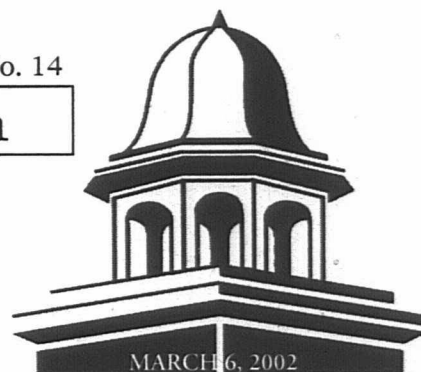


STAR

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF HOUGHTON COLLEGE

The Houghton



MARCH 6, 2002

Foundation adds "Village Court" trailer park to purchase list

by **Bethany Schwartz**
Star staff

Almost three weeks ago the Willard J. Houghton Foundation purchased the Village Court trailer park and apartments. The Village Court, located near the Citgo and the Houghton Wesleyan Church, joins Sweet Attitudes, the Citgo, Jockey Street Cafe, and others that are under the ownership of Houghton Ventures, the for-profit entity of the WJH Foundation.

Several months ago the Foundation was approached by an attorney, asking if Houghton Ventures would have any interest in acquiring the property. The Foundation was interested but had to wait until a former partnership was dissolved before any exchange could take place. This final step in the transfer occurred almost three

weeks ago.

The previous owner and manager of the Village Court began experiencing conflict several months ago, when attorneys first approached the Foundation about



photo by Brian Quinones

The Village Court Apartments on Route 19. The Willard J. Houghton Foundation just purchased this property.

purchasing the area. This former partnership, consisting of a local manager and a New England owner, wound up fighting with each other, eventually requiring the court to become involved. Several evictions occurred and trailers were removed by court order, primarily because the partnership had not kept up with mortgage or tax payments.

Jason Thayer, manager of the car wash downtown, was given the position of manager of this new property. Thayer also manages Walldorf house and is responsible for upgrades and maintenance at this and other venues owned by the WJH Foundation.

The Willard J. Houghton Foundation has not yet decided what to do with the Village Court property. Jeff Spear, Vice President of Finance at the college, said, "I have some ideas, but I'm reluctant to say how we're going to change...it's still up in the air, and

we're going to wait on the Foundation to decide what to do."

The main goal right now is to remove the trailers that are located on the property, which should occur by the end of June. Only one of these trailers houses a permanent resident; the rest are filled by students or other temporary occupants. The permanent resident

continued on page 3

The Lilies of the Field to open on March 14

by **Melanie Marciano**
Star staff

The Lilies of the Field is coming to Houghton Academy courtesy of nine Houghton students on March 14-16. The play, adopted by Andrew Leslie from the novel written by William Barrett, will be "an evening of laughter and inspiration," says direction Bruce Brenneman. Rachel Kern is the student director.

The play takes place in the

southwest United States where a group of German nuns run a poor Catholic mission. The main character, Homer, has just been released from the army and is looking for work. He stops by the mission to see if the nuns need any help.



Mother Maria sees Homer as an answer to prayer and insists he stay. One of the countless jobs she has for Homer is building a chapel; Homer isn't sure he can finish all the work, but decides to say. He is very impressed by the nuns' faith even though they have nothing. The faith

continued on page 8

ISA celebrates around the world

by **Jen Neroni**
Star staff

It's time to celebrate! On Saturday, March 9th, Houghton College dining hall will be transformed into a huge party! ISA (Inter-Cultural Students Association) is once again sponsoring the International Banquet and this year the theme is celebrations around the world.

The evening will begin with a reception of drinks and finger foods in the Campus Center lounge at 6:30, followed by the banquet itself at 7:00 in the dining hall. The night will feature dishes from all over the world, festive decorations, and cultural entertainment from across the globe.

The menu for the evening will feature an international cuisine from almost every continent. This year, the bill of fare will include of a dish from Norway, Brazilian Rice and Beans, a Bhutanese potato dish, an Ethiopian beef dish, and dessert from the United States.

Attendees are encouraged to wear cultural dress if they are able to, and if not, semi-formal attire. There will be an international fashion show featuring those dressed in their festive garb from around the globe. There will also be various other entertainments including cultural song and dance. Houghton jazz combo, EB Goodtimes, will provide the main musical enjoyment for the evening. There will be festive decorations, including murals painted by Amy Scheele. There will also be a fish bowl and fish on every table!

Jamie Wetherby, Jennifer Stanley, Mike Arensen, and Jeffery Griffis have been working hard to give Houghton College an international treat they've never before experienced.

Tickets for the banquet will be on sale in the Campus Center during the lunch hour every day this week. Tickets are \$10 a piece.

i
n
s
i
d
e

Chamberlain Essay Contest winner
page 5

Winter Weekend and SPOT
page 4



the Normals: a place where you belong
CD review
page 7



Susanna Rosenbaum

THE WORLD OUT THERE



Journal reporter Daniel Pearl to be held at least through March 12th. The U.S. has been seeking to extradite Islamic militant Omar Saeed.

U.N. chief Kofi Annan says chaos could hit Afghanistan if a British-led peacekeeping force pulls out according to schedule this summer. He's urging an extension of the peacekeepers' service.

The commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan expects to make a recommendation this week on details for an Afghan army. General Tommy Franks told a House panel one idea would be to incorporate some Afghan forces currently backed by

Iran, which could ease friction among various factions. Pentagon officials are counting on an Afghan army to provide the security necessary to keep the country from falling into chaos.

President Bush says he sees the influence of al-Qaida terrorists in the former Soviet republic of Georgia—and that's why U.S. troops could soon be going in. Mr. Bush says the U.S. is willing to help any nation that asks in the fight against terrorism.

Israeli troops launched a major assault on two Palestinian refugee camps in the West Bank last Thursday (2/28). The Israeli military



says the camps are strongholds of Palestinian terrorists. Seven Palestinians and an Israeli soldier were killed in heavy gun battles during the raid. Fifty Palestinians were wounded. Palestinians say Israeli tanks and helicopter gunships

rocketed and machine-gunned a camp where twenty thousand Palestinians live. The strikes came just hours after a Palestinian woman with an explosives belt strapped to her body blew herself up near an Israeli checkpoint in the West Bank. The U.S. State Department is urging the Israeli government to exercise "utmost restraint" in order to avoid harming the civilian population.

CNN reports that last week India, locked in a tense military face-off with Pakistan, announced a 14 percent increase in its defense spending to 650 billion rupees (\$13.3 billion) for the year to March 2003.

Hindu rioters have torched a government office and a mosque in the western Indian city of Ahmedabad in retaliation for a deadly train attack - accredited to a Muslim group—that killed at least 58 people.

Zimbabwe's Supreme Court has thrown out an electoral law that banned independent monitors from observing next month's presidential election. The court said President Robert Mugabe did not have the power to pass such a law, which also would have prevented millions of

Zimbabweans living abroad from voting.

A busload of Cuban citizens crashed through a gate at the Mexican embassy in Havana, Cuba, just before midnight Wednesday (2/27) with the apparent intention of seeking asylum. According to eyewitnesses, about a dozen Cubans made it into the compound and were seen on the roof of the embassy, crying out anti-government slogans. Some of the people on the bus were injured during the gate-crashing incident. Journalists were attacked by police with batons to prevent them from videotaping the events. The break-in came after rumors swept the capital that Mexico was offering to take in Cubans wanting to leave the communist-run island, Reuters reported.



Social thoughts



by Joshua Zieffle
Columnist

I have very little inspiration as I sit here in my office attempting to write this week's column, but here goes nothing. I've tried to write this past year of many different things, and in the process have no doubt frightened the public with my wanton randomness. In some way you've seen inside my mind and been able to understand part of what it is to be me. At least that's the hope of this author. Not that it's necessary for you to understand everything I or anyone does. However, I tend to think it's important nonetheless as we work, live, and learn together that we take some time to comprehend those around us. We are by no means forced to understand these fellow travelers on our journey of life, but it definitely helps to make things more interesting. Whether we grow to become fast friends with those

nearby or realize how vast our disagreements may define us, the important thing is that we're living life together. Times for isolation and retreat from the often chaotic world will come, but they in the end are not normative for human existence. It is only by interacting one with another that we can ever hope to understand a little of who we are—it is through the processes of friendship, the hardships of conflict, and the tensions of disputes that we begin to define ourselves and our lives. Moreover, it is only through the social aspects of our being that we can truly grasp both the deeply rooted shortcomings of man and the heights of which he is capable. Love, hate, jealousy, and charity are but some of the things which we would never really comprehend if we did not experience them in the world at large. God himself knew this when He became one of us. Christ's ministry on earth was profoundly relational and social—in the process revealing humanity in all its myriad forms. It had the effect of proclaiming that the Lord was concerned with understanding and relating to us personally. And ultimately it is this example that we ought to take with us. While it may never be easy to try to understand and interact with another, such actions will always be necessary if we are to live a truly human and profoundly Christian life. The image of God within us demands no less...

The Houghton STAR

Bethany Schwartz
- editor in chief -

Rosa Gerber
- managing editor -

Richard Mehring
- design editor -

Beth Freeman
- business editor -

Bruce Brenneman
- advisor -

Contributing Writers:

Liz Bence
Noel Habashy
Liz Hornor
Carrie Kerstetter
Melanie Marciano
Jen Neroni

Greg On
Melisande Richardson
Regina Rinaldo
Susanna Rosenbaum
Joshua Zieffle

Photography:
Liz Hornor
Brian Quinones
Bethany Schwartz

Special Contributors:
Meredith Dyson

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

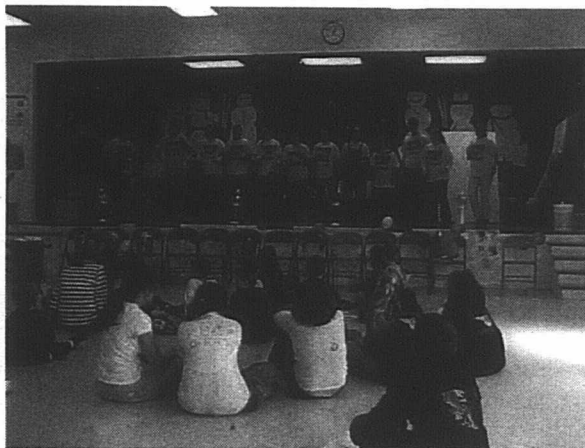
Cross country team goes north for missions trip

by Liz Hornor
Star staff

Over February Break twelve students piled into a Houghton van and traveled twelve hours to a little village called Owl's Head in Maine. The students, members of the Houghton Cross Country team, held a Vacation Bible School for the children of the area at the Owl's Head Baptist Church. The Pastor of the church is Paul Munro, father of Emily Munro, who headed up the trip. Also part of the team were Chris Mancuso, Larry Petry, Jen Kinman, DJ Merriam, Amy Henderson, Kim Sayre, Katryana Keely, Liz Hornor, Melissa Stroud, Becca Cole, and Holly Sayre. Arriving at the church at 11 pm Tuesday, the group attacked the building with decorations relating to the theme of running the race of life. In a few hours the church was ready for VBS and the group was ready for bed.

