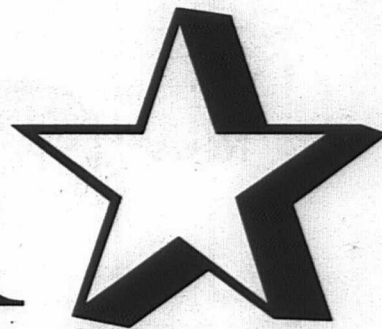


THE HOUGHTON STAR

Volume 92.3
April 18, 1997



LOCAL EVENTS

April 18:

*Storytelling, Baba Jamal Koram, "Africa and African Diaspora," 7:30 p.m., Rockwell Hall, BSPC, \$8, 878-3005

April 18 - 20, 25 - 27:

*Theater: Tom Stoppard's "The Real Inspector Hound," Fri., Sat. 8 p.m. & Sun. 2 p.m., NC, \$6 - \$8, 389-2170

April 19 - 20:

*Genesee Region Orchid Society Show and Sale, Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. & Sun. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., RMSC, \$4, 271-4552, x602

April 26:

*Teen Job Fair, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Penfield Community Center, Penfield, NY, FREE, 377-8655

*Creative Arts Fair, in collaboration with Rochester Assoc. for the Education of Young Children, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., SM, \$2.50, 454-7639

April 26 - 27:

*Pick of the Crop Dance, "Hansel and Gretel," Sat. 7:30 p.m. & Sun. 2 p.m., UBCA, \$6 - \$14

April 30:

*Soprano Patricia Johnson, accompanied by Eric Trudel, 6:30 p.m., Market Arcade Complex, EPS, \$8 - \$10, 853-7700

May 1 - 4:

*Western New York Music Festival, performances by all types of groups, seminars for artists and music lovers, Buffalo Convention Center, \$8 - \$15, 852-5000

KEY:

BSPC = Buffalo State College Performing Arts Center

EPS = Empire State College (SUNY), Buffalo

NC = Nazareth College, Rochester

RMSC = Rochester Museum & Science Center

SM = Strong Museum, Rochester

UBCA = University of Buffalo Center for the Arts

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Shetler Captivates Students

Nathan Reimer and Adria Willett

This semester the Chamberlain Lecture Series speaker was a Wycliffe Bible Translator from the Philippines who captivated her audiences in two chapels, a lecture, and lunch meetings. She was a wealth of stories and encouragement to the campus as a whole as she shared her experiences in the field working in mind-boggling circumstances.

During the time that Shetler was here in Houghton, she spoke of how she was able to reach a whole people group by just showing God's love to them. She lived and worked with the Balangao people in the Philippines from 1962 to 1988, completing the entire New Testament in their language. Her team provided education, a written language, and health care. Many of the natives were dependent on Shelter, making her

work easier. Through this work she fully enveloped herself in the Balangao culture and considered them her family.

The Balangao impacted her life greatly, and she captivated the students with her personal accounts of God's work in their lives.

God's power through the written Word and through the miraculous became the way many natives turned to God and increased Shetler's own faith. Shelter collaborated with Wycliffe's Patricia Purvis on a book called "And the Word Came With Power," which details her process of learning the language and translating the Bible for the Balangao people.

Shetler has spoken at Urbana, the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship student missions convention, and the Congress of Itinerant Evangelists in

Amsterdam, Holland. She earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Biola University in California.

Based in Waxhaw, N.C., Shetler currently works with Wycliffe's anthropology department. She conducts seminars and workshops for personnel of Wycliffe and other missions on the topics of world view, cultural orientation, ethnotheology, and spiritual conflict.

The Chamberlain Missionary Lecture Series was established by Ray W. and Marianne E. Chamberlain in order to keep the challenge of missions before the Houghton community in an interesting, compelling, and reflective way. Overall, Shetler encouraged those thinking about missions work and questioned students' faith in a powerful God that works through any circumstances.

Sixpence Performs to Full House

Cara Gerhard

Friday, April 14 brought another popular music group to the Houghton campus, courtesy of the Campus Activities Board; Sixpence None the Richer performed in Wesley Chapel for a packed house.

"We were really surprised at the turnout. Only about 400 people bought their tickets in advance, but at least 400 more got tickets at the door, so it ended up being a full house," commented Avery Munger, a CAB member who worked at

the concert.

The band performed many songs from their recently-released second album, "This Beautiful Mess." The CD-liner explains the main theme of the album: man is a mess made beautiful only by the grace of God. For those not familiar with Sixpence's music, these songs were a great introduction to the carefully crafted music and lyrics characteristic of the group.

Sixpence received an enthusiastic reaction from an audi-

ence that greedily demanded encores. The band got points for creativity when they returned to the stage after their final song to throw fruit and water bottles into the audience. But the crowd refused to be quieted by these gifts and continued their chant for another song.

Audience members who were familiar with the group's first album, "The Fatherless and the Widow," got a treat when the popular song "Trust" was chosen as an encore selection.

Houghton's Good News Briefs

Holly A. Lawton, media specialist

*Carl Schultz was quoted in a Religion News Service wire story that was picked up by newspapers across the country prior to Christmas. The article explained that experts disagree about the actual site of Jesus' birth.

*Lawrie Merz completed her master of arts degree in art history at Syracuse University.

*Tim Nichols earned his Ph.D. in social and philosophical foundations of education from SUNY at Buffalo. His doctoral work involved research comparing Houghton with Oberlin College in Ohio.

*Connie Finney became the first woman in the New York

Mennonite Conference to be licensed for ministry.

*Jayne Maugans was named to the "Who's Who Among American Teachers."

*PACE Director Norm Wilson talked about Houghton's degree-completion program during a Buffalo television interview on the WGRZ-TV Channel 2 early morning news segment. He was also appointed to the West Seneca Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

*Faculty Training Coordinator Glen Avery was named to the "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges" by SUNY at Buffalo, where he is working on his

Ph.D. in higher education and library science.

*Bob Smalley was named the NAIA Northeast Coach of the Year for both men's and women's cross country.

*For the second year in a row, sophomore Krista Ruth earned All-American honors in the 3,000m at the NAIA indoor track nationals.

*Senior goalkeeper David Dixon has signed a professional soccer contract with the Charlotte Eagles of the United States Inter-regional Soccer League.

*Houghton College's natural sciences newsletter received a fifth place merit award in Admissions Marketing Report's

Senate Report:

Jennifer Lytle

A few weeks ago in the Senate Report, I wrote a brief synopsis of the Senate's discussion of meal plans. In that report, however, I failed to describe the new revisions thoroughly and left some confusion and misinformation. In an attempt to correct this error, here is a more descriptive explanation of the meal plan for '97-'98.

As always, a 21 meal plan will be available to everyone. First year students and sophomores will be required to be on this plan. There is no change in this policy.

The changes are for juniors and seniors. All members of these classes will have a 14 or 21 meal plan available to them REGARDLESS of where they are living. This means that juniors or seniors living in dorms can apply for a 14 meal plan, something that has never been allowed before.

Five and ten meal plans are also options for juniors and seniors living in a house or apartment with full cooking facilities. The number of students for these meal plans, however, will be limited to approximately 275.

These changes were made to give upperclassmen a little more flexibility and responsibility in their eating habits. They were made after much deliberation by an ad-hoc committee. This committee spent much time and study investigating different possibilities for the meal plan. The SGA would welcome any further questions you may have. Just call X211.

12th Annual Advertising Award Competition. It was entered in the newsletter category for schools with under 2,000 students.

