

# the Houghton STAR

Vol. 94.26

[26]

Wednesday May 5, 1999

Published by students at Houghton College

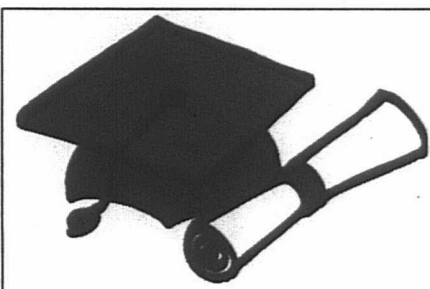
## Graduation '99

Emily Beach and Dionne Miller

As the semester winds down, excitement is in the air. Some of us are preparing for Mayterm, part-time jobs, and lazy summer afternoons until our return in the fall. For nearly 250 members of Houghton College, the 10<sup>th</sup> of May marks the end of an era and the beginning of life in the real world. This week of change brings many activities to the campus. As finals conclude and parents of graduates begin to arrive, the campus will swing into action in preparing for the exciting weekend

ahead. The events begin Saturday morning with the commencement services for the P.A.C.E. program. Sunday is a day filled with fellowship and reminiscing. The activities conclude Monday morning after the commencement service for the graduating class of 1999.

The Star would like to extend its congratulations to all graduating seniors and a welcome to all parents visiting for this weekend's commencement activities. This weekend is jam-packed with activities and we hope the following list of events will be helpful for organizing personal schedules.



## Mayterm: Houghton and Beyond

Susanna Rosenbaum

To many students, Mayterm may seem like another one of Houghton's time-honored institutions; however, Mayterm is actually a relatively recent program.

Dr. Willis Beardsley, who graduated from Houghton in 1960, recalls having two long semesters—a fall semester ending in January and a spring semester ending in June—as well as a full-fledged summer session. In the late sixties/early seventies, the college shortened the fall and spring semesters and added a one-month session in January, which was referred to as "J-term." J-term was rather short-lived, as it was moved to May in 1976. This was the beginning of the session that we now know as Mayterm.

Mayterm was actually a larger program at its inception than it is today. During its early years, more courses were offered and more students participated. The course selection was essentially the same as it is now, including both regular classes (math, social science, history, etc.) and off-campus study opportunities. In fact, many of the current off-campus classes are reminiscent of those offered during earlier Mayterms. For example, there was a class offered called "Wilderness Learning," which was very similar to the course "Life on the Trail," now taught by Professor Perkins. (One interesting difference between the two courses is that "Wilderness Learning" included an FAA-ap-

*Continued on p. 3*

### 1999 Graduation Weekend Schedule

#### —Saturday, May 8—

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 1:30      | P.A.C.E. Commencement in Wesley Chapel   |
| 2:00-4:00 | Physical Education Center is open, including pool                                    |
| 3:15      | Marching Practice in Wesley Chapel   |
| 5:30      | Senior class gift unveiling on the lawn between the Campus Center and East Hall dorm |
| 6:00-8:00 | Physical Education Center is open  |
| 7:30      | College Choir parents' concert in Wesley Chapel                                      |
| 9:30      | Senior "Spot" in Wesley Chapel   |

#### —Sunday, May 9—

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| 8:00-9:00  | Breakfast served at the Campus Center  |
| 10:30      | Baccalaureate Service with Dr. Richard Allen Farmer in Wesley Chapel: "Redemptive Reduction"     |
| 12:00-1:15 | Dinner served at the Campus Center   |
| 2:00       | Equestrian Venue Demonstration on the quad   |
| 3:00-5:00  | Presidential reception for seniors, parents and guests at the President's home, Centerville Road |
| 5:00-6:00  | Evening meal served at the Campus Center   |
| 6:30       | Senior Class vesper service in Wesley Chapel   |
| 7:45       | Celebration Fellowship in Wesley Chapel  |
| 9:00       | Houghton Piano Quartet   |

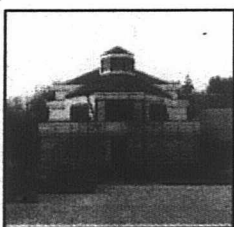
#### —Monday, May 10—

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 7:30-8:30 | Breakfast served at the Campus Center   |
| 10:00     | Commencement Convocation with Dr. Nancy Nason-Clark in Wesley Chapel: "Scholarship and Social Activism: The Evangelical Challenge for The 21 <sup>st</sup> Century" |

\*\* Dinner will be served 15 minutes after Commencement Convocation ends, for one hour

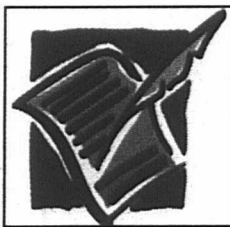
Fine Arts  
Building  
Update

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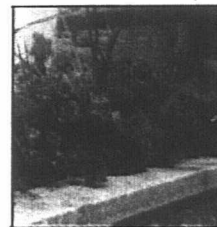
Senior  
Essays

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Arbor  
Day at  
Houghton

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# EDITORIAL

## Letter from the Editor

Tim Graffam

Somehow I made it into two pictures at the senior slide show this year. That fact stands as a testament to the amount of time I've spent with members of the Class of '99 in my three years here at Houghton.

My freshman year housing assignment found me inhabiting a room smack dab in the middle of upperclassmen territory on the third floor of Shenawana Hall. Aside from my roommate and I in 305, there were only two other freshmen rooms on the floor. As if leaving home, family, and friends to go to college wasn't intimidating enough, I had to live on a floor where everyone already knew everyone else, except for me and a scattered few. Though the situation initially seemed bleak, it soon became evident Third Shen was a blessing in disguise.

