

THE HOUGHTON STAR

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NEWS
in
Brief
by D. ELLIOTT TAIT
Editor-in-Chief

UN Official Caught in Iraq's Food-for-Oil Program.

Late last week the director of the UN food-for-oil program was found to have received significant amounts of money for steering oil contracts to former U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali. Bank records state that \$160,000 was given to the director, Benon Sevan, from his aunt in Cyprus, who had been dead for some time and was described to have "limited resources." The food-for-oil program was a \$67 billion aide program installed by the UN which gave Iraq food and living necessities in exchange for their oil. This insured that the country's exports did not solely benefit Saddam and his regime while the people grew poor and hungry. The program lasted from 1996 to 2003, when Saddam Hussein was overthrown. Sevan's exchange was discovered by a probe hired by the UN to investigate how ethically the program was functioning. The Iraqi ambassador to the UN demanded that the UN refund its money as a result of the unethical acts of the director. (From Source: <http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=topNews&storyID=7545712&pageNumber=0>).

Gonzales Approved as New Attorney General.

On February 3 the controversial Alberto Gonzales won Senate approval by a vote of 60-36 - all

see **NEWS**, page 2

College Plans to Use \$2.9 Million on Addition to the Library

by JOSH MILLER
Star Staff Writer

After deliberation between students, faculty and administrators, Houghton's administration has decided to use the 2.9 million dollars it received from some recent refinancing to add a third floor to the Houghton College Library.

Originally the college hoped to use this money to achieve some of its Capital Campaign goals, which include renovating the chapel and working on the Fine Arts Center, but realized

these projects could not meet one of the main stipulations of the refinancing: the money has to be used to create a new building or a separate addition to an existing building; it cannot be used for renovations.

In light of this condition, the

administration began to consider projects that would allow the college to better serve a growing student body and would also attract prospective students. According to Vice-President for Student Life Wayne MacBeth, this led to the "idea of adding classrooms and some faculty office space." Initially the administration proposed adding on to the

Campus Center, but received significant negative feedback from students. In talking with the SGA, MacBeth notes that students seemed more favorable to constructing a third floor for the library than expanding the Campus Center.

"There was some concern by students that if we move in a lot of administrative

offices or classrooms into the addition to the Campus Center, then it might take away from the feel that the Campus Center is a place for students to relax and be at arms-length from the academic area," says



PHOTO BY RACHEL BRASK
A third floor will be added to the Willard J. Houghton Library from the \$2.9 million dollars freed up from recent refinancing.

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36 "no's" were Democrats. Arguments on the Senate floor arose concerning Gonzales' participation in the construction of legal arguments defending the use of torture by US troops and agents on foreign detainees. Gonzales is the first Hispanic to serve as Attorney General. He replaces John Ashcroft, who won at an even slimmer Senate confirmation vote of 58-42. (From Source: <http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=topNews&storyID=7533524>).

US Hostage to Be Beheaded Was Probably an Action Figure, Military States.

Hearts skipped a beat on Tuesday, Feb 1 for Americans who saw a photo of a GI bound by his hands with his own m-16 pointed at his head. The photo was published on a website run by the "Mujahadeen Brigade," and issues a statement claiming that, "God willing, we will behead him if our female and male prisoners are not released from U.S. prisons within the maximum period of 72 hours from the time this statement has been released." Interestingly, however, the military had no record of a leaving behind a wounded soldier, nor of a man named "John Adam," who the website claimed the man to be. Later in the week Liam Cusack, of the toy manufacturer Dragon Models USA, Inc., said the image of the soldier portrayed in the photo bore a striking resemblance to a military action figure made by the company. The Department of Defense then issued a statement confirming that the photo was a hoax, and the image was probably a toy. (From Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2005/WORLD/meast/02/01/iraq.hostage.ap/index.html>).

LIBRARY, from page 1

MacBeth.

Along with student opinion, campus beautification played a part in the decision-making process. "There was a lot of concern that we try to preserve the look of the Quad and the look into the Quad," says MacBeth, and this addition to the library won't take away "any of the valuable green space" in or near the Quad. The extra floor would also increase the library's height, which Library Director Brad Wilbur thinks will improve its appearance, as right now it is jokingly referred to as "the shrimp of the buildings on campus." Another aesthetic improvement involves the possibility of building a skywalk from the new floor of the library to the Academic Building. "We're actually pretty excited about [it]," says Dean of the College Ron Oakerson, who will be one of the members on the project's planning committee. "The academic space that we're creating atop the library will, in a sense, be integrated with the academic space in the Academic Building"—something that Oakerson believes will please both students and faculty. "And," Oakerson adds, "we think it'll be pretty snazzy too."

