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2023 HOMECOMING EVENTS

JULIANA SCHMIDT ('25)

Homecoming takes place from Oct. 5 to Oct. 8 and is four days of community bonding, dancing, concerts and alumni returning to their alma mater.

Every year, the Houghton community gathers together and celebrates with one another. Alumni look forward to homecoming because it is a chance for reunions and a weekend of different activities. For Houghton students, homecoming week allows the students to participate in Purple and Gold events, which are organized by the Campus Activities Board (CAB). Purple and Gold Week is a friendly competition between the students that involves gathering points by attending various events throughout the week and tallying the points up at the end to see which team wins. The students are divided into their respective teams by last names, effectively pitting friends against friends for



Photo of previous homecoming dance

COURTESY OF RYLEE ARCHAMBAULT

the week.

"I'm excited for P&G week this year, CAB has done a great job planning events throughout the week. It's a fun tradition that adds some excitement to an otherwise busy time of year and reminds us to celebrate being at Houghton in little ways like being 'purple' or 'gold.' We hope to see lots of students come out!" writes Jana New-

berry, the Director of Student Engagement.

CAB planned, among many different events, the 80's Funkspllosion homecoming dance on Oct. 6, and SPOT: The 80s on Oct. 7. SPOT takes place in the chapel at 10 p.m. and is a time for the student body to let loose and have a few laughs while enjoying a variety of different comedy acts

put on by their fellow peers.

Junior Emma Ryan mentions that she has always liked homecoming, and it is one of her favorite parts of the semester.

"I look forward to homecoming every year," Ryan comments. "Because it is a good chance to reconnect with my Gold group members every year and to take a break from homework."

In addition, there are other events taking place on homecoming weekend, including the Collage Concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Wesley Chapel on Oct. 6, and the Equestrian Open House on Oct. 7 at 9:30 a.m. at the equestrian center.

Homecoming at Houghton is open for all ages, with a parade that kids can ride their bikes in, and even a professional juggling and variety show at the Homecoming Parade & Festival on Saturday, Oct. 7.

Senior Hannah Seow states that homecoming has always been very special to her and is excited for this year's activities.

"Homecoming," Seow says, "will always have a special place in my heart because that is where I met most of my friends. It is such an important community-building event that showcases the spirit of Houghton." ★

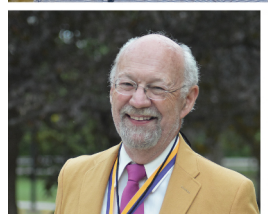
Award Winners of Legacy Chapel

ABIGAIL BATES ('26)

Six alumni awards and one Faculty Emeritus title were presented at the 2023 Legacy Chapel on Friday, Oct. 6.

The Legacy Chapel, formerly known as Founder's Day, has the earliest record of an alumnus of the year named in 1965. However, old STAR articles suggest that Houghton has been making awards prior to that time.

The Director of Donor Communications and Editor of the Houghton Magazine, Amanda Zambrano writes, "While the



From top left: Tim Deckert, Tim Fuller, The Bruno Family
From bottom left: Dr. Carl Lynch, Jeffrey Thompson, The Peck Family

COURTESY OF AMY TETTA

name and some of the periphery traditions have changed [over] the years, the heart to celebrate the work of faithful scholarservants has been constant for a very long time."

Nominations for an alumni award can be made by anyone through the Office of Alumni Engagement, the Office of Advancement or the President's Office. Zambrano

writes that these nominees are reviewed before the Alumni Board makes the final decision.

The Alumni of the Year is one of the highest awards Houghton presents, and the recipient of this award is Dr. Carl Lynch, III ('72). He is a highly respected anesthesiologist and professor emeritus of anesthesiology at University of Virginia Health

System. For approximately 20 years, Dr. Lynch has been a volunteer with a medical missions organization called Mision de Esperanza, and he is the creator and primary funder of the endowment for the Shannon Summer Research Institute at Houghton University.

2013 Graduates Rachel (Meier) and Justin Peck received the Young

Alumni of the Year award. The couple are the founders of 431 Ministries, which reaches out to marginalized women in Central Tennessee. They have impacted the lives of hundreds of at-risk women and their children, Zambrano emphasizes, by providing safety, educational opportunities and the Gospel.

An Alumni Christian Service nominee is someone who has made a significant impact for the Christian faith through self-sacrifice and service. Dr. Jeffrey Thompson ('01) is an emergency room doctor in Buffalo, New York, who has also served traveling around the world, primarily to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to instruct local emergency room doctors. He's also a member of the President's Advisory Board at Houghton University.

The recipient of the Alumni Distinguished

See **AWARDS** page #2

Freshman Diversity on Campus

REBECCA DAILEY ('25)

The 2023-2024 school year brings in 272 Freshmen, the largest freshman class since 2016.

Thereasa Villnave ('27) says, "It's been really good because teachers seem to really care, are willing to make appointments and understand you as a person."

Villnave hopes to play a sport and is looking forward to the unique options for classes.

Freshman class representative Grace Hall ('27) says, "I hope to get involved and engage with people. Everyone is so nice and the campus is beautiful."

