

# The Houghton Star



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## Singin' in the Rain

"It's raining again. Ho hum. Another typical day of Houghton weather."

The minute you decided to come to Houghton College you assigned yourself to the cold, chill rain-forest of the United States, a place where snow and winter linger on, where we never see spring until we go back home. All in all, most Houghton students find enough depressing things to say about Houghton weather, and enough of our days are ruined by the effect the weather has on our minds. Houghton weather is one of the greatest trials most Houghton College students face. It makes us grumpy and depressed, helps us do poorly on exams, and generally gives us a bad time.

Perhaps you think I am overplaying the problem of "bad" weather, and perhaps I am, but my stretching of the problem is intended to emphasize a point. We let weather affect us too much in a negative way, and we must do something about it. I know a way we can conquer the trial of weather; be overcomers. It is something that we should use often in a place like Houghton.

The key is to enjoy weather. I did not say any kind of weather; I said weather. Whatever comes, enjoy it. Think back to your childhood. You enjoyed the rain, splashing in the puddles, and you enjoyed running through the snowflakes and rolling in the snow. It was only as we grew up that we learned to dislike weather, usually because our parents would not let us go out in the rain (for fear we would catch a cold), or bundle us up so tight that we could not enjoy ourselves in cold weather. To regain that awe and wonder at weather, that is the key to overcoming the trial that rain and cold are to our state of mind.

Weather is the master of too many minds. But weather is not the only thing that we let affect us in such a negative way. We allow circumstances to enslave us: we are not free. In one of the freest nations on earth most of the people are slaves to their circumstances. We need to learn that

freedom does not come solely from an absence of dictators. In fact, political freedom is one of the lesser forms of freedom. Victor Frankl, in describing his experiences in a German concentration camp, lived when many other men died because he learned that "One's ultimate freedom is the ability to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances." The apostle Paul also affirmed this fact as the proper attitude of the Christian when he said "for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content," (Philippians 4:11).

Quite obviously the freedom to choose our own attitude in any given set of circumstances contains the danger to choose the wrong attitudes. But to live our lives without choosing our attitudes (or, more properly, without letting Christ choose our attitudes) is to be a craven slave, instead of a worthy steward. Take control away from circumstances; learn to be content.

Respectfully yours,

Jonathan Robords Lightfoot



"THAT'S RIGHT, MR. REAGAN... IN A GOOD FAITH MOVE TOWARD ARMS REDUCTION WE JUST TOOK 16 NUCLEAR BALLISTIC MISSILES OUT OF SERVICE!"

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The Houghton Star is a weekly publication representing the voice of the students of Houghton College. The Star encourages thought, discussion, and the free exchange of opinion; but the opinions and ideas expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Star or of Houghton College or the editors. The Star encourages signed letters to the editor, however, the editor reserves the right to edit all contributions. All letters for inclusion must be submitted by 9:00 a.m. Tuesday. The Star subscribes to the Washington Post Writer's Group and Tribune Media Services.

## Elsewhere...

by Sharon Wittemann

**Washington, D.C.**— Despite US denials, doubts have been raised that resupply operations to Nicaraguan rebels can work without the help of the CIA. The Reagan administration has denied any connection with a private effort designed to sustain the six year Contra war against Nicaragua's Sandinista government. The capture of Eugene Hasenfus, surviving crew member of a cargo plane privately supplying the Contras, highlights concern over possible illegal US ties to the supply operation.

**Haines, Alaska**— Alaskans are enthusiastic about the autumn gathering of up to 4,000 eagles along the Chilkat River, just outside the community of Haines. Traditionally labeled by Alaskan natives as the "Council Grounds" this small stretch of river and a late salmon run attract eagles from all over Canada and Alaska every autumn. Al Gilliam, a lobbyist for the preserve supports limited human access to the park, stressing its purpose as "an eagle preserve not a people park."

**London, England**— Britain welcomed the Bolshoi ballet recently, which presented a glimpse of the Russian company's talent to be displayed next year in the United States. The company, under the artistic director Yuri Grigorovich, is acclaimed among British critics for its dedication, drive and pride in its work. The company is composed of 100 dancers, four full-length ballets, and a three-act divertissement program.

**Texas**— Rising Mexican inflation and valuable US dollars will continue to lure illegal aliens across the southern border of the United States. Tougher laws currently under consideration in Congress are not seen as a solution to the problem. Mexicans, when asked why they do not wish to immigrate to the US respond by saying the US is "hedonistic, modern, liberated, and un-Catholic."

**Boston, Mass.**— The Mets and the Red Sox battle it out this week in an exciting World Series match-up. This distinctive aspect of American culture tranfixes millions of people annually and this year is certainly no exception. At the time of this writing the Red Sox led 2 games to 1.

**Washington, D.C.**— Hope for an arms control agreement between the world's superpowers has now shifted to Geneva. The chief and most controversial subject may well be President Reagan's Star Wars defense system. However, despite sweeping Soviet proposals, the Reagan administration refuses to offer SDI as a bargaining chip.

