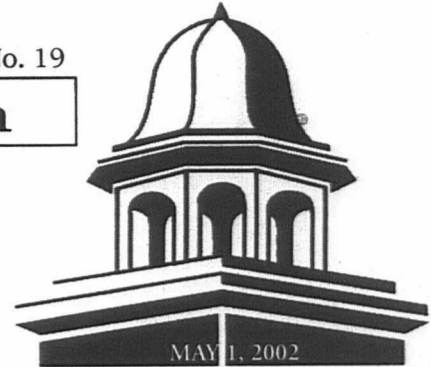


STAR

The Houghton

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF HOUGHTON COLLEGE



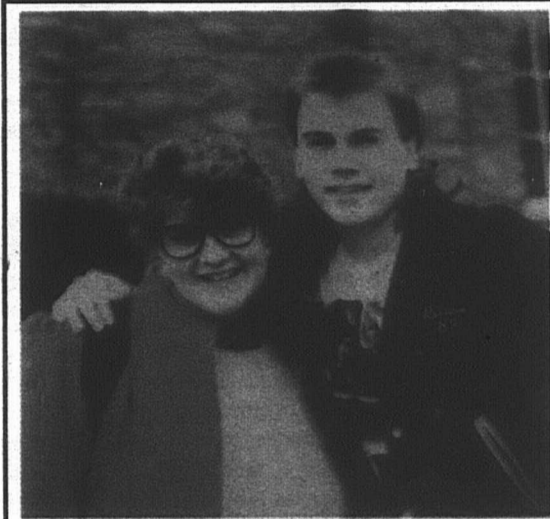
BS to CS to VP - Houghton college grad comes back for a visit

by Noel Habashy
Star staff

A quick look at Melissa Fisher's resume yields an impressive list of accomplishments. A Houghton College alumnus, Melissa, has accomplished quite a bit since her graduation. While at Houghton, Fisher averaged grades in the B and C range while taking a B.S. degree in Business Administration. Shortly after, she went on to receive her M.A. in Management from Regent University graduating *summa cum laude*. After several roles in a few companies, Melissa is currently the Vice President of marketing and communications at Cox Target Media (CTM). CTM is a part of Cox Enterprises that is responsible for cable networks, newspapers, television stations, and

radio stations among several other sources of media. Melissa is directly responsible for Valpak (the

owners of two pound-puppies. April 15 and 16 saw Melissa and Don Fisher come to Houghton



Melissa Fisher during her Houghton days as Boulder editor.

for a visit. While she was here, Melissa visited several classes and spoke at two functions for women. More than just sharing what she has been doing, Fisher was able to give real-world input on being a Christian in an often grueling business environment. Much of the advice she imparted was very practical and many students benefited from the "been-there-done-that" nature of

envelope with the coupons sent to your house) and its target marketing. On a personal note, Fisher is married to Don a writer and together they are the proud

the guidance she could provide. Of the advice she shared, she offered some of her own personal quotes: "It's easy to make a buck; it's a lot

continued on page 2

On the air about intercultural studies

by Shelley Dooley
Star staff

As Houghton continues to expand its horizons from Tanzania, to London, to Australia, to the Adirondacks, our culturally diverse campus is being noticed. A few months ago, Maria Behrns pitched a few ideas to Charlotte Clarke host of "Many Voices, Many Visions," on WOKR-TV 13 in Rochester as part of her internship with the public relations office. Clarke was most interested in the intercultural studies major and Behrns contacted Andy Gallman, the department chair, to ask who he thought would best represent Houghton. He suggested Dr. Arensen and Becky Neubert (Dr. Arensen's TA). After about a month and a half of communicating with WOKR-TV, they taped the show on a Wednesday night from 8-10 and it was aired on Sunday April 14th. Behrns also appeared on the show after Clarke found out that she had studied in Russia last semester. They discussed topics such as "Why it is important for college students to become aware of cultures throughout the world?" and asked them to give highlights from their experiences in Tanzania and Russia. Neubert, Behrns, and Dr. Arensen were able to emphasize the importance of understanding other cultures and the value it has for college students. In addition to Houghton, students from St. Johns Fisher, a college in Rochester, also were interviewed during the same show sharing their experiences.

Students travel to Calvin for writing festival

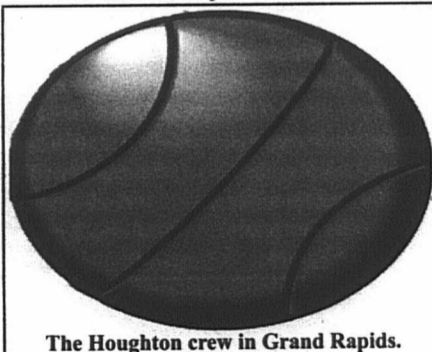
by Scott Wilkins
Staff writer

"It began warm; it cooled later." Those words are what Alice Ball and Rich Mehring finally agreed upon as a fitting description to Calvin College's Festival of Faith and Writing. This statement may describe the weather (which included 85 degree afternoons at the beginning and wintry mornings near the end), but I would be hard-pressed to sum up the entire four days' activities in one sentence.

The Festival, consisting of many small seminars and larger evening sessions, has been held at Calvin for the past few years. This year's gathering of Christian writers did not deviate from its tradition of greatness. It would seem as though every Houghtonite

in attendance (there were about twenty) walked away joyful for having come. Poets such as Luci Shaw, Scott Cairns, and Kathleen Norris read from their works.