When the proverbial ice was finally broken, it didn't take me long to find out the older guys on the floor were a lot like me. We were alike in that we each had a broad range of interests that somehow overlapped in one way or another. Our uniqueness made us similar, along with eccentric senses of humor and an inherent

love of screwing around.

Due to the floor's wealth of diverse interests, there was always something to do and someone or ones to accompany you. Whether it was shooting hoops at the gym, watching "The Rock" for the umpteenth time, kicking the crud out of each other in Mario Kart, spreading good cheer with

Jockey cards, making movies like "Cheese Pig," playing euchre like it was our job, or jamming with the band, Third Shen always had something going on.

Eventually I was introduced to acquaintances and friends of guys on the floor, and before I knew it I had two or three friends from my own class of two grand, and the rest were from the Class of '99. I've always been impressed with their openness, consideration, and hospitality as a class. Oftentimes it's easy to remain exclusive from subordinates in the grand social strata of college life. The Class of '99 notably kept exclusive attitudes to a minimum.

Skip to the present.

The aforementioned band in which I had the pleasure of playing, Fantasy Mission Force, played its last gig on Saturday night at the Houghton Heights #3 concert party. After the show I was suffering from those pesky post-performance dol-drumms while reflecting back on our illustrious five-show career, and the most recent performance. I found myself disappointed, not with the show's outcome, but with my be-

havior during the show. I was so busy concentrating on my barely adequate guitar playing that I failed to enjoy my last stint playing with, and for some of my best friends. I would much rather have missed a note here, flubbed a chord there and taken in the experience more fully. The end of the show came too soon.

After the show, *Star* business manager, drummer, and friend Mike Tindall verbalized well the sentiments of most graduating seniors while waxing poetic on the topic of his final days as a Houghton student. "It's not that it went too fast, it's that just you can never really be prepared for the end," he continued, "the toughest thing is that you want to be done but you don't want it to be over."

Though I will not be walking the chapel aisle to receive a diploma until next May, I still feel completely unprepared for the end of this year. Final projects, tests, and this newspaper have suppressed any blue feelings for now, but I know as soon as I return to Houghton next fall, the harsh reality of emptiness will pull no punches. An emptiness on campus and an emptiness in spirit. Houghton will go on after the Class of '99, though my saying they will be missed is a gross understatement.

So, Class of 1999, as an outsider welcomed in I have seen your talents, I have come to know your gifts, and I expect great things from you. Get out there and show 'em what 'cha got.

As for Third Shen 1996-97, it will live on. Not physically but as a mentality, and, of course, as a legend passed on through the generations, drifting down the hallowed hall like the sand in an ant farm.

## 1998-99 Star Staff Shows Appreciation

Dave Johnson

In with the new, out with the old, as the saying goes. As the torch is officially passed with this issue, I would like to offer some quick thank-you's. First, any success we've enjoyed in this 98-99 *Star* season should be directly attributed to the loyal, committed staff of writers. We weren't exactly overwhelmed with droves of wide-eyed scribes, yet the writers we did have were consistently well-versed and punctual. Putting out weekly issues involved megatime commitments, and the writers followed through brilliantly.

### Special thanks to our "regulars":

Emily Beach  
Melanie Hess  
Rebecca JangDhari  
Dionne Miller  
Tammi Krikorian  
Liana Weirich  
Lindsay Ackerman  
Susanna Rosenbaum  
Maria Behrns  
Susan Ventresca  
Ward Mesick  
John Osae-Kwapong  
Steve Maxon  
and  
Jason Mucher

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The *Houghton Star* encourages the free interchange of opinions and suggestions in the form of letters, articles, guest editorials, and advertisements. Students are especially urged to participate. We also welcome the viewpoints of faculty, staff, townspeople, alumni, and all others having an interest in the Houghton community. Ideas printed herein do not, however, necessarily reflect the view of the editorial staff, or of Houghton College. The staff reserves the right to omit or reject any contributions for reasons of professional decorum. Letters (signed) should be sent to:

The *Star*, CPO Box 378  
(716) 567-9210  
star@houghton.edu

## Senior Spot is Coming

Auditions  
April 30 and May 3  
at 8 pm  
in  
Presser Hall



# Seniors Skip Town to Toronto

Dionne Miller and Tammi Krikorian

It has been a tradition for many years that Senior classes all across the land pick a day when they opt out of classes, merely because they can. Students play hooky for the day and make memories that they carry with them into the next phase of their lives. At Houghton College this tradition has continued.

In years past chapel seats were assigned by class. The seniors in front, the juniors next, and so on. During the Senior Class chapel, the historic mantle was passed down to the following years senior class president. The graduating class

would get up from their seats, run out the back door and skip classes for the rest of the day. Hence the name "Senior Skip." For whatever reason this practice has changed a bit over time.

Instead of skipping classes for the afternoon, seniors now "skip town" for a few days. The class of 1999 is no different. On Thursday May 6, 65 graduate hopefuls will depart for a three day two night excursion to exotic Toronto! We spoke with Class of '99's Vice President, Greg Bayse, about their plans to travel north. He stated that they would be staying at Toronto's Delta Chelsea

Hotel, the largest hotel in Canada. The first evening the group will have dinner in a private dining area at the Spaghetti Factory. The evening will also include a worship service. Afterwards, and for their remaining stay, the seniors are free to do what they wish. Greg told us that giving free time was most practical because as graduation approaches, students want to spend time with their closest friends, with whom they have spent the last four years. The students will have opportunity to go to the theatre, go shopping, or go dancing. (Which, by the way, is legal!) They will return to campus

by Saturday afternoon at 3:30 PM for Commencement rehearsal.

Out of curiosity, we asked Greg why Toronto was selected as the destination for Senior Skip '99. He said they discussed other options, but for the time frame allotted, Toronto was the best option. Also, the opportunity to participate in several different activities appealed to the diversity within the class.

