

THE HOUGHTON STAR

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF HOUGHTON COLLEGE

Volume 100, Issue 15

March 24, 2005

A Glance at Next Year's Classes: You Can Still Serve!

by ELAINE TOOLEY

SGA Commissioner of Communications

This past week, elections were held for class cabinet positions. The cabinets plan, develop, and sponsor events for each individual class. Some members are new to the cabinet, while others have served for some time. Each class, however, has a need for more student leaders to fill positions on the cabinet.

The class of 2006 will be lead by Lindsey VanVoorhis. Lindsey is the current president and will be heading up the Homecoming festivities in the fall. Assisting Lindsey will be Jen Mosher as vice president, Erica Spence as secretary, and Samantha Nicholson as treasurer. Ryan Nightingale will serve as male chaplain, and the female chaplain position is still available. Serving as social chairs will be Elizabeth Weaver and Nick Ruiz. Next year's senior senators will be entering their terms as senators with a wealth of experience. This year's SGA president, Marisa Roach, will be taking a seat as a senator, accompanied by Elliott Tait, this year's editor-in-chief of the Star. Current senators Kendra Ormerod and Karis Koett will be serving opposite semesters, and Michelle Gaffrey will round out the senators. There is one position available for any senior to be a senator. Contact Lindsey VanVoorhis if you want to serve.

Jessica Clark will be the

see **ELECTIONS**, page 2

Anita Eastlack Brings Tsunami Relief Update

by MAILE KAWAKAMI

Star Staff Writer

On March 16th, Anita Eastlack gave a Tsunami Relief update during dinner at five p.m, followed by an informal discussion at the Daily Grind. Her news consisted of her recent trip to the tsunami-stricken regions of some parts of India and mostly Sri Lanka. Mrs. Eastlack traveled with India Gospel League, a ministry organization committed to bringing the gospel to unreached parts of India through ministry, child sponsorship, rural development, and most recently tsunami relief.

To start off, Mrs. Eastlack passed around a basket of shells she collected from the shores of Sri Lanka. "There are about fifty seashells, and may take

one," she informed the listeners, "So long as you promise to pray for the people in these regions." Her presentation was a time of question and answer, a photo presentation, and news of her work and the morale of the people in these areas.

Her trip lasted ten days, moving and ministering to one tsunami-hit spot after the other. The tragedy has an estimated death-count of 226,566 and leaving millions more homeless. The hardest hit areas were the Southern coast lines of Sri Lanka along the Bay of Bengal, with obliterated fishing villages and resorts, leaving thousands orphaned and homeless. One picture showed a Sri Lankan man smiling surrounded by a few children. He had

taken in six homeless orphans and praying for a bigger building to take in more destitute children.

Mrs. Eastlack's work with India Gospel League included Christian worship services, women groups, but especially praying and associating with the people. "Everyone was encouraged to tell their story," she said. And the tales were similar; people hanging on with all their might for their lives as the waves violently swept the coasts. The remaining survivors were lucky, although most were separated from those

they held onto. Although the stories were similar, there was encouragement in the bonds of experience that held these people together. Bicycles were given out to pastors (an economical form of transportation in Sri Lanka and India), along with thousands of care packages and suitcases filled with essentials like water buckets and cooking pots. A slide showed a picture of a

local woman, smiling from ear to ear, holding a Bible to that the India Gospel team passed out.

"There was nothing on their face," Mrs. Eastlack gravely remarked on the state of the surviving inhabitants, "they were still in shock." Many of the places hit were already in poverty. These poor fishing villages were only constituted of laborers, where large corporations would come in with deep sea fishing boats, something the villagers didn't have. Northern Sri Lanka has the biggest gender-gap in the world, with a one man to every nine women ratio. The cause was a recent civil-war. And on top of local strife came the

see **UPDATE**, page 2

"There was nothing on their faces --they were still in shock."

Anita Eastlack, describing the tsunami victims she met in Sri Lanka

IN THIS ISSUE...

FEATURED THIS WEEK:

- Therapeutic Riding Program in the Works...page2
- Editorial Part II: Where Do the 10 Commandments Fit?...page3
- "Vessels" on Display in Ortlip Gallery...page5
- MLK Service Day Reflections...page8

REGULAR FEATURES:

- WorldView: Korea, Interview with Melissa Doyon...page4
- Faculty Profile: Dr. Bradley Beach, Philosophy Professor...page5
- Movie Review: Ice Princess...page6
- Movies: What to Look for Over Break...page6
- Opinion: "Lord Prepare Me to Be a Missionary..."...page7

ELECTIONS, *from page 1*

president of the class of 2007 next year. Matt Gibbel will be vice president, and Abby Friesen will serve as secretary. Eric Reinhold will serve as male chaplain, and the female chaplain will be Sarah Bishop. The position of treasurer is yet to be filled. Social chairs are Stacy Garber, Kathryn Kapczynski, and Chris Alberts. Next year's juniors will be represented by senators Inti Martinez, Anna Kruse, Ben Valentine, Chris Pierce, and Holly Flint and Kerianne Studioso, who will be sharing one position.

