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the HOUGHTON STAR

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF HOUGHTON COLLEGE

ON THE WEB: campus.houghton.edu/orgs/star

Volume 99, Issue 19

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STAR STAFF WRITER

"These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."

- John 16:33

Editorial: So What?, or Why We Might Care About The World Out There

A Palestinian suicide bombing and retaliatory military strike in Israel. Street fighting in Iraq. Civil war and AIDS ravaging African nations. The proliferation of nuclear weapons among "rogue nations." Persecution of a marginalized ethnicity, religious group, or gender under a totalitarian regime. Political instability and mass protests across the globe. Economic woes, including extreme poverty. Child sex trafficking. Farreaching networks of terrorism.

Oftentimes, the latest international news headlines do not seem new at all. Presenting diverse manifestations of humanity at its worst, these news stories are often saturated with violence, conflict, suffering, and disillusionment. Consequently, we observers may vacillate between agitation and apathy. I personally struggle with such a complex, pessimistic attitude when working on "The World Out There" and in my own study of international developments.

I sometimes wonder if anyone even bothers to read "The World Out There." If you do not usually peruse this Star column, I honestly do not censure you. After all, the most up-to-date news is just a mouse click away. Or, as I have already suggested, perhaps international news is too redundant and discouraging for many to consistently confront. Maybe you simply tend to be uninterested in The World Out There (the real world, not this newspaper column).

With this rather gloomy introduction, let me now offer some hope amid the brokenness of the human condition as expressed in international news. My desire is to encourage followers of Christ to more actively engage The World Out There, positing that such a commitment requires knowledge of developing news stories and understanding of their underlying peoples and issues. A few important themes to explore:

First, I suggest that the

SGA and Administration Address Campus Eye-Sores

BY D. ELLIOTT TAIT STAR STAFF WRITER

n a recent meeting of the Houghton College Ad Committee an anonymous member raised a question regarding students' opinions of the Quad. The member was curious as to whether the students wanted the Quad to be more like a "park with benches and shrubbery, or an athletic playground...as it is presently," SGA President Marisa Roach stated on behalf of one of the committee's members, Dean Tilley.

The large plot of grass which acts as the literal and communal center of the college has historically had problems with drainage from the excessive precipitation that is characteristic of the climate of western New York. As is evident after the Shen-South football game on February 28, when students continue regular use of the Quad while it is wet much of the grass becomes damaged, often beyond

The committee, comprised of the college's Vice Presidents, conversed about a policy which would not permit students to use the Quad when it is wet and muddy, as there are other recreational fields that can be used. The social appeal of the Ouad over its alternatives such as the "Field of Dreams," however, was recognized by the Vice Presidents. Student opposition to a total ban on usage of the Quad, similar to that of Grove City College, was also acknowledged by

Not wanting to create a policy contrary to students' wishes, the committee agreed that Dean Tilley would speak with the SGA Senate in order to gauge student opinion regarding the matter. Unfortunately, due to schedule conflicts Dean Tilley will be unable to meet with the Senate this year. Instead, his replace-



PHOTOS BY AARON BOYNTON

The College entrance craters and the annual flooding of the Quad are two problem areas the Administration hopes to see solved in the near future.

Another eye-sore on campus has received some attention from the administration in recent days, specifically from Vice President for Finance Jeff Spear. The college's official entrance from Rt. 19 has been in unsatisfactory condition for most of the

school year. The cement and asphalt entrance is ridden with cracks and pot holes that are not only aesthetically distasteful but also have the potential to damage an automobile's tires and undercarriage.

Last year Spear requested that the New York State DMV come and fix the problem. The state was only able to lay some more asphalt over most of the entrance, which only solved the problem for a short amount of time. After a cold and wet winter, the asphalt once again broke apart in many places and remains in poor condition.

Recently Spear has asked the state to return to the college in order to completely fix the problem they initially sought to solve. They have refused. In esponse to this, Spear is looking to begin a "letter writing campaign" to Houghton's NY State Assembly Representative Dan Burling, and State Senator Patricia

Fitness Room Opening in the Fall Will Replace Weight Cage

BY ELAINE TOOLEY STAR STAR WRITER

Starting in the fall, the weight cage in the physical education center will no longer exist. Instead, a fitness room is being built where the weight cage currently stands and the free weights and other strength conditioning equipment will temporarily be moved to one of the four racquetball courts.

The new fitness center will be a selfcontained room, complete with climate control capabilities. In addition to the con-

struction of the room, some new equipment and workout machines will be purchased. This new facility will give the aerobics classes a permanent place to meet to work on overall fitness.

The fitness room will potentially contain elliptical machines, stair steppers, treadmills, bikes and rowing machines. In addition, it have a small amount of weight training equipment, but will not include free weights. Jump rope areas and stretching mats will also be within the room.

Several advantages

come with the building of the new fitness room. There will be more space to exercise; thus it can serve more people. Since the free weights will no longer be located upstairs, no proctor will be needed. Consequently, the fitness center will be able to be open for longer hours and readily available for use. Because the room will be selfcontained, it can be open during basketball games, volleyball games and other sporting events, which is currently not possible.

According to Dr. Tilley, the funding for this new fitness area is provided strictly through the donation of Robert Van Dyk, one of the donors involved with making the coffeehouse become a reality. Van Dyk has donated \$130,000 toward the project. Construction of the room itself will cost \$80,000, and \$50,000 will be used to purchase new equipment that will supplement the room.

When asked about the motivation behind the restructuring of the weight

area, Dr. Tilley commented that fitness opportunities should be available to current students, instead of waiting an entire generation to witness the effects of a fitness

A construction team has been contacted; and will begin construction soon. When students return to Houghton in the fall, not only will there be a new coffeehouse to enjoy java, there will be a fitness center where they can burn off those calories.



PHOTO BY AARON BOYNTON A new weight room filled with both curent and new equimpent will repace the present weight cage beginning in the Fall 2004 semester.

> See world news, page 2

From world news, page 1

sensationalism permeating international news, coupled with our relatively comfortable lives, can deaden us to the serious external realities presented in the news. After the global bloodbath of the 20th century, things like wars and genocides are quite old and their contemporary forms may not shock Westerners very much anymore. Even if we are nignly aware of global events, we may not truly care or feel helpless if we do care.