This year, we hope "Senior Skip" is a great time of fun and relaxation after the busyness of finals. And a time to create some final, lasting memories as the class of '99 disperses.

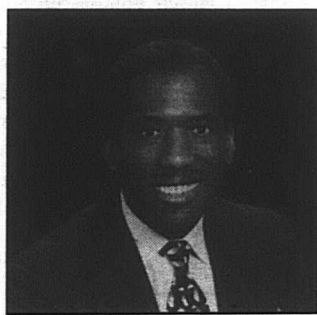
## 1999 Graduation Speakers

Houghton Alumnus and CLEW Favorite to Speak

Rebecca JangDhari

Dr. Richard Allen Farmer and Dr. Nancy Nason-Clark will be this year's speakers at Baccalaureate and Commencement.

Dr. Richard Allen Farmer, who was chosen by the senior class and President Chamberlain, will deliver the Baccalaureate address Sunday, May 9 at 10:30 a.m. in Wesley Chapel. Farmer's address is titled "Redemptive Reduction," with biblical text taken from Judges 7:2-8. Dr. Farmer is a graduate of Nyack College and Princeton Theological Seminary and the founding president of RAF Ministries, Inc. RAF is a non-profit organization committed to church renewal on both local and international fronts. Dr. Farmer was a CLEW speaker on campus during the class of '99's freshmen year. His ministry made



Dr. Richard Allen Farmer

Photos courtesy Public Relations



Dr. Nancy Nason-Clark

a lasting impression on many. He is joining us from Texas, where he lives and serves as Minister of Worship and the Arts at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Arlington.

Dr. Nancy Nason-Clark will present the Commencement address at the May 10 ceremony. Her address is titled "Scholarship and Social Activism: The Evangelical Challenge for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century."

Dr. Nason-Clark is a 1977 Houghton graduate, also graduating from the University of Waterloo and the London School of Economics. She is currently a professor of sociology at the University of New Brunswick.

Nason-Clark is the founder and coordinator of the Religion and Violence Research Team. She is also the president of the Association for the Sociology of Religion.

## Mayterm Cont.

(from page 1)

proved gun school.) There was also a "May in Mexico" offered, which was very much like Professor O'Connor's course called "Meso-American Civilizations," which visited ancient Mayan and Aztec ruins in Mexico last Mayterm. Also offered was "Mayterm in Paris," a course quite similar to the "Grand Study Tour France" being lead this Mayterm by Professors Roederer and Biggs.

In a couple of weeks, students and professors will be heading off to many different parts of the world for various exciting Mayterm sessions. Professor Hernandez will be taking a group to the Dominican Republic for a "Latin-American Seminar."

Professor Kettelkamp will be teaching "Ecotour in Honduras," which students may take for either Spanish or Recreation credit. Professor Benedict will be heading up "A Trip Through Russia," a political science course which will be touring important cities in both "old" and "new" Russia such as Moscow, Vladimir, and St. Petersburg.

The International Business Institute will also be sending some Houghton students to Russia this summer, as well as to Holland, Germany, Switzerland,

and France where they will study various aspects of international business. Also going abroad is the French class lead by Professors Biggs and Roederer. They will be spending several weeks studying in Paris and then move south to experience the French Riviera.

There will also be several off-campus courses held in the United States. During the last week of Professor Doezema's course "Salem Witchcraft," students will take an "enchanted" trip to several Colonial sites in the Salem and Boston area. Also, Professor Wolfe will be teaching "The Ecology of Alaska" on location in June. Professor Tim Trezise will also be teaching a Mayterm course in June—his "Adventure Sports" class will be heading out to the Mid-west for backpacking, mountain biking, flat and/or whitewater paddling, and rock climbing.

Many off-campus Mayterm courses are offered every other year; thus it is difficult to determine exact trends in off-campus Mayterm participation. It is clear that the percentage of Mayterm students (an average of 262 students per year) studying off-campus/abroad has been increasing since 1990. With the recently implemented policy of tuition-free Mayterms, it is likely that students' participation in Mayterm, both on and off-campus, will continue to rise.

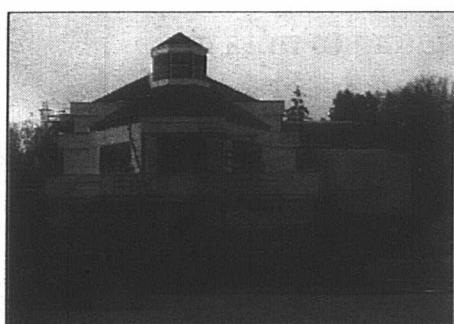
## Construction Update

Lindsey Ackerman

This year as the student body leaves, massive construction projects are underway. One of the most widely discussed projects is the Fine Arts Center. Since the Fine Arts Center is scheduled to open August 1<sup>st</sup>, a common question is whether or not it will actually be completed by the time students return for the fall semester.

According to Kenneth Nielsen,

executive director of Willard J. Houghton Foundation, the answer to that question is yes.



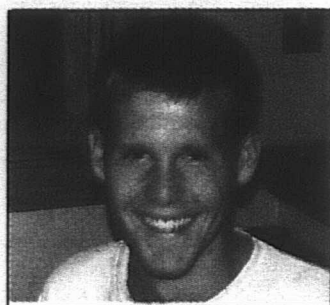
The fine arts building nears completion

Photo by Tim Graffam

Nielsen said that construction of the Fine Arts Center is running on schedule with only a few lags. Currently, the dry-wall inside the building is being finished and window frames are being installed.

Workers are busy working on the exterior stonework using stones from the creek in order to match the other buildings on campus and the plumbing and heating systems are nearing completion. In addition, the elevator is almost totally finished. Before long the inside of the building will be ready for painting and other finishing touches. If everything continues with no further delays the Fine Arts Center should be open on the scheduled date.

