



VISITING ARTIST: TATIANA GINSBERG | *FEATURES*, P. 4

the houghton STAR

Houghton College's Student Newspaper Since 1909

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November 15, 2013 Vol. 110, No. 9

College Looks to Hire Forest Manager

THOMAS ECKERT

This month, Houghton College is interviewing to hire a forest manager. Tasked with culling mature tree growth on the college's 533 acres of forested land, they will produce and execute a plan that increases revenue and pays mind to the local environment.

The four-man panel directing this operation consists of Dr. James Wolfe, Dave Smith, Brian Webb, and Don Haingray. Their intent is to take on tree harvesting in the forests as both an economic and environmentally benefiting endeavor. "While logging is typically thought of as a negative in ecological terms, it can actually be good for a forest if done correctly," said Brian Webb, Sustainability Coordinator for the college. Don Haingray echoed this statement, "This is about the health of the forest. It is the right thing to do if we are to be good stewards of the land."

In a meeting with the college's

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Honors Undergoes Revampment



London, where a former semester-long FYHP was held

GRETCHEN REEVES

Despite a recent program cut back in September, the college is looking to reinstate and perhaps add another honors program to its offerings as well as renovate the current structure of honors at Houghton. During a meeting with the college board of

trustees in late October, it was strongly suggested by the members that a third honors program with a European focus be reinstated. "We had already been working on revisions to honors before the board of trustees met in October. We've been concerned that despite the quality of our three first-year honors offerings, enrollments have been weaker than we would like over the past three years," said Linda Mills Woolsey, dean of the college and one of those who met with the board. She cited the current economic climate and increased competition with other schools' honors programs as likely causes.

In a recent proposal for a comprehensive revamp of the honors program, Benjamin Lipscomb, professor of philosophy and director of honors programs at Houghton, explained that although "[t]he students we have enrolled remain (by and large) impressive, ... there have been too few of them to populate our three gateway programs, and we have not been able to be as highly selective as we were in the past." In an interview he added, "We did form a waiting list for the first time in a while this last year... but there had been a couple of years in which basically there was no waiting list. We had ... a three-tiered

system [for admission] in which there was 'yes,' 'maybe,' and 'no.' We had a year or two there after we switched from London to Contemporary Contexts ... at which it was basically, 'yeah, probably, we think you're a yes' or 'no.'"

Although not set in stone, under consideration as replacement for a third honors program is a semester-long study abroad option similar to the London honors program cut back in 2011. "A number of trustees look back to the recruiting success of London Honors and would like to see us have a distinctive program with the same recruiting power," said Woolsey. She added that the program "will probably be a return to a semester abroad with a focus on modern and contemporary culture, a stronger global focus, and some service components." Eric Currie, vice president of admissions, also added that "in trying to recruit some of the students who have had significant scores that go for full tuition at other schools ... some of this semester abroad opportunity ... has an engagement level that seems to spark their interest." Such a program will

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Rastrelli Quartet Performs for Houghton Artist Series

JONATHAN HARDY

This past Friday the Wesley Chapel was filled with a moderately sized but enthusiastic audience to hear the Rastrelli Cello Quartet, an ensemble of four Russian cellists who have toured the world and received much critical acclaim in the 12 years since their creation. Their performance here several years ago left a strong impression on the community. According to former music faculty Dr. Robert Galloway who organized Artist Series concerts in the past, "[They] were a tremendous hit;... and I had students begging me to bring them back." The Rastrelli Quartet's repeat performance was certainly not a disappointment and had the audience cheering, begging for an encore which the performers generously provided.

The quartet members were equally pleased to be coming back to Houghton. "The second time back in this beautiful region feels like home," said Kira Kraftzoff, the group's artistic director. "In Russia, young people go to the classical music concerts before going to clubs. Seeing college

students at concerts is wonderful." They loved not just the audience but the hall, "We've played all over the world and this is one of our favorite halls to play in. You have one of the 5 best stages in the world."

"They truly are world class," said Dr. Stephen Plate, Director of the Greatbatch School of Music who is now in charge of the Artist Series as well. The Irish Times of Dublin says of them, "...each is a virtuoso in his own right, and together they play with a sense of musical purpose and personal camaraderie that is infectious." Indeed, among their members the quartet possesses numerous awards, honors, and contest prizes and their technical proficiency is truly incredible. However the most inspiring part of their playing is their unity and the deep passion they express in their performances. Whether a tarantella, tango, swings, classical or opera arias, Rastrelli handles all genres with energy and masterful interpretation.

"The artist series is about performances which are otherworldly,"

See **QUARTET** page 3

Students Present Research at Penn-York Conference



Houghton students at the annual Penn-York Conference

JOANNA FRIESEN

This past Saturday, November 9, Professor Laurie Dashnau and ten Houghton students attended and participated in the 14th annual Penn-York Undergraduate Research

Conference held at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford. The university hosted the conference in conjunction with their 50 year celebration of the university's operation.

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NATIONAL // Philippines Faces Crisis After Typhoon



ANDREA PACHECO

SARAH HUTCHINSON

In the week following the impact of the deadly Typhoon Haiyan, the Philippines has struggled to recover from the aftermath. The typhoon left, at current estimates, more than 2,300 dead, with many

more injured or displaced, and flattened major population centers. Haiyan made impact on the Philippines on November 7. According to statements made by the UN, a total of 11 million people have been affected by the storm.

The typhoon has thrown the country into disarray, prompting officials to declare a state of crisis. Looting and raiding have become commonplace in the affected areas, which are mostly located in the central Philippine islands. According to CBS, thousands of desperate Filipinos stormed a government-owned rice warehouse (an event that killed eight people) and made off with roughly 100,000 sacks of rice to feed themselves and their families. Access to clean water is also hard to obtain for the survivors. Reports say that people have dug up water pipelines, regardless of safety, in order to access drinking water. Shelter is also scarce and many have been forced to live in the open.

According to a report covered by Al-Jazeera America, another major obstacle facing the Filipino population in coming weeks is the lack of

basic medical supplies and facilities. The storm damaged hospitals and interrupted the supply of medicine due to damaged infrastructure, leaving only scanty resources behind. In Tacloban, a city about 360 miles from Manila and one of the major sites of destruction, the current medical center is a run-down, single-story building at the city's damaged airport. Along with treating pregnant women, children, elderly, and those with injuries from the storm, medics expect to be treating infections, pneumonia, diarrhea, and dehydration in the coming weeks as the effects of the storm (lack of clean water and food) take their toll on the population.

