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Houghton College's Student Newspaper Since 1909

ARTIST OF THE WEEK:

CAMERON THIBAULT | FEATURES, P. 8

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK:

OPINIONS, P. 7

CERTAINTY: A CHRISTIAN FALLACY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REVISES CONSTITUTION | NEWS, P. 3

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### FROM HOUGHTON TO DISCOVERY: ALUMNUS PRESENTED WITH EMMY



Howard was presented with an Emmy award for his work with Discovery

#### by ANNELISE HEIN

Last month, Houghton alumnus Bill Howard, son of professors David and Irmgard Howard, received an Emmy award for Outstanding Nature Program for his film "First Life with David Attenborough." Howard graduated from Houghton in 1993 with majors in history and political science and a minor in German. During his college years, Howard spent a semester studying in Germany, organized CAB coffeehouses, and played in student rock bands. Reflecting on his liberal arts education which incorporated various disciplines such as writing, history, art, music and science,

Howard said, "That environment may have instilled in me a reluctance to choose any one of those fields, which led me to pursue a career that requires them all." After graduation, he spent a year teaching English in the Czech Republic before deciding to pursue a career in documentary film.

The steps he took to pursue this new career-starting with a graduate degree in film and an internship in television production-eventually led him to Discovery Communications in 2003 and then the Discovery Channel. He has spent the last five years serving as Executive Producer at Discovery Channel. In this role, he takes a vision and then oversees the process of turning that idea into an engaging film. Howard said he enjoys this job, because it incorporates his knowledge from a wide range of disciplines and "boils down to making something out of nothing, which can be very satisfying."

In 2007, Howard was nominated for an Emmy Award but did not win; he was not discouraged. "At Discovery, we never developed programs with awards in mind," he said. "There's really no business justification in that." Though he never sought recognition, Howard's dedication to his work has resulted in

See EMMY page 3

## HOUGHTON MOVES AWAY FROM "FAITH-BASED" MARKETING STRATEGY

#### by GARRETT FITZSIMMONS

Last fall, Houghton dealt with the decision to incorporate the language "faith-based" in some prospective marketing material, and while there was a variety of views on the matter, it was because of the negative feedback and discontent among many students concerning the issue that the Student Government Association (SGA) called upon the administration to reconsider its decision. The administration responded in the spring by indicating that it would conduct research to measure the strategy's effectiveness and explore the controversy surrounding the issue, from students, faculty, and staff alike.

On October 27, President Mullen took questions at the Student Senate regarding this issue. A senator asked specifically what the branding issue research had indicated. Mullen described the results of the research as "indecisive." She emphasized the importance of Christian character of the College and recognized that it needs to be careful in its selection of the language that will define its identity.

A follow up discussion with Mullen concerning implications of employing "faith-based" language

was not initiated until after Senate adjourned. In a meeting with the Garrett Fitzsimmons, SGA president, Mullen expressed the value of student opinion on the matter and affirmed the role of students in playing an integral part in the formation of the identity of the College. While students' opinions on a matter may not always directly alter administrative policies, she assured that student opinions will always be heard and taken into consideration.

On the implementation of the 'faith-based" marketing strategy, the administration does not desire others to perceive Houghton as compromising its commitment to Christian character as a result of last year's sensitive issue. Although the research may not have been clear, Mullen indicated "institutionally, we have that, conscientiously taken a step back from employing the 'faith-based' language as a marketing strategy." However, she affirmed the language of faith in the context of our lives as Christians and our conversations and commitments here at Houghton. For example, using "faith" in the descriptor "faith journey" should not be looked down upon but should be cherished and viewed with value. #

### Five Houghton Professors Granted Sabbaticals for 2012-2013 Year

#### by RACHEL CROSS

Five Houghton professors were recently granted sabbaticals for the 2012-2013 school year. Professors Michael Walters, religion, and Laurie Dashnau, writing, will be on sabbatical during the Fall 2012 semester and professors Cathy Freytag, education; Peter Meilaender, political science; and Bill John Newbrough, music; will be on sabbatical during the Spring 2013 semester.

A professor wanting a sabbatical must have tenure and can only request a sabbatical once every seven years. The process for approval is rather lengthy; professors must apply for sabbaticals and submit proposals, and the Faculty Development Committee reviews the proposals, ranks them, and then chooses which proposals to recommend to the Dean's office for the next step in the granting process. The Dean then sends the proposals to the Board of Trustees, which makes the final decisions about who will be granted sabbaticals and when.

"Sabbaticals are a fantastic

thing," said Professor Kristina LaCelle-Peterson, Chair of the Faculty "They Development Committee. really rejuvenate some people and are important to make connections and develop scholarship." LaCelle-Peterson also said the main of goal of sabbaticals is not only to give professors a much needed and deserved break from the classroom, but to give them the chance to pursue research they have deferred because of lack of time. This, according to Lacelle-Peterson, will ultimately give them a chance to take that research and bring it back to the classroom, improving and informing their teaching. Thus, sabbaticals are not only beneficial for professors but for students as well.

Dashnau plans to spend her sabbatical visiting a number of schools in the area and looking for ideas on how to develop a writing center. Dashnau plans on looking at ways to train, select, and evaluate tutors as well as ways to make a writing center more interdisciplinary. Some schools she plans on visiting are SUNY Geneseo, Roberts Wesleyan College and the University of Rochester.

Dashnau also plans to work on her new book about the spiritual discipline of waiting. This book will include personal narrative, devotional thoughts, and interviews with other people who are waiting on God's direction in their lives, especially as it pertains to major changes such as adoption, career choices, and entering the ministry full-time, among other things. She hopes to complete a draft and gain some insight into the process of writing and publishing. Dashnau also hopes that her focus on her book will help inform her teaching for classes such as Writing about Spiritual Experience and her Life Narratives class. Dashnau said she wants to help give students a better knowledge of the publishing and marketing fields as well.

Walters plans to use his time on sabbatical to reconnect with the Church, and he will be heading to Australia where he hopes to make himself available to serve. Apart from preaching in local churches there and giving pastoral seminars, Walters plans to look at how to structure ministry education for Australian pastors. Having been to Australia several times already, Walters loves the country and is excited to help the people there "get a fix on how to train their pastors" in a way that is different from what they have traditionally done. According to Walters, the Church in Australia faces many struggles in an increasingly post-modern culture with little room or need for God, and he views the culture there as an example of where U.S. culture is headed. Walters is interested in looking at how the Church in Australia survives and thrives in this environment. He also thinks it will be something valuable to incorporate into his teaching when he returns, as it will help him prepare his students for the churches they will be working with in their futures.

