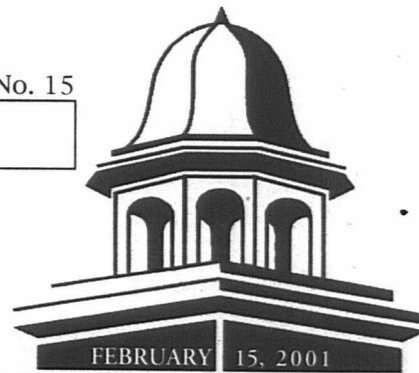


STAR

The Houghton

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF HOUGHTON COLLEGE



Wesleyan Church expands food outreach program

Maria Behrns

The Houghton Wesleyan Church has embarked on a Food Pantry expansion project led primarily by Tom Machamer. Although the Food Pantry has existed in basic form for quite some time, it has steadily been taking on new levels for approximately six months. According to Machamer, the goal is to create a pantry that will be available five days per week so as to feasibly provide for the many Allegany County residents whose welfare eligibility will expire at the end of the year. The Church is currently looking for a more spacious storage location within its existing property, and will eventually seek government funding for the purchase of freezers, which will allow for the maintenance and distribution of perishable items.

Allegany County Social Services serves as mediator between needy families or persons and the Church, and food is then distributed on an appointment-type basis after initial contact. This system has proven effective: whereas two years ago, the Church had provided food for 5 or 6 persons each month, it now gives to at least 40 persons in that same time period. Pastor Paul Swanson emphasized, "We give with no strings

attached. We must be prepared to help these people physically and spiritually, to holistically serve as Jesus did. Along with the food, we do hand out a tract, and there have been cases in which people have responded positively. Some have cried, saying it's been a huge blessing from God. And that's what keeps us going—the need. I believe that God has specifically called our church to this ministry."

Pastor Swanson asks the College community to pray for the lives of these individuals: he has sensed their gratefulness, but recognizes that it is humbling for any person to admit his or her need. Tom Machamer adds his own requests for support: "New World Hope has a mentoring program that we will eventually implement into the Food Pantry. I would love to see Houghton students become involved with this, helping with hygienic or literacy needs. I would love to have students sign up—for maybe a specific day each month—to go down to the Church during the lunch hour and hand out the food to those who have requested it. The secretary and Pastor Paul eventually won't be able to handle the



volume on their own. We are also looking for people to keep food inventory."

Even if you cannot easily sacrifice more time in your schedule, you can contribute your change to the money jars that the Service Committee has set up in the Campus Center

Continued on page 2

Students to invest part of college endowment

Staff reports

Real-life, practical experiences in the classroom are a vital component of preparing students for careers after college. For a select group of nine Houghton College business students, nothing can be more real than a new initiative they are involved in.

College administrators are allowing the members of the newly formed Student Endowment Management Group to decide how to invest \$25,000 of the college's \$20-million endowment.

After being a part of a successful campus stock market game last year, student Matt Eubanks inquired about other investment options for students. He was directed by business professor Dick Halberg to research endowment management idea, an program which has become popular at institutions such as the Wharton School, University of Delaware, Notre Dame, and Virginia Tech. Eubanks presented his findings to vice president for finance Jeff Spear, and Halberg later took the idea before the college's finance

council and the investment committee of the board of trustees. Both groups believed the educational benefits to the students far outweighed any risk of financial loss.

"Anytime you get experience in a hands-on situation, you are going to be more confident when it comes to investing your own or someone else's money," said Halberg. "For some students who want to go into this as a profession, being in this group will be a valuable addition to their resume."

SEMG members were chosen based on competitive applications, which were reviewed by the business faculty between semesters. This "honors" group, under the guidance of Halberg, has begun its research and will soon be making its first investment decisions. Future SEMG members will help to manage the investments.

The students will do the research, construct a portfolio, and decide what to buy and sell, said Halberg, who along with Spear will make the actual transactions. The group is also expected to make regular reports on

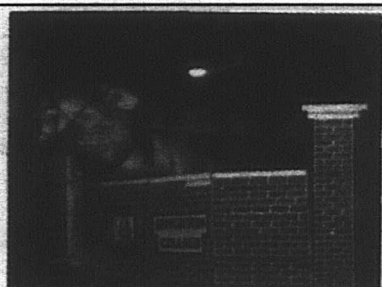
their performance to the college investment committee. Halberg notes that the students must follow guidelines set by the college regarding where its money can be invested.

The formation of this group takes the students a step beyond the stock market games, popular on college campuses across the country. These investment competitions give students a chance to test their knowledge of the stock market, but are missing one key ingredient: true risk.

"In investment competitions, there are no consequences to losing the 'money,'" said Halberg. "You have no accountability to anyone else. In stock market games, the emphasis is on making the most money in a limited amount of time. People get very aggressive and take big chances. There is very little research done. They learn about the market but not in a very thorough manner."

