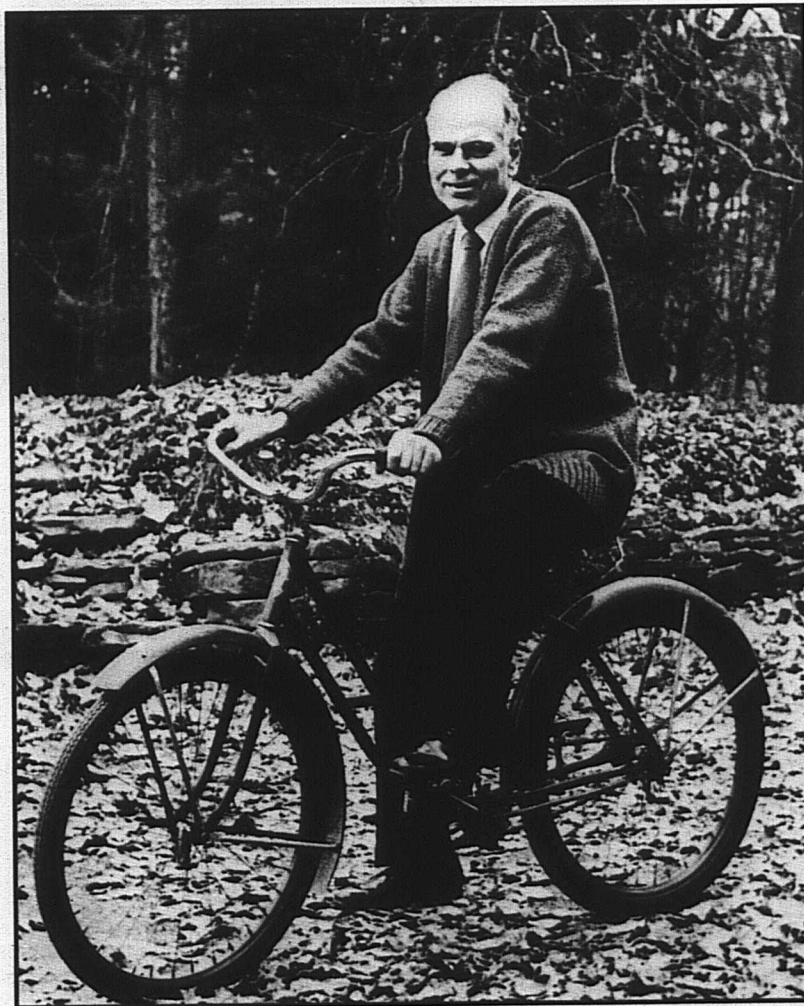


# THE HOUGHTON STAR

FEBRUARY 21, 1992 ♣ VOLUME 84.11

*Ivan T. Rocha, Editor-in-chief*



**In Memoriam: Stephen W. Paine**

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THE HOUGHTON STAR is a bi-weekly student publication; its focus is on events, issues and ideas which significantly affect the Houghton College community. Letters (signed) are encouraged and accepted for publication; however, they must not constitute a personal attack, they must be submitted by noon on Monday, and they should be no longer than two double spaced pages. The editors reserve the right to edit all contributions.



# And Then There Were Graham Crackers

by Ivan T. Rocha

In the sixties there were flower children. In the seventies there was double-nit polyester and Richard Nixon. The eighties had best be forgotten. What sort of people are we in the nineties? I think we could be called graham cracker children. Graham crackers. Bland, wimpy things, you know. I was talking to an older friend of mine over lunch the other day and he spoke at length about his inability to understand the passivity and intense self-absorption of this generation.

It seems that very little that could be labeled excellent work in the arts and sciences has come out of our generation. Really, if you look at the art world (and I don't mean merely painting or sculpture, but the fine arts in general), the majority of successful artists today are in their thirties or older. It seems too, that this

generation has no significant heroes. The last young women and men of heroic stature lived and died with the sixties and their political and social activism. Perhaps the closest thing we have to heroes (in the traditional sense of the word) in this generation are those who have fought in recent military conflicts. But then again, are they really heroes?

What then seems to be the matter? Too much comfort, I think, is the source of the problem. Our generation has had absolutely nothing real to fight for. Who would? With comfortable homes, multiple vehicles, excellent schooling, junk food to feed several regiments, and plenty of money in the bank what is there to rebel against? This is not to say that there are no more causes in this world that are worth fighting for. It appears, however, that no one in this

generation had been willing to get up out of the Lazy Boy, put down the remote, and get something done. Certainly people still rebel, but for the most part they are what another friend of mine calls "rebels without a clue."

That is to say, the rebellion we still see comes more as a result of boredom than anything else. All of a sudden none of the modern technotoys satisfy us any longer so we look for something else to do. Rebelling becomes cool. Tear up your jeans, stick a stud through your nose, shave your hair off, chuck your shoes, and voila! All too often, though, rebelling simply means being rude, intractable, and obscenely infantile. The natural throes of adolescence are protracted ad nauseam through early adulthood as we wade through college in the dogged pursuit of something we can't seem to define.

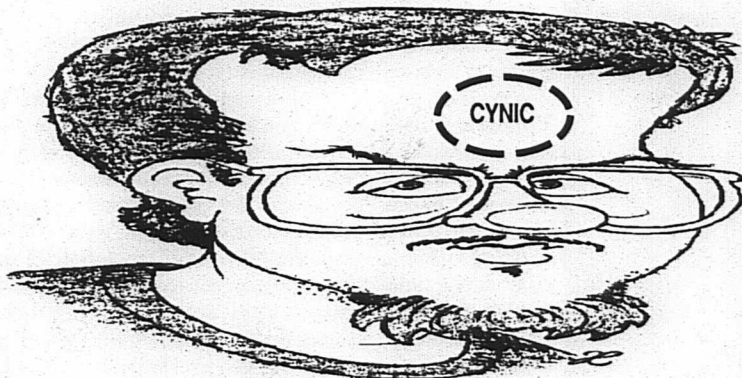
What is to be done?

I sure don't know.

It seems like this generation could use some strong heroes to champion the causes that are out there. It seems like we could use a little bit of a recession; you know, no more new toys for a while. And maybe then we will have a more active generation, attentive to what is going on in the world, willing to take a stand, and willing to put in the time and the effort to become great and produce lasting contributions to the history of humankind.

## No, really, are you a cynic?

Well, then, by all means consider running for the editorship of *The Houghton Star*! Petitions to be included on the ballot should be in to the chairperson of the faculty publications committee by March 1. For more information call 210 (if you believe in telephones, that is).



# IN MEMORIAM

## Dr. Stephen Paine

**O**n the evening of Sunday, February 9, President Emeritus of Houghton College Stephen W. Paine passed away. Throughout the week special opportunities to pay respects to this man who is often seen as one of the giants of Houghton history were arranged. The funeral itself was held on the morning of Friday, February 14.

Dr. Paine served at Houghton in

a variety of capacities. He was first a faculty member, then an Academic Dean, and finally President of the college for 35 years. After his retirement in 1972, Dr. Paine continued as a highly respected member of the community and the source of wise counsel and prayerful comfort for younger administrators.