Walters also hopes to take some time to work on his new book about clarifying the Church's mission for 21st century ministry. He plans to postpone publication of this book, which has been in the making for quite some time now, in order to include his experiences in Australia. \*

#### 2 | NEWS

### WORLD / HORN OF AFRICA FACES CRISIS, 750,000 NEAR DEATH



#### by DEREK SCHWABE

13.3 million. That's the number of people affected by famine, war, and drought today. Combine the populations of New York City and Los Angeles, then add some, and you are in the ballpark. For many Americans, a disaster of this immensity is simply unimaginable.

In 2005, our nation was overwhelmed by Hurricane Katrina, which directly affected over 1.5 million people. The public outcry after Katrina was enormous and enduring. Everyone knew about it. Even six years later, Katrina is still a common buzz word in public conversation. Today, the Horn of Africa faces an emergency crisis eight times the size of Katrina-the devastating effects of which will endure for decades. 750,000 people are expected to die in the next few months alone. This is the largest humanitarian crisis on Earth today.

Ask yourself, would you care

more if it were New York and Los Angeles instead?

Location aside, tragic events like these have a way of exposing the unfortunate reality of the human attention span. They beg the question, why do certain small crises attract so much more international buzz than other, larger ones?

History has taught us a thing or two about how to answer these questions. Lesson number one: if you really want to trigger a massive global response, you need shock value. Think hurricane, tsunami, and earthquake. Think graphic photos, dramatic tidal waves, and demolished buildings. Think sudden, scary, and earth shattering.

Don't expect to get any resounding reaction out of the world in response to a long, drawn out ordeal, like a famine. That just doesn't sell as well-no matter how many people it kills

The Horn of Africa crisis is a long time in the making. It began with the worst drought in 60 years, which continues to plague the region. The political situation in Somalia has only intensified the situation. Al-Shabab, the current regime in Southern Somalia, has earned a reputation as for leading perhaps the world's most lawless and dysfunctional state. It refuses to allow foreign assistance into its plagued lands. In the quasidemocratic government to the North, things are not much better. Corruption abounds, and food aid is often looted

and stolen.

This year's cereal crop in Somalia is the lowest in 17 years, sending food prices soaring by 300%, an overwhelming number for most Somalis who live at subsistence levels. Many have no choice but to leave their homeland and walk up to 100 miles in search of food. Those who survive the journey end up in overcrowded refugee camps.

Dadaab Refugee Camp in Kenya, established in 1991, was built to hold 90,000 refugees. Today it hosts over 450,000. Hundreds of Refugees are arriving daily, many sick and malnourished, or in critical condition. These are staggering facts, but for the media crazed millennial generation, mere information just isn't enough. It still lacks shock value.

Our ability to respond to reality, no matter how massive or serious, is dangerously limited by the bounds of what we can personally experience. For better or worse, our generation needs to see the faces of the suffering and hear their stories before we are compelled to respond. If not the sudden shock, we at least need the personal connection.

Today, social media and new technology have the power to bring us closer to that personal connection Development than ever before. organizations and agencies have only just begun to tap this potential. USAID is at the cutting edge of this government initiative, having just launched a new Web site and

awareness campaign for the Horn of Africa crisis. It's called FWD, which stands for Famine, War, and Drought. It is changing the way the U.S. government interacts with the American people, especially youth and students

The FWD campaign offers a new kind of government Web site-one that people may visit even when they don't have to fill out a form. The agency utilizes exciting new ways to translate the story of this tragedy for students, using interactive maps, celebrity public service announcements, and info-graphics that can be easily embedded into Web sites and blogs, or passed along through social networks. It also explains ways to get involved beyond your computer desk, like hosting an event or giving a presentation. All of this can bring the reality of the famine closer to our world.

13.3 million is still 13.3 million. It doesn't matter if they live in New York and Los Angeles, or in the Horn of Africa. The world is facing its most urgent humanitarian crisis in decades, and so much remains to be done. In a crisis where hundreds of children and their families are starving every day, the American people must take the lead and create new ways to intensify the response. Check out www.usaid.gov/fwd to find out how you can take creative action. Because in reality, it doesn't take a lot-it just takes a lot of us.

We are the relief. #



OCTOBER NOR'EASTER | A freak snowstorm hit the Northeastern part of the United States last weekend and was particularly damaging in the New England area. Due to heavy snow and still-leafed trees, thousands are still without power as of Wednesday. Here a snowplow attempts to clear a street in Danbury, Connecticut.



## Board of Trustees Revises Constitution

#### by BEN BAKER

The Houghton College Board of Trustees met October 19 to consider adopting major revisions to the school's constitution. The Board approved these measures and has just recently published the revised constitution.

The purpose of Houghton's constitution, like that of other colleges and universities, is to delineate authority and establish standard procedures for making decisions for those who are responsible for the school's governance; and while the nature of higher education has significantly changed in the last 30 years, Houghton's constitution has not undergone a thorough revision since 1970. As the sectors of planning, finances, and curriculum became increasingly intermingled at Houghton, the Board of Trustees, administrators, and faculty found that the outdated constitution did not provide clear guidelines to efficiently accomplish the finer tasks of a governing body.

President Mullen illustrated a recent example of this problem when describing the questions the Board, administrators, and faculty encountered when deciding to add new varsity sports to Houghton's athletic program. Mullen said that Houghton's constitution was unclear whether this was a policy decision and therefore fell to the faculty's vote or lay in another realm of the governing body. Mullen noted that the effect of this ambiguity was that in this and many other decisions, Houghton's governing body spent valuable energy merely discussing the decision process instead of "spending their best energy to make the best decisions."

Garrett Fitzsimmons, SGA President, also emphasized this fundamental aspect of the revisions and said, "The new constitution was designed to provide a [clear] understanding of the governance structures, specifically between the faculty and the Councils." The councils Fitzsimmons referred to are the Academic, Student Life, Advancement, Finance, Enrollment Management, and Adult Education Councils; each council is made up of representatives from the administration, faculty, staff, and students. Beyond the relationship of the more permanent members such as the faculty and staff, Fitzsimmons pointed out that the revised constitution is intended to "clearly define the roles of student governance" for students who, by the nature of their position, pass through Houghton every four years and cannot readily rely on tradition for how they should fulfill their responsibilities and make decisions.