Kerri Paul will be at the helm of the class of 2008 cabinet. Robyn Baker is serving as vice president, Rachel Morse is the secretary, and Jaryn Abdallah will be the treasurer. Both chaplain positions are still available, along with the male social chair position. Laine Myers will be the female social chair. The class of 2008 will be more than adequately represented by their senators. Stephenie Peck and Elyse Drum will be returning for their second year on senate. Peck has lived in the Houghton community, and Drum has exhibited her dedication and commitment to service this past year with her willingness to learn and be involved. Blake Hood, Megan Weller, and Alec Gilfillan will be joining Peck and Drum as senators.

The incoming freshman class will be organized and will select officers soon after their arrival at Houghton. For the rest of the year, the current seniors will continue to hold their positions in senate, in order to maintain the correct number of student representatives.

SGA president-elect Jason Shambach said, "I think it's great that students are willing to serve their classes; however, there are certainly more positions to be filled. Our greatest enemy is student apathy!"

◊ If you are interested in serving your class, please notify the SGA or your class president.

UPDATE, *from page 1*

hit of the tsunami. These people, for the time remaining, will be homeless and in tents. The government is stalling the building of new homes because of zoning discussions, hoping to keep homes more inland for protection against similar events in the future.

"There's my boat," Mrs. Eastlack recalls with a smile. The boat was called the Anita. A picture of herself was shown, with her hands on a small fishing boat and her eyes closed surrounded by elated locals and a blue coastline. "I'm praying over it," she explains to the talk-attendees. Through donation, some of the fishing villages were given a deep-sea boat to catch their own fish for income. It gave the people hope, a job, and means to feed and support them. The boat was named the Anita because she was there for its presentation.

It was a life-changing experience for Mrs. Eastlack, a trip she is glad she took but hopes never to see such tragedy again. "I just left knowing that they knew we loved them by bringing God's love to them," she commented. The people were uplifted by India Gospel Leagues work, deeply moved by the care and prayer given them.

Mrs. Eastlack strongly believes that prayer for these regions is vital for their recovery. Monetary support is also needed. She noted that a fishing boat costs \$4100.00. And if every student were to give less than \$10.00, the college could buy a boat. Houghton is currently collecting support for the Tsunami through World Hope.

New Therapeutic Riding Program in the Works

by HEIDI SPRUNGER
Staff Writer

In the last couple of weeks, Joanne Young, the Equestrian Program Director, has been working with Houghton College and the Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) to lay the groundwork for a new therapeutic riding program. Last week Education Department Chair Darlene Bressler and Young finally obtained a grant from the college to help fund the program. Additionally, Young is in the process of accessing the services of BOCES, a large organization which offers special education programs to small school systems that have a hard time operating as efficiently or cost effectively as larger school systems.

By working with BOCES, Houghton could guarantee a quality after-school education-enhancing experience for appropriate BOCES clients. Ultimately, Young hopes to transform the equestrian center into a place of not only learning, but also of serving.

"It has long been on my prayer list that the Lord would enable the Equestrian Program to be able to reach out to the disabled residents of our community and area with the benefits available for physical, mental, psychological and social enhancement through horseback riding," Young stated.

"I also feel it would be a vital and valid ministry as well as a learning and enriching experience for the Equestrian program students."

Houghton students would volunteer in the program by leading and walking along side horse and rider, as well as acting as supervised instructors for the BOCES clients. Eventually, Young wants to provide a Certified Horsemanship Association certification program to Houghton students to become Instructors of Riders with Disabilities.

Another aim for the program is to obtain necessary funding to make improvements on the equestrian center facility to better serve the special needs of disabled persons. Examples of this would be to install a handicap restroom and wheelchair-accessible isle ways.

It will be a while before the therapeutic riding program is fully running. Just last Monday Young and Joy Hinterkopf, current coordinator of the program, went to the BOCES center in Olean to fill out paperwork, get fingerprinted, and receive background checks. While there they were told it would be four to six weeks before their paperwork was processed. Young predicts that, at the soonest, BOCES clients will be able to start riding at Houghton by the end of this semester.

Source: http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/mgt_serv/sdoboh.html

Where do the Ten Commandments Fit?

Editorial, Part II: The benefits of the separation of church and state

by D. ELLIOTT TAIT

Editor in Chief

In speaking with people who read *Part I* of this editorial in the March 10 issue of *The Star*, few were persuaded to think any differently about the case for the Ten Commandments currently being discussed in the chambers of the Supreme Court. Instead, two opposite views were staunchly held by readers who stated, "Yeah, the Constitutional law stuff is all well and good, but I still believe..."

Thus, instead of arguing the case from a "lawyer-ish" point of view, I have decided to address these two views and the fundamental questions that arise from them, and, as promised, to offer my own views.