This new addition will also include approximately

12-14 offices, 6 regular classrooms, one larger multipurpose classroom, and a significant amount of study space for students. According to MacBeth, the college hopes to "create more high-tech options" in these classrooms that will facilitate "intersecting with the outside world, creating opportunities for long-distance linkages" to other cities and colleges. The addition and the rest of the library will also have air-conditioning installed, which will allow for better climate control in a building that Wilbur notes is "prohibitively warm a lot of the time."

In the planning process, the college will have to address potential hazards of the project as well, including the preservation of the library's collection. In regards to the skywalk, Wilbur says, "Libraries don't typically like creating a second exit from the building for security reasons." He is also concerned with the possible damage the air-conditioning could do to the books by increasing the building's humidity. And while Wilbur acknowledges that the college expanded the library three years ago, he does think that the project's planners need to consider "which direction the library will expand" in the future to accommodate its projected enrollment increase.

These concerns will be addressed by the project's planning committee, chaired by Vice-President of Finance Jeff Spear and made up of MacBeth, Oakerson, two faculty members to be named by Oakerson in the near future, and student representative Sharon Askey, who will be in contact with the student body to provide them with information and listen to their suggestions for the construction of the new addition. The committee will also rely on resource people, including Wilbur, Marge Avery for concerns about space requirements, and Glen Avery for technical aspects of classroom and office design.

The committee has yet to meet and will probably begin meeting every week after the Board of Trustees meets to discuss the project on Friday the 11th. After the addition receives their approval, the committee will attempt to develop construction plans with relative quickness as it hopes to begin building the addition this summer and have it ready for use by the fall of 2006.

The Star needs PHOTOGRAPHERS and JOURNALISTS! Get involved with the Star!

Do you have any ideas for the Star? If you're interested in writing articles for the Star, email David.Tait@houghton.edu or Sarah.Allen@houghton.edu. Interested in Photography? Email Rachel.Brask@houghton.edu

ADDITION article cont'd in next column

H2G Looks to Balance Houghton Gender Ratio

by HEIDI SPRUNGER
Staff Writer

One of the most commented-on (or perhaps complained-about) features of Houghton's student body is the imbalance between males and females on campus. Houghton students, however, might see a shift in this balance in the upcoming years.

Last year, Houghton's H2G (Houghton Higher Ground) committee was charged with the goal of building the student body up from its current 1200 students to 1400. Recently, the issue of the gender imbalance has been the topic of H2G discussion as they have been exploring the possibility of evening out the gender imbalance while expanding the student body.

In the 2003-4 school year the percentage of female students rose from 66% to 67%. "We aren't interested in becoming a woman's college," joked Wayne MacBeth, Vice President of Student Life and head of H2G.

Now H2G is strategizing ways to bring the gender ration closer to a 50/50 balance.

They began by reviewing the reasons why there are so many women on campus. It happens that Houghton's top ten programs are those typically pursued by women rather than men. For example, the education department has only 18% men, and the psychology department is only 18% men as well. The only program from the top ten which carries a higher male to female ratio is the business department, which has 51% men.

H2G then brought in Ken Bates, head of the Business Department, to strategize on how to make the business department more attractive to potential students. MacBeth explained that there are currently about 60 business majors. If another 40 come in to make an even 100, at least half should be men, bringing in 20 more male students.

Skip Lord, head of the Athletic

Department, was also invited to discuss changes that would recruit more men. He suggested bringing in a men's sport that was not available in many other Christian liberal art college; for example, Lacrosse. However, because of Title 9 (dealing with equality of the sexes), Houghton would also be required to bring in a new women's sport. In response to this, the committee has considered adding one that would be attractive to the already-existing female students, rather than potential female students, like softball.

Traditional methods of bringing in more men were discussed as well, but were ruled out because they were typically expensive and complicated. For example, a football

program always brings in a lot of men, but a sport like that requires an excessive amount of money and resources.

Another typical method colleges use is bringing in an engineering program. However, Houghton does not want to add

another expensive major, partially because they already-existing diversity of programs. Furthermore, Houghton just added a new program: Information Technology Management, which has the potential to attract more men.