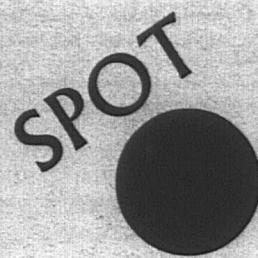
Spear agrees. "Students will be encouraged to make investments for the long run, which is much more prudent, responsible investing than trying to make as much money as you can in a short period of time."

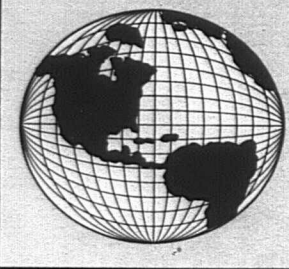
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vox/voice: The Spot Controversy

Feature: Equestrian Center:
Pages 4 and 5





Rosa Gerber

Israeli Prime Minister Planning New Government

After winning the Israeli Prime Minister elections by a landslide last week, Ariel Sharon announced that he would not negotiate a peace agreement with Palestinians until the violence that has plagued the Mideast for the last five months has ceased. Sharon also claimed that he would not try for a thorough peace agreement the same way that outgoing Prime Minister Ehud Barak had tried; Sharon focus is on non-violence. Concentrating on his goal of creating a united national government, Sharon offered the position of defense minister, the top Cabinet spot, to Barak and is considering offering other positions to Labor officials.

Barak had not responded to this proposal. U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell is planning a visit to the Middle East region for later this month.

Mystery Surrounding American Hostage in Chechnya

After being held hostage in Chechnya, Kenneth Gluck, an American aid worker, was released February 3 and flew out of Russia last week leaving behind disagreement as to his treatment and reasons imprisonment. Gluck, who masked gunmen captured in early January, denied that he had been mistreated. He stated that he was offered clean clothes and his money, in addition to a kerosene lamp, a radio, and three meals a day. Russian officials, however, claim that Gluck was in danger of being killed when the Federal Security Service freed him during a raid. Officials have suggested that reasons for Gluck's imprisonment include punishment for publicly criticizing Russia's reaction to the war in Chechnya,



The space station crew enters the module for the first time

intimidation for aid groups, or justify the war. Russian officials suspect Chechnya is presently holding nearly 700 people hostage, one reason for Russia sending troops into the region in 1999.

NASA Launches "Destiny"

Space shuttle Atlantis blasted off last Wednesday from Cape Canaveral, Florida, transporting the \$1.4 billion space lab "Destiny," over which

controversy sparked on whether module was an unnecessary waste of money. An astronaut crew attached the lab "Destiny" to the international space station Alpha approximately 225 miles above the Earth on Friday in order to conduct science experiments, including testing weightlessness that could lead to man's travel on Mars. The addition of NASA's "Destiny" to the space station will put Alpha's flight in the control of NASA and away from the Russian Space Agency.

SPOTLIGHT ON NATIONAL POLITICS

Rosa Gerber

Last Wednesday, a Secret Service officer shot Robert Pickett on the White House lawn after he refused to put down his gun. Pickett was wounded in the right knee and underwent surgery that night. Pickett fired his gun several times, attracting attention, hid in nearby bushes, and stayed there for about 15 minutes while Secret Service officers and local police attempted to persuade him to drop his gun. The U.S. Attorney's offices filed federal charges against Pickett, whom acquaintances claim is incident



The gunman, Robert Pickett, had a history of mental instability

he asks Congress for additional military funds. Congressmen argue that the military currently needed

the money to carry out daily functions. President Bush affirmed his campaign promise not to ask for funds until Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld recommended them. However, officials for the Bush administration stated that the review should be completed quickly.

The Clintons have decided to return \$28,000 worth of furnishings that they removed from the White House while moving out in January. The furnishings have caused much controversy over whether they were intended as gifts for the Clintons or for the current occupants of the White House. Fueling further suspicion to Clinton's controversial pardon of



Marc Rich and his wife Denise, under investigation for their presidential pardon

Marc Rich, a billionaire indicted for tax evasion and racketeering, reports state that ex-wife Denise Rich donated \$450,000 to Clinton presidential library before the pardon.

The Houghton STAR

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The Houghton Star encourages the free interchange of opinions and suggestions in the form of letters, articles, guest editorials, and advertisements. Students are especially urged to participate. We also welcome the viewpoints of faculty, staff, townspeople, alumni, and all others having an interest in the Houghton community. Ideas printed herein do not, however, necessarily reflect the view of the editorial staff, or of Houghton College. The staff reserves the right to omit or reject any contributions for reasons of professional decorum. Letters (signed) should be sent to:

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Shakespeare players to tackle *King Lear*

Bethany Schwartz

The Houghton College Shakespeare Players have begun rehearsals for their upcoming production, *King Lear*, which will be presented in the Recital Hall on March 22, 23, and 24th. For three and a half weeks the group has been practicing, but the directors Joel Dunham and Sonya Marthai have been working with the scripts since Christmas break. Unlike their last performance, this play is "straight Shakespeare." They are acting it in modern dress, but the lines and scenes come directly from Shakespeare's original play.