Another significant part of the revisions was to properly define the role and responsibilities of the Academic Dean. The Academic Dean occupies a critical position in Houghton's governing body, because it represents the administration and faculty to one another, and the previous constitution's less than adequate guidelines for the nature of the Dean's position was a source of inefficiency and difficulty.

The necessity to clarify the Dean's role was also an important part of the Board's rationale for wanting to publish a revised constitution this year. Over the last two years, sentiment has been growing to address the need for revisions to Houghton's constitution, and a committee met this summer to explore and articulate these thoughts. The Board recently approved these revisions so as to clarify the Dean's duties before selecting a new Academic Dean to assume the position that Dr. Linda Mills Woolsey is currently holding as an Interim Academic Dean.

Mullen expressed satisfaction regarding the quality of effort everyone involved in the process has contributed and noted that though this revised constitution may not be absolutely perfect, it allows Houghton to move forward in the direction it needs to be going.  $\star$ 

#### NEWS 3

### EMMY from page 1

the honor of an Emmy Award.

He spent a year working on the production of "First Life with David Attenborough," a nature film which documents Sir David Attenborough's voyage back in time to see how the first animals evolved and how they lived," according to Discovery's Web site. Attenborough is Britain's bestknown maker of natural history films. In producing "First Life," Howard combined standard on-location shots with computer-generated imagery, a challenging medium which requires the producer to commit to production elements before seeing them. Reviewer Brian Lowry said "First Life" also "employs panoramic photography and sweeping music to create a level of excitement that can't quite match the octogenarian Sir David's unbridled enthusiasm."

After his work on "First Life," Howard was pleasantly surprised to receive the Emmy Award, but does not see it impacting his work. Rather than seeking recognition, he prefers to focus on "the value of setting and achieving goals" and encourages Houghton students to do likewise. Howard recently moved to Travel Channel to be Director of Programming and Partnerships but was working as an executive producer for Discovery Channel when he won the award. He lives with his wife Deniz and enjoys renovating and redesigning interior spaces. \*

### HOUGHTON STUDENTS TO PRESENT WORK AT PENN-YORK CONFERENCE

#### by MEGAN HUMMEL

Professor Laurie Dashnau, English, along with senior Renee Roberts and juniors Isabel Sanders and Esther Lee will be traveling to Clarion University, Venango Campus, tomorrow to attend the Penn-York conference.

At the conference, students will present their work and research to fellow students from colleges and universities from New York and Pennsylvania. Presenters will have 15 minutes to present their work and then respond to questions and comments. Roberts, Sanders, and Lee have been preparing for the conference for over a month. Many times, the papers submitted to the conference are papers that were written for previous classes.

Students submitted abstracts, which are short paragraphs describing their papers, on whatever topic they wanted to share with others, as the work that is presented at the Penn-York conference covers a broad range of topics.

"Papers are research-based" said Dashnau. The conference "welcomes undergraduate students and their faculty mentors from all disciplines, including the natural sciences, social and behavioral sciences, applied sciences, nursing and allied health, humanities and business."

Houghton students have participated annually since 2005, which pleases Dashnau. According to her, the Penn York conference is "wonderful practice for graduate school presentations, classroom lectures, and on-the-job informational sessions. Additionally, it is exciting to hear interdisciplinary papers and make such broad connections...something that is rare in most venues. There is so much to be learned from lab reports, formalized interviews, and traditional academic essays."

Roberts will speak at the conference about her paper "Tracing the Tunes: The Progression and Impact of Civil War Music In and After the War," written for her Civil War and Reconstruction class.

"I am excited to present a paper on a topic which fascinates me," said Roberts, who chose this topic because of her love of history and research. "Attending this conference is a good way to prepare for the future. It's a wonderful opportunity to present my research with others and a fantastic way to gain experience for grad school."

Sanders was not the first to jump at writing an abstract and participate in the conference. "I had seen the emails sent inviting students to submit a paper abstract for the conference, but I had just written it off as something I did not have enough time for," she said. "When Dr. Wardwell, my professor I had for a Milton class last fall, told me a should submit my paper I had written for his class, I decided to send an abstract."

Sanders' preparation for the conference required hard work and dedi-

### WHAT IS WORLD CHRISTIANITY, AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?

DANA L. ROBERT, PROMINENT CHRISTIAN SCHOL-AR AND AUTHOR AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY, WHO FOCUSES ON CHRISTIANITY AROUND THE WORLD AND THE HISTORY OF MISSION, WILL CONSIDER THIS QUESTION WITH US DURING THE 2011 WOOL-SEY LECTURES IN THEOLOGY AND CULTURE.

COME HEAR AND INTERACT WITH DR. ROBERT ON MONDAY, NOV. 7 IN WESLEY CHAPEL: 11:30 A.M. CHAPEL SERVICE AND

7:30 P.M. LECTURE WORLD CHRISTIANITY TODAY: TRENDS, CHALLENGES, AND OPPORTUNITIES.

ALTERNATE CHAPEL CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN!

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cation. Her original 17-page paper had to be cut down to seven pages. Sanders hopes to "hear some other interesting papers and presentations and spend the day with two fabulous ladies, Renee and Esther," she said. "This conference will be the first time I've ever presented any of my work,

so I am pretty excited." This year's conference is fairly small, with around 30 participants from various colleges. As Dashnau, Roberts Sanders and Lee prenare

from various colleges. As Dashnau, Roberts, Sanders, and Lee prepare for tomorrow, they look forward to the opportunity to share their research with others.  $\star$  4 | SPORTS & CULTURE

NOVEMBER 4, 2011

# Houghton Hosts "Sounds of Hope"

#### by SHANNON AMES

Last Sunday, Wesley Chapel played host to the "Sounds of Hope" tour. The tour, which features Royal Tailor, Leeland, and Building 429, is sponsored by Food for the Hungry, an international relief and development organization.

The three-fold concert, sponsored by CAB, opened with a performance by Royal Tailor. This up-and-coming band is a delightful blend of pop. rock, R&B. and hip-hop with a sound reminiscent of the music of Bruno Mars and Maroon 5. The band, who met in Bible college, was actually discovered by fellow tourmates Leeland, Before touring, the band spent several months working with youth at their home church in Illinois.

Their passion for young people and love for God was evident in Sunday's performance. Despite being a bit apologetic about their lack of celebrity, they served well as an opening gig, hyping the crowd and setting the atmosphere.

