

STEVE MCCORD

RAPHAEL DERUNGS
FEATURES, P. 8

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Campus Celebrates Purple and Gold Week



COURTESY OF CAB

Purple and gold t-shirts were distributed earlier this week.

HOLLY CHAISSON

Purple and Gold Week is a well-known tradition at Houghton. The week's events include free t-shirts for students to show their loyalty for either purple or gold and participate in the "Houghton Out" at the basketball games, and campus-wide enter-

tainment such as the Pyramid Game Show and SPOT.

CAB is in the organization most involved in Purple and Gold week, organizing and overseeing most of the week's events. Other groups such as the athletics department and the Class of 2015 co-sponsor some of the events as well. Due to its extended run, CAB devotes a significant

amount of time toward planning and running the week's events. Events such as SPOT and the Pyramid Game especially require advanced planning. For example, the selection of SPOT hosts Luke Ogden and John Carpenter took place at the end of last semester. Alongside planning for these larger-scale events is what CAB member Joshua Duttweiler said were the "usual steps in planning a party; decorations, food, etc."

The planning for this year's events was similar to last year's, said Duttweiler, "with the exception of changing the game show to Pyramid which is a better known game "than last year's 'Match Game.'" Zina Teague, a Houghton alumna who has been selected to be a contestant on the Pyramid Game, said that she loves participating in Purple and Gold week events as an alumna, even if it is just to "simply share her goofiness with others" on campus. Additionally, the "Just Dance" Tournament, which was new to last year, was brought back due to its popularity and Duttweiler said CAB expects it be a success again. Most of the events are chosen

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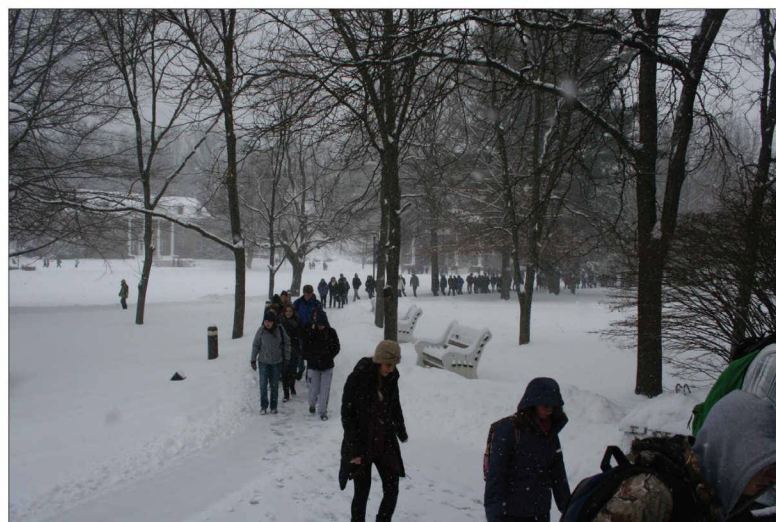
New Chapel Time Proposed for 2014-2015 School Year

GRETCHEN REEVES

The infamous Monday-Wednesday-Friday lunch rush after chapel may become a thing of the past next fall semester. After alterations from former Student Government Association presidents Garrett Fitzsimmons and Joel Ernst as well as two scrapped plans for a new schedule for next year, a third plan is up for approval by SGA and Academic Council.

Previous chapel times were early enough to evade the long lines in the dining hall immediately after chapel. According to Margery Avery, director of academic records, "Back when chapel was at 11:05, students either went to class after chapel or they went to lunch. Normally 65% of them went to class after chapel. And, lunch wasn't open from 7:00 to 7:00, so there was just a certain amount of time. So, if 65% of people walked out of chapel and went to class, then you still had a number of students who could go to lunch. Students ate in shifts." This pattern continued even after a time change to 10:15.

The current starting time of 11:30 was originally changed to fit in science labs or three non-lab classes prior



Students make their way to the Campus Center after chapel.

GRETCHEN REEVES

to chapel and provide enough room to schedule four-hour credit courses afterward. However, for many students with multiple afternoon classes scheduled, the only window for them to eat lunch was between the 12:10 ending time for chapel and the 12:45 time for their first afternoon class. Avery states that the time period "was never intended to be lunch. The theory was they would go to

class or they would go to lunch. They wouldn't wind up doing both. But, the students tried to do both."

A version C of next year's campus schedule has chapel set from 11:00 to 11:40. However, Avery stresses that there is no guarantee this will be the official schedule for the 2014-2015. For now, the schedule is to be proposed to SGA for input from the student body.★

Bible Dep't Adjusts to Cuts

JORY KAUFFMAN

With recent budget and staff cuts, every academic department essentially feels the weight of such changes and the restrictions that often follow; the Bible department specifically, is struggling with current academic burdens.

The aforementioned budget cuts elicited the elimination of the adjunct professor position in the Bible department, a person previously depended upon to take up some of the load of teaching classes. The result, along with a current professor's absence due to a year of sabbatical, created a deficiency of course offerings within the Bible major this semester.

Sarah Derck, Old Testament, acknowledged the restrictions applied to the department due to the budget cuts. One result is, she said, "for this academic year we had to rearrange the offerings, and not have quite as many upper level Bible courses available."

From the perspective of a current senior Bible major, such a deficiency comes as a sudden inconvenience. The majority of seniors in the department accepted independent study courses this spring as a means of meeting course requirements in order to complete their degrees.