All 25 Soviet diplomats expelled by the US must be out of the country by Sunday... Elie Wiesel was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his commitment to human dignity... Both Labour and Conservative parties are beginning preparations for an election in Britain, perhaps as early as next year... Soviet authorities have reported an expected grain harvest of well below the desired amount, 191 to 196 million tons versus 239 million tons planned... A toxic red tide threatens to close all Texas beaches. Seafood sales are down 90%... GM is pulling out of South Africa.

Certain women should be  
struck regularly like gongs  
— Noel Coward

## FMF Conquest 38

by David Howell  
and Patricia Uleskey

FMF (Foreign Missions Fellowship) is holding their 38th Annual Mission Conquest Week on Nov. 3-7. Richard Pocock will be the chapel speaker for the week.

Besides chapel in the mornings, there will be evening services at 7:00 in Wesley Chapel. In order to encourage participation in the Conquest service, class prayer meetings on Tuesday night and the Houghton Wesleyan Church mid-week service will be cancelled. Evening services will include "spots" by mission representatives about missions in specific fields of education, medicine, translation, tent making, and church

planting. Music for the evening services will be provided by Malachi on Tuesday night. On Thursday night, Cornerstone will sing and on Friday night Rob and Wendy Jacobson will lead and share singing. There will be offerings taken on Wednesday night and Thursday morning to help cover the costs of Conquest Week.

In addition to the guest speaker, thirteen mission boards will be represented on campus. Mission board representatives will be staying in community homes, sharing testimonies in classes and evening chapels, and speaking to students about their experiences on the mission field.

## Forum Focuses On Nicaragua

By Ned Farnsworth  
and Cathy Stoner

A group of seven Houghton students recently shared their thoughts during a public forum that focused on Central America, particularly Nicaragua. The students and Professor Ray Horst wanted to promote discussion as well as a better understanding of the region.

Terri Bascom, Ciana Bennett, Ned Farnsworth, Matt Hess, Bob Morrison, Wade Patterson, and Professor Horst have visited Central America during Mayterm trips that included stops in Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Horst arranged the itinerary and accompanied the students during the excursions, one of which occurred in 1984; the other took place this past May. During the trips the groups studied the culture, politics, and economy of Central America. In Costa Rica they lived with separate families; in Nicaragua they stayed at a guest house.

To introduce the forum, held on October 13, Horst briefly outlined two presuppositions: one, that no one sitting on the panel, and probably no one from the audience, wanted to see Soviet-style communism as the system of government in Nicaragua; and two, that Christians view the situation differently than non-followers of

Christ. Following the introduction, panel members shared experiences from their visits to Central America. Topics ranged from the reactions to United States' travellers to the positive and negative results of the Sandinista revolution. Highlights included the panel's recalling interviews with persons who hit the news this past summer. For example, students spoke with one of the editors of the opposition newspaper, *La Prensa*, in Nicaragua. On June 26, 1986, less than a month after the Mayterm visitors returned, the Sandinista government closed *La Prensa*. It remains closed. The group also interviewed Monsignor Pablo Antonio Vega, one of five bishops in Nicaragua. In June, newspapers reported that the Sandinistas expelled Vega, following his meeting with Contra leaders in Miami.

The forum ended after the panel entertained questions from the audience. Dr. Brian Sayers moderated the discussion. Although the issues regarding Nicaragua are neither simplistic nor the answers clear-cut, greater awareness of the situation is imperative. Houghton's recent public forum provided one such opportunity.

# Fine Arts

## Rose Does Houghton

HCP—Internationally acclaimed American pianist Jerome Rose will perform in his first Houghton College concert October 24 at 8 p.m. in Wesley Chapel.

"Musicality and sensitivity buttressed with a first-rate intellect," enthused *The New York Times* of Rose, who spent his early years studying with students of Josef Lhevinne and Egon Petri in California. Rose debuted with the San Francisco Symphony at the age of fifteen and subsequently was invited by Rudolf Serkin to study at Marlboro.

At Mannes College of Music, Rose studied with Leonard Shure before doing graduate work at the Juilliard School and in Vienna on a Fulbright Fellowship. Some 20 years ago Rose won the Busoni Competition in Italy. In 1982, he was artistic director of London's International Festival on the Romantic Movement in the Arts.

Rose's repertoire spans Russian, Viennese and German traditions of late Romantic pianism which he has performed with remarkable power, depth and fire with such orchestras as the London Symphony, Royal Philharmonic, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, and Houston Symphony. *The London Times* hails him as possessing "natural musicianship wedded to a keen intelligence," while the *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin* says his music "flows with precision and purpose."

