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BY ROSA GERBER  
STAR STAFF WRITER

## Shuttle Columbia is lost

Shortly after 9:00 a.m. Saturday, NASA lost contact with returning shuttle *Columbia*. Minutes later, footage showed the craft breaking apart midair, 1,000 miles from its destination in Florida, leading the U.S. to mourning. Covering a 200-mile area, people reported fragments of the shuttle found in eastern Texas and western Louisiana. All seven crewmembers were killed.

Aboard *Columbia* were shuttle commander Rick Husband; pilot William McCool; payload commander Michael Anderson; mission specialists David Brown, Kalpana Chawla, and Laurel Clark; and Israel's first astronaut Ilan Ramon. People reported human remains found in Texas' Sabine County and in Hemphill, the county seat. People have reported finding a variety of wreckage, including an intact mission patch with the names of the seven astronauts on it. Officials warned people not to touch shuttle fragments if they found any, due to possible toxic exposure.

NASA vowed to investigate the shuttle tragedy to ensure it does not happen again. "We owe it to them every single second of the day to be sure we dedicate ourselves to finding out what went wrong," said NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe on Sunday. "We're going to find out what caused this. We're going to make sure we correct it, and we're going to make sure this never happens again."

NASA associate administrator Bill Readdy, veteran of two shuttle flights, said, "My promise to the crew families is that the investigation that we have just launched will find the cause, we'll fix it and then we'll move on. We can't let their sacrifice be in vain."

Investigators are looking into the indications of a loss of tire pressure on the left

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## Lisa Barnett offers drama on being a bulimic

BY BETHANY SCHWARTZ  
STAR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Nationally known dramatist Lisa Barnett joined the Houghton Counseling Center last Wednesday, Jan. 29 to present a monologue entitled, "Hand to Mouth: One Woman's Struggle with and Recovery from Bulimia." The one-hour drama was followed by a panel discussion, where audience members had the opportunity to ask questions of David Brubaker, M.D., Michael Lastoria, Ed.D., and Mary Jo Parker, Eating Disorders Nutrition Specialist from Buffalo, N.Y.

Barnett graduated from Bowling Green State University with a bachelor's degree in theater, and has had numerous roles since then. Some of her favorite roles include Rose in *Dancing at Lughnasa*, the Witch in *Into the Woods*, Christmas Past in *A Christmas Carol*, and the title role in *Evita*.

Barnett's drama/monologue dealt with a serious issue, yet was a blend of humor and wit designed especially for college students. One of the funnier aspects of the program

was her *Top Five Things About Being A Bulimic*. "The colors look pretty swirling down the toilet. Barf looks attractive on your hands. Ramming your fingers down your throat is soothing. Throwing up gives you a natural glow. Toilet water is refreshing when it splashes back on



PHOTO BY BETHANY SCHWARTZ  
Dramatist Lisa Barnett portrays her despair in adolescence during her presentation, "Hand to Mouth," on Jan. 29. Barnett's presentation dealt with the issue of eating disorders and was followed by a panel discussion.

your face," she said as the audience cackled.

"I wasn't born a bulimic," Barnett said at the beginning of her show. "No one is."

The drama recounted Barnett's life and her journey to bulimia through her adolescent years. She was born an actor, she explained, saying, "Mirrors were the coolest because there was an acting partner in every one." Only a short while later mirrors

had become her worst enemy.

During junior high and high school Barnett and her friends spent most of their time obsessing over themselves and how not to eat. "My subscription to *Seventeen* magazine did nothing to [help]," said Barnett. She spent her time looking for "diets, recipes, exercises...anything that would help me lose weight."

Her mantra became, "If I lose weight, I will be happy."

"Whenever I was offered food," she said, "I became like Hamlet, turning one question over and over in my mind: 'To eat or not to

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## Houghton students sojourn to nation's capital for conference

BY JULIE PALMER  
STAR STAFF WRITER

The National Association of Evangelicals hosts a student leadership conference in Washington D.C. near the end of every January. Students from Houghton have been attending this event for a number of years as an introduction to Washington and the role of evangelicals in politics. This year, Dr. David Benedict accompanied nine students to the conference with the theme of "Making Your Contribution to History." Most of the students who attended from Houghton are studying politics or history.

The conference draws students from all over the Eastern United States, with such schools as Asbury and Dallas Baptist University in attendance this year. Many of the students who attend are either participants in student government or are hoping to make a career

in politics.

Most of the conference is spent listening to lectures given by different Christians in government and touring the major government buildings. Some of

Tank; and Tim Goeglein, an assistant to the president and Deputy Director of the Office of Public Liaison. All of the speakers are Christians who have made it clear to everyone on Capitol

Hill that they are first and foremost servants of Christ.

The Houghton students were given the opportunity to meet with Amo Houghton, the representative to Congress from the Southern tier and Bob Van Wicklin, his Legislative Director and Press Secretary, who is also a Houghton alumnus. The meeting with Representative Houghton was



PHOTO COURTESY JULIE PALMER

Chelsea Kinsman, Glen Benedict, Julie Palmer, Kevin Thompson, Elaine Tooley, Pieter VerHow, Dr. Benedict, Marlene Seifert, Hannah Cho, and DanRoorda joined other college students in Washington, D.C. for a National Association of Evangelicals conference this past week.

the most interesting presentations were given by Fellows at the Heritage Foundation, a conservative Washington Think

very informal and the students were

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main gear, followed by indications of excessive structural heating before the shuttle broke apart, according to shuttle program director Ron Dittemore. Officials also said they will investigate a piece of foam that detached during take off.

NASA has postponed future shuttle projects, pending the investigation of *Columbia*. The next launch was set for March 1.

The disintegration of *Columbia* occurred less than a week after the anniversaries of the *Challenger* and *Apollo* tragedies. January 28 marked the 17th anniversary of the explosion of the *Challenger* in 1986, while January 27 marked the 36th anniversary of a launch pad fire that killed three astronauts aboard *Apollo* in 1967.

► Pharmaceutical plant explosion kills three

An explosion at West Pharmaceutical Services in Kinston, North Carolina, occurred around 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, killing at least three and injuring at least 35 people. One individual is still unaccounted for. Officials had not been able to identify the bodies of those killed because of the severity of the burns and considered using dental records.