On May 12, 1972 *The Houghton Star* published a fairly detailed biography of Dr. Paine, put together by an English professor known at the time as "Doc Jo Rickard." Below we have reprinted several segments from the larger piece:

"His grandfather, Jonathan Blanchard, was the founder and first president of Wheaton College. His great-uncle, Charles Blanchard, succeeded Jonathan in the presidency. Another great-

uncle, Edwin Paine, headed Wasioja Seminary, the first institution of higher learning in Minnesota. The fourth in such a line, our [president] was:

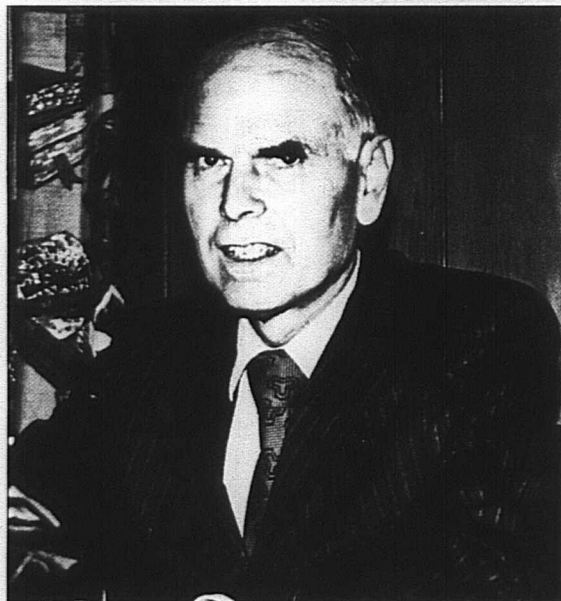
- A Bachelor of Arts at 21. The bookworm could find time to do nothing but study—except to earn all non-tuition expenses (scholarships covered tuition); to run the four-mile cross-country every fall; to play baseball every spring; to keep the literary society awake; to edit an issue of the college yearbook; and to help trounce intercollegiate debaters (Wheaton usually won).

- A Master of Arts at 22 and a Doctor of Philosophy at 24.

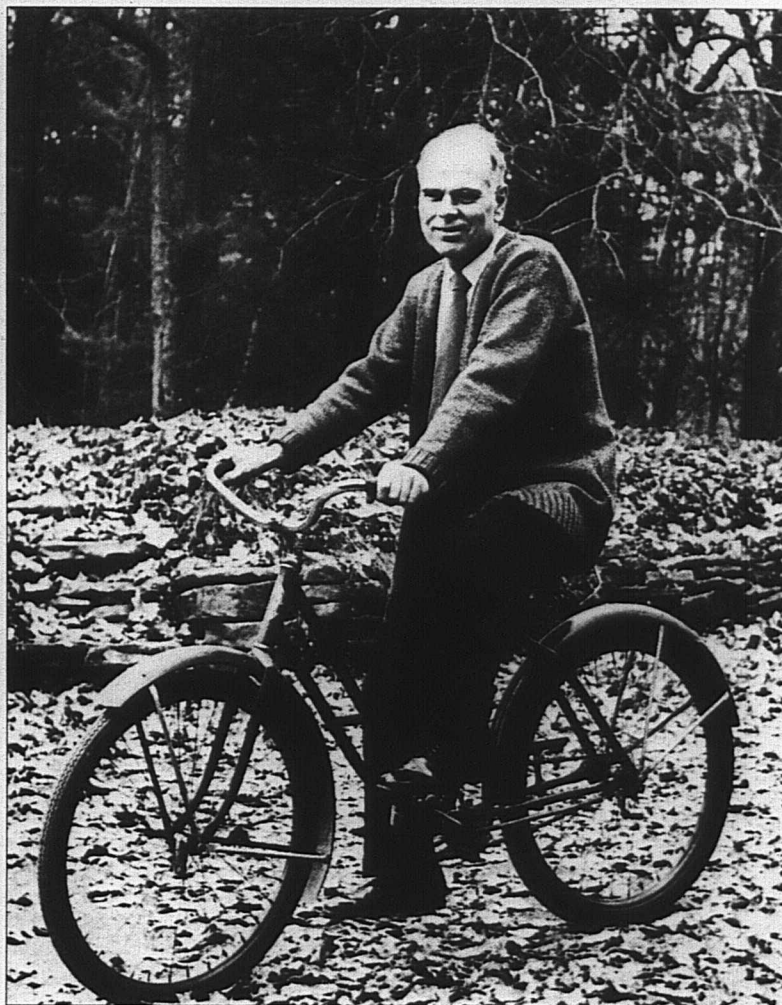
- An instructor at 24. (When he first wandered through the library, the librarian offered to help him with the freshman library unit!)

- Dean of the College and Professor of Greek at 25.

- President of the College at 28—the youngest college president in the United States, a fact much publicized by national press services. Because he felt himself so "blamed young" for the great task set before him, he asked the Denomination to join the college in a day of fasting and prayer. The *Wesleyan Methodist* commented: "Houghton College has a great mission and intends by God's







grace to fill it."

•[By 1972] Now Dean of New York State College and University Presidents.

•A Writer. Four printings of his *Beginning Greek: A Functional Approach* have issued from Oxford University Press. Other works, in addition to his doctoral dissertation are *Toward the Mark—Studies in Philippians*; *The Christian and the Movies*; *Studies in the Book of James*; and 799 chapel talks! ...

•A Translator. [One of the sev-

eral scholars involved in the translation and preparation of the New International Version of the Bible.]

•An antique car enthusiast. [Dr. Paine owned a 1926 custom-built Rolls-Royce which he kept in perfect running order.]

•A Husband and Father. He finds his home a heaven on earth and his family his best companions. ...

•God's Man. He lives in the Word, for he reads from Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21 once a year, and daily spends time in the Presence.

'Your president,' a recent guest speaker observed, 'is a man of God. One finds so few of them these days.'

In the name of the Houghton College student body, *The Houghton Star* extends deepest condolences and warmest regards to the family of Dr. Stephen Paine, as we await the resurrection.

All photographs in this spread are reprinted from the May 12, 1972 issue of *The Houghton Star*.

# SAYERS

## A frank talk about his resignation

*Interview and commentary by Tom Noyes*

I haven't had the privilege of taking a class from the renowned Dr. Sayers during my four years here at Houghton. After my interview with him last Thursday (I was late for Dr. Fisher's class because of the interview, by the way) I was wishing I had.

Going into the interview I wasn't at all familiar with Sayers. I was familiar with his mystique and his reputation (you know, the guy who says naughty words in class), but that was all I knew. I know more now. I think.

The idea was to talk about his resignation, his experiences at Houghton, and maybe even get a little biographical background stuff. I'll give you what I got.