Last summer Rose performed with the Houston Symphony Orchestra under Segui Commissiona and was director of the Franz Liszt Centennial Conference and Celebration held in Washington, DC. Notable among his extensive recordings is a project for Vox encompassing the Liszt solo piano repertoire.



by Jacqueline Solange

*I behold lovely the hue of the bud  
Passionate red, all glory in flaming  
Burning scarlet, bright as the Savior's blood,  
Love apparent, stands desire for taming,*

*I have caressed these soft petals of lust,  
Intensely emersed, with passion delight,  
Ecstasy, rapture converted to trust,  
Swelling gentleness in morning's late night*

*Suddenly, quietly, I hear each sound  
Lovers embracing in their tender youth  
Beautiful petals fall softly to ground  
True feelings emerge in sensitive truth*

*Perhaps the true test of fleshly pleasures  
Just how much love, in passion, time measures*

## Faculty Exhibit Art

by Linda Hess

The present Faculty Art Show in Wesley Chapel Gallery is a combined display of the art department. It is a chance to see their work and get to know the professors and the media they work in. The show demonstrates depth in the three major areas of art — printmaking, painting, and sculpture (ceramics). It represents a small sampling of the larger body of their work.

Professor Baxter's series represents some of his work in porcelain. He is interested in the relationship between the exterior surface, color, and the form of the vessel. He is concerned here with the shape and function of the object. He uses strong color with this series. Baxter is a skilled craftsman with clay and this is evident in his objects on display.

Professor Benett's non-objective artwork represents the reverie in our minds as we drift from focus to non-focus while reading a book. His work is an attempt to convey how our minds work as a stream of consciousness. Benett works in a variety of medias, all of which are important to him. He is proficient in many areas,

especially in printmaking.

Professor Murphy's work is influenced by literature. This is not a direct influence, but rather his work is fashioned in the way which literature conveys ideas. He finds and uses images that have a hidden narrative which may or may not be clear. Murphy's images reflect our awareness of time and space, can capture moments (such as the painting of Nancy reading) — in a sense suspending time. His work is done in oil on canvas and watercolor.

All of the art faculty show their work in regional and national shows. Their seriousness as artists, not just instructors is shown by the work in the gallery and by the fact that they are producing artists. They hope to communicate this seriousness to their students. If you haven't been down to see the show, be sure to see it before October 30.

A new show is going up the first week in November. Nick Blosser of Ohio and Jim Linehan currently living in Maine will be showing their work. There will be a reception on November 21 at 7:00 p.m. prior to the Artist Series.



## Hear New Harpsichord

Harpsichordist Colin Tilney of Toronto will play the dedicatory concert on a new Willard Martin French double harpsichord in Wesley Chapel at 8:00 p.m., October 29.

Tilney, who has performed throughout Europe, Canada, and the US and made recordings for Deutsche Grammophon, Argo and EMI Electrola, will play selections by Scarlatti, J.S. Bach, Byrd and Rameau.

The public is invited to attend free of charge.

*Dance, dance dance, little lady,  
Life is fleeting  
To the rhythm beating  
In your mind*

— Noel Coward

# Sports

## 198 and Counting!



"Mark Hillis plays ball-boy and Mark Ashley 'just flips!'"

On Tuesday, October 21, Houghton hosted Nazareth College and obliterated them 4-1.

With two minutes remaining in the first half, senior Greg Gidman scored the Highlanders first goal, giving them a real boost.

Nazareth came back early in the second half and scored with a head ball. Houghton challenged them with Danny Meade scoring the second goal with an assist from Gidman. When a Nazareth player tried to pull down Jim Cook in the penalty box, Houghton was awarded a penalty kick which Cook successfully achieved.

Late in the game, Keith Davie passed the ball to freshman Steve Mouw who tipped the ball over the goalie's head and scored the Highlander's final goal.

Gidman played exceptionally. Player depth helped in the victory. Coach

Burke felt that the men/boys played the best game of the season. This game was the 198th win for Coach Burke's career.

The previous Saturday, the Highlanders took on St. John Fisher in Rochester. Houghton came out strong and Gidman scored fairly early in the first half. Fisher caught up in the second half, scoring after a few minutes. Cook scored the Highlander's winning goal, from a ball deflected off a defender, into the lower left hand corner.

The defense played an excellent game. It was good to see Matt Hess back in the line-up. The final score was 2-1.

The team is eager to see the return of Mike Gish and hope to see Mark Estep too!

## Bonabi Returns For Dumbo!

by Cathy Stoner

Forfeiting Houghton's Homecoming festivities for a day on the road, the women's volleyball team travelled to Pitt-Bradford on Saturday, October 11 to play in a 6-team round-robin. Accompanying the team were Lisa (Leth-Steensen) Vogan, subbing for Coach Wendy Jacobson, and the team's long-awaited new uniforms.

The girls made the best of their day off-campus by ravaging their competition in 10 straight games to win top honors in the tourney. Wins came against Pitt-Bradford (15-6, 15-6), St. Vincent (15-4, 15-8), and second place Westminster (15-3, 15-7). Houghton also stunned the Keuka team once again (15-5, 15-4) and downed the day's biggest loser, La Roche (15-6, 15-10).