More than 100 workers were in the building at the time of the blast. "I am just absolutely amazed that we didn't have 100 people killed," said Gov. Mike Easley. Of those injured, ten were injured critically, according to local and hospital officials.

Local residents said the blast was so powerful that it blew open doors on houses more than a mile away from the plant. The roof of the plant skyrocketed 400 feet and debris landed more than two miles away. The explosion also caused a fire, which continued to burn in one part of the plant Thursday.

Kinston is a small town in eastern North Carolina, approximately 70 miles southeast of Raleigh.

► Shoe bomber sentenced to life in prison

Judge William Young sentenced Richard Reid, a 29-year-old British citizen to life in prison on three counts: "one of attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction against U.S. nationals outside the United States and two of interference with flight crew and attendants using a dangerous weapons," according to media reports. Young also announced a sentence for Reid to 20 years in prison on each of

four counts: "attempted homicide of U.S. nationals outside the United States; placing an explosive device on an aircraft; attempted murder of people on board the flight; and attempted destruction of an aircraft." Reid was sentenced to 30 years in prison on an eighth count of using a destructive device in a crime of violence. Young also sentenced Reid to pay restitution of \$250,000 for each charge, totaling \$2 million.

Federal marshals wrestled Reid out of the courtroom, and Reid began yelling his allegiance to Osama bin Laden at Young. "I'm at war with your country not for personal reasons but because you have killed so many innocents, so many children. ... My fate is in Allah's hands. ... I leave you to judge," yelled Reid. Reid's attorneys told the court that Reid believed he needed to bomb the plane to "prevent the destruction of Islam." Reid described himself as a "soldier." Young told him, "You are not a soldier in any war—you are a terrorist."

Crew and passengers on American Airlines Flight 63 from Paris to Miami overpowered Reid before he could light the explosives he had hidden in his shoes on December 22, 2001. Almost 200 people were aboard the flight, which was then redirected to Boston.

► From conference, page 1

given the opportunity to ask him any questions they might have. Questions included, "What does a typical day look like?" and "What are your ideas on improving the economy in upstate New York?"

Students also took the opportunity to see some of the sights during their few hours of free time. Many went to the National Gallery and various Smithsonian museums. On the last evening, following the final banquet, Dr. Benedict drove the van to the monuments so that students could take pictures. Together they also visited the Holocaust museum, one of Washington's most heart-wrenching sites.

Each student had a favorite event or aspect of the conference. Elaine Tooley, who is interested in studying law, said, "I would say that my favorite event was the briefing at the Supreme Court. I enjoyed hearing about the history of the court, the process by which cases are prepared, decided upon, and heard, and I liked the atmosphere of the Court. I especially enjoyed meeting new people from Houghton and other schools."

Kevin Thompson said that he enjoyed learning "how this nation was founded so much on religion and religious principles," and that "we were able to get an inside look at the Capitol, Supreme Court, and sit in the same room where the President delivered his speech."

For all those who attended, it was a time to get to know other Houghton students that they may not otherwise have had an opportunity to come in contact with. It gave them time to have memories of laughing hilariously at nothing, playing Dutch Blitz, and speculating over the relationships between the students from other schools. The hilarity was as much a part of the trip as sitting on the floor of the Senate and having a briefing at the State Department.

In summary Tooley said, "I think that the NAE did a good job of exposing students to the opportunities for Christians to get involved in politics and other public service occupations. I had a great time and recommend the trip to those interested in experiencing the atmosphere of Washington, D.C. and learning how Christians are making a difference on Capitol Hill."



Congressman Amo Houghton in Washington, D.C.

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

a weekly profile by Greg On

**Full Name:** Shirley Jeannette Close

**Age:** No way am I going to tell you this info for publication!!

**Alma Mater:** Olivet Nazarene University and University of Southern California

**Hometown:** Born in Bethany, Oklahoma

**Current town:** Fillmore, NY

**Current Position:** Assoc. Professor of Voice and Opera

**Previous Position:** Leading Dramatic Soprano at the National Theater in Mannheim, Germany

**Marital status:** Single

**How did you hear about Houghton College for the very first time?**

When I was deciding where to go to college, Houghton was in the discussion at the time, but it was too far away from where we lived then.

**Favorite building on campus:** CFA—where else?

**Favorite sport:** Resting!! Or taking long walks

**Favorite pro team:** Sorry, I haven't any idea about sports teams at all!

In fact, I find the whole concept of city teams and the commitment of the fans to their teams to be a very interesting study. What does that kind of allegiance provide for one's personality? I don't know, but it fascinates me.

**Involved in any Houghton activities/clubs/organizations?** No

**Favorite Bible Verse:** "He who began a good work in you is faithful to complete it"

**Favorite band:** It has been so long since I listened to a "band". It used to be Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, but now I guess I could better say *The Chicago Symphony* under Georg Solti! Yes, that is my favorite "band"!

**Instruments played:** Piano, Clarinet, Percussion, and Accordion

**Favorite movie:** *Babette's Feast*

**Favorite TV Show:** *West Wing*

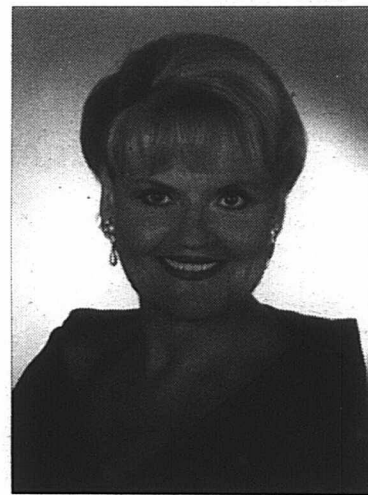
**Favorite book:** *Buddenbrooks* by Thomas Mann

**Where do you want to go today?** With this weather? Definitely the Caribbean!

**Favorite dessert:** Any kind of molten chocolate sliding down the back of my throat!

**Skiing, snowboarding, or ice skating?** None of the above, but I am really good for curling up around the fireplace for the Apres-ski.

**Do you actually read the STAR?** I have never even seen it since I am still finding my way around here a bit.





► From **Barnett, page 1**

eat, that is the question..." The audience howled with laughter as she continued to quote the famous speech by Hamlet, changing words to fit with the eating disorder theme.