A few hours later the four days of VBS began with skits, songs, missions highlights, and prayer.

Twenty-five kids came each day and were split up into four teams depending on their age; each team represented one color of the Olympic rings (except black). VBS lasted from 9-12 each morning and the four teams rotated through games, Bible time, snack time, and crafts. The theme of



VBS was "On Your Mark, Get Set, Go." Larry Petry wrote the theme song for the week and part of it captures what the teachers were trying to impart to the kids through the theme. The song says "On your mark/ I'm standing where God wants me to be/ Get set/ I'm making plans to be ready/ And go and go/ I'm running for the Lord."

The week culminated with an Olympic day on Saturday during which Chris Mancuso and Larry Petry had more energy than the kids and led everyone through a marathon of games. Chris Mancuso summed up the day this way, "The kids really knew how to have a good time. God blessed us

all hardcore, kept everyone safe and there were no mess ups or big fights."

While in Maine the group had the opportunity to hike up some mountains, see a lighthouse and walk along the ocean. They also experienced Christ's love through their host families.

During the twelve-hour trip back to Houghton on Sunday

there was ample time for reflection on the week. The group enjoyed working together as a body, seeing how powerful prayer was in giving them the strength for each day, and witnessing God's grace in so many areas. Everyone agreed that they would do it again in a heartbeat.

Village Court, from page 1

has been approached by the Foundation about being moved from his trailer to one of the apartments on the Court land, which he has agreed to. Residents of the apartments may be asked to leave in the future, but this would not take place until at least June 30, 2003.

Spear stressed the importance of working with the town on this project. "I think we need to carefully assess what makes the most sense and work with the town planning board and the community residents to get a vision from them...they're going to have to be part of this with the changes that need to be made."

Because of the evictions that have taken place under the previous partnership, some residents believed that Houghton College and the Willard J. Houghton Foundation were kicking people out of the Village Court. Spear commented, "There are those out there who said 'This is the Foundation kicking people out of the trailer park.' But really all the evictions happened under the old management and Houghton has nothing to do with it. It would have happened anyway."

The WJH Foundation has ensured by taking this step in purchasing the Village Court that an absentee landlord will not come in and make the area into a "slum," in the words of Jeff Spear.

Although the Foundation is still unsure what will happen to the property, the hope is that they will be able to generate some profit first through the apartments, then by selling the property to an approved owner. For now they are glad to have finally finished drawing up the purchase agreements.

Letter to the editor: view from dining hall employee Liz Bence

Many students are under the false impression that "the dining hall issue is very clear" to them, as Brett Greene claims it is to him in his article "ID cards: good intentions gone wrong." The only problem with those who agree with statement is that, well, most of them are wrong.

This is my fifth semester to work in the Houghton College cafeteria. Averaging 20 hours a week, I have punched in for (at a conservative guess) 1200 hours. I know every staff member and many of their families by name. I have worked at every job available to students, and currently work as student manager. When I speak of matters concerning the cafeteria, I believe I speak with a fairly high level of accuracy.

This letter is one I have pondered writing for quite some time now, but which was finally sparked by Greene's article, which did indeed "open my eyes to other views on the matter," but perhaps not quite in the manner he intended. Instead of accusing them; I was inspired to defend my employers by his quotation of Psalm 112:6, which states that, "Good people will always be remembered."

While I recognize the point of the article was to emphasize the impracticality of replacing seemingly fine ID cards, (which I agree with) certain unfounded but commonly propounded statements were made that I believe have long required a fair reply. Accusations

towards the dining services in Greene's letter reflect commonly believed fallacies on campus, including that "students are forced to pay for nothing," meals are "overpriced," and that "the source of this [ID card] problem on campus lies within the dining services." Also implied, through the pointed use of Bible verses regarding tax collecting and fairness in business, followed by the remark that these could "be verses which the HC food service can benefit from," is that Pioneer Food Service employees here on campus are involved in some sort of shady, profit making enterprise. I beg to disagree.

Rather than selectively invoking phrases from the Psalms or the Constitution to support my opinions about food and ID cards, I talked to the oft-scapegoated Fred Libick in order to get the facts regarding where our money actually goes. Consider this carefully: meal plan prices are adjusted with the calculated knowledge that students will not eat all of their meals. For example, Pioneer Food Services recognizes that students on the 5 meal plan are most likely to eat all five meals. They pay \$565 a semester. People on the 10 meal plan will probably miss a few meals each week. So rather than paying two times the price for the five meal plan, which would be \$1130, they pay only \$975. Most people on the 14 meal plan will also miss meals, so instead of paying three times the

five meal plan, which would be \$1695, they pay only \$1210. Get the idea? When you consider that the price for the twenty one meal plan could be a little more than four times the five meal plan, at \$2260, this makes \$1380 not look so bad.

