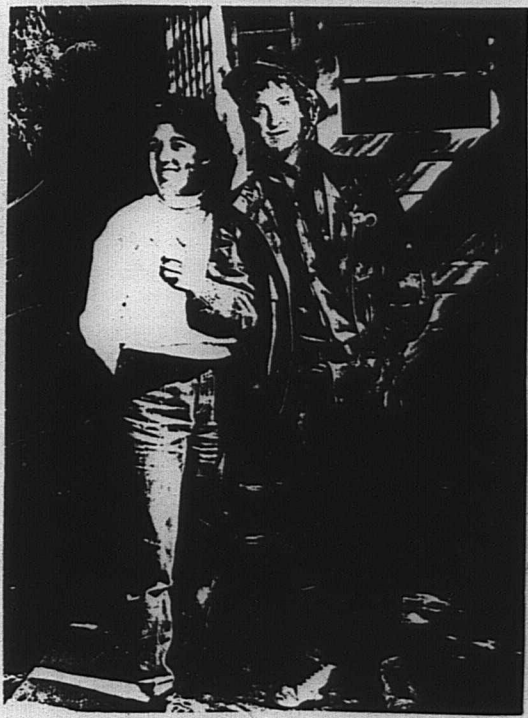
Randy: You mean when she's wearing those sexy spiked heels?

Gerry: Is she a very short person?

Randy: No, she's perfect dancing size, as a matter of fact. I don't know. She's 5'7", 5'8", and one of my favorite people, as a matter of fact. You people out there can't see me, but I'm smiling because I like that woman. A lot. She's so cool. Hey, she deserves every Grammy that I never got.

Gerry: What was the song that Sandi Patti won the award for?

Randy: I think it was some kind of polka number. No, no, it was, "I've Just Seen Jesus" with Larnelle Harris, a duet.



Randy points the way to Denise Towle who gave her senior recital last week.

Gerry: She likes to do those, doesn't she?

Randy: Apparently so, I guess it was one of her better ideas. But congratulations to her, as always. This was only my first letdown, she has been nominated something like four times, and every year Amy tramples her. It was nice that she was up for it again and she won, but if she wins next year we're taking her out to the bike racks and pounding her! There you go! We'll put a stop to this right now!

No, I think I've got the sure-fire idea for a Grammy next year. We got real close with the duet with Amy, I'm going to call her up and say, Aim, babe, we're friends, we've got history together, I have it now. Let's do like, not a duet, but a triplet, you and Sandi Patti and I. I know we'll put this sucker over the top yet."

And Good night and thank you all. And if you're riding your bike at night, wear white. God Bless.

# LETTERS

## Dissonant Departure

Dear Star,

This letter is addressed to whomever it was who so rudely ran out of the chapel in the middle of the fine arts festival, last Thursday, March 6. *Whatever* the problem was, I am sure your exit could have been done more gracefully and *quietly*. Next time, *please* have more consideration for both the performer and the audience.

Thank You,  
Beth Allen

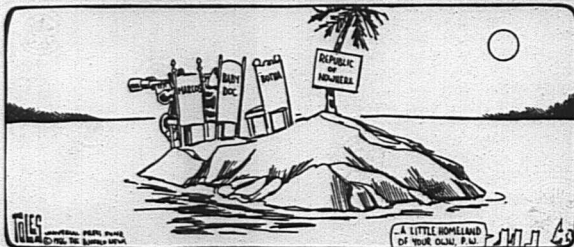
## Realistic Response

The *Star* checked into the reason for the behavior described in your letter. The following is a letter received by this office today.

Dear Craig,

I feel compelled to answer your questions regarding the incident at the chapel in writing. If you will publish this, possibly it may dispell any misconceptions remaining in people's minds. The person referred to in your complaint is a member of the *Houghton Volunteer Fire Department* and was, at the time, responding to an emergency ambulance call. While it may have appeared as rude behavior, and it certainly was an awkward situation, the response of that particular person was entirely appropriate. Unfortunately, events precipitating the need for an ambulance do not respect the chapel schedule, or any other, for that matter. The need to respond without hesitation is of utmost importance, especially in this community, where response time is already long due to the distances involved. Houghton relies on a very small number of Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians to provide it with quality care around the clock. One of the sacrifices they make is necessarily dropping whatever they may be doing at any given moment and responding to their call. Sometimes this can be awkward. While not an apology, I hope this explanation is adequate. Ironically, as I was thinking about how to respond to your question, my own pager went off during chapel today. This time during a prayer! We're due for some quiet, but if it happens again, please understand the need.