Dr. Brian Sayers came to Houghton College in 1976 a week after he defended his doctoral thesis at Queens University. Shortly after arrival, and even before, Sayers suggests, he sort of accepted the job here

at Houghton of "saying things bluntly." He went on. "Right away I was given a position on the fringes." Sayers, as most of us know, has not since relinquished this position. "I've never been reticent to argue or to speak in public or private with colleagues or administration. Inevitably, people have sometimes been offended." Sayers mentioned letters of criticism written

**As far as I can tell Dr. Sayers is serious about his tree caring, motorcycle riding, book authoring future. "Sorry I couldn't give you any dirt," he said after the interview.**

by parents of some of the student in his years here at Houghton. "They've been looked into, but nothing's ever come of any of them," he explains and then adds with a smirk, "They never could prove anything."

So after years of bumping heads with this guy, the administration finally got fed up and dumped him, right? Some friendly pressure was exerted, and the campus rebel picked up a pen and wrote a resignation letter about leaving so he

could plant some trees, right? Or, was it all a plot put together by Fisher, so he could finally be recognized without argument as the ultimate "free thinker" on campus? No, no, no. As far as I can tell Dr. Sayers is serious about his tree caring, motorcycle riding, book authoring future. "Sorry I couldn't give you any dirt," he said after the interview.

Seriously, though, there really isn't any dirt as far as I can tell. It all seems pretty simple if you hear him explain it. Statements like, "The best time to go is when you're pleased with things" and "I'm really not dissatisfied with Houghton, I'm dissatisfied with myself" pervaded the conversation. I dare say the guy, at times, even seemed to love his job here. "I know I'm going to miss things," he said. "Especially the Buffalo program. The Interdisciplinary Program and the Oregon Extension Program are things I had to fight for, things worth fighting for, worth keeping at Houghton."

So why is Sayers leaving? "I'm not really leaving Houghton as much as I'm leaving a structured



institution," he said. "I need to study and think without an audience for a while.

I need to engage in some purer forms of intellectual activity. To put it another way, I need to use a different set of mental muscles for a while." Sayers went on to explain how the decision to leave was not a rash or abrupt one that stemmed from something specific that upset him or forced him into leaving. "I've been heading in this direction for a while. I'm becoming less and less willing to move within institutional restrictions, even though they may be feasible restrictions."

Ah, those "feasible restrictions" of Houghton College. I asked Dr. Sayers how he acts differently when outside the confines of our fine institution. "I'm even more straightforward," he answered. "My language is earthier." He went on, though, to make it clear that the most important reasons for leaving have to do with the channeling of his energy. "Whenever I've been a teacher, I've put nearly all my energy into teaching.

**"I know I'm going to miss things," he said. "Especially the Buffalo program. The Interdisciplinary Program and the Oregon Extension Program are things I had to fight for, things worth fighting for, worth keeping at Houghton."**

**"I've been heading in this direction for a while. I'm becoming less and less willing to move within institutional restrictions, even though they may be feasible restrictions."**

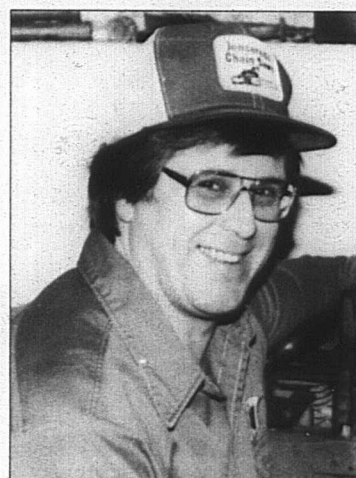
**"Whenever I've been a teacher, I've put nearly all my energy into teaching. I'd like to free myself from this for a while. To write (referring to his several writing projects, all in the early planning stages) I need long periods of no distraction. I've been able to make some financial arrangements to make this all possible."**

I'd like to free myself from this for a while. To write (referring to his sev-

eral writing projects, all in the early planning stages) I need long periods of no distraction. I've been able to make some financial arrangements to make this all possible." Sayers, however, isn't in a hurry to give up teaching alto-

gether, and even intimated that he might be interested in returning to the life of a professor someday. For now, Sayers is considering possible part-time teaching positions in adult education programs at Medaille, Canisius, and Attica Prison.

At the conclusion of the interview, I asked Sayers what he believes to be the most important thing he has taught his students at Houghton. He listed a few things. "Things aren't as they appear," he began. "Also, I've tried to teach them that it's too easy to forget. Overall, I've tried to instill in students the willingness to think and ask questions even though they may receive no reward



Dr. Sayers (photo courtesy of public information).

**"I worry about becoming stale," he said. "In some ways it feels like a year too soon to leave." He paused again. "Better a year too soon than a year too late though."**

or even though they may be punished in some way. One thing I didn't ask my students to do was to think as I thought. I asked them instead to think about the things I think about." I also asked Sayers if he had anything else to say, something I didn't ask him about. "Well," he said, "a question I ask myself is 'What's my life going to look like in ten years?' I want to be able to say that I didn't let my ideas and plans die. I checked them out. I'd also like to say that I didn't have to rely on outside structure for meaning and significance in my life." He paused. "I worry about becoming stale," he said. "In some ways it feels like a year too soon to leave." He paused again. "Better a year too soon than a year too late though." ☆

# THE ADMINISTRATION BEAT

by Matthew Harvey

Over the past couple of weeks I have had the opportunity to speak with our new deans concerning their feelings about their new jobs and the prospects for next year's administration. The following is an amalgamation of my talks with next year's academic dean, Dr. Paul Young, and the new associate deans, Dr. Charles Bressler and Professor Jack Leax.

Dr. Young said he has mixed feelings about moving into administrative work: "My self-image is primarily of a teacher, so I'm not happy about leaving the classroom." He added that he will be teaching one course next year, and that not leaving the classroom entirely made his decision easier. He said, "I have, in a sense, an attraction to going into the dean's office and at the same time a pull back to the classroom; I don't leave with gusto, I'm not feeling burned out in the teaching. I very much enjoy being in the classroom."

Dr. Bressler was also emphatic about his continuing role as a teacher; he said that if it had meant quitting teaching entirely, he would not have accepted the job of associate dean. Both Bressler and Leax will be teaching a half load, or two courses per semester, next year.

In speaking about what he anticipates for next year, Young said, "I'm looking forward to being able to serve my colleagues and build an increasing sense of cooperation in the faculty." He expressed particular interest in program

development and a desire to see the recent discussions on the general education curriculum begin to yield positive change.

Bressler sees the general education curriculum as one of the first issues he will be tackling as the associate dean of curriculum. His position will also include the review and revision, periodically, of all the academic majors.

Young spoke very positively about the two new associate dean positions: "With these three positions [dean of and associate deans] working together I think there's a lot of reason for optimism about the future, with the structure of the positions and more particularly the people in them, Jack Leax and Charles Bressler, tremendously creative people who do a lot of hard work as teachers, and they're both excited about their positions. We're certainly not at the point where we have specific things we plan to do beyond 'How about this?' and 'What about that?', but I think we'll work together very well next year."

Leax said that he sees the place of the associate deans to be that of easing the burden of the dean, initiating and administering programs, such as faculty development and curriculum review, which have gotten bogged down because of the enormous workload of the academic dean.