MacBeth emphasized that H2G is taking care to maintain the integrity of this whole process. All suggestions are sent to President Chamberlain for his verification and execution.

The changes concerning the gender balance that H2G is looking at will not be happening in the immediate future—as MacBeth said, "It is just the beginning."



PHOTO BY RACHEL BRASK
Examples of the 3:1 "Houghton Ratio" abound on the college campus.

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Dear Dr. Brittain....

Have a problem or a question that you want answered with the wisdom, humor, and unique flavor of Dr. Brittain? Write to The Star at star@houghton.edu or CPO #370. Letters should be no longer than 250 words.

NEW BEGINNINGS AT JOURNEY'S END

by BEN WALKER
Staff Writer

California Street is not in one of the upstanding sections of Buffalo. It is a fairly poor, heavily minority-populated neighborhood, as evidenced by the amount of plastic sheeting in windows and the number of small shops selling ethnic foods and groceries. I was one of four Houghton students who, for one hour of the week on Saturday mornings, come to a second floor apartment on this street to share the living room of a refugee family's house. The refugee family is sponsored and assisted in its new life in the USA by Journey's End Refugee Services. In its 15-year history, Journey's End has helped to resettle around 1,500 persons granted refugee status in the United States. Houghton's affiliation with Journey's End began last year when some students volunteered there during the Martin Luther King Service Day. I spoke with Dr. Andrew Gallman, Chair of the Foreign Language/Linguistics Department and the main force on campus behind the program. It was he who last semester gave students in his Introduction to TESOL class the chance to volunteer at Journey's End to fulfill their practicum requirement. One reason that Dr. Gallman, as a linguistics professor, was drawn to Journey's End was the opportunity to work with Somali Bantu-speaking refugees. The Somali Bantu language is not written down and very little, in terms of linguistic study, is known about it.

Last semester, seven Houghton

volunteers from the TESOL class started going Buffalo. This semester, that number has jumped to more than 30 participants, and not all yield from TESOL classes nor are Education majors. Many volunteering are from Dr. Gallman's Linguistics classes, and I met Bible, Art, and Communications majors in my first two weeks of volunteering, all looking for a chance to help out. All go as tutors with the purpose of helping refugee families, especially the children, to learn English and to acclimate to the American educational system. Dr. Gallman puts it simply: "The need is so huge for these people to learn English."

One of the major problems for these children is that most have had little to no education before coming to the United States, and they are placed in public schools based solely on their age, with little regard to whether they comprehend the language of instruction or the basic ideas being taught. Another problem that Gallman mentioned is that children will generally not be held back a grade based on academic performance until they are almost in high school, regardless of whether they understand what they are being taught. "They pass [the Bantu children] every year, until about 8th or 9th grade," Gallman said. "They're pretty much mainstreaming them into the public schools." These 30 once-a-week tutors are getting up early and sacrificing their Saturday mornings, trying to help bridge that gap.

Liz Garofano is one of the TESOL students who began tutoring Bantu refugees last semester.

She is working with the same household this semester, where two women from separate families and their children live. In refugee families, it is quite common for families to have been split up, either by death or separation for some other

reason. According to Garofano, when she began teaching the Bantu children, "I had no clue what their level would be going in, but I just started really basic." In the beginning the children knew very little at all—they could recite the alphabet by rote, but could



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY ELIZABETH GAROFANO

Aweso and Noor practicing their colors and shapes.

not identify individual letters. The women were also learning along with their children. Said Garofano: "That was kind of interesting to see, the kids helping the moms and the moms helping them," though progress has been slow. Repetition, she emphasized, is the key—explaining things in different ways until the underlying concepts become clear. All of the children are still working towards being able to read. For them, "sounds are the hardest thing, which we're working on now."

Of course not all families are at the same level in their English comprehension. The youngest child at the California Street address, an 11-year old boy, can add and subtract the numbers from 1 to 10, and can name letters and use them in sounding out words. The knowledge of his 13-year old brother clearly encompassed the packet of basic words, terms and concepts that Journey's End gives to all volunteers as starting point and/or goal of their tutoring sessions.

