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HOUGHTON WELCOMES BACK FALL PRODUCTIONS WITH *LITTLE WOMEN*

VICTORIA HOCK '23

At 7 p.m. on November 3-5 in the Center for the Arts Recital Hall, Houghton University presents their production of *Little Women*.

According to Music Theatre International, *Little Women* "follows the adventures of sisters, Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy March. Jo is trying to sell her stories for publication, but the publishers are not interested — her friend, Professor Bhaer, tells her that she has to do better and write more about what's close to her. Begrudgingly taking this advice, Jo weaves the story of what she and her sisters experience growing up in Civil War America."



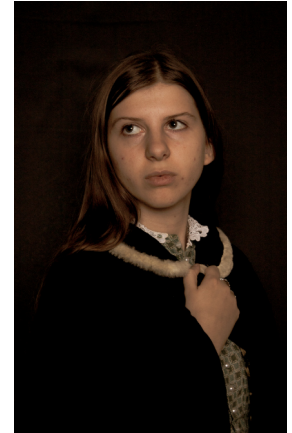
Emily Quick as Meg March



Grace Deitrick as Jo March



Lydia Rech as Beth March



Josey Ikker as Amy March

Junior Lydia Rech, who portrays Beth March, noted that *Little Women* has been one of her "dream shows" for a while now, so she is excited for the opportunity to be in this production.

Junior Josey Ikker, who plays the role of Amy March, was not as familiar with *Little Women*, explaining that she had "no knowledge of what *Little Women* was about." However,

she further remarked that she wanted to audition for any musical, and "*Little Women* was no different."

Ikker and Rech also expressed their excitement about playing their

respective characters.

"Playing the role of Beth March is both fun and humbling," Rech said. "Beth is a lot like me - she loves music, she often likes to work

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The Campus Garden

SOPHIA VERNON '26

"These are my potatoes! Pretty much any potatoes that you have in Metz are mine," said Emily Wahlenmayer, the student caretaker of the campus garden.

Potatoes are just one type of produce that Wahlenmayer grows for the dining hall.

Wahlenmayer is a junior at Houghton who started as an eco-rep through the Center of Sustainability (CFS) before the summer of 2022. When given the opportunity to stay in Houghton over the summer as the garden intern, she leaped into caring for the campus garden.



An H-shaped garden outside the Reinhold Campus Center.

COURTESY OF RYLEE ARCHAMBAULT

"The garden has gotten a bad rap," she comments, after explaining that for years it was never nurtured or cared for, and in turn never produced any crops of substance.

For the past five months, however, with full decision-making authority over the campus

garden, she has curated the garden into a thriving resource for the school.

When asked about the beginning of the campus garden, Wahlenmayer replied with, "[it was started] 4 years ago? 2018.... It's first year was unproductive, second year was covid,

third year was bad internships, fourth year [2022] was me."

There are a vast array of crops grown in the garden, including tomatoes, kale, three colors of beans, stunning carrots, pumpkins, zucchini, sunflowers, and more.

An assortment of the garden's crops is used regularly in the dining hall and students have free access to all these resources. During a brief interview with the head of CFS, Brian Webb, he outlined the main goals that inspired the garden to be constructed, and the purpose of continuing the program. Webb expressed the three main goals of the garden as: (1) Providing local produce for the dining hall, (2) Educating students about the importance of local produce, sustainability, and the aspects of caring for a garden, and (3) Providing on campus jobs.

In interviewing a variety of students around campus, the majority have never visited the campus garden or fos-

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UPCOMING INTERNSHIP FAIR

SARAH BURTON '23

On Nov. 9-11, Houghton University will host an Internship Fair in the Van Dyk Lounge by the fireplace from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. each day.

The Center for Student Success will host the event, which was planned entirely by Rachel Wright, who is the Director of the Office of Vocation and Calling, and Associate Director of the Center for Student Success.

Wright says, "in talking with Dr. Burrichter, it [the Fair] was a need that we needed."

Wright hopes that, by attending the Fair, "students can learn about different in-

ternship opportunities and can realize the process may need to start earlier than they were originally thinking."

The Fair will consist of various employers for various majors, with about ten employers presenting each day.

Wright discussed the diversity of employers, saying "there are some missions organizations, summer camps, as well as guidance centers, and nonprofits," as well as some based more locally and others from across the United States.

The Fair will also offer a multitude of internships, including summer internships that will be held on

Houghton's campus. Wright also stressed the presence of job opportunities at the Fair, and not just internships.

Ashley Burton, a senior Biology major, spreads her hope about the Fair by stating, "As a graduating senior, I haven't received a lot of information about jobs, mostly due to COVID-19, and I feel like this can provide me with [career] opportunities I may not have thought of."