One of the best parts of the



The Houghton crew in Grand Rapids.

trip, apart from being surrounded by so much poetic wit, was the fact that the experience was shared with Drs. Stephen, Linda, and Dan Woolsey. With three Woolseys

among us, we were practically guaranteed a wonderful time. On two occasions we went en masse to dinner, crowding into the Houghton vans and cruising Grand Rapids, Michigan in search of Mexican and

Italian cuisine. It was enjoyable to share food and fellowship throughout the festival.

I would heartily recommend Calvin's Festival of Faith and Writing to anyone interested in reading or writing great literature from great writers of the faith. Whether you are seeking advice about

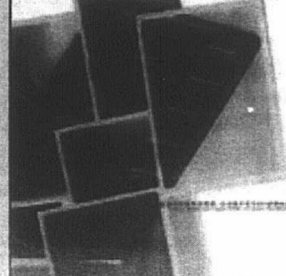
publishing or you simply want to bask in the glow of phenomenal writers, Grand Rapids is the place to be. The next Festival will be in the spring of 2004.

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Houghton brings back the baseball club

page 8



Dashboard Confessional CD review

page 7



Rosa Gerber

Seventeen dead in Germany school shooting rampage

On Friday, an expelled student opened fire in Erfurt-Gutenberg High School in what was Germany's worst school shooting incident. Gunman Robert Steinhauser, 19, targeted teachers, killing 13 - more than one third of the faculty - two students and a police officer, before turning the gun on himself. Another six people were wounded. According to authorities, Steinhauser had been expelled from the school for



Proposal accepted to end Mid-East siege

Within hours of each other,

both the Israeli Cabinet and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat accepted the U.S.'s plan to end the blockade, which has lasted a month, of Arafat's compound in Ramallah. According to ABC News, the terms of the proposal include "U.S. and British personnel

THE WORLD OUT THERE

to guard six Palestinians wanted by Israel" and "Arafat would be allowed to leave his compound and move freely in the Palestinian areas of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip." Israel has accused five of the Palestinians of involvement in the October murder of Rehavam Zeevi, Israeli Tourism Minister. The sixth man is accused of arranging a weapons shipment from Iran.

Woman rescued after plea for help found on restroom wall

Police located Katina Shaddix, 24, last week after maintenance worker Binford Aycock found a message written in ink marker on a bathroom wall in Tennessee: "Won't let me out. Beating me, this is not joke!" Aycock immediately notified authorities of his find and the information "Cannon truck 383"

also specified with the plea. Police arrested Shannon Jones, 26, at a rest area in Georgia. Saying she had left more than 100 messages in restrooms all over the country,



Shaddix claimed Jones had kidnapped her and beaten her for more than a year.

Recently police discovered that Shaddix gave false information about her name, family, date of birth, and residence. Fingerprinting showed no evidence of previous criminal activity.

LOOKING FOR A MISSION TRIP?

Find hundreds of mission opportunities at www.ShortTermMissions.com

Fisher, from page 1

tougher to make a difference." "Try not to become a man of success but rather try to become a man of value." One of her own favorite quotes is by Barbara Bush, "No one reads your resume at your funeral." In terms of being a Christian in any sort of workplace, Melissa points to Colossians 3:23 "Whatever you do, work at it with

all your heart as if working for the Lord, not for men."

The end result of the visit was a Houghton grad being able to encourage, challenge, and inspire students in whatever profession they may be joining. Hopefully we will hear from more alumni with advice that they are able to share with us in order to learn not only from books but life experience.

The Houghton STAR

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The Houghton Star encourages the free interchange of opinions and suggestions in the form of letters, articles, guest editorials, and advertisements. Students are especially urged to participate. We also welcome the viewpoints of faculty, staff, townspeople, alumni, and all others having an interest in the Houghton community. Ideas printed herein do not, however, necessarily reflect the view of the editorial staff, or of Houghton College. The staff reserves the right to omit or reject any contributions for reasons of professional decorum. Letters (signed) should be sent to:

The Star, CPO Box 378
(716) 567-9210
star@houghton.edu

Commencement activities schedule

Senior Class Chapel	Monday, April 2
Senior Class Assembly (Voluntary)	Tuesday, April 30
Commencement Practice	Saturday, May 11
(ALL graduates must be present - Wesley Chapel, 3:30 p.m. TICKETS will be distributed)	
Senior Picnic/Dinner	Saturday, May 11
Picnic on the Quad, 5:30 p.m. (Move to Dining Hall if inclement weather)	
Choir Concert	Saturday, May 11,
7:30 p.m. - Wesley Chapel	
*Baccalaureate	Sunday, May 12,
10:30 a.m. - Wesley Chapel	
The speaker for Baccalaureate is the Rev. Karl Eastlack, senior pastor of Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church in Williamsville, NY and a member of the college Board of Trustees.	
President's Reception	Sunday, May 13- 3-5:00pm at the President's Home. (for seniors and their family)
Senior Vespers	Sunday, May 13,
6:30 p.m. - Wesley Chapel	
*Commencement	Monday, May 13,
10:00 a.m. - Wesley Chapel	
*Please assemble, in cap and gown, 1/2 hour prior to event (10:00 on Sunday, 9:30 on Monday) on the sidewalk in front of Luckey Building or in Wesley Chapel basement if it's raining or (yes, it has happened!) snowing. Our Commencement speaker is Col. William Francis, Chief Secretary of The Salvation Army Territorial Headquarters in West Nyack, NY.	

