The Houghton Star

Volume 82.2

September 22, 1989

CLARIFICATIONS

Student Development and the Pledge

by Stephen Virkler



Photo by Dave Perkins

"A house that needs repair?"

For freshmen or transfers, or for those upperclassmen who weren't paying attention last spring, Dean of Student Development Robert Danner sent a memorandum to the student body concerning their behavior. In this memo, he stated that "recent discussions" he had had with some students caused him to "believe that some are putting the trusting relationship in jeopardy through willful and flagrant violation of the statement of community responsibility" (the Pledge).

In response to this, he stated in the memo that "my staff and I will immediately become more interventionist and direct in our approach to achieving community expectations," and that "we [he and his staff] will move from efforts at restoration to punitive action much more rapidly, until we again feel comfortable with the relationship of trust."

Last week, Danner clarified some aspects of the memo and commented on its relevance this year. First, he confirmed that this memo is still in effect. In fact, its original purpose was to "set the tone" for this year.

He went on to say that "restoration" and "punitive action" are, in essence, interwoven aspects of the (continued on page 3)

Room Keys and Gender

by Thomas Woods



Photo by Dave Perkins

No sex discrimination here, thank-you

Shenawana and South Hall residents (men) are issued keys which open both their rooms and the residence halls from the outside, whereas women living on campus must obtain late keys, a policy which on the surface smacks of discrimination. Below the surface, some of the women in Lambein and East Hall acknowledged that they find this policy inconvenient.

Dr. Jeanne Ortiz, Director of Residence Life, explained that the cost of converting the locks for the women's dorms would simply be too expensive. Shenawana's locks were changed this summer because since the dorm was opened in 1966, men have been losing room keys, making it easier for thieves to find opportunities to steal. It is hoped that the new locks and keys will take a dent out of the \$20,000 loss last year to theft. A side effect of having new locks is "instant late keys."

Women on campus are not regularly issued late keys. Lambein residents may put a semester-long deposit on late keys; and East Hall residents may sign keys out overnight. While inconvenient, no one need sleep out in the cold.

Another possibility in the not-so-near future is (continued on page 3)

Founders' Day **Modifications**

by Mark Thomson



Founder's Day: for some a time to don purple robes, for others a time to stay in bed-but no more, hopes Academic Dean Clarence Bence. Founder's Day is to be "reinstated" this fall with new intent and new spirit. The annual ceremony in which students, professors, and administrators have traditionally met amongst pomp and circumstance has been increasingly neglected by students in recent years. Hence. there is a change in emphasis in this vear's activities. Dean Bence expressed the philosophy behind the day, by stating, "We're interested in drawing the students into the academic tradition of Houghton College."

Beyond these changes in intent, it is hoped that the new schedule on Friday, October 6, will encourage student involvement. No longer a "free day," the 8:00 and 9:00 classes will each meet for a half-hour. After the second class. each academic division will host a reception for the students majoring in that department. Students with undeclared majors may attend a reception hosted by the administration.

The reception areas are as

Languages/Literature:

1st floor, New Building History/ Social Sciences:

3rd floor, New Building Education/Recreation:

2nd floor, New Building Science/Mathematics:

2nd floor, Science

Religion/Philosophy: Christian Ed. Resource Room

Fine Arts: Lobby of Stevens Art Studio

Non-affiliated students: Campus Center

According to Dean Bence, "the purpose of this brief reception is to build collegiate spirit and emphasize the significance of faculty-student relationships in liberal learning."

As faculty will be dressed in full academic regalia, students are requested to wear their respective class colors. (Freshmen, however, may not yet have chosen class colors.) Above all, students are encouraged to cooperate with and enhance the "new spirit" of Founder's









SOING AM GOIN TRUCK B



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The Houghton Star is a

weekly student publication; its focus is on events, issues, and ideas which significantly affect the
Houghton College community. Letters (signed) are
encouraged and accepted
for publication; however,
they must not constitute a they must not constitute a onal attack, they must be submitted by noon on Tuesday, and they should be no longer than two edit all contribution

"No Discrimination". continued



the installation of an electronic system which uses ID cards instead of metal keys. This type of system may see its debut in the next six years, but expect it only if it proves cost-effective to the college.