*In a survey of Campus Life readers, Houghton College was rated No. 1 in "overall GPA." Readers were asked to list Christian colleges from memory and then assign a grade in 12 key areas. Houghton's highest ratings were in such areas as academic reputation and spiritual atmosphere. A total of 67 colleges was mentioned in the survey.



Jim Roberts

(Zaire) President Bill Clinton is pressuring Zairian President Mobutu Sese Soko to resign. Zairian rebels have taken over a third of the nation in an attempt to end a 32-year dictatorship.

(Burma) The leader of Thailand's only democratic political party has appealed to the world to protect her followers from Burmese leader. She further urged action to protect her party from Burma's military regime in a videotape smuggled out of Rangoon where she has been under virtual house arrest for several months.

(Haiti) Although only five percent of the population showed up at the voting booths, former Haitian President Jean-Bertran Aristide retains his presidency in Haiti.

(Algeria) Muslim militants have killed 13 more people in Algeria, according to the families of the victims. An estimated 60,000 people have been killed in Algeria since the current government cancelled an election that would have favored a pro-Islamic party in 1992.

(Arizona) An Air Force jet disappeared over Arizona. The plane broke off from its formation and flew in the direction of Aspen, Colo. The military denies that the pilot could be trying to steal the plane or that he "went off to Telluride to go skiing."

(Upper Plains) The rain-

soaked Dakotas and Minnesota may get some relief from freezing temperatures which are freezing the water in the swollen rivers, creating ice dams. These dams are only a temporary relief, however, and thousands of square miles will likely be flooded in the coming weeks.

(Washington, D.C.) National Transportation Safety Board Chairman Jim Hall has announced that a public hearing will be held in late summer on the TWA 800 crash that killed 230 people last July.

(California) A federal appeals court has upheld Proposition 209, a controversial bill which states that voters can ban affirmative action based on race and gender.

(Washington) A national coalition of black ministers announced plans to use churches to fight black-on-black crime and drug-dealing in cities. The churches will be used as round-the-clock sanctuaries for young people seeking refuge from street crime. One thousand churches in 40 of the country's most dangerous neighborhoods will be involved.

(Washington, D.C.) Over \$90 million dollars have been earmarked by the Department of Housing and Urban Development for transforming urban wastelands in Baltimore, Buffalo, Cleveland, Louisville, Philadelphia and Sacramento.

Art Faculty Present Awards

Adria C. Willett

The art faculty of Houghton recently presented awards for the all-student juried art exhibit on display in Wesley Chapel Gallery. The awards were given to students during a reception attended by around 70 people.

The best of show award went to sophomore Paula Swisher, of Rockford, Ill., for her self-portrait painted in oil.

First place was given to junior Sara Schipper, of Akron, Ohio, for her clay tea set. Senior Kathryn Johnson, of Richmond, Va., won second place for her photograph entitled "Study on Creation."

Honorable mentions were given to sophomore Suzanne Wenger, of South Woodstock, Conn.; junior Brian Freeman, of Yonkers, N.Y.; senior Eina

Clegg, of Canton, Conn.; senior James Sitzer, of Churchville, N.Y.; and junior Kelle Morgan, of Dillsburg, Pa.

Mitch Messina, professor of ceramics and sculpture at Nazareth College in Rochester, selected the prize winners. Messina earned his bachelor's degree from Portland State University in Oregon and his master's degree from Tyler School of Art in Philadelphia.

Headin' For the Weddin'

Francis X. Hummel

On Saturday, March 1, the Houghton Wesleyan Church sponsored a premarital seminar. "[The seminar] helped increase our understanding about the responsibilities that come with marriage," said Deborah Graffam, one of those who attended. Held in the church's community room, this seminar was orchestrated to inform and advise potential newlyweds on their big step forward into the realm of marriage life. For a small fee, each couple listened to different speakers address the various topics significant to the marriage unit.

The couples were welcomed with a breakfast, and then they attended a lecture, entitled "How to Fight Fair," by Dr. Douglas Gaerte, associate professor of communication. The couples learned the different male/female patterns of communication, some

unproductive conflict strategies like avoidance, nonnegotiation, and gunnysacking. To illustrate these points the couples were given some hypothetical situations applying to what they had just heard.

After a quick break, Dr. Michael Lastoria, director of counseling services, discussed issues such as the importance of understanding one's family of origin, adaptability of the families, and different relational issues apparent in the marriage relationship. The couples became familiar with such big words as "triangulation," "differentiation" and "enmeshment." To help clarify, questionnaires, charts, and diagrams were presented.

Following this presentation, the couples partook of a lunch buffet. "It was great," said Ryan Lehigh, one of the seminar attendants. "I like buffets." Now that the couples had something

in their bellies, they went on to hear about other things that dwell in bellies from Dr. Paul Young, professor of psychology. He delivered a lecture titled "Babies and Other Consequences of Sex." Helpful hints and tidbits were given to clarify some of the myths, doubts, and untruths concerning sexuality.

Associate Professor of Business Kenneth Bates discussed the topics of finances, budgets, and other practical matters. Monthly incomes and expenses, tithing, mortgages, and salaries were among the subjects addressed.

Pastors Wes and Cindy Oden, advised the couples of how to lay a strong spiritual foundation to build a healthy marriage relationship on. Many verses and passages of scripture were used as examples and instruction for the couples. In the end, it all came down to this point: Christ is the focus of a good marriage.

Pasta May Protect Against Cancer

(Reuters - CPS)

SAN DIEGO--Researchers have added pasta to their list of foods that can ward off cancer, but also warn that people with a sweet tooth may be treating themselves to an early grave.

"Pasta slows down the process of colon cancer," says Piero Dolara, a professor of toxicology at the University of Florence, Italy, who will present his findings at the

American Association of Cancer Research annual meeting here this week. But sucrose, the simple carbohydrates found in most cakes, cookies and candies, is "dangerous for cancer of the colon," he says.

In the study presented (Sunday), rats were given a cancer-causing chemical, and then fed diets composed of sucrose, pasta or glucose, another form of carbohydrate.

Pasta-fed animals developed about half the number of intestinal tumors, when compared to those eating sug-

ary diets.

Dolara believes that because the pasta, as well as other complex carbohydrates, are absorbed more slowly than simple sugars they are "more gentle to the intestines."

This study, Dolara says, points to a serious health threat posed by the Western diet, which is based on large amounts of sugary foods. He suggests that increased consumption of sugar, which has soared 10-fold over the last half century, may be a major contributor to the relatively high rates of colon cancer in the Western countries. "We are convinced this is a real problem," he says.

Hints of the role of sugar in cancer development came first from a study conducted in Milan in which investigators found the more sugar people spooned into their coffee, the more likely they were to get cancer. A soon-to-be-published study funded by the European

Union shows that eating a lot of sugar causes more growth in

cells lining the intestines, increasing the chance of developing cancer, he says.

Dolara, who says he himself generally does not like sweets, has a simple solution. "Fewer sweets and more complex carbohydrates, more pasta."

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The Houghton

STAR

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THE HOUGHTON STAR is a bi-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 personal attack, they must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. Wed., and they should be no longer than one typed double spaced page. The editors reserve the right to edit all contributions. The views expressed by the reporters and essayists of this publication are not necessarily in agreement with those of Houghton College.

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Orr Addresses Medical Ethics

Liz Nies

On April 7, Houghton was privileged to have an honored guest speaker, Dr. Bob Orr, as part of the Alumni Lecture Series; he has been honored by the Houghton College Alumni Association within the last couple of years as one of the distinguished alumni.

While in Houghton, Dr. Orr was able to speak with Sunday School classes at the Houghton Wesleyan Church, speak in a chapel service, and give an evening lecture, as well as be available to students who had questions or comments for him.