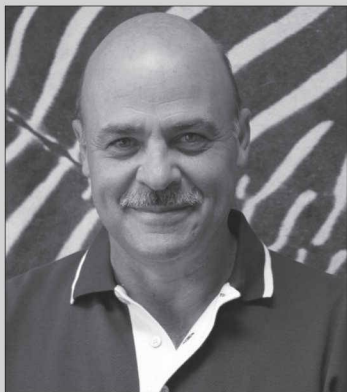
Billy Marshall, senior Bible major, expressed his frustration in this current lack of course offerings. He said, "The lack of courses being offered for Bible majors is more than a simple inconvenience - it's frustrating beyond belief... As a Christian college we shouldn't just offer Bible courses that cover the fundamentals."

As Biblical Literature remains a required introductory-level course for all graduates, the remaining Bible professors, specifically Sarah Derck and Terrence Paige, now must dedicate more of their teachings to that specific class this semester. The remaining few upper-level classes are currently offered every year, and as a result senior Bible majors find the classes offered those already taken, and therefore must resort to independent study courses.

Unlike Marshall, other students see an independent study course as an opportunity to study something they find specific interest in. One such senior, Christine Brien, spoke of her experience within the Bible major. While expressing disappointment in the fact that the Bible department withdrew a two credit, upper-level course on the book of Psalms due to

See BIBLE page 3

WORLD // War in South Sudan



COURTESY OF JON ARENSEN

JON ARENSEN

South Sudan is the newest country in the world, born in July of 2011. For the first time in history people were able to go to the polls and over 99% of them voted for freedom. It was a time of joy and excitement as people looked forward to living in a free and prosperous country. But it was not to be. For much of the past 50 years the black southern Sudanese have been at war with the Arabs of northern Sudan – over 2 million lives have been lost. Having a common enemy forced the southerners to unite. But now the common enemy is no longer there and they have turned on themselves.

To understand South Sudan it is important to realize it is made up of over 90 ethnic groups – each

having their own identity and speaking their own language. The largest group by far is the Dinka, numbering about 3 million people. The second largest is the Nuer, numbering over 1 million. When the new government was formed these two groups immediately dominated the new administration. The President of the country is Salva Kiir, a Dinka. The Vice President is Riek Machar, a Nuer. These two ethnic groups have similar cultural backgrounds. They are both pastoralist societies who love their cattle. But over the centuries they have fought each other for cattle and access to pasture and water. Sadly they have brought these longstanding enmities into the new government.

Many western countries have come to help get this country started. South Sudan is a country with great potential, having large quantities of oil, gold, wildlife and arable land. Juba, the southern capital, has become a boomtown with expatriate organizations struggling to find housing. When I visited there last year I saw apartments going for \$6000 a month and offices renting for \$80,000 a year. Money has poured in to help prop up the new government, but much of it has disappeared into the private accounts of corrupt politicians. South Sudan is presently rated as one of the three most corrupt countries in the entire world.

Several months ago President Kiir decided to do something about it and dismissed most of the ministers in his government – this included his Vice

President Machar and the other Nuer ministers. This caused ill feelings and in December fighting erupted in the capital Juba. Each politician had his own unit of trained bodyguards made up of either Dinka or Nuer soldiers and they started fighting each other. The fighting quickly spread and engulfed the town of Juba. The Dinka soon controlled the town, but actively pursued and killed Nuer people. The opposite happened in other towns where Nuer dominated and they killed Dinka people. Many civilians fled to the various UN compounds for safety. The UN compound in Juba is protecting over 20,000 people who are camping on the premises.

The fighting has become increasingly ugly across Jonglei province with armed militias killing anyone of the opposing ethnic group – often targeting women, children and old people. They are even entering hospitals and shooting sick people in their beds. The latest figures estimate that over 10,000 people have been killed and over 700,000 people are displaced – hiding in the bush without adequate food and water. Even humanitarian groups trying to supply emergency aid have been attacked and been forced to withdraw their services.

There have been ongoing peace talks in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Initially these were heading nowhere as each side continued to fight. But a peace agreement has now been signed by negotiators on both sides. It is well worded and demands an

immediate cessation of hostilities. However, many of the militias operate in remote areas and there is no central control over these fighting groups. So fighting continues. Word needs to get out to these militias with orders to stop fighting. There also needs to be guarantees of safety so the humanitarian organizations can get into the country and offer immediate aid.

Civilians are fleeing to Uganda at the rate of over 1000 a day – joining the 50,000 refugees that are already there. Most of them are walking and are in bad physical shape. The high numbers have seriously stretched the ability of the humanitarian organizations to feed and house them. The refugees interviewed have no faith in the peace agreement and many are stating that they want to live in Uganda and never return to South Sudan.

Sadly the atrocities and killings have renewed deep hatreds between the ethnic groups and created a desire for revenge. A diplomat stated that this fighting has set the country back 20 years. Fortunately there is a strong church in South Sudan. The church leaders are united and pleading with their people to forgive and live in peace. Forgiveness is their only hope. ★

Jon is a professor emeritus of intercultural studies.

WORD ON THE STREET



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"I don't really have a preference, I just really like watching the Olympics. It's entertaining just like any other sports game."

--Evan Anstey, junior

"I think probably downhill skiing. It's a really fun event to watch because it is super fast-paced. I also like ice skating, but it's for a really bad reason: I think it's funny when they fall."

--Sydney Shufelt, freshman



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"I'm looking forward to the figure skating because I just think they're really beautiful and that's my favorite event."