Journey's End also tries as much as possible to find housing in the same neighborhood for refugees of the same national origin, and it seems to be producing positive results. Garofano noted, "I almost feel like [the Somali Bantu refugees are] one huge family, because there's this huge sense of community. They're always at each other's house" (sic). Dr. Gallman believes that the simple act of these 30 students investing time every week trying to relate to and connect with these forcibly displaced people is very important. "Relationships," he said, "Are developing that I think will have tremendous payoff for their future here."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY ELIZABETH GAROFANO

Student, Kara Pocock, poses with the Nineteenth Street families.

It's All About the "Peeps!"

by ELAINE TOOLEY
SGA Commissioner of Communications

Sam Ewig once said, "Hard work spotlights the character of people: some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their noses, and some don't turn up at all." It's very easy to complain and criticize people. It's harder to compromise and find a workable solution. Life means dealing with people. It is only when we realize that people are more important than projects, ideas, money, and egos that we begin applying what we have learned, and start impacting those around us.

Jesus was a man who was concerned with people. He did not get sidetracked by the theological snares of the Pharisees. He was not entrapped in philosophical debates. Rather, he looked at a person, saw him for what he was, and treated him with love. He built relationships, and loved people – he didn't push his ideas because he didn't need to. Those relationships were enough. So why aren't we that concerned about relationships in our daily lives, specifically in interaction with groups on this campus?

If there was one idea that I would leave with those seeking to be involved in students who pursue SGA in the future, or who don't for that matter, is this: people are more important. Whatever the problem is, the answer is that people are more important.

You see, the SGA is charged with representing the interests of students. The administration is charged with running a stellar institution. The faculty is committed to teaching and prodding students. The staff provides the behind-the-scenes work that many of us forget about. In order for these groups to work together, there must be a working, professional, team-oriented relationship.

Relationships provide a foundation that can be built upon. If there is little or no respect between two groups, then neither one will trust the other to handle situations or come up with reasonable solutions. If there is repeatedly negative interaction, it is unlikely that one group will turn to the other group for advice, input, or counsel.

In order to disagree constructively, there must be a rapport with the other group. Relationships take work, love, patience, understanding, and time. They will ultimately take more time to develop than arguing for your rights at a single meeting. However, the benefits in the end will greatly outweigh the time cost at the beginning. In order to discuss issues, conflict civilly, create compromises, and make decisions that are the best for the people involved, a relationship must exist – a relationship where ideas can be fostered, and teamwork is essential. Little can be accomplished when pride, egos, and agendas are in the way. Not much can be done when leaders are concerned about their legacy.

Credibility is built through relationships, through quality interaction, through gracious behavior, and through words spoken in love. Once credibility between groups has been established, it will be possible for interest groups to sit around the conference table and disagree without hostility. The right solutions can be decided and compromises can be made.

I once learned a great lesson from my father. He's a school administrator, my mother is a teacher, and at the time of this learned lesson, I was a high school student. These three distinct interest groups sat around my dinner table every night. I heard ideas being forged, and perspectives being sought. But, the most important aspect when making a decision about an issue, a problem, or an idea, was my Dad's famous question: "Is it best for the people involved?"

Remember that you're dealing with people. You're not just talking about ideas, suggestions, projects, funding, or subject matters.

KATHY'S CORNER

These winter months make me want to stay inside, grab a blanket, and snack, read or watch TV. I know, I know...I should be running to the gym and getting rid of post-Christmas flab. But if snacking is your thing, here are two recipes for yummy and easy snacks. The first one is from Deb Alcott and is called White Trash. This is what Deb uses, but you can certainly change the ingredients to suit yourself.

White Trash

Three cups each:

Cheerios
Rice Chex
Pretzels
M&M's
Peanuts

Microwave one pound (16 ounces) white chocolate chips, pour over the cereal mix and stir. That's it. You have it. Enjoy. The next snack is called Puppy Chow or Muddy Buddies. Here is the recipe.

Puppy Chow

9 cups Rice Chex

Combine in bowl and microwave:

1 cup chocolate chips
1/2 cup peanut butter
1/4 cup butter

Don't microwave too long. Stop before everything is melted and stir. Add 1/4 tsp. vanilla. Pour over the cereal and stir carefully so as not to crush the rice chex. In a big plastic or paper bag, put 1 1/2 cups powdered sugar and shake the coated cereal in the powdered sugar. I ended up using about 2 cups of powdered sugar to coat all the cereal, but you may do better than I did.