Dr. Orr came to Houghton in the late 1950s from a small town near Plattsburg, N.Y. He and his wife both graduated from Houghton in 1962; he majored in Chemistry and Zoology. He went on to earn his medical degree, and after completing his residency, went on to establish and maintain a family medical practice in Vermont. He also served as a school physician, a medical examiner, and in 1989 was cited as Vermont's family doctor of the year. A growing interest in ethical issues took Dr. Orr to the University of Chicago for additional studies and then to California's Loma Linda University.

He currently serves as professor of family medicine at Loma Linda, director of clinical ethics, co-director of the

university center for Christian Bioethics, and chair of the ethics committee there. Dr. Orr is also involved with the Christian Medical and Dental Society. He travels and speaks extensively, has written dozens of articles, and has recently co-authored a book entitled "Life and Death Decisions." His work involves him in many leading medical issues of our time: euthanasia, physician-assisted suicide, managed care, end of life issues, cross-species organ transplantation, and cloning, just to name a few of the more prominent ones.

Dr. Orr has been studying medical ethics for almost eight years. As an ethics consultant, he is often called by physicians, nurses, family members, patients, or chaplains to come to the bedside and sort out the question, "What's the best thing to do in this situation?" He guides them and sets parameters, but does not act as a supreme judge calling the shots. He informs the questioner of what is ethically and medically permissible by the hospital, and what is not.

During the chapel service he opened with and then spoke about the statement "life is full of difficult decisions." Dr. Orr described some of the difficult situations he faces almost daily, ones that involve the life or

death of another human being. Many of these issues involved faith in some form, whether Christian or another set of beliefs, such as Jehovah's Witness or Muslim.

Orr recognizes that today's society is not based on theology as it once was, especially in the universities. Instead, television is the basis for our culture. For questions there is a scientific and rational, rather than a theologically-based, answer. Universities today prepare students for a job rather than for life.

During the seminar in Schaller Hall, Orr addressed the issue of "Religiously-Based Requests for 'Inappropriate' Treatment." As this title suggests, Orr gave several examples of patients who, for religious beliefs, requested or denied some form of ethically questionable treatment. Orr believes that "requests based on strongly held, well established religious beliefs should be considered and often times granted." He gave several accounts of situations of this kind and the subsequent consequences if the request was honored or denied.

Dr. Carlton Fisher, professor of philosophy and associate academic dean, represented Houghton College with a well thought-out response to Orr's message.

FCA Begins Unifying Athletes

Michelle Wingfield

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) began meeting regularly at the beginning of second semester with a vision to unify the athletes of Houghton and to glorify God through sports. Co-captains Joel Barber and Jen Hartenstine stress that the fellowship, which meets Monday nights at 9:30 in the auxiliary gym, is open to anyone who likes sports, not just members of Houghton's athletic teams.

Weekly meetings include a group discussion of the week's topic, lots of great games, skits, and weekly faculty speakers such as Coach Lord and Kathy Trezise. Kristine Larson, co-treasurer with Terri White, wants the fellowship "to be a non-threatening atmosphere" and a time of "open sharing."

Plans for the group began last semester during New Vision Week when a representa-

tive for the FCA met with Coach Lord, now the Houghton fellowship's "Huddle Coach." The FCA works nationally in high schools and colleges with a vision "to present to athletes and coaches ... the challenge and adventure of receiving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, [and] serving Him..."

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes is "a great thing for athletes to bond together and create unity between sports," says Barber. It is also ideal for those who hope to be involved in future sports ministry. The FCA sponsors summer sports camps and offers athletes and teams opportunities to serve in campus and community evangelism. This includes "sports nights" and other outreaches to area high schools. The fellowship is planning a bonfire on campus for April 28.

ECKLEY REACHES PASTORS THROUGH PROGRAM

Jennifer Crawford

Houghton College uses modern technology to bring ministerial education to the field through its Distance Learning Program, headed and instructed by Dr. Richard Eckley, assistant professor of Christian ministries. By way of desktop video, pastoral students from DuBois, Pa., are connected through ISDN lines to pastoral students and a professor at Houghton's West Seneca campus. The pastors in DuBois are able to see and hear Eckley and the other students in West Seneca through the desktop monitor screen.

This program enables pastors of small, difficult churches, who may have come to the pastorate as a second career and

have little resources or time to return to college, the ability to take courses they need for their calling. The students are able to apply classroom knowledge to their lives and vocation as they share from their daily experiences as they learn.

Currently five pastors from DuBois link to five pastors and Eckley three hours once a week for five weeks. This is an optimal number because of the width of a computer screen. The pastors do not receive Houghton College credits, but do receive credits towards ministerial ordination. This is presently available only through Wesleyan churches, however other denominations have shown interest in this program.

Boesflug Gives Update on New Music Building

Ward Mesick

Sitting in the office of Dr. George A. Boesflug, associate professor of piano and director of the School of Music, watching the screen saver on his computer scroll by with the words "Pray for the new music building" and looking at the plans for the new building, one would be hard pressed to not be impressed with the plan.

The new three story building will run perpendicular to the chapel and will connect so that instruments can be carried back and forth easily and the sidewalk next to the music building will become a covered walkway. That is just the beginning. Boesflug went on to describe the new practice rooms, studios, and the recital

hall. He said that the new building would help everyone greatly with new climate controlled rooms, larger practice rooms, and more sound proof studios.

The department is waiting for gifts to come in to pay for the construction of the building. Boesflug says he has the support of the college, and he is confident that the building will start within a couple of years.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE PRESENTS LATIN MUSIC

The Houghton College Jazz Ensemble, directed by Professor of Brass Instruments Dr. Harold E. McNeil, performed March 15 in Houghton's Wesley Chapel. Entitled "Principally Latin," the concert focused mainly on Latin-flavored works.

"There was some mixed media -- some blues and rock fusion," said McNeil, who has directed the ensemble since 1963. The 16-member ensemble performed works by composers such as Chuck Mangione and Herbie Hancock.

"We played everything from 'Saturday Night Live' to 'Gonna Fly Now,'" said McNeil. The concert also included the premiere of "Melange" by Garrison Roberts, a senior composition major and the ensemble's principal string bass player.

THREE SENIORS PERFORM RECITALS

Houghton seniors Mandy VanKuren, Kristin Hinde and Ronald Thorsen presented their senior recitals recently in Wesley Chapel. The recitals fulfill a requirement of their bachelor's degree in music education.

A soprano, VanKuren sang works by Bach, Purcell, Donizetti, Massenet, Mozart,

and Havergal. She was assisted by students on vocals, English horn and piano. VanKuren studied under Kelly Hijleh, instructor of voice.

Hinde played works by Bach, Brahms, Mozart and Havergal. She was assisted by a student on clarinet and by Professor of Piano Dr. Robert

Galloway on piano. Hinde studied under John Hunter, instructor of clarinet.

A baritone, Thorsen sang works by Bach, Purcell, Schubert, and Debussy. He was assisted by students on piano and organ. Thorsen studied under voice professors Dr. Bruce Brown and Dr. Ben King.

Senior Essays Due April 24!!

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Naming God II: Seeking Guidelines

L.J. Arensen

Change of speech is a willing task if it follows a conversion of mind. Gail Ramshaw

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Luke 9

What if we must reconsider the way we speak about God? What criteria would be appropriate when considering God-language? Faithfulness to a scriptural methodology would be one such criteria. Finding a Biblical methodology of naming is a vital task. We must not merely look at the God-names inscribed in the Bible but must also explore their contexts, their origin, and their use. The enormous diversity existing within the text makes this task far too great to tackle here, but let us consider three scenarios.