Meanwhile, aid to the struggling country has been trickling in slowly, mostly due to damaged infrastructure. One of the earliest signs of international assistance appeared Wednesday with 25 tons of biscuits delivered by US military jets. More aid is expected to come to the Philippines soon, but it may take a while to distribute to the more inaccessible areas on the islands; the damaged roads from the storm are a difficult prob-

lem. Looting and lack of order is also making the distribution of aid difficult. A report from The Guardian said that a Philippine Red Cross convoy was attacked by armed men and its drivers were killed and similar stories of violence are being reported.

Typhoon Haiyan is one of the deadliest typhoons ever recorded in Philippine history. The typhoon, which a mature tropical cyclone, arose from the lower Pacific (near Micronesia) and made its way to the Philippine islands in about three days, making landfall in the country on November 7. At its peak, its winds were 195 mph. A few days later it receded in intensity on November 10 when it struck Vietnam as a severe tropical storm.

The American Red Cross and other aid organizations are currently accepting donations to help aid the Filipino people as they begin the process of recovery from this disaster. ★

Sarah is a senior political science major.

WORD ON THE STREET

Houghton has this vision of reaching out to the world, and cutting the Islamic Studies program just feels like it's undermining that vision for people who want to reach out. And if they end up losing the two Islamic Studies professors, they're losing two of the godliest men on this campus. And I know for a fact that Dr. Hegeman is here because he wants to mentor young men and disciple young people. It's not just about being a professor to him.

--Kelly Vankirk, first year grad student



LUKE LAUER



LUKE LAUER

I think the academic budget cuts are a little scary because it limits what we can offer to prospective students and giving tours when people ask me about things, so it's kind of awkward to tell people that we don't have them. But, I understand that they're necessary to make the programs that we have better and all of these budget cuts were obviously thought out and weren't just done randomly. So, I think they're good. It's just that they're scary.

--Alan Vlieg, junior

What is your opinion on the recent budget cuts?

When I think about what things could be cut in the language department, I question why German didn't go before French. The only thing I can think about is Dr. Roederer is a full-time, tenured faculty member, and cutting him would be more of a financial gain than cutting a part-time faculty member in the German department.

--Aaron Young, senior



LUKE LAUER



LUKE LAUER

I am really disappointed with the budget cuts because I feel like so much of what Houghton does at this point is focused on enrollment that I feel that we've as an institution taken our eyes off of Jesus. And, particularlu with regard to the Islamic Studies department, I just feel like that department sends out so many followers of Jesus who are ready to show the Gospel effectively and clearly with Muslims.

--Alicia Ucciferri, senior

RESEARCH *from page 1*

The Penn-York Conference is an opportunity for students to make a brief presentation of their research to a group of their peers and to “learn a lot of interesting material from areas outside of their disciplines” said Prof. Dashnau. The conference provides an opportunity for learning and for honing presentation skills. “The conference went very well. I had an opportunity to attend approximately 25 paper readings.... All of the presentations went very well.” said Dashnau.

Seniors Caleb Johnson, David Smith, Jessica Dreiling, Hannah Lily, Ben Murphy, Taylor Ross, Elizabeth Wallace and juniors Sylvia Morrow, Meghan McCuistion, and Stephanie Ford gave oral presentations at the conference. In addition to oral presentations, there were also poster presentations displaying student research and projects.

There was a varied representation of academic areas at the conference, both from the Houghton students and the conference presenters overall. From Houghton, “Five were presenting writing specifically; Caleb Johnson’s paper was from... [an] economics class and the same for Taylor Ross’s paper titled ‘How does Health-Care Affect Economic Freedom?’... Sylvia Morrow presented a physics paper,” said Dashnau. Johnson’s presentation was entitled “Free Trade Agreements,” Smith’s was “The Effects of Nonverbal Communication in the Writing Center,” Dreiling’s “Rapport in the Writing Center,” Murphy’s “The Case for Inclusivity at Houghton College,” and McCuistion’s “Electroencephalographic Measures of Negative Prim-

ing Effects on Event-Related Potentials and Reaction Times.”

Junior Sylvia Morrow’s presentation was entitled “Searching for Rigid Triaxial Deformation in 70Ge” and focused on her research that she conducted over the summer on rare nuclear shapes at low energies in 70Ge. Morrow said that “it was a good opportunity to practice bringing science to the public.” For Morrow the conference also presented a chance to “practice my presentation and public speaking skills” she said.

Senior Hannah Lily’s presentation was entitled “Personal Repertoire in Writing Center Consultations” and focused on “how the sharing of details builds repertoire,” said Lily. Lily also commented on her participation in the conference, saying “it was a good experience being able to see everyone else’s presentations and the methods that they presented in, there was a wide variety of topics.”

Besides Houghton, students from Hilbert College, the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville, Alfred University, St. Bonaventure, and Clarion University of Pennsylvania also presented at the conference.

Dashnau was optimistic for the conference’s growth and development next year. “I’m delighted that next year more students from St. Bonaventure University will be joining us in larger measure... one professor there who also went to the Penn-York Conference has agreed to be the keynote speaker; his name is Gregory Privitera,” said Dashnau. Houghton has hosted the conference in 2007 and there is an expressed hope to host the conference next year. ★

obtaining official approval is still in the works. However, it is expected that proposals for seminars will be submitted this spring and will be included in the course offerings for the next academic year. “We’re going to send out an email blast the beginning of December to prospective students who are thinking about honors, letting them know ... there’s this extension of the program ... and we’ll be talking about it on the recruitment weekends.”

Also in development, but still not yet in the works, is a potential honors program for transfer students and Houghton students who display honors potential later on in their undergraduate careers. “As we predict, watching national trends, we might see more and more of ... people for cost reasons doing a couple years at a community college and getting an associate’s degree,” said Lipscomb, and the intent of a transfers program would be to accommodate such trends. Also included in the target demographic for such a program would be so-called “late bloomers:” students who, according to Lipscomb, “get a ‘no’ in the honors recruitment process because they clam up in their interview... [when] it turns out they... get into college coursework and discover themselves and turn out to be really excellent students.”

For now, however the idea of a transfers honors program is still very much in its infancy, with the reinstatement of a third honors program and the creation of a four-year program being among the current priorities of the college. ★

HONORS *from page 1*

take a while to redevelop, however. “I reported to the board that we were undertaking revisions and their request was that we speed up the timeline,” Woolsey said, adding that the intent was to have the new freshman honors program available to students in 2015-2016.

