

DANCE
News, p. #1

THE BOULDER
Feature, p. #1-2

QOTW
Poll, p. #2

ON PELAGIUS
Opinions, p. #3

NOSFERATU (2024)
Columns, p. #4

WINTER DANCE: DUSK TIL DAWN

ABIGAIL BATES ('26)

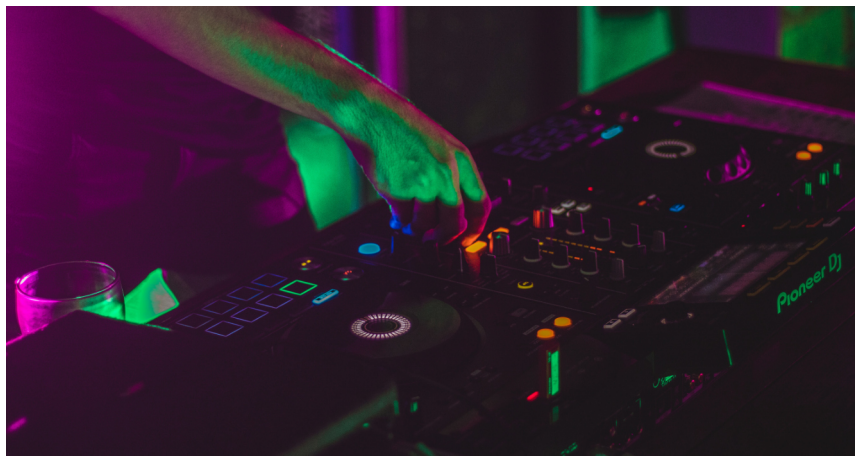
Tomorrow—from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.—the Campus Activities Board (CAB) is hosting “Winter Dance: Dusk Til Dawn” in the Reinhold Campus Center (CC) basement.

Sophomore Gracie Stickles '27 said last year's theme was “winter ball.”

“It was the perfect balance of fancy and fun,” she said, adding that “the snacks, drinks, and decorations were pretty and sophisticated while the energy of the dance floor was off the charts!”

Stickles oversees this year's dance with help from her fellow CAB members. She has been busy working with Director of Student Engagement Jana Newberry, reserving dance space, acquiring sound equipment, shopping for supplies, creating posters and “curating a playlist for the dance.”

“It's been a busy past week for sure,” she said,



Winter Dance DJ

COURTESY OF UNSPLASH ZAC BROMELL

“but I am so grateful for my fellow team members, and I'm excited to see how it goes!”

In light of their desire to play with the contrasting nature of dusk and dawn, Stickles explained that the CC basement will be split in half with two different snack tables and photo booths. One side will highlight themes and colors of

dusk and the other will do so of dawn. Stickles encourages attendees to pick a side, dressing fancy or casual, and match the corresponding color scheme “like Dawn-yellow, orange, pink and Dusk-blue, purple, black, etc.”

The hardest parts about preparing for the dance have been planning, estimating and staying under

budget, Stickles said. Another CAB member, Aivery Shuck '26, noted that it's hard to find a “suitable space for the dance as well as setting up all the decorations.” Shuck is the CAB Athletics Representative and assists with setting up the space, buying food and drinks, and “making sure everyone has a wonderful time!”

Although dancing was prohibited in Houghton University's (formerly known as Houghton College) past, dance events are common now. Stickles described these dances as places where people may make new friendships and connections with other students.

“Due to Houghton's location, it can be difficult to find places to go out with friends,” Stickles expressed. “To help with this, dances pave the way for a safe and local option for people to have an incredibly fun night mingling and dancing with others.”

Shuck described the dances as “a chance to get together with friends and have a good time dancing, chatting, and getting lots of free snacks!” She said that the only expectation for attendees is to have fun.