In Genesis 16, Hagar names God. The NIV text reads: "She gave this name to the LORD who spoke to her: 'You are the God who sees me,' for she said, 'I have now seen the One who sees me.'" She is the first individual to name God in the Bible; thirteen years later, in the next chapter, Yahweh reveals Godself as El Shaddai to Abram. But Hagar, a foreigner and a woman -- an Egyptian maidservant fleeing from her owner -- Hagar encounters God in the wilderness and names God. This is an odd story in an odd

place -- who would expect an account of a Gentile encountering God in the middle of the story of the establishment of God's covenant with people who would become the Hebrews? But we find it nonetheless.

In the Gospels, Jesus displays a radical intimacy with God by calling God Abba. To a religion as transcendent as Judaism, where their most holy name of God was not even spoken aloud, this was blasphemous indeed. Added to this is the fact that within Judaic culture one was not likely to call one's father anything familiar in public but rather to address him as Sir or Lord. God is never addressed as Father in the Old Testament, although God's nature is described in paternal terms eleven times (God is also described in maternal terms in the Hebrew Bible). We must be wary of literalism. It behooves us to be aware of both the power and limitation of metaphor. As many scholars have pointed out, metaphors point simultaneously to similarities and differences: God "is" and "is-not" a Rock, a Father, a Mother, a Tower... We know that Jesus is not fathered by God in the human biological sense of the word: He was not created by God; He existed before the Gospels -- it is only as an incarnate being that he is born. Jesus' use of the name "Father" is thence seen as

relational, radically so for the culture in which he lived.

A final consideration is the New Testament writers use of "theos." Instead of Hellenizing a Hebrew term, as is done with Christos (from the Hebrew Messiah) they use the common Greek word "theos" when describing God. There are risks involved in using a common word for God. "Theos" was a familiar term, to be sure, but its very familiarity may have triggered the readers' former associations with the term. The writers risked the equation of the Greek concept of their gods with the Christian concept of God. Greek gods spent a great deal of time zooming about impregnating earthly women and fathering demigods. Considering Christianity's fidelity to the Incarnation -- an event involving a virgin birth and a figure described as fully God and fully human, not a demigod -- New Testament writers took an interesting risk in using a common Greek term for God.

If extrabiblical naming of God is permissible, and I believe it is, then what are the criteria for that sort of naming? The communion of saints must be our largest consideration -- in the twofold meaning of our contemporary fellow believers and the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us. One hand is not enough to stretch

across the face of God, a proverb of the Akan tribe reminds us. We are part of a body of believers. This is vital when considering contemporary attempts to talk about God. We are in a new context than the Christians of other centuries. God may be transcendent, but human language is not. Personal experience/praxis is an admissible source for God-language; the Spirit moves like a wind, as Jesus told us. It is hard to pin down. Different Christians have different insights and interpretations. However, such personal experience must be interpreted and offered to the Christian community at large if God-language is to be more than private and devotional in nature. Our Christian faith is corporate and not merely individual -- if religious thought and description rises solely from each individual's experience we will be reduced to what critics call theology of the lowest common denominator. We are not a political body, making decisions by mere majority vote, but a mystical body -- trusting and waiting for the Spirit to verify or critique our offerings. There is sometimes a fear of the new rather than a willingness to first hear and listen to what God and the members of the Church are saying, and then to wait and seek wisdom about the matter

at hand.

As well as being the present living body of believers the communion of the saints runs chronologically through the centuries; and while they were not inerrant any more than we are, we may often gain insight from them; they too did their best to name and describe the God we worship. Perhaps some of our fears about the present will be quelled if we recognize the vast diversity of naming and exploring of God that has gone on through all the centuries. Some of those attempts passed away and some remain; we still commonly describe the progression of our faith as a spiritual journey like Saint Augustine wrote, but we no longer call Christ a unicorn as Saint Anselm did.

The diversity of Christian attempts to speak of God are a positive witness to the transcendence of our God -- the God who is also immanent: Emmanuel, God with us. God is beyond human comprehension; we must not be surprised that God is beyond language. If we are wise, when we talk about God we will reflect upon Gail Ramshaw's words. She writes, "We will speak the metaphors with utter humility, believing in the God beyond the words and concluding our metaphorical speech to be so much straw."

From Deer to Stereotypes

Adria C. Willett, co-editor

Last Thanksgiving I went to my aunt's house near Jamestown, N.Y. My cousin, Phil, killed his first deer, and the rest of us were subjected to the long story of how he managed to bring it down. As I listened to him, I realized that if I thought about the deer too much, I felt sorry for it, and then killing seemed like a cruel deal. I also noticed that if I objectified the deer in my mind, as nothing more than an overpopulated animal, I no longer felt my stomach curl at the sight of venison on the table.

Consider the soldier; isn't he trained to see his enemy as an objective face and a flat concept? Even the hardened soldier would hesitate if he saw the enemy at eye level -- a body and soul; a man with a wife and family at home; a human with thoughts and desires.

In the same way, each of us is capable of inflicting mortal wounds on those we view as concepts. By objectifying the faces around us, we can bury our consciences, killing with cruel, cold words. We use stereotypes as excuses to ignore the poor, oppressed, and weak.

The Ku Klux Klan commits horrendous crimes by masking themselves and quantifying an entire race into one stark, blank face. They must isolate themselves from humane sensitivities, otherwise their actions would tear their souls apart. Cruel hatred aimed at a flat surface remains intact; if the surface is complex, with hollows, bumps, and intricacies, the hatred defrays and breaks into a million pieces.

Missionaries can talk about saving souls, and thus are able to barge into cultures, trampling

and destroying pride and identity. At times they are guilty of superior attitudes: "I'm bringing the Gospel to these poor backward, lost souls." The missionary who reaches people by meeting the needs of body, mind, and soul, plants the seed and watches God gather his children to him. The impact of love reaps a greater harvest.

Here in Houghton, we see each other almost too much. We begin to stop noticing people beyond a simple "hihowareya?" By seeing each other as another "someone" we are blind to needs and capable of hurting each other.

Objectifying, labeling, stereotyping -- these will suck us into inhumane, cruel actions that we could not have conceived of ourselves. We must take the blinders off our eyes and learn to see whole people.

BUSINESSES CLOSE IN DAYTONA

Brad Liston (CPS)

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.-- This Daytona resort community rolls out its red carpet every year for college students on spring break, auto racing fans and "Bike Week," a massive rally of leatherclad motorcycle enthusiasts.

But when the visitors include thousands of African-American college graduates, Daytona Beach changes its tune, taking on almost a siege mentality as many businesses close for the early-spring weekend and police are posted in droves along downtown streets.

"Everything just closes up for Black College Reunion," said LaKeisha Ramsey, who came from South Carolina. "It gets worse every year. If you go to Burger King, there's a line out the door waiting to get to the ladies room."

On Saturday night, a giant line snaked from a Walgreens drugstore that had departed from its usual practice and was admitting only a handful of customers at a time.

Black College Reunion was a three-day event -- it began Friday and ended Sunday -- that brought some 75,000 young African-Americans to this sea-

side resort community.

It began in the 1980s as a reunion for graduates of Bethune-Cookman College and Florida A&M University, Florida's largest traditionally black colleges. Since then it has mushroomed, drawing crowds from throughout the Southeast and in the process becoming Daytona's most divisive event.

This weekend, Daytona's Highway A1A was clogged with crowds of young people cruising until the wee hours of the morning, but many stores in the central tourist district were closed, some with shuttered doors and barricaded parking lots.