One nice thing you can tell yourself as you munch either of these snack is that cereal has lots of vitamins and minerals, so it is better for you than some snacks you could choose. So snuggle down in your comforter, watch a movie and have a bowl of Puppy Chow or White Trash. Before you know it, Spring will be here.

You're making decisions that will influence lives. I ask that there be a place to talk about every aspect of a decision before it is made, that there be cooperation among the various interest groups on this campus, and that we make decisions that glorify the Lord.

As Sam Ewig mentioned, there are three ways to approach work – roll up your sleeves, turn up your noses, or don't show up at all. This month, the SGA is looking for students who are willing to roll up their sleeves and build relationships with other interest groups. Sure, it's easy to turn up your nose and not want to be a part of making things better. After all, it takes work and humility to build relationships. And, it's been the status quo for a while not to show up at all. What I am suggesting is a method of interaction: relational interaction. Listen to others before shooting down their ideas. Politely disagree, but be ready to offer an alternative solution. Be willing to compromise. But, ultimately – do what is best for the people involved.

THIS WEEK IN SGA:

- The **Blood Drive** on January 27 yielded 67 donors, 54 productive pints, and 17 new donors. The next drive is April 11, 2005.
- **Club/Event Fund allocations** were made, and student organizations were given money for the semester.
- **SGA is seeking students to run for office next year!** Email sga@houghton.edu if you're interested.
- **Senate discussed charging at some CAB events.**
- **After the Storm** tsunami relief efforts were planned, and the event was held this past weekend.
- **Winter Weekend** is coming along, and will be held February 10-12.
- **The Campus Services Budget** is coming up on the agenda.
- Ideas for the Student Project Fund are not being solicited. Have ideas for changes or projects on campus? Email sga@houghton.edu.

MOVIES

with Adam & Pete

Grade: D

There are two different kinds of bad movies, there are the ones that have clear objectives and fail miserably at trying to attain them, and these are usually the type of bad movies that find their way onto my list of the worst movies of that year. On the other hand, there are those bad movies that you do not end up hating because you could not help but shake your head or laugh at the absurdity being presented up on the screen; *The Wedding Date* starring Debra Messing is one such film.

Messing plays Kat, a woman who has not seen her family in two years, has to fly to London for her sister's wedding, and has been dumped by her fiancé who, coincidentally, is the best man. In order not to be labeled as a "desperate girl" by her family, Kat hires a male escort to act as her new hunky boyfriend, and is thus, her "Wedding Date." Now I do not want to ruin this movie for all those naïve movie goers but we all know how this movie ends even

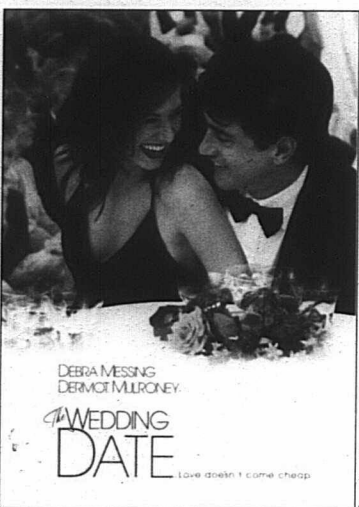
This Week's Review: *The Wedding Date*

by ADAM KLINE

before we enter the theatre. This film is a collaboration of formulas borrowed from films such as *Pretty Woman*, *My Best Friends Wedding*, and *Four Weddings and a Funeral*.

For my readers who have a good memory they may recall three date movies or "chick flicks" appearing on my list of "The Worst Movies of 2004." I would just like to point out to those readers that I have absolutely nothing against chick-flicks, there actually are quite a few in my own movie collection. Just because a date movie has a predictable formula,

and about ninety-nine percent of them do, does not mean the film can not be enjoyable.



Nonetheless, when a chick-flick goes wrong it almost always is a disaster. The problem with *The Wedding Date* is that it suffers from a lack of writing; this story is simply the series of events typical of the "date movie formula," but it has no real transitions or closure.

The interesting thing, however, is that this movie does not lack decent acting; both Debra Messing and Dermot Mulroney, who plays Nick

the escort, do what they can with their characters. Kat is perfectly flustered and is always trying to please everyone, and Nick is observantly quiet and speaks with a sort of fortune cookie wisdom. Though the actors do what they can, the screenplay never explains why these two people are good for each other, or at what point in the story their relationship turns from professional to romantic. These sequences of events are told simply as plot points and are never explained or told as a relatable human story.