It is important to consider that your money has bought you the right to eat the number of meals you ordered, but the higher your meal plan, does not actually pay for the cost of food for that many meals. So if you're on the twenty-one meal plan and eat all twenty one meals, the cafeteria actually loses money. Also consider that Pioneer Food Service does not receive all of the board dollars you pay. A certain percentage of this money goes to the college to pay for utilities in the kitchen and dining room, maintenance of equipment, buying new equipment, and many other food service related items. There are also cafeteria employees, staff, and student workers to be paid, all in addition to food being bought and prepared.

Houghton College students, who Greene mistakenly assumes are all "good stewards," also incur additional costs. The money it took to buy and make the approximately 400 pounds of food that are left on trays and consequently wasted every week adds up. I have also often spied unsuspecting students stuffing food into jackets and bags to take home (most recently a fifteen pound block of cheese),

sneaking up the back stairs to avoid scanning, or blatantly walking past the checkers (such as myself, on occasion) without scanning and giving each other high fives at the top of the stairs to celebrate their conniving success. Do these people really think we don't see them? And I do hope it isn't these same people who ask why there are seemingly high prices for their food, as their cumulative actions contribute significantly to the costs.

Perhaps you are beginning to understand how difficult Fred's job is. When you're tempted to growl about the ominous food service machine that's eating up all of your money, remember that "there is a human back here; it's not just a big monster," as Fred says. And this human is "here to feed the students, not to say you can't eat." Do you still have more questions or complaints? Rather than mumbling about tax collectors or scan-nazis, why not talk to Fred, Ed, or Luke? I promise they only bite if bitten first.

WINTER WEEKEND HITS HOUGHTON

by Noel Habashy

Winter Weekend at Houghton College has come and gone.

February 25-March 2, 2002 saw the events transpire to a mixed reception. The weeklong "Weekend"

included events for class competitions, the ever-popular "SPOT", and was to culminate with a Banquet dinner on Saturday, March 2. The biggest disappointment of the weekend for organizers (Chris Buell, Matt Rudd, and Sarah Kitchel) and students was the cancellation of the banquet. The Disney-themed dinner was called off on Monday due to lack of interest. There needed to be about 100 students to

register in order for the event to go ahead; as of Monday, only about 35

students had actually registered and paid.

Aside from that disappointment, the rest of the week seemed to be

successful.

The class competitions went well and included the activities of soccer, basketball, volleyball, ping-pong, foosball, and racquetball. Students from each year signed up to play and to gain points for their class. All the classes were well represented with soccer, basketball, and volleyball having the largest number of participants. About the competitions, Chris Buell stated, "It is typical that freshman and seniors have the most involvement because

the freshmen are all excited and want to make a name for themselves and the seniors want to go out with a bang." And go out with a bang they did. On Thursday evening, at the end of the competitions, the seniors emerged as the overall winners. Their reward? A pizza party at Big Al's, a

highlight for the week's activities. Held on the evening of Friday, March 1, this favorite was much anticipated. The overall response was positive but the show suffered the difficulty of (and will forever be subject to) being compared to previous semesters' showings. Highlights from the

most recent SPOT included some old skool hip-hop, a fantastic drum duel, and a final love song from the duo of Joel and Gabe (and really, who knew that Mike Ryan was Spiderman?).

Once all was said and done,

new addition to this year's activities.

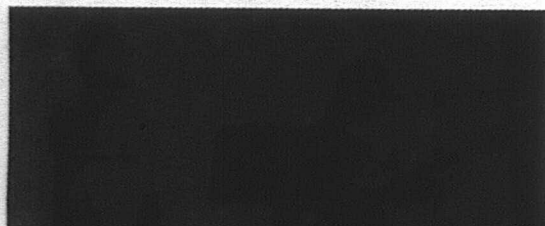
"SPOT", a quasi-talent show held twice a year in the chapel was

an overall successful Winter Weekend, a Houghton tradition, had been completed. One can only guess what next year will hold.



highlights of SPOT in pictures...

Gabe Whittaker and Joel Eggleston graced the audience with one final love song.



Mindy Schaeffer, Alica Atwater, Erik Ireland, and Jason Miller sang about worms.



The Ninja Guy.



Tim Allen performed an improv on the piano.

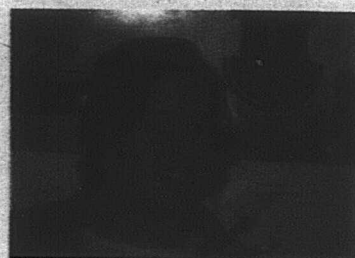
Mike Zale made an impact Matt Rudd with the Bat of Influence.

In Question: Which winter Olympic sport should be added to the class competitions roster?



"Curling"

Chris Moeller (freshman)



"Polar bear water polo"

Kayt Fink (junior)

Chamberlain mission contest winner: Meredith Dyson

"So, how was India?" she asks as she works her way across the front of the church at greeting time. While my brain scrambles to formulate a coherent answer, she has already moved on to the next person in line. Another friend grabs my hand and looks at me intently. Here is someone who truly is interested, I think. "How was your trip?" he inquires. Weary of the repeated attempts to summarize a lifetime of experiences into a concise paragraph, I smile brightly and mouth the inane reply that I have claimed as my own over the past few days. "It was ... amazing ..." My voice sort of trails off, and I catch myself slowly fading out of the conversation, my mind traveling half-way around the world to a place that now feels more like home than the house in which I have lived for the past twenty years.