Hannah Gullifer, a junior history major, thinks that the Fair is "a great opportunity to look into the different opportunities that I can benefit from," "Internships look great on a resume and

can help to get jobs in the future[,] and can help me to grow as a person and someone in my field. They can be really exciting learning experiences."

The Internship Fair will offer students opportunities for experiences that can help them build on their professional expertise as eager learners. Houghton University is helping pave the way to send off successful graduates by offering resources like this.

Students can register for the Fair on Handshake or the Houghton Hub to receive more information about the Fair, specifically which employers will be

present each day, including some virtual events from employers and information sessions.

Wright mentioned the importance of students utilizing Handshake beyond the Internship Fair by saying, "Students can use it for scheduling appointments with the Writing Center, Vocation and Calling, and Academic Support, as well as receiving resources and guides."

After the Fair, more information about open internships can be found on Handshake. These internships would be with employers who were not able to make it to the fair.★

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behind the scenes, and she wants to encourage and support those around her."

Beth "inspires" Rech. "She is sweet and supportive even when it's hard," she said. "She is not perfect, but she always seeks to live in a way that is honoring to God."

Ikker, on the other hand, initially found Amy a little "difficult to relate to." She explained that Amy's attitude was: "I just want this but my time might not come for a while, or if anything won't ever come." Amy tends to "follow society", and that she grows to have a "proper side to herself."

Rehearsals consisted of a lot of learning and character development for both cast members.

"It feels like we are already locking things in during rehearsals - not just getting lines memorized or having all the choreography

polished, but really bonding as a family," Rech said. "When I get onstage with Emily, Grace, and Josey, they really feel like my sisters."

Ikker praised the learning experience that rehearsal has provided to her.

"I've received lots of incredible feedback on how I can develop my character," she said.

Both Ikker and Rech encourage members of the Houghton community to come out and see the show.

In addition to Ikker and Rech, the cast includes Master's Student Ethan Carr, who will be playing John Brooke, Seniors Linette Taylor, Grace Dietrick, Emily Quick and Mikayla Bond, who will be portraying the roles of Marmee, Jo, Meg and Aunt March, respectively, Juniors Thomas Auld, who will be portraying Laurie, Cody Johnson, who will be playing the role

of Professor Bhaer, and Christian Welker, who will be portraying the role of Grandpa Laurence.

"This show is going to be beautiful and such fun!" Rech exclaimed. "I wouldn't be surprised if we fill up the recital hall each night. I am so excited! You won't want to miss it!"

Ikker expressed similar sentiments, using adjectives like "empowering" to describe the production and noted how she hopes people find "inspiration" and "healing" through the production of *Little Women*.★

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tered any interest in getting involved. Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors r had deeper negative perspectives than freshmen due to the past reputation of the garden.

In addition to the previously unmanaged nature of the garden, students are hindered by the distance of walking from campus to the garden, which is located next to the college flats. When asked how it would be easier to get involved, sophomore Emily Tam said she would go "If there

was a car to take me there. The flats are kind of far."

With the crest of winter upon us, the last of the harvests from this once neglected garden have come to a close after the most successful season to date. Looking forward, the Houghton campus garden welcomes students to take full advantage of what it has to offer - be it through learning, growing, or eating.★

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Freshman Thoughts: Life at Houghton



Caleb Welker '26

Being a freshman here at Houghton has been quite the experience, to say the least. These past eight weeks have had their fair share of highs and lows, but through all of it, I can say it's been pretty fun. When I came here, I found myself almost instantly pulled right into the community. As a member of the baseball team at Houghton, I didn't need to wait long to find people who I was going to be spending a lot of time with. I remember walking up to Lambein Hall and being instantly greeted by Coach Reitnour and an upper-classman baseball player. Being a student-athlete has already provided me with long days of practicing and class. I didn't know how difficult it would be to balance my academic, social, and athletic life, but Houghton came to

my aid very quickly.

In my first week of classes, I could already tell how much the professors cared. Their instant connection to us as students was evident in their opening lectures. Being at a school where the professors know you and truly want to help you succeed is an amazing thing that not many people get to experience. One of my favorite classes I have taken so far this year is Introduction to Communication Theory. I take this class with Professor Gaerte, who has made an 8 a.m. class way more fun than it should be. Although I dread waking up and dragging myself to the library to sit in class, I've always been drawn in quickly by him. He also is a prime example of how much the professors here care, as he is constantly making conversation with me, whether it be about baseball or just how my day is

"Being at a school where the Professors know you and truly want to help you succeed is an amazing thing not many people get to experience"

cluded meals together every day, trips to the weight room at six in the morning, and late night practices in the freezing cold. We have also participated in events such as sitting together, being very loud at volleyball games and working the Harvest Festival at Houghton Wesleyan Church. Whatever you want to do, there's someone there to do it with you. After four weeks of practice, it felt very odd

do off-campus. First of all, before I got here, I got a job as the Women's soccer team's public address announcer and scoreboard operator. Throughout the season, I got to watch the team's games, announce the goals and substitutions, keep track of the score and time on the board, and struggle to pronounce the names of the opposing teams' players. I found myself becoming very invested in the success of the team throughout the season, at points having to contain myself after goals, remembering I have a job to do. The job gave me experience in the field of athletics, and I got paid to watch a sport, so that was pretty cool.