## Joel Worden



I never wanted to come to Houghton. I went to a small Christian high school in Delaware and had a bunch of close friends who I knew could never be replaced. Why in the world would I want to go all the way up to New York and go to school with a bunch of geeks who, for all I knew, had no concept of humor or excitement?

Well, the last time I talked to one of my high school pals was over Christmas break and I never keep in touch over the school year, so I guess I was wrong about that. I had a lot to learn when I came to Houghton. I learned the very first weekend that women don't appreciate it much when you call them "big" — I thought it was obvious that I was referring to her height, but evidently it was not.

Coming to Houghton with a girlfriend, I learned that those skits I saw in FYI weren't joking — it was hard to keep a girlfriend with all the new women running around — we broke up about a month and a half into the first semester. In direct correlation with this, I found that the disease commonly known as the "freshman fling" was a hard one to avoid. But, once I got that out of my system, I found that all it took was a little mistletoe to keep me happy. It only took my expulsion from East Hall for a month and a half to teach me that the RA's meant business as well.

I also learned all the caf-

eteria tricks — making sure you have friends in line on a Sunday afternoon; using two bowls to more effectively toss your salad; the easiest way to peel a banana is to squeeze the butt and then peel; cereal stays crispy longer if you get your milk in a cup and pour it on later; and finally that everyone is prone to at least one tray dropping in their Houghton career and you just have to walk away. All that was first semester of my freshman year. I thought I had learned so much — and then came first semester grades and my parents thought I hadn't learned a thing.

To many this description may sound familiar, so for the freshman women who are worried about the mental capacity of their fellow male classmates — don't worry — they'll come around (and if they don't there will always be seniors who will date you). And to the males who recognize this as a description of themselves — take your time — you're dumb now, but you have qualities that are essential to existence, all you need is the crafting of a place like Houghton.

I don't presume to have reached anywhere near the height of my maturity, so I'll not write like I have discovered all there is to know. In fact, this all may be totally inapplicable, so if that's the case, just laugh at it and read the next piece of brilliant STAR information. At any rate, my maturation began second semester of my freshman year when God began to show me that my focus was all over the place, but not on Him. Through many different sources throughout my years here, God has continued to bring me into contact with people who do have Him as

*Continued on page 6*

## Michelle Wingfield



changes. Changes at Houghton and personal changes inspired by Houghton.

We have lived here during an era of building and innovation on campus. The new Big Al's, new athletic fields, new parking, the new music building, the footbridge by Brookside, the (#\$%) print center. We are the first class to dance our way through Houghton. We saw the BP arrive and watched the campus hot-wired for technology. Specialty bars and low fat dressing became cafeteria standards. We practically graduated with Big Al. We started coffeehouses in the NAB and offered up mountains of Styrofoam for the new tray trail. We were some of the first to study in London and Tanzania. We are among the last to party in Waldorf, Powers and Hazlett.

I have been told that you come to college as a child and leave as an adult. If adulthood is to know what you're going to do, forget it. But perhaps it is to know yourself and the world around you, or at least acknowledge that you're crazy and so is everyone else. In fact, college is an odd union of authority and equalization. We can better recognize and respect wisdom. Our heroes — parents, professors and mentors — are more accessible, even human, than ever before. We have made lifetime friends at Houghton. But, perhaps more significantly, we have learned that we can go alone to a new place and make friends.

I could not write an essay about change without including God. Not that He has changed, but that I can see His hand from a new perspective (which, unlike the elephant, still looks remarkably like His hand.) By some act of grace, I have felt that hand in ways so unforgettable that I have never

*Continued on page 6*

Last Saturday night I went to a concert party in Townhouse 3. The basement was strung with lights and filled with students eating goldfish and colored sugar on sticks. As the band concluded, the lead singer wished his fellow seniors a "nice life." That was kind. But when I looked around at the other seniors, I realized that we were a definite minority. Maybe my comrades were interviewing for jobs or getting engaged. Maybe they just couldn't stick it out 'til 12 p.m. In any case, it looks like our time has come. And like every good senior, I can't resist a little introspection.

I've been thinking of what makes our class special. Besides the fact that we are numerically the final class of the millennium, I think it's significant that we have all attended Houghton. We visited or studied at other universities, but we ended up here. For us, college has revolved around white-pillared stone buildings and a quad. College is driving 45 minutes for a movie and an hour to the mall. College is pumping gas, attending Sunday school, and grocery shopping with professors and their kids.

The Class of '99 has lived four years (more than a twentieth of our lives) at Houghton amid transformation. Somehow I have gone through eight roommates. But I believe each class member could testify to significant

### Question of the Week: "What are you going to miss most about the Class of '99?"



-- Rob Luckey  
(Junior)

**"There are a lot of friends - but most of all I am going to miss my man Joel Worden. God bless the Class of '99."**



-- Tenneil Tower  
(Junior)

**"My Friends."**

photos by Dionne Miller and Tim Graffam



# Senior Essays

## Miriam Koch



Over the past four years, I have flown over 15 times, taken 3 Greyhound buses and 2 Amtrak trains. I have ridden camels and felucca boats. I have run out of gas in my boss' truck. I have flagged taxis to drive me a short 3 blocks. I have driven thousands of miles with friends and family. I have walked miles back and forth to my college housing. I have ridden the Metro, the "El," and the "T." Transportation is my middle name. I was bitten with the "travel bug" when I went to Malaysia as a 9-month-old baby and haven't been rid of it yet.

My close friends and many acquaintances know how much I love to travel. Experiencing the thrill of getting lost in Turkey or finding my way around Washington "fills my tank." (Explanation: My mom used to say we all have "tanks" that need to be full in order to be happy. Every person's tank fills with different things: a solitary walk in the woods, a long talk with a friend, a hug, a good game of basketball.) Though I love the adventure of setting out on an unknown road in anticipation of the experiences that lie ahead, I also need a place to which I can always return. My parents' home will never cease to be a "home base" and I know that there I am never a stranger. But more relevantly, over the past four years, I have come to see Houghton as my second home.