--Stephanie Ford, junior

Which event in the Winter Olympics are you looking forward to the most?

"I'm definitely looking forward to the ski jump."

--Sarah Duttweiler, freshman



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"Downhill skiing because it's fast and it's fun and it's hard."

--Paul Rickman, junior

"Curling actually, because I've curled before and I think that I kind of get what it's like and I think it's a lot of fun to watch even though most people don't."

--Michael Carpenter, freshman



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P&G *from page 1*

“based on tradition,” said Duttweiler; “the shirts, CAB Couch during the basketball game, the game show, SPOT, and the dodgeball tournament have been going on for many years now and are looked forward to every year.”

Vice President for Student Life Robert Pool added that he had been working with SGA to help them think of “ways to relight the fire” encouraging student involvement, and to “make Purple and Gold week better, stronger, and more institutionally adopted.” Pool said that the purpose of Purple and Gold week is to not only “have fun” but to “boost school spirit” and “encourage a common experience among all students.”

Psychology and Sociology Transfer to Three-Credit System

WYNN HORTON

Several years back the College transformed its credits system by implementing a required 4-credit hour structure. One of the leading voices of the new system was Dr. Peter Meilaender, political science. The shift was made in order to fulfill what he described as: “Paired desires, faculty would be able to teach more effectively by teaching one less course simultaneously, and students – also taking fewer courses simultaneously – would be able to learn more effectively.” Dr. Linda Mills Woolsey, Dean of the College, further explained, saying, “A lot of study went into the shift and it did reflect a trend among selective liberal arts colleges. We did the best we could with the information we had and from the outset made some exceptions to the rule. We have, however, continued to wrestle with issues inherent in any attempt at a ‘one size fits all’ approach.”

As of last fall, however, departments struggling with this structuring requirement can freely adjust their courses to better suit their needs.

In November of 2013, the Academic Council approved a motion allowing for departments to freely re-organize their curriculum by whatever structure they feel to be most appropriate for facilitating student learning. The resolution as follows was later approved by the faculty: “The general requirements of a four-credit curriculum are hereby relaxed, permitting departments to propose curricula organized in such a way as to provide the best courses and programs for students.” This motion opened the door for several departments to restructure their programs using three-hour or two-hour structures or a functional combination of 2, 3, and 4-hour courses.

As of yet, the most significant changes are happening within the Psychology department, chaired by Dr. Paul Young. “Different disciplines organize their content in different ways,” said Young. “Organizing psychology by time period, for example, just does not fit the field -

Pool said that student response has “met and even exceeded expectations.” This week is rooted in Houghton tradition that goes back even to its “heyday” in the mid to late 1960s when “freshmen were divided into purple and gold, [it] was their identity...they bled purple and gold,” said Pool, who added that some Houghton alums, such as Paul Mills, “really remember those times.” Pool said of Mills that he remains “very loyal to his Gold team,” continuing tradition instilled over 50 years ago.

“These [will be] some of the cherished memories that all of us want to have to tell your children and grandchildren what college is like. [Purple and Gold week] has a lot of cherished value that will help students connect with their alma mater,” said Pool. ★

this is a more topically organized field. With the 4-hour curriculum, the majors would have to be very large.”

More than 10 psychology courses will be adjusted to a three-hour system as of the fall of 2014. Young emphasized the “focus of the shift back as an attempt to allow students to be ‘more flexible in students setting up their own schedules.’” So as to further prohibit scheduling complications the Psychology Department is also allowing for a 3 plus 1 option for students who need a 4 hour course. Young hoped that the transition would be smooth and students would be provided with “enough different courses to fill out their majors.”

Not all voices are united in support of these types of changes, however. Meilaender’s original support for the four-hour system has not wavered. “It is not obvious to me why varieties of content organization (historical, topical, etc.) point to one hours system or another.” Concerning the strain on professors, Meilaender continues to disagree, explaining that from his perspective, “There is equal demand on your time with 3 four hour classes or with 4 three hour classes – it is simply easier to give your attention to fewer classes.”

While not in opposition to the recent changes, Mills Woolsey similarly pointed out, “The three hour system tends to mean more separate preparations for faculty, and [in the past] failed to satisfy student and faculty desires to create more in-depth courses.”

Preferences aside, the motion by the faculty has created a more flexible code for departments to determine course designations and semester schedules. Next fall, psychology majors and professors will put the old system to the test. Mills Woolsey, when asked to predict this decisions impact on the campus as a whole, summarized concisely: “At this point I envision a move toward a structure that allows for 1, 2, 3, and 4 hour courses. I will be interested to see how students in the psychology major respond to the changes.” ★

BIBLE *from page 1*

lack of staff this spring, Brien said, regarding her current independent study course, “It’s an opportunity I wouldn’t have had if Psalms would have been offered, and it’s a more focused course in what I want to be doing after school.”

Although the department faces these cuts and lack of course offerings, Derck places emphasis on the future. Concerning the shortage of upper-level courses, she said, “It’s a temporary thing... and it’s actually a great opportunity to think creatively and strategically.”

Such creative thinking resulted in Derck’s anticipation of a “broader range of Bible courses” in the coming year. The normally offered courses, such as the Pentateuch, will be offered every other spring, as opposed to every spring, leaving room for new course offerings in the semesters its absence leaves.

The department also plans on offering some future classes as two or three credit courses, in order to create flexibility within the major.