About his own position as associate dean of professional development, Leax said, "I see it as a position that works to enable faculty members to do things. I

see it as an opportunity to work at making resources available to faculty to grow and to do the kinds of things they really want to do. So I have a very positive, very optimistic outlook at this point on what will be included with the position." He said he would like to see "faculty members being able to do the kinds of research, to do the kinds of growing in the classroom that they feel called to do."

Bressler said that he sees the role of the administrators as that of encouragers for one another and the faculty as a whole; as he puts it, "We all need someone to say, 'Well done!'" He also pointed out that while academic persons are trained to be critically minded, we ought not to have a "critical spirit."

Bressler also emphasized the necessity for the administrators to live and work by biblical principles and in dependence upon God. He said that "the effectiveness of the new administration will, in large part, be determined by how long each of us, and the faculty, sit at His feet."

Since Young's appointment was as interim dean for a one year period, I asked him how he felt about the possibility of continuing in the position beyond next year. He noted that next year the college will be conducting a nationwide search for a new dean, but added, "I want the best person to be there for the job; it's hard for me to think now that I would be the best person for that job, but if no one else materializes whom the faculty think would be better for the job, if in that time I haven't convinced them of my own incompetence, I'd be willing to consider it."

Finally, Bressler noted that it is necessary for the administration to realize that it is not the enemy of, and ought not to be in conflict with, the faculty or the students; a spirit of cooperation is necessary. From talking to these three men it seems to me that we have a new administration which will be strongly oriented toward the students and the classroom. Each of them will be simultaneously teachers and administrators, and hopefully those two tasks can become complimentary, rather than contradictory. ☆



# 1991-92 Student Activity Fee

•The maximum allowable fee increase was 7.1% or \$7.03 per semester, and this would have put the fee at \$106.03 per semester.

•The allocation for Black History Month is from the Lecture Series account, totaling \$1095.

Organization	90-91 Fee Per Sem.	Increase (Decrease)	%	91-92 Fee Per Sem.	Total Inc. From Fee
Artist Series	\$ 5.70	.40	7	\$ 6.10	\$ 12,871
Intramurals	\$ 7.90	.30	4	\$ 8.20	\$ 17,302
Boulder	\$ 12.75	—	—	\$ 12.75	\$ 26,902
CAB	\$ 5.00	—	—	\$ 5.00	\$ 10,550
Homec./Winter weekend	\$ 1.05	.15	14	\$ 1.20	\$ 2,352
X-n outreach	\$ 3.75	.15	4	\$ 3.90	\$ 8,229
Intercollegiate	\$ 35.70	2.85	8	\$ 38.55	\$ 81,340
Lanthorn	\$ 1.60	—	—	\$ 1.60	\$ 3,376
Lect. Series	\$ 3.25	.10	3	\$ 3.35	\$ 7,069
Spec. Resource	\$ .80	(.10)	(14)	\$ .70	\$ 1,477
Star	\$ 5.40	.20	4	\$ 5.60	\$ 11,816
St. Scholarship	\$ 5.50	.75	14	\$ 6.25	\$ 13,188
Senate Special Projects - 91/92 Athletics				\$ 2.00	\$ 4,220
Senate	\$ 1.20	*.20	17	\$ 1.40	\$ 2,954
X-mas Missions	\$ .25	*(.25)	(100)	reallocated	
WJSL	\$ 3.15	.15	5	\$ 3.30	\$ 6,963
Senior Class	\$ 2.70	.10	4	\$ 2.80	\$ 5,908
Junior Class	\$ 1.95	—	—	\$ 1.95	\$ 4,115
Soph. Class	\$ .70	—	—	\$ .70	\$ 1,477
Freshman Class	\$ .65	—	—	\$ .65	\$ 1,371
<b>TOTAL FEE</b>	<b>\$ 99</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>\$ 106.00</b>	<b>\$ 223,660</b>

# AND IN OTHER NEWS

by Amy Littlejohn

•The New Hampshire primary was conducted on Tuesday, February 18. As the voting began, Paul Tsongas was in the lead for the Democrats, and George Bush was front-runner for the Republicans. However, this primary is infamous for its unpredictability. The Japanese are watching this election very closely, hoping for a candidate who indulges in a minimum of protectionist rhetoric. So far, their favorite is President Bush.

•In the seas north of the Commonwealth of Independent States, two submarines, one American and one (formerly) Russian, collided. No

injuries or major damages were reported by either side, but the Commonwealth is claiming that the American sub was in territorial waters, though the Pentagon denies it. U.S.-Commonwealth have recently been completed, at which the first joint American and Russian early warning system was proposed. The system would detect and inform the White House and Kremlin of missile launches around the world. Lenin's face will soon be removed from all ruble notes. It is not yet known what design will replace him.

•In southern Lebanon, there were artillery exchanges between

Israel and the Hizbullah, killing one Palestinian leader, named Sheik Abbas Musawi, and his family. The Palestinians are threatening to pull out of the peace talks, and there have been rumors that an Israeli hostage, Ron Arad, has been killed in revenge.

•In Libya, the suspects of the bombing of Pan Am flight 103 were paraded before the media. Libya has no plans for extradition at this time.

•America has relaxed the embargo on Haiti because seemed to only harm the poor and the middle class, while the rich tightened their hold. In effect, the American government has given up.

•Erich Mielke, former head of the East German Stasi (secret police) is going on trial for the murder of two policemen under the Weimar Republic. Considering his subsequent career, many people see this as almost a joke.

•Alberto Tomba of Italy is now the first skier to win gold medals at consecutive Olympics.

sources: *Newsweek*, CNN

## Senate Report

by Stephen Virkler

The Student Senate dealt with a variety of issues at its February 11 meeting. These issues included the Special Projects fund, the track program, an open forum, a possible softball program, and the campus speed limit.

The Senate decided to use its special projects fund to purchase a line striper for the soccer fields. According to athletic director Douglas Burke, this striper

will make the field look more professional than it currently does (it is lined with a tractor). He also said that this was what the coaches wanted the Senate to use this fund for. Other proposals submitted called for the purchase of a Super-VHS system, a drainage system for the wet corner of the soccer field, or a Stairmaster. The special projects fund was set up by last year's Student Senate; it is worth \$2,000 a semester

and is given to the organization with the best proposal (although it has been given to the athletic department this year).

The Senate also agreed to tell the faculty Athletic Committee that it does not recommend the addition of an intercollegiate softball program. The FAC found that there is some interest in this program, but most senators felt that, since the Student Activity Fee would have to be raised to implement this program, this addition wouldn't be feasible at this time.

A motion to recommend that the FAC "strongly search for a permanent coach" for the track team. The Senate

would like to see the team gain the stability of a full-time coach before it is reviewed in 1993-94. The current coach will not be returning next year.

The Senate also supported a proposal for a cross-divisional open forum to discuss Christian values. This forum will allow panel members to discuss how Christianity is dealt with in the various academic areas. Dr. Jayne Maugans, a sociology professor here, has agreed to assist in the setting up of this forum.

