



OUT OF HIDING...AGAIN | CULTURE, P. 5

the houghton STAR

Houghton College's Student Newspaper Since 1909

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK:

BLAH, BLAH, WHO CARES, BLAH,
BLAH, BLAH. | OPINIONS, P. 7

ROTH CAT GETS NEUTERED | NEWS, P. 3

ARTIST OF THE WEEK:

SATAN | FEATURES, P. 8

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College Misreads Check, Sports Complex Plans Now Being Altered

by TRENT RUTTHEIMER

On December 1, President Mullen sent out a memo to the student body announcing a generous donation of \$12 million from Terry and Kim Pegula that would support the construction of a new sports complex. Over the last few months, the College has invited architecture firms from around the country to make proposals and the plans have progressed.

In a recent Star article, Athletic Director Skip Lord discussed some aspects of the proposals, which include turf baseball and softball fields, tennis courts, and a field house with an indoor track and indoor tennis courts. Lord also stated that in choosing the location, Houghton wants a spot where it would be a "presence" on Route 19.

Unfortunately there's been a bit of a hitch in the plans. After the article was published in the March 9 issue of the Star, Dale Wright, Chief Business Officer of Houghton, received an angry phone call from

Terry Pegula himself. According to Wright, Pegula claimed his donation was \$12,000 -- not \$12 million. Wright commented, as he retrieved the 2 ft by 4 ft check from his office closet, that "Oh...yep."

"I appreciate the College's confidence in my financial dealings, but how rich do they think I am?" asked Pegula. "I mean seriously, the Sabres are terrible."

Mullen responded to the snafu and said, "We greatly appreciate the Pegulas' gift and continue to work with them as well as all alumni to maintain a strong network and build for our future." Lord added that the plans for the sports complex will continue with a few modifications.

"We've decided to scrap the baseball and softball fields, and the tennis courts, as well as the field house. In its place, we will be constructing a tetherball pole and an indoor shuffleboard court," said Lord. He added that "we are hoping that the location can still be somewhere

See CHECK THE CHECK page 3

Drug Raid at Greenhouse: 50 Marijuana Plants Seized



MAC K GRIFFIN

Reports say the Houghton Down Under Program was likely a drug front. As of the incident, three faculty members have been taken into custody.

by JANE LANDON

At 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, members of the Allegany County Police Drug, Vice, and Organized Crime Unit conducted a search warrant for Houghton's greenhouse. The warrant was issued after two students unwittingly walked through the greenhouse discovering a large

scale trafficking initiative being run by Houghton faculty. The raid Wednesday resulted in three faculty members being taken into custody, and more arrests are expected to take place as the investigation continues. The bust netted a total of 50 plants yielding approximately 250 pounds of marijuana. The police remain unsure as to how high in the Administration this has gone. At this point, President Mullen has refused to answer any questions.

The particular strand of cannabis being grown is one commonly known as Sativa or "Old Mother Sativa." This strand of marijuana is grown primarily in Australia. Police believe that the seeds were originally imported due to the College's tight fiscal situation. The Houghton Down Under program was most likely initiated as a front for this operation, according to the police.

"In the 30 years that I have been a member of the faculty, far and few were the students that entered in the greenhouse," stated the Chair of the biology department, "it was the perfect place...we didn't even have to try to cover up the operation."

"The school was struggling financially and enrollment was declining," said the former Dean of Admissions, "This initiative began not only as a means of increasing revenue for the institution but also as a means of attracting students from a broader socio-economic group."

As awareness of the marijuana trafficking increased among faculty, some spoke up resulting in many cuts all across campus, most notably within the religion department. "These cuts were an attempt to silence uncooperative faculty," confessed former Dean of Students.

On the flip side, some faculty have embraced this new path the

Luke Crawford has Bad Day

by QUINN TAYLOR

Senior Derek Schwabe, who works at the Welcome Desk, had dozens of students ask him about the lack of praise music being played in the Van Dyk Lounge yesterday morning. "The problem was that praise music is *never* played in the Van Dyk Lounge," said Schwabe. "The Campus Center



TIFFANY O'NEILL

It appears that the unthinkable has happened.

does not even have speakers." So the reports that the Campus Center was "eerily void of praise music" baffled Schwabe, and he eventually reported this strange event to Security Officer Dashnau.

Throughout the morning, students began to realize that they were missing the voice of a single student: sophomore Luke Crawford.

Crawford's absence became more noticeable throughout the day. Mack Herringbone, junior, reported that "Everybody just seems to be in a sad mood today."

Sarah Heidigger, sophomore, expressed her disappointment: "Luke always comes up and recites a random Bible verse to me before lunch. It always makes my day a little brighter. Last week's was from second Kings: 'Then two she-bears came out of the woods and mauled 42 of the youths.'"

On further investigation, Crawford was found sitting alone in his room, reading the works of Martin Luther and listening to "Yesterday" by the Beatles.

Crawford's behavior was reported to be strange for the rest of the day. "I saw him across the Campus Center and he didn't come over and rub my back," said Mark Smith, who only knows Crawford from their

interactions in the Campus Center. "It was then that I knew something was wrong."

The lack of friendliness was what first tipped off the campus as a whole that something was awry. When Crawford went out of his way to avoid interaction, however, students were even more alarmed. Mike Johnson, junior, was among them:

"It was surprising enough when he didn't give me a hug. But when I offered him a high five, he -- he just looked at me, shook his head, and walked away."

"I saw him checking mail," said Rachel Guggenheim, junior. "He opened up his box, and when he saw that there wasn't any, sighed dejectedly and sort of slumped his shoulders. It was horrifying to see."

"I think I heard him singing a Green Day song," said Adam Gesundheit, senior.

When asked about his behavior, Crawford said "I guess I'm just having a bad day."

Despite that report, some students refused to believe that Crawford's day was simply "bad." "Clearly, Luke is under spiritual attack," said Monica Frickenhauser, sophomore.

CAB took the opportunity to host

See BAD DAY page 3

See MJ page 3

HOUGHTON / College Land Swap with the Seneca Nation

by KEVIN DEMARTINO

Rumors are flying in Houghton and Buffalo about the biggest land swap in Western New York in the 21st century. Authoritative sources have confirmed to the Star that an agreement will be announced in early April between Houghton College and the Seneca Nation of Indians to sell Houghton to the Seneca Nation for \$50 million and Seneca land in downtown Buffalo. The Seneca Nation intends to turn the College into a casino, offering table and slot machine gaming, Las Vegas style entertainment, fine dining, deluxe accommodations, and a gas station.