Barnett humorously depicted her first attempts at purging, the beginning of her life as a bulimic. "[It's] like most addictions. The first time, it's mostly curiosity. The second time you want to see if you like it."

"I was mad because I didn't have anorexia," she said, adding that bulimia is for people who can't do anorexia. "We are [all] masters of beating ourselves up, mentally and physically."

After her parents found out about her bulimic lifestyle of bingeing and purging, Barnett was forced to talk with her pastor, and then had to see a counselor. "We focused on my bulimia by focusing on my relationship with my parents and friends."

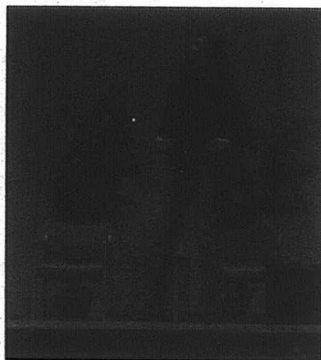
Counseling brought her through her high school years and into college, but she hadn't really recovered. "There was a side of me that didn't want to get better. Bulimia could help me achieve my life goal: to lose weight."

After a few years in college she fell back into her bulimic pattern, but this time it was worse. "The melodramatic masochist in me wanted to push it as far as I could," she said when describing her feelings when she found out that her boyfriend preferred her best friend. "I wanted to barf so hard that I'd pass out."

"Every addict has their lows...I was scared and I didn't want to live this way anymore." Barnett realized that her life was slipping away from her and determined to change. It took a book, "When Women Stop Hating Their Bodies," and her husband Tim

to help her achieve complete recovery. When she finally overcame the mental attitude that she had been living in for so many years, she was able to "make friends" with that image in the mirror again.

Following Barnett's presentation was a question-and-answer forum where students were encouraged to ask questions. Each student received a card to submit a question when he or she entered and the questions were presented to the three panelists.



"Hand To Mouth" and the panel discussion was a kickoff to a series of "New Image" programs sponsored by the Counseling Center. Wendy Baxter and Nancy Murphy will present "The Impact of Media

and Culture on Women" on Wednesday, Feb. 5 at 6:30 p.m., where they will show "Killing Us Softly III" and discuss the way that advertising influences cultural ideas of femininity and contributes to the negative outcomes of women's health. The following Thursday, Feb. 13, Dr. Michael Lastoria will present "A Piece of the Puzzle: Family Dynamics and Eating Disorders," a workshop which will address relational boundaries within families that contribute to distorted thinking patterns. In late February a "New Image" support group for women currently struggling with eating disorders will begin, facilitated by Wendy Baxter and East Hall RD Michelle Russell. In addition, several students are organizing a forum where they will be able to discuss their own struggles with eating disorders.

All students, faculty, and community members are invited to participate in any of these upcoming events. The Counseling Center has more details on any event.

## At Chamberlain's urging, Wright takes over budget processing from Spear

BY REBECCA WILLIAMS  
STAR STAFF WRITER

At the beginning of the new calendar year, Dr. Daniel Chamberlain, President of Houghton College, made the decision to implement a minor organizational change in the college's budget processing position. Originally, Vice President of Finance, Jeff Spear, held the responsibility of budget processing. However, desiring to have a personnel member who would act as a neutral party in a more independent role, Dr. Chamberlain asked Dale Wright to take over the budget processing responsibilities, in addition to his work as Executive Director of Human Resources (HR).

The major change this switch brought about is in who reports to whom: operationally, not much of a difference should be noticed. Dale Wright, now assistant treasurer, comments, "The decision to have me report directly to the President in this area was made with the understanding that it was absolutely vital for the HR office to be totally independent when dealing with HR issues. Subsequently, not only am I reporting directly to the President, but any areas (other than HR and Payroll) that previously reported to me are now reporting elsewhere. This helps to avoid any potential conflict of interest."

The first step in this change involved removing Wright from his supervisory responsibilities of the campus store, allowing the store to have open access to Human Re-

sources and report directly to Dr. David Tilley, Vice President for Student Life. Though Payroll continues to report directly to Wright, Dr. Chamberlain does not believe this will cause any difficulties; Payroll is closely connected to Wright's new responsibilities and requires him to supervise very few employees.

Wright's new role as budget processor is primarily informative. Each vice president is charged with producing a clear anticipation of revenue for both the coming year and a span of the next five years, and after reporting this information to Wright, it is his duty to compile it all in objective and comprehensive form. From this compilation, Jeff Spear then produces total projections for the whole institution, and based on his recommendations, decisions about things like tuition and room and board prices are made by the board of trustees.

Though Spear is no longer in charge of budget processing, he still has the task of recommending policies, and will continue on as chief executive of the Willard J. Houghton Foundation, which has its own budget and projects, separate from the college. Spear's role in the Foundation calls for creative imagination in implementing ideas that will support the college and improve the Houghton community.

Dr. Chamberlain is pleased with these changes and said that he believes the shifting of these responsibilities "will work well." As with any new change, this one will continue to be monitored for its effectiveness.

*Are you sick of your roommate sitting around on Friday night with nothing to do?*

Play Cupid!

Submit a personal ad for him or her to the Star (star@houghton.edu or CPO 378) to be printed in our Valentine's day issue!

All entries must be under 50 words and submitted on or before Friday, February 7.

Keep entries in good taste, please!



FEBRUARY IS  
AFRICAN AMERICAN  
HISTORY MONTH

*A Celebration of the Mind, the Soul and Achievement in Black America*

# African American History Month

**Campus Store**  
African American History Month Book Display  
20% off selected titles through the end of February

**Adult Reading Program** - Tues., Feb. 11, 7:00 p.m.  
Campus Store (JAVA101 Espresso Coffee Available)  
**Children's Reading Program** - Sat., Feb. 15, 10:00 a.m.  
Campus Center Lounge



## GET TO KNOW YOUR SGA

Some people know when they're young exactly what they want to do with their life, while others have to find out as they go along. When I came to Houghton four years ago, I knew exactly how I wanted things to go... I was going to major in elementary education, make a ton of friends that I would keep for the rest of my life and have a great student teaching experience my senior year. While I was successful in reaching those goals, there is no way that I could have anticipated exactly how things would turn out.