One consolation found amid the current deficiencies and frustrations of the department is the fact that these issues are not unique to the



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Bible department. As Derck said, “Going forward we are engaging in what folks all across the college are doing, and that’s trying to figure out how to balance the offerings that our students need, and create a way that allows us to move into the 21st century of higher education, which is, as everybody knows, a totally new ball game.” ★

P.E. Requirements Undergo Changes for Next Semester

GRETCHEN REEVES

Current integrative studies requirements for physical education are hoped to change for the incoming class in the fall of 2014. According to Margery Avery, director of academic records, the changes will affect the use of “indoor” and “outdoor” terminology, eliminate use of “points” in physical education requirements, and attach a half-semester lab component to the required Fitness for Life Class.

Currently, students must pass one outdoor class and one indoor class to fulfill part of their physical education requirements. However, students in the upcoming academic year will only have to take two classes of their choosing from either classification. “To simplify the requirements” was the aim of this change, according to Avery. “After several years of working with the current set of requirements the faculty realized the requirements were somewhat confusing to students. Some people tended to confuse the four points system with credits, but the points had nothing to do with credits. Taking out the references to points should help simplify the requirement.” According to Linda Mills Woolsey, dean of the college and vice president for academic affairs, “We had noticed a high number of petitions for exceptions

to the Health and Wellness requirements and had had some complaints from advisors about the complexity of the requirements, scheduling, and other matters.”

As for the “point” system which was previously used to keep track of which physical education classes had been fulfilled in which categories, Avery says it will no longer be needed. “Some people tended to confuse the four points system with credits, but the points had nothing to do with credits,” she said. “Taking out the references to points should help simplify the requirement.”

In addition to distribution changes, incoming students will also be required to complete a wellness lab that will follow Fitness for Life, which is intended to be scheduled solely during the first half of each semester. The second half of the semester will be occupied by the Wellness Lab, which can be taken for 0.5 credits. The lab will be based on a similar course that was previously taught at Houghton and required for integrative studies. According to Avery, “It used to be that Lifetime Wellness had a lecture and a lab component. When the current PE competency began in 2009, the Lifetime Wellness had been separated into Fitness for Life (which was part of the theory point one) and a separate lab component (the point two).” ★



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SPOT Preview: “There’s going to be a lot more laughing.”

JORY KAUFFMAN

As first years, Luke Ogden and John Carpenter dreamed of one day hosting SPOT together. As seniors, the pair will live out that dream this Saturday. Sitting together on a townhouse couch, Ogden and Carpenter discussed the upcoming show, their role as hosts, and inevitably reminisced about their past as students, friends, and roommates.

With a half-empty gallon of green tea in his lap and his co-host’s inspiring presence nearby,

Ogden explained some anticipated differences in the upcoming SPOT, in contrast to previous shows. “There’s going to be a lot more laughing, ‘cause John and I are awesome,” he said. “There’s going to be even more jokes, more fun-ness, more ooo’s, more ahh’s, more music.”

Ogden also said that he and Carpenter eagerly await aspects of the show that he describes as “elements of surprise and fun.” They look to CAB for one such element, a series of Vines, to go with this SPOT’s theme of social networking, dubbed #hashtagspot by the hosts.

Along with the promised humor, Ogden and Carpenter vowed to stay true to SPOT’s function as a variety



SPOT promotional poster.

show. They assure the appearance of some singing acts, group dancing, and plenty of videos. In addition, Carpenter anticipates “some stuff we’ve never really seen before; people are getting pretty creative with their ideas.”

Ogden himself, a music enthusiast, said, “I will probably make a singing appearance... definitely can’t keep my

vocal chords from moving.”

Aside from Ogden’s own voice, both he and Carpenter expressed specific excitement regarding their choice of musical interludes between acts. Performing live, pianist Malcolm Bell and drummer Jerbrel Bowens will assume the stage frequently during the night, working together to both

entertain and enthrall the audience during set changes and act transitions.

As Carpenter said of the two musicians’ talents, “They’re both good enough that we can tell them what to play an hour before the show and they’ll be able to do it.” Ogden added to his co-host’s statement, describing the pair’s awaited musical appearances as “beautiful.”

Aside from the various acts and the musical performances of Bell and Bowens, yet another aspect of SPOT lies in Ogden and Carpenter’s own performance as hosts. As friends since freshman year, the hosts claim four years worth of ideas related to the enactment of this spring’s SPOT.

As roommates, Ogden and Carpenter indulge in planning the event while the majority of Houghton indulges in sleep. “We do a lot of brainstorming in bed at night,” said Carpenter. “Once we’re talking it doesn’t really stop.”

Ogden said, in explaining his relationship with Carpenter, “We feed one another - literally and figuratively. There’ll be times I’ll be like, ‘John, you want some eggs?’ He’ll be like, ‘Yea’... But we feed off of each other as well - not so much literally in that way - more figuratively.” Such “feeding” often results in a cascade of witty comments, the essence of their pending SPOT appearance.