The nature of college is

somewhat indefinable: being a student is a transient position and college life is constantly changing. But the nature of Houghton College has remained the same for me. I may feel alone some days, but because I am part of the body of Christ, there is always a place for me here. I have woven my life through Houghton as vacations and summers and outside programs took me away from this place, only to return me as a slightly different woman. I needed those adventures in order to realize that Houghton is a mystery unto itself—I have only begun to grasp its true value as I am close to leaving. The beauty of this place is that each person has his or her own journey that, if we are willing to listen, will teach us of new places, experiences and ideas that we never would have known otherwise. I am grateful for those people who have given of themselves to me and shared their pilgrimages with me over the years. To me, they will never be strangers and I know that I will always be recognized and known in the deepest sense of the word.

*As I walked out one evening  
To breathe the air and soothe  
my mind,  
I thought of friends and the home  
I had,  
And all those things I left behind.*

*A silent star shone on me,  
My eyes saw a far horizon,  
As if to pierce this veil of time,  
And escape this earthly prison.  
Will there come a time when the  
memories fade,  
And pass on with the long, long  
years,*

*When the ties no longer bind?  
Lord save me from this darkest fear.  
Don't let me come home a stranger,  
I couldn't stand to be a stranger.  
—Fernando Ortega*

Continued on page 6

## Michael Jordan



"Share everything.  
Play fair.  
Don't hit people.  
Flush."

—from Robert Fulghum's *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*

Well, let me get the inevitable out of the way and promise you that this essay will pay no homage to Robert Fulghum's *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*. The way I look at it, if that's the case, after kindergarten I could have stayed home. No, obviously, you need more than that. Let's be honest: kindergarten can lay a nice groundwork, but try applying Fulghum's advice—"Share everything, play fair, Don't hit people" when your roommate has just hit the snooze button for the twenty-seventh time that morning and his alarm wakes you up and fails in its intended purpose of waking him. Kindergarten's lessons don't help a whole lot during the tough scenarios that college presents.

If anything, college takes kindergarten's lessons and turns them on their heads. Share everything, huh? What about when your roommate wants to talk her head off for the forty-fifth time about her ex-boyfriend? Should you share your time then? Or do you tell her to grow up and move on? Or the professor who challenges you to "Play fair," and asks you which is

fair: for a girl who was raped and got pregnant to have an abortion and maintain her freedom or to let the child live. So, your creed is "don't hit people?" What about the history professor who asks you if we should have gotten involved in Vietnam? Indeed, kindergarten's pithy sayings seem useless, even silly in light of such events.

Having read this far in the article, you may think that I am a cynical old senior who believes that college's sole purpose in my life was to throw it into disarray. If that were true, then college would be a tremendously destructive institution. If college only managed to create questions and create a huge vacuum in one's life, it would not be worthwhile. Certainly, college does create questions and it does create a bit of a vacuum in a person's beliefs. But the beauty of college—particularly a Houghton education—is that it enables the student to critically evaluate material and fill that vacuum himself. Being presented with difficult questions and sticky situations enables the student to better understand why he believes what he believes.

With apologies to Robert Fulghum, life's lessons can not be crammed into short, cute phrases. The truth about life can only be discovered through living: through exploring new ideas, evaluating new beliefs and desperately trying to live life as Christ would have. And you can't learn all that in kindergarten. College stretches students in ways they never thought imaginable. In so doing, they are taught to think and evaluate life for themselves. I am extremely grateful for all that Houghton College has done for me in helping me to mature.

Continued on page 6



-- Steve Dunmire  
(Sophomore)

**"Scott Sedley  
complaining  
about the  
Sixers."**



-- Susanna Rosenbaum  
(Freshmen)

**"Their leadership  
on  
campus."**

## Worden cont. (from page 4)

their focus. He has consistently supplied me with models of what He is pushing me toward.

This, of course, does not mean that I was suddenly cured from dumbness, or that I wanted to be in some matters. For instance, just this year I learned in Human Sexuality that girls are a lot different from guys. My sophomore year I learned both that the bells that play from Fancher are recorded and that the college has strategically placed that recording system somewhere where no mischievous boys will ever find it. I have learned throughout my course at Houghton that girls will never be able to prank guys as well as guys can prank them. There have been many valiant efforts through the years, most recently a few fork-happy Rump Rangers and earlier, a handful of snowball throwers with bad aim. While I'm on the topic of snow, I might also mention that no one has enjoyed the snow as much as I — as many may attest. And again I have learned that in this area as well girls fall short.

There are many other areas, of course, in which girls kick my butt though, so I'll stop giving the female gender a hard time. It's been a wonderful stay and I am sad that it's over, but Houghton prepares us well for our futures, no matter what the critics say. God knew what He was doing when He put me here. Contrary to my former beliefs, my friendships here have far surpassed those of high school in both depth and enjoyment — and I even found a girl who would date me while I was here. I thank you all, teachers and students, for making my stay here as wonderful as it could be.

## Wingfield cont. (from page 4)

doubted its existence. Still, Environmental Biology changed my view of creation, Western Civilization altered my perception of Christianity, and Milton changed my impression of the Bible. These new thoughts affect my relationship with Creator God and His incarnations.

At Houghton I have been blessed by a community that is similarly seeking and willing to change. I admire those intellectuals who have known Christ for decades and remain willing to challenge their most basic theologies — and mine too. Their revelations have enlightened and disturbed me. Under their example, I have learned to recognize a need for change, most often within myself.