What could possibly induce an American college student to spend her summer in a hot, humid climate, surrounded by bugs, filth, and overwhelming poverty? This question was posed to me by a friend before I left for India this summer. At the time, I was distressed by her lack of understanding, but I realize now that the question is a valid one. What was my purpose in going to India for six weeks? Is there any merit to be found that would justify the amount of funds and resources that were invested in the trip?

The validity of short-term mission trips has become a topic of heated debate over the past twenty years. In a world that seems to be shrinking every day as travel becomes increasingly affordable, many Christians have been able to partake of what could be termed a "free sample" of the missionary life. While the trip may not technically be free, it does allow a person to experience another culture and to participate on some level in mission, without requiring them to make a long-term commitment.

While a number of articles and books that address the explosion of short-term mission have been published, my purpose is not to enter into that debate. Instead, my goal is to share some stories of my experience with short-term mission in India this past summer. Notwithstanding the effects that short-term mission may have on the host culture and on long-term missionaries, and these effects do deserve serious consideration, a

short-term mission experience has an enormous impact on those who participate, generating personal growth and providing them with an illuminating glimpse of God's global mission beyond what can be learned in the classroom.

An old woman sits in a plastic chair in the doorway of her mud hut, peering hopefully into the sticky gloom of a July evening. Her legs are swathed in bandages, which she removes without shame to show where the effects of diabetes are eating away at her flesh. Through an interpreter, she calmly explains the origin of the wounds - rats had been nibbling at her skin during the night. Healing is slowed because of her condition, and it doesn't take a doctor to recognize the fact that infection can only be a breath away. The horror of the situation is tempered by the serene expression on her face as she speaks. Although her poverty is apparent, she asks for nothing but prayer. The trembling college students gather around her, lay their hands on her and pray. Whether she expects immediate healing or not is unclear; at any rate, it is not granted. At the moment of parting, her eyes speak volumes of joyful thanks, regardless of the outcome.

A summer sun is setting. A young pastor and his wife speak in hushed tones in the kitchen of their two-room house. The sounds of exuberant children at play can be heard from the yard in front of their home. While the children are working up an appetite, the young couple carefully measures the last bit of rice that they have for dinner. There is no more food in the house, and there is no money either. After taking twenty orphans into their home and into their life, these believers are struggling to make ends meet. Now it seems as if the struggle may be over; they have nothing left to offer.

In the evening friends from the neighborhood gather to pray that God will provide food. The pastor asks one of the children to pray as well. Later, a walk through the children's sleeping quarters reveals the eight-year-old boy lying face down on the ground crying out to God for help. Prayer continues through the night and into the morning. The next day, through a series of events clearly ordained by God, the large "family" receives money to purchase enough rice for

several months.

Praying with a fellow believer from a two-thirds world country is an unforgettable experience. We live in a world where our biggest problem may be in deciding which pair of shoes to wear on a given day. Short-term mission allows us to encounter people who do not know when their next meal may be. While our affluence tends to foster discontent, their poverty inspires a deeper experience of the joy of the Lord that we so often lack. Living by faith is a reality to them; it is not an aphorism.

Because of the relative wealth of our country, Americans are not often required to rely on God to supply our needs. Although we may recognize that God is the ultimate provider, His hand is disguised in the form of job security and paychecks, and we start to believe that we are independent beings. How many times do we actually sit down and reflect on the ways in which God sustains us on a daily basis? Do we truly ask, as Jesus did, for God to give us each day our daily bread?

Watching a brother or sister in Christ cry out to God to provide the most basic of needs humbles us and causes us to take stock of our own lives. I can remember standing in the tiny home of a pastor and his wife, holding back tears as I was struck by their joy and hospitality despite their lack of material wealth. Shame flooded my heart when I thought of the many times I had participated with those who daily complained about the Houghton cafeteria food. Now I am overwhelmed by the privilege of choice and the absolute abundance of nourishing food that is provided for us. Short-term mission has changed my perspective on life forever.

Who are the people in your neighborhood? They are the politicians who tell the townspeople not to vote for you, lest they be punished for it. They are the people who come to your house at night, beat you, and leave you for dead. They are the mob who lies in wait for you, forcing you to stay away from home. They are the men who terrorize your wife while you are in another country. They are the arsonists who burn down your house and leave you and your family with nothing. They are the police who refuse to investigate any of these crimes because you are a Christian. They are the parents whose children

you feed, clothe, and educate when they cannot afford to do so. They are the widows who come to live in your home. They are the orphans who have no place to go. They are the ones whom you love and for whom you would lay down your life.

Persecution is something that American Christians rarely encounter. In its most harsh form, it may involve verbal abuse of some kind. In spite of the freedom with which we have been blessed, our faith is not often demonstrated in public ways. Our friends, co-workers, and neighbors may not even be aware of the fact that we are Christians.

This freedom from persecution is not characteristic of the global church. On the contrary, most Christians in the two-thirds world experience severe forms of persecution on a daily basis. Far from stifling the church, the circumstance of persecution actually seems to stimulate growth. The Asian church has been a particular example of this phenomenon. Christians in China have been known to pray that the church in the United States would encounter persecution so that it can grow.