During my freshman year, my friend Beth Maples dragged me to a meeting where people would be giving speeches to run for class government. I had no desire to do anything; I only went to support Beth. But that night Karen Swedrock described three openings in the Senate to represent the freshman class, talking about their responsibilities and explaining how they allocated money to clubs on campus, served on various committees, and served as representatives of their class in making important decisions on campus. Beth looked over at me, "You should do it, Mindy!" I came up with a zillion excuses about how I was unqualified: I don't understand a thing about government, I have no experience,

it's my freshman year and I don't want to over commit myself... I was surprised that she even suggested it! Yet I felt the Lord tapping my shoulder. I was horrified. What could I honestly offer SGA? I wrestled with God for a few minutes and then resolved to make a deal with

**MINDY ALBRECHT**  
VICE PRESIDENT

Him. "Okay, Lord," I bargained, "if you really want me to do this, you're going to have to make it really clear. If there is only one opening at the end of the night and I don't have to make a speech in front of all of these people, then I'll do it." I felt pretty safe, since there seemed to be a lot of people volunteering. But I found myself serving as a Senator for the next two years and I enjoyed it much more than I could have anticipated. I ran for SGA Vice-President in my junior year and loved it so much that they allowed me to do it again this year.

I don't know how much I have made a difference in Student Government, but I can vouch for the difference Student

Government has made in me. I have a great opportunity to work with a phenomenal group of people—students and administrators—on a daily basis, working toward the same goal. None of us are there because of the scholarships (although those are helpful), nor are we there simply to gather experience for our resumes (although that helps, too). We're there to serve. Each of us

come from different majors, different backgrounds, and have different ideas about what we want to do in the future. But that's what makes it so much fun.

There's no way to really know what the Lord has for your life unless you keep your eyes open. Maybe He'll lead you to a place where you find Him tapping you on the shoulder, quietly urging you to take a leap out of your comfort zone. It might be intimidating at first, but I am a witness to the great amount of blessing and fulfillment that are found on the other side.



My experience this past year has involved two facets of the SGA: class government and the SGA Cabinet. As secretary for the Class of 2005 last spring, I jumped back into a role I often took in high school—taking minutes, scheduling meetings, and brainstorming for activities. For me, this was a great way to ease into the Student Government. I decided, after some thought, to run for the Commissioner of Finance position, which would complement my Accounting major.

Since then, I have taken even more ownership in Houghton College and the student body of which I am a part. I have appreciated getting to know faculty and staff members through sitting on committees and working on various projects. Being a member of the SGA Cabinet has taught me volumes about relationships and introduced me to others from a variety of majors and backgrounds.

**JESSICA SPEAR**  
COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE

It's been exciting to take part in the opportunity to better the campus. For example, the Climbing Club currently uses old Shen mattresses as padding for any unfortunate spills. Through our Special Project Fund (SPF), we are in the process of replacing those with quality mats.

What has my part been in all of this? Along with participation in Cabinet and Senate meetings, I keep the books for all of the SGA Accounts and help facilitate funding for most student organizations on campus. Right now, I'm putting together next year's Campus Services Budget, which funds the Artist Series, Intramurals, Boulder, and the SGA, to name a few. I've thoroughly enjoyed the chance to put some of my accounting skills into practice while tasting a small piece of the "working world."

All in all, I've thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity to work with students, faculty, and staff to affect change on our campus. I'd recommend involvement in the SGA to anyone.

I first became involved in SGA as a junior. I had finished the more demanding courses of my biology major and wanted to become more involved in the community. I enjoyed serving on various college and SGA committees because I saw results in the Houghton community from our decisions. At the end of my junior year I decided that I wanted to run for the position of president. There were four reasons why I decided to run: I had a positive attitude about the SGA, I wanted to gain experience as a leader because leadership skills are not learned from a book, I wanted to have the position on my resume (I

**TOBY CUSHING**  
PRESIDENT

will not sugar coat my motives...this third reason was not the most important, but it was a factor and probably has been and will be for all SGA

presidents), and I wanted to work with the people of the Student Life (specifically Matt Webb) and the other students.

Having served most of my term of as president, I am very happy that I decided to become involved in the SGA. I have been challenged spiritually, intellectually, and emotionally. There have been many fun and happy moments, but I have been required to make some tough decisions. Many times there are different views about what fund allocations and what policy changes are the best for the student body. Learning how to debate, make public presentations, and work effectively in groups is crucial to being an effective president. Learning to disagree in a respectful manner and be humble but decisive is crucial to growing as a Christian.

Serving on the SGA will give everyone a valuable experience, no matter what your major. I encourage everyone to think about running for an SGA position in the senate or class cabinet...not because of the scholarship or the title, but because serving as a leader will challenge your character and give you opportunities to grow in Christ.



Tuesday, Feb. 5 was SGA president Toby Cushing's birthday.

Well, I am a little over halfway through with my second term as Student Government Chaplain and all I can say is "wow." As a senior, I am already beginning to look back at my Houghton career with the nostalgia of an alumnus. I think that getting involved on campus has taught me how institutions and organizations run through a practical, hands-on knowledge that cannot be as easily taught in the classroom. In short, I the SGA (unless they sending me gourmet I'm sure at this point all fine and good, but chaplain, I have had the honor of working with faculty, staff, administration, and fellow students on a whole host of meaningful decision-making bodies. I am honored to have helped shape certain policies on campus. This is only about half of what the chaplain position entails, however.

**SCOTT WILKINS**  
CHAPLAIN

couldn't be happier with took up the practice of chocolates every week). you are saying, "This is what do you do?" As

Every semester I get to orchestrate a community service project with the student body. You may recall the SGA Turkey-Grams from last semester where we helped many Allegheny county families celebrate Thanksgiving through our combined efforts with the Fillmore Jubilee. We have another event planned, so stay tuned.

Another task that the chaplain undertakes is the organizing of one chapel per semester and the overseeing of the SGA Student Awards Ceremony (in which we commend people for their service to "the College, the Community, and the Cross"). Apart from this, my position is expected to work with the Director of Christian Life in various ways (generally chapel-related) and to give devotional thoughts at every meeting of the SGA cabinet and Senate.

The position of chaplain has been a wonderful blessing to me, and I am thankful for the opportunity I have had to serve in that capacity. I would encourage anyone who is interested in this or any other similar position on campus to either email me or swing by the office for a chat. Thanks to a hand-me-down chair from Matt Webb, I now own the two comfiest chairs in the office (and we always have candy available, too).