Who (how many) can come? Anyone who wants to be here. We'll have auxiliary seating in the Recital Hall and extra seating in the foyer after the procession.

Graduating seniors, PLEASE keep this information readily available. We want to help you enjoy this very special milestone in your life. You may call the Dean's Office (x3150) if you have questions not answered here.

2002 Senior art gallery a great success

by Beth Freeman
Business editor

Last Friday night in the Ortlip Art Gallery the opening was held for the annual senior art majors' display. A variety of artwork is showcased from such diverse genres as woodworking, ceramics, handmade paper, and even film. The senior show is always excellent, and this year is no exception. The quality of craftsmanship and creativity expressed through a myriad of mediums is spectacular.

Houghton senior Darren Gallman opened the show with a demonstration of his beautiful handmade guitar. He performed a lovely classical piece, showcasing his talent not only in art but music as well. Some of his other unique wooden pieces include a harp, two mbiras, a guitar stool, and a bench.

Another interesting exhibit on display is Alex Van Fleet's photography and original films. These short, funny movies ranged from a hilarious look at Houghton dating (in "The Proposal") to some great fight scenes in "The Arena."



There were many other pieces exhibited, including Bridget Bossart's botanical watercolors, Kevin McDonald's beautiful and distinctive ceramics (his vase "Elsa" won first place at this year's juried art show), John Van

Otterloo's oil on canvas landscapes, and Gabe Demaggio's ink drawings of famous legends such as Beowulf and "The Golem." Other artists featured in the senior gallery were Katie Thomas, Danielle Hobbes, Beth Sykes, Lisa

Porter, Rachel Speirs, and Jennifer Clayton, who won second place in the juried art show with her oil painting "Snow Tractor in Summer." Jackie Mangus' exhibit included a variety of pieces from handbound journals to her prints on handmade paper "People With Wings" that won her best of show in the juried art

show.

These beautiful exhibits will be on display only for a short time in the Ortlip Art Gallery but they are definitely worth the time to take a look.

Semesters abroad popular at Houghton

by Christopher Stanley
Star staff

About one hundred sixty students went abroad last year (including Mayterm), and Ryan Sartor, Assistant, Office of Off-Campus Programs, said that they described their experience as "very positive." Houghton's four main programs are in London, Tanzania, and its newest ones in Star Lake and Australia. London is by far one of the largest programs with almost forty students going each year, including the First-Year Honors Program, and its popularity is followed closely by Tanzania with sixteen going this past year. Although the Oregon Extension is on the list of "Houghton Programs," Houghton College actually only advises the curriculum decisions and helps to sponsor the program overall. Mr. Sartor said that the off-campus programs are not just taking classes in some other country. "We make an effort to get them involved in the culture," he commented, "they're actually living-and experiencing something." As well as sponsoring these off-campus programs, Houghton College is affiliated with several programs hosted by the Council of Christian Colleges and Universities, including the American Studies Program in Washington D.C., the Los Angeles Film Studies Program, and many others across the world in China, Russia, and the Middle East. Although this reporter has not yet been in one of these programs, you can tell just by talking to the people that have been that the off-campus programs at Houghton College are a truly enriching experience.

Habitat for Humanity helps erect homes

by Don Brensinger
Star staff

Sometimes actions speak louder than words. This is definitely the case with the Houghton students who are involved in Habitat for Humanity. Led by Pete Brady and Roger Houck, this group takes a short trek every Saturday to Wellsville, where they help to build houses in the area. They do everything from renovations to insulating to painting and everything in between.

A normal Saturday for the Habitat for Humanity group usually begins between 8 AM and 9 AM, and ends at about 3 PM. As of now, there are around 140 students on the Habitats email list, but on most trips they will need

less than 20. About 16 students piled into a van to help out for the first trip of the year, but since then the number of students needed has dwindled from 10 to 4 to 2. But when they start up again next year, you can rest assured that they will need another big group to help.

The current house that Habitat for Humanity is working on is almost completed and should be right on schedule for its dedication in June. After devoting many hours toward renovating the small house, the group is just about finished with the painting, and it should be smooth sailing from there.

Over spring break, Habitat took a small group of students and joined 89 other volunteers in the building of a house in Summerville, PA. They worked

through the most bizarre weather conditions to construct an entire house in 5 days. The work site was covered with 8 inches of snow at the beginning of the week, followed by freezing rain mid-week, and then sunny skies by the weekend.

Habitat for Humanity is not an in-your-face Bible preaching organization. Through their actions, they work at setting a Christ-like example by sacrificing their Saturday mornings to help build homes for people. Sure it's hard work, but it's a fun time of fellowship, and their actions are going towards a great cause. Bob Vila would be proud.

The following press release was given to one Dr. Benedict's classes. The Star refuses to admit to any illegal acts, including the method by which they obtained the information you are about to read.

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

The future in-class or out-of-class statements of Blaine David Benedict, Ph.D., are on deep background. They are not to be attributed to him for publication in any format, including *The Houghton Star*.