When Dunham and Marthai were elected directors for this semester's production, neither wanted to direct a comedy. The two plays Joel had in mind were *King Lear* and *Coriolanus*, and since Sonya liked *King Lear*, they decided to produce it. "The characters are intriguing," Sonya said. The play centers around the story of a king (Lear) who gives an ultimatum that whichever of his daughters tells him that she loves him the most will receive his kingdom. Two of his daughters (Goneril and Regan) tell him that they love him more than anything in the world, which isn't true. His other daughter (Cordelia) says that she respects but doesn't love him, which devastates him because she

is the one he loves. He banishes Cordelia from the kingdom, and as the story progresses Lear realizes the mistake he made in banishing Kent, his most loyal advisor, and his only honest daughter.

Cast members only attend about two or three two-hour rehearsals a week, but Dunham and Marthai have to be at all four rehearsals a day. Sonya looks at the time commitment as if it were another three-credit course, and Joel says that he could not do it if he weren't doing it as an independent study. Brian King, playing King Lear, says about the commitment, "It's worth it. You don't get a chance to do *King Lear* every day...it's not something most colleges attempt to undertake." It is necessary for the rehearsal schedule to be so intense because of the difficulty in the language of Shakespeare's day. "If it were in normal English, it would be a lot easier," said Dunham.

The future of the Shakespeare Players looks optimistic, as most of the members are freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. "I've never directed before," said Marthai, a sophomore who acted in *Twelfth Night* and *Henry VIII*.

"It's quite a bit different to be directing than acting. I love it. I love hearing all the great ideas...the people are so fascinating." The club is hoping to make enough money from performances that they will be able to support themselves and not ask the SGA for money, which results in the \$2 charge at the door. The group is still looking for people to help advertise, take photographs, sell tickets, and find costumes, and they encourage any students to get in touch if they want to be involved but not be acting. Students can get involved in any of the upcoming Shakespeare productions if they have a 2.5 or higher GPA and have carried a full credit load at least two prior semesters.

The group is excited about the performance, but are still working on getting into their characters. Says the King, "You really have to take on a lot of characteristics you may not like. Actually, someone you don't like at all." But it is worth it, he added, saying, "There's no other place for Shakespeare around here. We're it." As a parting comment, the directors concluded, "Come see the play! It's cheap. It'll be fun."

CAST LIST:

King Lear:
Brian King:
Goneril:
Meredith Dyson
Regan:
Abigail Johnson
Cordelia:
Shayna Schapp
Duke of Cornwall:
Daniel Yarrington
Duke of Albany:
B.J. Haas
Earl of Kent:
Jonathon Winters
Earl of Gloucester:
Joel Dunham
Edgar:
Kevin McDonald
Edmund:
Mat Hardy
Fool:
John Roeske
Oswald:
Glen Benedict
King of France, Curan:
James Thomas
Duke of Burgundy, Servant:
James Franklin
Doctor, Messenger:
Samantha Lioi
Knight, Old man:
Barry King

Student organizations receive funding allocations

Lindsay Ackerman

After two weeks of SGA Senate meetings focusing on student funding, Senators finally allocated money requested by student organizations from the Organizational Services Fund (OSF).

Student organizations submitted itemized proposals totaling almost \$11,000. At the February 1st meeting, various organizations presented their proposals and explained their reasoning behind requesting funds. Over the next week, the Senators from each class met privately to discuss how they felt the \$6,653.23 dollars available in OSF should be distributed. At the meeting, the Senators from each class presented their proposals. The Senators discussed the

reasons for funding each organization and finally voted, agreeing on a specific amount to be given to the organizations.

While many organizations seeking funding did not receive the entire amount they requested, Evangelicals For Social Action, Houghton College Shakespeare Players, Men's Club Lacrosse, the Music Education Club, Cross-Cultural Student Society, and the Spanish Club all were given the entire requested amount. The only group receiving no funding was the Equestrian Society, who stated that they would not be able to use the money for the intended purpose unless they were given the full amount. (see table for specific figures.)

Senate will convene again February 15 to discuss two new SPF proposals as well as the upcoming election.