Large urban colleges often lock all residence halls twenty-four hours a day for security. Houghton is just too sleepy a little town for such paranoia. "We're seduced into thinking we're always safe," Ortiz commented, adding that most students are too busy struggling to "open up" this campus (regarding access) to consider locking the dorms completely.

Repair, continued



that Student atmosphere Development hopes to promote. In stating that he and his staff will move from "efforts at restoration to punitive action," he meant simply that they will attempt to promote a sense of integrity and mutual consideration on campus. This will include what Danner called "looking around."

Punitive action, Danner stressed, is "not necessarily negative or pejorative"; it can be "a part of the restoration process." Although "it can be painful, it can also be cleansing if one accepts responsibility for one's own behavior, and if it's done in a spirit of love."

Danner then contended that "there are no bad kids" at Houghton, just misquided ones. To illustrate this point, he said that one former student who frequently got into trouble during his days at Houghton is now working as a counselor for inner-city children.

Senate...

...and CAB

by Stephen Virkler

The Student Senate approved the formation of committees designed to review "the Pledge" and by-laws to the Senate's constitution at its first meeting on Tuesday evening, September 19.

The "Pledge committee's" task is to "take a good, hard look at 'the Pledge' to see if an update is needed," said Student Senate President Thom Fenner. However. he also pointed out that "the Pledge" was updated in 1985, so it may be current enough.

The "constitution committee's" job is to amend the by-laws of the Senate's constitution so that they don't conflict with the constitution itself, according to Fenner. For example, the by-laws currently give voting power to all members of CAB, while the actual constitution allows only a few CAB members this privilege.

Also in the meeting, Charlie Howard was officially named as "outreach senator." responsibility is to inform the Senate of the activities of the outreach ministries (ACO, WMF, Clown Ministry, etc.), according to sophomore senators Anthony Perkins and William Burrichter.

CAB chair Mary Biglow reported that the movies "Stand and Deliver" and "Dead Poet's Society" were both approved by the Film Review Committee. She added that "The Outsiders," "The Accidental Tourist," and edited versions of "Romancing the Stone" and "Rain Man" have been submitted for approval.

The David Meece concert last Saturday evening in Wesley Chapelwas the first Student Senatesponsored concert to make a profit "in over two years," according to Campus Activities Board treasurer Darren Chick. Posters advertising this event were placed within a 100mile radius from Houghton by dedicated CAB staff members, Chick

Mary Biglow, the chair of CAB, explained that the key to the success of this concert was pleasing the student body by booking a performer it wanted rather than getting a performer who would charge less. She explained that this decision was influenced by CAB's desire to be good stewards with the students' money.

The goal of CAB is to bring new and updated activities to Houghton, according to Chick. These activities include the showing of current movies, such as "Dead Poet's Society" (Dec. 2) and "Stand and Deliver" (Sept. 30) as well as a concert by Mylon LeFevre. One other goal of the CAB is to organize a free, outdoor concert at the end of the year.

He then reaffirmed his faith in the students by issuing a "parting shot" to the student body: Houghton is not a "house that's falling down" but only a "house that needs repair."

The Star still needs a BUSINESS MANAGER1111

If you are a junior or senior with a GPA of at least 2.25, and you are interested, please call Dave at ext. 210.

Stuff I Think About...

by Mark Shiner

"More Stuff About Life"

Life is a great gift. But the paradox of the gift of life (which is love, and the knowledge that one is loved by God) is that it can be kept only by giving it away (Thomas Merton). "Whoever loses his life for me will find it."

College is, for most people, a time of relentless narcissism, a period of testing the waters, trying to decide what we want to do, who we want to be. It is also, for many, a time of tremendous selfdiscovery, a time of liberating ourselves from the tyranny of old and false expectations. And all of this is good, because it suggests a process of opening ourselves up to receive the gift of life.

All of this is not, however, life.

Life consists of learning to love with abandon, with the uninhibited freedom and spontaneity of the saints. Hence, a life which focuses on itself in some effort to "find itself," to discover what it wants to be, is doomed to bankruptcy and death. It is a hopeless search, because when a person seeks primarily to meet her own needs, she has lost sight of Jesus: "For whoever wants to save his life will lose it."