Second to take the stage was Leeland, composed of lead singer Leeland Mooring, his older brother Jack, younger sister Shelly, and Jack, younger sister Shelly, and longtime friend Mike Smith. Sunday's concert was not the first time Leeland has played at Houghton. The band hit the stage just three years ago in the fall of 2008. According to the ginger-haired frontman, the concert in 2008 not only produced an evening of worship and renewal, but it also produced a song. The band wrote "The Door," featured on their record "Love is on the Move" in Houghton's very own Wesley Chapel. Leeland's performance was one of

pure unadulterated worship. Playing a fair mix of old and new music, Leeland offered concert attendees a chance to partake in a session of sincere and raw worship. The band played several songs from their new album, "The Great

Awakening," which greatly exemplified their desire to inspire worship rather than simply perform. A great emphasis was put on the idea of a stagnant Church and the importance and great need for the Church to arise.

Following Leeland's final song "While We Sing," Building 429 frontman Jason Roy came on stage for a shameless plug for the tour's sponsor, Food for the Hungry. While Houghton students are often bombarded with pleas for sponsorship of impoverished third world children, something about this request seemed sincere. Roy spoke of his own previous skepticism of sponsorship programs, claiming that he once thought they were "stupid." Perhaps it was simply a ploy, but it seemed rather believable and quite a few audience members committed themselves to the \$32 a month child sponsorship. Building 429 was the final act of

the show and perhaps for good reason. Their performance evoked excitement from the audience, but not always in the most desirable ways. The band's performance was accompanied by what seemed to be a light show. Bright white lights continually flashed in a strobelike manner, and although the audience was warned about this, there was at least one person that had to leave because of the effect of the lights.

Their first song was also accompanied by giant blow-up balls that were hit back and forth by audience members, which proved to be a bit distracting and apparently grew tiresome because by the second song, the balls were no longer flying through the air.

Overall, Building 429's performance was well-done, though it was just a bit of a change of pace from the previous performances.

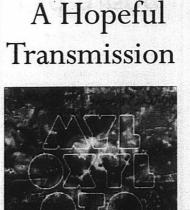
Following the concert, those who



Building 429's strobe-like light effects added excitement to the concert, but proved to be a bit overwhelming for some audience members.

were invited to partake in a "VIP after party," which took place in the music building. This is a time where band members invite fans to hang out and ask any questions they might have. The most entertaining question of the evening asked what the most annoying things band members do on tour (answers ranged from chewing ice to early morning manual coffee grinding).

This informal interview time is something that the bands choose to do while on tour. It proved to be a relaxed time which showed that although their schedules might look different, these men and women are no different than anyone else-annoyed by their roommates and searching for the heart



by DAN SENDKER

Ever since coming to Houghton, there have been a few bands that I've been embarrassed to listen to. Coldplay, Switchfoot, and U2 have always been three of my favorite bands, but they're all "mainstream," and sometimes I feel awkward listening to them when everyone else in college is listening to obscure indie music or dubstep. Yes, yes, I know this is stupid of me. I apologize for having insecurities, but after listening to "Mylo Xyloto," Coldplay's fifth album, I've firmly decided that it is absolutely ridiculous to be embarrassed to listen to Coldplay, because their music, and this album in particular, makes me so happy.

Like most albums, "Mylo Xyloto" could be about any number of things. The band has stated that it's a concept album "based on a love story with a happy ending." In my opinion, calling it concept album" is a bit of a stretch. The story and characters are much more loosely defined here than in other recent concept albums such as the Decemberists' The Hazards of Love" and Green Day's "American Idiot."

The overarching ideas of love and optimism definitely run throughout each song, but it's not syrupy or saccharine. It's more realistic and poignant, acknowledging sadness before directing us to the beauty it can contain. Bittersweet, is still sweet. This is probably best "Captured in the elegant, acoustic ballad "U.F.O.:" "Bullets fly / Split the sky / But that's alright sometimes sunlight comes streaming through the holes."

The song "Mylo Xyloto" is a short instrumental that segues into the song "Hurts Like Heaven," but I honestly can't ever imagine listening to one of these songs without the other. From the brief background vocals to the drill-like guitar solo, this song is full of moments that bring me to the brink of giddiness. It's fast and happy and makes me wish I could dance.

"Paradise" is good but is unfortunately sandwiched between my two favorite songs on the album, so I often skip it. But you should definitely listen to it and watch the music video, because it's pretty funny. "Charlie Brown." Oh my goodness,

"Charlie Brown." This is my favorite song on the album. The instrumentation, the tempo, the melody, the rhythm, the lyrics-everything about it is full of longing and emotion. I've listened to it when I was happy, and it's made me even happier. I've listened to it when I was depressed, and my sadness didn't go away, but became tempered with hope and peace

Read the entire article at www.HoughtonStar.com

# Review: Arensen's Second Release

#### by SHANNON AMES

Professor Jon Arensen, anthropology, recently released a new book "Chasing the Rain," co-authored by Richard Lyth "Chasing the Rain" tells the story of Lado, who was born into the Murle tribe of Sudan in the 1920s, raised within his traditional tribal culture, enslaved as a young man by a nearby tribe, served interpreter to British military, an and who ultimately became a Christian convert and evangelist to his own tribal people. "Chasing the Rain" follows Lado's search to understand and know God from a very young age.

"Part of the purpose of writing the book...is to talk about the traditional God," said Arensen. "Can people reach God within their traditional culture? That is a question that missionaries have fought over for years. I'm leaning to the fact that they can. God can somehow come down and make Himself known to people, and if people truly search for God, God will show Himself in some way." This certainly was true of Lado's story, as testified by Richard Lyth himself, the man responsible for sharing Christ with Lado. According to Lyth's testimony in his own diary as recounted by Arensen, "He didn't convert Lado, he said. Lado already knew God ... Lado was just waiting for me to tell him, and he was ready. God had prepared him

Arensen himself met Lado in 1975, on a linguistic survey of southern Sudan. Arensen was intrigued by Lado, this thin, translation work among the Murle, they took up residence in Lyth's old guest house. Lyth was District Commissioner for this area of Sudan in the 1940s, responsible for keeping peace among the tribes and protecting them from Arab slavers in the north. It was Lyth who first drafted the manuscript telling the story of Lado's life. Arensen later met Lyth in his retirement home in England where Lyth gave him the manuscript he had vritten

Much of Lyth's manuscript was in dialogue form, some of which Arensen admits he had to tone down, as the African tribesman sounded rather strange, speaking to one another in quite proper British English. The anthropology in the manuscript, however, was excellent. Arensen combined it with some of his anthropological knowledge to own create a book with a unique approach to anthropology-the "life story" approach. Arensen explained, "There are very seldom books from the view of the insider. It's always, we're outside saying, These people have these customs.' This book doesn't do that. The anthropology comes through by reading about this kid and what he does every day. It's a way of doing anthropology painlessly." "Chasing the Rain" allows the reader to engage the culture of the Murle through eyes and worldview of one who the

grew up within, and was shaped by, that

'Chasing the Rain" is the first of what will be a trilogy of books by Arensen about the Murle people. "Drinking the Wind," an autobiographical account of Arensen's work among the Murle beginning in the 1970s, is the alreadyreleased third book of the trilogy. Next to be released is the second book, which contains the intriguing story of Richard Lyth, from his journey through WWII and battles waged against the Italians in the African wilderness, to his life as the only white man among the tribes in southern Sudan, and Bishop of Uganda, under whose ministry the Graham" of Africa was trained. This remarkable man somehow balanced his call to ministry and his government work, prompting Arensen to coin a new word to refer to Lyth: the "Comissionary" (a commissioner, accountable to the British government, and missionary, accountable to God).