In addition to a third freshman honors program, also under consideration by the college is a full four-year honors program. Starting with one of the three main “gateway” honors programs (Science Honors, East Meets West, or a third new program), students completing one of the programs will be offered the opportunity to take one-credit “seminar” classes on a specific topic. Completion of a predetermined number of seminars will allow students to graduate with an honors diploma and transcript. Seminar topics will be varied, but will most likely be in the social sciences or humanities. However, it was stressed that it was hoped that honors students from all disciplines might be able to participate in the seminars. “Arts could be in it too, and there’s every possibility for people in the natural sciences, mathematics to pick one or two works that would be accessible to someone who hadn’t been through the whole curriculum,” said Lipscomb. “We’re going to try to make that set of offerings as diverse as possible. ... The point is mix and mingle, not to extend the gateway programs as segregated phenomena.”

While Lipscomb says the four-year honors program has been approved “in principle” by the board,

LOGGING *from page 1*

board of trustees, the panel described their goals for forest management: improve forest health by cutting and selling overgrowth, facilitate sustained timber production at 15-year intervals, minimize logging-related erosion, improve and protect wildlife habitats, and avoid disturbing everyday use of the property.

The first step in this process is contacting the Department of Environmental Conservation and meeting with the New York State Forester, Robert K. Davies. Davies has reviewed the college’s extant forestry plan from 2002 and surveyed the property. He verified the current plan to be in depth and needing only minor revision. He also provided the college with a list of cooperative foresters to be interviewed for the role of forestry manager.

In mid-November, the panel will meet with several candidates to decide which one is right for the position. While each member of the board has his own concept of an ideal forest manager, the overall consensus seems to focus on sustainability as a priority. “Hiring a forest manager who is committed to sustainable forestry practices will enable us to preserve the long-term value of our woods - not just economically, but ecologically as well,” said Webb.

The selected candidate will take on the role of forestry manager and several key responsibilities. These include updating the college’s 11 year-old forestry plan, marking trees that will be harvested, managing bidding and contracts with a logging company, and overseeing the actual logging process with a mind towards protecting the environment. The forestry manager will be paid a percentage of the earnings from harvesting.

Updating the forestry plan will involve working through about 100-pages of documentation and editing its contents based on current

observations of the forested land. Before now, said Webb, “Our forests really hadn’t really been maintained.” There is very little growth due to older trees dominating the ecosystem. This logging process will help to remove those older specimens and encourage new ones.

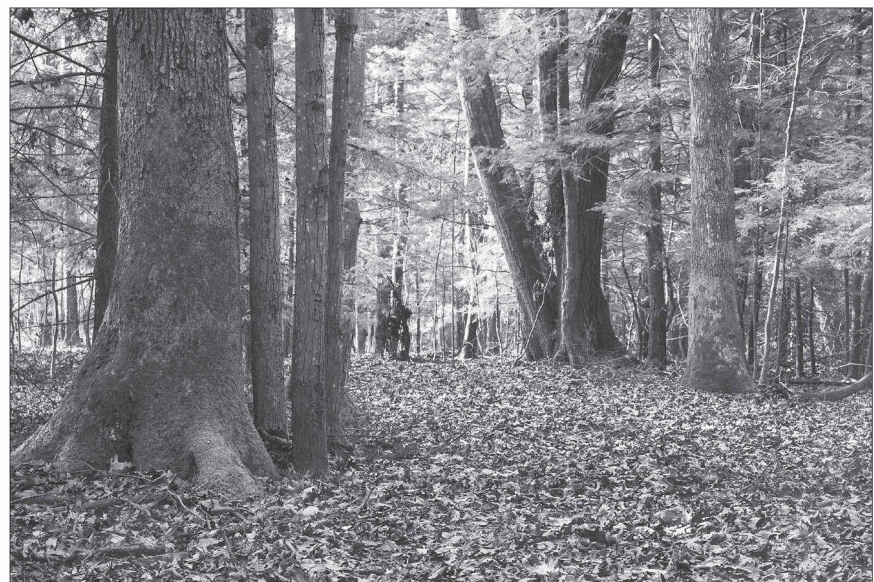
Once trees are marked to be logged, the forest manager will take bids from logging companies to enter into contract with the college. Special considerations will be taken to ensure that the college is hiring a company that will preserve the forest’s natural ecology. The company that will win the bid will be the company that best balances monetary investment with environmental provisions.

The panel is approaching this process with caution, however. There have been many instances, both locally and nationally, of logging practices being poorly handled. Oftentimes, the harvesting process can damage roadways, habitats, and soils. Smith, said that he will not permit a logging company to treat the land that way, “We don’t see any benefit to clear cutting our forests to make some temporary money. That’s not our goal.”

Properly executed, the panel would set up a sustained process for small-scale timber production in the forest. At 15-year intervals, the forest will be reexamined much as it is today. At such time, logging practices will be enacted only where it is both ecologically and economically sensible. The panel sees a long-term investment as far more beneficial than a short-term payoff.

In Webb’s words, “While this process was initiated by a desire to create income through logging, I believe we can do so in a manner that maintains the beauty, as well as the ecological health of the Houghton woods. My goal is to ensure that we demonstrate responsible stewardship by caring for the forest that God has blessed us with.” ★

said Plate about his vision of the Artist Series concerts in my interview with him, “They are to inspire us to think larger than we are.” While classical concerts will still be the primary focus as they have been in the past the broader goal is to bring in world-class performers in any genre not easily accessible in Allegany county. “Artists come in all different shapes and sizes... I hope to bring in some excellent jazz performers among other less represented events.” The repertoire of the Rastrelli Cello Quartet is ideal to this goal of a broader defi-



Houghton woods

LUKE LAUER

QUARTET *from page 1*

nition of “artist.” Their program on Friday contained opera excerpts, arrangements of folk music of various kinds, and modern and jazz music, all the arrangements exquisitely done by the quartet’s own Sergio Drabkin. “It’s not about ‘classical’ vs. ‘jazz’ vs. ‘popular,’” said Kraftzoff. “What are these anyway? Just names. 150 years ago it wasn’t ‘classical’ music, it was just... music. For me it is simply good music versus bad music whether ‘jazz,’ ‘classical,’ or ‘popular.’”