Evangelicals for Social Action

Requested: \$ 402.2

Decision: \$ 402.23

Houghton College Climbing

Requested: \$ 500.00

Decision: \$ 400.00

Houghton College

Republicans

Requested: \$ 300.00

Decision: \$ 200.00

Houghton College

Shakespeare

Requested: \$ 500.00

Decision: \$ 500.00

Men's Club Lacrosse

Requested: \$ 600.00

Decision: \$ 600.00

Men's Club Volleyball

Requested: \$ 1,055.00

Decision: \$ 900.00

Music Education Club

Requested: \$ 250.00

Decision: \$ 250.00

Paddle Sports

Requested: \$ 1,981.00

Decision: \$ 1,000.00

Spanish Club

Requested: \$ 150.00

Decision: \$ 150.00

Cross-Cultural Student Society

Requested: \$ 2,000.00

Decision: \$ 2,000.00

Houghton College Iron Man

Requested: \$ 346.16

Decision: \$ 230.00

Total

Requested: \$ 8,084.00

Decision: \$6632.23

Food pantry continued from page 1

Bookstore. The proceeds will be converted into vouchers for bread and milk from the Houghton Mini-Mart, providing some immediate relief for local families. As Machamer asserts, "We have an incredible opportunity to provide for these people physically and to share the Gospel with them. You don't need to go to Ecuador to serve; there are so many different ministries right here in Allegany County."

Upcoming CAB Events

Wednesday, March 7: Movie: *Remember the Titans*

Friday, March 8: Coffeehouse: Ben Eckley CD release party

Monday, March 12: Coffeehouse featuring Marianne Kesler

Friday, March 23: Mr. Houghton

Wednesday, March 28: Movie: *Gladiator*

Saturday, March 31: Coffeehouse featuring comedian Randy Riggle

Equestrian Center

A Look at one of Houghton's Hidden Treasures

Emily F. Townsend

Five minutes from the hub of Houghton's main campus is one of the college's best-kept secrets, the Equestrian Center. This 386-acre farm offers the only academic equestrian study among Christian colleges in the nation. Since its start seventeen years ago, the program has grown to be one of great repute in equine circles.

The Equestrian Program began in 1984 through the college's "lifetime sports", which consisted of a half semester of badminton, racquetball, or riding lessons at Brentwood Stable located sixteen miles from Houghton. At the time, a science professor's wife was involved with horses. Dr. Wheeler and his wife Carol bought local pastureland and rented a barn so she could teach riding lessons. Houghton students found riding at the farm was more convenient than traveling to Brentwood. The college soon noticed that the six to eight lessons students received in half of a semester barely sufficed, so the program was made into a full-semester course. The farm was also in need of a fenced ring to ride in during lessons, so students begged used split oak fence posts from a local

farmer and took hatchets and handsaws into the woods to make the riding arena. Now that the program was a full semester, the classes had a long waiting list. In order to overcome this, the farm needed more horses.

Dr. Romanucci, whose son was a pre-med student, donated a few Morgan horses in December of 1984. One of these Morgans, still used in the program, is known to students in Horsemanship classes as Percy.

By spring of 1985, the school allowed the farm to add Horsemanship II as a class, offering a lecture on farm management, horse health, riding theory, and a riding lab. That fall the Wheelers left to pursue other careers, and Marla Omdal took over the Equestrian Center. That winter was cold as it usually is on the shoulder of the ridge where the farm is located. One student, Heidi Piper, who had brought her horse to school, mentioned

to her father how chilly it was to ride. He donated money to the college, which was used to build the indoor arena we have now. Lights were installed in the ring, and the day after the completion the farm hosted its first Christmas Fun Show. The show's judge was Jo-Anne Young who had become well known as a local horsewoman. Young had been friends with Omdal through the county's 4-H program. When Omdal was forced to leave Houghton because of her husband's job change, Jo-Anne became the director of the Equestrian Program, and still remains in that position. She has earned master and clinic instructor ratings from the Certified Horsemanship Association, which also is the certifying body for equestrian minors. Young has also taught clinics, workshops and judged in thirteen states and overseas. During her time at Houghton she has studied dressage in Germany, and trained horses in Bolivia. Under her direction, in 1994, what is now the Lesson Barn was built at the student's request. They built the barn themselves with hard-earned funds.

Young brought students to local shows where the program

drew notice for its competent work on happy, obedient, relaxed horses. Jo-Anne had also become well known as a trainer, instructor, coach, judge and 4-H leader, which brought better quality donation horses into the program. Cathy Daggett, a licensed American Horse Show Association judge soon brought her equestrian knowledge to the college farm. Through Cathy's long-time friends, Terry and Sue Williams, owners of the Olympic jumping champion stallion Abdullah, oversaw the donation of Hans, a Trakehner gelding that had been long-listed for the Olympics as an event horse and awarded 16th nationally out of 1500 horses. After being imported from Germany, Hans became part of the lesson herd and is still used in the horsemanship program.