Grace Hall partakes in Monday morning bible studies and student council.

Hall is "Super excited and grateful for the opportunity to be voted class rep for the freshman class. I am excited to serve my class and hope to make an impact for Christ on our campus. I am thankful that there are many opportunities to engage in worship on campus. Koin has been great. I love worshiping with other believers. I am so grateful for the beauty of Houghton. This campus is gorgeous

and we are so blessed to live here. God has been good and faithful. I am expectant that He will do great things with my class!"

Her brother, Carter Hall ('27), is "Excited to see what the future holds and create stronger relationships."

Carter Hall has been given the opportunity to help with Koinonia, and has been invited to join other studies which look at the scriptures as well as encouraging singing and worshipping.

"College/University is the time where we must, if we have not already," Carter Hall states, "make our faith our own. If you look, those opportunities are all around. This can include Bible studies, student led ministries and fellowship on and off campus."

Jackson Collins ('27) stated, "The way we perceive things and the different [C]hristian perspectives is important. I didn't expect to be so busy, there is definitely a balancing act between friends, family and spiritual life."

Collins participates in Koinonia, Mercy Seat and

is on the cross-country team.

Collins says, "God has given me the gifts of music and I am certainly called to the musical ministry of Koin and Mercy Seat. From my observation, there has been a large spiritual awakening and desire to follow God and honor him through music, Bible studies, and a strong community. Koin and Mercy Seat mean a lot to me, since it is a way I can honor God and grow in community."

Samantha Renken ('27) didn't expect "how supportive everyone is and they're so nice even if you don't really know them."

Renken hopes to continue to grow with the people.

Collins "didn't expect how busy he would be or how strong and diverse the Christian community is."

Dean of the Chapel, Michael Jordan sent the 2027 freshman class off with, "Stay curious, freshmen have a wonderful way to look at the world. I hope they keep loving Houghton and growing their faith." ★

AWARDS from page #1

Achievement Award is Timothy Fuller ('79) who has demonstrated exceptional achievement in his profession. He was a long-time Houghton employee who worked in the Office of Admission for over twenty-five years, before he went on to serve as a consultant in Christian higher education until his passing this last summer.

"His contributions both to Houghton and to the field of Christian higher education are truly remarkable; thousands of students found their way to Houghton because of Mr. Fuller," Zambrano writes.

Timothy Deckert ('95) is the recipient of the Alumni Appreciation Award. For a decade, he has served on Houghton's Alumni Advisory Board, where he performed roles ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of the board. Deckert also served on the search committee for a new president at the time of President Emerita

Shirley Mullen's retirement in 2021.

The Fearless Award, introduced in 2022 by President Lewis, is awarded to 2015 graduates, Stephanie (Ford) and David Bruno, who, Zambrano writes, have spent the past two years living out their firm belief in the sanctity of life by refusing the pressure to abort their third child when he was found to have trisomy-13 (Downs Syndrome).

President Lewis also bestowed the title of Faculty Emeritus on Professor Terry Paige, who retired last spring. This title can go to any long-serving faculty member who has retired.

"It's a privilege to be able to share these stories with Houghton students and fellow alumni," Zambrano—who created the citations read aloud during the Legacy Chapel—writes, "and to be able to cast a vision for what God can do in and through each and every one of us." ★

Puzzles

Send your completed puzzles to star@houghton.edu to join our puzzle leaderboard!

Congratulations to **Josey Ikker** for completing last weeks puzzles the fastest and taking the title of the Puzzle Master!

(Answers will be printed in next week's STAR)

Sudoku

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

Difficulty: Medium

Answers from Last Week

Easy

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

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

Difficulty: Fiendish

Sudokus Provided by Sudokuoftheday.com

Fresh in the Fall



GRACE HALL ('27)

Hey guys, my name is Grace Hall! I am excited to be the new freshman class representative! Thank you for voting for me and for giving me this opportunity. I am super excited to serve you guys in this way and I can't wait to see what God has in store for our class. As your representative, I am happy to hear any suggestions you may have to help improve our class and campus. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

A few things about me are that I love nature and creation. I believe we are very fortunate to live where we do. The beautiful sunsets and sunrises and the bright stars at night have always captivated my attention. I am looking forward to the leaves changing. Western

New York is known for its beautiful colors in the Fall. I have lived in Portville, NY, my whole life, which is a little town 15 minutes from Olean. I love where I live and I am so thankful for the beauty of this campus. We truly are blessed to have such a gorgeous school. I am passionate about studying God's Word and worshipping Him in every area of my life. I love music, singing, and playing the piano. I have four amazing brothers who I adore. We live on a farm and have lots of cute cows. I love tacos and iced coffee. I love chasing sunsets and stargazing. I am passionate about making sure others feel valued and seen. I care deeply about people and truly want to help you guys in any way I can.

"Above all, I will strive to bring glory to God in all that I do as the representative for the freshman class because that's what we are called to do!"

want to help them succeed in this life. My plan is to graduate in 2027 with my bachelors degree and hopefully jump right into teaching at a school.