This summer, I was privileged to witness the joy of Indian Christians in the face of persecution, and my life will never be the same. I saw well-educated people whose skills could earn them a position in a Western country living in poverty that the gospel might be preached. All of the Christians whom I encountered had experienced much persecution, but they spoke of it as though it was simply a part of life to be expected. Indeed, they were so far from merely enduring the suffering, that they were able to rejoice in it and to praise God for it. Hearing their stories opened my mind to an aspect of Christianity that I have never experienced first-hand.

After witnessing the strength of faith that is evidenced through the lives of Indian believers, I was able to discern more clearly the role that the Western church has to play in global mission. While I was constantly astounded by the manner in which my Indian brothers and sisters were living out their faith, I was likewise amazed at the lack of biblical training among even the leaders of the church. Indigenous missionaries are successfully

continued on page 7



"Men's luge"

Angela Layne (junior)



"Snow rabbit hunting"

Ryan Pauling (senior)

VOX

expressions

voice

of a community of faith

Dear STAR editor,

I must first apologize for the lateness of this letter. I can sum up the reason for my tardiness in two words: college student. However, the strains of academia have not squashed my outrage at the inclusion of an insert on abortion in the January 30th edition of the STAR. This insert presented a decidedly biased view on abortion. As someone who is decidedly pro-choice, I found the insert to satisfactorily fulfill the two of the three Ds of journalism: Deceitful and Disturbing.

It was deceitful in the way it presented abortion as evil, a danger to women's health, and, basically, the scourge of American society. One article described how having an abortion increases the likelihood of cancer. While this may be true in some cases, most abortions are done by trained professionals in sterile environments. Also, one article featured a woman talking about her life after having a child by incest. She found having the child a rewarding experience, and would have regretted having an abortion. This may be the case for a few women, but how about the trauma of dealing with the experience of incest, not to mention having to raise a child that came as a result? Also, what about the circumstances where pregnancy or the birth of the child fatally endangers the life of the child or

the mother. Can we honestly play God's role in making this decision? Can we decide who should live and who should die?

It was disturbing in how it made women who had had an abortion or who were seriously considering it, feel enormous guilt, not just from society but from the Church. Is this what true Christianity is? I've heard time and time again how Christians are the only ones who shoot their own wounded. This is sickening, and a strong blockade to Christian fellowship. I know quite a few people who have had abortions, primarily out of selfishness but also out of health concerns. Are we to turn away our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ just because they had had an abortion, or had seriously considered it?

Feel free to persecute my ideas as you will. This is only my opinion, and is by no means totally correct. As I am human, I am naturally fallible. Therefore, my ideas are also fallible. I do not claim expert opinion. I am just putting myself and my ideas out there as a voice for the silent members of our student body who have expressed concern (for lack of a better word) over this insert. Our voices are often drowned out by the majority opinionates on campus. Not this time...

Rachel Kanzer

Rachel,

Thank you for your willingness to address this issue of the abortion insert included in the January 30th issue of the STAR. I have no wish to comment on your views on the subject of abortion, but I do need to respond to your "outrage at the inclusion of the insert." This insert was a paid advertisement that was mailed directly to our printer to be placed inside each newspaper. The

STAR had no control over the content of the inserts; I did not even see these inserts until after publication. Whether the content of the inserts was "deceitful and disturbing" is beyond the realm of the STAR itself. I hope that your outrage is directed at the advertisers for going against your opinion rather than the STAR.

Bethany Schwartz, editor

QUIP OF THE WEEK

"It's like the mafia. God makes you an offer you can't refuse and then puts a horse head in your bed."

-Dr. John Tyson on irresistable grace-

send your quotes to star@houghton.edu or CPO box 378

Letter to the editor: Admission update

Dear Bethany,

I'm writing this note as a follow-up to the article on enrollment that appeared in the February 6 issue of The Houghton Star. I enjoyed the time with Melisande and always enjoy talking about a subject that has occupied me for my entire professional career. While most of the article was accurate, some of your readers could have been left with the wrong impression - several comments I've received from staff and faculty suggest that - so I'm writing to clarify a few key points.

First, even though my office is called "Enrollment Management," much of what we do is more "educated projection" than "management." The headline of the article, "Future of admissions is uncertain," is accurate but misleading, since that is always true - this year is no different. Houghton and lots of colleges like us have to work hard both to attract new students and satisfy those who, like you, have decided to enroll here. The fact that our enrollment has been growing steadily over the last few years suggests that while Houghton isn't a perfect place, it is increasingly attractive to new and current students. Our record fall enrollment was followed by record enrollment this spring, a trend we expect to continue next year. As much as we can "manage" our enrollment, though, we expect that our growth will continue to be both modest and manageable.

Second, the comments about student attrition implied that an

inordinate number of students didn't return this spring, and that is simply not accurate. Almost 95% of the students who could have returned this spring did so; one of the higher return rates in my 22 years in the enrollment management office. Are we happy that 69 students didn't return? Of course not. Will we continue to work toward a goal of everyone persisting to graduation? Of course - as many students have heard me say at Encounter Day welcome sessions, our goal is to recruit future graduates, students who fit Houghton so well socially, spiritually and academically that they stay here for four years and complete their degrees. But if you ask most of the colleges with whom we compete to trade return rates with us, most would in a minute.