The next Artist Series event is pianist Ning An, who will perform January 24th. ★

Visiting Artist: Tatiana Ginsberg, Master Papermaker

RACHEL WRIGHT

This Friday, November 13th, Houghton College will host an exhibition by Tatiana Ginsberg, a master artist in papermaking, printmaking, installation media, and drawing. This exhibition was brought to Houghton because of Ginsberg’s expertise and talent. She was a Fulbright scholar to Japan, where she studied various techniques and styles which influence her work. She also studied with Tim Barrett, an internationally-acclaimed papermaker and paper historian, at the University of Iowa, who won a Macarthur ‘Genius’ grant for his work. Ginsberg has also taught many workshops on papermaking, the use of natural dyes, and Japanese-style paper.

The exhibit, I Fear We Must Go, features a combination of drawings and text which reflect upon the story of Robert Wilson and his crews’ Antarctic expedition of 1911-1912. It was during this excursion that the first British explorers reached the South Pole. However, as the group separated more and more throughout their journey, only five of their members were able to arrive at the South Pole. Upon reaching their destination, they found a Norwegian flag planted at the site, which took away much of the glory of completing this goal. None of these five men survived the journey back, and their bodies were found the next year along with Robert Wilson’s collection of letters and journal entries detailing the events of their expedition.

Hung about the room are several huge pieces of handmade paper with detailed, coloured pencil drawings



Tatiana Ginsberg at work.

upon them. These abaca sheets are immense, and required hours of work; additionally Ginsberg required the assistance of another person to complete the process. Ginsberg said of her work, “I think through materials, and making my own paper is the most important of these.” This brings the creation of the piece to the very beginning of the composition, when the paper upon which her forms are composed was made.

The drawings are affixed simply to the walls with magnets, to give the paper room to expand and contract as it will, without tearing or being compromised. The quality and texture of the paper is simple and organic, with subtle irregular curves throughout each. This gives the pieces an intimate, anthropomorphic quality, as they represent the men who died in the ice of Antarctica.

The drawings are of the “shadows of leaves,” leaves which have been eaten by insects and rotted away and

have lace-like, well-worn forms. The many layers of colour carefully used

in each one creates a watery, fluid effect, which changes the colours drastically as the viewer steps closer to the piece. Each leaf was chosen carefully, with the intent of reflecting the person it represents accurately – ginkgo, sycamore, and so on.

Ginsberg has also arranged several phrases, sentences and paragraphs from Robert Wilson’s letters around the room to bring some context to the drawings. On one wall, the majority of a letter from March 16, 1912 is placed along with the latitude at which it was written: 79.5 degrees. These texts are extraordinarily moving, and bring the viewer to consider the full consequence of such an experience.

Ginsberg said that “even if you don’t know what inspired” [her], she hopes that this exhibition will be influential regardless, that “people may find it a contemplative space.” By placing text on the floor of the Ortlip Gallery, a makeshift path is created throughout the pieces, guiding the viewers in their own excursion within the exhibition. The usage of soft lighting encourages visitors to come close to the drawings and examine their every detail. Through the simplicity of her composition, Ginsberg has created an opportunity for profound consideration of her work. ★



Ginsberg’s work displayed at the Ortlip Gallery

Differing Perspectives on the Military Spark Discussions of Conviction and Support

ABBY ERLANSON

Bowing his head over the chapel pulpit on Monday, November 11, Michael Jordan gave thanks for the sacrifices of those in the military, confessed the mistakes of this and every country, and asked earnestly for peace. His prayer observed Veteran’s Day and the Canadian Remembrance Day. Also, whether intentionally or not, it honored those at Houghton involved in the military while showing respect for those here with pacifist convictions. This is a necessity for a college that strives to offer support to individuals with ties to the military but also to recognize those who have other perspectives on Christian involvement in the military.

“The Christian tradition as a whole has within it two long standing traditions regarding the use of violence and the military—pacifism and just war theory,” explained Shirley Mullen, president of the college. “As a Christian college, I believe

we have a responsibility to familiarize students with both of those traditions.”

One way the college does this, while providing for the needs of students in or aspiring to join the military, is through the Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC) program. The ROTC program on campus began in the late 70s, following years in which Houghton students participated in ROTC through St. Bonaventure University.

“The benefits [of ROTC] are too great in number to achieve an accurate count,” said Alyssa Kiser, a senior cadet in the Houghton ROTC program. Formerly part of a high school JROTC unit, Kiser said “[JROTC] taught me to be honest, be courageous, and how to be proud of not only my achievements, but the achievement of the team working together to reach a goal.” Kiser said the benefits of her college ROTC involvement include “a four-year scholarship awarded right out of high school (for contracted cadets), a monthly stipend (for contracted cadets),

relationships with people from all over the United States and abroad, a guaranteed job after graduation, and skills that will last a lifetime.”

Others at Houghton do not share this enthusiasm about ROTC. “There have been some in our community and some in our alumni constituency who believe that we should not have ROTC on campus,” Mullen commented. “My own position on this is the following: If we were a college of one of the Peace Denominations, then we would not have ROTC...But the Wesleyan Methodist denomination has historically had within itself both pacifist and just war advocates. So our denomination does not dictate our position on this issue...In supporting ROTC, I have always encouraged our ROTC group to be proactive in creating a forum where these issues can be discussed. So that the presence of ROTC is, itself, an educational opportunity for students at a Christian

See ROTC on page 5

| DAILY CALENDAR | |
|--|---|
| 15 / FRIDAY | |
| Art Reception: Tatiana Ginsberg | 7 PM Ortlip Art Gallery |
| 16 / SATURDAY | |
| Athletics | |
| 1 PM WS NCAA East Region Playoffs | |
| 2 PM WBB @ Buffalo State College | |
| Symphonic Winds Concert | 7:30 PM Wesley Chapel |
| 18 / MONDAY | |
| Woolsey Lecture Series in Culture & Theology | 7:30 PM "When Image is Everything: The Vice of Vainglory" |
| | CFA Recital Hall |
| 19 / TUESDAY | |
| Athletics | |
| 6 PM WBB vs. RIT | |
| Science and Math Colloquium | 11:45AM |
| 20 / WEDNESDAY | |
| Student Recital: Mary Robinson, oboe | 8 PM |
| Athletics | |
| 7 PM MBB vs. Hillbert College | |
| 21 / THURSDAY | |
| Athletics | |
| 7 PM WBB @ Roberts Wesleyan | |

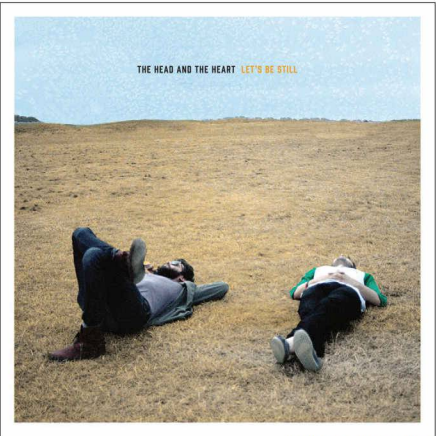
Album Review: The Head and the Heart, “Let’s Be Still”

ANTHONY BURDO

Within all creative fields there often develops a certain amount of tension between an artist’s existing work and any new direction their muse leads them in. I consider it an accomplishment of high order then, when that tension between continuity with the past, and artistic growth, are skillfully and harmoniously reconciled.