The hosts display chemistry off the stage that can only be anticipated to

See SPOT on page 5

DAILY CALENDAR

— 7 / FRIDAY

- Athletics
6 PM | MBB @ St. John Fisher
8 PM | WBB @ St. John Fisher
- Purple and Gold Dodgeball
9 PM | NielsenCenter

— 8 / SATURDAY

- Athletics
10 AM | TF @ Brockport Invite
6 PM | MBB @ Nazareth College
8 PM | WBB @ Nazareth College
- Purple and Gold SPOT
10 PM | Wesley Chapel

— 10 / MONDAY

- Artist Series: Europa Galante
7:30 PM | Wesley Chapel

— 11 / TUESDAY

- Athletics
6 PM | MBB vs. Utica College
8 PM | WBB vs. Utica College

— 13 / THURSDAY

- Career Services Lunch Workshop
12 PM | Lennox Dining Room
- Stress Fair
3 PM | Van Dyk Lounge

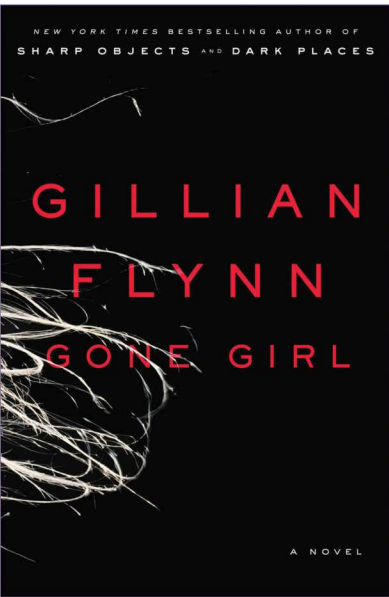
Recommended Reads: Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn

ASHLEY CARTWRIGHT

This summer I was introduced to the talented writings of Gillian Flynn, a contemporary writer, who has composed three novels, *Sharp Objects*, *Dark Places*, and her latest, and in my opinion her best, *Gone Girl*. All three of her writings are packed full of mystery that keeps you from putting the book down until the very end, and trust me, they are all worth it, so don’t skip ahead. These thrilling stories take you into the minds of very complex individuals whose lives revolve around seeking the truth, which takes them each on a journey worth reading about.

Gone Girl begins with introducing us to a couple from the Midwest, Nick and Amy Dune, on the day of their fifth anniversary. But this isn’t any normal anniversary; this is the day that Nick’s wife goes missing. The story is written from the perspective of Nick Dune, beginning the day Amy goes missing and continues to tell the story each day afterward. At the same time the reader is able to learn a lot about who Amy is through her diary entries, which date back as far as seven years.

From the very beginning it is obvious that Nick and Amy are not having the greatest relationship. This is mostly to do with the fact that they



Gone Girl book cover.

both were forced to move from their home in New York City back to Nick’s small hometown in Missouri. To make matters worse, their once flourishing jobs in the writing world came to an end because of the poor economy and the decline in newspapers and magazines jobs available. Another

factor damaging their relationship is the secrets that they both have withheld from each other.

As the days go by we learn more about Nick and the difficulties he goes through. From the very beginning the police and the town assume Nick to be the main suspect for Amy’s disappearance. His lack of emotion is noticed by both the police and the media. He also has great difficulty at thinking before he acts which makes matters worse. No one believes his innocence except for his sister Go (short for Margo.)

We can come to the conclusion that Nick couldn’t be the one behind his wife’s disappearance because we are reading the story in his point of view, and can see that he truly does not know where Amy is. Panicked and angry he responds to the police during their investigation “My wife is gone. My wife is gone!” finally showing his concern that he has so much trouble expressing throughout the book. But there is still so much that we don’t know about him, for instance the truth that that he no longer loves his wife. But he still cares for her and is determined to find what happened to her.

See GONE GIRL on page 5

SPOT from Page 4



This year's SPOT hosts Luke Ogden (left) and John Carpenter (right).

make an appearance in the spotlight as well. They profess a successful friendship due in part to making up for each other's faults. For Carpenter, Ogden is better with words; for Ogden, if a joke goes too far, "John always knows when to stop." Due to such chemistry, or possibly just the fact that they both have blond hair, they once were even mistaken as brothers.

Overall, Ogden and Carpenter

anticipate a satisfying SPOT for this spring. They possess confidence in the acts and in themselves as hosts. As opposed to the lengthy, mediocre SPOT of the fall, Ogden plans for a SPOT filled with entertaining acts. He said, "We would rather have an hour-long SPOT of awesomeness and good acts than a two-hour-long with good acts and bad acts." ★

GONE GIRL from Page 4

As the days go by we continue to learn about Amy through her diary. We come to know her like we would a new friend, listening to the stories of her life with Nick. She is a happy and bubbly person who is always on the positive side of things. Yet as we read further we make another discovery that casts her husband in an entirely different light than what we've previously encountered him as the narrator of the story. So who are we to believe, Nick or Amy?

I recommend reading *Gone Girl* because it is a story with many layers; it is interesting, compelling, and plays clever psychological tricks on your mind. As you read, you may start to think that you know these characters, and you might even venture a guess as to what happened to Amy. However as soon as you're halfway through the book, there is a plot twist that you never seen coming, and the story abruptly and completely changes. One would expect elements of mystery in any of Flynn's books, but with *Gone Girl* she takes it to a whole different



ITSABOOKTHING.BLOGSPOT.COM
Author Gillian Flynn.

level.

Gone Girl was number one on the New York Times' Best Seller list for eight full weeks. It has garnered a generous amount of praise, and will soon be adapted into a major motion picture by 20th Century Fox, with Ben Affleck as Nick and Rosamund Pike as Amy. The film will be released October 3rd 2014. So go read this amazing thriller for yourself and experience the great writing Gillian Flynn has to offer. ★

Want to write?



Send an email to:
editor@houghtonstar.

Athlete Profile: Stephany Ellison

AMANDA IRWIN

Recent addition to the women's basketball team, Stephany Ellison, brings both athletic skill and a competitive attitude to the court.