Thank You,  
Yuri Hreshchepshyn, AEMT-P



## Hail to the Chief!

Dear Craig,

Thank God President Reagan is doing something about the national debt. We seem to forget that part of the reason for the debt being so large is that no other president has tried to erase it. Now that it's so big, everybody makes a big deal over it and gives our President all the blame. Yes, the debt has gotten substantially larger since he took office, but notice how the stock market has been doing fantastic since he took office, and how the unemployment rate has fallen quite a bit. I feel the money invested in the defense of our nation is well worth it. If a few have to suffer while our nation's budget undergoes a rehaul, I see it as an honorable sacrifice. I may be affected by the cuts he has proposed, but if it will help get our nation back on its feet, I will gladly take whatever the consequence.

As far as private schools, such as Houghton, suffering a loss in enrollment, I feel bad for the school and students. I love Houghton dearly and value the education I am receiving. May I remind those of us who may be receiving less money from the government of what Peter

Schultz said a few issues ago: he says persecution would strengthen us, so if you view a state school as a form of torture, take heart, you will grow. Just one question. "If we should be out in the world testing our faith there and strengthening the kingdom of God on earth, what is Peter doing at a 'Christian' college?"

As a final note, I have been quite disturbed by the obvious bias of the *Star* against President Reagan and Republicans in general. Are Mondale supporters still sore over their humiliating defeat? I hope not. Please try to show all the good our nation and President are standing for, rather than all the negative; it's not very Christian to always criticize.

Sincerely,  
Stephen Beun

## Swan Song?

Dear editors,

After four years I think I've finally figured out what "liberal arts" means. During my freshman year I recall reading several articles in the *Star* concerning the nature and significance of a liberal arts

education. Frankly, I didn't understand them then. But without digging up those old articles, I suspect that I can figure out the gist of what they said, though I do not claim to have a comprehensive understanding of our educational approach.

A liberal arts education flies in the face of our modern, technological society with its ever-increasing emphasis on highly specified, technical training. Learning to think has become an unnecessary task which may or may not prove helpful in finding a good-paying job. And attaining a lucrative job lies at the core of the American Dream.

Liberal arts does much more than teach technical and scientific knowledge. Instead it fosters the ability to think underlying arguments, and to develop, defend, and consistently apply one's own beliefs to all of life. Liberal arts aids in the development of a coherent world view.

Understanding one's own world view and being able to defend it should be especially important to us Christians, who are facing increasing attack from the secularist society in which we live. Educated Christians should strive to establish not only what we believe, but why we believe it. Admittedly, this is no small task which can be accomplished in just four years. But we must learn to learn so that we can leave Houghton with more than a few "facts," but with a thinking approach to life.

Perhaps like me a few years ago, this article makes little sense to you. Let me simplify my message. Learn as much as you can about many different academic disciplines. Study to understand, not just to receive a good grade. Ask tough questions, and seek honest answers. Talk with your professors in an effort to discern how they integrate their faith with their learning. And never lose sight of the fact that you are "working for the Lord, not for men."

Sincerely,  
Bill Nichterman



Hiram is simply  
TICKLED about  
his new job.



# Affirmative Reaction

Dear Craig,

I sympathize with Cynthia Jenkin's ideal of a day when "we have truly established a nation devoid of bigotry" ("Affirmative Action," Feb. 18). However, I was taken aback by her sweeping and unsupported charge that those opposing the state's affirmative action policies "would have all advances made in the cause of civil rights during the past 30 years reversed—if not eliminated altogether." I am convinced that affirmative action, on the whole, has not benefitted black Americans, in particular, and is a policy inherently counter to the essence of civil rights.