Third, the article implies that our phoning crew is responsible for counting applications and determining trends. The students who call prospective students perform a valuable part of the communication process, but they don't count applications, study demographics, or make enrollment projections. In the course of a year they complete close to 15,000 phone calls to students at various stages of the admission process.

I hope that these comments help your readers understand our enrollment picture, Bethany.

Thanks for listening.

In Christ,
Tim Fuller
Vice President for Enrollment Management

the resurrected

TOP TEN...



Rejected
SPOT skits

by Greg On

10 What music majors really do all day

9 Songs of the Bedouin Shepherd

8 Hidden Camera in the Gazebo

7 Film of a drive-by pieing of Dr. Chamberlain

6 Dr. Kurasha sings Eminem

5 A live version of "Strip-tease"

4 If chapel was run by Academy students

3 Caz performs Marilyn Manson

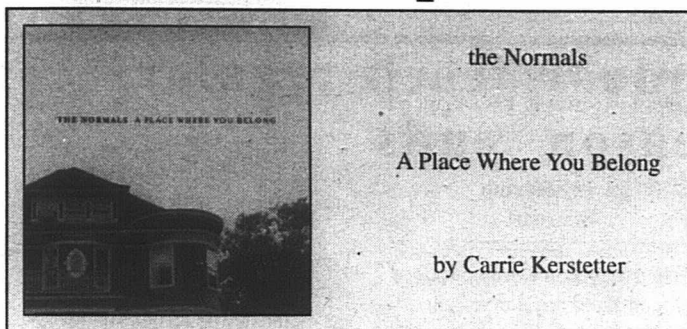
2 Cafeteria Survivor

1 "The Full Monty" as presented by South Hall Dorm Council

arthouse

A look at the intersection of faith and art

CD review: "A place where you belong" Discovering the skin of paper



The third release from The Normals, entitled *A Place Where You Belong*, still has the familiar tenor voice and meaningful and insightful lyrics we have come to know so well from their first two albums, *Better Than This* and *Coming to Life*. The sound is reminiscent of but not identical to the previous albums. Overall, *A Place Where You Belong*

has an easygoing sound to it, laced here and there with a pop attitude. Funky beats are mixed with the sound of an organ in "We Go On," and a foot-tapping mix of percussion and guitar in track two, "Romeo on the Radio." Each song has its own appeal, but all have a special meaning and lend a glimpse into the heart and mind of the composer.

The subjects of dating and falling in love are reflected on in "Romeo on the Radio," "Grace," and "Less Than Love"; the sometimes stressful and confusing task of entering the real world in "On My Own" and "We Go On," and the writer's personal reflections in "Innocence" and "King."

I give this album four stars for content and execution. The powerful lyrics can be understood well by the listener, with "On My Own" and "Epilogue" possibly the strongest on the album. On the whole, *A Place Where You Belong* is a well made compilation by the members of The Normals, and worth the investment.

by Regina Rinaldo
Star staff

The Ortlip-Gallery welcomes former Houghton College art professor Peter Mollenkof and his exhibit entitled "Drawings-Then and Now," which includes both graphite and color pencil drawings. Mollenkof has previously served as art critic/correspondent for the Japan Times, ARTNEWS, and Art in America. He has exhibited in both the United States and Japan where he and his family lived for 20 years. He is currently the art gallery director for Messiah College as well as lecturer in art.

"Drawings-Then and Now" focuses on the idea of "significant form." Mollenkof wants to evoke and elicit emotion through the form simply by the way it looks, not by its content. Rather than try to comprehend and immediate meaning from the drawing, he encourages the viewer to "get involved with the shape" with the purpose of discovering a universal meaning. During the gallery talk on March 1, Mollenkof called this involvement and discovery, "groping for the shape." His journey to find balance in both the conscious and unconscious gives his pieces their sense of beauty, mystery, and sensuousness. Mollenkof is anxious to defy easy interpretation of the shape; therefore the involvement of the viewer is essential.

While living in Japan, Mollenkof became greatly influenced by Zen aestheticism and the Japanese appreciation for the form itself. This influence united with his love for Minimalist art and the natural world give his meticulous drawings an austere feel, but his hope for sensuousness is present during the process of discovering "the skin of the paper" as he draws.

Mollenkof presents his viewers with a couple of common tensions: Nature/Man and the possibility for harmony between the two, and personal vs. universal experience.

Peter Mollenkof has a love for form and surface. His color pencil and graphite drawings effectively "stand on their own" and give the viewer an opportunity to feel through these tensions to discover the shape and form.

"Drawings-Then and Now" will be in display on the Ortlip Gallery through March 23rd.

Chamberlain essay contest winner

from page 4

spreading the gospel throughout the country, but there is a critical need for discipleship. Western believers, have access to a wealth of educational resources that they can share with non-Western believers, who are already active in taking the gospel to unreached areas within their land.

While college courses are an important part of preparing for participation in the global church, nothing can replace the insights that come as a result of first-hand experience in another culture. My

time in India brought a new depth of understanding to the theoretical knowledge that I had garnered in class and helped to reshape my ideas of what mission work entails. The experience both solidified and accelerated my understanding of God's global mission and my place in it.

