

Bananas can cure apathy!

"They make me care," says prof.

THE **HOUGHTON**
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7 april 89

Eight year old boy
gives birth to ninety
year old woman

— U.F.O. and Godzilla godparents

Amazing
bird trans-
lates
Faulkner
into Arabic

hired as English
divisional head



Eat pizza, mozzarella sticks, and wings ONLY...
and lose up to **20** pounds a day!

Incredible diet!

Philosophy prof.
buys motorcycle
"I just want to be young again,"
he says.

Magicians thrill
chapel audience
3 die in juggling accident

Zombies rejoice
as they are freed
from slavery



Faculty member admits
canine affinity in
doghouse switcheroo

"And he's tenured, too," groans colleague

But, seriously. . .

Creating a desirable atmosphere

Recent incidents of violence on the Houghton campus, most recently in Shenawana residence hall, have introduced the question of the college's procedure in dealing with such situations. Some people have expressed concern because they feel that the reaction of the administration doesn't fit the nature of the incidents; in other words, the "punishment" doesn't fit the "crime." According to one Shenawana resident, "reconciliation is important, but there are limits."

In fact, many students (particularly those living near sites of violent incidents), when they see no observable responses from the administration, have concluded that there is no response and that the administration is inactive. Dean of Student Development Robert Danner understands how people can arrive at such a conclusion. "People react, rightly so, to the concept," Danner said, but pointed out that the observable is not always the actual.

According to Danner, the administration's goal in working with conflict situations is the reconciliation of the individuals involved. He acknowledged that such a commitment can lead to "the misleading conception of Houghton as an institution that doesn't do anything [disciplinary]."

"Let's say that we have a situation of violence or conflict," Danner explained. "It may take a couple of weeks or months to work through something like that,



dave wheeler

because we're working toward reconciliation." Such a long time frame can mislead public perception. "People see no immediate action, and it appears that nothing is happening. The criticism that the institution is doing nothing is always present."

Danner asserted that he and Student Development do take disciplinary procedures when necessary. He acknowledged that

"People see no immediate action, and it appears that nothing is happening."

some situations cross the interface between reconciliation and the community's welfare. "The interface is a difficult one," Danner explained. "To report a particular incident to the community at large singles out the people involved. Even in the worst situations, we're still working toward reconciliation."

Particular incidents have culminated in police action; for example, the ongoing investigation of campus theft (\$15,000 to \$20,000 worth of possessions has been stolen annually, based on a survey recently conducted by Dr. John VanWicklin). Danner considers theft to be "another serious form of

violence."

Shenawana Resident Director Michael Broberg agreed with Danner that students are often left with a frustrating impression of inaction. "The cumulative effect of six tough situations this year has had a major effect on people," said Broberg, "especially since the student sees a lot of things that happen on a floor (or other living area) that the RD and RAs aren't aware of—and that Development never hears about."

Broberg sees many conflict situations as possible impetuses for personal growth, and feels that "some students are primarily concerned with eliminating problems rather than stimulating growth." According to Broberg, he and his RAs generally try to steer their responses toward the "potential good." When substantial harm to the community, floor, or individuals is present, "a larger scope is involved, and it's out of my hands," said Broberg. In these situations, Danner and Student Development determine whether the Judiciary Committee will become involved.

Both Danner and Broberg emphasized that students should trust the administration's responses, while acknowledging that students' concerns about the issue are justified and important. "We are not perfect," Danner concluded, "but we try awfully hard to create the atmosphere for Houghton that is desired." The level to which these desires are met is the problem at hand, to which there are no easy answers.



The **Star** is a weekly student publication; its attention is turned inward upon Houghton College. Letters to the **Star** should be signed and no longer than one page double spaced. The editors reserve the right to edit all contributions.

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Next year: \$66,676 for sports

dave wheeler

The athletic department will receive a substantial increase in funds for the 1989-90 academic year, according to a decision made at the March 14 Student Senate meeting. The amount allotted the department from the Student Activity Fee (SAF) will increase from \$29.55 to \$31.60 per semester, bringing the total athletic department income to \$66,676 annually.

Harold Lord, women's basketball and volleyball coach expressed his reasons for increasing athletic funds. Lord pointed out that Houghton's sports program serves the student body as a whole by providing a source of entertainment, which is in short supply in a rural community such as Houghton. Lord also argued that Houghton athletics aid in public relations and provides witnessing opportunities.