So how should one describe "Chasing the Rain?"

"In a way it's an anthropology book and in a way it's a Christian book-can't

really peg it either way," said Arensen. Altogether, "Chasing the Rain" provides the reader a fascinating and intriguing glimpse into traditional, tribal life, while also addressing serious themes that will resonate profoundly with all who have grappled with these questions in their search for God.  $\bigstar$ 

purchased merchandise from the bands of God. 🖈

#### frail, old tribesman with bushy white hair and an irrepressible love for God. When he and his wife returned three years culture. later, at Lado's urging, to do mission and

NOVEMBER 4, 2011

## **Baseball Team Prepares** for Spring Season

by NICK FREDETTE

As the Major League Baseball season comes to a close with the finale of the World Series, many Houghton students may not be thinking about baseball again for a while. The Houghton men's baseball team, on the other hand, is in full preparation for this spring. The team, which started back up again this year after several dormant years, is hopeful for the coming season. Coached by Brian Reitnour, the Highlanders will not only look to rebuild, but to be competitive this year. Reitnour has experience coaching at both high school and college levels, coaching at First Assembly Christian School, Messiah College, Geneva College, and Allegheny College. He has been successful at this high level of play and will surely look to continue his success during his time here at Houghton.

While success on the field is certainly a goal of the team, Reitnour is placing priority on development of his players as men of Christ.

## **SPORTS RECAP**

#### FIELD HOCKEY:

WED 10/26 vs Univ. of Rochester - L 1-2 **TUE 11/1** vs SUNY Brockport - L 2-3 in penalty strokes Season Record: 9-4-0 UPCOMING GAMES: FRI 11/4 at Christopher Newport Univ. @ 7PM SAT 11/5 at Liberty Univ. @ 3PM

#### MEN'S SOCCER: **TUE 10/25** vs Daemon College - W 1-0 FRI 10/28 vs Fisher College - W 12-0 Season Record: 5-10-4

#### WOMEN'S SOCCER: FRI 10/28 vs Fisher College - W 10-0 Season Record: 15-3-1

VOLLEYBALL: WED 10/26 vs Alfred - W 25-15, 25-15, 22-25, 22-25, 16-14 FRI 10/28 at NCCAA Regional Tourney, Mt Vernon - L 18-25, 13-25, 15-25 SAT 10/29 at NCCAA Regional Tourney, Mt Vernon - L 17-25, 11-25, 8-25 **TUE 11/1** at Roberts Wesleyan - L 18-25, 15-25, 18-25 Season Record: 5-18 **UPCOMING GAMES:** FRI 11/4 at Point Park @ 4PM at Carlow College @ 8PM SAT 11/5 at Notre Dame College @ 1PM vs Ursuline College @ 3PM All information from

http://athletics.houghton.edu/

"The focus of our program will always be about bigger things-most notably, the idea of building men who are built for others," said Reitnour. "The men in our program are consistently asked to sacrifice individual accomplishments for the betterment of the whole; to give all of themselves for their teammates, families, and community." The The Highlanders will look to grow together as teammates, but more importantly as men

Reitnour has been busy over the past several months recruiting players to build the team and has brought student athletes from all over the and world to play baseball country here at Houghton. These players have already begun to form a tight-knit group, with a few more players from the soccer team joining at the end of their current season. One such player, senior Mitch Weaver, said, "I'm excited to join a team that already has so much chemistry, and I'm looking forward to competing in the spring."

The rest of the players also have high hopes for this season. Junior Jake Kocher was a Houghton student his freshman year, transferred out, and returned to play baseball. He said, "This year's team is a team with great potential to be a competitor in our conference. We had a good but short fall season, ending with a win against Pitt-Bradford. We have a great group of transfers and freshman players who are all quality baseball players and guys.'

The team will travel to Clermont, Florida, at the end of February to play in the NTC Spring Games, where the team will certainly look to be competitive. Both the players and coaching staff are excited to have fellowship, grow together as men, and to win some games along the way. The coaches and players, in Kocher's words, are certainly "working hard to get the new baseball program off on a good foot."\*



Mumford and Sons played in Ontario last month-only a little over two hours away for Houghton students.

## **DIVERSIONS/**CONCERTS

#### by SALLY MURPHY

One thing which I have been aware that Houghton students enjoy for a long time, but never tried until recently, is attending a concert in a city near us. Since Houghton is in between Rochester and Buffalo, we have a great choice of concerts and unumers to choose from Over the venues to choose from. Over the years, I have watched friends drive out to shows by Iron and Wine and the Avett Brothers, which is why this year, when alerted to the fact that some friends wanted to go to another concert, I decided I could not pass up

the opportunity. In addition to Rochester and Buffalo, Houghton is also reasonably close to one of the largest concert venues in Canada—it's called Copps Coliseum, and it can be found Hamilton, Ontario, two hours and 19 minutes away, providing you don't get lost. The stadium seats 19,000

cople, and it is a sight to behold. On October 26, the entire stadium

was sold out for a concert by none other than Mumford and Sons. At least six of those tickets—I have since heard more—were of Houghton students. -were in the hands

The concert was amazing. Mumford played all of their wellknown songs, as well as some which they are currently recording in their native London. Even though their sound more than filled the overjoyed stadium, they still repeatedly apologized for the lack of intimacy stadium, in the cavernous space. As it turns out, this was their first venue of such size, although you would never have guessed it. But we, elated with the sounds of our favorite music and in raptures with being in a space so impressive, could not have asked for anything to be different. The lights, the music, the place,

and most of all the people were what made the concert so amazing. I am so happy that Houghton was close enough for us to brave the trip—even on a school night.