“Houghton,” Stickles said, “is very focused on the importance of community and we want to bring

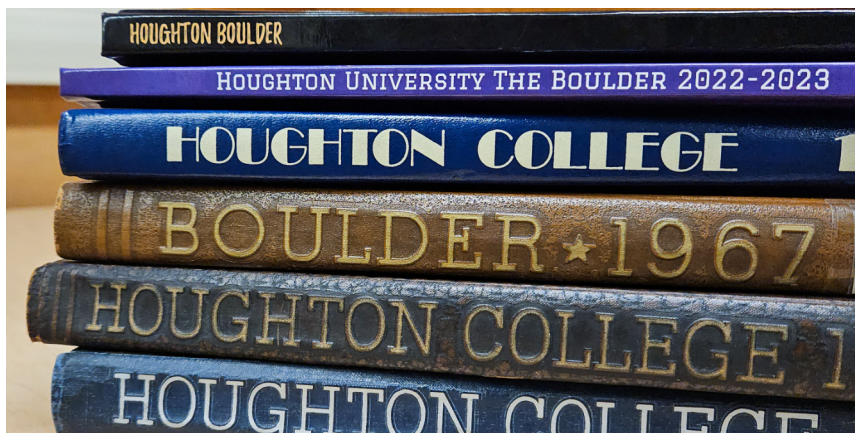
See **DANCE** page #2

Rise of The Boulder

JIANA MARTIN ('26)

For the past 100 years, The Boulder has been Houghton University's (HU) yearbook. It was founded in 1924 and named in commemoration of a memorial boulder located across from Fancher Hall near the Houghton sign. The boulder marks the grave of Copperhead, the last Seneca man to live in Houghton, N.Y.

The Seneca tribe—a part of Allegany country's original inhabitants—were forced from the Genesee Valley onto reservations during the Westward Expansion. Copperhead refused to leave because he claimed he was never paid for his land. He became a local icon and lived off charity until his death in 1864 at



Houghton Boulder Yearbooks

COURTESY OF KAITLYN AVERY

120-years-old (he claimed). Copperhead was originally buried at the intersection of Centerville and Old River Road, but in 1910 his remains were moved to the top of campus when his burial site was beginning to be destroyed by the creek. As a proper memorial, Leonard Houghton (Willard J. Houghton's son) donated the

boulder that still sits there today.

The Boulder was faithfully published by students for 91 consecutive years until 2015. Student involvement in the yearbook decreased and yearbooks were also absent for 2016, 2019, 2020 and 2022. In 2023, The Boulder was re-established by a group of students and made an official campus

club. There was some pushback about re-starting the yearbook as involvement and sales have decreased over the past years. IBISWorld, a research firm, estimated a 4.7% decline in sales from yearbook publishing industries to schools.

Despite the pushback, the dedicated yearbook staff created the 2024-2025 edition and is

now working on the 2025-2026 edition.

“The yearbook is how we treasure the memories that we make in college,” said Senior Jo Borges Edwards '25, the managerial editor of The Boulder. “Years from now, we might barely remember the members of our student organization or athletic team, but we will always be able to go to the yearbook to relive those memories.”

The Boulder staff want all classes to be included, which is why although the “yearbook has historically been targeted toward seniors” Borges Edwards said that “since we [The Boulder staff] re-started the organization in Fall 2023, we have had the goal of making a yearbook that includes everyone because we are all Houghton.”

Zoe Zachery '27 (a managerial assistant) and

See **THE BOULDER** page #2

Question of the Week!

Do you think you could survive a zombie apocalypse?

Weekly questions open to anyone affiliated with Houghton University; students, staff, faculty, etc.

Survey results will appear in both the STAR's next issue & online.



Also on
the STAR website & HUB.

Do you have questions
that keep you up at night?

Curiosities that gnaw at
your soul?

Let us know!

(...And perhaps the mys-
teries of the world shall be
solved.)

Puzzles

All sudokus provided by sudokuoftheday.com.

Difficulty: Beginner

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

Difficulty: Medium

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

DANCE from page #1

students, from all areas, together for a night of dancing and mingling."

"We hope to see you there!" Stickles added. ★

THE BOULDER from page #1

Ethan Scally '27 (a member of the managerial team and photographer) also believe the yearbook is an important part of HU.

"Life moves so quickly that sometimes we might forget about the little things that happen. By having a yearbook, we are given the chance to hold on to those memories and look back on them for years to come," said Zachery.

Scally added that the yearbook "holds all the memories made on cam-

pus either with friends, at events, and/or just everyday life."