This change in funding was passed with stipulations, however. In the light of certain instances of pledge violations by some athletes this year, a motion made by Thom Fenner was carried declaring "that a statement be placed with the funding that goes toward intercollegiate athletics and sent to the Athletic Committee concerning the attitudes and/or behavior of the athletic team members. If these attitudes and/or behavior(s) do not more appropriately represent the Christian character of Houghton

College, their funding might, in the future, be either reduced or withheld altogether."

Since the SAF allots a sum to "Intercollegiate Sports" as a whole rather than individual teams, a question has been raised on the benefits of breaking the category up into the various teams. Senate President George Wilson suggested that funding for each team could then be decided on the basis of

What do you pay the most for each semester?

	per student	total
Int. sports	\$31.60	\$66,676
Boulder	11.60	24,476
Intramurals	7.90	16,669
Artist series	5.45	11,499
Star	5.40	11,394

need, availability, and, as the March 14 motion indicated, athletes' behavior.

To Coach Lord, such a division would be detrimental to the entire athletic department. Primarily, it would remove the responsibility from the individuals and committees who ordinarily make that decision—i.e., the athletic director

(Douglas Burke) and the Athletic Committee. Lord encouraged the discussion of concerns to the Athletic Committee or Dean of Student Development Robert Danner, explaining that these proper channels have concrete effects. "Breaking the department down would take the authority out of the hands of the trained professionals hired for the responsibility," said Lord.

Lord also held that such a division would sever the cohesiveness of the athletic department as a whole. "It would tend to cause more 'every man (team) for himself' thinking," Lord argued. "We would possibly lose support of each other, building ourselves (the individual teams) up rather than the whole program."

Among the other prominent increases in the 1989-90 SAF are a 20% increase in WJSL funding, which climbs from \$2.50 to \$3.00 a semester, and an 18% increase in funds allotted to "CAB/Homecoming/Winter Weekend" (from \$.85 to \$1.00). The **Star's** allotted funds remain at this year's level: \$5.40.

Next year, each student will pay \$3.85 a semester more than this year.



Students call for coed dorms

What do Houghton students think about having coed dorms? This year's Psychological Assessment class, in partial fulfillment of course requirements, created a scale to measure student attitudes toward coed dorms. The scale consists of 25 items which represent a wide range of opinion on the topic from favorable to unfavorable. This final set of items was selected from a larger item pool through an elaborate evaluation by independent judges.

The survey was distributed to a representative sample of 360 students. Two hundred surveys (55.5%) were returned. For the purpose of this survey, the term "coed dorm" referred to a college-approved, on-campus residence occupied by male and female students. In this residence, coeds would live in separate sections (halls, floors); however, they would share common areas such as kitchens or lounges. A score of 1.0 on the survey's scale indicates extreme favorability toward coed dorms, a score of 11.0, extreme unfavorability. The average score for the entire sample is 4.85, a moderately favorable attitude.

Scores in the sample range from a low of 2.38 to a high of 10.50.

The sample is rather evenly divided among the four classes, and 62% are females. Ninety-three percent of the sample is Caucasian and North American. About 10% come from an urban background, and the rest are evenly divided between rural and suburban settings. Over two-thirds of the sample live in the residence halls, one-fourth in outside housing, and about 5% are commuters. Business, education, psychology, science, and English majors are those primarily represented. Apart from college major, none of the basic demographic variables mentioned above is significantly associated with attitudes toward coed dorms. Students majoring in communications (mean = 3.46), business (4.15), or psychology (4.36) tend to have more favorable attitudes than students majoring in math or computer science (mean = 6.29), religion (6.22), elementary education (5.95), art (5.58), or history (5.56).

A number of other variables were tested for association. The only variable that relates signifi-

cantly to dormitory attitudes is the respondents' friendship patterns. Those who report that their friends are primarily of the same gender have less favorable attitudes toward coed dorms than those with primarily opposite-sex friends. (One fourth claim to have primarily same-sex friends; 15% say opposite sex; and 60% report having a similar number of each.)

Of greatest interest may be the percentage of students who agree with specific items on the survey. About 40% of students consider coed dorms to be "a great idea," and slightly less than 20% oppose them. Sixty percent affirm that "Houghton should allow students the choice of living in a coed dorm."