Finally, a motion was passed to investigate the posting of the speed limit on campus. Check for results in the future. ☆



# Men's Basketball Winning Streak Continues

by Kim Voorhees

**T**he Houghton men's basketball team currently holds the best regular season record ever, standing at 18-6 after coming off a 6 game winning streak, the longest ever for head coach Steve

Brooks.

What's behind this winning streak? According to coach Brooks, a lot of it has to do with experience. This year's team is dominated by

upperclassmen who have taken a lot of "lumps" throughout their careers on the team. According to Brooks, when this year's seniors joined the team, it was one made up almost entirely of freshman, however as the years went on, the team learned from their experiences, and applied them to the future. This application of learning, along with a much better team attitude, and good coaching seem to be the driving forces behind this year's outstanding success.

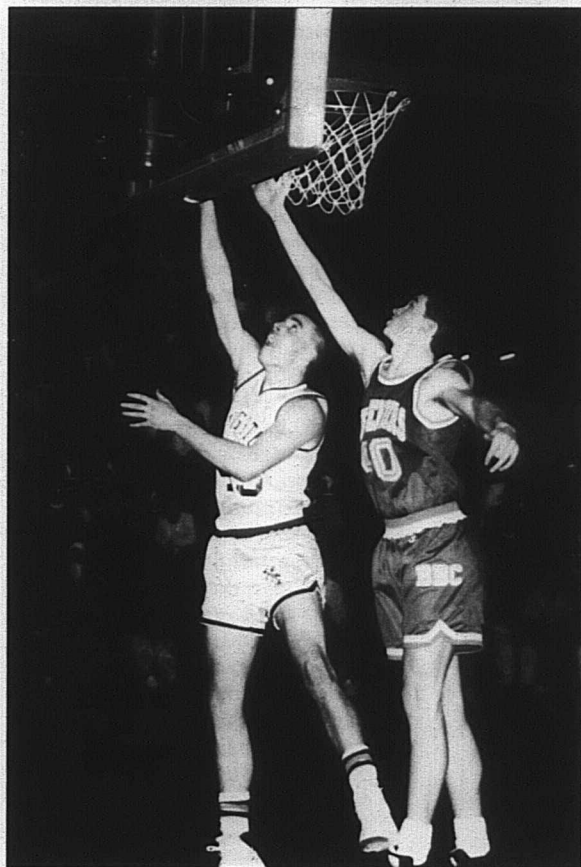
According

to Brooks, the attitude of the team is much better than in the past. He says "they've taken my coaching and really listened, they didn't ask questions, they just did it. We're trying to stay focused, have some momentum, and do as well as we can." He commented on the way the team works together, saying that "although some of the kids may not get to play as much as they might want, or as much as the coaches might want, we feel like everyone is important." He said that whether the team wins or loses a game depends on the preparation, and this preparation comes in practice. "The kids have been positive, and enthusiastic," and that those like Philo are getting better and better, and challenging the team. Brooks said "teams are made up of different parts, and everyone has a role." He compared the men to a puzzle, saying that without one of the pieces, the puzzle wouldn't fit together.

This weekend the team goes up against Geneva, and Westminster. These games are important for two reasons; one, that they will help determine the teams seeding in the district tournament. And two, during the Westminster game on Friday, David Binkowski will become the highest scorer ever in the history of the college, achieving 2000 points with his first basket of the game.

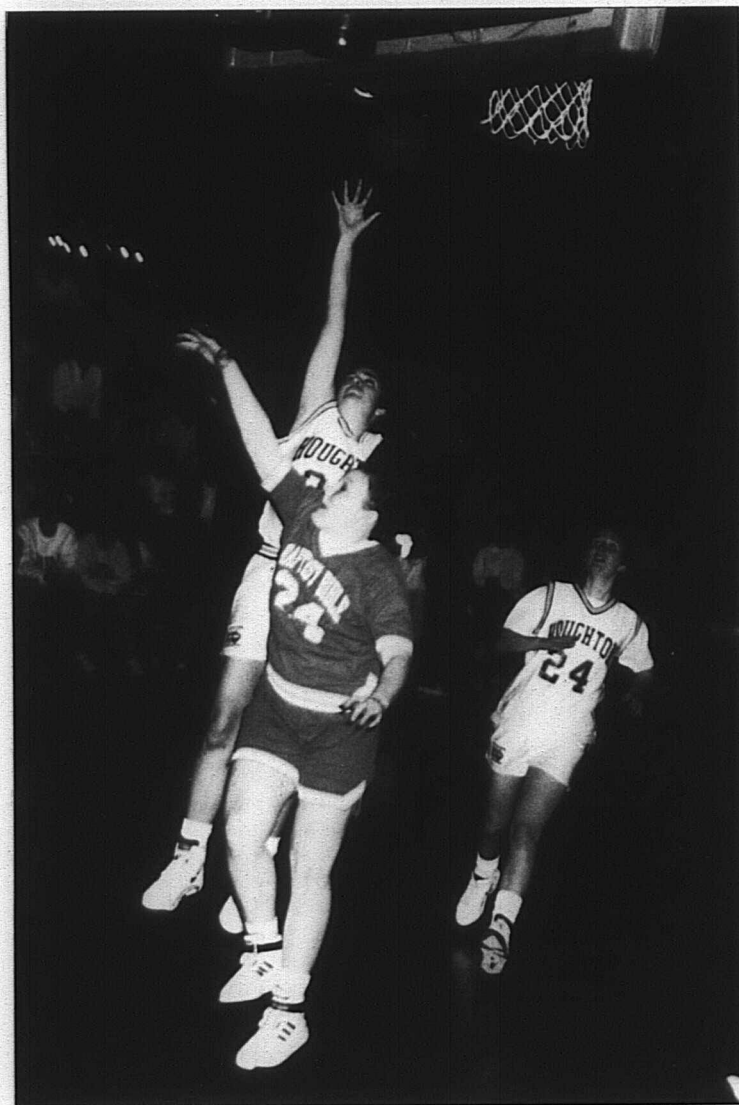
As far as districts go, the Highlanders are currently seeded second, two points behind Alvernia in the new Dunkle rating system. As it looks, the team will get a by, and play on February 29th in the second round of Districts. Coach Brooks says, "that was our goal, to get a first round by, and play at home." All in all, the men have had a remarkable season.

*Scott Fasick goes up for two against BBC in an exciting Winter Weekend game. (Photo Greenway).*



# Women Basketballers Maintain a 16-5 Record

by Dan Noyes



**T**he Houghton College Women's basketball team stands at a record of 16-5 after their first home loss, and a split on the road.

A much improved Pitt-Bradford team avenged an earlier loss by defeating the lady Highlanders 72-65. Houghton was within striking distance near the end, but sloppy play and poor shooting led to their demise.

The team opened a road trip at Carlow College on Friday, February 14, where they won by 21. Sophomore center Jen Jordan led with 17 points. The following day the Highlanders moved on to Seton Hill where despite outshooting their opponents from the field, including three point range, they lost by two.

The key to Houghton's game seemed to be the foul line, where they made 5 out of only 6 attempts given them. Seton Hill on the other hand hit only 15 out of a whopping 29 attempts.

The team is back on the road this weekend against Geneva and Westminster, then returns home to wrap up their regular season with a game against Roberts Wesleyan on Wednesday.