## **AMC Championships for XC Runners**

#### by LYDIA STRAND

Houghton's Tomorrow, Cross country team will send its top runners to compete in the NAIA's American Mideast Conference Championships in St. Louis, Missouri. The chosen athletes will compete against the top runners from 12 other teams from the American Mideast, TranSouth, and Midwest conferences. Seniors Danielle Brenon and Megan Platt; juniors Annelise Hein, Hannah Jennings, Jillian Lewis, and Carly Winstead; sophomore Leah Williams; and freshman Cara Davenport will represent the women's team. The men's team will send seniors Kyle Austin, Stephen Hine, and Ian Gates junior Justin Moser; sophomore David Richards; and freshmen Josiah Durfee and Evan Nichols.

entering post-season Before of the mpetition, the athletes Highlander cross country team have earned top rankings in their conference, led by captains Brenon and Hine. Though close to half of the team is comprised of runners new to Houghton, Coach Matt Dougherty is pleased with the progress ited by the team's contributors and exh said the young team has been "getting out and running in some big meets and

holding [their] own. On October 22, the team traveled to Michigan for the NAIA Great Lakes Challenge Invitational, in which over 500 runners competed—a competition bigger than the upcoming NAIA National Championships. Even so, several Houghton runners placed in the top 100 runners, with Hine finishing 23<sup>rd</sup> in the men's race. Brenon placed fourth

in the women's race. Earlier in the season, September 24. the team ran "exceptionally well" at the home Highlander Invitational, said Dougherty. Hine and Brenon earned the first place titles for the men's and women's races respectively, and the women's team had more women run the 5-kilometer race in less than 21 minutes than ever recorded in Houghton history.

The team's successes thus far have been supported by the individual efforts of runners like Hine and Brenon. Both seniors were named National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) Athletes of the Week in Cross Country after their victories at the Highlander Invitational. In late September, Brenon was also honored as NAIA National Women's Cross Country Runner of the Week. Dougherty, excited about Brenon's performances, said she has

been able to "run against some of the nation's toughest competition and win a few really big races."

The team will need continued effort from those competing as it enters post-season competition. Because the Highlanders will be competing against teams not only from the American Mideast Conference, but also those from the TranSouth and Midwest conferences, the outcome of this weekend's championship is difficult to predict. The men's team will face a relatively "even-leveled playing field," said Dougherty, who continued, "Any one of [the men's teams competing] can win Saturday.'

Hine, too, sees an opportunity to win the conference title if the men's team "step[s] up" to the challenge. The women's team is ranked second in the conference to Roberts Weslevan College. "They're beatable, but we are going to have to be running perfect to beat them," said Dougherty of Roberts. Brenon added, "[W]e have a good shot at sending our entire team to Nationals."

The winning teams for both men and women and the next five fastest individuals at this weekend's conference championships will advance to November 20's NAIA National Championships. ★

SPORTS & CULTURE 5

#### 6 | OPINIONS

NOVEMBER 4, 2011

### Beauty: The Various Meanings of a Universal Truth



by ALICE BROWNING

What is beauty? What does it mean spiritually? What is beauty supposed to be, and what does it look like? Also, how do I know if I have it or how I can attain it? It seems to be what everyone wants. Today, being "beautiful" means "to have status." Beauty can now be measured on a scale. It's according to how much makeup I need to put on or how many compliments I receive on my physique, and the list goes on and on

The quest to be beautiful is one that many people follow. They let it control their lives, dictate what they eat, how they dress, who they befriend, what they say—and who are we trying to impress? Are we trying to express anything or simply meet the standard our culture has defined as "pretty, attractive...beautiful?" That's not beauty. Those actions are characteristic of incompleteness and dissatisfaction while beauty is whole, harmonious.

While teaching English at a discipleship program for young men and women in Laos, "you're beautiful" was a phrase I heard a lot, probably more so than any other time in my life. I was told "You're beautiful" so many times since coming here, but although my skin is white, my hair curly, and stature tall, that doesn't make me beautiful. In a different context my skin might be too white, my hair too frizzy, my size too big, but in Laos I was beautiful. "You're beautiful" is a simple phrase, but when appropriately put, it means the world. Beauty is what we're all after, but not just in the physical sense. Imagine what it is like to have a beautiful spirit, one that reaches out and touches all that it encounters. My smile is not to show off white, straight teeth, but to tell you I am pleased with what I see. My smile tells you that my spirit has been blessed by what I have encountered.

"You're beautiful" is not "you're cute." Cute can only be confined to a shallow definition, while beauty has oceans of meaning. One day while volunteering to do some construction with the fellows from the school, covered in paint, sweat, and dirt, a specific, sweet Lao student named Sang said to me, "Ah, beautiful!" And, trust me, they knew more English than that, and I knew better than to think my physical appearance that appealing. Bending beside them, trying to be helpful was beautiful to them. When I see an action of service, simply given, I see beauty. When I return a smile or a handshake, or a comment of mutual respect I feel and know beauty in that other person. "You're beautiful" is not just a compliment; it is a form of regard of touching and exchanging good will.

We have always been told that beauty is not just skin deep. Beauty is more than aesthetics; it has to be. Aesthetic beauty is defined differently from culture to culture. Beauty is definitely in the eye of the beholder. What is it that makes me beautiful in every context, cross-culturally? Conversely, is it important to ask what it is that makes me ugly? Is it simply the attitude I have? Or the degree of goodness and purity I carry in my soul?

God created the world, and everything that He made was good. He is the definition of good, an essential characteristic to love. Love must be good, so then everything in the world which is good points to love and holds of God.

St. Augustine, in "On the Trinity," said: "We behold, then, by the sight of the mind, in that eternal truth from which all things temporal are made, the form according to which we are, and according to which we do anything

by true and right reason, either in ourselves, or in things corporeal; and we have the true knowledge of things, thence conceived, as it were as a word within us, and by speaking we beget it from within; nor by being born does it depart from us. And when we speak to others, we apply to the word, remaining within us, the ministry of the voice or of some bodily sign, that by some kind of sensible remembrance some similar thing may be wrought also in the mind of him that hears-similar, I say, to that which does not depart the mind of him that speak And this word is conceived by love, either of the creature of the Creator, that is, either of changeable nature of unchangeable truth."

Beauty is a reflection of Christ in all of us. Christ is the Word, the truth, and because we were made in his image we echo His beauty. God is a creative being. He not only created the entire world, but people who are creative beings. Beauty cannot be measured. It can only be discovered in whatever we create, in whoever we are. Through our feelings, thoughts, and actions; through our ability to mirror the love of Christ, we are beautiful.