Frustrated by Buffalo's rejection of casino gambling, the Senecas have turned their eyes to Allegany County, and Houghton's campus caught their attention late last year. After touring the campus with selected college trustees, Seneca Nation officials determined that the dormitories could be transformed into luxury suites, the chapel be converted into a credible entertainment venue, the gym was perfect for slot machines, and the Campus Center could be expanded for gaming tables and multiple restaurants.

The science building would be the hub of the complex, housing the technology and statistical needs of the casino complex. Indeed, the College's present IT staff and math department have already been retained to provide vital data and statistical services.

Other departments of the College already under contract are the custodial and maintenance staffs, and the entire counseling staff, all of whom have been given lucrative



Original concept art depicting the plans to turn Wesley Chapel into a Vegas-style casino.

EVAN YEONG

financial contracts because of their expertise in conflict resolution and obsessive/compulsive behaviors.

The hamlet of Houghton would benefit as well, for with the influx of high-paid casino employees, the worth of current residents' houses will soar. One local objection was removed when it was realized that the local ban on alcohol would become moot because the hamlet would become part of the sovereign Seneca nation, eliminating all previous legal arrangements. Of course, the largest local psychological barrier to the sale was removed when the ban on dancing was lifted several years ago, as that ban was based on the notion that dancing leads to gambling, and its lifting was thus a tacit approval of casino gaming.

This monumental sale explains

why information concerning the CORE+ recommendations and progress on the Pegula gift has been so slight. The CORE+ report was deliberately vague because its writers knew that the relocation of Houghton College to Buffalo was imminent, and the Pegula estate knew that the new campus would be located on the Waterfront, near the First Niagara Center, the home of Pegula's Buffalo Sabres. The newly revealed New Urbanist plans call for a \$50 million campus, with athletic facilities attached to the First Niagara Center. The new campus will be based on mixed use, walkable urban squares, with housing, retail, college buildings, churches, light industry, and restaurants integrated into a community not centered on the automobile. Students and faculty will

have affordable housing, light rail transportation, adequate parking, and walkable access to the waterfront.

The Buffalo officials who are in the know are enthusiastic about the project, and the foundation community is fully behind the endeavor. Other sources of funding for the new college campus are Governor Cuomo's recent promise of \$1 billion for central Buffalo and millions in state preservation and revitalization tax credits. Speaking on background, lawyers involved with the deal confirm that Houghton College and the Seneca Nation have only minor details to work out, and that a public announcement will be forthcoming shortly. ★

IN THE NEWS



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SAFETY AND SECURITY RESPONDS TO BREAK-IN AT JUBILEE

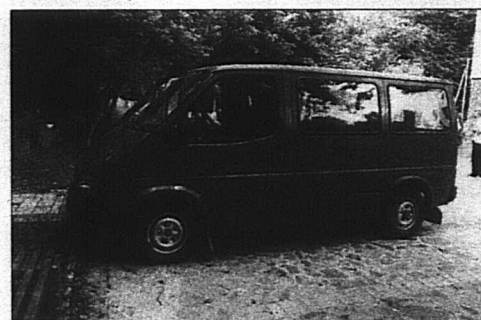
(ABOVE) | At approximately 11 p.m. yesterday, Fillmore residents reported hearing a loud commotion at the Dollar General. When police arrived, they encountered Greg Bish and Deputy Dashnau in a heated argument. "I didn't realize until about 10:30 that we didn't have enough straws for the spitball contest CAB is hosting tomorrow!" said Bish. According to police reports, Bish was in the process of jimmying the front door when Dashnau spotted and confronted him while on his nightly rounds. According to Dashnau, "I'm just doing the people's work." When police tried to break up the confrontation, officers were assaulted, leading to the arrest of both Bish and Dashnau. Neither party could be reached for comment, but reports from the prison are that Bish has been heard singing, "Ain't Nothing But a G-Thing."

ACCIDENT AT SUBWAY INSPIRES COUNTY WIDE

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE | The accident at Subway earlier this year, when a car swerved into the restaurant and caused part of the roof to collapse, has started something of a style sensation around Allegany County. "Rundown buildings, who knew they would be so avant-garde?" said a local contractor. It has even inspired architectural improvements on the Houghton campus. The contractor added, "My first half-demolition project was Jake Jacobson's house, but I got a little carried away. President Mullen told me it was fine though because that would be the perfect spot for a parking lot!" Reports say that a faculty member, looking very much like an angry Stephen Woolsey after a harrowing freshman class, was caught driving his car into the pole holding up the bridge between the Library and Chamberlin for "campus aesthetics." Two students perished, but Woolsey stated, "don't worry; they were the students who didn't know the difference between 'Faust' and 'Doctor Faustus.' Plus, the hanging bridge is so chic."

RED BARN TO ADD A BRANCH (BELOW)

| Red Barn owner John Smith is planning to add a "mobile hot-spot for all your shopping needs" to the Red Barn franchise this coming May. He plans to call it the "Red Wagon," as the new store will be located in the back of his van. "The van is red," said Smith. He plans to hire between two and three new employees to assist him in his new endeavor. "We'll also be serving lemonade, but we ask that customers bring their own cups," he said, "and their own water to stir in with the mix." "It's Country Time!" added Smith's wife Jane, the brains of the operation. Smith will have an opening-day fire sale; all clothes will be 5% off. But Smith added, "All useless trinkets will be 8% off!"



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ATTENTION ALL WRITERS!

We don't need you.

Breaking News: People Seen At Our Common Ground

by TIMOTHY BARCH

On Wednesday, rumors began to spread that "people" were seen at a small, rundown building across the street from Subway. One student, who was actually at Subway that day, said that "I saw a couple of people going into a building that looks like an old gas station fallen into ruin. It was pretty eerie."

After a detailed investigation, the Star has learned that the building is actually the headquarters of Our Common Ground -- a fact students were shocked to learn. "I knew OCG existed," said one student, "because I get those annoying emails all the time. But I always thought their meetings were held in the woods or on a raft on the Genesee."

Another student added "I thought that building was vacant and the signs were just vandalism. That's pretty cool that Our Common Ground owns it...whatever it is they do."

We tracked down the people who

were spotted there Wednesday and found they were actually the family of a prospective student. "We got lost looking for the China Star," said the father. "Someone told us to go north on 19 but I wasn't sure which way was north." He added that "it's actually pretty cool in there. There's live chickens walking around, and fresh eggs -- apparently the reason for the live chickens -- and lots of fruits and vegetables. We even walked in on a hemp knitting party... so progressive!"

Ginny Routh, director of Our Common Ground, commented that "we were so excited to have visitors! I'm not really sure why it doesn't happen more often. I mean, we've got some prime real estate in the cultural hub of Allegany County."

"Hopefully this newfound publicity will increase traffic in and out," she added. "We have some great events coming up."