It has been fulfilling for Borges Edwards to have the opportunity to put together people's best memories. Zachery finds joy in the opportunity to form connections with various people she has not met before.

"I love taking pictures and getting them so that we, as a community and 'family,' have a memento of our times in college because, as they say, these are the best days of our life," Scally reflected.

Help preserve Houghton memories by submitting your photos to The Boulder at boulder@houghton.edu. ★

Write for the STAR!

Do you have an interest in writing?

Do you have an opinion you'd like to share?

Have you watched any terrible movies/shows lately?

Would you like to see more articles?

Would you like more white-space filled?

Become a writer for the STAR!

Contact houghtonstar@gmail.com.

EVENT CALENDAR

FEB. 01 / WBB/MBB vs. Sage

FEB. 01 / Winter Dance: Dusk Til Dawn

FEB. 05 / Wellness Wednesday: Watercolor

FEB. 07 / SASF Game Night

Check CampusGroups for additional information.

It's Time to Kick Pelagius Out of the Church



PAUL CLAYDON ('28)

In the late 4th century into the early 5th century there lived a theologian named Pelagius. Pelagius denied the doctrine of original sin and taught that man was basically good and could achieve salvation through his own efforts. Fortunately, thanks to the efforts of St. Augustine, Pelagius was condemned as a heretic and excommunicated from the church.

His heresy may not have prospered at his time but it prospered later on and it's prospering right now in our churches. A famous preacher Billy Graham once said that God "has made it possible for all men to be saved. But the Bible indicates that sal-

vation depends upon man's willingness to be saved." Another famous preacher R.C. Sproul said the exact opposite.

He said that if he was ever convinced that salvation was based on man's willingness to choose Christ freely that would have to quit preaching because he "would have no hope whatsoever that the work of evangelism would be successful or that preaching would bring any fruit." Both these great preachers articulated different views of how salvation works, Arminianism and Calvinism. Arminianism teaches that salvation is based on a person's response to God's grace and no one is predestined

to go to heaven or to hell. Calvinism teaches that God predestines those who are elect to be saved and a person's salvation is a result of God's sovereign election of them.

"Much of the modern Evangelical churches treat people not as sinners but as seekers before salvation and after salvation they treat them like customers in need of servicing and not believers in need of discipleship. Pelagius lives and thrives inside the American mega church."

But before we can have debates about predestination we make it clear that God must initiate with us first if we are to be saved and not the other way around.

While I may not fully agree with the soteriology of R.C. Sproul, I agree with him that man is completely depraved and incapable of coming

Pelagianism, by believing it is their job to assist the will in choosing Christ they undermine the role of God's saving grace in our salvation. They become salesmen instead of pastors. They preach as if Pelagius was right both pre and post salvation. Much of the modern Evangelical churches treat people not as sinners but as seekers before salvation and after salvation they treat them like customers in need of servicing and not believers in need of discipleship. Pelagius lives and thrives inside the American mega church. A mega church is not the size of the church it's the mentality of the church.

The problem with the mentality of these churches is that in treating people as seekers and customers and is that they will never confront someone's sin and they have the incentive to tell people what they want to hear and not what they need to hear because they don't want to lose their customers. They don't act like churches, they act like corporations. Before we can debate the doctrines of predestination, whether that be single or double predestination, we must first kick Pelagius out of the

church. To do this we must stop acting as if when someone gets offended by the truth and walks away from God that we're responsible for their damnation because we didn't do it right. It is not our job to turn people on or off for Christ. It's our job to preach the gospel and pursue justice and mercy. It's the Holy Spirit's job to do the convicting and the transformation of hearts. To sum up, the return of Pelagian ideas in modern churches challenges Christian beliefs. Pelagius denied original sin and said people can achieve salvation on their own. This weakens the main beliefs of grace and God's power. Some churches focus too much on being seeker-friendly and lose true discipleship. This change ignores God's role in salvation, aligning with Pelagian views.

Before arguing about predestination, it's important to remember that God starts salvation, not human effort. Churches should preach the gospel honestly and trust the Holy Spirit to change hearts. This way, they can focus on human sinfulness and God's power. Only then can churches remove Pelagius's influence and focus on truth and discipleship.★

Paul Claydon ('28) is a junior and Theology major. He enjoys studying God's word and helping to build up the body of Christ.