"Look up and down this road," said Deshawn Macy, a student from Florida A&M, waving at the seaside highway clogged with cars and pedestrians. "How many white faces you see that ain't in a police uniform?"

There were far fewer than normal. Even popular nightclubs, restaurants and shops in town were closed Friday and Saturday, something highly unusual for tourist season and something that embarrassed at least one city official.

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Spotlight on Alumni:

Gretchen Berquist

Moroni, Grande Comore; Comores Islands, Indian Ocean

A lava rock coastline drops into the never-ending blue horizon of the Indian Ocean. Sunlight peeks through waving palm fronds and tropical fruit trees. Island ladies, wrapped in red and white "chiromani," chat in the market. Men dressed in long white cotton shirts and "koffia" (skull-cap), congregate on the mosque steps near the port. Children bath and swim in the high tide. With fresh "baguettes" for breakfast, "pilau" for lunch, an afternoon "sieste" to escape the heat, and an evening stroll under the Milky Way, one wonders... "Is this Paradise?"

The Comores do not lack in beauty, but there is something missing; Jesus Christ and the LIFE he offers to any who will believe. This archipelago needs an answer, a lasting answer. In this Islamic setting, the most active and visible way we are sharing His LIGHT is via vol-



untary service in the areas of literacy, education, health, medicine, agriculture, craft work and sports. The République Fédérale Islamique Des Comores is 99% Muslim.

"...in His law the islands will put their hope." (Isaiah 42:4)

Since my arrival a month ago there have been increasingly difficult situations popping up. The Comores have a turbulent history. Transport struck three days in response to police harassment. Teachers, waiting for the government to pay eleven months of back wages, are also on strike. Students, in view of their losses,

demonstrated. Violence, injuries, and deaths resulted. Last week, another sudden shift of Ministers unseated those who had served less than six months! Water problems, some food shortages, and a crisis in electricity, all add to the chaos.

Pray for this nation, its President, and those in positions of authority. Pray for the righteous use of power. Pray for God's intervention in the disorder here which suffocates truth and justice. Pray for the Comorian people to have open ears, eyes, and hearts; that they may receive God's LIGHT, be reconciled to Him, and have His presence dwell among them. Pray for those workers serving here already, and ask God to send more workers to plant and harvest these "Islands of the Moon."

Gretchen Berquist, class of 1981; serving the Comores in sports with AIM—PO Box 178, Pearl River, NY 10965 USA.

Kathie's Cooking Corner

Kathie Brenneman

Since this spring is being chilly and rainy, this wonderful recipe for mixed bean stew is perfect. This stew can be made quickly and tastes tantalizingly delicious. You'll need:

- 1 15 oz. can cannellini, great northern or navy beans, drained
- 1 15 oz. can black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 red pepper, chopped
- 1 green pepper, chopped
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 2-3 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced carrots, steamed 3 minutes and drained
- 2 1/2 tsp. dried basil leaves
- olive oil
- 3 15 oz. cans Hunts tomato sauce

Saute the onion first in olive oil. When it begins looking transparent, add the chopped red and green pepper and garlic. Saute until tender. Drain beans. Slice carrots and steam in a separate pan in boiling water. Drain.

Add all the ingredients to skillet. Simmer for 10 to 15 minutes, adding salt, pepper and season salt to taste. I really dislike black pepper, so I use very little and substitute a few shakes of red cayenne pepper

which I find a lot more pleasing. Try it! When you serve this steaming soup, a cold raw night will seem more cozy. Some fruit, a tossed salad, bread sticks, corn bread or biscuits are a great addition.

I am going to give you a yummy recipe for cheese biscuits that you will like with this hearty stew. You will need:

- 2 cups Bisquick
- 2/3 cup milk
- 3/4 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/4 cup melted butter
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1/2 tsp. dried parsley

Preheat oven to 450. Combine Bisquick, milk, cheese, and parsley until soft dough forms. Beat vigorously with fork for 30 seconds. Drop by heaping teaspoons onto ungreased baking sheet. Bake 8-10 minutes - until golden brown. Combine melted butter and garlic powder. Right when the biscuits come out of the oven, brush thoroughly with the butter/garlic mixture. Remove from cookie sheet and serve hot! These are the best, easy and similar to the ones at Red Lobster.

Survey Revisits Attitudes To Social Drinking

Dr. John Van Wicklin, professor of psychology

Each year, students in my psychological assessment course create a survey to measure an attitude of interest and importance on our campus. The topic they chose, social drinking, has been surveyed twice previously at Houghton, in 1987 and 1992. My assessment class at The King's College also surveyed social drinking in 1982. This year we surveyed Houghton students using a sampling procedure that stratified representatively by gender, class, and major, and we obtained 105 completed surveys, a return rate of 78 percent. We define social drinking as moderate consumption of alcoholic beverages at social gatherings.

About 70 percent of students believe social drinking is "a gray area that individuals must determine for themselves." Over half believe that social drinking is okay for special occasions like weddings or other special occasions, and a majority support the notion that social drinking "depends upon one's cultural setting." About 25 percent endorse highly positive statements toward social drinking such as "there is absolutely nothing wrong with it," and "it is an acceptable way to relax and unwind." However, about 10 to 15 percent hold negative attitudes such as "it creates more

tension than it relieves" or "social drinkers conform too much to the ways of the world." Furthermore, about half of all respondents believe that social drinking is potentially harmful to one's body, and that it "may have a negative effect on one's spiritual life."

We also asked a number of questions about the social drinking behaviors of respondents and their friends and family members. One-third of respondents reportedly engage in social drinking and over 40 percent of their parents and 47 percent of their best friends do so as well. We also got some interesting information about problem-drinking. About 27 percent of students have been drunk at least once, 5 percent consider themselves to be problem-drinkers or alcoholics, and 21 percent of their fathers have been problem-drinkers or alcoholics. Over two-thirds report having a problem drinker among their extended family members. One-fourth report that they have been emotionally harmed by a problem drinker, and over half report that a close family member or friend has been emotionally harmed by a problem drinker.

One interesting interaction was found for the relationship between the drinking behavior

of one's parents and one's overall attitude toward social drinking. With respect to one's mother, the relationship is linear—that is, the more frequently one's mother socially drinks, the more positive one's attitude is toward social drinking. For fathers, the relationship is curvilinear in that moderate social drinking associates with the most favorable student attitude. If fathers drink frequently, this associates with less positive attitudes toward social drinking on the part of the student.

When we examine all four surveys spanning two colleges and fifteen years, we find amazingly close correspondence. For example, similar percentages of students at King's College (1982) and Houghton (1997) affirm particular items such as "alcohol is meant to be enjoyed in moderation (25 percent)," or "better to avoid social drinking to be on the safe side (40 percent)." Also, in comparing Houghton students over 10 years (1987, 1992, 1997), we find a similar percentage report that they drink socially (30 percent), that their parents drink (49 percent), and they have ever been drunk (30 percent).

For a more detailed analysis of survey results, please see Dr. Van Wicklin.



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Editors' Mail Bag

Dear Editors:

In the March 21 issue, you printed an article about moral codes which are apparently making a difference in schools and in prisons. This was concluded with an offer for a free book by L. Ron Hubbard, entitled *The Way to Happiness*.

It is an appealing notion to think that morality is making some sort of a comeback. However, before we all get excited, the reader might want to know the following:

The Way to Happiness, whose title should set off a red flag in the reader's mind, is written by the founder of scientology. Scientology, as described in the book *The Challenge of Cults*, by Maurice C. Burrell holds these as truth:

The 'facts, 'truths or 'understandings of Scientology are superior to anything taught in the Bible.

The Bible has no authority in setting out what should be believed.

The Bible is simply a story of man's search for truth.