# taking/sides

Students discuss controversial issues on campus  
This week's topic: WAR

I was rather startled the other day while reading the Letterbox section of the Star. One letter to the editor grabbed my attention right away: "Antiwar propaganda just that—propaganda." Immediately, I felt compelled to read this article instead of just the regular skim read I do to some articles.

I am a nonviolent activist, which is something I am finding to be more rare than I expected among Christian circles. I believe that killing any human life is against the basic principles of Christianity. God has created every human in His image and we are to value each other as His children. Abortion, euthanasia, the death penalty, and war all rob precious life from another human being. In going to war with any country for any reason, I believe the government is devaluing human life, no matter whose life it is. I also believe that war disobeys Jesus' command to "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22:39 NIV).

I know there are people on this campus with family and friends being sent to Iraq or being put on stand-by. I cannot imagine their worry or anxiety. I am not trying to belittle them or their families in any way. However, I do not hold to the same values that they do. I still pray for their safety and wholeheartedly wish them a safe return; nevertheless, I believe that, in good conscience, I could never do as they have done.

In his letter to the editor, Adam Carman stated, "While I would like nothing better than to avoid war, there are times when it is the only way." I disagree. We do not have to follow what the government believes to be the answer to a problem. There are other ways. Each individual's protest against

war is the way to avoid war. There is an option for people opposed to war: conscientiously objecting. These people who chose to be conscientious objectors instead of participating in war, provide other services to society. They serve in soup kitchens or bring aid to foreign countries instead of going against the values God has instilled in them. The more people who conscientiously object, the more our government will know its people do not support the killing of fellow human beings for any reason.

Daniel of the Old Testament was one of the highest-ranking officials under king Nebuchadnezzar. He participated in the God-appointed government that was in place. However, when Nebuchadnezzar asked him to bow before an idol, Daniel took a firm stand against him. He had no way of knowing that God would save him from the punishment of the king. He only knew he had to follow God, no matter what the cost. As Christians, I feel we should be willing to go against the flow of government if it goes against the God-given principles we live by.

A Christian's highest virtue should be love, not justice or freedom. Everything we do should flow out of the spirit of love. Our main goals, as a nation, have been to maintain our freedom and the freedom of others. While these are noble causes, the freedom has not come from a spirit of love. We may have felt a deep desire to save a country from certain ruin at the hands of another. However, the "enemy" we are fighting deserves our love just as much, if not more, than the people we are trying to save. We should crave justice, but only if it is informed by our love. Justice is not best suited by violence to serve as a temporary band-aid for a bleeding wound that can only be satisfied by love and peace. In Luke 6

Jesus blesses those who suffer when men hate them. In the same chapter, he goes on to say, "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you" (Luke 6:22, 38-39 NIV). Our justice should be meted out through love. Our freedom should never come at the cost of failing to love others. Our lives are not as important as love.

Yes, the Israelites went to war in the Old Testament. However, their motives and their orders came from God, not man. When Jesus came to earth, the Old Testament laws changed for the coming generations. His love was to be the fulfillment of all the rules and regulations found in the Torah. In Romans 13:10 Paul writes "Love does no harm to his neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law" (NIV). Love was the basis for Jesus' ministry and death. Love is to be a Christian's highest priority.

Evangelicals for Social Action (ESA) hold to the core value that "People are the focus of God's love. Any injustice or disrespect for human life . . . is affront to the Creator who made person to bear the very image of God. Poor, oppressed people have a special place in God's heart. Christians are to weigh their actions and lifestyles by their impact on the least of these" (www.esa-online.org). As Christians who believe they can make a difference through acting, the people involved in ESA step out of themselves to bring about changes that will help other people. They believe in action because they will not sit back and passively watch their future be decided for them. They believe that they can make a difference in society today. They believe that the power of the Gospel can change not just individuals, but society. In his article, Adam advocated prayer and preaching. While prayer and preaching

are important, as Christians we have not been called to solely pray and speak to the people we can help; but to go forth and change lives for God (Matt. 28:19 NIV).

The organization planning the anti-war protest that Adam mentioned in his article is called International A.N.S.W.E.R. (Act Now Stop War and End Racism). Created to protest Bush's war on terrorism, the organization has been putting together many anti-war protests across the country and the world. They have been pulling people of all races, religions, cultures and backgrounds together for one purpose—to protest against the war in Iraq. They are peaceably demonstrating and have no plans for even civil disobedience. This organization has not protested every war or war-like act in the past, simply because they have only been around since 2001. They are trying to bring the anti-war movement together and to the forefront. "Many of those planning to come to Washington [to protest] said that the views of the organizers are of little concern to them and that the larger antiwar movement is bigger than any organizing group" (www.internationalANSWER.org). The anti-war movement is bigger than one organization or one group of people. If the ESA on the Houghton campus feels God leading them to protest war, I believe that they were right to take the opportunity. They were right to let other people on this campus know about an anti-war movement this big. They were right to follow their hearts and protest a war that is not based on the essential Christian principle of love.

Responses to this week's Taking Sides may be sent to [star@houghton.edu](mailto:star@houghton.edu) for publication in the Letterbox. Next week Taking Sides will present a discussion on the reasons for war as a response to this week's installment. Under normal circumstances we would print these together, but the length of each letter has prevented that this time. If you have an opinion and would like to submit a piece to be published in this space, please email it to [star@houghton.edu](mailto:star@houghton.edu).

## MIC CHECK!



Welcome to the first installment of MIC CHECK! This is where we get to showcase YOU, the Houghton College student. This should be a place where all art should flourish, be it photography, sculptures, sketches, short stories, poems, or song lyrics. This could be our very own liberal arts gallery composed of your works. The STAR is here to serve you and be the voice of the campus. Now we would like to give you another stage to be heard, just like "Taking Sides" and the Letterbox. EMAIL your stuff to [star@houghton.edu](mailto:star@houghton.edu) or let us know what you'd like to submit and we'll figure out how to do it (if it can't be emailed). I feel I cannot honestly ask fellow students to share on Mic Check while I hide behind my computer here at the Star. So I will take it upon myself to break the ice.

