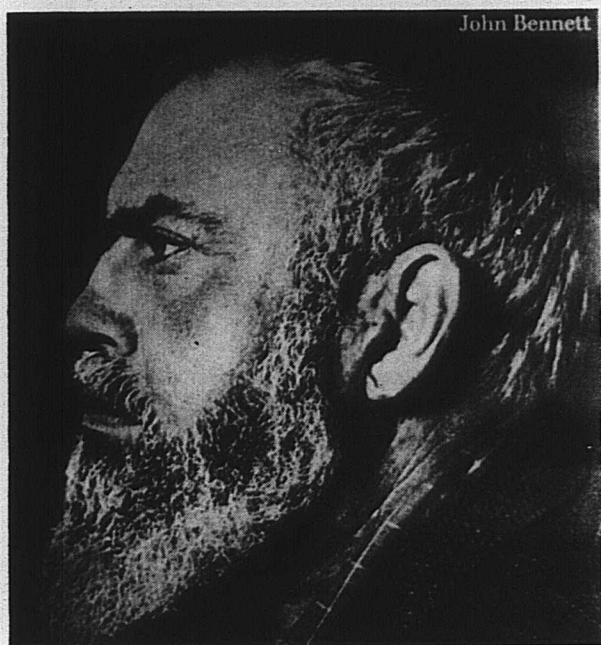


The Houghton Star

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No. 16



Bennett poetry reading will be part of Fine Arts Week festivities.

Houghton Celebrates Art's Expression of Christianity

The Fine Arts Festival is to be held March 7-11. "Christianity Expressed Creatively" is the theme. Cheryl Semarge, a freshman enrolled in

three art courses, has won first place in this year's competition for the cover design of the Fine Arts Festival program.

The first of the many planned activities will be a concert entitled "Sacred Symphonic Works." This is to be performed by the College Symphony Orchestra and the Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

Dr. Bruce Brown, this year's Fine Arts Festival Chairman, and Chaplain Bareiss will conduct a special chapel service on Tuesday, March 8, entitled "Chapel of Hymns." The new hymnals will be dedicated. Tuesday evening, students will present a recital featuring sacred music using instruments and voice.

Three guest lecturers will each be featured in the Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday chapels. John Bennett, a poet from St. Norbert College in Wisconsin, will read poetry in Wednesday's meeting. An artist from Bethel College, Dale Johnson, will present a chapel address Thursday. Friday's guest will be Daniel Moe, a conductor and composer from Oberlin College.

Moe, who conducted the Oberlin Choir when they appeared in a Houghton College Artist's Series in January will also be the guest conductor at a choral concert Thursday at 8 p.m. Ensembles to be involved include, Women's, Men's, Chapel, College, and Houghton Church choirs.

"My hope," says Brown, "is that the festival will encourage students, faculty, and staff to creatively express Christianity by making use of their creative gifts for the glory of God and the building of His kingdom."

John Bennett to Speak; Poetry Undergirded by Anglican Faith

Contemporary poets usually have great difficulty integrating their faith and poetry; John Bennett, an Anglican communicant, exhibits a great deal of skill as a poet whose work is strongly undergirded by his conversion to the Christian faith.

His first book, *The Zoo Manuscript* (1968), is a delightful and often humorous expression of Bennett's enjoyment of God's creatures. *The Struck Leviathan* (1970), inspired by

Melville's *Moby Dick*, has won him several honors including the Devins Memorial Award. Bennett holds a refreshingly affirmative view of the world and its loving Creator who will not abandon His own. His "baptized imagination" seeks to "praise / a God who swims through all evolving worlds / as He creates them out of death and night. / The Paraclete sustains the other dance / and all the dances in the spheres of light."

Now in his mid-fifties, Bennett grew up in New Hampshire and still finds great joy in hunting and being out in the woods. He received his B.A. from Oberlin College and his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin for a study of Herman Melville. He has taught at several colleges since he began teaching in 1948. Until recently, he was Professor of English at St. Norbert College in Wisconsin; he is presently Bernard H. Pennings Distinguished Professor of English there.