Over the years, horses of high caliber have been donated to the Equestrian Program. This past May, the college was given a Grand Prix Dressage horse named Murphy who, a year-and-a-half ago was purchased for \$50,000. Geister is another Dressage schoolmaster (which means they



Houghton College's Tank and student jump a 4'3" high fence



Houghton College's Grand Prix Dressage Schoolmaster Geister and student practice movements

In Question:

If you had a horse, what would you name it?



Steve Erickson (Senior)

"Xavier"



Lisa Blenderman (Freshman)

"Butterscotch, to keep up with the stereotype of horse names"

Continued on page 5

Equestrian continued from page 4

actually teach the rider how to perform Olympic level dressage movements), who has been at the school for five years. Tank is an Anglo-Percheron gelding who has placed in the money in Mini-Prix Jumper Stakes at shows with Houghton students. Bacchus is a 23-year old Canadian Sport Horse who is not only a dressage schoolmaster, but also won the Buffalo International Jumping Mini-Prix in 1998. Two years ago the school was given a five-year-old pony named Pumpkin, who has proven to be a great jumper with college students and quiet enough for beginners despite his young age. Young hopes that this little guy will be around for years to come.

Jo-Anne and Cathy, have helped the farm improve more than just the quality of the horses. The Center now boasts five barns, three outdoor riding rings with state-of-the-art footing, a pre-novice, novice and training level cross-country course that winds through the fields and woods, and maintains a herd of fifteen lesson horses.

The program also offers clinics with two Olympic level coaches. One of these is Walter Zettl from Germany. This 72 year-old brings a wealth of knowledge to the program during his frequent visits to Houghton. After years of gaining international wins for his own riding, he went on to coach the Canadian 3-Day Event team in the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, where they brought home a team bronze medal. Zettl has also published a book in 1998, *Dressage in Harmony*, and will soon be publishing a second one. Last year at the United States Dressage Federation annual convention, Zettl was the keynote speaker. Sophomore, Stephanie Miller commented on her recent ride with Zettl, "In the beginning I was nervous about riding with an Olympic coach, but I was surprised to find how a man with his expertise can make understanding Olympic level Dressage so easy." Molly Sivewright, another well-known riding instructor comes to Houghton annually to teach a clinic. Sivewright has been a major influence on the training of horses in Britain for the past fifty



Olympic coach Walter Zettl and Jo-Anne Young during a dressage clinic

years. She has instructed and judged riding in nine countries and has served on the Council of the British Horse Society. Before coaching riders short-listed for the 3-Day Event team in Dressage, Sivewright competed herself as a member of the British Dressage team. Junior Nicole Stephan said of her lessons with Sivewright, "The top-level instruction has helped me to grasp fundamental problems and see my riding from a different point of view."

The quality of the program, while it is still only a minor aid to its Equestrian students in finding competitive jobs in the horse industry. Steve Young, a 94' graduate, taught riding and trained in the Houghton area before being recommended by Zettl for the riding instructor and training job he has had at Reddemeade Farm in Silver Spring, Maryland for the past 4 1/2 years. Janelle Powell, a member of the class of 95' graduated with a communications major. However, Powell's love for horses landed her the opportunity to be a communications liaison to the equestrian venue at the Atlanta Olympics. Lisa (Kendrick) Swan, another 94' graduate is currently the director of the year-round riding program for YMCA Camp Letts where she has been for five years. 93' graduate Nathan Brown was offered seven jobs before leaving Houghton, and now works

at a farm in East Troy, Wisconsin. Michelle Long, also a member of the class of 93' went on to work for Olympic dressage rider, Mike Poulin, then moved to her present job as a barn manager, instructor, and trainer in Alabama. Rumor has it that one of this year's

long hours and hard work that it takes to run the farm. The college has been blessed with an amazing herd of lesson horses most people could only dream of riding and Olympic level instruction most people are never able to receive.



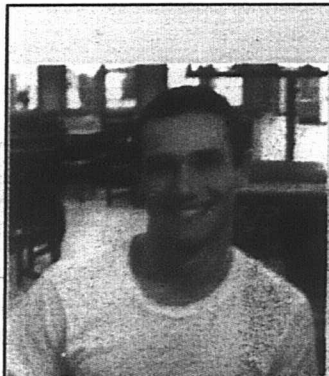
Houghton Equestrian students work to build the lesson barn (1994)

seniors has been offered the possibility to work with the Grand Prix show-jumper Peter Leone, who was a member of the United States Equestrian Team when they won the silver medal in the 1994 games in Atlanta.