Alice is a junior political science maior

## The Penultimate Word / We Are Going To Be Okay



by ELISA SHEARER

Cynicism about the economy, the job market, and basically anything "outside of the Houghton bubble" (not to mention Houghton itself, the bubble, etc. etc.) is inappropriately and lazily fashionable right now, I think. Not that I'm foolish enough to say that the aforementioned institutions have nothing wrong with them; it's just that the default conversation seems to too often involve predictions of our gloomy, futureless futures.

We are some of the most privileged people in the world right now, economically and situationally. We are at a private college, we have enough food to eat, we have clean water to drink and somewhere warm to sleep, and many of us have the amazing fortune of being able to rely on at least temporary financial assistance from our relatives if we really needed it.

And no, that doesn't mean life isn't hard. Living is hard. If you are living, you are going to experience hardship. The only way to avoid difficulty is to avoid life. (Feel free to rephrase this for yourself until you get the idea.) Just because we are incredibly fortunate does not mean we avoid discomfort; if we think that some level of financial or situational blessing will assuage all of our physical and emotional pain, we are sadly mistaken. I don't think we're guaranteed happiness. I do think that we have been given ample resources to construct a stable and joyful existence, however, and I think that it might be healthy to occasionally reflect upon that fact with a simple and unaffected sense of baffled gratitude.

We are the kids who have made it through four years of a difficult school. We are the students who have been groomed not only to succeed academically but to operate professionally. We've been taught textbooks worth of information and, more importantly, a work ethic-the emotional benefits of which you can discount if you like but which does, it cannot be denied, set one up rather nicely for social and eco-nomic success (in the West at least). We read nonfiction and enjoy it sometimes Most of us will never be homeless. Almost all of us have some sort of skill that we cultivate for no career-oriented reason. We have had the opportunity to have relationships which, while they may not last forever, will definitely affect us for the rest of our lives. We have had the opportunity to learn the importance of caring for other people and the complexities of doing so. We have learned that sometimes we are wrong, that sometimes our opinions matter and (possibly most importantly) that sometimes they don't.

And yeah, going from Houghton (or any college) into the Real World is going to be difficult—it will be a change, and a rather shocking one for many of us. But I think most of us will thrive on the opportunity to do work for money, after four years of floundering in abstract work while paying lots of money to do so (yes, in the long term this makes sense, but when you are writing a paper at 3 in the morning and think to yourself that this is costing you your life's savings, the logic of the situation is hard to articulate).

I'm not suggesting that we become

complacent, or that we lose our passion for [whatever our passion is] and our futures. I don't think that's likely to happen to most of us, anyway. But when the terror of post-graduation be-comes paralyzing, I think it might be helpful to remember that we are all rather intelligent, capable, ingenuous people. We might get a job the summer after we graduate that has nothing to do with our major, but we will know to be thankful for a job, and we will be able to do it to the best of our overqualified abilities. And we might not be able to achieve whatever two-dimensional ideal of living we hold in our heads (I'm an English major, so for most of my friend group this involves "a cab-in in the woods somewhere" and lots

### Letters to the Editor

#### houghtonstar@gmail.com

#### Dear Editor,

Upon picking up the October 21 issue of The Star I was pleased to see an article dedicated to Alex Glover and his first album. He's a talented musician, and it's cool that The Star is dedicating space to the accomplishments of chumei

What really got my attention, though, was the contrast between this article and the one that appeared a few weeks ago, "The Drawing Board Releases 100th Issue, Commemorative Book."

It's not just the difference in size (something like 300 words), since I do understand the factor that layout presents. What I'm talking about is the apparent level of attention The Star gave to the two projects.

Alex told me that he was interviewed

of books and wine and maybe facial hair), but I think we have the resources to find joy and a sense of potency in whatever work is at hand, whether it be academic work or scraping by for a few years at a job for which we are wholly overqualified.

We have the self-respect to work diligently whatever that work might be. And that is why I think that we can breathe a little when we see our diploma order forms in our mailboxes. Because I think we underestimate our own ability to thrive.

Elisa is a senior English and psychology major

via email, which makes sense since he's not on campus. However, I was interviewed by email as well, on the day the article was due. Mitch Galusha (who wrote the article) told me he had been asked to write it the day before. All of this occurred a week after the book's launch.

I understand that running a publication is difficult. While I run The Drawing Board I admit that it's nothing compared to handling a number of different writers and articles each week. That said, as someone who has written several articles for The Star and will probably do so in the future, I can't help but feel disappointed. The attention given to a publication that I spent the majority of my summer on-- a fifty-some page book that spanned years of Houghton College student achievement-- was expressed in an email with questions like," What would you like people to read about it in the Star?"

**CONTINUED** on page 7

NOVEMBER 4, 2011

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK / Certainty: A Christian Fallacy



by ANDRÉ NELSON

by ANDRÉ NELSON Over the last couple of weeks that have touched on the issue of sexual activity and the Christian approach to this dialogue. Naturally this caused many responses, one of which brought up the notion that "opinions can be almost indescribably harmful." The writer of this response stated that the arguments presented in the "sex talks" were based on opinion rather than fact and that these opinions ran contrary to this community's beliefs. He concluded that "the arguments presented may cause confusion and lead to a 'stumble' in their personal lives." The article ended with the warning to not "run the risk of loosing yourself in other's beliefs, simply because college is supposed to about opening your mind." Twill not be addressing personal beliefs about the sexual discourse. The purpose of this article is neither to attack anyone's faith nor to be a stumbling block. I'm only suggesting that we should not fear doubt and questioning ones faith cannot jeopardize truth. On the

doubt and questioning ones faith cannot jeopardize truth. On the

#### CONTINUED from page 6

I really am glad that The Star was able to highlight "No. 104" and all of the work Alex put into it; the achievements of Houghton students deserve to be acknowledged by their peers. What I wish is that equal regard was given to the forty or so students (and one professor) who have contributed to The Drawing Board over the years.