These five victories raised the Highlanders' record to 14-8, finally above the 60% required for participation in District competition. As it turned out, the girls had their Ponderosa and ate it too. They returned to Houghton in time to catch "Dumbo" and the Senate Spot.

Adding to its six-match winning streak, the Houghton women's volleyball team swept another tri-match on Wednesday the 15th at Roberts Wesleyan. The girls defeated the

host team 15-10, 9-15, 15-11, and levelled D'Youville's women 15-5, 15-10, raising their record to 16-9 and making Bonabi a very happy bear.

The Highlanders continued their dazzling performances on an 18 hour trip to the Fredonia Tourney on Saturday the 18th. Despite slow starts in the first two matches of pool play, Houghton's women wore their as yet undefeated uniforms to rally over Penn St.-Behrend (8-15, 15-5, 15-11) and Fredonia (6-15, 15-0, 15-9). D'Youville then tasted defeat by Houghton hands for the second time in four days as they lost 15-4, 15-3.

But all good things must come to an end, and as Bonabi the team mascot sat pouting on the bench, the lady volleyballers ended their 11 match victory surge by losing a hard-fought three-game match to St. Bonny in the championship bracket. Another victory over Fredonia (15-9, 4-15, 15-13) secured Houghton a third place finish behing Gannon and St. Bonaventure. The team comes away with a satisfying 20-9 record, calculated by experts to all but ensure Houghton a berth in the Oct. 24, 25 NCCAA Regional Tournament to be played on their home court this year.



"Ndunge"

## Cross Country

by Paul Allen

On Saturday, October 14, the Houghton College women's harriers journeyed to the Roberts Wesleyan Cross Country Invitational. Competing with a mere four runners, the women pulled together and finished a strong third place. Roberts won the meet, placing four of their runners in the top ten.

Marci Skiff won the 5,000 meter run in a time of 20:27.3. Freshman Pam Bigham, a native of Chad, Africa, ran her fastest time of the year placing 11th with a 23:47. She was followed closely by Lisa Strand in 15th (25:07), and Katerina Bravos in 18th (26:19). Coach Mike Raybuck was delighted with such a good showing: "We were missing our second and third runners and the women still took third." The women Highlanders have only one remaining meet, NCCAA Districts at Baptist Bible on October 25. Let's wish our team lotsa luck at Districts and congratulations on a winning season!

The individual playing of several ladies has helped turn things around. Dee Smith has been outstanding in goal, the defense has gotten tougher and the play of Sue Stephens, Patty Reichert, and Shannon Martin has anchored the midfield. If Houghton wins its remaining games, the ladies will qualify for post-season play.

## Women Win

The lady Highlanders were 0-8-1 not too long ago and the season was all but over. All of a sudden the ladies have won five in a row.

The streak began against Elmira with a 3-1 victory, followed by a close 3-2 win at Buffalo State. The next game was a homecoming cakewalk over Daemen College, 7-0. Last Saturday, the women continued with a close 1-0 decision at Roberts with Kelly Schoonmaker getting the winner ten minutes from the end. On Monday, Fredonia was Houghton's third consecutive shut-out, 2-0. Pat Cooney scoring the winning goal.

# Opinion

## A Piece On Peace

Dear Editor,

I would like to add to the comments on "Paid for with Blood," raising the question, where would Jesus stand on this issue?

I think Christians often fall into a trap where, in seeking to imitate Christ, we seek peace from war at all costs. This may be because the world has deceived us into thinking that freedom from war is the peace Christ spoke of. In John 14:27, Jesus said, "My peace I give to you, not as the world gives, do I give to you." He spoke of peace we can know in our hearts only when we yield our lives to Him. Today our world still cries for peace, but it is different than what Christ offers today.

God calls us to defend the powerless (Isa. 1:17), even rescuing them from their oppressors (Jer. 22:3). Solzhenitsyn in "The Gulag Archipelago" said that part of the reason Stalin was able to murder millions in Russia was that people didn't stand up to him. When a situation calls for it, we must face reality and recognize that although there are great costs in facing wickedness, it must be done. This will sometimes mean going to war, and killing people. (In the Old Testament there are many instances of God using war to end wickedness.)

Am I saying "USA, right or wrong, love it or leave it?" Far from it. We need to work within our political and military institutions to ensure our nation does act as much as possible in a righteous way. (As a twelve year naval veteran, I have seen many positive changes when Christians stood up for what is right.)

Back to the core question. Could it be possible our Christ would support killing the wicked? If this is possible, how do we fit it into our concept of the Lamb of God? We must look beyond Christ's passive acceptance at Calvary, to His other side. It was this same Christ that used a whip in the temple, whose eyes are like a flame of fire, and who in a robe dipped in blood shall offer the flesh of his slain enemies to birds (Rev. 19). Inconsistent? No, merely a different facet.