She specifically mentioned a workshop on how to spy and neuter

your animals yourself ("Why waste the gas when you can do it right at home?"), a group discussion on the dangers of hydrofracking, which will be entirely in verse and will "include a game of darts with Terry Pegula's picture as the dart board," and lots of jam sessions.

When asked about the sighting of people at Our Common Ground, President Mullen said, "where?" She emailed the Star later that day saying, "Ohhh, Our Common Ground...I forgot about them. I'm very glad to hear that their work is garnering support. They do great work... whatever it is they do."

Routh added that "the College is quadrupling our budget for next year so get ready students. We'll be able to buy at least two more chickens! And we'll be able to plan some great events."

One student responded to the news of more OCG events saying, "Okay." ★

MJ from page 1

institution has taken on. The New Religious Movements professor stated that "this raid was a breach of our first amendment," maintaining that the use of cannabis has for years been a part of many religious movements, and if he is expected to maintain a "high" quality of education in the area of religious studies, it is a necessity. At this point he and his class of devout followers have retreated into the woods to await the coming of Ramtha.

Across campus, reactions have been mixed. A few have commented on the increase in quality of the cafeteria brownies. Other students however have expressed their frustration with the situation. "First students leave chapel early, next they're not even going, now they're smoking weed!" commented one first-year student. "Revival can only happen when all students sit through every chapel." The overall consensus is that this is simply a repercussion of the branding change of last year and the bulk of the student body has reverted to blaming the change to "faith-based" as being the main cause of the overall decadence of the institution. ★

College Fights Budgetary Woes, Introduces Reasonable Cuts

by DARIA LANE

The closing of the flats was such a profitable venture that the College has decided to look for similar ways to save money on building operations and heating/cooling costs.

"While the flats closing was protested by some students, the student body as a whole seemed to react positively. We took that as a sign that we could move forward with other money-saving plans," said Zarathustra Abiminijad, Vice President of Financial Efficiency and Other Money Things. Plans now include closing off the bathrooms in the basement of the Campus Center ("There are already bathrooms upstairs."), the east half of the third floor of Lambein, the Chapel foyer, the music building tunnel, the lost-and-found closet, and the water fountain on the left of the basement of the Chapel.

Abeminijad also outlined a new plan where students are only allowed to use college resources -- electricity, wireless Internet services, the health center, and professors -- on "On" days, which each student will have three days per week.

"We took a cue from the way midwestern states regulate water usage during droughts," said Abiminijad. "In Arizona, for example, they only let odd-numbered houses water their lawns on certain days, and even-numbered houses on other days. We just applied that to the way Houghton operates."

Under the new plan, which will be implicated after April break, students with even student ID numbers will have



The flats were only the beginning.

"On" days on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays; odd-numbered students will be allowed to use electricity on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Sundays will be "Off" for all students.

"We want to be sure that we're honoring the Sabbath with this new plan," said Abiminijad.

On "Off" days, students will be required to refrain from using college resources in any way. This includes electricity, running water, opening refrigerators, staying for undue periods in heated or air-conditioned buildings, talking or breathing heavily in Java ("noisy Java customers make the baristas turn up the music, which uses electricity," explained Abeminijad), flushing toilets, taking showers, speaking to professors, visiting the health center, and calling security.

Students on "Off" days will also be asked to refrain from eating any food in the cafeteria but food from the sandwich bar, said Abeminijad. "Everything else uses up too much money -- the main entrees are heated, the fruit is shipped, and the ice cream is expensive to refrigerate. Using less of these resources will save the College as much as \$65 a year."

Because of this newfound enthusiasm for days of rest, all College buildings will be closed during daylight hours each Sunday. This includes the townhouses, flats, and dorm buildings. This Sabbath lockdown will save the College about \$10,000 per year. "A benefit to the Sabbath lockdown is that it encourages students to corporately celebrate and appreciate creation," said President Mullen. Plans for how the

CHECK from page 1

along Route 19 so we can advertise the progress our athletic department is making."

Mullen said, "By 2016, Houghton will have the best tetherball and shuffleboard teams in the whole Southern Tier. That will be a huge selling point for prospective students."

Prospective student Mike McCarty from Buffalo, New York, commented that "I was debating between Houghton, St. Bonaventure, and University of Buffalo. But then I heard that Houghton was going to have a tetherball team. I remember playing tetherball at camp when I was like nine and I loved it...so I'm sold."

There are plans for a fundraising drive to raise the money for the original sports complex. "I have a call in to the Bills' owner," said Wright. ★

BAD DAY from page 1

a Luke-Crawford-themed party in the Campus Center, which consisted of students singing and vehemently affirming each other, to try to fill the void of Christian music and good spirits among the student body. A large "Please Feel Happy Again, Luke" card was laid out on the table to be signed by all. The party, however, did little to lift the spirits of the campus as a whole.

"This has truly been a dark day in Houghton history," commented President Shirley Mullen, "and we can only hope that Luke's day is better tomorrow." ★

students will stay warm on Sundays next winter are under way. Abeminijad suggested cutting down some of the forest and using the trees for firewood. ★

Nic Gunning Presents "Carnivale Extravaganza"

by HANNAH NEVADA

Next semester, Nic Gunning, former director of the Houghton College plays, will begin a new enterprise in the Houghton Fire Hall, designed to offer Houghton a more diverse performance art scene. "The Dragnet Menagerie" will consist of various short performances, including a trapeze act, a horse agility act, clowns, acrobats, a lion tamer, a bear riding a unicycle, and trained elephants. "Basically, it's a circus," said producer and professor of communication at the College Douglas Gaerte, "but its official title is the Vaudevillian Carnivale Extravaganza, which we think lends it a certain air of panache. And because Nic thinks 'circus' sounds too bourgeois."

Gunning himself will fulfill the role of Ringmaster and lion tamer, and will be bringing in three full-grown lions and two white tigers for the performance this April, which will be housed in a large yard behind his home. "Most people would be afraid to be a lion tamer, I think," said Gunning, "but really, after all the time I spent trying to get more theater funding for Houghton, this is more of a vacation."

When asked how he decided on a circus as his next big project, Gunning said, "It's actually a Vaudevillian Carnivale Extravaganza. And this was actually always my plan: when I was originally hired by Houghton I was under the impression that they were bringing me in to start something exactly like this. But when I got here, I found out they wanted me to direct theater." However, this misunderstanding did not daunt Gunning: "I knew from my years as a trapeze artist that though you fall a lot at first, eventually your partner starts catching you. So I jumped right in and started directing shows, after which they promptly cut the program."