Let’s Be Still, the sophomore record recently released by indie folk-rock group The Head and the Heart, is a wonderful example of just such balance. This album retains all the best elements from the band’s previous, eponymous release, including among other things foot-stomping drums, driving, percussive piano, and soft, clear vocal harmonies. But by no means has The Head and the Heart grown artistically static. Their latest album features a range of styles that exemplify the wealth of musicianship possessed of each of the six band members.

The interlude “Springtime,” provides an elegant framework for Charity Thielen’s haunting vocals, echoing the lofty sound of Fleet Foxes, and her gorgeous violin weaves brilliantly and seamlessly throughout the album. Even bassist Chris Zasche is given some little time to shine through the playful bass line of “Shake.” Despite having great musicianship, the members of The Head and the Heart keep things very simple. There are no mind-blowing solos, or amazing feats of technical prowess. Rather, subtlety



“Let’s Be Still” album WWW.GOOGLE.COM

is the style of The Head and the Heart, who are content to add layer upon careful layer of rhythm and harmony so that each song is very much a unified whole.

The Head and the Heart’s story resonates with many aspiring musicians who have struggled with choosing between a dream and realistic future. Formed in 2011 in Seattle, although the band members hail from all over the country, The Head and the Heart rose to success because the six musicians decided to pursue their passion for music. No one could describe this journey better than front man Josiah Johnson: “It’s terrifying and it’s never perfect, but it’s some kind of beauty just realizing that you might screw up, but you’re going with it anyway.”

And go with it they have; *Let’s Be Still* has a bigger sound than the band’s last album, doubtless the consequence of extensive touring with groups the

likes of Dr. Dog, Vampire Weekend, and My Morning Jacket. Fortunately success has not made this album any less intimate or relatable than it’s predecessor.

Lyricaly, the album comes across as honest and a little wistful, just take these lines from the title-track “Let’s Be Still:” “The world’s just spinning/ A little too fast/ If things don’t slow down soon we might not last.” The need to take time out of life and, well, “be still,” is a theme throughout the album, and cannot be missed as it is reiterated from song to song. Other lines come across feeling less poetic, though losing none of their raw honesty, as in “Fire/Fear:” when the singer left standing alone with his mistakes, laments: “You look at me, as cold as a stone/ There’s no way to write what’s been done wrong/ You left me a fool.” Followed up by some mournful fal-

setto, the result is a flood of melancholy washing over the listener. In “Fire/Fear” and “Cruel” are both rife with the band’s country-rock influence, expressed in the yearning refrains of the almost-ballads. Weeping slide-guitar and husky violin tones texture “Cruel,” balancing the more up-beat tracks like “Shake” and “My Friends.”

Though The Head and the Heart have risen to moderate success (by any definition) they have not been swept away, and far from it, the *Let’s Be Still* is a sure sign the band has their feet are firmly planted on the ground. *Let’s Be Still* is contemplative and reflective. Fittingly enough, listening to it is a great way to step back from the speed of everyday life, relax, and, well-- you know. ★



The Head and The Heart

WWW.HEADHEARTROLLINGSTONE.COM

Catholic Students at Houghton

JORY KAUFFMAN

Though Houghton College professes Christian Wesleyan religious affiliation, many students enrolled at the school inevitably differ in denomination, tradition, or religion in general. Such differences serve to produce a conversation between contrasting beliefs and a resulting respect for others regardless of his or her religious tradition.

One such presence, differing from the Wesleyan denomination, is students affiliated with Roman Catholicism. Approximately 30 students currently enrolled at Houghton College this fall identified themselves as part of the Catholic religious tradition.

Kayleigh Gurney, Houghton freshman and Catholic, explained some of her experience as a Catholic student in a Protestant institution. Sometimes people will “talk about Roman Catholics as some completely outrageous religion,” she said, but for the most part people at Houghton prove understanding and accepting.

College often serves a time for exploration in a student’s beliefs or practices, an idea that may contribute to the accepting nature of the campus. Andrew Gibson, senior, though raised Catholic, takes the opportunity to attend a Protestant church while at Houghton. “Most of the backgrounds and views are the same,” he said, “so it’s a fairly easy transition to be Catholic at a Protestant school.”

Though students like Gibson participate in a different religious tradition, others continue to pursue the tradition they know. A family from Buffalo recognized the need for a ministry to provide a link



St. Patrick’s in Fillmore

between Catholic students at the college and a Catholic church. Consequentially, the family requested that Saint Patrick’s Catholic Parish in Fillmore initiate such a ministry.

Officially beginning in 2007 and initially aimed at engaging students affiliated with the Catholic tradition, the ministry surprisingly brought in equal numbers of Catholic and non-Catholic Houghton students from the start. The result, according to the ministry’s website, was a “dynamic, organic, and personal Campus Ministry,” in which Catholic students desiring a connection with a parish community and non-Catholic students interested in exploring the Catholic tradition might come together with a “mutual respect for each other” and their differing religious traditions.

Debra Fitzgerald, current campus minister to Catholic students at Houghton College along with her husband, Dan, first encountered the ministry through her children attending Houghton. When the previous campus minister left the position, Fitzgerald had been actively involved and the former minister subsequently recommended her to take over.

Through her experience in the minis-

try, Fitzgerald emphasized the importance of the church’s availability to college students interested or involved in the Catholic tradition. “We try to incorporate the students into the life of the parish,” she said, “so that they feel like they have a church home while they’re away at school.”

While the main focus of the ministry lies in providing transportation between Houghton and the Fillmore Parish every Sunday for Mass, on Holy Days, and on Saturdays for Confession, the ministry also provides access to other related events.