Scientology, unaided by the Bible, contains in itself all the 'revelation' man needs for salvation.

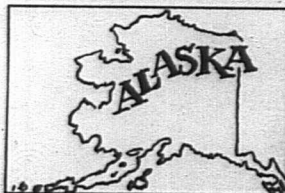
It seems possible to me that this article is good to read because it informs the reader of this new trend, or perhaps someone interested in studying cults might want to pick up a copy of the free book. Otherwise, I don't see any place for the article in the Star.

Yours in Christ,
John Ginnan

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DID YOU KNOW?

Alaska, the largest state in the U.S., is almost a fifth as large as the rest of the U.S.

Dear Editors and Houghton student body,

Some of you will probably view this letter as an easy way for me to say hello to you all back at Houghton and admittedly that is one reason for my writing this letter. However, my true intent is to share a little about my consortium experience, now that it is almost half over, and I am accustomed to my new surroundings.

Now, some of you are probably saying to yourselves, "Oh you mean she is not here this semester?" Others of you are probably wondering who I even am; just keep reading anyway. I have been in Deerfield, Ill., just outside Chicago, at Trinity International University for the semester. The Consortium program has allowed me to come here for one semester without the hassle and paperwork of transferring.

Why did I decide to pick up and leave a place I enjoy just to throw myself into a completely new environment for only a semester? There are actually a few reasons. First of all, I have the advantage of having my family here. My dad is a professor at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, a seminary that shares the campus and gives the college its "University" title. This "combined campus situation" actually gives the college a unique flair since it allows seminary and undergraduates to mingle at least in the fact they share a library and hold their chapels in the same building, though at different times. The seminary has been around much longer than the college and actually has a more prestigious

reputation than the college. This would probably not be a good thing to point out in front of the college administration, though the seminary students and faculty will readily admit it.

I also chose to come to Trinity in order to experience new surroundings, a world away from rural Houghton. It has been exciting to take advantage of the opportunities available in Chicago including a multitude of museums, zoos, restaurants, and of course Chicago's "Magnificent Mile." It has also been fun exploring the possibilities for graduate or medical school here and even making use of their libraries.

With all these possible excursions, however, it allows for probably the most striking difference between Houghton and Trinity. When the weekends come, or even on some weeknights, the students disappear! Many of them go home and are known as "weekend commuters" only here to participate in classes. Others find things to do off-campus. With all the outside opportunities for entertainment there are hardly any student-initiated activities, a predicament which has actually hurt the unity of the student body. The students are not as connected and familiar with each other as they seem at Houghton. Even though we all complain about "there never being anything to do at Houghton" you would be surprised how much you might actually miss this once you are away. The opportunities for student involvement, new friendships,

and campus activities just are not as evident here. It makes for an entirely different student atmosphere.

That brings me to my last reason for trying this experience. In this experience I was forced to step out of my comfort zone, to be away from surroundings and people I had become used to. I needed to meet new people and make new friends, which meant foregoing the "attitude" some of you are familiar with. Through this, it brought me closer in my relationship with the Lord. I had to trust Him to carry me through this experience, even through the loneliness I sometimes felt from leaving my friends. I did not make this decision alone. I prayed about it and now I am trying to see what the Lord has for me to learn while I am here.

I am sure each person deciding to participate in the Consortium program would have different reasons for getting involved. In addition, each person's experience would be different depending on what kind of college they decide to attend. Yet, the experience has allowed me to make new friends, learn from new professors, and experience a different chapel environment that has been extremely refreshing and encouraging. I guess my point is that if you want to try something different for a semester, think about the consortium program. I am praying for you all at Houghton and hope things are going well there! Stay Strong!

--Jenn Gregg

Students Volunteer to Fight Flooding

Colleen DeBaise (CPS)

FARGO, N.D. -- Ben Sullivan's hands were painfully sore after he spent 30 hours with a sand-bagging crew, struggling to contain the rising Red River.

"It feels like I have arthritis," said Sullivan, a North Dakota State University senior.

Sullivan joined thousands of college students in volunteer flood-fighting efforts after a spring blizzard hit the Northern Plains with blinding snow and drifts up to 20 feet high.

The April blizzard followed days of 60-degree weather that had melted snow and caused rivers to overflow their banks. Back yards and road were turned into lakes, and the blizzard added snow and ice to the mix.

"We did everything from building dikes to throwing sandbags around to filling sandbags," Sullivan said. "I've gotten six hours of sleep in the last

three days."

North Dakota State and Moorhead State University, whose campuses border the swollen Red River, canceled classes April 10 so that students, faculty and staff could join sand-bagging crews.

At North Dakota State, a 24-hour volunteer desk was set up in the student union. Nearly 4,000 volunteers were shuttled out to flood areas in two-hour shifts.

"All through the night we sent students out," said Ann Marie Morgan, the university's assistant director for organizations and Greek life. "We had a couple of busloads who honestly drove around Fargo looking for someone who needed help."

Nearly 700 students from Moorhead State volunteered to help with the community-relief effort. Many students returned

to their hometowns to join flood-fighting efforts there, the university said.

Several counties in Minnesota and the Dakotas have been declared federal disaster areas, freeing up federal funds for recovery. The storm and flooding is blamed for at least six deaths.

Tosha Kronberg, a North Dakota State sophomore, spent an evening filling some of the estimated 750,000 thousand sandbags used to protect homes and businesses from flood waters.

"It was pretty fun," she said. "It was a lot of work but we really felt like we were helping out the community."

Sullivan said he was glad he helped out, too. "Oh, absolutely," he said. "It was well worth it even though I had to stay up all night to finish my essay that was due the next day."

Social Commentary:
Cheap Pre-marital
Se...minar

Soho-rrible

David Johnson

I am not getting married (but I am currently screening prospective applicants Mondays at 5pm and 9pm). On Saturday, March 1, a pre-marital seminar was hosted in the Houghton Wesleyan Church Community Room, for a small price of \$15.00 per couple, from 9:00am to 5:45pm (the way I figure it, if you can bear to be around the same person for 9 hours straight, you can tolerate them for the rest of your life). Throughout the day, different speakers gave different lectures, but, most importantly, there was a lunch buffet.

In all seriousness folks, marriage is a sacred institution where two people pledge their undying devotion to each other in front of hundreds of their peers. Or is that an NBA free-agent contract signing? Nevertheless, either way you slice it, marriage is a precious bond. It is a public declaration of love and assurance, and the promise to be committed to this person throughout whatever obstacles life may produce; children, financial disaster, \$1000 fur coats, or the weird Uncle from his side of the family who always visits uninvited and gives beer to the Golden Retriever.

Coming back to the seminar. The couples arrived at 9:00am for a continental breakfast (I think it was South America, that day), and were welcomed by the speakers. At 9:30, Dr. Gaerte delivered his lecture "How to Fight Fair", where he addressed the controversial legislature that disallowed wives, at the onset of a marital dispute, to use the cordless drill as a weapon. Later, workshops were given to teach the married couple jujitsu, in hopes that they would be discouraged from getting into a fight since they both know either of them can shatter each other's tibias with one well-placed blow. Pat Morita aided Dr. Gaerte in this section. After a quick break, the couples were back to listen to a lecture from Dr. Michael Latoria titled "Marriage and the Family: Ties that Bind." I think this particular message was honeymoon oriented, so we'll skip it and go

to the next one.

Following a refreshing lunch from whence the couple dined on such delicacies as chili-burritos and open-faced turkey melts, Dr. Paul Young gave his lecture entitled "Babies and Other Consequences of Sex." He discussed the various responsibilities married couples encounter when they have babies, such as: a) Constant wiping of the _____, and b) Purchasing cute clothes that say, "Look at me! This outfit cost more than our station wagon!" Personally, I can't wait to have kids (I'm currently screening prospective applicants Mondays at 4pm and 8pm).