Four years of transformation has hopefully prepared each of us for the change this Monday, May 10, 1999. As veterans of change, I only pray that we have learned and will continue to recognize what needs to be changed and what must be preserved. I pray that an unchanging God will grant us a vision for revolution within our world and ourselves.

And I trust that we will always recall our classmates of 1999: the only Houghton grads who will always buy groceries at the "Market Bucket," practice piano with the windows open, and type papers in the computer labs.

(P.S. I want to pay homage to all eight of my lovely roommates: Rigel, Carol, Caroline, Anne, Kim, Allissa, Paul (just kidding), Jen and Emily. You are each incredible.)

## Koch cont. (from page 5)

From the first time I heard this song on a friend's CD player in the Sinai Desert of Egypt, I knew that it was the cry of my heart. Feeling like a stranger to people I love is my worst fear. Many of my emotions about graduation surround the idea of losing the deep friendships with the people I love here.

So far, I have been blessed. I have journeyed out of Houghton and returned to friends who know me better and more fully than before I left. A few have gone their own way, but overall I can say my friendships have grown more intimate over the years. This is the treasure that Houghton has given me: no matter where I go, there will always be good friends around that know me. Though now we will be writing letters instead of hanging out in the living room, my friends will continue to be a part of my life and will never be strangers to me.

Part of this essay should be advice to those not leaving this place next year. I'll keep it brief: when you leave, don't take your whole heart with you. If you want Houghton to have meaning for you, let it grab a piece of your soul and take root there. I will never forget the beautiful people here because I have been able to leave and return again and again.

Though graduation is a more permanent departure than I have ever had, I know that the depths of my friendships are also more enduring than ever. One day, at my 30<sup>th</sup> college reunion, I will see old Houghton friends and we will pick right up where we left off. More of our journeys will be behind us and we will have new and distinct travels to share.

## Jordan cont. (from page 5)

(P.S.—the author would like to note that he is the youngest member of the Senior Class (not counting juniors graduating early). This, ironically enough, is because he skipped kindergarten, putting him a year ahead. He also would like to add that he thinks Fulghum's advice to "flush" is absolute and an important kindergarten lesson.)

## Dr. Oakerson Appointed Academic Dean

*From Campus-wide e-mail*

In a recent campus-wide e-mail, Dr. Chamberlain announced that after much deliberation, the Dean Search Committee's had made their decision. Dr. Ron Oakerson has apparently been offered, and has accepted, the position of Houghton Academic Vice-President and Dean.

Since Dean Mannoia's departure in January, Dr. Carlton Fisher has been graciously serving the college in an interim capacity. On July 1<sup>st</sup> of this year Dr. Oakerson will officially take over the reins.

Dr. Fisher will, however, continue to be Associate Dean for coming '99-'00 academic year. In anticipation of a great school year, *The Star* wishes to thank both Dr. Fisher and Dr. Oakerson for their willingness to serve.

## Arbor Day at Houghton

*Houghton Faculty and Staff Pitch In to Beautify Campus*

*Maria Behrens*

On Thursday, May 6, over 90 of Houghton College's faculty and staff members will celebrate Arbor Day by "beautifying" the campus for Commencement. This tradition was instituted in 1932, but was abandoned for a while. Over 10 years ago, however, the Arbor Day tradition was reinstated, and has remained an annual event since then. The goal of Houghton's Arbor Day is to "get out of the office and help beautify the campus," by "working alongside other members of the college community and fellowshiping with them." Since strides have already been taken to improve the appearance of the

campus through Earth Day, Thursday's event will allow for the campus to shine even more.

The Public Relations Office recently asked faculty and staff

to sign up for specific tasks, such as raking leaves, "weed-whacking," picking up litter, painting, and sidewalk "blowing." In addition to these beautification

projects, over 1,000 flowers will be planted throughout campus, and will serve as colorful ornaments for Commencement on May 10. This year's Arbor Day will also be the second year of another tradition: the tree planting ceremony, in which Dr. Chamberlain will assist in the addition of one tree on campus.

As a reward for their service throughout the day, the faculty and staff, together with their families, will enjoy an evening barbecue on the Quad. Following the food and fellowship, a host of games for all ages will conclude the festivities with prizes provided. Activities will be led by Sharon Hibbard.



*Beautifying the Campus*



# Entertainment

## Townhouse Party Loved By All

James Ulrich

For those of you among the Houghtonian social elite, Saturday evening, May 1<sup>st</sup> was the defining experience of your college career. For everyone else, it was another Saturday evening alone watching a rented, or borrowed, movie. The so-called HH35199 was arguably the pinnacle of collegiate parties. Conceived, planned, and funded by Justin Lawrence, the party was a huge success, with an estimated 200 (yes! 200!) people in attendance. The evening's festivities included a plethora of snack foods and Flavor-ice, Nintendo 64, and general fun-having.

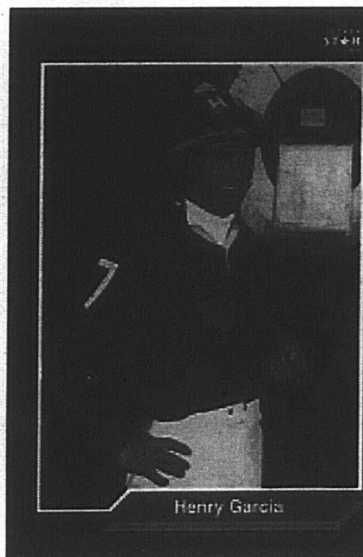
The highlight of the event was the farewell appearances of quite possibly the two greatest bands to emerge on Houghton's fallow musical scene. Fantasy Mission Force, the quirky power pop trio (with FMF all-star guest bassist Oliver Gingrich) stole the show with their mix of humor, catchy tunage, and lyrical genius. Bustin' up the beat, world-class drummer Mike Tindall's rhythmic bravado laid the groundwork for guitarist Tim Graffam as he fleshed out the writhing skeleton of crunchy, hook-laden power chords. Meanwhile, goateed frontman Erich Asperschlager twanged away at his acoustic whilst belting out pseudomelodic tales of extreme irrelevance. They played all of their classic crowd-pleasers from the lilted beauty of 'I Want to Be a Pirate' to the feverish primal screaming of 'Unintelligible Scotsman', all of which were gobbled up by legions of adoring fans. Mosher Sonya Irish was quoted as saying 'FMF rules! I just love an adrenaline-filled show of cutting

edge music that I can jump around to!' The band members couldn't have been happier at the conclusion of their collegiate musical career.