Especially for those who have grown up in the affluent U.S., profound suffering in other cultures might seem extremely remote or surreal. While people in any culture are self-interested beings, we Americans can be particularly materialistic and selfcentered. For example, how many of us cared about the plight of the Iraqi people until the Bush administration raised the issue of an alleged WMD threat against the U.S.? It is also true that, despite the horrors of 9/11, the U.S. is a very safe place overall compared to the average third world country. We can become complacent in our security and comfort, insensitive to those enduring much harsher circum-

In other words, news stories do not exist in a vacuum, but present the stories of real people. News accounts state empirical facts such as "During the genocide in , x number of people died." Yet in each horrific situation coolly reported, every individual victim (and every perpetrator) has a personal story weaving together a lifetime of family, friends, experiences and memories, hopes for the future, religious beliefs, etc. - perhaps all shattered in one violent moment.

Second, we find profound hope not by running from human suffering, but by encountering God in the midst of it, sharing in both the burdens of others and the grace of God. Every person. whether mentioned in a news story or not, is created in the imago dei, and thus intrinsically valued and loved by the Lord of the Universe. I am reminded of Jesus' exposition of the two greatest commandments, including his powerful narrative response to "Who is my neighbor?" (See Luke 10:25-37.)

While exploring the Biblical principles behind these grand truths surpasses the scope of this essay, the well-known verses John 3:16 and Romans 8:35-39 might provide a good starting point. God's message of salvation and redemption in His Son extends to literally everyone in the world, transcending all divides and sufferings. The scandal of the Cross and glory of the Empty Tomb can triumph over the affliction of countless individuals that underlies the dismal sensasm of news reporting

Third, some have accordingly chosen to reject apathy and transform their agitation into meaningful humanitarian/ministerial work. There are many

world news continues in next column dedicated, self-sacrificing individuals and organizations laboring on behalf of needy individuals, groups, and entire cultures across the globe. They include missionaries, doctors, relief and development workers, human rights lawyers, and a plethora of other service-oriented callings and careers. Many on this campus come from such backgrounds and/or plan to serve the world in such ways.

While I concede that the particulars are incredibly complex and challenging, I believe that the Church must be at the forefront of humanitarian efforts in our fallen world. Ultimately, all human efforts in and of themselves fail to meet the deepest spiritual needs of humanity. While Western ideals such as democracy and capitalism can certainly better the world, they fundamentally cannot save human souls. As believers endowed with the power of the Holy Spirit, we have the unique opportunity to faithfully serve as living examples and emissaries of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Even in the darkest parts of the world, God is truly at work, and the non-Western Church is experiencing explosive growth.

Finally, I offer a few brief suggestions for engaging the world as scholar-servants of our King and His Kingdom. As we all know, Houghton is generally not The World Out There. However, there are still many ways in which we can minister to a hurting world right now.

(4) Research - Spend some time exploring the world, gaining not just knowledge but also experiences. This may involve reading a newspaper or book, browsing the Web or signing up for a newsletter, studying abroad or going on a missions trip, talking with fellow students or faculty/staff, and so forth. (Houghton College has been richly blessed by many international and internationally-minded students.) As you become increasingly

informed, you can then share your newfound knowledge with others.

(2) Pray - We cannot stop at knowledge, and dedicated prayer provides a tremendous opportunity to put one's knowledge into meaningful practice. Pray about your interest (or lack thereof) in the issues and peoples encountered while exploring the world. Intercede on behalf of a suffering individual or group that specifically burdens you. In your prayer groups and Bible studies, bring up some prayer requests from around the world.

(3) Provide financial support - Many international organizations are in desperate need of funding and rely on grassroots support here in the States. Every dollar helps; and most of these organizations do their best to directly channel donations towards their overseas work.

(4) Get involved - Even if you are not called to devote your life to international ministry, you can easily interact with and support numerous international organizations covering an array of diverse needs. A few examples: Samaritan's Purse and World Vision (humanitarian aid); International Justice Mission (human rights); Compassion International (child sponsorship) and Holt International (adoption & child sponsorship); The Voice of the Martyrs and International Christian Concern (persecution of the Church); and various denominational and non-denominational missionary organizations.

Many other organizations, faith-based and otherwise, can be easily found and help get you started in global ministry; diverse opportunities abound for those who seek. Usually, informative websites, newsletters, emailed prayer requests, donation information, and ideas for further involvement (including volunteer, internship, and career opportunities) are all freely available. Houghton College itself offers clubs such as World Missions Fellowship and Evangelicals for Social Action. Whatever group(s) you plug into, you and some friends could perhaps volunteer to show a video to a

class, start a prayer group, or oversee a fundraiser.

Certainly, not every Christian is called to be deeply burdened by urgent international issues or suffering people across the globe. I personally grapple with everything I have presented here, and fall far short in many regards. And while I may eventually become an international human rights advocate, I am not suggesting that anyone should follow my highly flawed example or even read "The World Out There." (Indeed, there are many profound needs right here in Alleghany County and the U.S.) Instead, follow Christ!

In summary, I am only asking that you prayerfully consider how the Lord might want to increase your current awareness of and contributions towards the Church's global outreach. However He ultimately leads you, remember Jesus' promise that "Whatever you do for the least of these, you do for Me" (Matt. 25:40 & context). We Christians share a powerful, lifechanging story and a duty to proclaim this Good News to everyone everywhere. May we together overflow in His peace and joy as we passionately bring Christ to a broken Church and world!

Compassion International:
http://www.compassion.com/
Holt International Children's Services:
http://www.holtintl.org/
International Christian Concern:
http://www.persecution.org/
International Justice Mission:
http://www.ijm.org/
Samaritan's Purse:
http://www.samaritanspurse.org/
The Voice of the Martyrs:
http://www.persecution.com/
World Vision International:
http://www.wvi.org/

GETTING TO KNOW ...Professor Paul Watson

by MELANIE WARCIANO STAR STAFF WRITER

Title: Assistant Professor of Mathematics Education (a.k.a "Paul")

Responsibilities: I teach several math courses and an education course, as I am involved in the preparation of future mathematics teachers (7-12).

Education: B.A. (1998) Houghton College, M.S. (2000) Syracuse University, Ed.D (can't be soon enough) University of Rochester

Previous Employment: Syracuse University

Hobbies: Doing anything with my family.



PHOTO BY AARON BOYNTON

Favorite Mathematical term/principle: I honestly can't pick one. There are so many elegant theorems.