Thinking of the bankruptcy of narcissism brings to mind the image of a man who sets out to sail the Atlantic Ocean alone. He brings no food. Instead, when he is hungry he pulls out his knife, lops off a few of his own toes, and eats them. As the journey goes on, he seeks to nourish himself by feeding on himself. When he has finished eating his toes, he moves on to his feet, his legs, and the rest of his body until finally there is nothing left to nourish.

It is only by loving-loving God and loving one another-that we can hope to embrace life as a gift and to escape destruction. Seeking life for what it can give to you leads to death. Seeking life for what it enables you to give to others is the way of Jesus.

Fish Fry Every Friday 5:00 -7:30. all you can eat only \$3.95. Party Piggas \$7.50 + .60¢ per topping. Free Deliverry 8-11 pm Monday Nights only. Contest for free Party Piggas! Check at Big Ol's for details.

Risk: Flowers Among Thorns

submitted by Miriam Dentler and Jenna Gieser

People often say, "You have to stop and smell the roses," especially on a college campus loaded with due dates, exams, hours of reading, and calendars filled with commitments. How come no one ever says, "Have you taken time to be pricked by the thorns?"

Changing analogies but maintaining metaphor...while I was growing up, one of my great joys was picking thistles for my mother. There is a real art to picking a plant that is covered with spiny points to protect its fragile flower. I never wore gloves; I used only a pocket knife and a bandana to cut the pain-giving plant.

My mother was, and is, very fond of thistles. She recognized a deeper value in my childish gift. The thistle represented the pain I was willing to risk

to share beauty and joy with my mother.

Have you figured out what parallels are going to be drawn? To put it plainly: God gave us a gift-His Son. Jesus gave us a gift—His life, forgiveness for our sin. Both of these gifts were given in pain. We as Christians need to accept two things. We must be willing to accept pain as we give in relationships. We must also cultivate a sensitivity towards the pain of others.

If my mother had not looked beyond the physical beauty of the thistles I gave her to see the beauty in the risk of pain that was involved, my gift would have lost much of its value. But more than that my child's spirit would have been wounded. I would have lost the simple joy of giving. Are you willing to say, "I love you enough to give you something that may cause me pain"? The pain may come in the humbling of our pride, or delaying our wants to meet another's needs, or in loosening our grip on someone because it is best for him. For some the gift of friendship makes them more vulnerable to pain that they want to admit.

Without that pain, would the rose smell as sweet? Go ahead-stop and smell the roses. Don't

be frightened away by the thorns.

Letter Stir me, someone

Dear Editor,

I believe you should encourage your columnists to be incisive. Last week, the three columns were scarcely arousing.

"Let Freedom Ring" was a half-page essay devoted to the praise of freedom and those who have sacrificed for its sake.

The authors of "The Wading Pool" suggested that we remain aware of events outside of Houghton and prepare ourselves for our involvement in them.

"Stuff I Think About" concerned the author's reflections on his own dishonesty with himself, others, and God, and the pride born of this dishonesty.

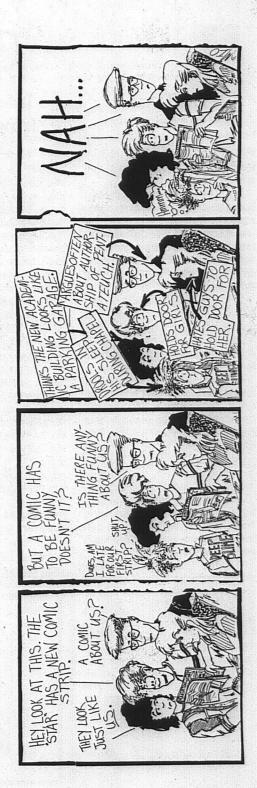
Be thankful for freedom. Prepare yourself for the world outside Houghton. Don't protect your ego with dishonesty. These are statements which we nod at and pass by. They do not provoke a response, even a positive one, because they contain no surprises.