On March 9, John Bennett will speak during the morning chapel, and he will read his poetry in Presser Hall at 8:30 p.m. that evening.

Senate Surveys Students on Pledge; Majority Questions Biblical Basis

by Terry Slye

Student Senate recently polled the student body in an attempt to find out student opinion on the pledge. About 525 students responded to the poll — this is a larger amount of students than normally respond to a poll given intracampus. About nine out of ten said they had read the pledge. Seventy-eight percent of the respondents said they had personally broken the pledge; 91% said their friends had broken it.

Seventy-one percent said they do not keep the pledge during breaks and vacations. Of the remaining 29% who do keep the pledge, 75% said they do not feel they should be required to keep it.

By about a 2 to 1 margin, students felt the pledge should be listed in the student guide and that it shouldn't be necessary to sign it individually. However, by a 55 to 45 majority, students said the college does have the right to require the signing of the pledge as a condition for admission.

Forty-two per cent felt the pledge has a scriptural basis, and 10% said parts of it are scriptural. Forty-eight per cent felt the pledge has no scriptural basis.

A significant percentage, 83%, said the pledge has never been properly explained to the student body by the administration.

Students were also asked when they felt they should have to keep the pledge. A majority of the students said the prohibition of tobacco, marijuana, narcotics, sexual immorality, profanity and gambling should always be observed.

Fifty-four per cent said the prohi-

bition of alcoholic beverages should apply only on campus. Many students added comments saying they saw nothing wrong with wine at meals, but that it also should be used with temperance.

The social dancing question showed a wide divergence of opinion. Thirteen and a half per cent said it was never permissible, while 42.9% said it should never be prohibited. Taking a middle course, 43.6% said social dancing should be permitted off-campus.

Only nine per cent of those surveyed showed real opposition to face cards — 59% saw no need for their prohibition and another 32% said their use should be allowed off-campus.

On the issue of Sunday observance, many students commented that they were uncertain as to what was meant. Thirty-two per cent said the pledge on Sunday observance should always be kept, 28% said it should be kept only on campus, and 40% said it never should need to be kept.

Three observations can be drawn from the survey and from the comments that students wrote on their survey forms. First most students feel that the pledge should apply only to on-campus situations, and not to off-campus activities. Second, the pledge should only be effective during class sessions, and not during breaks and vacations. Third, students strongly feel that more explanation and clarification of the pledge should be given. If there is a biblical basis for the pledge, students want to hear it. Some students questioned whether anyone on campus, administrators in-

cluded, really knows just exactly what the pledge involves, entails and requires.

The complete survey results will be posted on the Senate bulletin board so that anyone interested may see them. The Senate would like to thank each student who took time to fill out the poll forms — your input is appreciated.

College Choir Women Sing With Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra

Houghton College Artist Series will present the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, under the direction of David Zinman, in concert with the Houghton College Choir Women Friday, March 4, at 8:00 p.m. in Wesley Chapel.

One of the nation's 29 major orchestras, the Rochester Philharmonic has entertained audiences throughout the northeastern United States — in hospitals, parks, prisons, shopping malls and churches as well as schools and concert halls. This season the RPO will perform more than 150 classical, popular and educational concerts in western New York. Singing the choral section from Gustav Holst's "The Planets", the College Choir Women will appear with the RPO in its Houghton performance as well as two other Rochester concerts.

In his third full season as RPO Music Director, David Zinman is a familiar face on the international circuit having led the London and Toronto Symphonies, the Paris Conservatory Orchestra, the Concertgebouw, and the Israel Philharmonic. A graduate of Oberlin Conservatory and the University of Minnesota, he has studied conducting with Pierre Monteux, serving as his assistant in Europe.