Overall, *The Wedding Date* is a bad movie, and not just one of those movies where the annoying girls in the back row are talking and giggling all the way through, this is one of those movies where the entire audience is talking throughout the movie because there is not anything significant to watch on the screen. It is just a series of plot points we can keep track of far too easily and then from time to time laugh at how choppy and "cut and paste" it all is.

by ADAM KLINE

In the Library: *Dial M For Murder*

Grade: A

By Adam Kline

Alfred Hitchcock is one of the most influential and greatest film makers of all time, and as always, I recommend you all to check out the vast selection of great movies in the library that can be borrowed for free. This week I would like to direct your

attention to the films of this great director, most specifically one of my favorite Hitchcock films, *Dial M for Murder*.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with Hitchcock's work, you would be surprised to discover that a lot of directors today were explicitly influenced by Hitchcock, and it shows in their film making. One example is M. Night Shyamalan, if you have seen *The Sixth Sense*, *Unbreakable*, *Signs*, or *The Village* than you have seen a film richly influenced by the art of Alfred Hitchcock. Hitchcock was a director of moods and emotion; he built suspense and tension within the audience by the choices of lighting, film stock, music, and sound effects. There is a brilliant subtlety to Hitchcock's work and there are few films that are a better example than, *Dial M for Murder*.

Long before Tarantino's *Reservoir Dogs* – a film shot

predominately in an open warehouse – in the year nineteen fifty-four Alfred Hitchcock released two great thrillers where both stories take place almost entirely in a single room.

Rear Window, which was released

the same year, is sometimes considered more popular than *Dial M for Murder*. Although *Rear Window* is a great film, *Dial M for Murder* is a masterpiece.

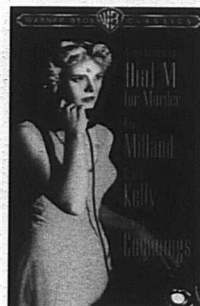
The story revolves around a husband and wife, the wife, Mrs. Wendice, does not know that her husband is aware of her affair with a man by the name of Mark Halliday. With the motives of vengeance and money, Mr. Tony Wendice hires a man to kill his wife one night, however, the murder

does not go as planned and Tony Wendice is left to make up a story to cover his tracks. *Dial M for Murder* is wonderful example of how Alfred Hitchcock loved to use the contrast of shadows and light

in order to set the tone of the film and achieve the characterization he desired for his actors.

Coincidentally,

Dial M for Murder was remade in nineteen ninety-eight under the title, *The Perfect Murder*, starring Gwyneth Paltrow and Michael Douglas. Even though you may not have heard of any of the stars in the original nineteen fifty-four version, such as Grace



Kelly and Robert Cummings, that is no reason for you to rob yourself of the experience of watching one of Alfred Hitchcock's greatest films, *Dial M for Murder*.

The Grading System

- A+ = Perfect, no complaints
- A/A- = Great movie, worth owning
- B +/- = Good movie, worth seeing
- C +/- = Disappointing, maybe on video
- D +/- = Bad movie, not worth the money
- F = One of the worst movies of all time

Coming Soon...

In Theatres Friday, February 11th

- *Hitch*, starring Will Smith and Kevin James
- *Pooh's Heffalump Movie*, starring Winnie the Pooh

On DVD Tuesday, February 15th

- *The Motorcycle Diaries*, starring Gael Garcia Bernal
- *Saw*, starring Cary Elwes and Danny Glover

A Brief History (and Future) of Political Correctness in Houghton

by MIKE MORDENGA
Humor Columnist

Many of you have noticed that the "Oriental Bar" has been changed to the "Asian Bar". While many have thought it was a meaningless gesture, it's actually a skillful plan to not insult anyone who would find the word "oriental" to be offensive.

It's changes like these that deserve a recounting of the history of political correctness in Houghton. It wasn't always this safe in the world. In fact, there was a time when PC was not practiced at all. People were dropping the M-bomb (man) in books, movies and television as if men owned the world and woman were non-existent (which is totally the opposite in Houghton standards). Tons of bars were being inappropriately named without any consideration to the billions of inhabitants on this earth being offended by it. It was a horrible place for people who loved to bring up arguments.