Although the official verdict on short-term mission trips is still forthcoming, I hope that this discussion of the more personal benefits of the exercise will prove to be useful. To my knowledge, no other

experience can provide an environment for the sort of personal growth and insight that occurs during a short-term mission trip. In a time when our understanding of the global scene is more crucial than ever before, a first-hand look at the non-Western world is profitable and even imperative. I can personally testify that my life and my outlook were permanently altered during my time in India, and I will never be the same again.

The Houghton
STAR

and



team up once again for

March Madness

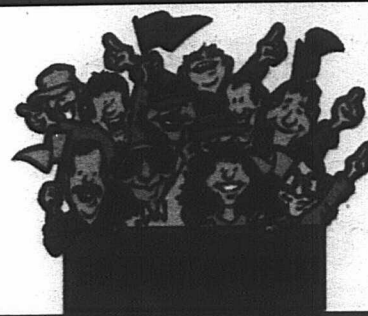
get the details at our websites:

www.wjsl.com

<http://campus.houghton.edu/orgs/star>

Highlander SPORTS

February 27 - March 2



Basketball season concludes Indoor track regular season ends

by Melisande Richardson
Star staff

Houghton College's 2001-2002

varsity men's and women's basketball seasons have come to a close with overall records of 7-19 (men) and 13-13

(women). Congratulations to sophomore Justin Pauley who was named to the All - AMC Honorable Mention team along with freshman Adam Zoeller. Zoeller was also named to the All - AMC Freshman team. As for our Lady Highlanders, Angela Layne, junior, was named to the All - AMC Second team, and senior Alicia Mucher was named to the All -



AMC Honorable Mention team.

Lady Highlanders hit the road on February 19 to play at host University of Rio Grande in their

first round of the AMC tournament. The ladies found themselves with the score of 22 and Rio Grande holding down a

solid 31 points at the half. A promising second half rolled in when the Lady Highlanders cut Rio Grande's lead to only 6 points; nevertheless Rio Grande fought to keep a step ahead and came out victorious. Houghton had 15 turnovers while Rio Grande faulted with 28. The final score was Highlanders: 62 and Rio Grande: 73.

by Liz Hornor
Star staff

The Houghton College Indoor Track and Field regular season ended Saturday, February 16, at the Denault Invitational hosted by Cornell University. The Highlanders ended the season by posting six new school records. Sophomore Brianna Claybourn set a record in the 60 meters with a time of 8.36; Brie also set a record in the 200 meters with a time of 27.94. Senior Phil Andrews broke the Houghton men's 200 meter record and set a new school record at 23.12. The men's 4x400 relay team consisting of freshman Dan Kowalczyk, sophomore Chris Buell, senior Phil Andrews, and

play from page 1

is contagious and he ends up believing that a lot can be done. The moral of the encouraging, and at times humorous, play is that faith can accomplish much.

The students involved are Mike Arensen as Homer Smith, Mike

senior Josh Stauring set a new school record with a time of 3:35.00. Sophomore Sarah Gardener actually broke two records in the same event. In the 60 meter hurdles trials she broke the school record and set a new one with a time of 9.48. Later in the finals she broke her own record and set a new one at 9.43. Both times provisionally qualified Sarah for Nationals and she did indeed qualify to compete in NAIA nationals in Johnson City, Tennessee, where she is even as this article is being written. The rest of the team is eagerly awaiting news of her results. The first Outdoor Track and Field Meet is on March 16 at Washington and Lee University in Virginia.

senior citizens. All seats are reserved. There will be 4 performances: three evening shows at 8:00 on the 14-16th and a Saturday matinee at 2:00. Lilies of the Field will be performed in the Houghton Academy Tysinger auditorium.

Men's indoor soccer tournament

Highlanders win in spectacular fashion.

by Greg On
Star staff

Houghton once again played host to an all-day indoor soccer tournament Saturday, and proved to be poor hosts, winning the tournament by beating Roberts Wesleyan 1-0 in overtime. Teams played five men with a goalie, in 22-minute games, using the full gym. There were seven teams in the tournament, including a team from Genesee Community College, two teams from Roberts Wesleyan, a Houghton Alumni team, a soccer club from Syracuse, and two Houghton teams from the varsity team.

This tournament ended in one of the most nail-biting finishes in

Houghton soccer history.

Houghton Team Number One faced Roberts Wesleyan in the final. The score remained zero-zero into overtime, in which one person per team was taken off the field of play each minute.

Eventually it came down to one forward and one goalie for each side. Roberts put its goalie on the attack, but Houghton goalie Steve Cox made a great sliding save to preserve the score. On the ensuing corner kick, the ball went over the forward's head, and Brad Clodfelter just managed to outrace him and tip the ball, sending it rolling the length of the gym and into Roberts' goal for the win.

Farley as Father Gomez, April Johnson as Mother Maria, Angelyn Cater as Sister Albertine, Valerie MacNeill as Sister Gertrud, Sarah Stedman as Sister Agnes, Hannah Rohe as Sister Elizabeth, Jesse Orton as Jose Gonzalez, and Parker Omerod as Orville Livingston.

Tickets will be sold at meals beginning on March 11th. The price will be \$6 for general admission and \$4 for students and

Highlander SportsWeek

High school soccer

Saturday, March 9th
8:00 am
Tournament - Nielsen Center

High school basketball

Saturday, March 16
7:00 am
Tournament - Nielsen Center