## Time of Innocence

Are we ever innocent in life?  
I recall a child playing with his toys

Years pass and a sister is born  
The children are still innocent

Yet before the girl can know good and evil  
She is shot and the blood is on my hands

Am I innocent?  
My soul still cries upon remembering that day  
I grow somehow colder, somehow harder

Am I innocent?  
Looking at my parents' illusions are made clear  
I grow and anger grows, I grow and pain grows

Am I innocent?

I look back and I recall a child playing with toys  
That is when I remember when I was innocent

-Brian Quinones



## Find a place where you belong with the Normals

BY JOSH MILLER  
STAR STAFF WRITER

As my fellow STAR writer, Aaron Boynton, mentioned in a previous issue, the music of 2002 is behind us, and an exciting year of new releases lies ahead. While I share his anticipation of future albums from Switchfoot, Plumb, and other Christian artists, I also would like to share what I believe was the best album of 2002: The Normals' *A Place Where You Belong*.



This third album of the quintet from Normal, Illinois, is a great follow-up to their sophomore release, *Coming to Life*, as they continue to address many of the questions of the Christian life that other artists tend to avoid. In general, contemporary Christian music is often like the Bible without Job or Ecclesiastes—the songs are either praises of God's greatness or laments over human sinfulness. While both of these forms are appropriate, they neglect problems within the Christian commu-

nity, from difficulties in opposite sex relationships, to human suffering, to the struggle to live out one's faith in a broken world.

These issues constitute the themes of the Normals' material, making them, in some respects, the wisdom literature of contemporary Christian music. From their opening track, "I'll Be Home Soon," to their final song, "Epilogue," lead vocalist Andrew Osenga sings about the struggles of living in a place where "love is a contact sport" and "beauty is an aisle

discernment in relationships; "Less Than Love" notes some of the possible consequences of casual dating; and "Grace" is an attempt to explore the depths of human love and its interconnectedness with God.

Perhaps their most thought-provoking song is "We Go On." In this piece, Osenga's words address the troubled state of the world and the never-ending stream of questions this situation produces. As is the case with the book of Job, the answers he presents are not the ones that most people want to hear:

*And our questions grow in number,  
And their answers loom with fear  
But still we ask and we trust you  
Because you've held us here  
With chains of grace and longing  
Longing to be loved, longing to be known  
And we go on...*

Songs such as "We Go On" exemplify one of the primary characteristics of the Normals' music: honesty. "I think Christian music tends to be unrealistic at times," Osenga explains. "Almost every story in the Bible is about God making good on a failure. We all like to talk about the 'making good', but we don't often look at the fact that we are always going to start at the point of failure. I want to write those kinds of lyrics, honestly and creatively."

"Those kinds of lyrics" can be found on the Normals' latest release, which is full of stylistic diversity as well. Using standard rock-and-roll instruments as well as mandolins, trombones, accordions and ocarinas, their songs range from sounding like Beck ("Happiness") to Tom Petty ("Romeo on the Radio") to U2 ("Grace"), and Osenga's vocals are reminiscent of Jakob Dylan from the Wallflowers.

So, if you're in the mood for songs with honest, hope-filled lyrics, pick up the Normals' latest release and let them take you to *A Place Where You Belong*.

FYI: For those of you who are Normals fans, Andrew Osenga recently recorded a solo album, *Photographs*. If you'd like more information and/or if you want to purchase the CD, you can do so online at [www.AndrewOsenga.com](http://www.AndrewOsenga.com).

## The *Lanthorn's* Coffee(less) House

BY LIZ SANDS  
STAR STAFF WRITER

It was not your typical coffee house on Wednesday night, even ignoring the fact that the coffee machine had broken and only dispensed cold water. But it was not your typical hot-tea-and-munchies-and-everyone-gathered-in-a-dark-corner-with-candles-illuminating-the-lonely-microphone-sort-of-house either. Because it was not about the coffee or about the house. This 'coffeehouse' required audience participation. Whether it was reading original poetry, reading some else's poetry, singing, playing the guitar, playing the violin, performing 'beat' poetry, extemporaneously acting, reciting song lyrics, admitting that you've never read your own poetry in public before, admitting that your poem originated as magnets hanging on your refrigerator, the audience certainly participated. That is, at least after Regina Rinaldo warmed up

house, not only because there was a good turnout, but also because the audience—and the poetry that was read—was so diverse and creative. In hosting a coffeehouse so early in the semester, Trelease's goal was to get the word out about the upcoming edition of the *Lanthorn*, implore writers to submit their own original works for publication, and dispel what she fears is becoming the "elitist reputation" of the literary publication. While Trelease and her staff are selective, their intentions are not to crush their fellow students' dreams of becoming writers. On the contrary, the purpose of the publication is to encourage writing. According to Trelease, staff members try to "send constructive criticisms to many people who submit work" that does not get published so that the writers can respond and continue submitting new writings.

In an effort to promote writing and encourage submissions for the spring

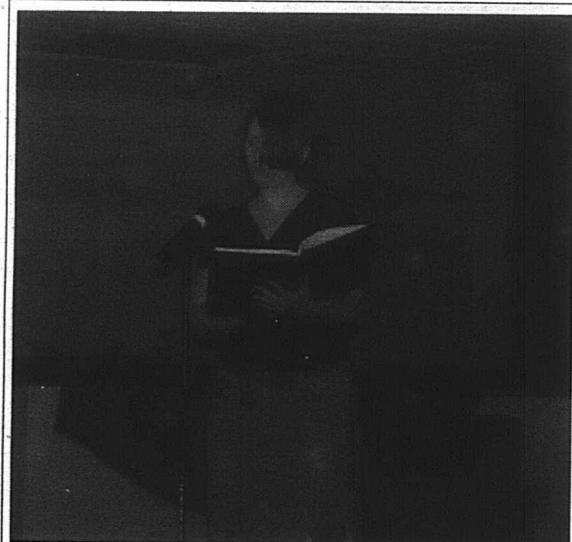


PHOTO BY BETHANY SCHWARTZ  
Lanthorn editor Hillary Trelease read poetry at the coffeehouse.

the mic with her sincere, original songs. Some of us then courageously charged the microphone (if only I were so brave), while others of us sat shyly off to the side, waiting until the last possible moment to share a few words and be encouraged by the pattering of applause that we, too, had something to say. It was this atmosphere that made it not your typical coffeehouse.