When Christ called us to follow Him, He knew it would be difficult. On this touchy issue, I believe God would have us to be willing to do what

needs to be done, even at the cost of our lives (John 15:13). Will this mean we may not get along with some because of our unpopular stand? Yes, but conflict for Christians is nothing new. Jesus made that clear when He said "Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword (Matt. 10:34)."   
 Rod McIntyre

## Miller Highlights Disgust

Jonathan:

I'm writing to express my disgust with your September 26 editorial, "Paid For With Blood."

You stated that although you find war "useless and wasteful," if "there must be war... let it be now." You also stated you were "shocked" that your friend could advocate preferring someone else facing "the danger," that it went "against your sense of justice." You asserted that letting others die in your place would be shirking your "duty," and expressed your willingness to "bear the brunt of it," should war come about, because if persons aren't willing to fight, we'll lose our freedom, and "all that goes with it."

Unfortunately, Jonathan, there is a war going on, right now, in a country called Nicaragua, between so-called "freedom fighters" and the Sandinista government. And what's more, the U.S. government is fighting this war by proxy... actually letting others do the fighting. And our government's rationale for this cowardice? Why, because the Sandinista government poses a threat to the security of her Latin American neighbors, and ultimately to U.S. national security, i.e., our freedom as a nation. Since the Reagan Administration and others feel the Sandinistas pose a threat now to the U.S. and it's freedom, and since our government is stooping to hiring others to do our fighting for us, you must be "shocked" that our nation could be involved in such an unjust activity. What would you advocate in this instance, Jonathan? Stopping the U.S. support of the "freedom fighters" altogether, or doing the "Christian" thing and do our own fighting, sending in U.S. troops to slaughter and be slaughtered?

I'm encouraged that you and others are praying for peace. Prayers that

Christians all over the world closely examine the life and teachings of Christ as they consider their roles in helping to resolve these conflicts are indispensable. His commands for us to love our enemies, to pray for those who maltreat us, along with His refusal to inflict pain or defend Himself are particularly distinctive in light of the violence and killing rationalized by so many others in this age who are ignorant of or refuse to accept His teachings.

Sincerely,  
Robert L. Miller

a change in the world around me.

You seem to suggest that the way to make a difference in the world is to become politically active. I recommend this with all my heart. But, it bothers me that in the middle of your last paragraph you included "our personal ministry to the poor and the destitute, and our spreading the gospel" as important aspects of changing the world. I hope I'm wrong, Mr. Lightfoot, but I sense that this line was added as an afterthought to your editorial.

Two thousand years ago, God took 12 men, spent three years with them, and then told them to go and change the world. They must have done something right because a few years ago I felt the effects of their ministry. Two thousand years. That's a long time to be feeling the effects of a changed world.

I always wondered why Jesus Christ wasn't born in a political center like Rome. It seems to me that maybe he went about things a little backwards. I guess it's probably because Christ thought that the journey to Rome began by hanging on a cross.

You know what, Mr. Lightfoot? Maybe I do know how to go about changing the world. Maybe it starts by my being sensitive to the people around me. Maybe, just maybe, it might involve my taking the time to care about people and to become involved in their lives.

The only way to change a nation is by changing the hearts of the people in that nation. This could be the real meaning of serpent wisdom. I know of no other way to change people's hearts but by loving those around me. Respectfully and as a Brother in Christ,

Steven G. Chance

## Chance on Changes

Dear Mr. Lightfoot:

I read with great interest your editorial entitled "Why Be Merely Harmless?" published in the October 10 issue of *The Star*. I must agree wholeheartedly with your idea of serpent wisdom. After all, this concept is taken straight from Scripture, and we both know that Scripture is never taken out of context. I like the idea of serpent wisdom. I'm just not quite as sure as you are about it's meaning.

I am intrigued with the idea of political involvement. I am overwhelmed at times with what seems to be a monstrous burden. I want to make my life count. I want to do something. I want to in some small way be able to look back upon my life and feel that I've been able to create



## Write Or Wrong

Dear JR Lightfoot—

While I applaud your attempts to take a stand on important issues, your editorials show such a lack of scholarship and professionalism (campaign promises—or maybe you've rubbed elbows with a few too many corrupt politicians) that my first thought was to not reply at all. However, your disservice to conservative ideology necessitates a response. I won't lower this rebuttal to an attack on your obvious contradictions and lack of historical discipline (to name two of the more glaring problems). Instead, at the risk of what might appear to be condescension I offer constructive criticisms which hopefully will make your writing more holistic without becoming less ideologically pronounced; thus creating editorials worthy of thoughtful consideration from faculty and students regardless of ideological background.

1. Our faith should not be reduced to a basis for a political ideology.
2. Sympathize with those you criticize.
3. Support your vague generalizations with accurate statements.