On one side is the view that, regardless of the Constitutional principles at hand, the Ten Commandments are God's law, and as our Lord and Creator, His law has every right to be in a courtroom where justice is served, even on the grounds of the Texas state capital.

The opposing view is that although the Ten Commandments are great and are certainly important to us as Christians, they have no place in a governmental setting because they violate the Establishment Clause of the 1st Amendment and the principle of the separation of church and state.

Those who hold the latter view shake their finger at those who hold the former, stating that their "wacko" view undermines the very principles upon which the United States was founded.

Those Christians who hold the former view shake their finger at their brothers and sisters in Christ who hold the latter, arguing that they are not "Christian-Americans" but "American-Christians," with their citizenship first in the US and second in "the Kingdom."

The first question provoked by these two views is, as the former view presupposes: can Christians exempt themselves from the 1st Amendment? Or, because Christians view the Word as the only solid foundation upon which anything is to be built, is the 1st Amendment – the "words of man" – ever to overrule the "words of God" like the Ten Commandments?

This question naturally segues into the more foundational question that asks – as Christians, how separate from our government are we to keep our faith? In other words, how much can the state support our faith before it unhealthily "establishes" it?

I argue that when the state does establish a religion (see *Part I* for examples of "establishment"), it does a few things to that religion that should make us, as Christians, seriously reconsider the importance of the 1st Amendment.

First, as Alex de Tocqueville states in his reflections on *Democracy in America*, the

success of religion and morality in the US is a result of the compelled separation of church and state. While religion is steadfast and founded on the divine, politics and government norms are, by nature, constantly changing and evolving with time. To mix the two destroys religion's solid foundation and replaces it with social and political mores, making religion nothing more than what is "popular."

Second, do we really want to declare our nation, our state, our courtroom, or our schools to be "Christian?" Do the leaders of our nation and our state, the justices on our benches, and those who teach and learn in our schools really model "Christianity" or more simply, obedience to God? Some certainly do or at least try their hardest to do so, but most do not.

The more explicitly we name our government "religious" or "Christian," the greater the risk that those in leadership positions will create a poor idea of what Christianity is and what it believes. The more we name our government "Christian," the more it will be blamed for poor laws and unjust actions, both of which seem to sometimes outweigh the amount of good laws and just actions.

To expound on this point let me link it more intimately with the topic at hand – the Ten Commandments. A few of the Commandments were certainly instrumental in the creation of specific legislation, but really it was the teachings on right and wrong in the Bible (all then represented in the Ten Commandments), which were fundamental in the Founding Fathers' construction of the law.

As evident in the Declaration of Independence and the Federalist Papers, those who founded this country knew that morality is founded on the Word and without that foundation there can be no true and enduring system of justice.

In this way I support the Ten Commandments, in the context of other founding documents, to be placed in courtrooms, schools, and elsewhere on government property. It serves as a necessary reminder that the Founders based morality and justice on ideas of black and white, the eternal, and the divine.

Beyond that foundation, however, an intimate public relationship between religion and the state can be dangerous. Although morality is founded on biblical principles, and the law – according to Aristotle and the Founders – is to increase virtue/morality in citizens, it often fails

miserably.

This is because even though the blueprint and foundation may be set and agreed upon, whom, how, and with what the rest of the "house" should be built and managed is rarely agreed upon by religious or Christian groups. The answer to every legal question cannot be "just do what a Christian would do" because not everyone agrees with what a Christian would do.

Furthermore, uniting church and state may encourage moral behavior, but it has much more potential to hinder it. Simply look at the "role models" of moral excellence – our elected and appointed chief officials. Sadly, as a whole, they accurately reflect a majority of Americans: they are often two-faced, selfish, and are sometimes even liars and adulterers.

Even if moral behavior was encouraged as a result of church and state unity it would be a shallow and possibly empty type of virtue. Instead of seeking virtue for its own sake or virtue because it honors the Lord, moral excellence it would be sought for selfish utility.

Making Christianity popular, mainstream, or a part of the state is not the role of Christianity exemplified by the early church or by Jesus himself. Jesus argued with the lawmakers of his day, seeking to improve justice and personal responsibility. He did not seek to improve virtue and righteousness among the people by uniting his teachings with the Roman government.

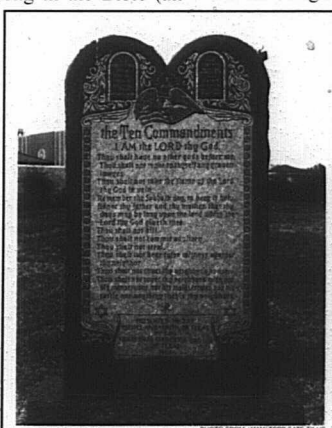
Instead, when he was questioned by Pilate, Jesus reminds him that God is omnipotent and is responsible for the authority Pilate has.