Favorite Food: Peach pie, roti & chicken stew (a dish from my West Indian heritage)

Favorite thing to do in Houghton: Interacting with students outside of class.

Best part about being a math professor: (1) To be given the opportunity to show everyone that they can do math, and do it well! (2) To work with excellent profs and students in the math & computer science department who challenge me to be better (3) I get paid to do and teach math!!! I feel almost guilty sometimes that I enjoy it so much!!!

Favorite movie: Anything with the Muppets! How can you not like the Muppets?

Favorite spot in the science building: The "math library" (that glass-walled room on the second floor of the science building that you all walk by)...good math books to read in there as well as good fellowship to be had while playing board games with students.

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Philharmonia Concert: Something to 'Phone Home' About

BY ROBIN DOUGLAS STAR STAFF WRITER

This past Saturday evening, the hard work and talent of the Philharmonia. Houghton's orchestral ensemble, culminated in an outstanding concert. The concert, with its versatile, challenging repertoire, showcased the winners of the 2004 concerto/aria competition: Nurmira Salimbaeva, Ha-Na You and Sarah Mingle. As Dr. King pointed out, it is important to honor the work of students, and these women captivated the audience with their stunning musicality.

The concert opened with the colorfully orchestrated Cuban Overture composed by George Gershwin and conducted by graduate student Carl Irwin. The orchestra captured the exotic sounds of Cuban dance and rhythms in this work, with its strong percussion and emphasis on woodwinds and brass.

Concerto competition winner Nurmira Salimbaeva assisted the orchestra in performing Faure's Elegie on her recently acquired Italian cello. Philharmonia demonstrated its versatility through a drastic change of mood from the brilliant, vibrant opening piece to this

beautiful, subdued, yet emotive, work for cello and orchestra. At times, it was hard to hear the cello over the orchestra, but the balance was usually right.

Ha-Na You and Sarah Mingle wowed the audience with their exquisite performance of two piano concertos, both of which made virtuosic demands on the pianist. Miss You fulfilled the technical demands of Brahms' first Piano Concerto with poise and skill, and both the pianist and the orchestra were equally engaged in developing musical ideas. Miss Mingle demonstrated great musicality in the performance of Liszt's Piano Concerto #1 in E flat. There are many mood changes in this work, and Sarah Mingle showed great maturity in her expressive interpretation. Blaine Willhoft also conducted his own arrangement of Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral by Wagner. Both he and the orchestra displayed finesse as they gradually built to the climax of the work.

The concert concluded with programmatic music as Philharmonia presented a dynamic performance of John Williams' cinematic classic Adventure on Earth from the movie E.T., bringing the evening to a climactic ending.

Top Ten Signs Your Grades Ain't Gonna be Too Hot BY SARAH KUZIOMKO STAR STAFF WRITER

10. You're starting to think Ask Jeeves doesn't know much about Calcu

9. Not enough study time, too much full-tackle Frisbee.

8. The night before finals is always the same: Pork Rinds and kissing your life-size poster of Hansen.

7. Your motto in life is "If you wait until the last minute, it only takes a minute."

You sold all your books on eBay.

5. Shockingly, professors won't accept a few "Washingtons" for extra credit anymore.

4. Classes? Dude I KNEW I had too much time during the day.

3. As compelling as your argument was, Dr Airhart was not convinced that the dynamics of Survivor had anything to do with the strate

2. It turns out joyrides on stolen golf carts don't satisfy any integrative studies requirements.

1. Fs no longer stand for Fantastic.

Coffeehouse Name Announced

AFTER A WEEKEND OF VOTING BY THE STUDENT BODY, THE HOUGHTON COMMUNITY SELECTED "DAILY GRIND" AS THE NAME FOR THE COFFEE-HOUSE THAT WILL BE CONSTRUCTED DURING THE SUMMER. THE NAME RECEIVED ABOUT A THIRD OF THE VOTES AND 44 MORE THAN THE RUN-

Clyde, Cali, Liedke, and Allison **Top Winners at All-Student Juried Art Exhibit**

BY LIZ SANDS STAR STAFF WRITER

From April 2-21, the 15th Annual All-Student Juried Art Exhibit will be on display in the Ortlip Gallery. The exhibit includes work by art majors and non-art majors of each class; it gives all students an opportunity to display their artwork from the previous year. In order to avoid the bias of in-house judging, an outside artist, Lin Xia Jiang, came and awarded prizes for the various types of art work, including first, second, and third place winners, as well as five honorable mentions. From pottery to painting to sculpture to home-made paper, all types of art can be submitted; and many different genres did receive ribbons or monetary prizes in this year's show.

Many of the art majors find this show levels. Carina Cali, a senior art major who received both an honorable mention and a

work that is deeply personal and valuable to her. Cali also finds the outside artist students regarding the

Lin Xia Jiang, head of the fine arts department at Buffalo State College, analyzed the displayed artwork and distributed the awards Honorable mention

ribbons went to Betsy Addison for her white stoneware pottery, Celadon Teaset; Rebecca Mohrlang for her oil painting on found object, In the Marriage Market, Jason Hewitt for his silver gelatin print series, Horrifying Beauty Series; Carina Cali for her pastels and color crayons drawing, In a Landscape; and Ian Kanski for his oil pastel, Figure Study. Higgins awarded the third place ribbon to Katy Allison for Sensory Perceptions, an oil painting series, and the second place award to Susan Liedke for Early Havoc, done with acrylic spray paint. Cali received the first place ribbon for her soapstone and alabaster sculpture, Submission. The prestigious "Best of Show" award went to Lindsay Clyde for Blue Fit, a wall-hanging of homemade

The showing of the Student Juried Art Exhibit ends today. It will be replaced by the Senior Art Show, which will open this Friday, April 24th.

NER-UP, "HOLY GROUNDS."

to be a positive experience on multiple first place prize at Monday (April 5th) night's awards cer-

emony, appreciates the opportunity to display judging useful because it can be an added confirmation for many quality of their work.

This year's judge.

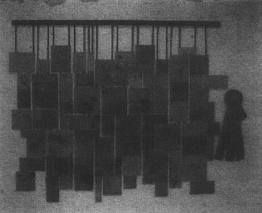


PHOTO BY AARON BOYNTON

"Best in Show" awarded Blue Fit by Lindsay Clyde.