Affirmative action appointments are humiliating and debasing for all black professionals. Competent blacks are suspect of owing to affirmative action for their position rather than having achieved it on the basis of merit. Those unqualified minorities who owe to affirmative action for their position are harmed because such appointments expose their shortcomings. Blacks and whites working together under affirmative action maximizes the likelihood that whites will have the advantage in experience and ability. This may foster a "new racism."

Affirmative action undermines constitutional government. In its impatience to obtain results, affirmative action infringes on the individual's right to consent. This policy has restrained freedom until the government decides that citizens are worthy of making the correct moral decisions for themselves. It is unlikely that affirmative action will ever accomplish its goals because it further contradicts constitutional government in which the means are equally as important as the ends. Affirmative action emphasizes race distinctions and prejudice in the nation and tries to abolish it by inflating it. By a temporary postponement of equal opportunity, it argues that opportunities will become truly equal for the first time.

Affirmative action is morally questionable. It provides compensation for past behaviors to many minorities who have not personally suffered in the past. The majority of white males who must pay for this compensation is not personally responsible for these past behaviors. Past injustices can not be remedied by a new injustice, for both treat people collectively rather than as individuals.

Affirmative action also discriminates against employers in their routine accusations of "statistical disparity." Affirmative action presumes differences in

wages and representation in various fields to be an evidence of racial discrimination. The right given by affirmative action to federal agencies to impose process costs is the right to punish. Preparation of an affirmative action report can cost a company hundreds of thousands of dollars regardless of the outcome. Few crimes carry fines this high. The further irony is that studies have shown age, location, and culture to be greater determinants in income than in race. Thomas Sowell, a pre-eminent black economist, has observed, "Nowhere do people have the same preference, behavior, or performances. Where did we get the idea that people are homogeneous, and therefore could be expected to be evenly distributed?"

Lastly, despite its great costs to the employer and the career of the black employee, affirmative action has little to show in the way of positive results. Studies by different economists employing various methods have each found that affirmative action has been of little or no effect in reducing the disparity between blacks and whites in income and job representation. The increase of blacks's wages in comparison with whites's has primarily occurred in the private sector which is not as liable to affirmative action enforcement by federal agencies. Of course, affirmative action advocates have some "proofs" for their program's

success. These claims, however, have been a measure of the combined results of two conflicting policies, equal opportunity and affirmative action. The relative positions of low income minority groups improved more in the 40's during the time of equal opportunity practices (which actively sought to inform minorities of employment opportunities without enforcing "goals" or "quotas" in the actual hiring process) than in the seventies when affirmative action quotas were enforced.

Sincerely,  
Gayle Schulz

## Fun's Not the Issue

Greetings, folks,

I read the original letter concerning the evaluation of fun and the response by Mr. Horne in last week's issue of the *Star*. How any person has fun is not for me to decide unless there is a direct reason for me to get involved. I am not writing to state what I feel is "good fun," however, Mr. Horne referred to scriptures that he felt would show drinking and dancing in night clubs (or bars) as a Biblical activity. Through personal experience I am quite familiar with night clubs, and Mr. Horne's premise is not defensible through a scriptural basis.

First, Mr. Horne stated that "... a night club probably is empty (I am guessing without first hand

experience)". With this statement he has pointed out one reason to disqualify himself from defending this activity. Without reliable knowledge or experience I would be reluctant to put my name on the block for any issue.

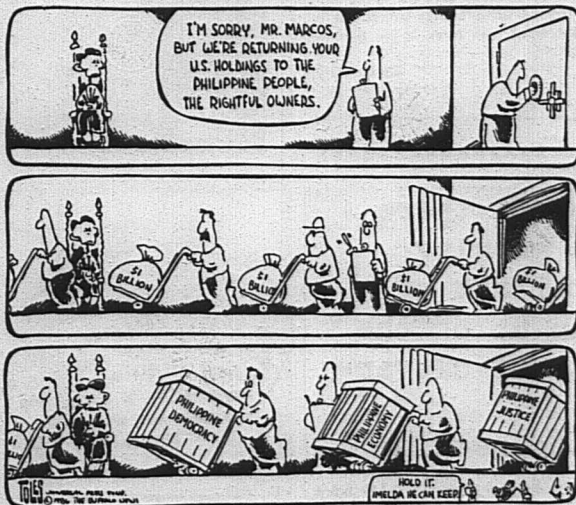
He also stated in his first point that dancing and drinking isn't worldly, but Biblical. That's a broad statement. Too broad, in fact, to defend anything. The point here seems to be that both the faithful and unfaithful drink and dance. Well, both groups also raise sheep, cut the grass, and burp after a meal. The fact that many people do something doesn't decide that something is right or wrong. These decisions must be based on methods and purpose.