In the Pauline epistles, there is no encouragement to utilize the Gentile governments for Christianity's purposes. Instead, Christians were to proclaim the truth in word and deed, allowing the Spirit to change people's lives. In this way men and women became honorable, moral, and righteous.

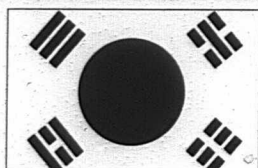
Yes, our laws and system of justice should become increasingly like those given to us in the Bible, but this involves more than naming our public institutions as "religious" or

"Christian." It requires more than reminding our fellow citizens who and what is the foundation from which moral behavior is determined and justice is served.

Instead, it requires all of us to involve ourselves both in the public square and in the private circle. It requires us to use our minds and voices to create and encourage legislation based upon our understanding of Scripture. Finally, it compels us elect officials who do the same.



The Ten Commandments Monument on the grounds of the Texas Capital.



THE FACTS:

Country: Republic of Korea or South Korea

Languages: Korean, English widely taught in junior high and high school

Population: 48, 598, 175 (July 2004 est.)

Capital: Seoul

Main Religions: No affiliation 46%, Christian 26%, Buddhist 26%, Confucianist 1%, other 1%

Literacy (age 15 and over): Total population 97.9%; male 99.2%; female 96.6%

Government System: Republic

Chief of State: President Roh Moo-hyun

Head of Government: Prime Minister Lee Hae-chan

Main Industries: electronics, telecommunications, automobile production, chemicals, shipbuilding, steel



WORLDVIEW: KOREA

INTERVIEW WITH MELISSA DOYON

by KRISTEN NIEMI
Staff Writer

Where in Korea did you live? I lived on the army military base, Yongsan Garrison in Seoul, South Korea.

Why were you and your family living there?

How long have you lived there? My family and I moved to Korea the summer of 2003. We moved to Korea because my dad was assigned to the 8th Army Band at Yongsan Garrison in Seoul.

What languages were spoken there? Did you learn how to speak it? Korean is the predominate language but also many Koreans know or are learning English. I did not learn much of the language. I was only in Korea for my senior year and most of my friends were Korean-American so when I was off post and out in the city, they would speak for me so I never had the real need to learn the language, nor the opportunities.

What are some of the biggest differences between South Korea and the U.S.? Korea is very small (about the size of the state of Indiana) and it consists of just a few big cities and then the countryside. Seoul is very compact. One notable difference is that there are a lot of people who walk or ride bikes. In the United States most people do not walk down the streets on sidewalks, but in Seoul there are always people out and about walking to places. Another difference is the stores. Most of the places to shop and buy merchandise are just strips with vendors. So instead of a mall you just walk to a shopping strip and you bargain prices with individual vendors.

What is the biggest sport in Korea? The biggest sport in Korea is soccer. In 2002, the World Cup was held in Seoul and the entire city and country was watching and cheering for the Korean team. Soccer is extremely popular. I once saw a group of Koreans playing soccer at 6:30 in the morning. They love the sport.

What would you say is a Korean cultural staple? A Korean food staple would be rice and kimchi. Kimchi is fermented cabbage that is very spicy. Another Korean Staple is a cell phone (or any electronic gadget, but mostly cell phones). Every one has a cell phone, adults and even children.

What do you think is the biggest misconception that Americans have of the Koreans?

The biggest misconception is one that Korea is still very traditional. Korea still holds many traditional values and customs but it has also been influenced by the West. The second major misconception is that men hold the power in the society. On the outside it would appear that it is a male-dominated society but internally the women, especially the mothers, hold the power. The woman is indirectly the head of the household. She has control over the finances and she gives her husband an allowance. She cleans and cooks and raises the children. When raising the children, she emphasizes school and education. A Korean friend of mine told me that his first word was "Harvard". And that

is not much of an [uncommonality].

Did the fact that Korea is divided and has been since the middle of the 20th century play any significant role while you lived there? How do you think it affects the lives of the Koreans? **Did you witness any open hostility between the Koreans of the North and the South?** Yes, the consequences of the Korean War still linger after 50 years. Officially, the Korean War has not ended. In 1953 a cease-fire armistice was signed



PHOTO BY KIMBERLY DOWSETT
Melissa Doyon

but currently there is no peace treaty and so we are technically still at war with North Korea. Many Koreans want to be reunited with their "brothers" the North Koreans-- some still have family members over in North Korea. Generally, Koreans wish for a United Korea. North Koreans are not different from South Koreans, they have the same language, history and culture, the difference is the government systems, economic systems and freedom. I did witness hostility. I have visited the DMZ (de-militarized zone) which is the border between North and South Korea and up at the border I came face to face with North Korean Soldiers. They looked on us Americans with a loathing and hatred that I have never felt by anyone else. The tension and the extreme seriousness of the situation between North and South Korea is very powerful, terrifying and very real up at the border, in the DMZ.