-Evan Yeong, class of 2012

contrary, they only serve to legitimize it.

contrary, they only serve to legitimize it. Tertainty in our faith is unfounded. Deam Nelson, the director of the Neuralism program at Point Loma Nazarene University, wrote about John Polkinghorne, a physicist who became a priest. Polkinghorne is a world class physicist with a PhD in physics from Cambridge University, was knighted by the queen for his work in the development of ethical research standards, was the president of Queens' College, is a member of the Royal society, won the Templeton Prize and wrote over 30 books on the relationship of Faith and Science; essentially, the an is a genius, yet he maintains that Polkinghorne studied quarks, are essential component of matter yet completely invisible. Steven Weinberg, a Nobel Prize winning physicist states "we don't believe in quarks because we ve seen them. We believe in quarks in them work." Polkinghorne has not seen God anymore than he has seen quarks yet he left his studies in this one unseen reality to attend seminary where he studied another unseen reality because, as Dean Nelson wrote, "for him the theories that have God in them work. But he doesn't really know "for him the theories that have God in them work. But he doesn't really know for sure. And he's ok with that."

for sure. And he's ok with that." Certainty in our faith is not only factually unfounded, it is dangerous. Certainty prevents potential for growth, if the beliefs are unfounded to begin with. In John Patrick Shanley's play "Doubt: a parable," a nun suspects a priest of having an inappropriate relationship with a young male student. From the beginning, she is certain of his guilt and refuses to question, despite having no evidence. Her certainty destroys his reputation and certainty destroys his reputation and she vows to not stop at anything until

a black-and-

white-issue.

he resigns. In this, the play illustrates the dangers of certainty. Stubborn, close minded persons cannot see truth. The jihadist who straps a bomb to his body is just as certain of his salvation as any Christian; his certainty hurts those around him and prevents him from discovering truth. The atheist who plugs her ears at the sound of the name 'lesus' is no different than the Christian who does not consider differing points of view. The atheist will grow no closer to discovering the truth than the close. The foot the target target target the target target the target targe

to discovering the truth than the close minded Christian. The fact that a L o s i n g ourseives in others' beliefs is not a risk. The true risk is refusing to admit that we have no such thing as certainty. While some may think that confessing a lack of certainty is denying their faith, 1 firmly believe that "Doubt can be a bond as powerful as Certainty." It is in questioning that our faith is possibility of error. Li Losing doctrine upheld

as Certainty. It is in questioning that our faith is legitimized, it is in doubting that we can grow. In Alfred Lord Tennyson's words, "There lives more faith in honest doubt, Believe me, than in half the creeds."

the creeds." On examining the benefit of doubt, C. S. Lewis remarks, "If ours is an examined faith, we should be unafraid to doubt. If doubt is eventually justified, we were believing what clearly was not worth believing. But if doubt is answered, our faith has grown stronger. It knows God more certainly and it can enjoy God more deeply." and it can enjoy God more deeply." Differing opinions and religious

then what I was believing

was not worth believing and I will be one step closer to truth.

Universal not lay in mass appeal. The fact that the fact that a doctrine established by the Church in the 5th century is upheld by this community not exclude the

possibility of error. Listen to opinions, question your opinions, and doubt. Don't be afraid of losing yourself in others' beliefs, becaus as Christians we are asking the world to do the same. This is a stage in our life in which we are establishing our own faith, a feat that is impossible without the practice of doubting.

> Lipscomb Faculty Adviser

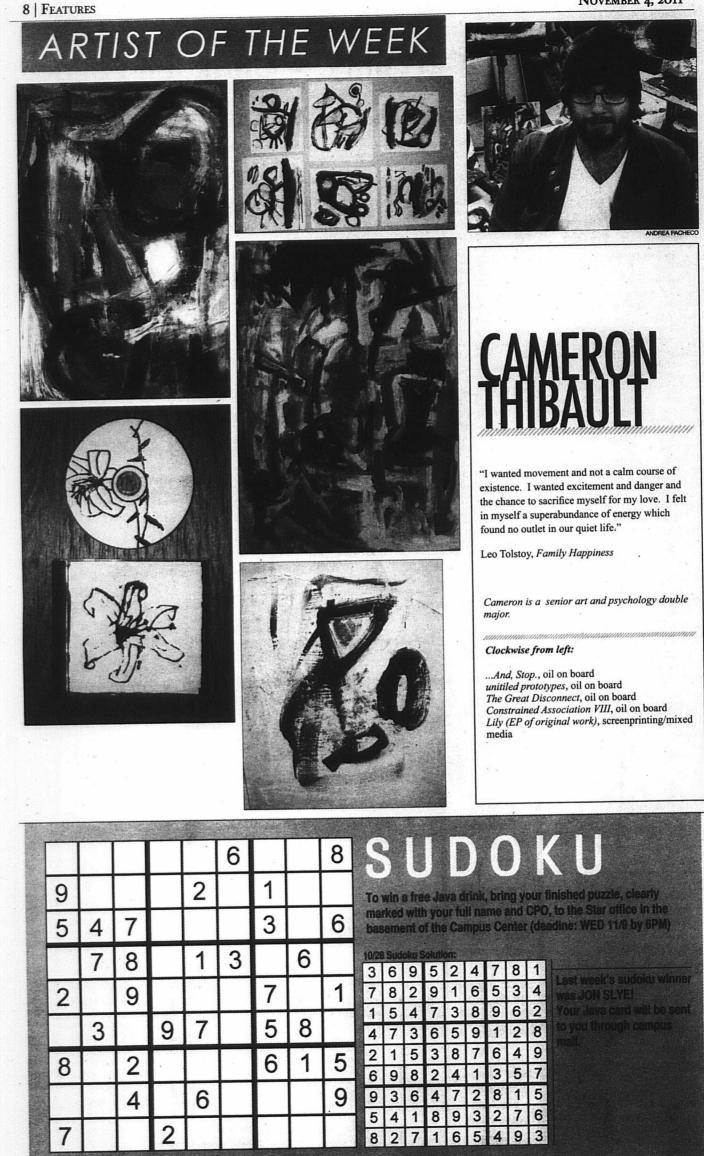
Out of 39 vote

André is a sophomore communication major

How do YOU feel about Star Staff premarital sex at houghton 2011-2012 college? Kristen Palmer The issue Editor-in-Chief could not 31% Sarah Hutchinson be more News Editor clear-cut: it is wrong. Erin Carr Sports and Culture Editor It is morally Do you drink Elisa Shearer wrong, but it's **Opinions** Editor (alcohol) on not the Col-31% lege's job to André Nelson campus? enforce it. Managing Editor Luke Doty Sex is a good Web Editor thing, and 23% there should Andrea Pacheco Vote in Photo Editor be more of it. this week's **Bailie Ohlson Business Manager** poll at don't know, but it's not **Prof. Susan Bruxvoort** 15% www.houghtonstar.com

**OPINIONS** 7

NOVEMBER 4, 2011



No.