A select group of Houghton students

have been recruited to perform in various roles in the Extravaganza. "You know, I did hold auditions," said Gunning, "but obviously I already knew who I was going to cast. The auditions were more for show than anything -- to make everyone feel like they had a chance. That tactic has worked really well for me in the past."

The Dragnet Menagerie plans to open its doors this summer, so it will be in full swing when next semester starts. Though many questioned whether the Fire Hall was a prime location for the Extravaganza, Gunning is adamant: "I've done a production in the Fire Hall before, and really it was by far the best venue I have ever been in. It was so... close and... cozy. And really, could there be a safer location than a Fire Hall? What if I drop one of the flaming hoops that the lions are jumping through? It won't be like 'oh, someone call the fire department.' They'll be right there."

The Houghton firefighters are also excited about Gunning's new venture. Said one local volunteer, "most of our time is spent waiting around for someone in Gillette to burn their microwave Ramen, so I think hosting the circus...uh, the Vaudevillian Carnivale Extravaganza will be a nice entertainment for us." Another volunteer marveled about Gunning, "Can you believe this guy also works in the library? What a Renaissance Man."

Tickets will be five dollars, though all other events of this sort in the Houghton area range from \$1 to \$3. "It's not exactly that we think we're better or anything, per se," said one member of the acrobatics team, "It's just that, what with all the programs and popcorn and whatnot...and yeah, I guess we are just definitely better."

The Vaudevillian Carnivale Extravaganza opens this summer in the Houghton Fire Hall. Reserve your seats today. ★

Sodexo Mandates Constant Dining, Other Changes

by REBECCA BROWN

Upon receipt of a campus-wide email sent earlier this semester, Houghton students were abruptly introduced to the oncoming changes in campus dining service plans, which will most notably affect the class of 2016. All incoming freshmen will now be required to purchase an unlimited meal pass to the cafeteria. What other changes, though, might students expect to see in the 2012-2013 academic year? Sodexo representative, Sue Keeny, provided the Star with his answers to the student body's concerns.

To begin, Keeny clarified a common misconception of the new unlimited dining plan and said, "Many students think that the new requirement will only be to pay for unrestricted access to the dining hall. In fact, this plan not only offers students this option but rather mandates continuous dining for all incoming freshmen. To ensure that they are getting the most for their money, students will be required to be eating at least 14 hours per day, which allows for a 10-hour sleep/digestion period each night. As students leave the cafeteria, they will be provided with a walking taco for travels to class. Sodexo employees will be stationed in each stairwell and doorway on campus to hand out cracker jacks or some other healthy snack, and Houghton's faculty and staff will act as students' accountability partners, sanctioning such fines as extra chapels, community service at Our Common Ground, or additional reading for any first-year student found awake and not eating." It is also rumored that Director of Student Programs Greg Bish will walk the aisles of Wesley Chapel distributing popcorn, hot dogs, and pretzels. Chapel workers will be enlisted to launch apples

from t-shirt shooters to those sitting in the balcony.

At the forefront of every student's taste buds was the question of whether Sodexo's mouth-watering menu of culinary quality will be altered. To this, Keeny answered, "I believe it is safe to say that no major changes will be made to our current food choices. Unlimited dining does have the potential to raise costs of operation and service. To prevent a further increase in cost to students, we will be using all locally-grown ingredients." Elaborating on this minor adjustment in Sodexo's food service, Keeny continued, mentioning a few new dishes to appear in the fall such as "corn on the cob, green bean casserole, and freshly caught sunfish from the Genesee River."

When asked about the selection of local produce during Houghton's six-month winter, Keeny remarked, "It amazes me how many people are blinded to the overwhelming bounty of sustenance available during the winter in Allegany County. To celebrate these often overlooked delicacies, we have already formulated recipes for acorn and birch granola, smoked squirrel hash, and raven-rabbit pot roast. The dessert counter will feature a plethora of sap snow cones, and we are especially excited for the addition of oakwood croutons to the salad bar." Finally, to ensure that there is no financial burden, Keeny reported Student Life's consent to "extend the no-drinking policy of the community covenant to...no drinking anything but water."

"Our work at Houghton is always for the grater good of the campus, and we believe students will continue to relish the food we provide," said Keeny. "If food had a genre, ours would be 'rock-your-socks-off fantastic.'" The history of humanity has recorded no truer statement.

La Russie et le monde, selon Vladimir Poutine

by MONIQUE SANDRECZKI

Kremlin, le président russe [redacted] sécurité. [redacted] des affaires étrangères, Sergueï Lavrov, et celui de la défense, [redacted] le chef de l'administration [redacted] responsables. [redacted] le premier ministre. [redacted] affaires importantes de la politique étrangère russe. [redacted] Dmitri Peskov, [redacted] de Vladimir Poutine, «c'est au président [redacted] la décision». [redacted] mandats présidentiels de M. Poutine, [redacted] les décisions de politique internationale. [redacted] Dmitri Medvedev est devenu président, en 2008, [redacted] cette prérogative. Connaissant l'intérêt de M. Poutine pour les relations internationales et le rapport de [redacted] entre les deux hommes,

on imagine [redacted] cependant, Vladimir Poutine s'inclinant devant une initiative internationale de M. Medvedev sur laquelle il aurait [redacted] consulté sans donner son [redacted] *Что означает, явно что политику (политика) сброс, или «новое начало», предложенный в 2009 президентом Barack Obama и кто позволил в особенности подписать нового Начала соглашения на сокращении tension avec [shared friendship] вооруженных сил 2010, был способным одобрять только с благословением М. Poutine.*

[redacted], au diable [beloved man] [redacted] ! M. Poutine [redacted] il en aura fini avec [redacted] persistent [redacted] gagné grâce à une [redacted] il pourra enfin [redacted] les rênes de la politique étrangère russe. Le conseil de sécurité, [redacted], c'est lui qui le préside. Dmitri Medvedev [redacted] de premier ministre [redacted] bien [redacted] ★



^ Greg Bish

**PICTURE
of the WEEK**

Enter our biweekly photo contest by submitting to HoughtonStar@gmail.com! Please include photo credit and a brief description.

MEN'S SOCCER PLAYERS EXCLUDED

by MILES CYRUS

There has been an apparent unease in Houghton's athletic social circles for the last few months. It would appear that with the addition of several new sports programs, the men's soccer team is experiencing a bit of social anxiety.

The men of the team expressed their social confusion to me in an interview conducted with the whole team. One player described what he felt that he has lost.

"We [the soccer team] have always been the big men on campus, but it just doesn't seem like we are anymore," he said. Another player added that he has been "noticing girls checking out the baseball team and asking about lacrosse. That is just not the way it is supposed to be."

It isn't just the female population that has been taking note of the new teams here at Houghton. A recent survey shows a 48% increase in baseball game attendance compared to men's soccer game attendance. This is quite an astounding statistic considering baseball games aren't even held on campus.