On the positive side, about two-thirds of students think that "coed dorms would promote better casual relations with members of the opposite sex," and over 70% believe that residents of mixed gender "would make dorm life a lot more interesting." A majority of students believes that coed dorms "would attract students to

— continued on next page



john van wicklin

Houghton." (However, 25% believe this would attract the wrong kind of student.) About 40% believe that coed dorms would "generate more responsible attitudes" and make dorm life "more like a home environment."

On the negative side, a majority of students believes that coed dorms would make "enforcement of standards more difficult," and 25% feel that they would work "only if there are many rules regulating behavior." Over 40% believe that coed dorms "would not enhance the reputation of Houghton College," and about 30% believe that these residences "would lead to further types of permissiveness." Finally, one in four students feels that dorms of mixed gender "would deprive one of a desirable level of privacy."

Since anywhere from 10% to 40% of students have significant reservations about coed dorm life, it seems unwise for Houghton to transform *all* of the dorms to accommodate coed life. However, there is support from the majority of students for a choice between a coed or unisex residence. The most frequently affirmed item on the survey, endorsed by 80%, states that "coed dorms would be good for some students, bad for others." This lends further support for the need to retain some unisex residences, should Houghton ever come to a point of establishing coed dorm life. Finally, the most negative item on the survey ("Coed dorms? Over my dead body!"), was affirmed by 9% of the sample. Do you think someday we may have to enlarge the local cemetery?



A new approach to language learning

patrick bamwine



The language department will have a new laboratory next fall. The lab will have a visual emphasis, replacing the traditional tape recorders and audio cassettes. The T.V. lab will provide opportunities to view programs live from Canada, France (via Canada), and Central and South America (thanks to our satellite dish).

The department will continue to offer computer-assisted instructions with two Apple computers and software in various foreign languages. According to Dr. Paul Johnson, head of the language department, the emphasis on video and T.V. has three objectives.

"Video is the wave of the future," he said. "Therefore, most texts coming out now have a video component. We are simply getting prepared. Second, video makes the lab experience more attractive. Instead of hearing a disembodied voice, students will be able to view speakers in actual settings. Third, video will enable students to see the language in the context of its culture."

"In the coming year," continued Dr. Johnson, "we will introduce a program of well sequenced videos that will foster, supplement and support learning in the classroom. Through these culturally oriented programs, the three video labs should give students greater opportunities to advance their language skills. In addition, the live T.V. programs will enhance this objective."

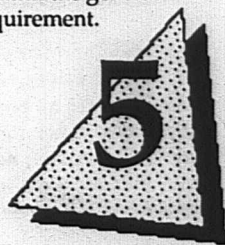
In keeping with a recent determination to internationalize the curriculum, proficiency at the intermediate level of the foreign

language or its equivalent is now required of all students. Normally, this competency is attained by completing six hours of credit of a foreign language beyond the initial six hours.

Latin: Latin is back in the curriculum after an absence of several years. Dr. Richard Gould will teach beginning Latin next year (3 hours each semester), and in the following year (1990-1991) intermediate Latin. Beginning and intermediate Latin will be offered in alternate years.

Latin was withdrawn as a major and minor several years ago due to low enrollments, and Gould moved to Buffalo to teach Greek and Latin. With some major changes in curriculum at Buffalo campus, Gould has ventured back to the main campus to re-introduce Latin. "We feel confident about a good enrollment," concluded Dr. Johnson.

German: Due to poor enrollment, the faculty have voted against continuing the German major and minor. However, both beginning and intermediate German will continue to be offered, allowing students to fulfill the general language requirement.



News

Speaking face to face

(continued from below)

March 15, 1989

To: Faculty, Staff, and Students:

I have given serious thought to the proper way to address the concerns of the faculty and students concerning the recent board decision regarding tenure for Dr. Meade. As the Board of Trustees, we want to be sensitive to those concerns while at the same time working within the established structures of the college. For this reason I have appointed a fact-finding committee to collect pertinent information from campus constituencies in order to better ascertain whether this decision merits a reconsideration by the full Board of Trustees.

This committee will be comprised of myself as chairman, the four chairs of the standing committees of the Board of Trustees, and two other members with extensive experience in higher education. They will convene on campus Thursday, April 20, prior to the opening of the full Board of Trustees. It will be their purpose to

ascertain whether the procedures followed in this case were appropriate and thorough and whether the information upon which this decision was made was both accurate and adequate for this situation. It will not be their responsibility to reconsider the decision itself; only whether the decision was deliberate and fair.