*Amy Bence reaches for the rebound as Carolyn Cornell runs up behind her.  
(Photo Greenway)*



# MAIL

## To All Concerned:

It has come to my attention as of late that certain people within this community have taken a marked dislike to my column. Therefore I am writing this letter to inform you of many things that I am sure will shed a light on the subject.

When I started this column, "The Black Hole," in the first semester of my junior year at Houghton, I meant it to be a lighthearted critical sort of venture. Unfortunately, the immediate response to this column was that of gross misunderstanding and vast misinterpretation. I was at first puzzled by this quirk within the readership, but waved it off as my not being succinct enough and went forth attempting to be more clear. In my haste I instead became more direct, and sometimes more hostile reactions followed.

Soon enough, reader hostility became all too evident. I was immediately lumped into the category of the likes of Mick Williams, Rand Bellavia, and Mark Shiner; men with whom I expressly denied having any common views in my very first column. This was not very appetizing and took some time to get over and beyond.

Soon the evidence of misunderstanding came together with hostility and eventually the two combined into a mass cancerous growth that seemed to be getting quite malignant as time wore on. What I was saying in the column seemed to be taken as more hostile by the readers than it

was initially intended to be. My initial reaction was to ignore it and go on, but now that these feelings toward my column had reached epidemic proportions, I was beginning to wonder whether or not it was the column or the people that had the problem.

I am sure that you can empathize with my first choice being that it was not my column and it was the people. I did at times have the insight to take into account that the column did indeed cross some boundaries that shouldn't have been crossed. I was not totally oblivious to the fact that I may have been going too far.

During the past two years, I have noticed on this campus a marked growth in the number of claims to Christian conservatism by some of the student body; a marked belief in conservative views, but lacking any foundation. This is what has disturbed me most in the past academic year, and this is what I have recently tried to address. Unfortunately, again, my addresses were met with as much contempt as before and I was once again forced to confront these people with a defense. A defense that I thought unnecessary in that I believed that since I had such a bad reputation from past columns, a subsequent immediate defensive stance was taken by certain readers that eventually lead to anger in the end. This is why I finally had to add the suggestion of not reading my column if one was already prepared

to dislike it before one even began to read it.

What has disturbed me most about all of this is the evidence of the lack of Christian authenticity that I have perceived here at Houghton College. I have noticed this trend taking hold of Houghton College within the past two years. This foundationless Christian conservatism that I have mentioned earlier on in this letter may very well be the cause of it. I do not know whether it is because of the lack of maturity that some of us college students possess, or if it has to do with a kind of fore-closed mindset that some of us have taken due to out belief in others' beliefs instead of our own carefully worked through deductions that come from experience, in and out, of The Word. Whatever it is, I am sure that there is a problem here at Houghton and there doesn't need to be. This is what I have been trying to address lately.

I have been branded a cynic. This is a highly subjective term, for what you may call cynicism, I label "realism." Some of you may see this as scapegoat, lame duck, or copout rationalization. I, on the other hand, see it this way:

Christ fought unfounded conservatism to the very end. (What did it get him? It got him killed.) I am simply following the example of my savior in that I see this pharisaical mindset permeating this campus in epidemic proportions. I understand the need to uphold the other in the spirit and to do what is right and good in the sight of God. This is why I feel pulled to inform you of these things in this letter. But if there is one thing that I and my God share, it is the common view that legalism kills. I will not allow my brother to be killed.

I am not screaming at another for my own sake. I direct no malice at the person. I do not have an innate hate of people who are like this. I am not angry at my brother. I am angry

at what my brother believes, though. I am angry that Satan has seen fit to blind my brother so in a conservative vortex. And, what I attempted to do with my column was to show my brother that what he believed may not have been totally correct. I wished him to search himself and his ways and make sure that all was right and good in the sight of God, within himself. I believe this to be a very vital part of any Christian walk.

I am truly sorry if any of you were offended by this. I meant no harm. I only wished to be helpful in that I wanted people to be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and not be so set in stone, weighed down by the world, or their own beliefs. I have always believed that, even though one may be content in their own beliefs, even though they may be Christian beliefs, there may be one thing that needs to be resolved within one's self, and that that one thing may keep one from entering the kingdom. This is why I sought to have people keep themselves open and not foreclosed. For if one's sights are on God, and one's intentions are within the spirit, then there is a great chance that even though open, one can remain wise to those things that are not right and good in the sight of God, and become wiser in the process.

One question that no one likes to ask of themselves is, "What if I am wrong?" I know I don't like to ask this of myself, but I try to make it a regular practice. One thing that no one likes to hear is, "But what if you're wrong?" These are questions that I attempted to have people ask of themselves at this college. They chose not to listen. Why? It is only for these people to know that. I cannot force them to do this, only suggest that they do it.

Did I go about it wrongly? In many cases, I will agree that I have, and this is the reason that I have decided to change the tone of my column to issues outside of Houghton

College itself. It will be an opinion column, and it will have to be seen as such by the reader. The opinions included will be given from either a Biblical standpoint or a worldly standpoint, depending on the tone of the situation at hand. I will take the liberty of informing the readership of which stance I will take within the column prior to the heart of the column for clarity's sake. The column will be there simply to get people to think about things thinkable. Nothing more.

Again, I am sorry that what I have done in "The Black Hole" in the past has hurt some people. It was never intended as a spear. I will be careful in the future not to rub specific individuals the wrong way. I will attempt instead to address broad based issues. Thank you for your input and your candor on the matter. I hope that we have all learned something from this and I will continue to pray for some resolution to this problem. I only ask that you take the words in this letter as sincere and truthful and find it in your hearts to forgive and let life continue.

Thank you and walk with Christ.

**Very sincerely in our Lord,  
Matthew L. Taylor**

☆☆☆

**Dear Ivan,**

Thank you and the *Star* for the fine publicity you have given the art gallery program this year. As to your angst question number 5 asking why artists in the Houghton gallery seldom have statements, you left yourself wide open for a reply. As long as there are exhibitions in our gallery we will always have artistic statements, because art is primarily sharing of one mind with another. But if there is to be a dialogue, people have to be willing to stay long enough to listen. It takes time and effort to

allow art an entry into our busy lives. Some demand instant comprehension and will spend more time reading labels rather than absorbing art as they skim thought the gallery, quickly dismissing anything which is beyond them in a cursory inspection. This gives artists angst!

For academic purposes, the gallery talks offer our guest artists the opportunity to make spoken statements with the possibility of questioning them about their intentions, their techniques, or their creative processes. Rarely do our visiting exhibitors request that we display a defense of their work, preferring to allow the art to speak for itself. And what of those gifted artists who create art which is bigger than themselves? Their tightly framed statements might tend to foreclose viewer imaginations? In other words, some art is worth a thousand words while some cannot be contained. Madeleine L'Engle, in *Walking on Water*, wrote, "When the artist is truly the servant of the work, the work is better than the artist...Bach composed more deeply, more truly than he knew; Rembrandt's brush put more of the human spirit on canvas than Rembrandt could comprehend."