Sincerely,  
Sharon Witemann  
President, Bereans

## Paine-ful Truth

Dear Editor:

We were not a little distressed at the attacks made on your September 26 editorial and—more than just indirectly—on yourself for having originated it. It seems banal to have to explain to people who should understand English that in the word, "we", you were identifying with those who have lost their lives that the interests of the nation as a whole might be served. So that cavil appears to be a straw man, raised (and flattened!) for the purpose of intimidation. We pray the strategy may not succeed! Lest it be lost, truth needs to be repeated—no matter how much it is resented by those who deny it. With repetition it becomes a "pious platitude" to the indifferent or antagonistic, but "we" still need to hear it.

As for the rhetorical question raised about Christ's avoidance of killing for a "political" cause: His first advent

was strictly limited to His personal ministry and the fulfillment of a way of salvation for mankind. At Nazareth He read only part of the Isaiah 61:1-3 passage (see Luke 4:18-21) and stopped. His first advent was to fulfill only this portion—a ministry of salvation rather than of judgment (John 12:47, Luke 12:13-14). He would not break a bruised reed, or snuff out a spark of smoking flax (Isaiah 42:1-4). However, both these Isaiah passages go on to mention a time of judgment yet to be fulfilled at His second advent. Then He will "tread the winepress" of wrath (Rev. 14:20, 19:11-21) with a river of blood a couple hundred miles long resulting.

If Christ was so absolutely against "political" killing, why did He clearly imply His approval in one of His parables (Luke 19:27)? Why did He tell His disciples to equip themselves with swords, if He was against their use (Luke 22:36)? Certainly, because He had an assignment to complete. He refused to be defended (Matthew 26:53-54); however, consideration of all His statements makes it evident that He was not setting any norm for civil government.

Sincerely,  
S. Hugh Paine

## It's Greek To Me

Dear Jonathan,

A wave of amazement swept over me recently as I pondered what the Lord has done for me in recent years. Years ago I saw a great need in

the Body of Christ for a deep understanding of the meaning of several parts of the Bible. It seemed that as good as the preaching was from many a modern pulpit, the rich treasure from neglected Old and New Testament chapters was needed in order to make the preaching complete. I cannot tell you how much I thirsted for an understanding of Greek and Hebrew and the most informative commentaries (whichever ones they were and wherever they were).

Oh yes, there were some very informed pastors and teachers around, but not as many as it seemed there ought to be. Even where they existed, they had little time to root and ground someone in good Biblical Theology and a grasp of the Bible as a whole book. Then I came to Houghton.

What had been just a vague dream in the back of my mind has actually materialized into reality. To open a Greek Bible and overhear its writers forming the actual words in their minds—to sit under anointed men such as Dr. Schultz, Dr. Meade, Dr. Tyson, Dr. Kingdon and Professor Woolsey—to have the most recent scholarly books at my fingertips—has been a privilege and answer to prayer beyond my wildest dreams. I used to have to travel miles to attend a Malcolm Smith seminar or dig around at the back of a Christian bookstore to find the tools which would help me understand the Word of my Savior and Lord.

Let me take this opportunity to encourage anyone considering a Bible or Religion major to seriously check it out. For a serious Bible student, Houghton provides a "well of living water." You have an unusually magnificent opportunity to learn more about the Book the Lord wrote for you to read and understand.

Very cordially yours,  
Ralph Traphagen

## Punque Rocks

Dear Mr. Lightfoot:

I suppose everyone, including the author of "Making Mts. Out of Hillis," a letter in the last *Star*, expected this return letter, and, well, here goes. The letter Mr. Shepeluk addressed to the community was misleading and full of loaded terms. Let me clarify. My band, "The Pledge" was accused by Mr. Shepeluk of driving the audience "into a frenzy." The "frenzy" was limited to eight to ten people in the front, moving to the music. No one, repeat, no one else was up "frenzying" around. Everyone else was in their seats "clapping and singing." Guess praise chapels and Christian concerts will have to be censored from now on, huh? Furthermore, those eight or ten that were up have been singled out and talked to; they were apologetic and understanding. How about the quote, "the band was obviously into the scene." Thank you, Wes, for making us sound like a bunch of deviants trying to cause unrest here at Houghton. We, Mr. Shepeluk, are up there to play Rock-N-Roll for entertainment and for using our talents. We've been playing for over two years and have received nothing as insulting as that letter. I've talked to our administration and we've never been told to stop because we were trouble-makers or rebels.

We play for fun, we're not against the authority here. We are against narrow, closed minds. I refuse to have a boring Christian walk. I believe God can bless anything done for Him, including Rock-N-Roll and to that point, I'll say, move to the music. There was no social dancing Mr. Shepeluk. There was movement to the music and there is a big difference. People move to marching bands, folk singing and Rock-N-Roll. Rock is today's music and people with closed minds had better wake up or this place will be choked. Furthermore, we never choose music we believe to be offending or controversial. You never hear us play "Sympathy for the Devil" or "Ten Seconds to Love."