Do you think that the West has a lot of influence in Korea? Yes. The West has influenced the music, food, and clothing/fashion. They have fast food, pop and rock bands, and American imitations of clothing and styles.

What do the Koreans think of Americans or Westerners in general? What do they think of President Bush and his policy? Do they express it openly? There are mixed emotions about Americans in particular. Almost every week there are demonstrations and protesters, some are pro-American and others are anti-American. Some of the older Koreans like the American presence because they remember how we helped them in the Korean War, whereas some of the younger generation are tired of

Americans being there and taking advantage of Koreans. Generally, there are mixed feelings about us being there.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY MELISSA DOYON
Melissa with an ROK (Republic of Korea) soldier at the De-Militarized Zone border between North and South Korea.

Vessels: A Multidimensional Exhibit at the Ortlip Gallery

by SARAH RICHARDS
Guest Columnist

Beginning with an artists' reception and opening on March 4th, the Ortlip Gallery has housed "Vessels", an exhibition of three artists' works. Alice Barry, Gary Baxter, and Ann Rataj are currently displaying their work as a group exhibit, to remain open until March 31st.

"Vessels" includes ceramics by Houghton professor Gary Baxter. In his gallery talk, Baxter noted the importance of the skin-like nature of the surface of his pottery. The curvaceous, taut forms of peppers helped to inform his work. Baxter noted that he used his fingers to press out against the form from within, connoting various aspects of the human experience and form, such as skin, pregnancy, and sexuality. Baxter's work has recently been exhibited at Concordia

University, Huntington College and Corning Community College. He has participated in several ceramics workshops throughout the United States, as well as in Japan and Egypt. The pot forms possess a certain brilliance in color.

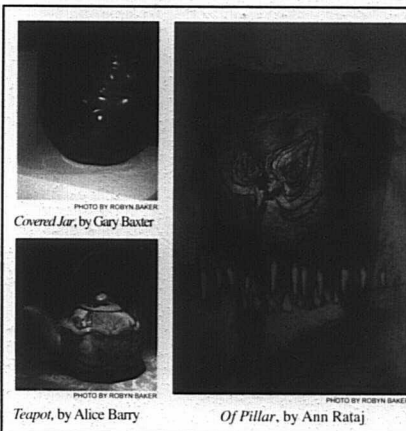
Printmaker Ann Rataj displayed a series of foil engravings related to the human existence and the interior and exterior realms of being. These unique pieces are made up of layer upon layer of paper, foil, mark-making, and delicate etch-marks. Her first foil engraving, "Of Time" was a copy of a photo of her family, and this image has been repeated through the rest of her works. Ann Rataj's deeply etched print, "One Still Moment of Now" displays her ability to really work the plate and to combine a sense of the

physicality of her work with the metal through the visual illusion of spacial movement and depth.

enhances the narrative content suggested by the figures placed in architectural spaces. Rataj states that her work is rooted in imagery that recognizes and identifies a continuous, unbroken line in the human experience.

Alice Barry is an interim assistant professor of art. Barry received her master's in ceramics and ceramic sculpture from Rochester Institute of Technology's School for American Crafts. Her collection of teapots and dishes display traditional Asian patterns. Barry referred to *Tales from the Floating World of Pleasure*, written by Kyoto in 1661.

The Ortlip gallery is located on the first level of the Center for the Arts Building. Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday.



The partially inked white spaces enliven the darker areas of this black and white print, creating a dramatic range of values that

Faculty Profile: Dr. Bradley Beach, Philosophy

by RACHEL MORAN
Staff Writer

Tell us about yourself and your background before coming to Houghton. Before I came to Houghton, I was living and teaching at a Christian college in Ohio. Houghton had an opening, and having graduated from Houghton, I was interested. I came as an interim professor in 2001 and stayed.

What are your responsibilities at Houghton? I teach philosophy. I also am working on the lectureship committee, which is sort of gearing up right now. I do some teaching with the PACE program. I obviously teach some IS classes, our Reason & Religious Belief and related courses, and Formal Logic. And I teach some History of Philosophy.

Were there any telltale childhood signs that pointed to an interest in philosophy? No, in fact I think my first-grade teacher told my mom I was going to be a lawyer because I liked to argue so much.

Was there an "aha" moment when you realized you wanted to be a philosopher?

The "aha" moment actually came when I realized that all the hott women on campus were taking philosophy. That and when I read Plato's Republic for the first time. Reading Plato changed my life. The fact that I could read Plato and understand what he was talking about gave me a sense of accomplishment.

What do you love most about teaching? Students. I just think it's so interesting to listen to their ideas and talk to them and get excited with them about ideas. It's really exciting. I guess that's why I like teaching IS classes - I think it's fascinating because you begin to see people grappling with ideas, really complicated things for the first time.

Who's your favorite philosopher? Plato.