But it is not just differences in attendance that have been noticed. Overall, there has been an obvious shift from a soccer-oriented college to an "any-other-sport-aside-from-soccer" orientation.

For example: Fall 2011 and Spring 2012 SPOT. Both the men's basketball and baseball teams were recipients of much attention from SPOT hosts. Granted, much of the attention was either pessimistic criticism or playful mockery, but one may argue that there is no such thing as negative publicity.

This lack of attention has had a major impact on the mental health of the men's soccer team. Director of Counseling Services Dr. Michael Lastoria said, "There has been an influx of visits from the team...these are definitely some lost boys."

Lost indeed. Over the last several weeks, members of the team have been spotted wandering around the right side of the dining hall, notoriously known as the "athlete side." I caught one soccer player hovering over a full table, eyes vacant and wide, plate in hand. He said, "There isn't any room



After being ousted from the "athlete side" of the cafeteria Wednesday night, members of the men's soccer team searched for seating elsewhere; after facing repeated rejection, however, the men settled for a spot on the floor by the salad bar.

for us anymore. It is being taken over." He then continued to wander and hover for several more minutes.

The social anxiety that the team is feeling has certainly brought the team closer. Coach Webb said that "the guys have been working harder than ever, practicing late into the night, barely sleeping. They have even started a strict new eating regimen...some new fad diet called 'Swag Soup.' They are eating this stuff for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. I really commend them."

But it appears that no amount of "swag" is elevating the boys back to their position of "social royalty."

While the men's soccer team attempts to adjust to their new social standing, it seems appropriate to take

a look at a group that is no stranger to a lack of social attention: every female sports team on campus.

Female athletic teams typically excel at what they do, yet don't get the recognition that they deserve. A women's soccer player commented on the situation that the guys seem to be facing. "They really just need to suck it up. Women's teams could beat any men's team on campus, but we never get attention and you don't see us crying about it."

So it seems that as the men mourn the loss of their social status, the College is invited to begin to recognize a truly under-appreciated group on campus: female athletes. ★

CAB GOES ROUGE; LOW-BUDGET PARTY UNDERWHELMS

by TYLER SWIFT

Due to recent budget cuts, Campus Activities Board (CAB) is slated to disappear next year. Some members of CAB are already vanishing and have taken CAB activities underground. Their weekly meetings are known not as CAB meetings, but as SCAB meetings -- Secret Campus Activities Board. To protect their identities, the names of these individuals have been omitted. These students, trying to avoid detection, hold their SCAB meetings at different times and in different places each week. Last week, they met in the chapel one night so that if found, they could pretend they were having a prayer meeting.

While some CAB members meet secretly, others have gone rogue to overtly protest the disappearance of CAB. They practice "happy vandalism," spray painting the sidewalks with messages such as "Smile, Jesus loves you," "God loves Houghton!" and "Seniors love living in the dorms!" On Tuesday night, they painted the rock with smiley faces and then positioned themselves near the door of the Campus Center to spray people with silly string as they exited the building. They received mixed reactions from students. One girl was horrified to be confronted with silly string and filed a complaint because it got stuck in her hair. Senior Rob Schian, on the other hand, was delighted to see the silly string, and he spent the next hour running around the quad with silly string.

During chapel Wednesday, a few CAB members crouched in the organ loft until Dean Brittain rose to speak. Then they showered confetti and glitter on him. Brittain took it well, thanking the Lord for showers of blessing and praying that those who blessed him would be blessed in return.

"CAB exists to serve students here, and making people laugh is one of the best ways to do that," said one CAB member. "Since we have little funding, we have to find creative ways to serve the campus and make people happy." Another CAB member said, "If we want to stop CAB from disappearing completely, we have to make our presence known!"

Although CAB will be active through the end of this school year, the budget cuts have already affected their operations. CAB was planning to host a Hershey's party -- similar to the Hostess Party with Tasty Cakes and Ho Hos -- but Director of Student Programs Greg Bish informed the party planners that the budget was too small for Hershey's. In fact, the only affordable refreshments and prizes are salt and pepper. Not to be deterred, CAB is now planning a Salt and Pepper party. Participants will spin the wheel to win door prizes such as a salt and pepper packets, salt shakers, and pepper shakers. The jackpot, of course, is both a salt and a pepper shaker. One CAB member is excited about the Salt and Pepper Party because "it shows that we can have fun even with a limited budget."

Were You Aware?

by JUSTINE BIEBER

In 1933 during the height of the Great Depression, hundreds of desperate men came to Houghton hoping to find work in order to support their families. Unable to find employment, the men camped out in the field below the College. One day, two of the men went down to the Genesee River and took their weekly bath in the water. As the men were walking back up the shore, one of them spotted something shiny among the rocky shoreline. Walking closer, the man picked up the rock and immediately realized it was gold. He and his friend began digging and soon un-earthed a hoard of gold. The men ran back to their tent to get containers to hold their fortune.

The two men named the field where they had been camping the "Field of Dreams" in order to honor the place that helped bring them and their families out of the Great Depression.

A Well-Reasoned and Brilliantly-Defended Suggestion for the Betterment Of the Legitimacy and Accuracy of Potential Personal Titles of a Certain Very Handsome Scholar-Servant-Leader of Houghton College



by THE GARRETT FITZSIMMONS

SGA President Demands to be Called "The Garrett"

Dear fellow students,
In an article called "Houghton Moves Away from 'Faith-Based' Marketing Strategy" in the November 4 issue of the Star, I was mistakenly referred to as "The Garrett." While I was initially shocked and utterly confused by this appellation, I have upon further thought concluded that this is how I wish to be known. Lest I appear presumptuous in requesting

this title change, allow me to describe the reasons why "The Garrett" is an appropriate title for me.

First, the affixation of the article "the" reflects the important role I play as the President of the student body.

The demands of the student body could not possibly be satisfied by just any ordinary Garrett; only The Garrett can fulfill the duties of the Student Body President. Therefore, to distinguish myself from any other Garrett who may exist on campus, I need to assert myself as The Garrett. One who holds such a prominent position as I do deserves a prominent title.

However, not every distinguished person needs an extra article to precede

his or her given name. I believe I present a special case because of the uniqueness of my name. "Garrett" is pronounced exactly as "garret," which is, according to dictionary.com, "an attic, usually a small, wretched one."

Great, gareat, Garreatt, Garrett!
See how smoothly "great" becomes "Garrett"?

It would be a travesty for any of you to associate my important figure with an image of a dingy attic. I believe that adding "The" before Garrett will counteract the negative

connotations of my name.