Following FMF was the second of the evening's musical delights. The Commons, led by musical genius Benjamin 'Franklin' Coy, provided a solid mix of contemplative acousta-rock and hard core groovin'. Oliver Gingrich, more at home with his jet black, knee-banging Epiphone, filled the room with vocal pitches out of even Mariah Carey's range. Driving the band with his floor rumbling bass expertise, Wil Couch rocked the cazbah all night. And on drums, playing for his third straight hour was stick-swinging powerhouse, etc., etc., Mike Tindall. Pausing for a quieter middle set, Coy and Co. lulled the crowd into a false sense of peaceful complacency before totally rocking out with their rollicking groove finale set. The Commons were also very happy with their last performance at Houghton.

The party would not have been complete, nor would people have hung around, if not for the presence of the incapacitatingly cute beagle Bitzie Tindall. She wowed partygoers with her two tricks, rendering them helpless, and unable to do anything but pet her.

Townhouse 3 members Justin Lawrence, Mike Farwell, Mike Tindall, Ben Coy, Wil Couch, Oliver Gingrich, and Erich Asperschlager would like to extend their sincerest thanks to all who attended what ended up being a far more monumental occasion than they could ever have expected. Keep an eye out next year for other 'Suburban Wheels Production' sponsored events.



**On behalf of Jockeys around the world, Henry Garcia would like to wish David Johnson, Michael Tindall and Erich Asperschlager the best of luck in life after graduation.**

## The Phantom Menace Is Coming!

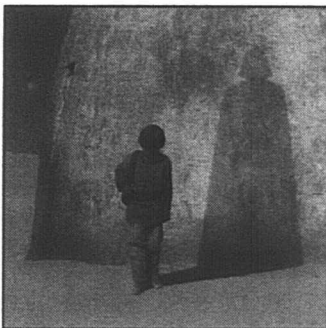
Will the Newest Star Wars be Movie of the Year?

Jon Hart

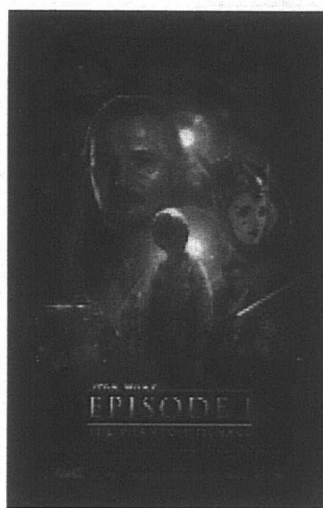
History has practically already been rewritten. On May 19<sup>th</sup> it will simply be official. On May 19<sup>th</sup> *The Phantom Menace* hits theaters. Walking out of the film's first screening, Dreamworks SKG executive and *Saving Private Ryan* (1998) director, Steven Spielberg, could only utter, "Wow."

For those who might not know what the big deal is, here's a crash course in Star Wars history. In 1977 Twentieth Century Fox released George Lucas's *Star Wars*. Its dazzling special effects and galactic scope enthralled moviegoers. The film broke every box office record in history, grossing an astonishing \$216 million in Canada and the United States alone. Another three years later *The Empire Strikes Back* visited theaters, and then in 1983 *The Return of the Jedi* was released. The movies have come to be the inspiration for more than two dozen Bantam novels, as well as action figures, computer games, trading cards, film spoofs, and countless Web sites.

The original Star Wars trilogy is part of Lucas's epic as Episodes IV, V, and VI. Luke, the



young hero in the trilogy who helped bring about the defeat of an oppressive Empire and the death of Dark Lord Vader, will not appear in this new "prequel." This story takes place long before his birth. The first in the nine episodes of Lucas's vision, *The Phantom Menace*, begins yet another trilogy. *Episode I* will detail the childhood of Anakin Skywalker, the innocent boy who would grow up to become Luke's father, Darth Vader, powerful Jedi master turned bad. The plot sounds so historical, that those less versed in Star Wars lore may fear their ignorance will prevent their enjoyment. According to Lucas, such fears are completely groundless. All viewers are promised a good time. Much like last summer's *The X-Files* (1998), it will be a story that stands alone,



completely understandable for first-time viewers. Those who have seen *Star Wars* will see some familiar faces. We will see the lovably witty R2-D2, a slightly younger Yoda, the ever-annoying, and unfinished C-3PO, and a noticeably fitter Jabba the Hutt.

There will also be many innovative changes. With its abnormally large budget, *Episode I*'s producers have "spared no expense." As technologically advanced *Star Wars* was for its time, so will *Episode I* be for our time.

Industrial Light & Magic has utilized models, mechanical creatures, and computer generated images (CGI) to make alien worlds believable. In filming scenic shots, Lucas and his crew have traveled to England, Italy, and Tunisia.

Big names headline: Jake Lloyd (*Jingle All the Way*) as the boy Anakin Skywalker, Natalie Portman (*The Professional*) as a young queen, Liam Neeson (*Schindler's List*) as Qui-Gon Jinn, Ewan McGregor (*Trainspotting*) as Obi-Wan Kenobi, Samuel L. Jackson (*Pulp Fiction*) as dark Jedi Master Mace Windu, and Frank Oz returning as Master Yoda. According to StarWars.Com, the movie will even have its own four-minute music video, scored by John Williams, airing on MTV within the week.