Quotable Quotes

A STAR TRIBUTE TO DR. AIRHART

As some of you may know, one of Houghton's most quotable professors, Dr. Cameron Airhart, will be spending both semesters next year in London. As both an act of mourning his absence and celebrating his previous witticisms, the Star has decided to devote this section to some of Dr. Airhart's most priceless quips for your reading pleasure.

"Houghton is like Narnia: it's always winter and never Christmas. We could use that as an advertising campaign...

"Descend, Descend and be damned throughout the ages'...this sounds a lot like the memos I write."

-Dr. Airhart reading a letter from Henry IV to Gregory VII

"I got a paper cut...look, I'm bleeding for you people. Can I get workmen's

"Go talk to a theologian...they can talk forever. Or go talk to Stewart...that's my way of saying it's unclear.'

-Dr. Airhart's response to a student's abstract, theoretical question

"What would Jesus do? He'd do his research! You know, Jesus never failed a

Have you overheard a student, professor, or staff member say something witty or funny on campus recently? The Star would love to take that quote out of context for the enjoyment of the campus! If you have quotes or quips, send them, along with the name of who said them, to the Houghton Star through CPO 378 or at

Spring Break 2004

Travel with STS, America's #1 Student Tour operator to Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas and Florida. Now hiring campus reps. Call for group discounts. Information/Reservations: 1-800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com

that I

ne had David Pollock was a fine and faithful friend. Like the biblical character for whom he was named, David was a friend of God. His fervent faith defined him as a person and guided his individual and institutional commitments and activities.

David loved the world. Interaction, the ministry Dr. Pollock helped create and which he led so effectively, was the direct result of David's love for the young people of the world and those who serve them. The seminars and workshops which he organized and directed around the world were committed to increasing mutual understanding and respect. Those who benefited from this ministry regularly commented how they had grown in their knowledge and appreciation of God, of themselves and of people around the world whose cultures differed dramatically from their own. David taught his listeners to love, accept and respect others instead of fearing and rejecting them.

David was also an exceptional friend of Houghton College. Wherever he

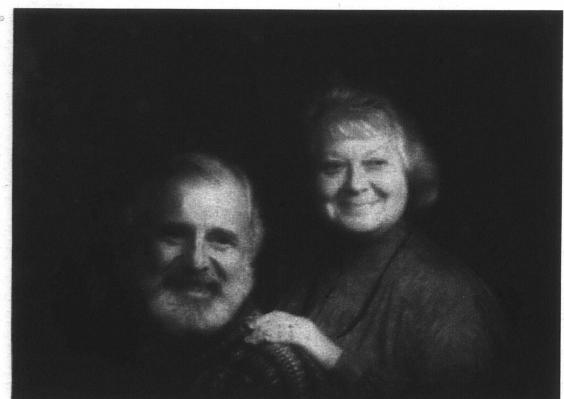
went around the world he encouraged young people to consider the benefits of studying here at Houghton. He then added significantly to the value of their education by the seminars he offered to all of our international students whom he affectionately labeled "Third Culture Kids" or TCKs. Because of David and a few close colleagues, TCKs entered our vocabularies and is now a term widely used and accepted to describe young people who have broad exposure and deep understanding of more than one culture while often not feeling completely at home in either. It was David's passion to help young people recognize that such a background could be a source of great strength and blessing that could help them become far more effective citizens of God's international and everlasting kingdom than those whose only experience was in a single culture. David carried the truth of those concepts around the world and he also brought them every year right here to Houghton's campus.

It was my good fortune to count David as a personal friend. He often

shared his creative ideas with me through his letters or in office conversations. On those occasions when we played racquetball together, we profited little from bodily exercise because so much of our time was spent talking about some new idea or some new program that David was eager to see implemented.

We appropriately shed tears because David is gone, even as we remember that he is with the Lord he loved and served so fervently and effectively. We are left with unanswerable questions about why such a great man who was doing so much good should be taken from us prematurely and unexpectedly. While we have a sense of great loss at his passing, we are filled with great gratitude because this fine and faithful friend lived and walked among us. As resurrection Christians, we will not dwell in the sorrow and loss of Good Friday, rather we will rejoice in the light and life of Easter - the day in which Dr. Pollock's Heavenly Father took His son David to his eternal heavenly home.

-President Daniel Chamberlain



My wife and I first encountered David Pollock's ministry in 1989 when our oldest daughter attended a week-long TCK (third-culture kid) transition seminar. She was starting senior high school in America after spending seven of her first nine years of school in West Africa. We are forever grateful for Dr. Pollock's reassuring lectures and counsel that helped her smoothly make that difficult transition. Our other daughters and thousands of others, including current and past Houghton students, have been touched by his compassion and care.

For many years not much was done about missionary family care. It was assumed that spiritual people would survive on their own. David and Betty Lou Pollock dedicated their lives caring for young people and their families. Houghton College has been blessed that they made Houghton a center from which they traveled almost nonstop to over 35 countries in the world. And when they were here, their home has been a haven to internationals and their open hearts full of comfort, love, humor and understanding.

Here are a few things you might not know about Dr. Pollock:

- * He was WMF president as a student here.
- * He graduated from Houghton in 1963 with a Bible major and Ed. Min. Minor and thirty years later was named alumnus of the year.
- * He served as a YFC director, pastor, dorm parent, counselor, crosscultural educator, camp director, and co-founder Manhattan Christian Youth Services which evolved in Interaction, Inc. focusing on young people in cross-cultural transition.
- * He was hired by Houghton College in the 1980's to help internationalize the curriculum and his vision helped shape the International Relations and Intercultural Studies majors today.
- * As an Adjunct Professor he has taught Cross-Cultural Transition and Adjustment at Houghton every semester for a dozen years. It's a class of well-honed substance and endless anecdotes from around the globe.
- * The book The Third Culture Kid Experience, which he co-authored, has been published in multiple editions and is highly respected in secular and mission worlds.
- * Many of Houghton's past and current MK and international students came because of David Pollock's friendly invitation.

There's more than facts...

I inherited some of David's files on beginning my work at Houghton as Director of the International Students Office in 1994-a rich collection of the very latest on the cross-cultural scene. Even since then, several faculty frequently received articles via intra-campus mail or email that David sent along for our enrichment. What I'll miss most is David's infectious enthusiasm for what God is doing globally and his tender and Christ-like warmth and friendship.