Houghton College has an incredible equestrian program that few students or faculty members realize is available. Those who take Horsemanship I for a gym credit are fortunate enough to be exposed to all the

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE EQUESTRIAN CENTER

- * Friday, March 30th, 7 P.M. March Madness Frolic over Fences
- * Saturday, March 31st, beginning at 9 A.M. Dressage Schooling Show
- * Wednesday & Thursday, April 4th and 5th Walter Zettl Dressage Clinic
- * Saturday, April 28th, beginning at 9 A.M. Hunter Jumper Show



"King Arthur, if it was a Clydesdale"

Brian Baney (Junior)



"Twinkle Toes"

Mark Riley (Junior)

VOX voice

expressions of a community of faith

Letter to the Editor

"SPOT vs. SNL: Where is the line?"

This is the first (and probably last) letter to the Editor I've written in my six years at Houghton College. Yes, that's right, it's actually been six years! In short, I was very disappointed with the recent winter weekend SPOT. While there were some creative, clean acts, I thought the very inappropriate ones overshadowed them. What do I mean you ask? I was wincing from the beginning when the first year student played the part of Peter Bancroft, the fictitious

character who made fun of homosexuals, African Americans, women, the ministry of RFM, Houghton College, but mostly himself. I was holding my breath, literally praying that he would get off the stage before he did any more damage. And then there was the direct take-off of SNL's Game Show version of Jeopardy. Not only did Sean Connery make reference to his sexual relationship with Alex Trebeck's mother, eluded to saying mother _____ on stage, and make reference to the size of

Dolly Parton's breasts, but the group decided to use their "creativity" by calling three Houghton faculty members retards! I could not wait for many of the acts to be over with. I felt terrible for what the trustee's and faculty members had to endure in the front row. And if my parents were there, I would have been embarrassed for them and had a lot of apologizing to do.

Maybe I'm too sensitive. Maybe I sound like your father and should just pipe down and keep my comments to myself. But as a student life staff member, I feel compelled to take a stand. Remember, the Bible commands us to be in the world but not of the world. I always felt that the great thing about SPOT was that we, as a student body, could show how we could be funny without being vulgar and insensitive. Don't we get enough of that already? I watch SNL and occasionally enjoy it, but I don't want SPOT to become

synonymous with it. Am I saying that I am any better? Do I ever think and say things inappropriately? Of course I do all the time (ask my RA's when I went through jumps and moguls I wasn't ready for at Holiday Valley yesterday). I am not angry with any of the players in SPOT; I wish more students were involved. But can we as a student body, set apart from the things in this world, try to make hilarious comedy without the vulgar comments, grossly sexual innuendoes, and other inappropriate banter? Or don't you know how. For what it's worth, that is my challenge to you.

By the way, Mr. Trebeck, there are 100 Christ-centered, Bible based institutions in the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities. Houghton and Wheaton are just two of them.

Sincerely,
Mark VanderHaar

TOP TEN...

Signs your professor needs a break



Stephen Maxon

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>10 She declares everyone's performance on the research paper "a tie"</p> <p>9 "And remember, on the test, all answers must be in the form of iambic pentameter."</p> <p>8 You get the feeling interpretive dance is not exactly the best way to learn accounting</p> <p>7 One wrong answer - name on the board. Two wrong answers - out comes the paddle.</p> <p>6 It's been three straight calculus lectures, and she's still reciting the digits of pi</p> | <p>5 Returns papers completely ungraded, but with every single letter 'o' colored in</p> <p>4 Every test has the same question - "Are you ready. . . . for Monday now?" - repeated twenty times</p> <p>3 "Casual Friday" is the only day he doesn't wear a wedding dress</p> <p>2 Whips off his shirt in lab to reveal a massive tattoo of the periodic table</p> <p>1 Oral pop quizzes are always the same - "Whasssssup??"</p> |
|--|---|

glenn's head



Watch out Mr. Belding! There's a new member of the Bayside gang... guess who?

glenn's head is not endorsed in any way by editor in chief Glenn McCarty

Letter to the Campus

"One"

Martin Luther King Jr. once said that he had a dream of all races coming together as one body in Christ, the way Christ intended it to be. Since his murder, many things have changed for the good. Laws, opinions, and even our thinking process has gone through a revolution. However, no one can change our hearts or minds about what has happened in the past. Even some things here at Houghton College have been questioned, just in this year. Things having to do with the different races we have here at this culturally diverse college.

I did stand up for the latest production of SPOT. In it I was talking about the movie *The Patriot*. I compared the two sides that were fighting, the British and the Americans. I spoke about how in the movie it seemed that the British had such awesome weapons and armor and how the American mercenaries seemed to have such primitive weapons. What I was trying to do was to compare the American weapons to the primitive weaponry of either

the early Native Americans or, an ancient African tribe. However what I did, because I was talking about the Americans, was that I put the two statements together, seeming to create a racist statement. I said the words African Americans instead of what I intended on saying. Out of the millions of words I said, I had to mess up the one thing that made me look like a racist. Let me assure you that I am far from that. I am deeply truly sorry for the misunderstanding. I simply mixed up my words, and that is the truth on what happened.