While my name may be closely linked to the humble attic-type garrets, it is also very close to the word great...great, gareat, Garreatt, Garrett! See how smoothly "great" becomes "Garrett"? Both words contain the same letters. I think of Alexander the

Great and Catherine the Great, and I hear future generations calling me Garrett the Great. Ah, it is like music to my ears! Unfortunately, I must admit it is too soon to ask to be called "Garrett the Great." But The Garrett is close enough -- for now.

Please note that both words in the title should be capitalized -- "the garrett" is just not the same as "The Garrett." "The Garrett," appropriately capitalized, conveys the respect due to me as the Student Body President of Houghton College.

Let it be declared that, henceforth, all students shall refer to me as "The Garrett."

Sincerely,

The Garrett A. Fitzsimmons,
Student Body President

The Garrett is a senior majoring in hope and change

The Penultimate Word / Why Doesn't Anyone Listen to Things that I Say



by ELISA SHEARER

I've noticed a troubling trend on campus lately. It's an insidious pattern of behavior, this thing I've noticed, and it's been spreading through the community like a synchronized menstrual cycle spreads through women's dorms.

What is it, you ask?

It's that people aren't listening to me enough.

Week after week, readers of the Star receive precious nuggets of wisdom graciously offered from the wellspring of ethics and integrity that is Elisa Shearer. Like a thinner Buddha, a cleaner Jesus, or a less-muslim Mohammed, I proverbially stand before you on the bottom of page 6, the impressiveness of my smiling

visage matched only by the weight of the Truth in the words beneath it. And like jewelry before ungulates, every week I see my advice not being taken, my phrases not being quoted, and my words not being tattooed on your bodies.

Now, I hear some of you philistines saying, how could I possibly be so wise at so young an age? Well, sure, I'm not even old enough to rent a car yet. It's true that I haven't made any serious relationship commitments or actual purchases of appliances or things not eggs and Snickers bars. And sure, I don't know how to do my own taxes or purchase my own home. But such definitions of wisdom -- the practical ones -- just aren't worth my time and, therefore, are neither worth yours. You just can't deny -- at least, I sure can't -- the staggering amounts of wisdom in my past writings. Hard-hitting topics! Infinitely universal points of view! The absence of biasedness such as was never seen before!

And I think that'd be enough for you people. But no -- you all completely disregard the incredible opportunity to read a brilliant, reasonable, and sexually

appealing column every week. For free. I see papers strewn about, sometimes, or -- worse -- opened to other pages. Everyone knows that newspapers aren't for news. Newspapers are for

Newspapers are for Truth. And that truth is right here, in the bottom left corner of page 6.

Truth. And that truth is right here, in the bottom left corner of your student newspaper. Good things/small packages and all that.

Another thing that seriously disturbs me is that some miserable few of you presume to actually write something to be printed right next to the bastion of truth that is this column! The gumption to think that the measly musings of someone-who-isn't-me would be worth printing on the Opinions pages. I scoff. Keep in mind, "opinion" is just really a pretty word for "fact": opinions are serious business, my dears. They are things not to be questioned at all. So let the big dogs handle this one. Your sad guesses can't handle being printed amongst greatness.

And I'm not even going to talk to

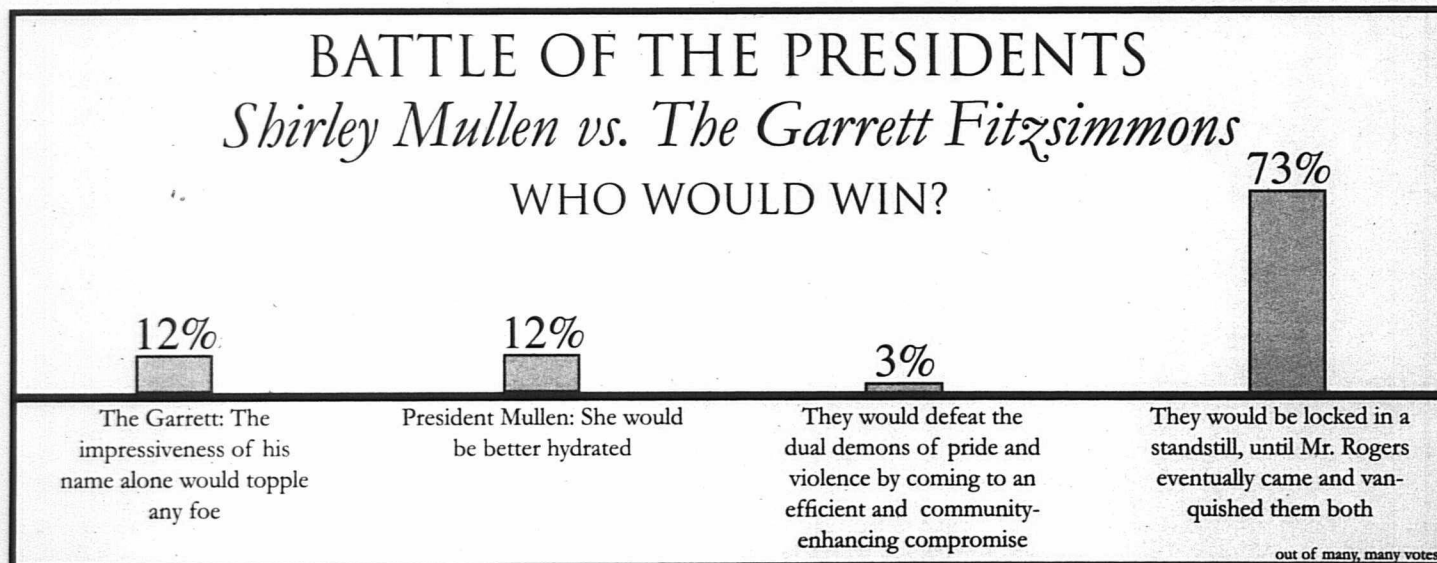
you, letter-writers. I scoff (a second time) in the face of your indignation, social concern, and efforts to "foster public discourse."

So now that we've established the infallibility of my writing, which really should have been obvious to you all in the first place (I'm actually quite disappointed with the prevailing lack of astuteness here), take a moment to reflect upon the value of my words and their applicability to all of your lives. I'm seriously despondent right now about the state of the campus' reception of greatness; honestly, I think you all could be doing a lot better. I can't even tell you how long it's been since I've received offerings of chocolate or marriage. Is there no

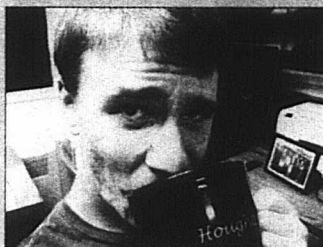
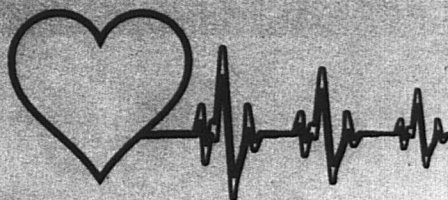
This article deserves two of these boxes with big font.

sense of quality left in the world? No appreciation of genius? I thought we had a real relationship, readers. The fact that I am not continually lauded has frankly left me rather discouraged about the future of America.