But with David, it had always been about students-and they continue to declare their gratitude for the difference he made in their lives. He generously gave summer-long pre-marriage counseling to two MKs working at his camp. Speaking of that summer they remember Dave being so positive and affirming that he was like a magnet; people just wanted to be around him. That same couple is heading to Kenya this year to work with MKs primarily because of the inspiration of Dr. Pollock. As an MK affectionately remarked, even reading David's book can feel "like coming home" to many international students.

David's life work touched a nerve; now, the world will never be the same. There are thousands in God's family around the world that are grieving his death. Former Houghton Missionary-in-Residence, David O'Brien, says this has "left the Christian world somehow deflated." David's tireless pace accumulated almost two lifetimes of service. God must have thought it was time to say, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Beyond the grief is gratitude for having known and received God's touch through David. The Houghton community experienced similar feelings as recently as a February chapel when the college was grieving the death of Kada Burton. On behalf of his colleagues, students and friends here in Houghton we thank God for sharing this Christ-like man with us for these years. And we expect there may be a classroom on the edge of Heaven when we get there offering transition and adjustment instructions taught by a smiling, tender-hearted, loving, white bearded saint we'll recognize right away!

-Dr. Paul Shea

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The Star Remembers Dr. David Pollock

When I met Dr. David Pollock in the spring of my senior year, it took only a few minutes to understand why so many people at my international school in Japan had dubbed him "Santa Claus." His gentle, merry mannerism, and of course, his great, white beard, made him a perfect candidate for the name.

At the time, he was on a tour of East Asia, visiting international schools and speaking to graduating seniors who were about to attend college overseas. Telling story after story of his experiences, he would draw his listeners in and all participants would leave the seminar sessions feeling encouraged and valued. Dr. Pollock had a heart for people and it was evident whether he was speaking to a large group or engaged in one-on-one conversations with students.

Since coming to Houghton, I have interacted with Dr. Pollock on a number of occasions and those experiences have reinforced my first impression of him as a caring, compassionate man with a true servant's heart. He was a gifted speaker as many on this campus will agree, but beyond that he was a wonderful listener who displayed genuine care and concern for the people around him. I remember Dr. Pollock as the kind of person who actually stops to listen attentively after asking, "How are you doing?" This quality is one that I have admired in Dr. Pollock especially considering how he is known for his busy schedule and for constantly being on the run, teaching and giving presentations around the globe.

Dr. Pollock's death was a tremendous loss, not only to the Houghton community but to so many around the world who have been touched by his insight and compassion. I feel very privileged to have known him these past several years, and hope to follow the example he set as a caring servant who put others first and made time for people in spite of a hectic schedule. He will be greatly missed by all who loved and admired him.

~Minori Nagahara

Photos, clocksie from opposite page: Dr. David pollock and his wife Bety Lou; Dr. Pollock meets with students at the Hong Kong International School; Dr. Pollock's favorite photo of his grandchildren; and Dr. Pollock meeting with young students in Taiwan.

I became a friend of Dave Pollock here at Houghton College in the early 1960s when we were both students. After my junior year in college, I worked with him and Betty Lou at the Salvation Army's Camp Longpoint. From that time onward we were in contact in various ways over the years until we reunited in the late 1980s when we both moved back to Houghton. In 1996 he asked me to work with him at Interaction where he had been Executive Director for about 25 years.

Over the past seven years I had gotten to know him very well and watched how he impacted the world, especially missionary kids and their families as well as an assortment of other internationally mobile people. There are two things about Dave that I came to appreciate deeply. The first was his heart of love and compassion for hurting people, especially internationally mobile people. He constantly quoted John 13:34-35 and continually shared everywhere he went that the Great Commandment (Love the Lord your God with all your being and your neighbor as yourself) is inseparable from the Great Commission (Go into all the world and preach the gospel). The amazing thing about Dave was that he lived that out everywhere he went. This last year he was on every continent but Antarctica and slept in over a 100 different beds. He conducted seminars at mission schools, international schools, mission conferences, international churches and various other venues. When he did these seminars he not only spoke all day long to groups, but then would spend time individually with people, often until midnight. He simply poured out his life for hurting people. Many times as I heard him speak at various seminars he would break into tears at some point in his sharing because of the pain he carried in his heart and the enormous love he had for those to whom he ministered. The other amazing thing about him was his ability to speak to groups of Christians or non-Christians with the same ease and effectiveness. I remember a couple of years ago how he did a transition seminar for missionary kids in Denver, and as soon as we finished that seminar we went to downtown Denver where he spoke to an alumni reunion of a secular international school. He simply had an amazing gift of communicating the love of Christ to anyone in any culture.

The second thing that I appreciated about Dave was his sensitivity to those who were facing sorrow or grief. He often spoke about how Jesus was "a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief," and I don't know anyone who was more effective in ministering to those in great pain and heartache. We continually get e-mails from people all over the world saying how deeply his love and care touched them. The other thing that he constantly demonstrated was the heart of a servant. For instance, whenever someone needed to be picked up at the airport at 3 a.m., he would always volunteer to do it even though he would be speaking the next day.

There is so much more that could be said about this very special man, but I am just thankful that I had the opportunity to be his friend. I will miss him immensely.

-Al Gurley, coworker of Dr. Pollock at Interaction International, Inc.







Rosie Thomas and Denison Witmer Play at CAB Coffeehouse

BY MIKE MORDENGA STAR STAFF WRITER

"She makes me want to rock."
Those are the words that Denison
Witmer used to describe the performance of Rosie Thomas. While Rosie
is very musically talented, her show
did everything but "rock."

The Houghton coffee house performance of Rosie Thomas and Denison Witmer was hosted by CAB in Campus Center. The two performers got a good-sized audience of Houghton students wanting to hear their musical stylings and drink coffee. Rosie played the first set of songs with her keyboard and acoustic guitar. Her music can only be described as Sarah Mclachlan, hints of Fiona Apple and the sincerity of Six Pence None the Richer with soft lullaby overtones. Every song was soft and melodious, complimenting her pillowy lyrics. You wouldn't think Rosie had a robust singing voice when you heard her quaint laughter and high school pitched voice on the stage. She didn't name any of her songs, but her lyrics were mostly about beauty, experiencing life, faith, hope and love. She said this about her style of playing: "It is very soothing bedtime music...nursery music." She mentioned that her talent could be the product of being surrounded by music as a child by her family.