Have an opinion
you want to share?

CONTACT
Rebecca.Dailey25@houghton.edu

SPEAK OUT!

Letters to the editor
should be less than 600 words

SUBMIT TO
star@houghton.edu



The mission of the Houghton STAR is to preserve and promote the values of dialogue, transparency and integrity that have been the ideals of Houghton University since its inception. This is 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.

HOUGHTONSTAR.COM | STAR@HOUGHTON.EDU | FACEBOOK.COM/HOUGHTONSTAR | INSTAGRAM @HOUGHTONSTAR

The Houghton
STAR

2024-2025 Staff

VICTORIA ARNDT // Co-Editor-in-Chief

JIANA MARTIN // News Editor

KAITLYN AVERY // Media Editor

AMANDA ZAMBRANO // Faculty Advisor

ABIGAIL BATES // Co-Editor-in-Chief

CALEB TIEDEMANN // Columns Editor

REBECCA DAILEY // Opinions Editor



Review

Nosferatu (2024)

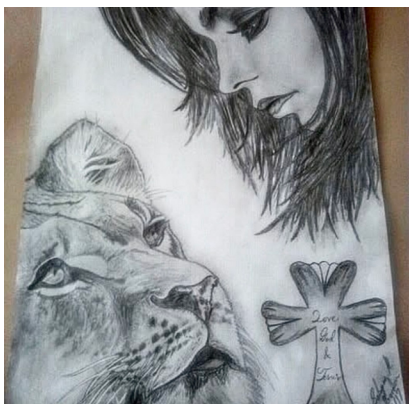
Written By: Caleb Tiedemann ('25)

Robert Eggers isn't a widely recognized name unless you're familiar with his previous work. While his past films have been well-received, none have garnered as much attention or hype as *Nosferatu*. As a fan of the original 1922 *Nosferatu*, I was unbelievably excited to hear about a remake from a relatively small director with a strong track record.

Eggers crafts an excellently written narrative of horror, love, and the emergence of evil. Balancing these themes is no small task, but the cast more than meets the challenge. Nicholas Hoult's unconfident and sweaty Thomas, Lily-Rose Depp's contorting and convulsing Ellen, Bill Skarsgård's mustached, emaciated, and looming Count Orlok, and Willem Dafoe's unhinged alchemist all deliver stellar performances. Eggers' previous films often utilize a pale color palette, showcasing his mastery of a void without color, and the same is evident in *Nosferatu*.

One of the aspects I was most impressed with was the fluidity of the camera work. In one of the opening scenes, Thomas prepares for work while Ellen is just waking up. The way the camera fluidly navigates the room, keeping both performers in frame while also highlighting the decorated interior, is masterful. Additionally, the use of shadows maintains the film's horror factor at a constant 10. The score beautifully accompanies the film, with both choral and instrumental elements grounding it in its period while adding a unique touch to this creature feature.

My only gripe is that I had a hard time hearing some of the dialogue, particularly in the beginning. Hoult's character mumbles quite a bit, and some of Orlok's early lines are difficult to decipher. Regardless, this movie was a fantastic experience, and I cannot wait to own it. I strongly encourage people to see the 2024 movie, as well as its 1922 counterpart. ★



Artist of the Week

Selwyna Gordon ('25)



I'm Selwyna Gordon (aka Selly), a junior at Houghton University. My majors are Art and Theology, with a minor in Psychology. I love doing a variety of artsy things like photography, drawing, painting, crafting, designing and more. Even though I work in multiple areas of art, I spend most of my time on drawing and photography. I primarily use graphite pencils, acrylic paint, watercolor, and pens on paper or canvas. Art, whether simple or extraordinarily beautiful is not just a masterpiece in a godly sense, but also a reflection of God. When I create or observe artwork, I feel more drawn to Jesus Christ, who formed us from dust, breathed life into us, and now calls us to be used for His glory. I hope and pray my work brings others to the realization of Him and His love, joy, and peace. Motto: "You may see the art full of life, but true life is found in Jesus Christ." "But now, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand." ~ Isaiah 64:8