Aaron Gill

Corrections, apologies, retractions and etc.:

On page 10 of last week's **Star**, Jeanette Baust seemingly advocated the addition of "radical minorities" to the Houghton faculty. The phrase that Ms. Baust actually wrote was "racial minorities." Last issue's proofreading staff (me) regrets the error...

Due to an intense lack of organization on the part of the editor, this week's **Star** has no arts coverage. The future, however, awaits; so bear with us...



Sports

"It'll Be Trying..."

by Becki Burrichter and Nancy Metzler

It'll be tough. It'll be trying. It'll be thrilling. The 1989 field hockey team is in for one sensational season.

The anticipation began during the team's first gathering: preseason. Top-quality conditioning was the primary goal during these two weeks, and with the expertise of assistant coachLarry Ortiz and three daily practices, this aim was achieved.

The team's coach of two years, Connie Finney, admits that the schedule looks grueling. "We will be playing many big, top ranked schools this year..one team happens to be in the top five in the nation."

Due to the stiff competition ahead, the team's goal is to "break even" (finish with a .500 record). And with its unity, top condition, and seventeen returning players, this target record looks not only attainable, but passable. "This team is very talented and highly motivated," Coach Finney observed. "God gave these girls healthy, able bodies full of talent. Working to the 'max' and 'playing your heart out' are simply our ways of returning thanks and praising Him."

The team and staff alike greatly appreciate the supportive fans, many of whom come rain or shine. Their next home game is scheduled for Tuesday afternoon, September 26. The excitement awaits you.

Intramural Innovations

by Kevin Fuller

Intramural director Bob Smalley is preparing to make changes. Scheduled modifications include the addition of a coed halfcourt basketball tournament, a number of "fun runs", and a triathalon that is planned for November. The intramural department anticipates that these new and exciting programs will spark interest and increase participation. "My hope is to be innovative," stated Smalley, now in his second year as intramural director. "Other schools experience success with these types of events, and I believe Houghton can also benefit from them."

Another adjustment in the intramural program is the rescheduling of the softball season from Mayterm to the fall semester. "I like the change," said Poker Schultz, a three-year veteran of intramural softball. "It offers everyone the chance to play ball, instead of limiting it to the handful of people who stay for Mayterm." The season ends in mid-October for the four teams in this year's program.

The intramural program seems to be maturing with every year. Congratulations to the athletic staff for their efforts in furnishing students with a greater variety of activities.

Womens' Soccer Coach: Paula Maxwell Season to date: 0-5 feat son

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L	Geneseo	4-1
L	St. Bonaventure	5-0
L	Seton Hill	4-0
L	Geneva	2-1

Volleyball Coach: Harold Lord Season to date: 3-3

L Oneonta	1-2
W Conesus	2-0
L Brockport	1-2
L Keuka	0-3
W Geneseo	3-0
W Elmira	3-2

Complete stats will be published next issue (we hope...)



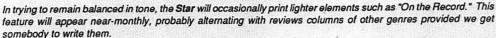




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On the Record

by Jamie Lindsay





Lindsay Lauds Liverpudian

Back in 1962, a young man and his three friends released their first album to a world totally unprepared for its impact. The album was called Please, Please Me and the band was called The Beatles. Little did Paul McCartney know that in a few short years the face of rock and roll would permanently change due to the efforts of his and his band's efforts. Twenty-seven years later Paul McCartney is still going strong, and he has released a new and characteristically solid album. Flowers in the Dirt.

For his latest effort, McCartney has brought together an impressive group of musicians, producers, and arrangers to help out: Linda McCartney, David Gilmour, George Martin, Trevor Horn, and Elvis Costello. McCartney and Costello share the writing credits on four of the album's twelve tracks. Two such songs, "My Brave Face" and "You Want Her Too" are among the album's standouttunes. "My Brave Face" relates the trials of the breakup of a serious relationship. "You Want Her Too" is a duet between McCartney and Costello in which two guys argue about a woman to whom they are both attracted. McCartney's smooth, melodic tones and Costello's harsh, scornful voice play off each other well.