Another connection that I have here at Houghton is through my family. I don't know if you have realized reading this yet, but I share a last name with the Opinions Editor of the Star. At first, I told everyone I wasn't going to Houghton because I didn't want to be at the same school as my older brother. Obviously, my opinions changed because, well I'm here, but having a sibling at Houghton has given me another connection. I was able to say hi to his friends and impress some other Freshmen by knowing upperclassmen. Plus, it hasn't been anything like what I thought it would be like, we aren't right on top of each

other. It's cool to see a family member here as I do miss my family, but we really do have separate lives here, and we can spend time together, but it's not like we're home.

Other Freshmen and I have had different experiences. I know that I've helped some people by telling them the things I picked up about Houghton before I even came here from my brother, and I know of people whose experiences here have been quite different from mine. Many people here at Houghton have different experiences and can answer the question, "What does Houghton mean to you?" very differently. I know people who aren't athletes, who seem to be shocked when I tell them I had to wake up early for practice. But those same people are there to listen to me, when I'm annoyed with a class, not that that ever happens, or just need somebody to talk to. And that's really what makes Houghton beautiful. Sure we spend a lot of our time with different groups of people, but we truly all come together to make the Houghton family.

All in all, Houghton has already been amazing in the short time that I've been here. The community here has shown me why the people I know who attended loved the school so much. The small closeness of this campus and the community of students, faculty, and staff really have made my time here special and makes me look forward to the rest of my four years here.★

Caleb Welker is a Freshman, currently an undeclared student, and a member of the baseball team. In his free time, he enjoys watching and playing sports and hanging out with friends.

"We truly all come together to make the Houghton Family"

going. He always seems to make an effort to talk to me. Being a member of the baseball team here has provided me with so many opportunities in the last eight weeks alone. Team events have in-

within the last few weeks not having to block practice out of my day, but I managed to figure some things out to make sure I wasn't too bored.

With Houghton's location, there's not really a lot to

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Club Highlight: Sigma Zeta Honor Society

Josh Carpenter

For the fall 2022 semester at Houghton University, the Sigma Zeta National Honor Society is reaching out to diverse audiences as it turns the page to its new Beta Nu chapter.

According to Sigma Zeta's official website, "Sigma Zeta welcomes the formation of new campus chapters interested in furthering the purpose of the society as stated in the mission statement: a national undergraduate honor society to encourage and foster scholarly activity and recognize academic scholarship in the natural and computer sciences and mathematics."

Senior Skye Chaapel, who is President of Sigma Zeta's Beta Nu chapter, explains,

"Beta Nu just indicates that this is the specific chapter of the national honor society, Sigma Zeta, here at Houghton University. It doesn't have any other meaning outside of that."

This current chapter of Sigma Zeta adheres to the theme, "To make science more accessible for diverse audiences of all ages," shares Chaapel.

To accomplish this, Skye hopes that Sigma Zeta members will share their love and appreciation for the math and science fields with others through celebrating days like Pi Day and Mole Day, also by putting on Lab Saturdays once a semester for high school students.

Karen Torraca, Professor of Chemistry at Houghton Uni-

versity and Sigma Zeta's faculty advisor, is encouraging the club this semester to participate in community outreach.

Torraca writes, "I work with local Christian schools, homeschool groups and public high schools to invite high school students to come to campus for a Saturday afternoon of labs in chemistry, biology, and physics."

Leading these labs are members of Sigma Zeta, who come to campus from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays. In her observation of them, Torraca writes, "[It's] fun to watch the Sigma Zeta students interact with the high school students and vice versa. It's a win-win for everyone."

To be eligible for Sigma Zeta, students must be a de-

clared STEM major with a GPA of 3.0 or higher collectively in STEM classes and a 3.0 GPA or higher overall. Students are additionally required to have completed at least 25 credit hours, including 15 hours in the natural sciences or mathematics. If students meet these requirements, they will be selected based on all classes taken through the fall semester, then be invited to join Sigma Zeta during the spring semester after they pay a national membership fee of \$35.

Students who think they meet the requirements but were not contacted about joining the club should contact Dr. Karen Torraca, the chapter advisor. ★

Easy Sudoku

from sudokuoftheday.com

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8	5	1		6		9		
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				9				
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Medium Sudoku

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		9			2		7	8
				7				
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