This is not to say that as artists we don't have an obligation to articulate what we do, but then how often do you see written statements posted in museums? Every day the Houghton gallery offers a mini-museum, a visual training ground for anyone who will linger and really look. Plus there is free admission! And, by the way, this spring in the gallery we look forward to "reading" the graduating art major's statements, written and unwritten. Thanks for the opening to talk about art! Now let's paint!

Sincerely,

**Roselyn Danner  
Gallery Coordinator**



**Dear Star,**

Since the *Star* is the place to go if you're controversial, I believe it would be best to bring our case here. Ecclesiastes 3:4 says that there is a time to dance. Praising the Lord together with the Gonzales brothers (and sister) is a perfect example of when to dance. A time to refrain from dancing would be on a Saturday Winter Weekend Spot when parents as well as the administration are present. First I would like to apologize to anyone who was offended by our blatant disrespect of "The Pledge." Next I would like to apologize to the administration of Houghton College. Finally, I would like to apologize to Christina Cortwright (spot coordinator) for throwing this unexpected surprise on her. I, along with many of you, would like to see funny, entertaining, and uncontroversial spots and I am sorry for our tainting of an otherwise clean spot (well...).

THUNDERCHICKEN has had as much hype as the movie *Batman* did when it debuted, but I was as surprised as the audience when I looked up from my bass and noticed people on stage dancing. Contrary to popular belief, it was not planned and was the result of our not being able to hear each other on stage and one of our members' spontaneity. Thunderchicken never wanted to be a martyr for the cause of "social dancing" here at Houghton. As a matter of fact, the majority of members in our band could care less about whether or not dancing is ever allowed at Houghton—but it probably won't, due to Wesleyan doctrine and funding. Yet one of our older members stood up in the face of a nebulous policy set up by our school and challenged the issue of dancing. It is obvious that he used the wrong medium to address this issue, but another reason he did it was to get Houghton College to wake up and realize that there is a fair amount of student upheaval about dancing, and

I would just like to ask the administration to give a definite stance on the issue of dancing, but to keep in mind Ecclesiastes 3:4.

While I am a student at this respectable institution, I will not condone dancing (unless in performance) but I, like many others, have participated in it while being at college and therefore am a hypocrite, in a sense, yet I am still a follower of Christ, His child, your brother.

On behalf of the guys in electrostatic poultry (Thunderchicken), I would like to say, "We messed up! Sorry!" I would also like to say that if you've written us off as a legitimate band, don't. If you want good music like the Winter Weekend Coffee House, stay tuned. If you liked it when Chris F. and I did REM stuff, wait till you hear me sing Nirvana. Like a famous Chicken once said, "Don't count your eggs till they've hatched!"

Sincerely  
Glenn Seland

☆☆☆

**To the Houghton Community,**

As members of the Houghton community, we have made a commitment to abide by some common standards. Unfortunately, during the Winter Weekend Spot on Saturday, February 8 some of our common standards were violated. It was not the intent of CAB to offend or demean anyone, and for those of you who were I wish to apologize. I also realize that now is a time to put some of our other common standards into practice. It is very easy to be negative and critical of the events that occurred during the Spot. As members of the Houghton community, however, I feel that we should be encouragers.

Christina Cortright, the CAB Spot Coordinator, has put a great

deal of time and effort into reforming Spots so that they run smoother and have more student involvement. In this, I feel that she has done an excellent job. It is hard to be excited about putting together a Spot when you only get three students to turn out with acts. Christina has tried to get people out and has auditions for three or more nights before a Spot to give students ample time to audition. I wish to commend Christina for her diligence in being Spot Coordinator this year. I would further like to thank the student body for their comments and suggestions on how we can improve CAB to meet your needs.

Respectfully,  
Phil Ginter  
CAB Chairperson



Light up your summer by working with a Christian camp. Right now Christian camps all across the U.S. are recruiting people just like you. Hundreds of positions are available in camp counseling, maintenance, food service, horsemanship training and more. For a summer of service you won't forget,

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# FLIPSIDE

By Kelly Patterson

Valentine's Day, February 14...the day when the exchange of flowers and candy takes place, and some fat baby with wings and a cloth diaper shoots arrows at people gluteii. Suddenly, love appears. But what is love? How do you know when you're in it? These and other questions haunted my mind until a strange thing happened. I began to think very, very deeply and I came upon some deep thoughts. My tribute to cupid and everyone else who ever wanted love is in this article. Yipee.

**Deep thought no. 1** This one is serious. "Love is a rose...people get so caught up in the beauty of it, that they grab it without realizing that every rose has thorns." I made it up. Well, not the first part; that was Barbara Streisand or someone like that.

**Deep thought no. 2** Who came up with the term "date" for a small,

sometimes romantic gathering of two persons? Maybe it came from the bronze or stone age when a wonderful night was capped off with the ceremonial eating of a date. Or it might have come about because some Greek or Roman guy couldn't think of anything better to say when his woman asked "Where do you want to go?"

"On a date," he replies.

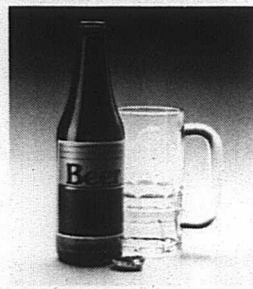
"No thanks, I already ate one," she answers.

Hey, they can't all be gems.

**Deep thought no. 3** Who was Voltaire and why does every woman want a man like him? What is a regular Voltaire? Is there some kind of irregular one, and...besides, he's dead!! I don't think that's very ro-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

## For anyone who thinks a drinking problem is running out of beer.



How do you know when a friend or relative has an alcohol problem? How do you help? Tune into our 12-part radio series, "Thinking About Drinking," and hear how people gain victory over alcohol problems. How drinking affects your health, relationships, family, school and career. Listen. You might learn some things you'll never hear at a keg party.

### THINKING ABOUT DRINKING

**Tune In:** Tuesday & Thursday 11:05 2x/week  
WJSL-FM 90.3 Houghton College

Distributed by Western Public Radio. Funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.



# Blackberries

by Johnathan Wydysh

**ATTENTION: THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE ARTICLE BELOW ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE HOUGHTON STAR, ITS EDITORS, OR OF HOUGHTON COLLEGE AS AN INSTITUTION. WE DEFEND THE AUTHOR'S RIGHT TO EXPRESS HIMSELF FREELY AND HEREWITH DISCLAIM ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS CHOSEN WORDS. ANY DIFFERENCES OF OPINION SHOULD BE TAKEN UP WITH THE AUTHOR DIRECTLY.**

Dear Sir or Madam,

I had the occasion to visit your college last week for the Greater Western New York Businessmen's Association dinner. The food was lukewarm and bland, but what can you expect from a bunch of cheapos? Your campus, however, was beautiful! It is among the nicest I've seen. It is about the campus and its students that I want to speak. I see a wonderful business opportunity that would benefit Houghton and me.

I wholeheartedly agree with your "pledge." It is by far one of the best studies in keeping up of appearances I've seen. That is, next to calling chapel services "worship" when chapel attendance is mandatory.