The other thing people seem to be talking about is the section I said about the rap industry. In no way did I mean this section to be aimed toward one ethnic group. I was talking about rappers in general. I would like to assure you that this section was pre-approved and "ok'd". I did not change anything for the stage so everything that was said was planned and "ok'd". This section did however come after the other incident so I can see how people could interpret that is being

strictly against the black rappers. I did not say this though. That is how some people took it, and for that I am sorry.

However, it seems that this was not the only case of apparent racism this year. It has come to my attention that there have been hate letters. Dirty looks, and one event during the teachings on King were rather than on all of his accomplishments. The man spoke like he was tired of hearing about King. What we all need to understand is that there is absolutely no difference between Black, White, Asian, European, or any other race. It says in the Bible that we are created in the image of God. It doesn't say white or black; it says we all are created in the image of Christ. To God there is no race. We are all here as one body for Him. We create racism in our minds and hearts. People say that knowledge is power. Well, when we were all five years old, we never thought about any of this. We didn't see each other as having different color skin, we saw each other as playmates. When did we all change what we thought? If racism didn't exist, the mix up on words that happened during my stand-up would never have been an issue,

but it is.

The phrase Politically Correct is a thing that, I think, outlines racism. It says that we have to make the distinct difference in everything we do between two different kinds of people. It asks us to realize there is a difference and make it clear so no one is offended. Well I am offended that we can't be one person. I am upset that in order to be "PC" we have to make this distinct difference between people. In the Catholic Church, the phrase, "One bread, one body," is used. It is used much in the partaking of communion. Let's take the part that says "One bread". The Bible is the bread of life to Christians. "One body" is all of us as the church of God, no race, no difference, just simply a body as one. We are all different in every way, spiritually, emotionally, mentally, but least of all these...physically. Why then, is this an issue? Dear God I pray that some day, in some way we can come together as simply, one.

Sincerely,
Mike Zale

Letter to the Editor

"An Apology"

Romans 8:21 states: "So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand."

Dear Houghton Family,

We, the hosts of SPOT, feel a great necessity to apologize for the objectionable material that was included in our program last Saturday night. In the process of planning all the details of SPOT such as sound and lighting etc, we overlooked some of the smaller details such as the specific content of the certain skits and how they would appear on stage. We certainly did not mean to offend anyone. On the contrary, while planning SPOT it was actually a specific goal of our group, to put together a very clean SPOT that did not leave anyone feeling that their values had been compromised or feelings hurt. We apologize with great sincerity for the number of things that eluded our attention and were

included in SPOT. We also apologize for the things that were included in SPOT that were not included in the auditions, things that were beyond our control as the hosts. As actors we have to face the fact that things sometimes vary on stage than they do in the rehearsals. We sincerely hope that the damaged feelings can be restored and that we can move on, working together to avoid these problems in the future. Once again, we ask that you the family of Houghton accept our humble apology.

Sincerely,

Danny Steele, Michael Vooris,
Michael Livolsi, David Ely,
Brian Adkins, Bryan Huot,
Joshua Ziefle, Thomas Forsberg

Letter to the Editor

"Sealing the Cracks"

Dear Editor,

What happened at the SPOT this past weekend??? I was in Florida with my wife for a conference over the weekend (which is where I am sure some of you are heading in a few days) and when I got back to my office on Monday I was bombarded with questions and emails. Well, I think I may have some answers for what happened at the SPOT, and why.

Even though I was unable to attend, I was aware of what the acts were going to be because I worked with the SPOT planning committee. The approval process is something that I engage in for every SPOT. As the Director of Student Programs it is my responsibility to apply the SPOT policy as the planning committee works on the program. Over my seven years as the Director of Student Programs there have been very few "objectionable" SPOT acts and the ones that have been

"objectionable" have been weeded out with this process. However, I have become lenient over the past few years in my application of the policy. The policy-which can be found on the Student Life web site-states very clearly how auditions are to occur and the criteria which have been established for us to use in determining the appropriateness of SPOT acts. For the past few years I have permitted auditions to consist of a verbal report from the prospective performers to the committee about their intentions and the nature of the act. In fact, I have not even attended all the auditions and have instead met with the student planning committee and had them tell me what the acts were going to be. This has been the case this year. There have been acts that we have not approved in the past, even with

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Letter to the Editor

"Understanding and Unity"

Everyone who was at SPOT this past Saturday should remember that it did not end on a happy note. For those of you who were not there, let me explain briefly. Nate Petersen and Jeff Eggleston were the last act playing

two homosexual dancers who, as they danced, took off layers of warm-up pants only to end up in spandex. They poured powdered sugar down each other's pants while the song "Pour Some Sugar On Me" played. At the

exact moment that they began pouring sugar on each other, Houghton senior John Owen walked up on stage interrupting the act. He tried to push Jeff off of the stage in a half-hearted manner, and then walked off. The two performers continued their act to the end but were visibly upset as they too walked off the stage.