The album also contains characteristic McCartney fare such as

"Distractions" and "We Got Married", chronicling the ups and downs of true love and how the road to success in marriage is lined with many obstacles. "It doesn't work out if you don't work at it." The album's best moments come on three different songs which stray away from the traditional love song genre. One of them, "How Many People", is written by McCartney in memory of Chico Mendes was a Brazilian Mendes. environmentalist assassinated by powerful economic interests in Brazil for his efforts to save his country's rain forests, vital to world ecology.

The other two songs are "Rough Ride" and "Motor of Love", songs of McCartney's search for God and his thankfulness to a heavenly Father that he doesn't appear to have fully found. I pray he finds his salvation in Jesus Christ, the only way to the true heavenly

In total, Flowers in the Dirt contains songs of great depth and consideration. Musically this album is refreshing in an industry flooded with Tone-Loc-type artists with the originality of a turnip. Some would say that McCartney's genius has returned with Flowers in the Dirt. I'd say it's just continuing as it always has..unabated. Rating: ****

Freedom Found Favorable

When I first heard that Freedom had been released, I was pleased to hear that a consistently good Christian band like White Heart was releasing some more quality music. I had hoped that there would be more songs reminiscent of "Fly, Eagle, Fly" (from Don't Wait For the Movie) and "Montana Sky" (from Emergency Broadcast). Unfortunately, most of the songs on Freedom have a harder sound to them. Two examples are "Power Tools" and "Invitation". These are certainly not bad, but they suffer greatly from guitar overkill (and, in the case of "Power Tools", mediocre lyrics). Other songs on this album, such as "Sing Your Freedom", suffer to a lesser degree from this problem.

Fortunately, this album has moments which work to redeem it. Such moments can first be found on "Over Me" and "Let the River Flow". Both of these songs lay more weight on quality music from all of the instruments. Vocalist Rick Florian sounds much better when he doesn't have to compete with the guitar for prominence. White Heart also brings in some friends on "Let the River Flow"—such musicians as Margaret Becker, Eddie DeGarmo and Steven Curtis Chapman.

The album's best moment, lyrically and musically, occurs on "Eighth Wonder." This song explores self-doubt ("...wondering where I am; trying to be somebody, wondering if I can...") and expresses yearning to love others as God loves us.

Overall, Freedom is a good album with some bad and even average (such as "Bye, Bye, Babylon", which takes good lyrics and joins them to the awkward sound that "Sing Your Freedom" suffers from) moments. The album is not bad, but it's also not White Heart's best. Rating: ***

Classic: ****
Excellent: ****
Good: ****
Lousy: ***
Irredeemable: 0

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For reservations and information, contact Dr. David Barnes, Director, Transcultural Studies in Europe, Roberts Wesleyan College, Rochester, NY 14624; phone (716) 594-9471. Deadline is October 15.

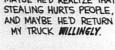
Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson

PHOOEY, WHO AM I KIDDING? I'D NEVER GET AWAY WITH STEALING MY TRUCK BACK FROM MOE. THE UGLY GALOOT IS THE SIZE OF A BUICK .

HMM ... SINCE I CAN'T FIGHT HIM, MAYBE I SHOULD TRY TALKING TO HIM, MAYBE IF I REASONED WITH HIM, HE'D SEE MY SIDE.

MAYBE HE'D REALIZE THAT MY TRUCK WILLINGLY.





























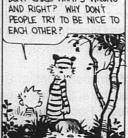
SO MOE STOLE MY TRUCK, AND WHEN I TRIED TO GET IT BACK, MOE WANTED TO FIGHT ME FOR IT. I DIDN'T WANT TO FIGHT, SO I WALKED AWAY AND MOE KEPT MY TRUCK.





I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT,

HOBBES. WHAT MAKES

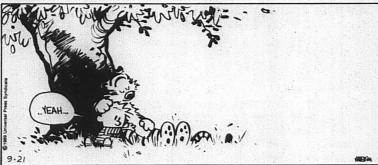


WHY IS IT THAT SOME PEOPLE

DON'T CARE WHAT'S WRONG







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- There are no restrictions on form or theme. Length of poems up to fourteen lines. Each poem must have a separate title. (Avoid "Untitled"!) Small black and white illustrations welcome.
- 5. The judges' decision will be final: No info by phone!
- Entrants should keep a copy of all entries as they cannot be returned. Prize winners and all authors awarded publication will receive a gold-seal certificate ten days after the deadline.
 I.P. will retain one-time publication rights for accepted poems.
 Foreign language poems welcome.
- There is an initial \$3 registration fee for the first entry and a fee of one dollar for each additional poem.
- All entries must be postmarked not later than the above deadline and fees be paid, cash, check or money order, to:

INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS P.O. Box 44044-L Los Angeles, CA 90044

Back to the Garden?

by Dave Wheeler



Last spring, when I first discovered that the 1989 Homecoming theme would be "the sixties", I was intrigued, for that decade represents more than marches, music and a few slain public figures. It was a plethora of values-some noble (such as the continuing drive for civil rights), some of more dubious merit (Timothy Leary's acid tests, etc.)—but overall an expression of values. I was looking forward to Homecoming in order to see how they (the committees) would pull it off, how they would create enjoyable sixtiesbased events without trivializing the ideals.

I'm still looking forward to it, but my hopefulness, optimism and gleeful anticipation is mingled with just a touch of apprehension. There was something, some snippet of life, that invaded my brain this summer and cast doubts therein about the success of a sixties Homecoming.

I know exactly what it was. It was that annoying Woodstock dove.

Twenty years ago, thousands of people converged upon a patch of farmland in Bethel, New York for "Three Days of Peace and Music." Peace and music certainly did take place, along with other attributes of the age, but they're irrelevant to my point. The event's symbol, printed on its promotional posters and flyers, was a placid dove.

Twenty years later, I wandered through a mall and saw the same placid dove hawked everywhere, on any conceivable piece of merchandise. Woodstock t-shirts, Woodstock baseball caps, Woodstock buttons, Woodstock

beach towels—I wouldn't have been surprised to find a Woodstock cologne somewhere (I can just picture it: "for the man who likes to *smell* like a ground sloth...") The dove became trendy; Woodstock merchandise flowed among preteens whom, I suspect, would be hard-pressed to locate Vietnam on a map. It became valueless, simply another cartoon figure to join the Opuses (Opii?) and Axl Roses of the day.

It is unfortunate that such a symbol of a decade's feeling can be so easily nullified. But when I think about it, a similar thing has been done to our faith, which represents far more than a decade's feeling or a spirit of the age.

Actual Christianity involves a painful struggle (like any other relationship, but in this case it's writ large). It involves a desperate reaching out to a merciful, omnipotent hand; it involves an overwhelming love born of this initial contact. It involves a quest for righteousness in a world which often views righteousness with derision. It involves persecution, tribulation and pain.

I don't like to hear about persecution, tribulation and pain. They are not pleasant things for me to grasp. And although I know that it was Jesus who said, "in this world you will have tribulation," I convince myself that it really wasn't Him. Although I know that Jesus has commanded me to love as He has loved me, and that this love is to be extended even to my enemies, I tell myself that He didn't really mean it. Although I know that there's a cross

to be taken up, I find it easier and much more pleasant to ignore. The faith I then display is not true, abundant Christianity—it is "Christianity—ite." The Jesus I construct, minus all the talk about tribulations to endure and enemies to love and crosses to bear, is a "Jesus-lite," certainly not the true Jesus to whom my allegiance belongs—and I remain on the well-trodden path of least resistance.

This evasion, and subsequent reducing of the cross to mere wood, is born out of fear and rebellion. My fear and rebellion disturb me, as do the fear and rebellion of others. For I suspect that I'm not the only Christian in the world who has drunk of Christianity-lite. Rather, I suspect that there are many of us, rendering the blood of Christ personally meaningless by not letting it transform us fully. Thus the cross becomes another placid dove.

Many of the utopian values of the sixties are gone, shattered by a President's machinations, a recession, and four dead in Ohio. Fortunately, some of the positive remains-a quest for justice, for equality, for honesty. In contrast, nothing is "gone" from the true Christ. who remains the same yesterday, today and forever. If we abandon a lite Christianity and embrance a true Christianity-with the pain that comes with the package—the cross Jesus bore takes on much more significance. Forthrough His power, we bear crosses of our own.

Anyway, maybe the committees can pull it off. I'll be there. I may even smile at the dove.