It's definitely evident that Rosie Thomas's music could have put the crowd to sleep (which is a compliment for her genre). She didn't hit every note perfectly like a diva, but she definitely had some talent. One aspect that really stood out was her stage conversations. Not only does she have a sweet soothing nature, but she was very funny. She told a story about playing after the band The Darkness and how she felt the need to rename all of her songs "The dark man, the dark, the dark tunnel...etc." She did a dead-on weather girl impression that was very impressive. Overall Rosie Thomas lulled the crowd into a peaceful state of being.

Denison Witmer was next on the performance list. He is a guitarist/ lyricist who can be compared mostly to Jack Johnson, Ben Harper with the voice of Tom Petty. His performance greatly complimented Rosie's. Denison's music had some very impressive chords and some interesting choruses. He even played back up on one of Rosie's songs. His lyrics were inspired by his earlier journal writings that he used to write as a kid.

Denison's stage presentation was very much influenced by the fact that he had jet lag and was very tired. His stories kind of lagged (except for one comment about the piano in Subway). His music was very relaxing and very catchy to listen to.

The coffeehouse was the start of Rosie and Denison's tour together. The audience enjoyed the performance overall. Both musicians were very talented; their music is nothing to scoff at. With a more performances and experience both Rosie and Denison could hit the big time.

Movies... with DAN GRAFFAM AND ADAM KLINE

Kİll Bill: Vol. 2

Adam's Review - Grade: A -

The Kill Bill movies (Volume 1 & 2) are yet another masterpiece of storytelling by Quentin Tarantino, director of Reservoir Dogs and Pulp Fiction. The original intention of Tarantino was to release the film altogether, but seeing as the final cut was over 3 hours long, Miramax Studios decided to release the film in two volumes six months apart.

The story revolves around the character, The Bride (Uma Thurman), who was once part of a professional assassin group until the group leader, Bill, and the other assassins turn against her on her wedding day. After awakening from a coma The Bride seeks out bloody revenge. Kill Bill is not told chronologically (a signature of Tarantino), and is also told in chapters; Volume 1 contained the first five chapters, and Volume 2 tells the final five.

Volume 1 was a stylized homage to classic kung-fu films which, due to the mixedup chronology of the film, lacked strong storytelling, so all I could do was sit back and enjoy the style, the music, the humor, and the satiric violence, giving it a grade of "B."

Volume 2, however, is a stylized homage to spaghetti westerns and kung-fu films that contains the necessary background story that was missing from Volume 1. The storytelling is wonderful and includes the unique Tarantino dialogue that was also missing from the first volume.

In addition to the storytelling and dialogue, I also loved this film because of the pace and look. Since *Volume 2* is more focused on story and characters, it is justifiably a slower movie. The unique style and look of *Kill Bill* is maintained, as it seems Quentin Tarantino wanted to use every possible kind of camera movement, placement, and color

filter, all of which only bring more life to this dark tale. Also, since Volume 2 is story driven rather than style driven, there are many characters to enjoy. Of course, Uma Thurman carries on the character of The Bride, who is fun to watch in moments of strength as well as weakness. Darryl Hannah and Michael Madsen are both uniquely great as two of the five people on The Bride's revenge list. However, my favorite character in Kill Bill is in fact Bill. Played by David Carradine, Bill is a relaxed, smooth-talking bad guy who lives by rationality. Bill has become one of my favorite villains of all time. Carradine is already on my Oscar nomination list.

Kill Bill: Vol. 2 is a better film than volume one with its story, style, characters and dialogue, but it is also only half of a film that, once released as a whole on DVD, will be perfectly balanced.



Dan's Review - Grade: B +

From a marketing standpoint it was genius. Anyone who saw *Volume One* of Quentin Tarantino's much anticipated film *Kill Bill* would be sure to come back to the theater a few months later to learn the fate of The Bride (Uma Thurman) and her bloody search for revenge. But how would the decision to split the film in half effect the storytelling? *Volume One*, a non-stop thrill ride with swordplay aplenty gives way to *Volume Two*, a slower-paced, character-driven film that includes the famous Tarantino dialogue missing in the film's first half. The result is two perfectly contrasting parts of a whole, as well as a genuinely satisfying trip to the movies.

Kill Bill: Vol. 2 picks up right where Volume One left off. We follow The Bride, who has already killed two of her five former associates whom she's marked for revenge. The second film takes us from the U.S. to China, to Japan, and to Mexico in search of Bill, the leader of The Deadly Viper Assassination Squad, of which The Bride used to be a part. The use of flashbacks provides many looks into what took place before the events of Volume One, allowing the audience to appreciate the first part of the film even more. Through clever narrative and intelligent dialogue we are brought into the lives of each character, a contrast from the first film where we know little of why all this betrayal started. Volume Two will answer any questions that may have been left from the first film, and it wraps the story up nicely with a conclusion that is worth the wait.

Uma Thurman was robbed of an Oscar nomination last year for her role as The Bride, and with this film she is once again deserving of awards consideration. She is outstanding in what must have been a truly difficult role. As Bill, David Carradine plays the role of villain to perfection. Michael Madsen delivers an understated performance, and is underused in the film as Budd, Bill's brother and number three on The Bride's revenge list.

One thing that was missing from *Volume Two* is the music that helped make *Volume One* so memorable. Though there are few action scenes (not one person dies by the sword), it seems as though a stronger soundtrack could have been used. While watching *Volume One*, I had the sense that I better not turn away because I was going to miss something incredible; I didn't have that feeling with *Volume Two*, and the music may have been the reason.

I have never considered myself å huge Tarantino fan. He has talent to spare, but is somewhat overrated. He is, however, one of the great storytellers of our time. His films are oozing with style and charisma, and *Kill Bill* is no different. His love for his craft is obvious in this movie, as in itself it is a direct homage to the great western and kung-fu films of the past. Be sure to see *Volume One* first, (I would give it an A-) and when viewed together be ready to enjoy Tarantino's best work yet.

Have a Say in Next Year's Star!

As the incoming chief editor of the Star, I'm sincerely interested in what you, the student body, would like to see in the paper. One of my campaign promises was the seek out your opinions, so here I'm going to present a few of my big ideas for next year. Please email me (daniel.perrine@houghton.edu) with your thoughts on them, and feel free to offer other suggestions.