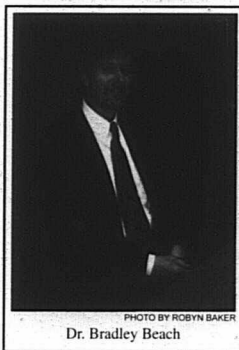
Convince the skeptic: why is 3M potentially one of the best classes that he or she will ever take in college? First of all, because all the hott people on campus are taking

it. Other than that, it goes back to this whole idea that we're talking about the very issues that a human being ought to be grappling with, things like "What should I do?" "What's the right thing to do?" "Who am I?" "What's my relationship to God and others?" I think there's also a very pragmatic side to taking 3M, and that is that we're dealing with complex issues that are open-ended, and you have to learn to live in the world with ambiguity. There aren't neat little answers, and philosophy helps you to deal with that. 3M is in part helping you to deal with the rest of your life, which is going to

be all about struggling with complicated questions that don't have neat little solutions. If you're looking for neat little solutions, then go take a theology class.

You're a minor U.S. federal government official, but you've just been granted unlimited resources to reform one (and only one) U.S. government program. What do you do? I don't know if I have a program; I think what I'd like to do is overhaul the Department of Health and Human Services. The kinds of programs which are under the direction of Health and Human Services are the ones I feel most strongly about. I think we're not putting our resources where they need to be going. I'm in favor of faith-based initiatives, but quite frankly the church hasn't stepped up to fill the need (although we should). We have this gap that somehow needs to be met.

If you couldn't teach, what would you do? Wow.... I'd fly planes. That's what I always wanted to do.



Dr. Bradley Beach

MOVIES

with Adam Kline

Grade: C +

Disney's second family film release this month, *Ice Princess* is a film with a good heart that is weighed down by an indecisive mood as two genres come together forming an half "sports" movie and half "teenager defies parent to find one's calling" movie.

In her senior year of high school, gifted student Casey Carlyle, played by rising star Michelle Trachtenberg, is offered the opportunity to win a physics scholarship to Harvard. In order to impress, Casey must put together a project that is unique in the field of physics as well as personal to her. Having a general interest in figure skating, Casey decides to define the sport by way of physics. After spending a lot of time at the rink and little time on the ice, Casey decides to go for a few lessons and soon discovers she has some raw talent for the sport. The rest of the film is somewhat predictable, but some of the subplots along the way add more strength to the story than one would expect.

Since Casey is a straight-A student who is being offered a

scholarship to Harvard, her mother, played by Joan Cusack, is pushing her plans for Casey's future toward school and believes the time Casey spends at the rink is a waste. What stop this predictable mother-daughter relationship from being boring are the performances. Both Trachtenberg and Cusack play their characters straight with real emotion, Casey knows she is a gifted student but skating is what she is passionate about and so she and her mom must grow to understand this new gift and passion.

In addition, Casey's relationship with another figure skater becomes an issue. Gen has worked hard her whole life to be as good as she is, but Gen's mom, who is also the girls' coach, pushes Gen beyond her

passion for the sport and so instead of becoming the competition Gen becomes an authentic friend and support to Casey. Gen also has a brother, Teddy, and Casey and Teddy begin to spend a lot of time together. Teddy drives the Zamboni at the local rink and also becomes a support to Casey but more in a romantic way. Though the set-up sounds simplistic, the execution is done quite soundly and all the performances are right on so no actor is out of stride. The relationship between the mother and daughter, between the

two girls, and with Teddy are all convincing and enjoyable to watch.

Despite the solid performances and the good-hearted story, director Tim Fywell loses his edge at times, and brings a little too much cheese to the table. Fywell has chosen good



actors who are able to bring the story to a unique level but he still pushes the dramatic button a little too hard when he decided to shoot a lot of dialogue close-ups. A director who shoots so closely so often is trying to manipulate the audience rather than let the actors convince the viewers of the drama. The script is also flawed as it tries too hard to convince us of Casey's "nerdiness." We believe Casey is a gift student, but I do not believe anyone that intelligent spews out that many physics formulas in casual social settings. As well, I have never been a fan of sports commentary interlaced through the course of a sports film. We get enough color commentary on the real ESPN; we do not need cameos narrating the events of a film that could otherwise hold its own.

So in the end, *Ice Princess* is a predictable movie that is filled with solid performances, and good intentions. But with a director that pushes the drama a little too hard and a few scenes that add a little too much cheese, I say that this film is well worth the rental fees when it comes out on DVD.

Since Easter break starts tomorrow and a lot of us will escape to the local movie theatre at least once during the week and a half off, I thought I would briefly touch on a couple films still in theatre I recommend and highlight a few films coming out in theatre and on DVD.

Now Playing:

Out of the films released so far this year that may still be playing in a theatre near you I first recommend,

Hitch (Grade: A -).