Consistently focusing first on the needs of the students, Fitzgerald proves attentive to their busy schedules and academic concerns. “We’re fulfilling the needs that the students have without piling things onto them,” she said.

As a result of such a focus, events such as Donut Hour on Sundays after Mass, a time when students eat donuts and drink coffee provided by the church while socializing with each other as well as local parish members, often promote a low-obligation atmosphere, while intentionally building relationships between the church and the students.

Fitzgerald encourages both Catholic and non-Catholic students to take advantage of the ministry, to produce even more conversations and relationships between different religious traditions. She believes there is more opportunity and understanding now than before, especially between Catholics and Protestants.

“Houghton has a very good atmosphere in terms of social morality and seriousness of study as well as respect for the whole of Christian tradition,” said Fitzgerald. ★

ROTC from Page 4

liberal arts college.”

Connie Finney, professor of education, is among those who question the role of ROTC at a liberal arts college. Finney described herself as “not personally against the military, but... against some of the ways it functions.” While making it clear that she respects and cares about the individuals involved in the ROTC program, Finney commented “The ROTC program being housed at a Christian liberal arts college is a bit puzzling to me in the sense that my understanding of the military is that you are not encouraged to be an independent thinker – you are encouraged to follow orders. It would be difficult to have a well-functioning military otherwise. This does not, in my mind, seem consistent with liberal arts thinking.”

Whatever their views on Christians in the military, Houghton students, faculty and staff are generally supportive of individual members of the college community who are involved with the military. The support takes various forms. It may be prayers in chapel and elsewhere. It may be, as Kiser described, “excusal from classes in understanding of training events for the military, attendance at military functions, silence when performing in color guards (the parading of the National flag), and not disgracing the personnel in uniform.” It may be the respect which John Van Wicklin, faculty advisor for ROTC, said “starts from the President of the College and works its way down.” It may be former ROTC advisor Robert Danner’s challenge to Houghton cadets: “that they be good leaders in the Army, and good witnesses for Christ...” ★

Residence Hall Rules are an Insult to Integrity



GLENN HAMPSON

Houghton College prides itself on being different from other schools. What makes Houghton unique is the school’s concentrated effort to help guide students into leading a holier way of life. A result of that effort is reflected in the college’s rules regarding the dormitories. Residence halls are not co-ed, and there is a four-hour window in the evening for those of the opposite gender to visit. During those visiting hours, doors are required to stay open, so that everybody can see what is going on inside the room. Open hours are not held on Mondays or Thursdays. Now, there is one other place in the world that I have been to that has a similar policy regarding visitors. Granted, this is going to be an extreme analogy, but hear me out.

A psych ward. To clarify for those who are reading this (and are now pretty worried about where this is going), I have never been admitted to one. I have visited one however, and have experienced what it’s like for the people inside. Imagine a place where you are checked in on by nurses, the doors always have to be open so that you can be watched, and visiting hours are limited for friends and family who want to see you. Now replace nurses with RA’s. How much different are the rules of the dormitories here at Houghton as compared to those of a psyche ward in a hospital? “I understand what open hours are meant to do,” said Josh Bailey, a junior who now lives in the townhouses. “However, I also feel that they limit our freedom as mature college students, and restrict the opportunities that we have to grow up.” What are the positives of the current open hour policy? It gives the residents of a hall a break from the opposite sex. There’s a level of privacy that can be experienced when open hours are not in session. I suppose the obvious answer

is that we’re less likely to have sex, although based on the culture that has been established here, I don’t think that’s too much of a concern anyway. Then again, isn’t it a little frustrating to be babysat? Isn’t the open door requirement kind of a slap in the face of our beliefs and character? Isn’t the four-hour window a little too restricting? Houghton College prides itself on being different from other colleges. A different kind of student is attracted by this place; those who wish to live according to the values of Christianity. Shouldn’t we be given the opportunity to show that we can be trusted to hang out in a dorm at noon on a Monday? Ashton Oakley, a junior who used to live in Lambein, suggests that open hours should be extended so

that the only restricted times would be somewhere along the lines of 12:00pm-9am. This would allow us to still have a safeguard for the evening hours, but also allows us a greater level of freedom that people outside of Houghton take for granted. In reality, since our classes take up most of the morning and the afternoon anyway, we wouldn’t take full advantage of the expanded open hours. However, it would be nice to allow students to feel as though they have more freedom than a mental patient. ★ Glenn is a junior communications major

Imagine a place where you are checked in on by nurses, the doors always have to be open so that you can be watched.

October Break Should Be Extended



DAVID SMITH

My home is in eastern Virginia, roughly a ten-hour drive from Houghton. Each year, I must decide whether or not to make the exhausting trip down for October break, caught between the desire to be home with family and the realization that even if I leave Wednesday and return the following Sunday afternoon, I will have only three days in Virginia and a hefty gas bill. While staying on campus isn’t an utterly deplorable idea, the fact is, a vast majority of students are able to and do go home during this break, leaving Houghton a ghost town, as some students have called it. According to enrollment statistics for the 2012/2013 academic year, 400 students attending Houghton came from out-of-state. Roughly 303 of those students lived in the Northeast as well as nearby states such as West Virginia, Virginia, and

Ohio, places which would require a drive of around ten hours at the higher end, although this is not true in all cases. This 29.2% of the student body would have the option to go home for a decent break without feeling guilty for doing so if the school year began a bit earlier. Say we started classes just three days earlier in the school year, which would have been August 28 this year. If this were done, October break could easily be extended to a full week and the number of classes wouldn’t be any fewer; three days for three days. In this situation, I believe a large number of students who live the awkward distance of about four to ten or so hours away from the college would readily head home and be justified in doing so. Currently, I do go home for the three days I’m allotted and stop at a gas station at least once each way to fill up, straining my already minimal income; however, if I were to go home for a week, I would hardly think twice about the cost since the eight or nine days at home (which includes the weekend) would more than make up for it. Likewise, I think there are more than a few who would agree with me. Other schools have recognized a similar need from their students. Within the past few years, Yale College has realized the need for an October break

in general, saying on its website, “It has long been a concern at Yale that, particularly for freshmen, the unbroken period of 11 or 12 weeks of classes between the start of the fall semester and the Thanksgiving recess can be challenging.” Thus, a five-day break from Wednesday to Sunday was introduced in 2011. While Houghton already does have an October break established, I believe the logic does apply to extending ours to a full week. When out-of-state students have to travel long distances to get home or when they must stay on campus and face potential boredom, the four days can seem like not much of a break at all. Some have questioned this type of proposal, referencing athletic pre-seasons, summer jobs, and study-abroad programs which may run into mid-August as potential deterrents to starting back earlier. However, I believe if enough students are willing to begin the year a few days or even a week earlier despite possible complications, the administration may be will-

ing to listen. The Calendar Committee is the body that decides the dates and lengths for breaks. If you want to influence this policy, you could start by contacting your student Academic Council representatives, Miriam Harms and Jonathan Hardy, asking them to share your views with this committee. When asked if she would go home for October break if it were a full week, Katrina Sawyer, a senior from Bronx, New York, which is a six-hour drive away, said, “Is that even a question? Of course!” ★ Daivd is a senior writing major

When out-of-state students have to travel long distances to get home ... the four days can seem like not much of a break at all.