After another quick break, the couples listened to "Finances, Budgets, and Other Practical Matters" by Kenneth Bates. Mainly, Professor Bates addressed such subjects as finances, budgets, and some other practical matters like finances and budgets. The not-quite-newlyweds learned the other practical financial budgets that really matter then financed another practical budget while watching "Family Matters." To make the lecture even more confusing, Professor Bates did the whole thing in an obscure Korean dialect.

The last lecture was entitled "Building a Solid Spiritual Foundation" and performed by Pastors Wes and Cindy Oden (I personally liked the cougar leaping through the ring of fire, the best). Seriously, though, Pastors Oden discussed the very important basis of any Christian marriage: a strong, withstanding spiritual core (and, of course, tupperware).

At 5:00, there was a panel discussion in which all of the women talked about how they were going to decorate their kitchen mahogany and all of the men talked about how the Knicks were going all the way this year. The couples were then dismissed, each of them taking away something that could help with their new frontier of marriage. Currently, the Church is still looking for these missing appliances.

Dave Barry (TMS)

I admit that I don't have a sophisticated lifestyle. I don't party all night in trendy clubs with people whose hair is the color of Jell-O. My idea of an exciting evening is to go out at 7:45 p.m. and get a medium dish of frozen yogurt with - sometimes you have to walk on the wild side, darn it - low-fat chocolate topping.

I live on a peaceful street where there's hardly any noise except for a neighbor's pet parrot, which has been trying for years to make some kind of important announcement, but unfortunately cannot get past the first syllable, which is "GRAAK!"

I've worn the same style of clothes since 1967, when I made the breakthrough fashion discovery that you can't make too much of a fool of yourself if everything you own, except your underwear, is blue.

I would no more have my body tattooed or pierced than I would stick a live scorpion up my nose.

In other words, I am, culturally, Mr. American Cheese On White Bread With Mayonnaise. So I experienced quite an awakening recently when my wife and I spent a weekend in New York City's fashionable SoHo district. SoHo is located south of Houston Street; hence the name "SoHo," which stands for: "So, How Do You Eat With Those Rings Through Your Tongue?"

We stayed in a very nice loft belonging to some friends of ours, who sent us pages of detailed instructions about how to get past the elaborate system of locks and entry codes and burglar alarms. I have never personally launched nuclear missiles against Moscow but I bet it would be less complicated than gaining access to this loft. People are very security-conscious in New York; at one point, we encountered a woman

in the lobby, and although we tried to appear friendly and harmless, she had that expression that you see on many New Yorkers in such situations, whereby they strain to look as polite as possible considering that they strongly suspect you're about to whip out a machete and a vial hydrochloric acid.

(I'm not saying it's a lot better in Miami. I'm just saying that in Miami we don't go around WORRYING that everybody else is armed, because we KNOW everybody else is armed.)

But getting back to my cultural awakening: SoHo is full of clothing boutiques selling fashions that are extremely "avant garde," which is French for "visible from space." Do you remember when hip people wore black, and un-hip people wore polyester clothes in clashing, retina-damaging colors? Well, things have changed. There are many boutiques in SoHo featuring comically unattractive, radioactively plaid outfits - and these are not cheap outfits - that would be barred from Clown School for being too loud.

(Meanwhile, in some variety store in rural Kentucky, the first shipment of black clothing is just now arriving.)

Do you want to know what else is fashionable in SoHo? Cruddy old furniture. By "cruddy old furniture," I don't mean "furniture that, underneath the surface crud, is actually beautiful." I mean "furniture that, underneath the surface crud, is crud." Some SoHo stores are proudly selling metal yard furniture from which all the metal content rusted away decades ago, so what you're actually purchasing is a furniture-shaped shell of hardened dirt.

One store was selling a beat-up "seed cabinet" that had many drawers broken or missing and

that looked as though it had served as a latrine for generations of diseased bats; the price was \$4,000. Nearby, in the store's clothing section, people were admiring a female mannequin dressed in a color scheme that had to be distorting the Earth's magnetic field: bright-blue-plaid pants, a lime-green blouse, and of course a purple scarf. In a situation like that, you find yourself thinking: "Am I THAT unsophisticated? Or are all these people insane?"

This is what we were asking ourselves as we returned to the loft and settle down for a restful night of sitting bolt upright in bed every two minutes until dawn. Because it turns out that, at night, SoHo can compete, decibel for decibel, with World War II. There are people whose social lives apparently consist of standing on the sidewalk directly under loft windows all night shouting curse words at each other. SoHo is also the site of the nightly meeting of the Organization Of Easily Irritated Motorists With Very Loud Horns.

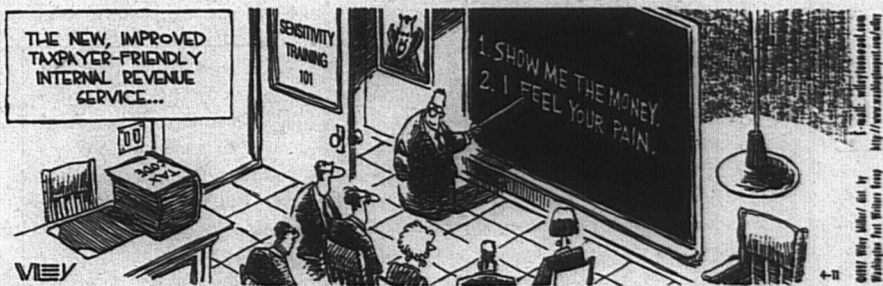
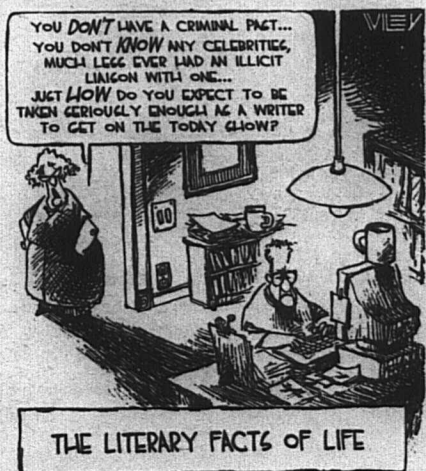
My theory is that nobody in SoHo ever gets any sleep, so that after a while people become delirious and encourage each other to engage in erratic behavior:

"I know! Let's pierce our bodies and wear polyester clown outfits!"

"Yes! And then let's buy a cruddy old seed cabinet for \$4,000!"

"Great idea! Even though the closest we ever come to engaging in agriculture is when we steam asparagus!"

That's what I think is going on. Although I admit it could be that I'm just too unsophisticated to understand that SoHo scene. But I doubt it. I'm not some yokel who thinks that "fine art" is a portrait of Elvis on a beach towel. Mine is on genuine velveteen.



Men's Volleyball Club Forms

Jonathan Heller

Houghton College finally got a men's volleyball club several weeks ago with Aron Cole as its coach. To make the club roster, all ten players on the team had to attend tryouts which tested volleyball skills and various physical attributes such as vertical leap, speed, and agility.

Coach Cole wants to run the club "like a varsity team," and his practice schedule reflects this commitment. Five team practices are usually scheduled per week. The initial practices were geared primarily toward improving volleyball skills and building endurance. After the first week, the club began to scrimmage against other players. Although building endurance and skill remain an important emphasis of the practices, one of the primary goals is getting the team to work together smoothly.