Quit judging through a microscope Wes, and see that we're not out to offend or to rebel. So re-evaluate, and thanks for the opinion, but as for me and the band, we'll keep rocking... Go Johnny Go.

Respectfully,  
Punque and "The Pledge"



# Oh Henry

Jonathan,

Part of being, as you put it, "as wise as serpents" involves understanding properly the factors that shape democratic policy. Part of being "as wise as serpents" involves being a little less naive about our nation—less naive than the picture you painted in your last editorial "Why be Merely Harmless."

Your characterization of "activism" as opposed to focused political efficacy, and the subsequent evaluation were less than insightful. In fact, there are some glaring deficiencies in your conceptions of how "democracy" and "activism" behave in our country.

You said that students should not be involved in political protest or activism, because those are either ineffective or harmful. I would like to speak to both of these points.

As to ineffectiveness; did you ever stop and ask yourself why people protest or become activists? People protest when their voices aren't being heard through the usual means (the means you propose as alternatives to activism). For if letters, lobbying, and voting always represented a group's interests, then they wouldn't need to protest. For example, people are currently protesting US involvement in Central America. Why? Because when polled, the majority of the American people didn't want involvement, and yet our government wages wars in Central America by way of funding counter-revolutionaries (paying for our war with someone else's blood, by the way).

Furthermore, to judge activism as worthless because it is ineffective is an ignorant evaluation to make in light of the above. Obviously the success rate will be slim, when the odds were already stacked against a certain cause. Since efforts to keep the US out of Central America were thwarted through "serpent" means, I suppose you could say that appealing to Congress is ineffective and even harmful.

The reason that the causes behind activism have often failed is not for lack of shrewdness necessarily, but often for lack of one of the basic elements in politics — economic sway. Like it or not, Jonathan, the special interest groups with the economic power are the ones that lobby most "effectively." In a nation where so many ears are listening for the wallet,

people without the proper resources or contacts (what you might call "serpent wisdom") are left with few other options when it comes to being heard.

As well, you talk of harmfulness. I would agree that any violent protest is harmful, and would never advocate it, yet I think that non-violence is in order. Give your reasoning to a black man who wanted equal rights only 25 years back, and tell him his protests were harmful. Better yet—tell him that they were ineffective. Black non-violent protest did not breed racial tension and discrimination. Tension and discrimination bred protest.

You used the example of universities that divest from S. Africa to show harmful and ineffective activism at work. Again your thinking was shallow. Divestment and disinvestment are seldom implemented as solutions to problems in S. Africa, but rather as the practical outgrowths or moral conviction. If an organization spoke out against apartheid and then didn't discontinue financial involvement, my guess (my hope, actually) is that you would call it hypocrisy. As to the harm that the organization does to itself; sometimes moral conviction is not painless.

Please be less simplistic when you talk about such concepts as democracy, activism, and the kinds of things that Christians should or shouldn't do.

Your writing of editorials from outside of the political process constitutes activism by your definition. Does this mean that you won't be writing any more editorials?

Sincerely,  
J. Craig Henry

## La Tortuga Carta

The following is a copy of the letter that was placed inside the cornerstone of the new men's dorm.

Autumn means preparation for the inhabitants of the valley for winter looms in the distant skies. The chill of the air blankets the foliage, and the night's frost scorches the edges of an infringing summer. There is work to be done now. An Old Gentleman stacks wood behind His house to burn on those cold winter nights and remembers watching the reflections of flames dance on the walls of His sitting room. Signs of a season end as a new one begins. He has lived many seasons and during each He remains constant. The Old Man gives

to each season what is needed and unselfishly yields Himself to a simple life. He is ready to provide for others in need if they come along on frigid nights in search of warmth and rest. He is not lonely, for although many may not cross His path it is clearly marked as it has always remained in the valley.

He watches from His window the sparrows prepare for winter. He listens to the river echo through the hillsides while it continues to flow onward and unceasingly toward its final rest. It moves within the barriers of its path carrying sticks and debris to an unknown place. It carves and molds the valley every season and

replenishes itself every spring with the addition of melted snows from atop the encompassing foothills. Trees stand like maidens drawing from springs of water welling up to eternal life and sway to the commands of gentle breezes.

Seasons will pass, and generations of people change making way for others to come. The river will continue to flow, and the sparrows will need seed in winters to come, but the Old Gentleman can still be found in His house feeling the warmth of His fire on His face, and watching those flames flicker on the surface of His shiny oaken rocker.

Dan Strait

## Body Builders

by Kim Johnson

It is in a small, humble office in the confined basement of Luckey building that Thom Skinner raises hundreds of thousands of dollars each year. The money is used for the students and the institution of Houghton to meet everyday and long term needs. Skinner sets strategies and plans in three specific areas: direct mail, personal solicitations, and the annual Phonathon.

Skinner, 32, director of Annual Funds in the Houghton Development offices, is a hardworking professional. He has been committed to serving God, the institution of Houghton, its students and alumni for the past five years. He views his position as a ministry more than a job. He says, "There is something very unique about us. We are committed to the goals of the kingdom of Christ."