I take you back to the beginning of Houghton when all the text books replaced the word "man" (meaning both genders) with "humankind" (meaning the type of people E.T. referred to). Some felt ignored and offended because

"humankind" still had the word "man" in it. Thus, for a while, Houghton coined the term "manwo", which was to include both woman and man. While manwo didn't solve the problem (it had man in it), it wasn't changed for three years because people just liked saying "manwo". Houghton considered using "person" instead, but that had the word "son" in it and they didn't want to exclude any families which had conceived only daughters. The answer hit like lightning when the Houghton committee found that the ratio was clearly in the female favor and thus men don't have to be included at all. That is why no one argues that Shen has a "she" in it.

Our specialty food bars were not always safe for all inhabitants of Houghton. There was a time when the naming of bars was careless and totally in the favor of the media and not the blue collar worker. The Salad Bar used to be called the "Too Weak for Meat Bar" and much offense was taken. The Taco Bar was formerly called the "Too Lazy to Make a Sandwich or a Burger Bar" but that was changed for obvious reasons. The Oriental Bar was not always the Oriental Bar; before it was the "Why is my Fortune Cookie Made in

America Bar?". But luckily, the Houghton staff merged together to make our bars "manwo friendly". Now we have the "Asian Bar". But I still think it's a bit offensive. Are we implying that everyone from Asia is Asian? Instead of the Asian Bar, I have proposed that map coordinates be given to signify where the food is coming from. Instead of the Asian bar, it is now the "[007, 130] bar". I'm also not content with the word "bar". Bars are associated with drinkers, so I proposed the "[007, 130] place of food". I think we can all agree on this (It might even make a cool t-shirt).

I hope that we can agree that a PC world is a world that strives to please everybody (or absolutely no one). It's human nature that some parent, child, group or person be not 100% satisfied with the way things are run. But to be honest I think the phrase "politically correct" is not politically correct. Is there anything in politics that resembles correct? We should live our lives like the Sunday school child where the correct answer is always "Jesus". I envision a world that has peace on earth and goodwill toward manwo.

GUIDELINES FOR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Readers are encouraged to write responses to any portion of *The Star* in the form of a letter to the Editor. Letters should be no more than 500 words in length and should be sent to david.tait@houghton.edu. All letters are subject to editing or dismissal at the Editor-in-Chief's discretion depending on their content and relevance. Letters should be sent to the Editor by noon on the Sunday before the next issue. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

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Winter Weekend Activities (Feb 10-12)

CAB Coffeehouse with Mike Zale

Thursday, February 10 at 8:00
pm @ the Campus Center

Snow Sculpture Contest

Get some friends together and
create a sculpture on the Quad.
Friday and Saturday, February
11 - 12
Judging - Saturday February 12
at 2:00 pm
Quad

Symphonic Winds and Jazz Ensemble Concert

Friday, February 11 at 8:00 pm

Movie: Spiderman II

Friday, February 11 at 10:30 pm
Wesley Chapel

Home Basketball Games

Saturday, February 12
2:00 pm Women's Game vs.
Notre Dame College
4:00 pm Men's Game vs. Notre
Dame College

Midwinter Masquerade Banquet

Saturday, February 12 at 7:00 pm
Campus Center dining hall

SPOT

Saturday, February 12 at 9:30 pm
Wesley Chapel

Highlanders Rally for a Close Win

FEBRUARY 1

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

HOUGHTON HIGHLANDERS 56, CARLOW CELTICS 50

By Kristen Neimi

HOUGHTON, N.Y.—The Highlanders shut down the Carlow University Celtics to achieve their first AMC North victory and their fourth victory throughout the season.

The first period was a tight game on both fronts—the margin between scores was never more than 5, and the Highlanders led 65.7 percent of the time. The Celtics hit 45 percent of their shots from the field in this first period while Houghton had 48 percent.

In the first period, Sarah Bishop with 12:38 to go, drove hard into the Carlow defense for a jumper, giving Houghton two points and a one-point lead with 13-12. With 7:57 left, Amanda Glasner put the basketball up one-handed over her head into the basket, once again giving the Highlander's a one-point lead with a score of 18-17. Bishop followed up with 3:42 on the clock as she went for a lay-up but was pushed and fell down. As she was falling, she shot

the basketball into the air and amazingly made it. The Highlander's rallied once again to gain two more points in the last 47 seconds when Jessica Clark passed the ball to Bishop who had her back to the offensive basket. Bishop grabbed the ball and spun around, knocking into the Carlow players she pushed forward to put the ball into the basket and brought the Highlander's to a score of 35-31 at the end of the first period.