This first year is a building year for the club. According to Cole, the club will act as a foundation for a varsity team. If the college is able to start a varsity team, it will recruit athletes and

be able to compete at a higher level. However, for this to occur, the club players need to remain committed; and the school will need to provide some funding.

Since this is a building year for the club, a lot of time will be spent in practice. Practice time will be designed to hone players' skills and help the team work together smoothly. The club plans to compete in several tournaments this spring, but the exact details have not been worked out at this time.

Houghton College had an active men's volleyball club several years ago, but it was not very successful. This was largely because of problems involved with having a coach who also played on the team. Coach Cole will concentrate on coaching the club and he will not be competing on the team. This is a "first" for Houghton and everybody on the club is excited by the opportunity to learn more about the game and compete against other college teams.

Golf Picks Up Speed

Maggie Welter (CPS)

It's not your grandfather's game anymore. The college crowd has found a new fairway of fun--the golf course. Once shunned as a slow game of old geezers in funky plaid pants, golf has become one of the hottest leisure activities of college students.

"Before golf was frowned upon as a sissy sport," said Jason Rodenhaver, assistant coach of the golf team at the University of Maryland, "now it's really hot." Indeed. With a boost from 21-year-old golf sensation Tiger Woods and other celebrities such as Hootie and the Blowfish, young people are now the fastest growing segment of golf players in the United States. According to the National Golf Foundation the number of 15- to 30-year-old golfers grew 17 percent from 1994 to 1995. Across all age groups participation increased only about 2 percent.

For proof of the phenomenon look no further than college campuses. "It seems the thing to do is go to the [driving] range," said Jen Nowitzky, a James Madison University senior who picked up golf last semester. "After class you grab some clubs, a few friends and head on out." Gary Carpenter, a senior and co-captain of Maryland's golf team, has been playing since he was 6 years old, but he's seeing more and more of his friends getting into the golf groove. "Once you take them out they're hooked. They're like, 'Yeah, this is fun. Let's go out again.'"

"At some courses, students have become like the Energizer Bunny," say pros. They just keep coming and coming and coming. "Students fill our course all the time now. It used to be more older players, but recently the number of male and female kids has really increased," Rodenhaver said. "Maryland has its own course, and a half-price student greens fees is an extra incentive to hit

the Links," the assistant coach added.

For some the course is the ultimate playground; for others teeing off is a way to relieve stress. "Our generation feels cooped up and overworked. Golf lets you relax and take your mind off school," said JMU junior Seth Burton.

Some students actually get credit for clubbing the ball. Since the sport has become so popular, however, getting into a golf class can be as difficult as booking a tee time on a sun-drenched day. "I teach two sections of golf a semester and five minutes into registration they're full," said Bob Vanderwalker, an instructor at JMU. "I have students knocking down my door to get on waiting lists."

For JMU senior Lisa Brown, Golf 101 was a required course--sort of. "Golf is now kind of a required class for business majors. All the bigwigs conduct business on the course so you need to know how to play," said Brown, an international business major.

"Interest in golf has been building for some years, but increased substantially this year," Rodenhaver said, largely due to Wood's presence on the PGA Tour. "College people finally have an idol they can identify with. He's made golf cool," he said. And Wood's legendary status promises to only grow. With a 72-hole score of 18-under-par 270, Woods not only won the Masters Tournament Sunday by a record 12 strokes, he shattered the the Masters' record of 271 that Jack Nicklaus and Raymond Floyd has shared. And he did it as a 21-year-old rookie, becoming the youngest player ever to win the Masters and the first African American to do so.

On the eve of his Masters victory in Augusta, Ga., Woods himself said he realized what an impact his win could have on the game of golf. "It's going to open up a lot of doors," he told reporters. "On this stage and this kind of media, I think it's going to do a lot for the game as far as minor-

ity golf is concerned."

For Woods, golf is more than a job or a game, it's an addiction. "It's like a drug," he recently told Newsweek. "If I don't have it I'll go crazy. It's gone beyond love and hate. I got to keep playing."

Maryland's Carpenter says he feels the same way. "There is a certain passion about golf. I love the game personally. It's the only game that's based on true honesty, you know--with no officials, and that makes it unique," Carpenter said.

Woods is not the only figure encouraging the trend. Three years ago the video cable channel VH-1 started the annual Fairway to Heaven rock'n'roll golf tournament in Las Vegas. Players in the 1996 tournament included Amy Grant and members of Hootie and the Blowfish and REM. Hollywood also boosted golf's image with the release of "Tin Cup" and "Happy Gilmore" last summer.

The merchandise industry also is hip to the trend. GenXers are expected to spend up to spend close to five billion dollars on greens fees, apparel and golf equipment this year.

That's one reason Nike wooed Woods into a \$40 million contract to sport its golf footwear and new youth-oriented apparel. Nike also is working with Woods to develop his own bolder and hipper clothing line and his own logo, due to hit stores in 1998.

According to John White, a Nike Golf spokesperson: "He has wide appeal to our young consumers. His potential to excite the game of golf among that block is tremendous." Other companies such as A.M. player and Izod are also targeting the youth market with new designs.

As for the future, White said the drive to drive won't be bunkered anytime soon. "Golf is cruising higher and faster than ever before, and it's going to continue speeding."

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Farm Hosts Dressage Competition

Michael Walter

On March 17, twenty-five competitors braved rain and adverse weather to compete in the Dressage Competition, held every semester at the Houghton College Equestrian Farm. Prize winners that day included Heather Stam and Tricia Hopkins. The competition, open to both students and the public, was honored this year to have Dorothy Hokanson, president of the Western New York Dressage Association, as one of the judges. Hokanson commented on the high quality of riding at the competition.

The Dressage Competition is organized into a series of

levels. Each level features three or four tests, and each test involves several different movements. The execution of these movements is scored on a scale of zero to ten by the judge.

In order to prepare for the competition, riders and horses practice movement, strength, coordination, timing, rhythm, and balance.

The Dressage Homecoming weekend was also part of the day's events. Next, on April 26, the Equestrian Farm will host the 100 Jumper Show, featuring the Hunter Classic \$250 prize and the Jumper \$500 prize.

DAYTONA

(con't from pg.4)

"It just doesn't make economic sense for a business to close when thousands of visitors are in town," City Councilman Charles Cherry said.

Theresa Doan, who owned a number of popular beachside bars and restaurants, shut all of her businesses except for a barbecue restaurant that closed its dining room and served customers from its parking lot.

Doan said she learned her lesson two years ago when she kept her Bank & Blues Club open for one night of Black College Reunion and attracted only two customers as the young tourists stayed on the street and her regulars stayed away.

"I don't close businesses because I don't want black busi-

ness," she said. "If I thought there was a way to make money, by God, I'd be there."

One business owner who decided to stay open said he could see the reasoning. "I do great because I'm mostly selling to people right on the street," said Roger Torcelli, whose sidewalk pizza stand was busy. "But it's different if you've got to get a big crowd into your place. Most of these kids are probably real good kids, but it only takes one or two drug dealers to start some real trouble."

Those comments made Chuck Dow, a physician's assistant and University of Florida graduate, shake his head as he rolled slowly in his royal blue, restored 1972 Mercedes-Benz.

"That is so racist," he said. "Who does he think comes here for white spring break? A bunch of good kids and few bad kids, just like this weekend. But you don't see them closing down the town for the white kids."

In fact, police statistics show there are fewer crimes committed per day during Black College Reunion than during spring break, Bike Week and the NASCAR race weeks.

More than 500 police officers worked the event. Police Chief Ken Small defended the large police presence. "Black College Reunion is really a street event. With other events, people are here to go to the beach or go to the races."



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