Starring Will Smith and Kevin James, this is a great date movie that also has a ton of laughs. I also recommend *Constantine* (Grade: B+), starring Keanu



What to Look for Over Break

Reeves, which is an intriguing film with great special effects and enough theology to spark

good conversation. *Robots* (Grade: B -) is also playing and even though it is not a great film, it still provides enough imagination and fun to hold your attention for ninety minutes.

Coming Soon:

Though I have not seen these movies yet here are a couple films coming out over break that look like they have some potential. First, for those who have seen *Hitch* and are looking for another date movie check out *Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous* coming out March 24th. The first one had me laughing, so it might be worth the experiment to see if this one will be up to par. The

biggest movie coming out over break however and the one I am most excited about is *Sin City*, which is set for release on April 1st. With an all-star cast including Bruce Willis, Benicio Del Toro, Clive Owen, Rosario Dawson, Elijah Wood, and many others, the highly respectable and stylistic director Robert Rodriguez has completed a literal adaptation of comic book icon Frank Miller's graphic novels which are set in the fictional place of Sin City.

On DVD: Also, when you are at the local video store keep an eye open for *Finding Neverland* starring Johnny Depp and Kate Winslet, and *The Incredibles* which took the Oscar for best animated feature this year. On March 29th the Oscar nominated films *Closer* and *Vera Drake* will also be released and are both worth checking out.

THE TOP TEN...

Text Books that were Rejected by Houghton

(by Mike Mordenga)

10. Ministry in 4,000 Easy Steps
9. Biology of Park Squirrels
8. Post-modern Thoughts on Post-Modernism (written in post-modern style)
7. 2,004 reasons Jesus will be Coming Back in 2004
6. The Post-Modern Biblical Theology of Equestrian
5. Famous French Military victories
4. The Exhausted Economy report of Micronesia
3. I Kissed Dating Hello
2. Gap and Baby Gap Marketing Strategies
1. The Purpose Driven Purpose: Finding Your Purpose Through the Purpose of the Purpose Driven series

The Grading System

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

"Lord Prepare Me to Be a Missionary...?"

Some Thoughts on Missions and the Body of Christ

by JOSH MILLER
Staff Writer

Every Wednesday, I get together with a couple of students to pray for chapel during the service. The three of us meet in the green room, where we take turns "popcorn" praying, while an intercom feeds the service into the room.

On March 9th, the three of us met to intercede for the first of the Chamberlain Lecture Series' chapels and their speaker, World Hope International representative Mick Veach. As he began speaking, some of his ideas and phrases reminded me of New Vision Week speaker Dr. David Ross, who, after presenting statistics about the unreached peoples of the world, proceeded to reduce the Great Commission to missions work and upset many people (myself included) who feel very called to work in secular occupations in the U.S. I began to pray, "Lord, please don't let Mick make the same error. Don't let him stumble into making people feel guilty about following you into fields outside of world missions."

Thankfully, the Lord answered that prayer. More than once, Mick Veach emphatically declared that ninety-nine percent of the Houghton community is called to remain in the States. Unfortunately, after making this concession, I heard snippets of him denouncing "intellectual discussions" and degrading the idea of spending four years in college to "prepare yourself." His tone seemed to imply that these were both unnecessary and possibly un-Christian activities.

In the course of praying and listening to my two fellow students pray, I could not adequately follow his train of thought, so I came to chapel on Friday to try to gain a better understanding of the thrust of his message. I found his words that day much less offensive; in fact, he made some very good points about the role all Christians have to play in fulfilling the Great Commission, and he stressed the fact that this requires leaving one's comfort zone. I still felt, however, that he was idealizing the missionary's task. After saying that ninety-nine percent of the community is called to remain in the U.S., he talked about Muslims being converted by dreams and visions because Christians "are not getting the job done" and closed by praying that God will help students to not "fall into the American dream." Regardless of his intent in saying such things, these phrases implied that everyone in the Houghton community who does not plan on going overseas for the sake of the gospel chooses to be "comfortable," while the missionaries do God's grunt work.

In the context of Scripture, Veach's message seems out of place, since the greatest missionary in Christian history, the apostle Paul, *never* exhorts the churches to send out more missionary workers in his epistles. Instead, he describes the church members as part of a body composed of many parts in which each part needs the others to survive. In 1 Corinthians 12, he notes that each member of the body possesses a different gift that allows them to perform a different service. Not all of them are apostles; not all are teachers; not all speak in tongues. All, however, receive a gift of some sort from the Spirit to use in the work of the kingdom of God.

Given this precedent, could those engaging in the "intellectual discussions" Veach put down be the mind of Christ, preparing itself to engage with the academic world—one of the most anti-Christian sectors of America? Could students in the pre-med program be the heart of Christ, aiding the physical vitality of the rest of the body? Could Christian garbage collectors be the kidneys of Christ, disposing of the body's wastes? Ok, perhaps the last example was a little much, but you get my point. The mind, the heart, and the kidneys are all essential parts of Christ's body, as are the mouths of preachers, the feet of missionaries, and the hands of youth pastors, who have to be able to restrain unruly teens when they try to eat before saying grace or pull them apart when they make-out during youth group.