Intended

Judy Harper ('76) and Woody Heselbarth (Colorado)

In conjunction with the concert, an exhibit of more than 50 color and black and white prints by Philadelphia printmakers Richard and Geri Mack will hang in the Wesley Chapel gallery through March 6. The exhibit will include posters that depict the present human condition as well as

linocuts that illustrate Aesop and Indian fables. As an added feature, poems by Houghton English faculty member Mrs. Elizabeth Gibson will juxtapose prints of animals in landscape.

Tickets for the concert will be available at the door.

Houghton Takes 5th Place at King's College Tournament

by John Roman

Last Wednesday the basketball team left Houghton on their way to the 21st annual King's College tournament. The team, looking forward to breaking the school record for most victories in one season, had been seeded 7th in a field of 8 teams.

The tournament activities began on Thursday morning with the tournament chapel. The chapel featured songs and testimonies from athletes and coaches of each of the teams.

In the first game Eastern College of Pa. was pitted against Nyack who won the game 81-72. In the second game Messiah demolished PCB 92-58.

In the third game Eastern Nazarene defeated Barrington 85-70. The feature game of the day pitted host, Kings, against Houghton at 8 p.m. Kings downed Houghton by a score of 92-65.

In consolation games on Friday, Eastern defeated PCB 92-71 and

Houghton downed Barrington 82-78.

The evening semifinals saw Nyack upset Messiah 77-67. In the second game Eastern Nazarene beat Kings 95-81.

A Saturday afternoon consolation game for fifth place saw Houghton lose to Eastern College in a close one, 74-70.

In the championship game Eastern Nazarene won a squeaker, 56-53.

All in all it was a one-team tournament as ENC took first place in 7 of the 10 events and second in 2 others. Houghton's only bright spot was a first place win in men's table tennis by Dave Probstine.

What's wrong with Houghton? We dropped from the top 3 last year to a lowly 5th place. I know what's wrong — no spirit! We had people on campus that could have given us the 1sts and 2nds to keep us in the top 3. With a little work and desire I foresee Houghton breaking into the top 2 next year! Get involved!

Prospective Students Visit Campus; Admissions Holds Youth Weekend

You may notice 25 or so new faces on campus, March 4-6. You may see them in your classes in the dining hall, or even at the Artist Series. The newcomers are prospective students here for the Wesleyan Youth Weekend.

Because of the 1968 merger of the

Wesleyan and Pilgrim Holiness churches, many of the new churches are not familiar with the church supported colleges. In an attempt to acquaint the Wesleyan young people with Houghton, the Admissions office is sponsoring its first annual Wesleyan Youth Weekend.

Editorial

The average Houghton student is caught in a dilemma. Simply stated: if he takes time to think, his grades drop. If he keeps his grades up, he doesn't have time to think.

Too many of my weekdays follow this basic schedule: oversleep, wake up, run to class, go to another class, go to chapel, check my mail, eat lunch (quickly), solve a *Star* crisis, go to class, study solve another *Star* crisis, eat supper (quickly), study, throw darts at the *Star* dartboard, study some more, go home (late), sleep.

Opportunities for true-blue thinking do exist, I guess. I could cut out that squandered fifteen minutes of dart throwing and devote my mental energies to the problem of capital punishment, for instance. I could, I suppose, contemplate the nature of the Trinity while I check my mail. Perhaps, three weeks hence, I can put those crisis solution periods to better use.

Granted, I've overstated my case. I do have time to relax to unwind, to deal with personal problems. However, because of the structure and requirements of the academic system, I am forced to act mechanically and mindlessly too much of the time if I am to remain a credible part of this academic community.

I discuss my own experiences because I don't think my situation is unique. How many of you can take a day off and unhurriedly think about ideas or problems that have nothing to do with your current courses? If you do, are you forced to pull an all-nighter or two to make up for the time you "wasted"?

This is not to say that our thinking and current course content cannot be integrated or that our courses do not stimulate consideration of a given issue. It is very convenient and desirable when this happens. However, there are other stimuli. God, for example. It is highly probable that He may have some things for us to contemplate beyond the confines of syllabus and card catalogue.