The *Lanthorn's* first coffeehouse of the semester succeeded in encouraging many poetry readers and writers and would-be writers around Houghton's campus to enjoy a few hours of intellectual stimulation in a relaxed, stress-relieving atmosphere. *Lanthorn* editor Hillary Trelease was "very, very pleased" with the coffee-

edition, the *Lanthorn* is holding a writing contest in all genres of writing; the categories will be determined as submissions are received. For each publication of the *Lanthorn* to be a success, at least forty or fifty submissions should be received (Trelease and her staff would not complain if even more were submitted!). Submissions can be poetry, prose, haiku, or whatever the writer feels inspired to submit. If you've never written before, fear not! Until Wednesday night, I'd never read a poem in public before.

So grab your laptop (or pen and paper or typewriter) and plop down into your favorite chair (or go for a walk or sit at your desk). Just go ahead, write something.

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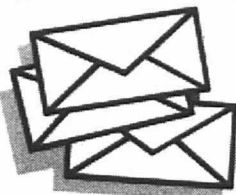
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## Letterbox

star@houghton.edu

### Is it ever okay to take things that aren't yours?

I'm writing in response to the wrongful acts that have taken place on our campus this year. Since when do we, on a Christian campus, have to be watchful and suspicious of others? Shouldn't we be able to trust our brothers and sisters in Christ? Last semester, there was a rash of thefts that occurred, which were later solved, but it put us all on our guard. I attended a secular university before transferring to Houghton and was definitely used to having to constantly watch my possessions, lock my door to go to the bathroom or across the hall and couldn't walk across campus by myself for fear of being raped or robbed. Then I came to Houghton and my fears subsided. It was nice to be able to live in this community, virtually fearless and to feel safe in my own dorm. However, I've realized that this whole world, this beautiful place that God created solely for us, is not a beautiful place at all. I now know that I can't even leave my dishes in the kitchen without them disappearing. I know that I shouldn't be so trusting, but I feel that in a community of fellow Christians, I shouldn't have to be distrustful. I think that we all need to be more considerate to other students on this campus. If there's something particularly

tempting in your floor fridge, but you didn't make/buy it, then don't eat it. If something is laying around, but you know it's not yours, don't take it. These are principles we learned in kindergarten, along with share and look both ways before crossing the street. I'm not only writing this because I've been personally affected, but because it affects us all. Let's all watch out for each other and maybe our campus can return to the place that it once was and we'd all like it to be

-Annie Snider '04

### Ignoring *Roe v. Wade*

Two weeks ago was the thirtieth anniversary of the Supreme Court ruling, *Roe vs. Wade*, that legalized abortion. Sadly, Houghton failed to collectively mourn the 42,000,000 children who have been murdered since 1973. This past week we were too busy worrying about persecuted Burmese Christians and maimed Sierra Leoneans or participating in contemporary worship to remind ourselves that a worse holocaust is in its third decade in this nation.

It is easy to be blinded to the effects of abortion by the urgent atrocities abroad. Paradoxically, many of us lament the moral decadence that is infecting our country; some say Capital Hill is only concerned with oil or that Foggy Bottom overlooks the Third World. Who are we to

accuse them of cold-heartedness when we don't even bother to remember our own?

Anniversaries are important. Christmas recalls Christ's incarnation and love for mankind, Dr. Martin Luther King observances exhort us to live out God's compassion to the poorest, and Founders' Day encourages us to continue holier work. It is in this manner that we should rededicate ourselves every January 22 to fighting for the lives of the unborn. As Christians we need to be leaders in our county and at the forefront of the abortion issue. Yes, we need to pray, but prayer isn't enough.

Several years ago, a handful of Christians fasted and prayed on Election Day that a pro-life candidate would win. Unfortunately, he lost by a few votes; those Christians forgot to vote. The fact of the matter is that we as Christians are no better than non-believers, all too often. Deplorably few Houghton students register to vote and even fewer uphold their civic duty to vote absentee. Therefore, I urge everyone to vote and, furthermore, go the extra mile and contact their legislators. Fortunately, it is not too late to devote ourselves to the sanctity of life and making sure that January 22 does not pass unnoticed again.

-Warren Waybright '06

## EDITORIAL

### My Makeover Story

Shelley Dooley

Nearly every day of the spring semester of my junior year, I ate lunch in my townhouse with my roommate. As we spooned soup into our mouths, we fixed our eyes on our TV and watched *The Makeover Story* on TLC. For an hour we set work aside and sat entranced as the participants in the show underwent some pretty amazing transformations.

The basic layout of the show is simple. Two people (friends, couple, or parent and child) are given a makeover. The show introduces the individuals and gives an overview of their current look. From dragging horrid clothes out of their closets to showing old pictures of them, the journey through the person's current "look" is both appalling and amusing. As the show continues, the participants shop for a new outfit, visit a salon, and finally reveal their new look to friends and family members. The show draws to a close with sheer joy over how good the makeover victims look.

I've often wondered what happens once the show ends. The next morning, for instance, when the new clothes are wrinkled, makeup is creased, and hair is flat. Without the support group of a fashion consultant, hair stylist, and makeup artist, I can imagine that it is hard to recapture that stunning new look. Their closets will still be filled with the same clothes, and all they've really gained is a few minutes of happiness and a new hair color.

Intrigued by the idea of a makeover, I wonder what the show would do to me. After watching it so many times I bet that they would highlight and cut my hair, cram my feet into heels, pile makeup on my face and—horror of horrors, give me acrylic nails. Considering these things, I'm positive that TLC will not be getting my picture any time. Certainly, the pampering would be fun but the makeup, clothes and (ugh) nails would not. Instead, I'd like a different kind of makeover. I'd like one that lasts past the flat hair and creased face.

During a mission trip when I was thirteen, my leaders often referred to the mountains and valleys in our Christian walk. Getting a makeover is kind of like a mountain in our spiritual life. For a little while everything is perfect and we feel like we can conquer the world for Christ. But inevitably, after every mountain we'll find ourselves in a valley. The mission trip I went on was like my own makeover story. A throng of people who helped me spiritually prepare for each day surrounded me. My leaders were my spiritual hairstylists, fashion consultants, and makeup artists. They continually encouraged me and challenged me as a person. When I got home, my spiritual makeover clan was scattered all across the United States and at thirteen, I didn't know how to continue to grow and retain the makeover I'd undergone.