All statements of this nature may begin with a phrase such as, "A former high ranking State Department Official states that..." or "A high ranking member of the Houghton College faculty has confirmed that..." In some cases this may be specified to "A high ranking member of the history and political science department affirms that..." In most cases the following would be too specific: "A high ranking (tenured) member of the political science department reports that..." or "A former high ranking State Department official now working at Houghton College denies that..."

Senior "remembrances"



Heather Mann

"The Houghton Road"

As I wove through Belfast and Canadea on my way to Houghton for the first time, I wondered what kind of college would emerge from between these small towns in this remote part of New York. It was one of those beautiful spring days when the quad looks like a carnival and people are sprawled out everywhere soaking in the sun. In typical Houghton fashion, the next day brought rain and there was not a person in sight. My first impressions as a visitor were positive but what I could not see behind the fickle weather and vanishing student body were the things I have come to treasure most during my four years here.

At Houghton, I discovered a place where leisure time is

marked by spontaneity and does not require movie theatres or bowling allies. I found a college where professors open their classes in prayer and where I have been asked challenging questions about God that have ultimately made my faith stronger. And it is here that I have found the incredible friendships that are wrapped up in all of my experiences. Whether it was soccer games on Burke field, Friday night catch-phrase at the townhouse, or long hours in the organic lab, the people I was with are what has made Houghton so wonderful. Many of my greatest memories involve my teammates, my housemates are my best friends, and as far as organic lab goes, I will be marrying my lab partner in July.



As I prepare to leave Houghton and drive through Belfast for the last time, my excitement for the future is marked with a note of sadness as I think about the friends that I will miss and the experiences that can only be had in this small

college town (or road) in western New York. At the same time, I am so thankful for the things that I have learned while being here, the ways that I have grown, and the people whom I will never forget.

Melissa J. Neureuther

"3rd New Forever"



Looking down at my left hand, void of any sparkling accessory, I laugh at what my cousin Jen told me four years ago. "Melissa," she said, "you are the next of our family to enter Houghton and since only one of

us has come away with a spouse, it is your job to do that and make us proud." Jen was referring to her parents who met at Houghton. And yes, six other family members went here but with no Houghton nuptial luck.

All around me fellow seniors are planning different things. Some will indeed be marrying that special Houghton someone, while others a special someone from elsewhere. Some are anticipating the new job awaiting them upon graduation. Others are heading to grad school and furthering their academic quest. Although I lack all of these things, I can't say it reflects my time here at Houghton. I would characterize my time spent here full of schoolwork, weekend trips to the nearest area having a Wal-Mart, road-trips during semester breaks, don't forget the hours spent agonizing over an ill-functioning laptop, funny moments with friends in the cafeteria and most of all, the semester I spent in London.

Spending the fall of my junior year in a city shed a different light upon my college experience. There were only fifteen other people I knew on that side of the Atlantic and the only person I knew the most was myself, or so I thought. I spent a majority of those three

months relying on 'me' for support and answers to questions about my life until God knocked and said I was doing too much work and he was taking it from there. That's when I began to see life isn't just about how well you do on your school work, what kind of job you will have or where you go on a Friday night, it's about who you are as a person. Life is about reflecting the love God has given you, for Love is the greatest gift of all.

Congratulations to my fellow grads! May you all see the love God has for you and feel His blessings as He works in your lives. And to those who are still plowing through their time here, may you encounter all that you need so you may see where God is leading you. Lastly of course, enjoy your time here, because time flies when you're having fun. Before you know it, Poof! It's gone... and you can buy a new

In Question:

What is your favorite Houghton College memory?



"A two-hour snowball fight on the quad in two-foot-deep snow."

Sara Wester (junior)



"The time I broke my ankle riding a scooter."

Greg Sigountos (freshman)



Senior "remembrances"

Lloyd Fleming "A utopia of sorts"



When I first came to Houghton College as a freshman back in the fall of 1998 I thought Houghton was a utopia. The people, faculty, and location were all perfect; the next four years

were going to be filled with excitement, lasting relationships and God telling me exactly what to do for the rest of my life. Some of what I thought coming in came true, but some of my perspectives

have changed over the four years. I will not miss going shopping for some obscure necessity item and having it turn into an all day trip. I certainly won't miss being hungry at 11pm and the choices that come to mind are the truck stop andthe truck stop. The things that have stayed consistent with my early perceptions are the people, the faculty and the lasting relationships I build everyday. Through my four years at Houghton College I have been challenged academically, stretched mentally, emotionally and I have been forced to broaden the way I think about life and God. We have all complained from time to time how bad this place is, whether it be about how our computer crashed for the fifth time when we were writing the forty page paper to the repetition of the food being served in the cafeteria. But when it comes down to it, we are not going to remember those things. What we are going to remember are the relationships we have made and the

profound impact that the students and faculty have had in our lives. I don't think one person can leave this institution saying that a faculty member or a student hasn't been able to lend an ear or hasn't taken a moment to see what's up. I can recall countless times when I have gone into Dr. Eckley's, Professor Bradshaw's or Dr. Black's office to share an idea or concern. Never once have I been rejected; I've always been accepted lovingly. I don't know about you, but they have had an impact on my life that I will always remember. This is what is special about Houghton. The people that we encounter, interact and guide us through this special time in our life. After I graduate I won't remember the great facilities that Houghton had or the amazing laptops we got our freshman year. What I will remember are the people who have had lasting impact on my life, and that is what makes Houghton special.