Ellison began her college career at Eastern Kentucky University where she had been recruited by their Division I women's soccer team. In hopes of "coming closer to home and in need of a change," Ellison transferred to Houghton last year as a sophomore.

Ellison has continued in playing soccer but also competed on Houghton's field and track team, running the 100 and 200. She had first joined track to become faster for soccer season and was struck by the rigor of the program. Ellison attributed track for "improving her running technique," which has translated to all the sports she participates in.

Although her first love is soccer, Ellison has found motivation through basketball as well. She acknowledges that something particularly enjoyable about basketball is the proximity of the fans. Ellison "feeds off the crowd and the close atmosphere," she says. Coming into the season Ellison was unsure what to expect but has found the "chemistry to be so much better than anticipated and has come to know the team so well."



Stephany Ellison. HOUGHTON.EDU

Captain Kristen Moose, senior, likewise identified an intimate dynamic on the team. Moose and Ellison played basketball at rival high schools and now as teammates look to each other for intensity on the court. Moose said that, "Stephany makes people better and it is an advantage to have her around."

Ellison plays the position of point guard but is also a "key defender . . . hustles and works hard," says Women's basketball coach, Alicia Mucher.

One need only to look at Ellison's

statistics to see that she has "made the transition to basketball really well," commented Mucher. Ellison is number one on assists and number two in the categories of points, 3-point FGs, free throws, and steals.

Mucher says that Ellison has not only showed initiative on the team but also "effort towards managing academics while contributing athletically."

Ellison similarly comments that her "competitive edge" even follows her into the classroom and into her major, Inclusive Childhood Education.

In looking towards the future,

Ellison has tried out for the Charlotte Eagles, a professional women's soccer team in North Carolina and will be receiving a decision shortly. Yet in the meantime, Ellison is "really glad" to have been able to have the experience of playing on the women's basketball team while being at Houghton.

Contemplating the past season in coaching Ellison, Mucher said that the "fact that we have her in our program is an asset, Stephany shows no fear and provides a fire to those around her." ★



Stephany Ellison playing for Houghton's Womens Soccer. HOUGHTON.EDU

The Powerful Cycle of Passion and Work



STEVE MCCORD

LAUREN BULL

Last semester, while sitting in the lobby of the chapel, waiting to pass out Friday papers, the inner doors opened for a moment, and I heard the speaker speak the words made famous by Confucius: "Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life." And my immediate reaction, before I could stop myself, was "no." No, that's not right at all. It can't possibly be that simple, no, why would you say something like that? Is that supposed to assuage the rumpled soul of a soon-to-graduated-student like myself, reassure me that the past four years of my life have not been spent for naught? Is it a guarantee that I will somehow be successful and content in the future if I can just pick the right path, even when stories and statistics tell me otherwise? My questions amounted quickly, my indignation rising. However, recognizing the futility of getting worked up over

words that I had heard only indirectly, and out of context, I tried not to let them get to me. Chapel ended soon thereafter, and my afternoon followed in an orderly fashion, according to routine.

Despite my best efforts to forget them, though, those words followed me for the rest of the day, and have been rolling around in the back of my mind since I first heard them months ago. My gut reaction to them is still the same as it was then, a determinedly firm "no," but after mulling over, I think I can now better articulate why. As I have lived in different places and gotten to know many different people, a consistency has been that I am drawn to those who live life passionately. You know the type. The person who, for one reason or another, is filled with that near-inexplicable...thing. An unquenchable zeal, it would seem, for whatever it is that they love: a language, a theory, a field, an era, a medium, a people group. Of the people like this whom I have had the privilege to know, with their diverse dreams, desires, and domains, the commonality they all share is that they work. Hard. Their expertise or abilities are not the gifts of random chance. The love they have for what they do has been and continues to be the result of time and effort.

Is that supposed to assuage the rumpled soul of a soon-to-be-graduated-student like myself, reassure me that the past four years of my life have not been spent for naught?

Which brings up a concept that came to me of my ruminations: in the lives of people I greatly admire, the love of their field or craft has been honed. They did not stumble, one day, upon an already-formed passion of unique and exquisite construction and go "Ah-ha, now I know what to do for the rest of my life," get a job in that field, and then let nature take its course. The love each of these individuals brings to their work is attractive to me because it has been acquired and shaped gradually through, yep, work. For me, this creates a picture of the love for your job and the concept of work as being inextricably linked, one influencing the other in a continual, beautiful repetition. The work fuels the love, and vice versa. It is a never-ending cycle, or at least it is in its ideal form.

As I continued conceptualizing my rebuttal to Confucius' long-esteemed words, I came across another problem: the use of the word "job". Clearly, cultural and linguistic context are integral in understanding a statement such as this one, so I will refrain from criticizing Confucius himself, since I admit that I don't really know what he hoped to communicate when he uttered the original version. The way the word "job" is interpreted in my context, however, still causes me

to trip up here. I am a senior, and the closer I have drawn to the end of my time here, the more I have found myself confronted with queries about my next steps, my plans for the future. My answers to these questions, or lack thereof, often sound hollow, even to my own ears. I haven't been able to select just one potential career, narrow down my options to just one path upon which to embark, choose that one job that I love because, frankly, I love too many things. There's some overlap, sure, but the diversity of the things I have invested myself in makes it overwhelmingly difficult to pick among them. The way I have heard Confucius interpreted tells me that my uncertainty dooms me to drudgery; until I finally discover what I love, choose that job, and my life eases accordingly, but I disagree. I think the order of events is wrong, and I don't believe that a 'job' should be my all-consuming goal in life. There's so much else to live for.