As I walked through your campus center I realized that there was a definite need. It looked like a zipper jousting tourney. People that are that brazenly affectionate in public make me wonder what goes on when they are alone. Well, actually there isn't all that much guesswork involved. It is obvious these people need a place to um...ah...well...be.

My proposal is this. We go halves on a motel. We'll build way back in the Houghton woods, a place familiar to most lounge lizards already. Par-

ents will never have to know. The pretense of purity and chastity need not be broached. I recommend at least a forty room unit. We will save money by not putting in any windows. The privacy of the couple need not be compromised as all the locks will be timed. Automatically after the couple leaves, the total number of hours will be tallied and charged to the students' accounts. The students need only slide their i.d. cards in the slot upon entering and exiting. Just like chapel.

There will, of course, be condom and sponge dispensers in all the rooms. Sex that isn't safe isn't sex; it is murder. This will also effectively decrease the number of pregnancies and abortions that occur annually at Houghton College.

It need not be blatant: we can call it the all-night study lounge or the other campus center. At any rate, it would not tax the mind of the average Houghton male to come up with a new pick up line. "Wanna study with me tonight?" is as clever a ruse as he need come up with anyway given the stunning street wisdom of the average Houghton woman.

Yours sincerely,  
Mr. Richard Johnson

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

mantic unless you're a necrophiliac, but that's a long, sordid story.

**Deep thought no. 4** Why do graduates tell prospectives that Houghton is a "husband farm?" Is that their idea of a cruel joke? It is not only degrading to the male population, but it builds false hopes in impressionable minds...besides, the only kind of farm that I've ever felt I'm a witness of at this institution is a petting farm (Ha! Ha! lounge rats!).

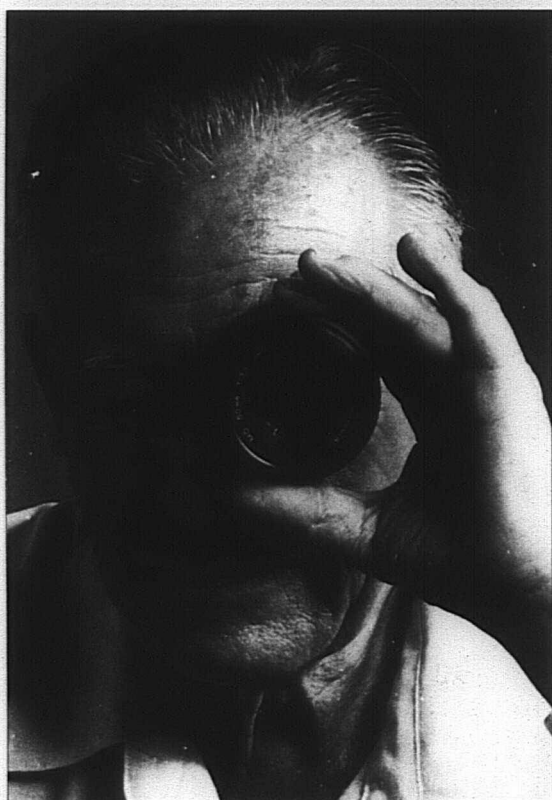
**Deep thought no. 5** Who thought up this shape of the heart with two scary-looking L's that face each other? I mean, face it, a heart looks nothing like that, and yet we draw one between the words "I" and "you" and on numerous greeting cards. Hallmark has put this seed of ignorance in our heads all our lives until we decide to be bio majors and find out the truth.

**Deep thought no. 6** Why do conversation heats (those stupid things) have sayings like "Dig me" or "Foxy" on them? Are these people in a time warp or something? There's probably one huge production plant with all these throwbacks from the 70s sitting around saying these little ditties, "You got it" or "baby cakes."

**Deep thought no. 7** Why does the word commitment instigate so much fear in men and women that they immediately obtain fake passports and travel to parts unknown under assumed names? ☆

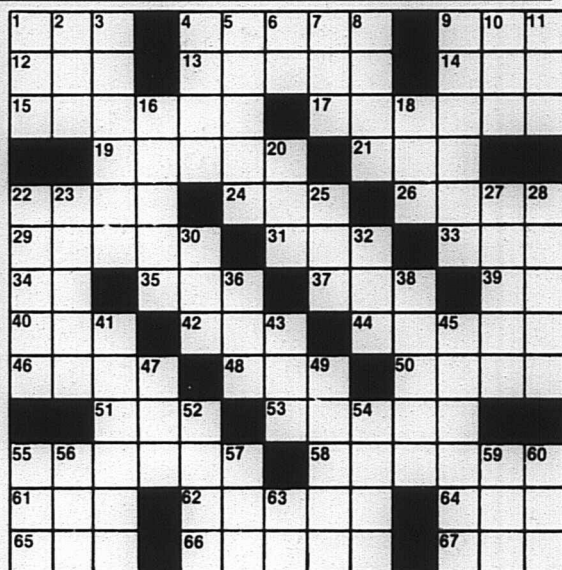
## CROSSWORD ANSWERS

AIR	STALE	INN
RCA	PETAL	ROE
WENACE	GALORE	
GRATE	NUN	
ALICE	HAS	GIBE
MORAL	RIP	CAM
ON	SOP	TAB
NET	GAR	RIVET
GRAB	DID	GALE
TAW	DRBOL	
ENTRAP	ENTITLED	
TIL	TERSE	SON
ATE	TRESS	EYE



## Displaced Photo!

Can you come up with a good, smart, witty, irresistibly funny caption for this photograph? Call in and leave your suggestion on our answering machine (30 seconds, max.). The number is 210, from any college extension. The three best suggestions will be published in the next issue.



### ACROSS

1. Sky
4. Not fresh
9. Traveler's resting place
12. Record company
13. Flower part
14. Fish eggs
15. Threat
17. In great numbers
19. Grinding
21. Sister
22. Leeward side
24. Owns
26. To make heckling remarks
29. Established code
31. Tear
33. Wheel on rotating shaft
34. Location at
35. Saturate
37. Projection; flap
39. Move!
40. Gain
42. Fish with long snout
44. Metal bolt or pin
46. Snatch
48. Completed
50. High wind
51. Marble
53. Drivel
55. Ensnare
58. Draw towards

61. Sesame plant
62. Brief
64. Plant
65. Dined
66. Lock of woman's hair
67. Organ of vision

### DOWN

1. Upper appendage
2. Frozen water
3. Forest policeman
4. Animal protection agency (abbr.)
5. Molars
6. Near
7. Fall behind
8. Dash
9. Opposite meaning
10. Neither
11. Born
16. Spaces
18. Tug
20. Hearing organ
22. Midst
23. Person by himself
25. Take a seat
27. Ring-shaped roll
28. Express emotion
30. Trimmed timber
32. Equal
36. Cushion
38. Prejudice person
41. Tell on someone
43. Free
45. Suitcase
47. Exclude
49. Don clothing
52. Unit of power
54. Units
55. 7th Gr. letter
56. Insect egg
57. Each
59. Sly
60. Female sheep
63. In reference to

Crossword  
answers on  
page 17