Joel Barton

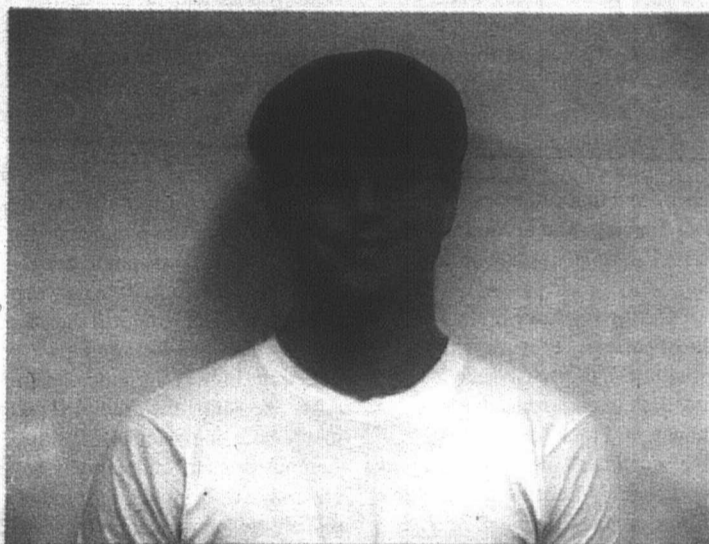
"If you would"

This is my fourth and final year here at Houghton, and I have changed greatly since my matriculation in 1998. I have learned many things; some of them are even academic in nature. Those I leave to the professors, but as you go into their classes, and as you sit in the cafeteria, perhaps you may notice some of these things I learned.

I am not all I think I am, and neither are you. If you are smart, there is someone who is smarter than you. If you are beautiful, to which I make no claims, there is someone more beautiful. This is not to become the basis of moral judgments. This is neither good nor bad. It only is. God has given you talents, and these talents, if they

are not used to the best of your ability, are wasted on you. You might as well have been given less. How you use your talents is the basis for moral judgment. Not to use them is not only bad, but, I believe, evil.

This requires one to ask these questions: What are my talents? How best may I use them for God? As for the first question, you probably have a good idea of what comes naturally to you, and, with the broad education base you are receiving, you will continually revise your list of talents. I think my entire four years here would have been changed if I had taken some of the classes in freshman year that I am taking now. God will use you in your weakness as well as your strengths. Build your talents and strengthen your



weaknesses. In order to best use your talents for God, you must develop them as fully as you can. Work. Not to do so is a waste.

Look for beauty in the little things of life. Sometimes it will jump out and hit you in the face, like the time I went swimming in Wiscoy with some friends one frigid October night. We pulled off on the side of the road on the way back and watched the Northern

Lights long past the time our hands grew numb. Other times, you will have to search for it, like when it is snowing again and one intricate crystal lands on your sleeve. Take time to notice these things, and you will be able to keep that wonder that is so obvious in the eyes of a five year-old and so obviously missing in the eyes of many twenty-five year-olds.



"The day my finace surprised me for Valentine's Day and played the cello for me in my room."

Justin Hibbard (senior)



"Playing Buck Buck in the campus center."

Emily Schwartz (junior)

VOX | **voice**
 expressions of a community of faith



by Bethany Schwartz

A glimmer of hope

Having the title of editor doesn't mean that you think like one. Or so I've found.

I've been the editor of the Star for a year now, and at certain intervals I've wondered if I'm doing the job I agreed to do. Am I functioning in the correct capacity? Am I really being an editor? Sometimes it's been a struggle as I've tried to figure out what my responsibilities are and what exactly I should be doing, especially without the formal training that some schools give for this leadership position. But the most important part of being an editor is one that no person can teach. And that is the internalizing. The thinking. The becoming. But I think I'm finally starting to catch on.

During February break I had the opportunity to work with Houghton's custodial crew for a few days to earn some extra money, so I took advantage of it. The second day of my four-day work week, Michelle Saylor put me to work in the Campus Center. While I was crouching on the cafeteria steps with a steam machine to clean off the gunk that had built up during the year, a loud BOOM resonated in my ears. Startled, I looked up, but seeing nothing, set back to work again.

Minutes later my sister Emily emerged from the hallway, a frightened and sheepish look on her face. "The buffer exploded," she informed me in a small voice.

"What?!?" Being somewhat mechanically-minded, I thought I might be able to help. I laid down my steamer and followed her down the hall to where the buffer lay, surrounded by a circle of red powder. I tittered.

"Not funny," my sister snapped. "Can you fix it?"

Lifting up the buffer, I found the red pad, once flat and circular, crumpled into a ball. I plucked the ruined pad from its perch and lifted it into Emily's line of vision. "The buffer got hungry," I remarked. Her frown only deepened. "I'll take this out to the dumpster so Ange doesn't see it," I said. "You should get a broom out of the closet and sweep up that red dust." She still didn't seem amused but followed my directions blindly. I giggled again. After depositing the crumpled pad in a remote dumpster beside the Campus Center, I found my sister forlornly sweeping the dust into a pile. "Look at its remains," she said mournfully as I entered.

I burst into laughter. "Tell me what happened," I managed to squeak after several minutes had gone by.