So where does that leave me, at the end of my mulling-over these old words? It leaves me with the conviction that my focus in life should be in honing my passions, in developing my varied loves through work (since the latter is simply inevitable), and in seeing where these things take me. I desire to see my life amount to so much more than a job, even one that I love. Maybe not having a plan etched in stone will turn out alright in the end. Maybe it won't. For now, I'll keep working. ★

Lauren is a senior Spanish and intercultural studies major

Relationships and the All-Sufficiency of Christ



FACEBOOK

LUKE CRAWFORD

Lydia Wilson's article on Christian perspectives towards marriage in the January 24th edition of the Star both encouraged and intrigued me. Her work has often prompted me to consider my faith from a new perspective, and I found myself, after reading her introductory paragraph, wondering, if marriage is not the "end all and be all" of life (which, sadly, many Christians idolize it to be) what is, and how should we approach singleness, dating, and marriage in light of that?

I believe Miss Wilson touches on the answer when she writes:

"Marriage is not intended to be in the forefront of every single person's mind. Rather, it should be seen as an unnecessary and very serious step, one that only need be taken if one finds a true partner, someone that they cannot possibly live without, and most importantly, someone who will not distract them from doing the

work of the Lord, but instead be compatible and work with them."

Though marriage is not for everyone, the reality is that the relationships we participate in drastically shape our lives, whether that be our family, peers, or significant other. In the gospel of Matthew Jesus quotes the Old Testament and simultaneously places immense importance on relationships when he declares that the greatest commandment is to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself." Essentially, we exist to respond to the awesome love of God expressed through Christ with all of our lives, and, as a result, truly love others regardless of the nature of our relationship with them. As pastor David Platt states, "Proclaiming the love of Christ is the overflow from sharing in the life of Christ."

Two central concepts correlating to this perspective, integral to living out the love of God in relationships, are holiness and worship.

In both marriage and celibacy we are invited to be profoundly shaped through the responsibilities that come with either relationship status. As a single person, I am called to fast from intimacy. At times, this responsibility can be very taxing in light of external cultural pressures, as well as the personal desire to love and be loved. Through exercising the discipline of self control, however, I am gradually learning what

it is to place my confidence and hope in Christ over that which I, at times, most long for. Moreover, in striving to wholeheartedly embrace the opportunity to be as effective as possible during this time of singleness, I discover what it means to worship God in light of the season of life that I find myself in.

In the same way, those who participate in the intimacy of marriage at times endure moments of strain, during which they have to set aside their own longings and selflessly serve their spouse despite the very real desire to ignore all commitments. Nevertheless, in choosing to put their spouse first, those who are

Both singleness and marriage involve life responsibilities in which we, in responding well, can be molded in the likeness of Christ and live to worship Him.

married discover what it means to give and receive the selfless, unconditional love of Christ. Thus, as they grow as individuals and their marriage evolves they are continuously discovering God more fully as they live out

the love of Christ.

Both singleness and marriage involve life responsibilities in which we, in responding well, can be molded in the likeness of Christ and live in worship to Him. How does this apply, however, to those who are caught in between; those individuals whom we classify as "dating", "courting", "talking", "pursuing marriage", or some variation thereof? Recently a close married friend of mine shared the following advice with me regarding the core pillars on which healthy relationships, and ultimately

marriages, are built. Firstly, healthy relationships involve a deep soul relationship, a closeness represented by a fun, vibrant friendship which provides a solid foundation for pursuing romance. Secondly, they demonstrate a sincere and devoted love for God which powerfully shapes their lives as individuals and a couple. Lastly, and only in the context of marriage, both individuals enjoy and invest in the beauty of physical intimacy. For those pursuing a healthy romantic relationship, their focus should firstly center on the calibre of their friendship. As they grow to more deeply love and understand one another, their relationship should be a source of mutual spiritual edification; indeed they should not only grow individually, but witness Christ equipping them together to be potentially effective for his kingdom. Lastly, under the covenant of marriage, they are able to discover and celebrate their love within the context of physical intimacy.

The beauty of relationships, whether they involve family, friends, or lovers, is that they are not the be all and end all, nor are they simply the means to an end. Rather, they exist as a beautiful testimony to the ongoing work of Christ in our lives. As J.C. Ryle states, "relationships can be a great blessing, or a great curse, depending on where we place the Cross." May we, as we continuously embrace the process of being made holy through growing in the likeness of Christ and worshipping Him in all things, discover the all-sufficiency of Christ within us in every relationship that we are a part of. ★

Luke is a senior Christian formation and religion major

FEATURED EDITORIAL/ **Pass the Tofu Please**



LUKE LAUER

SARAH HUTCHINSON

I'm a vegetarian and I love to eat. (Seriously, just watch me chow down some of my Cuban mother's bean stews with giant helpingsfull of rice.) But, recently, being able to eat healthily at school has become a problem.

At the beginning of this semester, the cafeteria closed the much beloved vegetarian and tofu oasis adorably named "The Wild Mushroom" in favor for introducing an allergen-free bar called "Simple Servings." While the introduction of an allergen-free station is definitely a welcome addition, the closures of both the vegetarian and stir fry bars drastically limit the entree choices of vegetarians and vegans,

not to mention meat-eaters that might prefer a vegetarian option.