Mr. Horne pointed out II Sam. 6:14, Ps. 30:11, and Ps. 149:3 to defend dancing as scriptural. If those passages are read with an understanding of methods of praise and worship in that time period it is evident that dancing was a part of praise and worship to please the Lord. II Samuel showed David dancing before the ark of the covenant in worship of the Lord, and Ps. 149 says to praise the Lord with dancing for the Lord's delight. In both of these instances the purpose for dancing was indicated as for praising the Lord, and the proper place for praise is the house of the Lord. Neither of these is applicable in any way to defend dancing as a Biblical social activity. As for Ps. 30, it is a poetic passage to express the writer's emotions, his gratitude. In our time, it is equivalent to "I'm so happy I could jump for joy."

I can't accept his attempt to support drinking, either. Again, both sides drank in the Old Testament. I don't need to repeat what I said before. Mr. Horne referred to Deut. 14:26 and Ps. 104:15. Again, in these scriptures there is no basis to apply them to a nightclub situation. Deut. 14:26 refers to the use of tithe offerings. In this verse the mentioning of fermented beverages is a passing one as part of a feast to celebrate God's provision for the year. This is a great verse to support wine at Christmas or Thanksgiving dinner but not as a Biblical social activity. Psalm 104:15 states "...wine that gladdens the heart of man." This describes a quality of wine, not the manner or place of its use. Neither of these verses support drinking in a night club as a Biblical social activity. Therefore, Mr. Horne's idea that Christians need to reclaim these activities as Biblical methods of fun is completely invalid.

Another idea that he put forth was that Christians could go into a bar as a witness of Christian faith while having fun. I've known people who have tried that. It doesn't work. Friends have told me that they go to bars to let their unsaved friends see the difference that the Lord has made in their

The horrors of hell can be experienced within a single day; that's plenty of time.  
--Ludwig Wittgenstein



lives. What their unsaved friends see most is how much that Christian is just like them. A common result of this is that the unsaved person believes that there is no difference between them and the Christian, so why be a Christian? There is also a great possibility of accepting the unsaved's bad habits as "ok." The Christians I've known in this position of the social witness were the ones who changed, for the worse. My point in this instance is that if a person feels that going to a night club is an acceptable way to have fun then let that person's relationship with God settle the matter. But if that person tries to justify it by calling it a witness to the unsaved the I say you're wasting your time. It's ineffective and often has more negative than positive results.

I have my own beliefs about going to night clubs. I'll hold most of them and share them as friendships develop. Yet, I will say this much. In the years before I was a Christian I went to night clubs and bars to catch a buzz and "raise some hell." And that was the same reason for 90% of the people I knew then. Our "fun" was contrary to the ways of God. I don't think the night clubs and bars have changed much over the last two years.

Respectfully,  
Terry Kim Gowell

## Political Indifference

Dear Craig,

I would like to reply to your editorial of February 28 and its criticisms of the politically oriented organizations on campus. Although you brought up many valid points on how too narrow of a viewpoint on certain issues can often disrupt the unity of the Christian church, your criticism tends to be counterproductive and adds to the very problems and attitudes you wished to dispirit.

\*\*\*\*\*

For a philosopher there is more grass growing down in the valleys of silliness than up on the barren heights of cleverness.