The fact is, a vast majority of students are able to and do go home during this break, leaving Houghton a ghost town, as some students have called it.

FEATURED EDITORIAL/

SPOT Falls Short of Houghton Standards



LUKE LAUER

STEPHANIE FORD

Crowds filled the Houghton chapel on Homecoming Saturday night for the SPOT talent show. Students stood in line for hours, waiting until the doors opened and the rushing mob could inundate the room and fill every cushioned seat. Excitement and anticipation were tangible as students waited for the lights to dim and the show to begin. Towards the end of the night, two tall, plaid-shirted guys climbed on stage with their guitars and microphones. The lights shone on them and the crowd sat in hushed shadow. Strum. Strum. Strum. The guitar echoed in the dark room. “Yeah, yeah, when I walk on by, girls be looking like d*mn he fly.” The words continued to wash over the au-

dience as they sang, “I’ve got passion in my pants, and I ain’t afraid to show it. I’m sexy and I know it.” They swayed. They grinned. They sang, “Check it out,” taunting, inviting the girls to stare as they rocked their hips back and forth, singing, “Wiggle, wiggle, wiggle.” The audience joined the chant, and my heart ached. My friend’s parents and eleven year old brother sat next to her. I sat in one of the chapel’s back rows, and I watched over twenty alumni get up and leave after that song, looks of horror and disgust on their faces. And it wasn’t just that song. It was the pictures of Miley Cyrus half naked, the rap about breaking all the rules, and the closing “Yeah” Usher song. And sexually showing off our bodies didn’t just begin this fall 2013 SPOT.

As I sat in the darkness and the audience clapped, I couldn’t help but wonder, How did this become okay at Houghton? Yes, we’re Houghton students, and we all know it’s a bubble. There’s a real world out there where songs and acts like this seem harmless. And yes, SPOT is a fun night, a night of student voice and freedom, and yes that is important. Yet when did so blatantly glorifying

sin become so okay? We all knew what we were getting into when we packed our bags and took out loans to come here. Most of us chose Houghton because God and the Bible meant something to us. We wanted to grow, be different. And the Bible has a whole lot to say about sex, sin, righteousness, and what we’re filling our minds with. During “Sexy and I Know It,” I longed to see people storming the stage and pulling the guys off, just as Jesus overturned tables in the temple. As I left the chapel I felt an ache

to tell the students I passed, “God is calling you to a higher standard! He’s calling you to be men and women of justice and righteousness, people after His own heart, men and women of courage who will stand up for the truth! What you saw tonight was not that! God is calling you!” Houghton junior Olivia Neveu says, “Christians are called to be holy and set apart. This is obvious all over Scripture.

SPOT can and should be fun, but it simultaneously can and should be honoring to God.” 1 Peter 2:9 calls us to this holiness: “But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.” It’s an invitation to love God. As Alicia Ucciferri says, “Having fun and loving Jesus are not mutually exclusive.” SPOT comes around every year with kids, parents, and college-donor alumni attending. Perhaps the document outlining SPOT moral guidelines could start being followed. Perhaps there could be more moral voice in the audition reviewing board. Perhaps students could create acts that are fun, but also pure. And, perhaps, Houghton as a whole could begin to care. We could begin to care more about purity, about following God, and, as Dr. Jordan’s been sharing, about worship. SPOT is just the tip of the iceberg. This is not a call to kill fun or student voice. It’s a call to holiness.★ *Stephanie is a junior inclusive childhood education major*

We all knew what we were getting into when we packed our bags and took out loans to come here.

I watched over twenty alumni get up and leave after that song, looks of horror and disgust on their faces.



The mission of the Houghton Star is to preserve and promote the values of dialogue, transparency and integrity that have characterized Houghton College since its inception. This will be done by serving as a medium for the expression of student thought and as a quality publication of significant campus news, Houghton area news, and events.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I loved the article by Lydia Wilson, “Is Christianity a Religion of Moderation or Extremes?” Great work! But, I need to make just one minor correction: She, unfortunately, got the story about Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber wrong. I am a Lutheran vicar in Upstate NY and a Houghton alum and have spent time talking with Nadia about her life and I have read her memoir, of which the article Lydia read is referring. She left out the end of the story, which is the most powerful part. Pastor Nadia admits that she was WRONG to feel that way about “normal” people. She admits that the “normal” people “fu*king up her weird” was EXACTLY what she ended up needing, whether she wanted it or not. Jesus gave her gentle correction in opening her eyes to the fact that He, Jesus, would not exclude anybody, even normal people who fu*k up our weird. I think it’s VERY important not to misrepresent her or her story, because that happens a great deal to public pastors and theologians. Leaving out the end of her story does damage to her entire story and it does violence to her congregation’s reputation as servants of the Gospel. Ms. Wilson wrote a wonderful article, but unfortunately, she was not thorough and could end up hurting someone because of that. Please think it over and maybe make sure the Houghton community is aware that she left out the most important part of Nadia’s story. You can read the full story in Nadia’s book, “Pastrix.” It’s the chapter called “The Wrong Kind of Different.” Really a wonderful read! Thank you for taking the time to read this!