With graduation looming in the near future, I again see my immediate spiritual makeover team ready to scatter. And at times I get scared. What will I do next year when I'm in a strange new city without my roommates and friends? College has certainly had its share of mountains and valleys, but God has continually given me a support team to wipe away my tears and help me continue. As I ponder this scary step in my life, I'm reminded by what Paul tells us concerning our spiritual makeovers—it is possible to hold on to my spiritual makeover when my friends are gone.

In Colossians 3:12-17 he states that "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." God has once again given me a set of things to follow that will help me not only survive this year and the next but thrive.

As I continue during my last three months here at Houghton and undergo my own version of *The Makeover Story*, I want to trade my Gap jeans for compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. I want to forgive. I want to turn in my winter coat for love. I want the peace of Christ to rule my heart instead of fear and uncertainty. I want to give thanks for everything that God has given and even what he's taken away. I want my spiritual makeover to last past the mountains in my life and into every single valley. don't you?

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## Students record high performances at track meet

BY KATY SYKES  
STAR CONTRIBUTOR

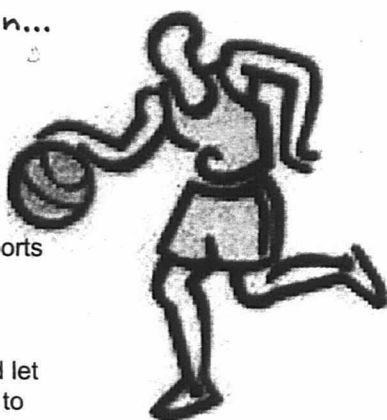
The Houghton Highlander track and field athletes competed at York University, Canada this weekend. There were a number of high performances, including records and national qualifications. Among the national provisional qualifiers were junior Chris Buell in the 1000 meters, with a time of 2:35, and freshman Mary Gibson in the women's 1000 meters with a time of 3:09. Sarah Gardner automatically qualified for nationals in the 60 meter hurdles with a time of

9.23 seconds and is currently ranked 7th nationally for the 55-meter hurdles. The men's 4 x 200m relay, consisting of Pete Wheatley, Nick Ruiz, Jon Ring, and Tim Ridgeway, set a new indoor mark while the women's 4 x 200m relay broke the previous school record. The women on that relay team were Brie Claybourn, Dana Sell, Julia Jacobs, and Haflie Fairchild. The track team will be competing again with a pentathlon on Feb. 14 and a regular meet on Feb. 15. Both of these events will be held at Cornell University.

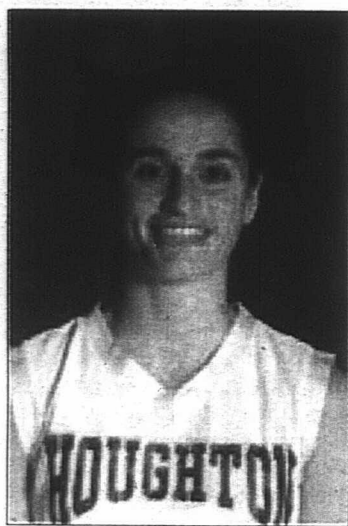
The STAR is looking for a few good men and women...

to write about sports!

If you're interested in sports and would like to write about the games or the players, email [star@houghton.edu](mailto:star@houghton.edu) and let us know! We would like to expand our sports department and you can help!



## HIGHLANDER athlete of the week



Alicia Mucher  
guard, basketball

The 5-foot-7 senior averaged 19 points, 7.7 rebounds, and 3.7 assists in helping the Highlanders to three conference wins on the week. She totaled 22 points, 8 rebounds, 6 assists, and 4 steals in an 80-71 win over Roberts at home on Tuesday, then tallied 21 points, 10 rebounds, 3 assists, and 2 steals in a 74-70 overtime win over Carlow at home on Thursday. Mucher scored the last four points of regulation against Carlow in the final :50 to send the game into overtime. The tying bucket was a 12-foot jumper with :09 on the clock. During the game she also moved into second place on Houghton's career scoring list. She now has 1,257 career points. She finished the week with 14 points, 5 rebounds, and two assists in a 68-50 road win over Point Park on Saturday. For the week she hit 51 percent of her field goal attempts, 47 percent from three-point range, and 80 percent from the foul line.

## Highlanders continue rivalry with Roberts

BY JEN COON  
STAR CONTRIBUTOR

On January 28th, both the men and women's varsity basketball teams played conference games against their rivals, Roberts Wesleyan College. The women's team won 80-71, keeping them within a game of first place in the AMC North division. Meanwhile, the men's team suffered a tough loss, the final scoring being 88-70.

The Lady Highlander's senior leadership helped the team to victory, as all four seniors posted good numbers for the game. Alicia Mucher had a game-high 22 points and also added six assists, eight rebounds, and four steals. Amanda Sweeney finished with 16 points and eight rebounds and Angela Layne had 13 points and seven rebounds. Katie Packard chipped in with nine

points and eight rebounds.

The men's team made a good effort even though they were defeated. Senior Matt Meabon had a game-high 24 points and Joel



PHOTO BY BETHANY SCHWARTZ  
Jason Lee (31) sets up for a foul shot during the game against Roberts on Thursday. The Highlanders were defeated 70-88.

Hamilton had a team high of 10 rebounds. Adam Zoeller added 12 points off the bench.

The rivalry continues as Houghton travels up route 390 to Roberts Wesleyan on February 18.



PHOTO BY BETHANY SCHWARTZ  
Houghton basketball players Mark Reitsma (44) and Joel Hamilton (41) work against the Roberts team in their game on Tuesday, Jan. 28. Although the men lost their game, the women beat Roberts 80-71.

## HIGHLANDER SCORES

### Women's basketball

1/30 Houghton 74, Carlow 70  
2/1 Houghton 68, Point Park 50  
2/4 Houghton 73, Daemen 86

### Men's basketball

1/28 Houghton 70, Roberts 88  
2/1 Houghton 61, Point Park 87  
2/4 Houghton 70, Daemen 81

### Track and Field

2/1 York Open

-Sarah Gardner broke school record in 60-meter hurdles (9.23) and qualified for NAIA nationals.

-Mary Gibson (3:09.00) and Chris Buell (2:35.41) set personal records and qualified for NAIA nationals in the 1000 meters.