She stopped sweeping and stared at me. "It's not funny! I was

Letter to the editor: Boulder appreciation

I wanted to express my appreciation to the SGA and committees for the Publications Award I received last week.

However, I also wanted to recognize that I'm far from solely responsible for the production of the yearbook. Rather, the yearbook as a whole is done through photos being taken, pages designed, and laid out by some of the most dedicated staff I've worked with both last year and this year. A few of the key roles of these two yearbooks include Bruce Breneman, Ellie Albrecht, Kristin Coffan, Diane Titter, and especially to Sarah Ewing this year. Without these staff members, the student body wouldn't have a

yearbook over the past two years. They each play many essential roles for the Boulder.

I've heard it said that, "A leader is only as strong as the leaders that lead him." These leaders come in all forms, whether they are advisors, co-workers, peers or even staff members that contribute three hours of their time each semester.

In one-way or another, everyone is a leader, and I wanted to thank all the leaders that have any form of impact on the Boulder. Thanks so much, and have a safe and healthy summer!

- Tom McIlroy
Boulder, Editor in Chief

just buffing along and all of a sudden the buffer made this really loud noise, jumped off the floor, and POOF! All this red stuff came shooting out." She gestured with her hands to help me visualize the situation.

I howled with laughter. Hands on her hips, Emily glared at me. "It's not funny!" she said again. "It was the most terrifying experience of my life!"

After I had calmed down and stopped laughing, I sent her to get another pad for the buffer and I went back to cleaning the dining hall stairs. Reflecting on the situation, I couldn't help giggling

again, and with the laughter came an idea. *This would make a great story for my website. I'll bet people would like to read it; it's funny.*

And at that moment, I knew. Those were the thoughts of an editor, the thoughts of one concerned with what would be most interesting to the reader. Somehow, throughout this year of working with the Star, I'm starting to think like an editor.

It has taken me a year, but I think it's finally starting to sink in now. I'm learning what an editor really is - and it's starting to become part of me. I'm glad. I have another whole year - and maybe a lifetime - to go.

QUIP OF THE WEEK

"If I believed in reincarnation, I would want to come back as an East Hall girl!"

-Pastor Troy McKnight-

send your quotes to star@houghton.edu or CPO box 387

the resurrected

TOP TEN...



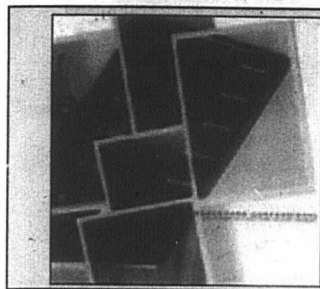
signs your roommate is overstressed

by Greg On

- 10** Energy from his trembling hands has been used to power third world countries
- 9** Can't sleep, Irma will eat me . . ." all night long
- 8** His desk has chew marks
- 7** You stumbled across his secret collection of professor voodoo dolls
- 6** He's worn a rut in the indoor track
- 5** He hasn't left the Science Building in over a week
- 4** Fourth major declaration in a week
- 3** Has a Top 10 shrine dating back to Steve Maxon
- 2** Single-handedly emptied the coffee machine in the cafeteria
- 1** Refers to a curly fry he stole weeks ago as "my one, my only, my precious"

arthouse

A look at the intersection of faith and art



Dashboard Confessional

The Places You Have
Come to Fear the Most

Don Brensinger

For anyone who has not yet heard of The Dashboard Confessional, don't worry because you soon will. Currently receiving ample airtime on MTV2 and radio stations throughout the U.S., Chris Carrabba, aka: The Dashboard Confessional, has been gaining massive amounts of popularity with his soft acoustic guitar melodies. He has been playing sold out venues across North America, including a live performance on The Late Late Show with Craig Kilborn.

Being an acoustic band, Dashboard is not left with a lot of room for creativity in the instrumental department, and that is where his vocals come in. While extremely simplistic at times, the soft guitar rhythms merely serve as a backdrop for which Carrabba can showcase his impassioned vocals on. His lyrics are so brutally honest and real that it's almost

uncomfortable, and his high-pitched voice pierces through each guitar chord with all the emotion he can garner.

The opening track, "The Brilliant Dance," is a soft acoustic ballad sprinkled with a few piano notes that blend together with Carrabba's pure voice to create a melancholy atmosphere. It's a song about lost love and process of moving on. The next song entitled, "Screaming Infidelities," is the song that is being thrown into the rotation of most national radio stations, and it is easy to see why. In this song, he is reliving the aftermath of another (maybe the same) broken relationship stating, "I'm missing your laugh, how did it break? And when did your eyes begin to look fake? I hope you're as happy as you're pretending." The guitars used in this song have been tuned differently in order to give it a high pitch, while the bass

guitar and drums in the background add a nice touch.

The rest of the CD consists of songs that vary between personal acoustic ballads and acoustic rock songs, which are just accompanied by a percussionist and the occasional piano or violin. Other standout tracks are "The Best Deceptions," "Again I Go Unnoticed," "The Places You Have Come To Fear The Most," and "This Bitter Pill." "Again I Go Unnoticed" is an upbeat song, where the backup drums drastically set the mood. It's basically a song about "another wasted night [where] the television steals the conversation." "This Bitter Pill" is probably the most serious song on the CD. It warns against the agonies of suicide and how easily we can make irrational decisions in the heat of the moment that can never be reversed. Carrabba's vocals at the end of this song are chilling. Shouting at the top of his lungs, you can almost feel him crying and pleading with someone to reconsider that awful act.