Vicar Josiah Armstrong ‘10

SPEAK OUT

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less

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STAR

2013-2014

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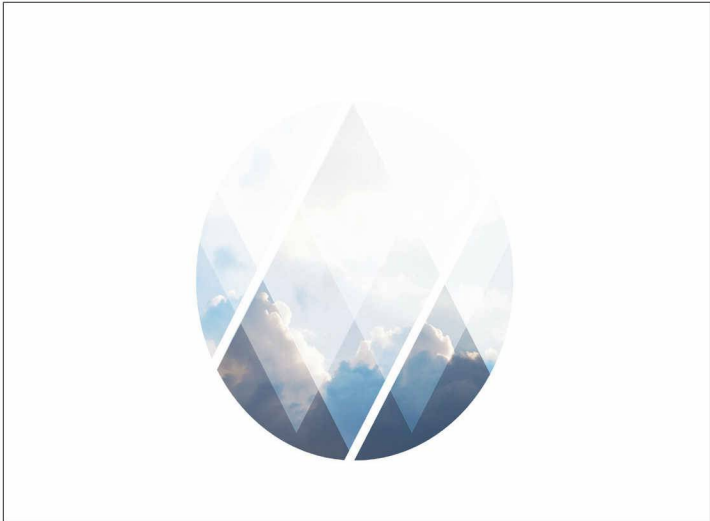
My work is inspired and influenced by where I come from, where I’ve been, and where I am going.

We live within time and my recent work is an investigation of how it changes me and affects me; of how the past is constantly impacting the present and the future; of how relationships within this time seem to fade in and out.

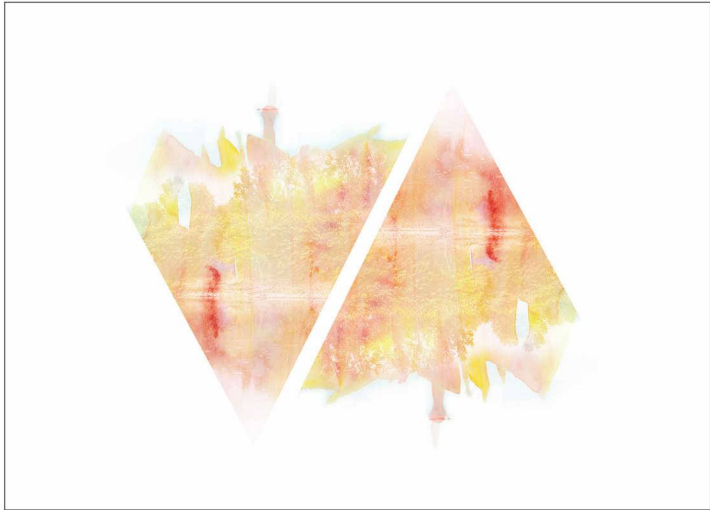
I’m using a camera in an attempt to figure out time by capturing it.

Nicole is a senior art major

ARTIST OF THE WEEK



We Are the Same, photography & design



Where Are You Going photography & design



Stay Here, photography



It's Not That Far, photography



Self Portrait, photography

CROSSWORD: THANKSGIVING

ACROSS

- 1. TRIGONOMETRY RATIO
- 6. *IT OFFERS THREE GAMES ON THANKSGIVING
- 9. BEAUTY SALON SOUND
- 13. THROAT DANGLER
- 14. CHAPTER IN HISTORY
- 15. CONNECT BY DIALING
- 16. AN EPISODE OF “THE BRADY BUNCH,” E.G.
- 17. BOOZEHOUND
- 18. STY SOUNDS
- 19. EDIT FOR PUBLICATION
- 21. *THANKSGIVING CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION
- 23. TOKYO, FORMERLY
- 24. DONE TO A HEART?
- 25. LOQUACIOUS PERSON’S GIFT
- 28. MEDICINAL HOUSE PLANT
- 30. BE OWNED BY
- 35. *YOU DON’T WANT TURKEY COOKED THIS WAY
- 37. *RUNNING ALL DAY?
- 39. MEKONG OR ZAIRE
- 40. JACK-IN-THE-PULPIT, E.G.
- 41. RELATING TO BIRTH
- 43. ____ SCOTIA
- 44. SHAPED LIKE A CONE
- 46. STRETCHED RIDE
- 47. CAPITAL OF UKRAINE
- 48. CATCH IN A SNARE
- 50. VEGAS GLOW
- 52. BRUT, AS IN CHAMPAGNE
- 53. TYPE OF CARPET
- 55. WICKED WITCH OF THE WEST TO DOROTHY
- 57. *THANKSGIVING DESSERT INGREDIENT
- 61. *PRESIDENTIAL ACT

Last week’s winner was: **LIANNA BLOEMBERG!** We are offering a \$5 giftcard for the Allegany Harvest Co-op this week. Place completed crosswords in the folder outside the Star office.

- 64. QUICK
- 65. TOOTHPASTE TYPE
- 67. “M*A*S*H” EXTRA
- 69. TRACTION AID
- 70. SWEDISH SHAG RUG
- 71. ____ ACID
- 72. WINDSHIELD OPTION
- 73. ASIAN CAPITAL
- 74. BOWLING ALLEYS

DOWN

- 1. MUTT
- 2. HAM RADIO ENDING
- 3. “ABSOLUTELY!”
- 4. CIRCUMVENT
- 5. *ONE OF TWO COUNTRIES CELEBRATING THANKSGIVING
- 6. *IT FILLS ONCE AGAIN ON TURKEY DAY
- 7. “TO” FOLLOWER
- 8. WOOD TURNING DEVICE
- 9. GANGSTER’S BLADE
- 10. “ALL OR ____”
- 11. SIGNS
- 12. EXTERMINATOR’S TARGET
- 15. HOTEL EMPLOYEE
- 20. PART OF GASTRO-INTESTINAL SYSTEM
- 22. PRIESTLY GARB
- 24. GET-TOGETHER

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- 25. *FOLLOWED WITH “AMEN”
- 26. PACKERS’ QUARTERBACK
- 27. FORCE OF THE BLOW
- 29. WEST WING’S OFFICE
- 31. CLICKABLE TEXT
- 32. SHAPED LIKE AN EGG
- 33. “NEVER SAY ____”
- 34. *MEAL TOPPER
- 36. ARAB RULER
- 38. CHRISTENING ACQUISITION
- 42. WASHING SPONGE
- 45. LAST RESTING SPOT
- 49. SIGMA ____ EPSILON
- 51. EVERYDAY
- 54. TICKED OFF

- 56. SWELLING
- 57. END TO HOSTILITIES
- 58. WRINKLY FRUIT
- 59. DEMEANOR
- 60. SURVEYOR’S MAP
- 61. BLUEPRINT
- 62. THOR’S FATHER
- 63. TYPICAL START OF WORK-DAY
- 66. PART OF THE BEHOLDER
- 68. AS OPPOSED TO “SIN” IN TRIGONOMETRY