However, Skinner has not always had these convictions. In 1974, after dropping in and out of college, Thom enlisted in the army for three years. It was during this time he became a Christian. After the army, he decided to attend Houghton College where he earned his Bible degree. Following Houghton, Thom was the associate pastor of the Wesleyan Church of Orchard Park, N.Y. He worked there for a year and a half prior to the beginnings of his career with Houghton.

He says his job deals "especially with communicating to alumni and friends the ongoing, everyday, annual needs of the institution. I ask individuals in a variety of ways to commit themselves to support the ministry of Houghton College."

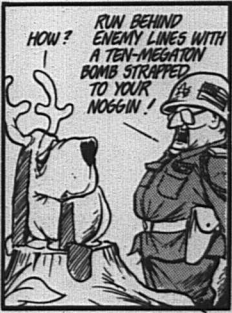
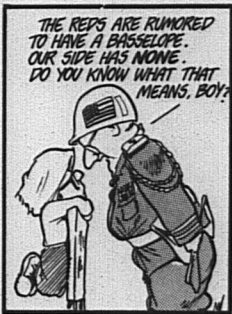
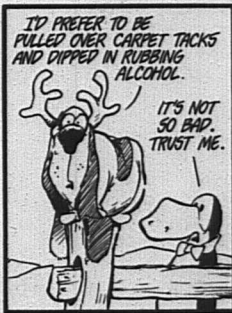
One of Skinner's biggest concerns is the Phonathon because it directly affects the students in their daily lives. He says, "The point was driven home to me that the Phonathon money is desperately needed." Last year's goal was exceeded by \$30,000 and this year's goal has been set for as much as \$300,000. Although the figures sound impressive, Thom says with a hint of concern, "Even though we raised more than ever — we have to do more." The money goes directly to the incoming freshmen class as academic, leadership, sport, and other forms of scholarships. In this way the administration of the college can tangibly provide for its students during their four years at Houghton.

Skinner is asking for help in the upcoming Phonathon, to be held in February. Anyone interested should contact the development office. Skinner says, "Many students are recipients of the Phonathon scholarship assistance — it's a no strings attached gift." He stressed that one's willingness to help someone else shows an appreciation for the money once received in past years. Skinner adds with a smile, "It is also a chance to learn a marketable phoning skill."

Leaning back in his chair, Thom pauses as he gets a serious look on his face. "We are making an impact on the body of Christ and community at large. That's what's important to me. I need to have that sense to continue what I'm doing."

# BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed



# Classifieds

Dear 80's Woman,  
Don't go changing  
to try and please me,  
Don't change the color  
of your hair,  
'Cause I couldn't  
love you any better,  
I love you just the way  
you are!

Love,  
Brad

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Lonely, fun loving, down to  
earth, 23 year old white male  
seeks letters, pictures from  
interesting, exiting, and  
considerate individuals. I am  
5'9" tall, 165 lbs. Have Brown  
eyes, Brown hair, and a nice,  
easygoing style. I enjoy poems,  
horses, music, dancing, good  
times and good people. I am  
also attending college. Give me  
a try for a guaranteed reply.

Scott Selberg  
P.O. Box 307  
Beacon, NY 12508

Keith Davie—  
Do you have a dollar we  
can borrow?

Joanie and Annie

**THE SUSPENSE IS OVER!**  
Thanks to all those who  
submitted bids for the  
week of skiing in CO.  
Sorry to announce the  
winner already resides  
there. Too bad!

Eric—  
Gee... Ricky... I'm, uh,  
sorry your mom blew up!  
Merci beaucoup,  
blah, blah, blah...

You went with **WHO TO THE**  
Journey concert???

YOUR EX SAID FORGET IT

"Some say that the age of  
chivalry is past, that the spirit  
of romance is dead..."

1879

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VALDEZ'S VERMIN WILL WIN  
A GAME THIS SEASON...  
STICK 'EM, GUYS!

**LOST:** NIKKON ONE—TOUCH  
CAMERA in the vicinity of the  
Soccer practice field on Home-  
coming afternoon. Reward, if  
found and returned to Betty  
Thompson.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO  
PLACE A PERSONAL (OR  
NOT SO PERSONAL) AD  
IN THE HOUGHTON STAR,  
PLEASE PRINT YOUR  
MESSAGE AND SEND IT  
TO BOX 926. ENCLOSE  
\$2.50. THIRTY WORD  
LIMIT.**

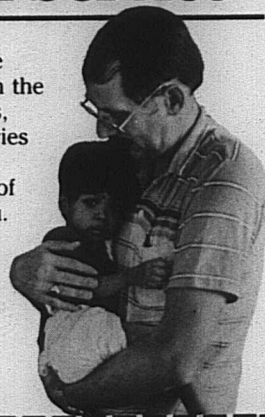
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