Elisa is a senior psychology and English major



The Heartline



by CHRISTOPHER HEARTLINE

DEAR CHRIS: I'm about to graduate and I'm worried about meeting people. I mean, for the last four years we've always had Houghton to count on and now we're not going to have that. What do I do? I know there's church but aside from that, how am I supposed to meet the woman God has predestined me to marry? – Worried Graduate in Roth

DEAR WORRIED: Okay, here's what you do. Step 1: Put a bumper sticker on your car that says "Honk if you want to be in a long-term relationship with a guy who really loves Jesus and is committed to sharing the gospel with anyone who wants to hear." Step 2: If someone honks, and they're female (I mean come on) follow them home. Step 3: Stake out their house for the night and make sure no other guys come in and out. Step 4: Follow her to work the next morning and make sure she works at an appropriate place (church, elementary school, development organization, Apple).

If everything checks out, crash your car into hers and then you can exchange contact information and subtly ask her if she wants to get coffee sometime. If she declines, repeat steps one through four with another target.

DEAR CHRIS: So I've been pretty busy lately. Let's just say, hypothetically speaking, that I've been trying to save a certain hypothetical institution of higher education from impending hypothetical financial ruin. My husband, who I've recently married, has gotten frustrated by how much time I spend at the office. He's taken to baking cookies in the shape of my face and singing love songs outside my office window with a guitar and Brandon Johnson. What should I do? – Hypothetical High-Powered Female Administrator in Luckey

DEAR HYPOTHETICAL: This is a common problem among the women I counsel, especially those in high-powered positions. I'll tell you what I tell the others: this is what happens when women try to buck the system and subvert the natural role that men are supposed to play in this world. As Paul says in Ephesians, "Wives, submit to your husbands, something something something, blah blah blah." So my practical advice would be this: try switching roles with your husband. He can take care of the financial stuff and you can bake cookies...I'm sure you make better face-shaped cookies than he does anyway. :)

DEAR CHRIS: I recently discovered that my boyfriend is a Lutheran. Does this mean I have to break up with him? – Worried in Prayer Chapel

DEAR WORRIED: Yes...unless you think there's at least a 70% chance of his conversion to the true religion – Wesleyanism. Then stay with him and try your darndest to save his poor soul.

DEAR CHRIS: My boyfriend and I feel that our ministry on this campus is to demonstrate what a strong Christian relationship looks like by making out in the Campus Center all the time. However, we have received a lot of negative reactions. How can we win people's hearts to the gospel when they are so unresponsive to such a Spirit-filled display of Christian love? Is there any hope for these people? – Christian Exhibitionist in Campus Center

DEAR EXHIBITIONIST: God works in mysterious ways, but sometimes Satan does too. That's the only explanation I can think for why people respond negatively to your obviously spiritual union. All I can say is keep up the good work, fight the fight, finish the race...you know missionary style. As the Lord says in Haggai chapter 12 verse 6, "Let your love be seen by all, and let your passion be a testament to myself."

DEAR CHRIS: I only want to date a girl who is in a committed relationship

with Jesus. But...if her heart is already captured by another man, how can I expect to start a relationship? – Willy-Walled by Jesus in Shen

DEAR WILLY-WALLED: First of all, as a man I would say don't ever let anyone wall your willy. That being said, I do understand the predicament you find yourself in. Our culture has created the illusion that relationships between men and women are about things like emotion and enjoyment. But in reality, human relationships are about simply procreation. Let Jesus be the center of her emotional life...you just keep your eyes on the prize...twins!

DEAR CHRIS: My boyfriend sat next to me in a booth at lunch today, and I didn't get my afternoon period ... could I be pregnant? – Freaking Out in Cafeteria

DEAR FREAKING OUT: Let's not rush to any judgments. Wait until tomorrow and see if you get your afternoon period then. Based on my scientific background, I would say that if you don't get an afternoon period tomorrow, then you are absolutely pregnant...or consumed by Mephistopheles. Just pray about it...but definitely tell your pubertal boyfriend to stop sitting on the same cushion as you. No more tantric lunches. I mean seriously, the cafeteria isn't the Playboy Mansion.

Letters to the Editor

houghtonstar@gmail.com

Dear Editor,

Dearest Editor. Why haven't you been returning my letters? I know you've been getting them. I've poured my heart out to you in prose, in poetry, in Elvish, but you ignore me. Again and again I've told you how you make me feel: like Beren felt when he first spied Luthien Tinuviel dancing upon a green hill within the Girdle of Melian. Like Admiral Adama felt when he finally realized that President Roslin, despite being his enemy in the past, was the woman he would love forever, even if they never found the mythical planet called Earth. My bond with you is like the bond between Doyce and her bondmate Khar'perm -- only I wish we had the ability to mindspeak with one another like they do, since, as I said before, you are not returning my letters.

Dearest Editor, I will love you forever, though I do not even know your name. When I imagine we are together I call you by the affectionate diminutive Edie. "Darling Edie," I say, "How often I have pondered upon the excellence of your journalistic prowess." "Oh darling," you say, dressed as I often imagine you to be dressed (in the gold bikini Princess Leia wore in Return of the Jedi), "It's nothing." Then we make out. It's hard to do without you, because pillows don't really have lips, but you would be impressed by my effort.

Editor, my love for you is solid. It is firm. It is Founded on the Rock. I would cross the Helcaraxe for you. I would battle the Nazgul. I would be willingly cast into

the Sarlacc Pit to save you! Please, just write me one letter in response. Just one. There's a hand-carved replica of Glamdring in it for you if you do.

Namarie, my sweet Edie.

-Zedekiah Butkiss, Class of 2014

Dear Editor,

You all are talking about sex way too much.

-Mary Ishopper, Class of 2013

Dear Editor,

It seems like nobody's talking about sex enough this year.