Besides the intellectual realm, there are still other areas which demand our attention and dedication. Our friends are very important. I can recall too many times when I was too busy to help someone who needed me, when I hurried an important conversation to a close because I had a paper to write. Also, as Daryl Brautigam pointed out earlier this year, we must attend to our physical well-being and fitness.

A logical scapegoat is the faculty. It is easy to blame them for the pressure we feel. Indeed, some are demanding above and beyond the call of duty. Still, professors (and administrators) also have requirements and deadlines. And I'm sure most of them feel pressure as keenly as we do.

Unfortunately, I have no solution. I am aware of the innumerable regulations and structures beyond our control: accreditation requirements, graduation expectations, the general hurried pace of our society. The obstacles seem insurmountable.

So, am I complaining just for complaining's sake? No. Although solutions may be distant or even impossible, we need to recognize the problem and do what we can to alleviate pressure. At the basis of this whole issue is one important question — what makes a person educated?

I suggest that the educated person is not necessarily the one who has ingested the most information. In the words of Schopenhauer:

The fatal tendency to be satisfied with words instead of trying to understand things . . . (makes) the knowledge of many learned persons to consist in mere verbiage.

Pressure is more often than not a hindrance to true knowledge and creativity.

K. E. C.

Letters to the Editors

Dear Star:

After one fine evening of food, sublime conversation and fun, some friends and I proceeded to tramp through the campus lounge en route to the car. But something stopped us in our trek. Tucked away in the corner we saw a couple very much in the throngs and grip of love, and exhibiting for all eyes the common traits of such: cooing, gurgling, and of course, kissing. I quickly noticed the kissing was of a most ardent nature. Reminded me of the times behind the old garage when I was with this . . . Anyway, did it bother me? Now don't get me wrong. I'm no eunuch at heart, and ever since I was young I've been kissed: Mother, sisters, reluctant brothers, gooey relatives, friends, enemies, ad infinitum. My first thought upon observing this free display of passion was, "Gee, aren't they uninhibited. I wonder who instilled such boldness in them?"

At last I think I have an answer: the higher echelon, the Lawmakers and Keepers of this glorious Island. Who else? The next question that follows is, "How did they instill such boldness?" Here lies my rationale.

I refuse to call the couple mentioned above or anyone in that position immature. At the least they're doing something I hope is quite natural: expressing affection. Only the natural environment has been deprived for some reason. This natural environment is called "privacy." We are quick to forget this fact. The men in the upper rooms who keep the place operating smoothly view Houghton as a social community. Thus the couples sprawled throughout the campus area are only participating in this social intimacy. I hope no one becomes offended when he sees such displays. Besides, where else in the dead of winter can a couple go? In the woods? You forget that people can follow tracks.

So the authority has this rationale

undergirding their thought. We must also keep in mind the era of which many of our older folks have come out of: the era of absolute dignity. A couple behind a closed door in the privacy of a room would tend towards something saucy and obtrusive i.e., heavy hand-holding. They have been taught from early childhood that as soon as a couple hears the click of the door locking behind them, some type of animalistic, anti-Christian instinct suddenly wells up from within. There's just no controlling it. All prior teaching on Christ-like chastity becomes remote and undefined. Thus the authorities have taken this awful burden upon themselves by making sure that no decent, American couple shall be submitted to such an ordeal and trial. And if that doesn't convince you, the authority always has this formidable line of approach to fall back on: "Look, it has always been the way it is now, and will continue to be so, even unto the climax of the ages. Amen." Let us try to show our indebtedness to them at the next opportunity.

However, that does not solve our problem. What are we to do about these couples that insist on showing us ignoramus the proper technique that love brings? What is a single to do? Supply each proctor on duty with a crowbar? Nay. Stare intently? No. Pass out to engaging couples a card that reads, "Alright, Time to Break It Up?" Nyet. What then?

Simple: notify your local authority and tell them that you are mature enough to handle the responsibilities that comes with a relationship. And that you are capable of handling the situation quite easily behind a closed door in the privacy of a house. Besides, it's much safer, for people could finally walk through the campus lounge without having hands over their eyes and a red fluster forming in the face.