General:

- -focus less on news that has already happened, and more on what's coming up
- -increase the amount of entertainment-related material in the Star
- -increase the amount on opinion material, with particular focuson controver sial issues
- -increase the amount of student-submitted content (for example, guest columns and more letters to the editor)

Specific

- -add a comic strip (please get in touch with me if you'd be interested in producing one!)
- -review campus and local bands
- encourage students to offer their well thought-out opinions on controversial issues on campus, in the church, and in society at large
- -offer space for faculty to discuss issues or interesting projects they're working on
- -add a "Life After Houghton" column, where recent graduates can comment on how their Houghton experience has helped or hindered them in "real life"
- -solicit updates from Houghton students participating in off-campus programs
- -offer the complete text of the Star online

Your feedback is not only valued, but critical to helping the Star fulfill its mission of being a student newspaper! Please email me with your thoughts. And, if you're interested in writing for the Star next year, particularly if you have a specific piece you[§]d like to produce, contact me for more information.

~Editor in Chief Dan Perrine

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AUSTIN TIME

The Advice/Chris-Says-What-He-Wants-to Column

BY CHRISTOPHER AUSTIN

STAFF WRITER KNOWN FOR MISSING A FEW HELP SESSIONS HE WAS TA FOR

This Week's Topic:

TAS - ESSENTIAL TO LIFE

There are two issues left of the Star this year, including this one. And I just feel so unprepared to end my, shall I say, vivacious career as the columnist who gets to say whatever he wants. So for our second-to-last time together, lets focus on the topic of teacher's assistants. And let me tell you, I just made this topic up on the fly, so don't expect it to be well thought out. I think that the college is blessed to have TA's, because TA's keep the college world running, essentially.

First off, I think that TA's should get their own parking spaces, kind of like RD's, or the Mail Van, or the Health Services vehicle, because they all share the same mission. I have summed up that mission into this collective mission statement, reading "We keep Houghton alive, well-behaved in dorms, connected to the outside world, and smart." A sub-motto could be "And we also make sure that students never get too low on junkmail because we get lots of junkmail from every organization on campus and are forced to put it in their boxes, day in and day out, even though we know most of them are just going to throw it in the trashcans next to our mailroom." At any rate, it seems unfair that TA's don't get a parking spot. Not even just a generic spot, somewhere for the 'TA Van' to go and spread learning throughout the land. It's a real shame, and I will tell you why.

The average college TA should spend perhaps 3 hours in contemplative thought and training before each help session or lab that they govern. This thought / training is essential to keep them on their toes, even in the heat of battle. I prefer that the TA's also study other areas of life, including, but not exclusively, other fields of study, personal hygiene, outdoor survival skills, trendy clothing styles, and carpentry. This well-rounded Teaching Assistant can aid his or her students in many aspects of life, thus deserving all \$5 of their generous hourly salary (the art of sarcasm employed here - \$5 is not generous).

At this point in the article I have told Layout Editor / Person Who Makes Up My Title Every Week (Nathan Boyd) that I am running out of gas for this topic, and all he did was walk away. So if you see him after reading this article, tell him he needs to be more accommodating to his writers or else they will quit writing for him. In fact, this is my two week notice, all because of N.B.

Teaching as just an assistant is such a humble undertaking. You don't get the coolness factor that comes with being a distinguished professor, you don't always earn the respect of colleagues or kids that you TA; it's a hard life. When one decides to become a TA it is only after much consideration of what this really means. Late nights of teaching people that sometimes cannot be taught for the life of them. Poor pay, poor hours, poor everything. No one wants to be the friend of a TA. Even Rene Descartes has something to say about TA's, "What is a [Teaching Assistant] which thinks? It is a [Teaching Assistant] which doubts, understands, conceives, affirms, denies, wills, refuses, which also imagines and feels." The point here is that TA's feel, just like the rest of us. They are not immune to depression or ecstasy, and so we should treat them accordingly. Thanks Rene. Even when he is dead his wisdom is still so applicable.

Well, it's that time again, the time to wrap up another article. Next time you see your TA skulking in the corner from stress and loneliness (if he is the 75th TA it could even be a panic attack), go over and lend a hand. Say "TA, you are a great person and if it weren't for you, I would be failing ____ and I could not have created this wonderful swan from a block of wood." That's all it takes to make the TA happy, and willing, like a firefighter, to go out and do his best once again, making the world a smarter place. Today's key words are essential, Descartes, and Teaching Assistant, because, well, they are key to the article.



letterbox

star@houghton.edu

Why I eat ice cream cones... By Aram Mitchell

Why I eat ice cream cones...

They taste better than the little Styrofoam bowls and plastic spoons, they digest more efficiently, and it's way better for the environment.

I don't reall want to fling any statistics at you about how long it takes for Styrofoam to decompose or how much gas SUV's guzzle or about the water waste (and wicked taste) we are responsible for.

But there is a problem in this world and in the heart of humankind - it is evident. Open your eyes and look around. The problem is certainly not limited to issues of environmentalism and poor stewardship; these are symptoms (big ones) of the great preoccupation we have with ourselves and with sin. There is a problem.

God has a plan. Read Romans 8:19-21. Read the surrounding chapters (read the whole book and the other books too). His plan involves those who have been made alive in Christ and been given life through the Spirit. "The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God" (italics added).

There is a problem, God has a plan, and you have a choice.

My eating ice cream cones doesn't make me more spiritual than a bowl user - spirituality is a matter of heart and lifestyle. We must combat the great sin of indifference and change our lifestyles in a thousand different ways. Little ways. It's a game of inches (watch Al Pacino's pre-game speech in Any Given Sunday for inspiration).

I eat ice cream cones because I'm one drop of water hoping to join a lot more other drops, thus becoming, by the Wind of God, a tidal wave of change and redemption. This is huge! Think about it. Talk about it. Live it.

Here are some suggestions, a few of the many, which your peers came up with:

- o Walk or bike to class
- o When you need to drive somewhere, carpool
- o Print papers on both sides
- o Turn off the water while you brush your teeth
- o Eat less red meat
- o Take what you want, but eat what you take (the food wasted in the cafeteria is sickening)
- o Buy bulk, to cut down on packaging
- o Use as few dishes as possible in the cafeteria
- o To the college: less mass CPO mailings
- o Buy second hand
- o Take "navy showers" (turn the water off while you lather
- o Use the stairs (not the elevator) if you're able
- o Compost
- o Recycle (there are places on campus to do this)
- o Reuse (be creative)

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

The STAR, CPO Box 378 1 Willard Avenue Houghton, NY 14744 star@houghton.edu

Derek Webb Plays and Preaches in Rochester Church

BY JOSH MILLER EDITOR IN CHIEF

On Sunday, April 18th, at 6 pm, Derek Webb performed for a full house at Victory Baptist Church in Rochester. Webb, former frontman and guitarist for Caedmon's Call, played a variety of songs from past Caedmon's Call albums and his recent solo release, filling time between numbers with stories from his life and passionate comments on the state of the Church.