Unfortunately, this song is one of the few that don't happen to deal with girlfriends. You'd think that every girl in his home state of Florida cheated on him, stood him up, or broke his heart in some other

obscene way. A few songs I could deal with but it gets a little repetitious when seven out of the ten songs are about almost the same subject. Still, he paints amazing pictures in the listeners mind through his poetic lyrics and manages to express his failed attempts at love in ways that anyone can relate to.

Another gripe I have about the CD deals with the backup band. Carrabba's best songs are the ones where the band is stripped away, and it is just him and his guitar. It feels much more personal to me, and his emotions are conveyed more effectively. In most of these songs, the band just seems to be a distraction from the real goodness, which is Carrabba's voice.

This is one of those sing-a-long CDs that are good to listen to when you just wanna relax and sort out your thoughts. I give it seven out of ten stars. It's nowhere near perfect, but it is definitely worth a listen if not a purchase. Carrabba has a lot of charm in his songs, and he can pull any listener in with the amount of effort he puts forth in each song. I can definitely see The Dashboard Confessional blowing up onto the music scene, so keep your eyes open for this one.

Rich Mehring Sings the Blues

by Hawthorne McGee
Nixon's Ghost Machine

Rich Mehring, the critically acclaimed artist, has recently come out with a new album. Drifting from his technopop past, Mehring tries on a new style in Rich Mehring Sings the Blues. They say that you can't teach an old dog new tricks, but this adage did not stand in the way of the two time Golden Urinal Award winner. Having listened to the album, my gut level response was, "Hey Rich, what are you doing? Stick with what you know!" Despite this knee-jerk reaction, the CD has some redeeming tracks... some.

The eighth track of 'Blues, "I Think You Smell my Socks," has a jazzy air to it reminiscent of Bela Fleck or Edgar Myer, suggesting that great music can be accompanied by atrocious lyrics. I am not sure if was Rich's socks or his lack of lyrical wit that fouled up this track, but I think he should do penance for that abomination.

The listener should not despair, however, because the tenth track lends some talent to the album. Combining gut-string banjo with papoose guitar and the trusty old

sax, Mehring takes us on a fantastical romp through the beauties of the industrialized world in "My Soul loves the Smokestack." This track features a trumpet solo by Mehring's friend and fellow technopop legend Jeremy vanHoff which can only be described as "kickin'." What a sad day it will be when our radio is bereft of poor talent, trite lyrics, and repetitive music.

If Roger Ebert were a music critic and if he were to listen to this album, he might give it half a



thumb up... but he is a film critic so disregard this entire sentence. Rich Mehring Sings the Blues shows some potential, but the artist needs to channel his raw and moiling emotions if he wants to please the palate of the blues connoisseur. Will he succeed in this daring venture? Rich's label, Feminist Rant, could not be reached for comment.

Houghton Wesleyan Church Sesquicentennial Potpourri

Coming Events Schedule

May 5 All morning
worship services

And a Little
Child . . . YMWB and subsequent
ministries for/by children-Paul
Shea

June 9 10:30 a.m.
Unified morning worship service

How Houghton Church May
Appear at its 2052 Bicentennial -
Readers' Theater

Introduction of special guests

12 noon
Luncheon in CE Bldg gym and
environs

1:30 pm
Concluding celebration service-
special guests, greetings from
former pastoral staff members, re-
dedication of congregation to its
mission

Exhibits

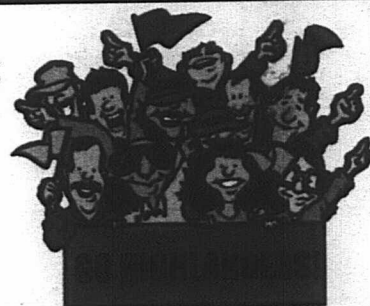
Both an augmented Timeline exhibit (church gym and foyer) and the Sesquicentennial Symbiosis exhibit on campus (Academic Building Atrium) will remain up through the conclusion of Houghton Academy and College Summer Alumni Weekend, June 15.

Sesquicentennial Commemorative Brochure

The 36-page brochure will be available later this summer. In photos and text it will trace the history of the Houghton congregation, its people and facilities, and correlate these with activities in the wider Wesleyan movement, with world religious events and secular history. An eight-page color section will be a special feature. Included will be a CD Rom featuring celebration highlights and interviews. Paid orders received by June 9 will be at the rate of \$11. Orders taken thereafter will be \$15. Contact Houghton Wesleyan Church.

Highlander SPORTS

April 15 - 26



Houghton baseball club becomes official

by Jacob Kelley
Guest writer

Many of you have probably seen the black Houghton baseball shirts walking around the campus in the last month or so and wondered if Houghton actually has a baseball team. Well, the answer is yes. The club became official this past semester when Coach Matthew Reitnour decided to head up the team. The club has been almost two years in coming and on Wednesday April 24, they finally played their first game.