In the coming weeks we will ask appropriate elected representatives to select those individuals who will present their information to this fact-finding committee. The faculty input will be decided by Richard Pocock, Vice Chairman of the Faculty, in consultation with the Faculty Affairs Committee. Spokespersons for the students will be selected by George Wilson, Student Senate President, in conjunction with the Senate cabinet. I trust this procedure will adequately address campus concerns while maintaining the integrity of the administrative structures we have established at Houghton College.

Mr. Herbert Stevenson
chairman, Board of Trustees

dave perkins

On April 21, the full Board of Trustees will gather on campus for their last meeting of this school year. Their "fact-finding" committee, mentioned in the above letter, will meet with selected students, faculty, and possibly staff for approximately three hours on April 20.

Mr. Herbert Stevenson, chairman of the trustees, said that the committee had no prepared list of questions to ask; instead, the people who appear before the committee are expected to come prepared to talk. The committee

will have questions about what these people say, and dialogue will proceed from there.

Stevenson couldn't predict what information would surface during these meetings. He did admit that new information might arise which could convince the full board of trustees to reconsider and even overturn the decision to deny tenure to Dr. David Meade, but he indicated that this is unlikely. "I tend to think the board made a good decision the first time," he said.

Reactions to the decision from the faculty and students are the main reason why the board created

this fact-finding committee.

Strident vocal support for Meade convinced Stevenson and others that the trustees should talk to faculty and students face to face.

George Wilson, who is finishing his year as Student Senate president, was appointed by Stevenson to select students to appear before the committee. Thom Fenner, next year's Senate president, will chair the Senate meeting this Tuesday, during which Wilson and Fenner will suggest a list of students they believe would be qualified to represent the students before the trustees. At that meeting, the Senate will be composed of newly elected Senators, seniors who were Senators this past year, and the former Senate cabinet. There is no official word on who will appear on Wilson and Fenner's list.

Three people have been specifically asked by the trustees to appear: Dean Bence, Dr. Carl Schultz (head of the religion department), and David Meade.

According to Stevenson, the board has received no organized position from Houghton's staff, as it has from faculty and students. However, to be fair, the staff was also given the opportunity to send representatives to the meetings on April 20. Betty Lyman and the staff cabinet meet next Tuesday to determine if any staff have the desire to appear before the committee. If necessary, the cabinet will call an all-staff meeting to decide who will go.



To the public at a "Christian" institute:

Everyone these days seems so interested in the "big" issues at Houghton. I feel that one of the "little" ones needs to be addressed. So, in my humble way, I would like

Dear Sirs:

Comments in the *Star* about the decision of the Board of Trustees refusing to grant tenure to Dr. David Meade caused me deep concern.

It appears there has been a radical change in the division of religion and philosophy since the early 1960s. No wonder the Wesleyan Church and the Board of Trustees are concerned, as well as many former teachers and alumnae.

Dr. Meade's view of inerrancy does not agree with Houghton's former position. It certainly does not agree with "The Chicago Statement on Inerrancy" (1978) and "The Chicago Statement on Hermeneutics" (1982).

Instead of reconsidering keeping Dr. Meade, the board needs to more clearly define their position on inerrancy and to strongly uphold the Christ of the Inerrant Word of God as opposed to the Christ of Canon Criticism.

Those who challenge the original intention and purpose of Houghton College should not be granted tenure or be allowed to remain on the staff or faculty.

The recent book, *The Sufficiency of Scripture* by Dr. Noel Weeks (1988), would be a cogent, godly, and scholarly alternative to Dr. Meade's book.

arthur l. fawthrop

to borrow a teaching practice from our Lord and tell a parable (not that I can compare in the slightest with Jesus).

There was once a young man who was still searching for the Lord. He decided to go to a Christian college, hoping that there he might find his answers. He became convicted by the Holy Spirit during prayer week and prayed for salvation. He then looked to his brothers and sisters to learn how to put Christian principle into practice. By the end of his senior year, he was just like those he had as models and he lived his life with those practices he had learned at school.

After he died, he went before

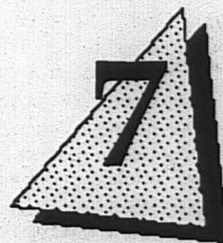
the King in judgment. The King said, "Away from me, I never knew you." The man said, "But Lord, I accepted you in school. I have spent my life giving money to the poor, going to church, and supporting missions in every way that I could. Isn't that what Christianity was all about?"