The first eight minutes of the second period brought a big change as Houghton soared ahead of the Celtics having at one point a lead of 13. It was in this time that Clark with 17:22 to go was on the left side of the basket just outside the three-point line, and before the shot clock wound down to zero she shot the basketball. As the buzzer went off, the ball made its way into the basket to give Houghton three points, bringing the score to 38-31 for the Highlanders. Carlow, however, was not ready to give up, and fought back to narrow the margin down to two with only forty seconds to go in the game. The Highlander's picked up the pace in these last few seconds to put a series of free throws under their belt, distancing themselves by six points and securing the victory with a score of 56-50.

The Top Ten... Ways to Know You've Been Awake for FAR Too Long

(by Rachel Brask)

10. Walking into walls, doors and people begins to seem normal.
9. You CANNOT part with the cup of coffee in your hand that has become a natural extension of yourself...or else you may get violent.
8. You begin to wear sunglasses outside and even inside because any light, yes, even just fluorescent light, hurts like the 5th level of Dante's *Inferno*.
7. You stop counting the hours that you've slept, and instead count the minutes.
6. You are surprised when your coffee cup falls when you place it down in mid-air, at least a foot from the nearest table-edge.
5. People talking to you sound as though speaking a foreign language from the far end of a long, long tunnel.
4. The world looks as though you're seeing it through a kaleidoscope, and it's usually spinning.
3. You keep seeing that large purple penguin that's been following you around the past few days.
2. The voices. They're much louder now. They keep you company.
1. When you finally do lie in bed to fall asleep, you've forgotten how to sleep.

Orthodoxy Comes to Ortlip Gallery with Iconographer Christine Simoneau-Hales

by SARAH RICHARDS
Guest Columnist

A visitor to The Ortlip Gallery, located in the Center for Fine Arts building, will find his or her curious glance met and returned by not one but many pairs of equally concerned, questioning glances. Saints, angels, and apostles hover in vibrant swaths of red and blue paint, transformed into nearly-living forms by the brilliance of gold leaf. One of our best-known Houghton College art spaces has been transformed into a veritable chapel, replete with tranquility, hushed footsteps, and candles.

Christine Simoneau-Hales, an iconographer, came to Houghton campus on January 14-15 and brought a taste of the Russian Orthodox to our Evangelical Protestant lifestyle with a gallery opening and an iconography workshop. She paints replicas of traditional Russian Orthodox icons, depicting the holy family, a series of saints, and angels.

Simoneau-Hales has also created an original group of works entitled "Stations of the Cross," a series of icons that depict Christ's progression through the events leading to his sacrificial death. None of these icons show Christ fully, focusing rather on the physical details pertinent to displaying his action in each moment. When the subject involves Christ's shoulders bearing the cross, his shoulders under the cross are emphasized.

Inspired to create icons through her encounters with icons and illustrators in traditional convents and monasteries, Simoneau-Hales became deeply interested not only in the physical making of icons but in their symbolic merit and the spiritual disciplines related to the use of icons in worship. She spoke of the energy inherent in particular geometrical patterns and the symbolic nature of certain colors in the icons. Simoneau-Hales was pleased to hear that the Christian Classics reading group had chosen *The Way of the Pilgrim*, the story of an unknown nineteenth-century Russian peasant's quest for the secret of prayer, as its first book of study. She encourages a contemplative approach to prayer, and led the gathering at Chapel in a period of prayer, using an icon of Christ as a means of focusing on worship and being reminded of his attributes as symbolized in the icon.

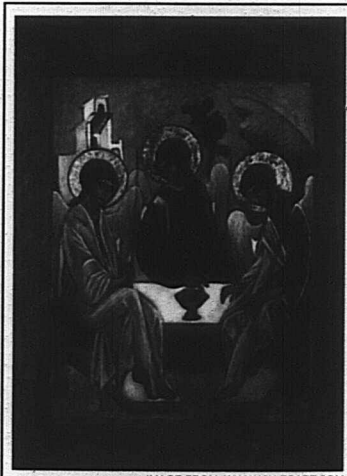


IMAGE FROM WWW.HALESART.COM

"The Trinity," 9" x 12." Egg tempera with gold leaf on wood panel. One of many icons by Christine Simoneau-Hales on exhibit in the Ortlip Gallery through February 24th, 2005.