Since this concept of the Christian body is so evident in Paul's writings, perhaps his fellow missionaries should follow suit and address audiences as Paul did – by encouraging them to focus on Jesus Christ and to live out their faith in their respective callings. In fact, 2002 New Vision Week speaker Leslie Pelt-Engelsen followed the apostle's paradigm. For those who missed Pelt-Engelsen's chapels, she spoke on the Christian's need to focus on the life of Jesus and to follow His example. This did not mean teaching or performing physical healings, but instead referred to giving sacrificially, being people of compassion, and acknowledging the central role of the gospel and Christ's person as the only means of transforming the lives of the spiritually impoverished. These are tasks any part of Christ's body can perform, whether they serve as an evangelist in Taiwan, a chemistry professor at Taylor, or an elementary school teacher in Fillmore. They may not all be missionaries in the technical sense of the term, but they all take part in the mission of ushering in the kingdom of God as they serve in their respective roles within the body of Christ.

GUIDELINES FOR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

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



Dear Dr. Brittain....

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

The Houghton Star Staff

EDITOR IN CHIEF D. Elliott Tait	STAFF WRITERS Josh Miller Kristen Niemi
MANAGING EDITOR Sarah Allen	Heidi Sprunger Virginia Wheaton Ben Walker Rachel Moran
DESIGN EDITOR Rachel Brask	COLUMNISTS Kathie Brenneman Adam Kline Elaine Toolley Mike Mordenga
BUSINESS EDITOR Kyle Crocker	COPY EDITING Kirstie Chen Jaynee Van Wormer Linnea Landin
ADVISOR Prof. Ben Lipscomb	
PHOTOGRAPHY Rachel Brask Kaitin Wilson Kimberly Barnett Kristin Niemi Robin Baker	

MLK Service Day Reflections



I went to the Powerhouse Community Center in Fillmore. It was fun to be with friends and serve the community. We all worked hard and got stuff done, but had a great time too! We often get opportunities to go to Buffalo to serve, so it was nice to see the effects of our time a little closer to home.

~Kate Hoogerhyde

The King Center in downtown Buffalo is where MLK service day put my hands and heart to work this past Saturday. Before this past weekend I was not even sure of what the King Center actually was, however when I heard "reading" and "children" I knew that I would be interested. The beautifully constructed church that is now a school for children up through grade four was where my group of Houghton students donated their time. Throughout the morning we had the opportunity to be paired with a child who attends Saturday Book Club at the King Center and read books from their library. It was a time where we simply interacted with children from Buffalo through books, crafts, and an Easter Egg Hunt. During the second half of the day we went to work cleaning the King Center and helping its teachers to organize books, rearrange rooms, and sort through materials. One of the teachers exclaimed, "What you have done in a day would have taken me all year, thank you!" For me, interacting with a young child through reading, one of the things that I too enjoy is one of the most rewarding experiences. And to know that we contributing in such a small way but the people at the King Center immensely appreciated it made the work more than worth while.

~Lindsay Yandon



For MLK service day, my group, under the expert guidance of Connie Finney and Cathy Freytag, (Connie even participated in a Chinese fire drill when Cathy pulled the van over so we could have that experience) went to the Christian Missionary Alliance Church in Buffalo. The church was not very large and needed some cleaning and basic maintenance. We scrubbed, polished, vacuumed, and picked up dead flies. (Actually, I didn't touch the flies, someone else did that part.) The value of going there, however, more in the experiences we had while we were there than in the actual cleaning of the church. The people were kind and so grateful, they inquired about our majors because they were promising to pray for us in their prayer meeting, and they wanted to know us as more than "Connie's Constant Cleaners," the name we gave them for our group. They expressed their thanks in doughnuts, promised prayers, and showing us evidence of how what we were doing was having immediate effects on people. Today was a great day for me. I had the privilege of watching God enjoy his children working together and having fun.

~Sarah Iacucci



While my previous project was cancelled because of weather, I joined a group at the last minute supervised by Prof. Thomas Kettelkamp. Basically our group goal was to organize and pack the masses of donated material that the two Houghton College groups will bring down when they travel to Honduras. What started out as a barn full of unorganized bags quickly produced boxes that soon will bless the lives of the poor and needy. The boxes will travel down with the Spring Break missions group along with those going down for Mayterm. What was especially meaningful with this service project is not that I was able to sacrifice my time to serve, for I should be willing to do so everyday, but the fact that I will be able to see this project all the way through. I will be one of the lucky people who not only can prepare the boxes but also distribute to those people who respond joyfully at the thought of clean clothes, books, and toys. I look forward to seeing the reaction and the smiling faces with full knowledge that service is a gift that has no substitutes

~Alexa McCarthy