The team traveled to Elmira and more specifically Dunn Field, home of the minor league baseball team, the Elmira Pioneers. In their first game the Houghton club faced off against Corning Community College. Corning Community, or CC, has been an established club for many years and looked quite at home as the Houghton team started into the stadium. Houghton was extremely impressed with the stadium as they walked in. It was a bit of a humbling but also exciting experience. Soon before game time, Coach announced that Chris Haley would be the starting pitcher. Since the team had a limited number of pitchers, Chris was expected to pitch most of the game. The rest of the starting lineup included Ryan Cella at catcher, Joel Hamilton at first base,

Charlie Farnham at second, Derek Hill at shortstop, Jacob Kelley at third, Ben Howard in left field, Jacob Roloson in center field, and Nathan Boyd in right field. Houghton was the visiting team and therefore began the game

In the seventh inning Joel Hamilton was brought in to pitch and Haley was moved over to first. Haley recorded seven strikeouts in a very impressive six-inning outing. Hamilton then recorded four more strikeouts in the last two innings.



The Houghton men's baseball team. Pictured are Derek Hill, Jacob Roloson, Charles Farnham, Jacob Kelley, and Christopher Savage. photo by Nathan Boyd

batting. The first base runner for Houghton came three batters into the inning when Derek Hill was hit by a pitch, but no runs came of it and Houghton was retired after four batters. Corning scored twice in the first inning but Haley recorded two strikeouts. In the top of the second Joel Hamilton led off with Houghton's first hit in the clubs existence. Haley then followed with a double, but unfortunately no runs were scored by the team in the second. In the sixth inning Houghton finally broke through with their first run. Ryan Cella scored on a passed ball and recorded the first run for the club.

the ball sharply to the second baseman on the ground allowing Ryan Cella to score for the second time. Houghton fell to Corning 7-2, but had an impressive outing for the first game of their existence. Chris Haley was the outstanding player of the game recording seven strikeouts as a pitcher and batting 2 for 3 at the plate with a double.

The Houghton players were very happy with their performance and are looking forward to next year. The team will be joining a league next fall and may have up to eighteen games during the semester. Houghton baseball is once again alive and well.

Before Houghton was done they scored one more run in the eighth inning when Jacob Kelley collected the teams first RBI when he hit

Highlanders compete at Alfred State College

by Liz Hornor
Star staff

Cold and rainy Saturdays seem to have become the norm for the Track and Field team. Much of the April 20 meet was held under gray skies with wet conditions, yet the Highlanders fought on to improve their times, heights, and distances before the regional meet this Saturday. Although the meet was small, several athletes turned in strong performances. In the 1500 meters, Bonnie Meyers (5.44) and Jen Kinman (5.48) worked together to run a solid race. In the pole vault Rose Baum sailed over at 10 feet and only barely missed at her bid for 10' 6". In the 5000 meters Dana Sell successfully ran a personal best of 19:59 and Emily Munro dropped 14 seconds off of her personal record to set a new mark at 20:03. In the men's 1500 race, Gabe Whittaker led the Houghton runners with a time of 4:26 followed by Mike Wheelhouse at 4:31. Larry Petry won the 5000 meters with a time of 16.27.

Bethany Schwartz wishes to thank Rich Mehring, Rosa Gerber, and Beth Freeman for all their hard work on the STAR this year. You guys are awesome! :-)

Houghton Hosts AMC Track and Field Championships

by Liz Hornor
Star staff

On Saturday, April 27, 2002 the Houghton Highlanders Track and Field team hosted the American Mideast Conference Championships. Nine teams gathered at Houghton for the competition. A small army of volunteers led by Coach Smalley and Coach Kragbø worked throughout the day to keep the meet running. Special mention goes to Mike Ryan, Matt Rudd, and Nate Rigby, assisted by Jen Schriefer, who worked hard on the timing system for weeks leading up

to the meet and kept it going during the meet. The weather also cooperated, presenting a beautiful day for competition. Senior Phil Andrews commented, "The meet as a whole was very exciting, to walk down from the gym and see the newly mowed grass, the party tents, the track in all its glory. Very cool. Maintenance worked very hard and did a super job with presentation."

The Highlanders also worked hard and set several individual and team records to show for it. Freshman Peter Wheatley, recuperating quickly from back surgery, broke the Long Jump

record (previously 22' 9" set in 1973!) with a leap of 23' 1.25", won the event, and provisionally qualified for NAIA nationals. The men's 4x100 meter relay team, consisting of Phil Andrews, Tim Ridgeway, Josh Stauring, and Pete Wheatley, set a new school record with a time of 44.25 seconds (the old record was 45.24). In the 200 meters Phil Andrews broke his own school record set earlier this year with a time of 22.86. Chris Mancuso also set a personal record in the 1500 meters with a time of 4:23.

For the women, Sarah Gardner ran a time of 15.17 in the 100 meter hurdles and provisionally

qualified for NAIA nationals. The women's 4x100 meter relay team, composed of Brie Claybourn, Sarah Gardner, Hallie Reinholz, and Jen Schriefer, broke the school record of 52.12 with a new time of 51.70. Amanda Miller also ran a personal record in the 800 meters with a time of 2:21.58.

The graduating seniors include Amanda Miller, Rita Pazral, Kim Sayre, Jen Schriefer, Phil Andrews, and Josh Stauring. The American Mideast Conference Championship meet was the last meet of the regular season for the Highlanders. Those who qualified for nationals will go on to the meet in Olathe, Kansas from May 23-25.