--Ludwig Wittgenstein

\*\*\*\*\*

Ideally, participating in both the discussions and activities of either groups you mentioned would tend to produce a person who has some sort of basis for, and understanding of, the ideas that he or she espouses. You seem to feel that people should stay away from such groups in order to avoid getting "mixed up" in them. It seems to me that this avoidance, combined with the highly political social system in which we live, would produce the same irresponsible dialogues that you are complaining about (ie. someone who is more ready to spout off the party line than take an objective look at today's problems). Many things may be "bigger than politics" but a realistic look at the world around you will show that there are few, if any, aspects of people's lives that either aren't or don't have the potential to be affected by politics in some way.

You question the relevance of these groups on the basis that because Jesus Christ gave no protracted lectures on, and set no great precedents for, the involvement of Christians in politics, then we should not bother with "government and such." I'm sure then, that your decisions to attend college and even to edit the *Star* were based on Christ's extensive secondary education and his advanced degrees in Journalism.

Sincerely,  
Adam D. Compton

Dear Adam,

I don't question the relevance of these groups. I support them in their place and function on the campus. If I didn't have any faith in the struggle to understand ideas and their connections to action in our lives I wouldn't be doing what I'm doing. Also I wouldn't have written what I've written so far. My actions and affiliations speak for themselves as a balance to my last editorial. Some things aren't easily formalized, but have to be held in tension.

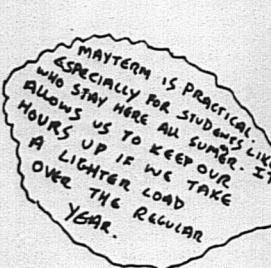
Respectfully,  
J. Craig Henry (ed.)

## MAN ON THE STREET JEFF CROCKER

IS MAYTERM  
PRACTICAL FOR STUDENTS?



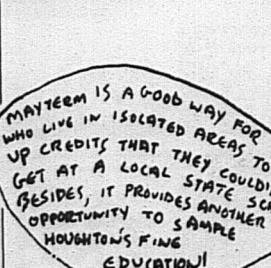
MAYTERM IS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO CONCENTRATE ON ONE COURSE WITHOUT THE HASSLES OF A FULL LOAD. AS FAR AS THE COST GOES, IT CAN RUN RATHER EXPENSIVE, BUT HOUGHTON IS EXPENSIVE ANYWAY.



MAYTERM IS PRACTICAL, ESPECIALLY FOR STUDENTS LIKE ME WHO STAY HERE ALL SUMMER. IT ALLOWS US TO KEEP OUR HOURS UP IF WE TAKE A LIGHTER LOAD OVER THE REGULAR YEAR.



YES! MAYTERM IS PRACTICAL FOR STUDENTS WHO NEED THE HOURS. TOO BAD MAYTERM IS SO EXPENSIVE THOUGH. BUT HAY, THEY SAY THE FOOD LINES ARE SHORTER THEN! (Yum! Yum!)



MAYTERM IS A GOOD WAY FOR STUDENTS WHO LIVE IN ISOLATED AREAS TO PICK UP CREDITS THAT THEY COULDN'T GET AT A LOCAL STATE SCHOOL. BESIDES, IT PROVIDES ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO SAMPLE HOUGHTON'S FINE EDUCATION!

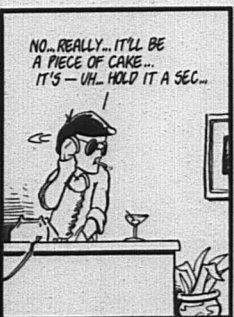
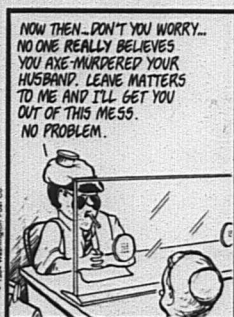




# BLOOM COUNTY

These past strips provided while Berke Breathed recovers from an airplane accident.

by Berke Breathed



# ads / personals

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Ice Cream Special

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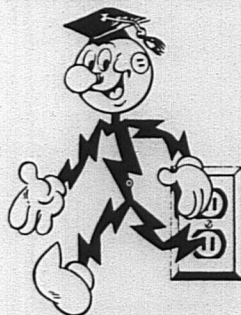
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P.

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they keep down the price  
of gas."

Gang of Four



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Kill da Wabbit

Kill da Wabbit

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Warren

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