Probably most of you

readers at that night of SPOT were outraged at the fact that John disrupted the show for no apparent reason other than to be randomly rude. What was he trying to accomplish? Those who know John have witnessed him doing outlandish things in public for no perceivable reason before. Was this just another

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Highlander SPORTS

For complete game scores and statistics, visit
www.houghton.edu/news/athletics

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blatant example?

As somebody who knows John fairly well, let me assert that John had a purpose in disrupting this show. Undoubtedly, many viewers of the show were offended by the dirty nature of the humor in this skit (and were unhappy with a few other skits as well if I remember correctly.) Basically Nate and Jeff were inviting us to laugh at lewd gestures such as pouring sugar down each other's pants and crawling towards one another suggestively. I think this was what John was protesting.

But an even worse note was hit (consciously or unconsciously) in Nate's and Jeff's act. Two equations were implied by the skit: 1) homosexuals are intrinsically

funny and are O.K. to laugh at and 2) homosexuals are dirty. It has not been very long since Tony Campolo spoke in chapel about loving homosexuals as persons while hating their sin; yet, as Christians, we still seem to be willing to laugh at them even more readily than students of comparable erudition at secular institutions. Why is this?

This question is particularly telling for me, because I too have been guilty of displaying such an attitude in a public forum before. Those of you who remember the Shakespeare Players' "The Tempest" last spring will recall that one of the characters dressed obviously as a homosexual all in pink, even though there was no real basis for interpreting the character in this fashion. People,

as expected, laughed at the fact that a character was gay and was acting goofy. The same could hold true for Aaron Rath's goofy playing of a gay pirate in "Twelfth Night" the semester before which I directed and condoned as well. Again people simply laughed because a gay character was being silly on stage.

Unfortunately no one awakened me to the fact that my activity was gay-bashing or at least could be interpreted as this. If someone had pointed this out to me in time, I'm sure that I would have stopped, but unfortunately the damage has already been done. All I can say now is that I am deeply sorry if I have offended anyone in the process. Although I don't know, I

imagine Nate and Jeff both are somewhere in the same place as me.

While I do not necessarily condone John for his action at SPOT, I am glad that some sort of statement was made, and that it has prompted me to write this letter of public apology. Again let me apologize: to any of you who were offended by my actions, especially if you yourself are a homosexual, please forgive me for my wrongdoing. If anyone sees me in sin of this kind, I urge you to have courage and point it out to me. Didn't Paul tell his brothers and sisters in Christ to do the same? Let us as Christians strive to better love and be sensitive to every kind of people we encounter.

—Joel Dunham

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this watered down process, as was the case for this SPOT. However, there have been acts that have "slipped through the cracks" because of the poor process that has evolved over the years.

For those acts that have come under question from this most recent SPOT, I believe that the individuals involved in those

acts need to take responsibility for their actions and words. I also believe, however, that had I been doing my job better, these acts either would have been disallowed or at least modified with my guidance to fit the criteria. As has been demonstrated by some of these other apologies concerning SPOT, I too wish to offer my apology for allowing this process

to fail.

I am committed to reinstating the SPOT policy as it was originally intended. This will mean that it will be more burdensome for those involved in planning, for those who wish to participate in SPOTs, and for myself, but I believe that it will help to prevent what happened this past weekend. So, if you are intending on planning or

participating in future SPOTs, it is going to be more work, but it will also mean better entertainment for our community.

Matthew Webb
Director of Student Programs



Highlander SportsWeek

**Women's Basketball
(11-11)**

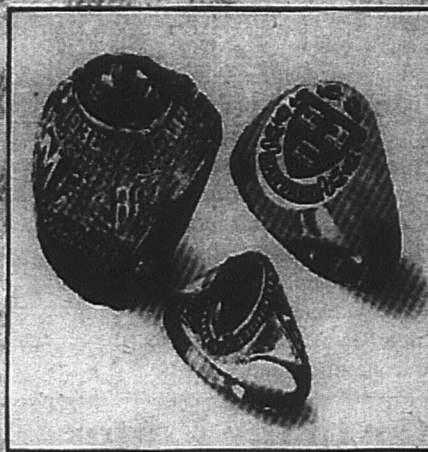
Friday @ U of
Pittsburgh, Johnstown, 7:30 pm
Saturday, @ Mt.
Aloysius, 6:00 p.m

**Men's Basketball
(0-23):**

Saturday, 8:00 pm @
Mt. Aloysius

Have a great break
from the Staff!

The diploma you
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