With its previews appearing six months in advance, *The Phantom Menace* is easily the most anticipated movie of all time. Many have worried that such tremendous hype is more than any movie can live up to. On May 19<sup>th</sup> we shall discover if it is all worth the wait. If anything can be gauged by Spielberg's reaction, however, we shan't be disappointed.

# SPORTS

## Houghton Sports Review

### Spring Sports Score Box

#### Intramural Sports as of 4/19

##### Coed Volleyball

Atlantis	8-2
Bump, Set, Kill	10-0
Chef Ed's	3-7
En Fuego	4-6
Hezekiah 8:2	6-4
I Can't Believe It's Butter	8-2
Mixed Match	5-5
PEEPS	3-7
The Rugrats	4-6
The Strikers	3-7
Us and 2 Canadians	5-5
Roberts	1-9

##### Inner-Tube Water Polo

Bob Barker's Beauties	5-0
Catz	4-1
The Funoodles	1-3
Jonestown	1-4
The Fish	1-4
Motley Crue	5-0
No Soup For You	4-2
O'Doyle Rules	3-2
Sarcopterygians	4-2
Sea Lions	3-2
The Wet Wonders	2-4
Barnes	0-5
Merle Shank	1-5

##### Team Handball

Woody	1-6
Amish Tetherball Machine	2-4
Mo and the Pips	5-2
Hand Jive	4-2
Skull 'N Berries	1-5
All About The Ladies	4-1
Razor & Machine	4-3
VW Crew	

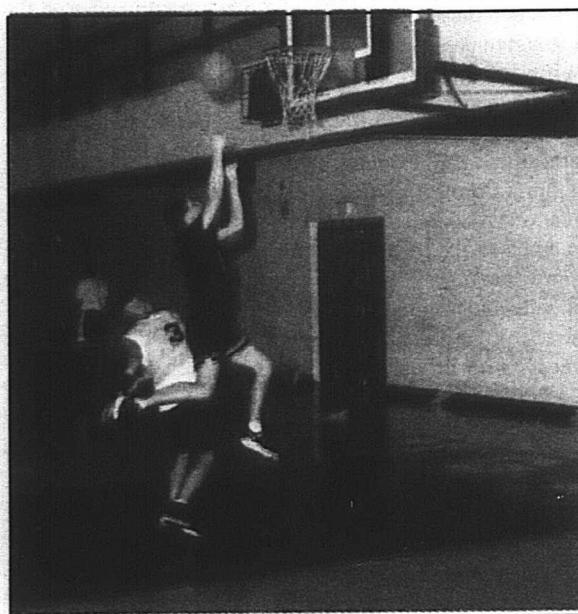
### Houghton Hosts Summer Sports Camps

Steve Maxon

Houghton's athletic facilities definitely do not go unused after college students depart for the summer. Students from 1st to 12th grades are invited to participate in one of the six Houghton College summer sports camps.

The women's basketball camp leads off, June 27th to July 2nd, followed by the men's basketball camp, July 4th to July 9th. Volleyball takes place July 11th to July 16th. There are two soccer camps, both of which include both men and women: July 18th to 23rd and August 1st to 6th. The cross-country camp also takes place August 1st to August 6th.

Costs and ages vary for each camp. More information is available by calling the athletic office at (716) 567-9645, or from the Athletic Department web page at <http://www.houghton.edu/news/athletics/>



Hoop and Some Harm!

### Vanderhaar, Johnson Face Off at Houghton Heights Field Day

Dan Jackson

As the warm spring breeze danced across the quad and the sun beat down on the Volleyball players' bare chests, final exams were temporarily forgotten and students found refuge in Frisbee games and sunbathing. But unbeknownst to the common Houghtonite, there was a special sort of excitement that Saturday afternoon. That excitement lay in the much anticipated Houghton Heights Field Day. If you were to meander past the guys' townhouses around 3:00, you would have understood. Mark Vanderhaar, RDA of South Hall, took it upon himself to organize what was possibly the most anticipated event of the school year. He recruited some of his closest and most loyal friends to help make this event as perfect as possible. Kurt Sauder took care of the punch, Jim Ulrich was in charge of cookies, and Monica Sams was on napkin duty. With all this in place there was nothing left to do but have fun.

The participants (which basically included all of Townhouse 5 and a few other faithful friends) divided into two teams, Pink and Purple, in order to add some friendly competition. The team events began with the soccer

dribble, at which most people found themselves incredibly inept. This relay race quickly deteriorated when Vanderhaar got a little too competitive and tackled some of his opponents. The next event was the Dizzy Bat race. For those of you who may be unfamiliar with this event, each person runs about 25 yards, puts his/her forehead on a bat and spins around 10 times. After making themselves sick they must attempt to jump over a bucket and run back to their team. Tammy Joubert loosened all tensions at this event after she fell on her face.

With the team events out of the way, the contest was reaching its climax. The final event was

an all out sprint. The competitors displayed their athleticism as they raced each other down a driveway that stretched over 100 yards. The participants were Houghton College's best known rivals; Mark Vanderhaar and Dave Johnson. Tensions ran high as the iron men took their places at the starting line. The sprint began and the arch-rivals were in a dead tie. Unfortunately, Dave took a bad step and slipped ever so slightly. Vanderhaar took advantage of this and sprinted to the finish line ahead of Dave, displaying his athletic superiority and ending the rivalry once and for all.



Dave Johnson and Mark Vanderhaar are reluctantly crouched at the starting line as referee Steve Dunmire gives the signal

Photo by Tim Graffam