I hope to serve and represent our class with excellence. I am excited to plan events and get everyone involved. Above all, I will strive to bring glory to God in all that I do as the repre-

and really enjoyed leading in that way. I am aiming for organization and structure. I have had my fair share of dealing with conflict and resolution and I am devoted to helping out my classmates and making sure their voice is heard and that they feel seen. I have had some of my classmates already express event ideas that could bring our class together and encourage us to get to know one another, such as Karaoke nights, bible studies, and game nights! A goal of mine is to implement an in depth bible study that encourages others in their faith and where we can dig into the Word together. Transitioning into college is a huge change, and having some type of support group and encouragement can be very beneficial. Some leadership skills that are necessary to attain are honesty, kindness, and consistency. It is also very important to be good at communicating, which I am confident that I can do well.

Being a member of the Student Council comes with a whole group of upper-classmen that I can come to with issues that I or my fellow classmates may have. It is so encouraging to know that I have the support from other class representatives and other members of the Student Council.

What I want to do with

my position is to make the freshman class the best it can be. I want to encourage others to ask for help when they need it and to be fearless in the face of adversity. Life is full of trials and tribulation but as Christians, we have a hope and His name is Jesus. We are called to share His name with others and I believe that being the class rep will allow me to encourage others to be bold in their faith and to keep on fighting the good fight. There are going to be struggles we encounter, but I know that with perseverance and prayer, God will lead us through every late night spent studying for that test and every bit of drama with that classmate you really don't like. I never want to be outside of His will for me. I am praying that He will guide and lead me and I am praying the same for all of you. I am excited to see what God has planned for the freshman class. I am confident that He has good things in store. Plans to prosper us and to help us, plans to give us a hope and a future! He has always been faithful in the past and I am confident that He will be faithful now. What a loving and merciful God we have. ★

"I am super excited to serve you guys in this way and I can't wait to see what God has in store for our class."

Coming to Houghton has been such a God thing. I am confident that the Lord has brought me to Houghton for such a time as this! I am majoring in Inclusive Childhood Education because I love working with kids and

representative for freshman class because that's what we are called to do!

I am passionate about helping people and leading with confidence and integrity. In high school, I was involved in student council

Have an opinion
you want to share?

CONTACT
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SPEAK OUT!

Letters to the editor
should be less than 600 words

SUBMIT TO
star@houghton.edu



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Review

A Voice in the Wind

Julia Collins '26

Hello again, dear readers! This semester, my idea was to read some of the books from the Houghton Library, and review them!

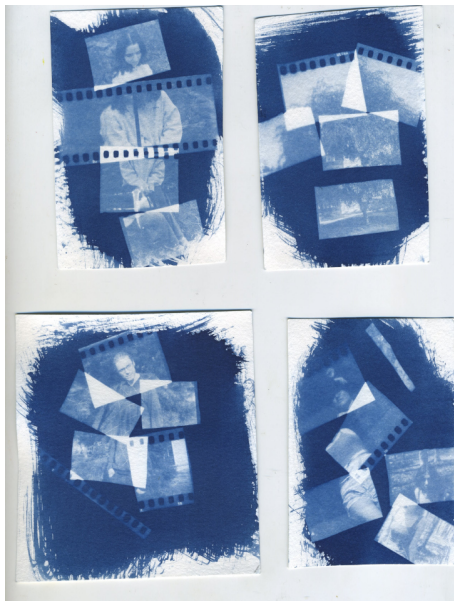
My first book that I'll be reviewing is "A Voice in the Wind" by Francine Rivers. This book is an older one, but it has a good message and a bit of a historical background on the early Christians.

"A Voice in the Wind" is the first of three books set in the decades following Jesus' ministry, death, and resurrection. The story starts in Jerusalem, with a girl named Hadassah. Hadassah's entire family have been killed by the persecution from the Romans, and Hadassah is expected to die as well. Yet, she survives, and is then sent to Rome to be a slave.

In Rome, a slave named Enoch convinces his master, Decimus Valerian, to buy seven Jewish slaves, including Hadassah. Decimus doesn't want to do this, but his wife, Phoebe, has pity for Hadassah,

knowing she will suffer more if they do not take her. So, Decimus and Phoebe decide that Hadassah will be the servant of their teenage daughter, Julia.

Julia quickly realizes that she can trust Hadassah, who is kind and gentle to her. But Julia makes many bad decisions, and Hadassah has to suffer for Julia's mistakes. While all of this is going on, Julia's brother, Marcus, finds himself attracted to Hadassah. He sees that Hadassah is a good servant, and that she has something that everyone around him didn't have—a faith in a loving God. Throughout the story, Marcus is torn between loving Hadassah, and loving the sinful culture of Rome. Hadassah, meanwhile, tries to teach the Valerian family about Jesus, and his love for them. At the end of the book, the reader will find out if she succeeds, or if the Valerian's will reject her and her faith. ★



Artist of the Week

Caleb See '25



Caleb See is a double major in art and theology. "I used to say my medium was photography because up until freshman year that's all I had done.

I had never done a painting or a pastel piece, and certainly no sculptures. But now I would say that my favorite mediums are exactly that Pastel and Sculpture. I have some very emotional pieces that I plan on doing soon, one of which is here (the non-objective one) entitled Uncle John."