For the curious, a vegetarian plate is much like a meat-eater's; a nutritional balance separated into protein, plants, and grains (but sans meat in the vegetarian's case.) A good vegetarian entree (read: "main dish") possesses the qualities of being healthy, hot, flavorful, and generally includes a protein source like beans or soy. Regrettably, we have seen too few entrees of that nature in the cafeteria this semester and the vegetarian population on campus, not just myself, have become concerned.

For example, if you've been following the cafeteria comment board, comments by fellow vegetarians calling for viable vegetarian entrees have been prolific since the new changes. Unfortunately, the official responses to these requests seem to be misunderstanding the problem. In response to a request asking for more vegetarian entrees, the cafeteria respondent to the comment proceeded to list "options" (not "entrees") which included, of all things, a listing for bagels. (Yes, bagels are good for breakfast, but they are not what vegetarians can eat everyday for dinner or lunch.) The other "options" listed in

the response included vegetable side dishes to the main line meals (which, as we all know, are often unseasoned), cold salads, soups (which I have learned not to trust since accidentally ingesting some made with meat-based broth), and the very rare entree.

Some fellow vegetarians and I (plus some meat-eating friends) have gotten creative in response to these developments. We now combine our resources, spend money on extra groceries, and cook a huge vegetarian meal together every Friday evening. I've loved every minute of that fellowship and it feels good to have a belly full of delicious food. However, is it right that I'm spending money that I don't have on extra food when I'm already paying for a pre-paid meal plan?

On that note, it could be said that perhaps the cafeteria is merely responding to the larger financial crisis

impacting our campus, prompted by the drop in enrollment. A smaller student body means a more limited ability to purchase a variety of food, thus prompting the cafeteria to limit some options. However, the point stands that while meat-eaters can enjoy both vegetarian and meat options, vegetarians cannot eat the meat options. What are we supposed to do?

The campus cafeteria gets many things right; the addition of the allergen-free bar is one of them. However, the closure of the vegetarian and stir fry bars is a definite wrong. Not only does it fail take into account the diversity of student eating patterns and convictions, but it is a health concern for those that eat here as well. The good news is that it appears as if the situation has been turning around in the past week; I've had more options available at the various stations. I'm hoping that these options are here to stay.

Now, pass the baked ginger tofu and the kale quiche, please. ★

Sarah is a senior political science major

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

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Artist of the Week

Raphael Derungs //senior communications major

“ I was fairly recently introduced to digital art and quickly became intrigued with 3D design and animation. I have also dabbled in digital photography especially while traveling. ”

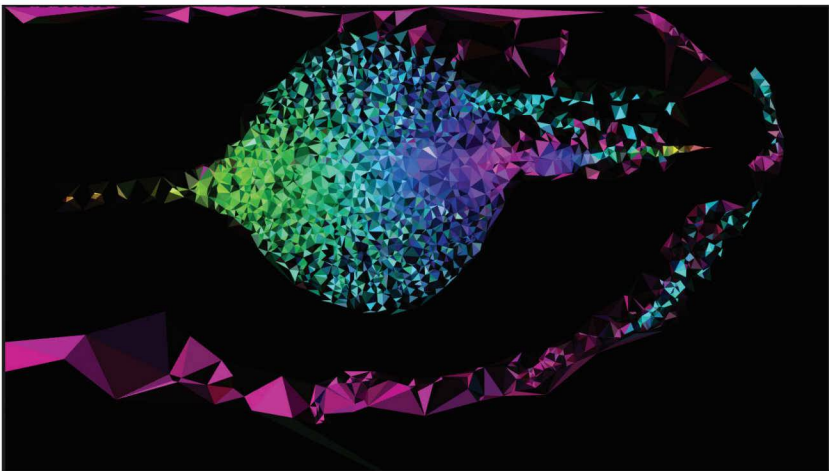


STEVE MCCORD



“The world is a book, and those who do not travel only read a page.”

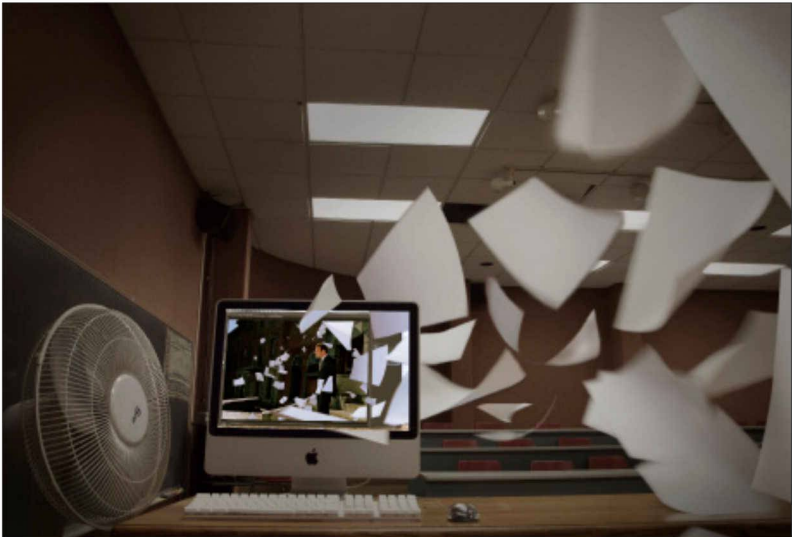
-St. Augustine



Sudoku

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

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Titles and Media

Clockwise from top

Burn, digital imaging

Turret, 3D animation in After Effects

Implosion, 3D animation in After Effects

Air, digital imaging

Ceramics, still from video

Harley, 3D modeling in Autodesk Maya