-Jenny Fruftniffen, Class of 2013

Dear Editor,

There is something that has really been weighing heavily on me recently and I can't imagine that I'm the only one who feels this way, so I think it's about time that someone says something. Houghton College has too many useless majors. Let's be honest, do we really need things like biology, music, history, writing, art, English, mathematics, chemistry, psychology, and leisure studies? I know I missed a few, but my point is that we really should be focusing all our resources on the physics major. With the recent focus on the sciences over the past couple of years, we have seen a dramatic increase in physics majors. Now imagine not some but all resources going

to the physics department. The \$12 million intended for the new sports complex could go to a new fund to build a cyclotron under the quad. Enrollment would soar. The average number of graduating physics majors would go from two to at least three. Maybe even five in a couple years. The possibilities are truly endless! I doubt there are many students who have not been considering this very thing already, but I would encourage all of you to ponder this more seriously, pray about it and see if we cannot make this idea a reality before the start of the new school year.

-Peter Kroening, Class of 2012

Dear Editor,

I have been reading the Houghton Star for almost two semesters now. When I came to Houghton last fall, I thought I was coming to a school that upheld Christian moral standards and that its student body did the same. After nearly two semesters reading the Star, however, I find I was very mistaken.

What do I find in the pages of the Star? Satan. His influence is on every page, with all these articles about sex and liberal politics. Even the title, "STAR" has three letters of his name in it. You seniors are writing under the spell of Satan, causing the underclassmen to stumble by telling them your opinions! Christians do not have opinions. Christians have FACTS. Facts that are found in the Bible or the Community Covenant.

I did not have to come to Houghton. If I had gone to a secular school I probably would have been constantly defending my faith to others, standing up for God in a world of darkness. I wouldn't have had

as many opportunities to closely consider what I believe in a community of other believers, some of whom have very different ideas from mine. Now that I'm in a community that encourages me to do that, I have discovered that I don't want to, and therefore that encouragement is likely from Satan. Shame on you, Houghton Star, for giving in to Satan's temptation to make me uncomfortable! You really need to read Romans 14:2. In a nutshell, it says not to have opinions that are different from mine, and definitely not to let me know about them.

Look, the bottom line is this: if you, the Houghton Star, present me with an opinion that I find offensive or wrong, it is not up to me to consider it and then decide one way or another. You are obviously in sin for presenting it. You have been dancing with the devil for too long now, Houghton Star. The furtherance of my Christian life is being stifled by you upperclassmen who have all these opinions! If I lose my faith, or am tempted to something worse like Evolution, it'll be your fault.

-Ina Tizzy, Class of 2015

Happy April Fools' Day!

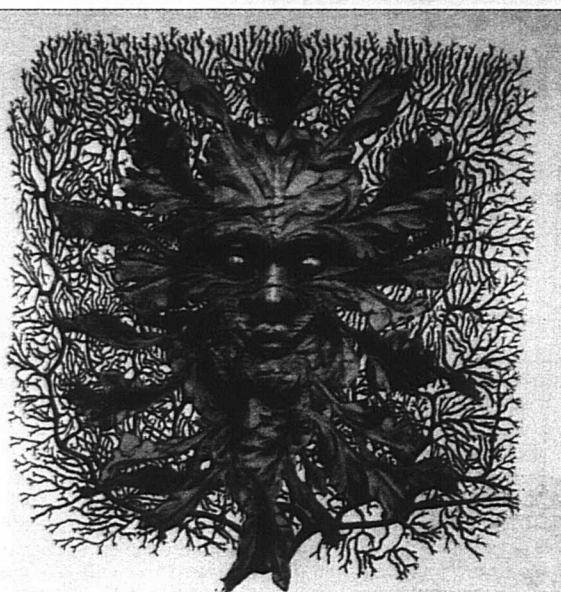
from the fools
on the hill



SATAN

As I peered up from my chasm of doom, contemplating my next move in my narrative of nefariousness, I fixed my sights on the little hamlet of Houghton. "Too godly," I said. "Too holy. What can I do to lead them astray?" And then it came to me: I'll use evil, masquerading as art, to drive a wedge between the students and keep prospectives away. Thus the Deity prints were born. And even though your vigilant leaders have attempted to thwart my plan, there they hang in the basement conference room as a testament to my power and will. And here they are...printed in your newspaper. Hahahaha!

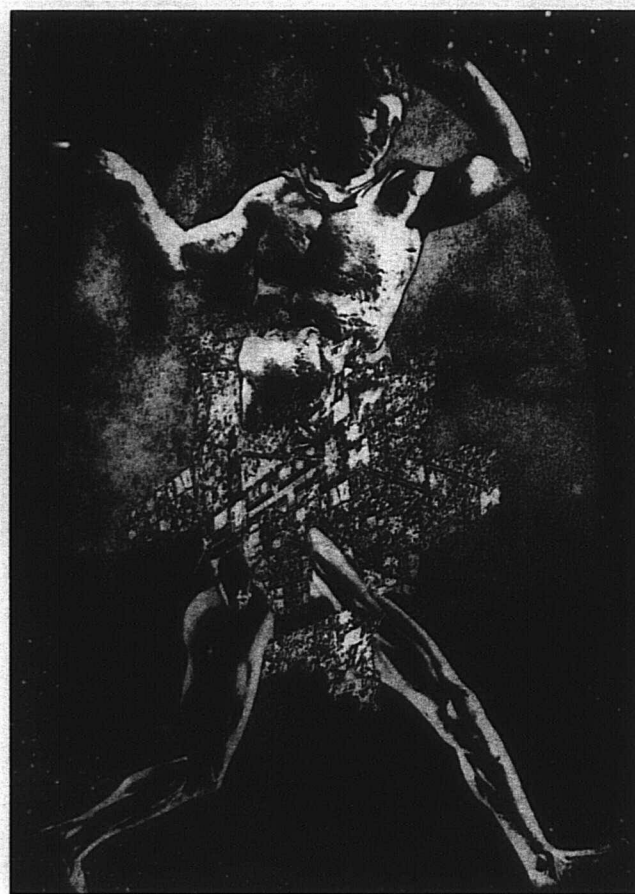
ARTIST OF THE WEEK



DEITY



Clockwise from top:
Diety, Cosmic Egg, Apollo, Goddess Gate



SUDOKU PUZZLE

	1			4		7		
6		9	2			4	8	
	4			3			1	
1			7	2	9			
			1	6		3		9
	7			1			3	
	5	4			6	2		1
		1		9			5	

Crossword Solution from 3/23:

1	8	9	7	5	4	6	3	2
7	2	4	6	3	9	1	8	5
5	3	6	2	1	8	7	9	4
8	9	1	5	6	3	2	4	7
2	5	3	4	7	1	9	6	8
6	4	7	8	9	2	3	5	1
4	7	5	3	2	6	8	1	9
9	6	2	1	8	5	4	7	3
3	1	8	9	4	7	5	2	6

To win a free Java drink, bring your finished puzzle, clearly marked with your full name and CPO, to the Star office in the basement of the Campus Center by 8PM on WED 4/11.

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