Yours truly,
Michael "Valentino" Gresh
xxxooo

Dear Editor (written to fill a need),

A short time ago Gary Gilmore was murdered by Government order. I felt sorrow when I saw not one black armband. And I felt anger when I heard many remarks that approved of the return to government ordained murder. All right, so maybe everyone at Houghton has a spot of dirt on the 5th chapter of Matthew pertaining to forgiveness and mercy — verses 38-48. It's possible . . .

I'm not asking for radicalism. I don't want people to pick my banner

and be martyred while fighting injustice. Martyrs have too much tendency to be all flair and to have very little true lasting effect. I would hope more for thoughtful inspection of our views, maybe more than dogmatic understanding. There is, in case by chance you haven't looked, depth to Christianity. For all its greatness, dogma is of this world and is affected by its culture. I make an appeal that those of us at Houghton start looking at Christ's teachings not as Americans, not as Wesleyans, not even as Liberals (such as myself) but as humans open to the possibility of shock, of yes, excitement and discovery — Christianity.

I am finished, I have vainly stood up on a platform . . . and have dared presume that I have something to say.

In Christ,
Bill Townsend

Dear Editor:

In response to a recent editorial about the love loaf offering, should it not be possible for us as a college community to participate both in the FMF missionary support and the love loaf offering?

The Word says "But remember this — if you give little, you will get little. A farmer who plants just a few seeds will get only a small crop, but if he plants much, he will reap much. Everyone must make up his own mind as to how much he should give. Don't force anyone to give more than he really wants to, for cheerful givers are the ones God prizes. God is able to make it up to you by giving you everything you need and more, so that there will not only be enough for your own needs, but plenty left over to give joyfully to others. It is as the Scriptures say, 'The godly man gives generously to the poor. His good deeds will be an honor to him forever.'"

"For God, who gives seed to the farmer to plant and later on, good crops to harvest and eat, will give you more seed to plant and will make it grow so that you can give away more and more fruit from your harvest." (II Cor. 9:6-10, LB)

A young housewife in Houghton says (and both she and her husband are students), "We are keeping out 50 cents to a dollar of grocery money for love loaf each week." Maybe some of us should do that for FMF — or for both.

"Drop your deeds into God, and they will be great, however small they are." (Alexander MacLaren)

H. Hirsch

Women Take Third Place at Kings; Play As a Powerful Thinking Unit

by Valachi

In the past few weeks the women's varsity volleyball team had been working towards a goal. The goal was the King's tourney. Working under Mrs. Shire, the volleyball team has matured into a powerful and thinking unit.

At the King's tourney, the volleyball team was ranked fifth out of eight teams. The first round match put us against fourth seeded King's. The women came out onto the floor psyched for King's. They defeated King's easily in two games. The game itself was made up of excellent plays. Setter, Carol Goodnight played an excellent game, setting to all members of the team. The sets were then converted into devastating spikes that intimidated King's style of play.

Round two put Houghton against

number one ranked ENC. In the first game Houghton totally dominated play and defeated ENC in an excellent game. It was pure pleasure watching the team play volleyball the way it was meant to be played. The second game, ENC came out on top. Houghton once again out-played ENC, but due to a few breaks for ENC, they defeated Houghton. The third game was the tie breaker, ENC won it and found themselves in the championship bracket against Barrington College.

Houghton was now to play for third place against Nyack. As the girls took the floor, you could tell that they were not settling for fourth place. The match was over in two games. Houghton had obtained third place.

A combination of team play and domination was the name of the game. It was an impressive win over Nyack for Houghton.

The final ranking of the volleyball teams does not actually indicate how the teams performed. Viewing all the teams as an observer I can say that the team with the most class was Houghton. The women's volleyball team was very impressive, and Houghton should be proud of them.

I would like to express to the volleyball team and Mrs. Shire my congratulations for their excellent play and good team spirit—something that seems to be lacking on most teams.

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