Again the King said, "I never knew you. I was hurting, but you only laughed at me. I was late for class but you pushed ahead of me in the lunch line. I was eager for your company but when you sat at my table, you ignored me. I was waiting for friends, saving a seat at my table and you sat down without asking if I even minded. If you cannot even express courtesy and love to those you call brother and sister, you cannot show my love to the world." And He said to His angels, "Take this goat from me; cast him outside in the darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

How can we call ourselves Christians when we treat those around us without courtesy? We are called to love our neighbors as ourselves. Courtesy is a small part of love, but without it love is killed before it can take root. Let us first love one another and then, only then, can we show Christ's love to the world.

kevin coram

Letters





It's in his blood

barb mcclure

We sat on the Stevens Art Studio benches, Orville Hammond and I, sipping seltzer on ice and talking about jazz. Orville is the leader of the Eastman Jazz group that has played at both Studio '89 evenings, most recently on April 1.

"I'm from Jamaica," he told me. "So I grew up with music—mostly reggae and drums. It gets under your skin, into your blood, you know? As a late teen I decided that I wanted to make music all my life. I could play the piano and started doing gigs on cruise ships, in hotel lobbies, at receptions of every sort. Then I came to the States and took music at Oberlin. I went on a tour of Europe and played jazz for a couple of months. That was wonderful. Now I'm at Eastman getting my masters in jazz. The guys here with me tonight are friends of mine. We share some of the same classes, and we share a love of music. We've only been playing together since September. It's been fun. We sort of just said, 'Hey, let's get together and play once in a while.' I don't ever want to stop playing music."

"I've got two questions I'd like you to address," I said. "The first is, 'Why jazz?' and the second is,

'How do you perceive the Houghton audience?'"

He smiled. "The first is easy. I love jazz because it's innovative, it's fresh. I especially like free jazz. It's a form of music that has no set rhythm or melody. It's difficult to play, but it's very creative and extremely unpredictable. The

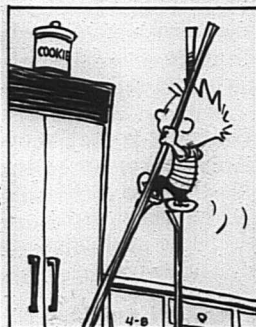
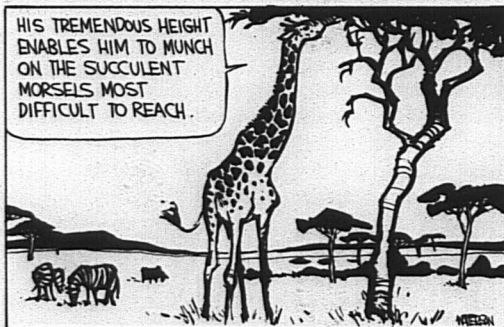
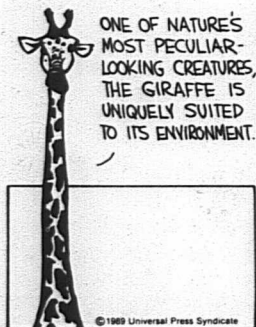
"The Houghton audience is very receptive and responds almost as though they were used to spending Saturday nights like this."

second question is more difficult to answer. I was told that jazz is a relatively new thing to Houghton. That surprised me. The audience is very receptive and responds almost as though they are used to spending Saturday nights like this. I would say this audience is a good one. We feel very welcomed and very appreciated. It's fun to see people enjoying the music so much. It's a friendly atmosphere. I suppose you're interested in

hearing some criticism? Well... I don't really have any. The most I can say is that sometimes it's frustrating to hear lots of chatter and laughter when you're playing a quiet piece like a ballad. But that's every audience, not just Houghton. We like to play here."

I had talked to Audrey Vitols, a representative of the alcoholics awareness group that has been largely responsible for bringing Studio '89 to Houghton. I asked her if she was handing down the mantle of responsibility to anyone in order to ensure that there would be a Studio '90. Her reply was positive. "We're talking about it. Larry Ortiz is optimistic. If AA doesn't do it, there are groups like Black Student Outreach and others that might. I think it will continue."

With that statement in mind, I asked Orville what the group's initial response was to being invited back so soon after their first performance. He answered, "We were glad. I remember thinking to myself, 'Great, maybe we can make this a habit.'"



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