Webb seemed tense as the concert began, but still performed well during his first number, "Nobody Loves Me" from his solo album, She Must and Shall Go Free. In fact, his vocals on all of his songs matched the quality he displays on CD recordings, as did his guitar-playing. He started to loosen up as he talked about his next song, the title track of this album, which he labeled his "thesis statement." The song-taken from an 18th century hymn by William Gadsby-focused on the importance of believing in Christ and being both blessed and set free by this belief. To further his emphasis on faith, Webb followed the song with a sermonette in which he accused most Christians of not really believing that they are blessed simply because they believe. He drove this point home in his next song, "Wedding Dress," which depicts the Church as a whore who cheats on God, her husband, yet God still loves her and welcomes her back in spite of her prostitution.

These three songs set the tone for the evening: a night filled with Reformation theology and brutal honesty. Throughout his performance, Webb continually commented on the need for Christians to quit being afraid of being found out and having their sins exposed; instead, he said they should openly admit the severity of their sinfulness, which in turn will show the greatness of their Savior

who takes their sins

away.

Although Webb's minisermons were primarily solid and appropriate, his emphasis on personal sinfulness did at times seem to both encourage Christians to go unnecessarily hunting for sins in their lives and to implicitly reject the possibility of significant character transformation

within the Christian's life. In particular, his song "I Repent" (to be released on his House Show album coming out on June 8th) appeared to search his whole life to try to come up with sins to confess, such as pursuing "The American Dream... / my house, my fence, my kids, and my wife / in our

suburb where we're safe and white"things which aren't inherently evil in and of themselves. In context, Webb was probably trying to confess how he often places these aspects of his life above his relationship with God, especially since the lines, "I repent... Of caring more of what they think than what I know of what they need / and domesticating You until You look just like me," come towards the end of the song. Still, this song of Webb's bordered on the Protestant trend of denouncing everything in one's life that is not overly spiritual (i.e. prayer and Scripture), particularly in his lyrics on his own family life.

In spite of this, Webb's willingness to put himself on the line was very admirable and is often a rarity among Christian artists.

Along with his theological comments, Webb also gave the crowd large amounts of background information on some of his songs by telling humorous stories. He told the audience about his conversation with a friend at the International House of Pancakes, a 2:30 am discussion about "the sovereignty of God and girls," that led to the Caedmon's Call song "Table for Two." Webb also talked about his grandmother, who served as the model for the Caedmon's Call song "Dance" by turning down a marriage proposal because her suitor couldn't dance. Webb went on to say that she was 91 at the time, which elicited laughter from the crowd.

Webb closed the concert appropriately with the song "Take to the World" (from She Must and Shall Go Free), encouraging the audience to take the "rare, relentless grace" of Christ to the world that, Webb insists, so desperately needs it.

On the whole, his concert was a good combo of singing, preaching, and story-telling; and Webb showed he was gifted in each area.

After making a stop in



PHOTO BY JOSH MILLER

Williamsport, PA, on Tuesday, Webb's tour will head south to Tennessee, Virginia, and the Carolinas for the next week, but will come back up north in early May. For more information on Webb's tour, theology, or music, check out his official website, www.derekwebb.com.

-- TECH CORNER --

by DAN PERRIN

Summer Surfing Several Times Faster for Suffering Students

Ah, summer. If you're one of the lucky few who was asked to help an ailing Nigerian prince smuggle his fortune out of the country in exchange for a huge cut and therefore do not need a job, summer is a time of sleeping late, long, relaxing afternoons, and lazy evenings on the porch with a cold one (of pop, of course). For the rest of us, summer generally means college-student employment which, while generally paying a little better than student employment on campus (as in actually being minimum wage), is still fairly mundane and uninteresting. At least all of mine have been. But never fear, my last-ever tech column is here to bring a ray of hope to you with an offer of 200% better web browsing!

Most of the world uses Internet Explorer for their browsing needs. However, I'm not exaggerating when I say that IE is simply the worst web browser ever. In addition to having more security flaws than Houghton's pipe organ has, um, pipes, IE has none of the nice features offered by other browsers, such as integrated popup suppression, tabbed browsing, modular extensions...the list goes on and on and on. Quite frankly, it's been so long since I've used IE that I can't even remember exactly how bad it is. That's because I use Mozilla Firefox (http://www.mozilla.org/products/firefox/). Some of you may have heard of this most wondrous application; it was originally called Phoenix, then it became Firebird, and as of the most recent release, it's Firefox.

Firefox is an open-source browser sponsored by the Mozilla foundation, the same people who make the Thunderbird mail client, which I reviewed a ways back. Firefox is completely free and it's open-source, which means it's produced by programmers out of the goodness of their hearts. As a community project, there are always new releases coming out to fix problems and add new features. And if you want to talk about features, Firefox is what you want to talk about. The basic installation includes excellent pop-up suppression, which means no more annoying advertisements jumping up in your face. It also has tabbed browsing, which lets you open multiple web pages in a single window to reduce taskbar clutter. It also has a bevy of cool themes to customize its look and feel. The extension system lets you add programs to Firefox that modify how it functions. Some of the best are "Nuke Anything", which lets you remove annoying ads from a page...or anything else for that matter. There's another one that pauses all Flash windows on a site so many of the animated, noisy, attention getting ads that interfere with your browsing won't play unless you click on them specifically. Firefox also has extensions to allow you to navigate using mouse gestures instead of clicking through menus, and powerful data-mining and archival capabilities. You can basically make the browser work any way you want it to (I haven't heard of a voice recognition patch, but it could be in the works).

I could review other alternate browsers, but I simply fail to see any point in doing so since Firefox beats them all hands-down. For the sake of fairness, if you're interested you could also check out the Opera browser (http://www.opera.com), although the full version requires you to pay for it.

Questions or comments, e-mail me.

