

the HOUGHTON STAR

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF HOUGHTON COLLEGE

ON THE WEB: campus.houghton.edu/orgs/star

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THE World OUT there

BY AARON BOYNTON
MANAGING EDITOR

New Synagogue to Replace One Destroyed by Nazis

Last Sunday, German Jews laid the cornerstone of a synagogue on the 65th anniversary of the infamous Nazi pogrom known as the Night of the Broken Glass, where synagogues and Jewish businesses in Germany were attacked and Jews were either shipped off to concentration camps or killed. Construction of the synagogue will cost approximately sixty-five million dollars; the building will also house a Jewish museum and community center. The new synagogue complex, to be completed by 2007, will stand on St. Jacob's Square in Munich's old town. Along with laying the cornerstone to the building, the leaders buried a new strongbox with the names of Munich Jews who were deported, killed or driven to suicide by the Nazis.

France and Russia Sign Rocket Launch Agreement

France and Russia signed an agreement on Friday that is intended to allow the eventual launch of Russian rockets from a French launch pad in South America. This accord is the first of its kind between Russia and a country from the European Union. The Russians want to launch their Soyuz-ST rockets from the Kourou launch pad in French Guyana. In the next few weeks, the two countries will be working out the exact logistics and financial terms for the process. Russia has hoped for access to Kourou because its location close to the equator would allow their rockets to carry heavier loads into higher orbits than those at the Russian facility in Kazakhstan.

Bosnia Massacre Survivors to File Lawsuit

Families who lost loved ones in the July 1995 massacre are going to sue the United Nations and the Dutch government for failing to protect the eight thousand Muslim men and boys that were killed by the Bosnian regime. Lawyer Semir Guzin, who is representing many of the victimized fami-

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Student Life and SGA to Combine Scoop with New Calendar

BY MELANIE MARCIANO
STAR STAFF WRITER

Beginning January 2004, the Scoop newsletter, a helpful guide to student life and activities, will no longer be in print. Instead, Student Life, in conjunction with SGA, will be publishing an up-to-date student life calendar twice a month. The new calendar will not be taking the place of the Scoop, which will be available on the college's website and distributed through email regularly; but it will be a neatly organized and easy-to-read guide to events for students that should allow them to quickly access Houghton's news and activities on a day-to-day basis.

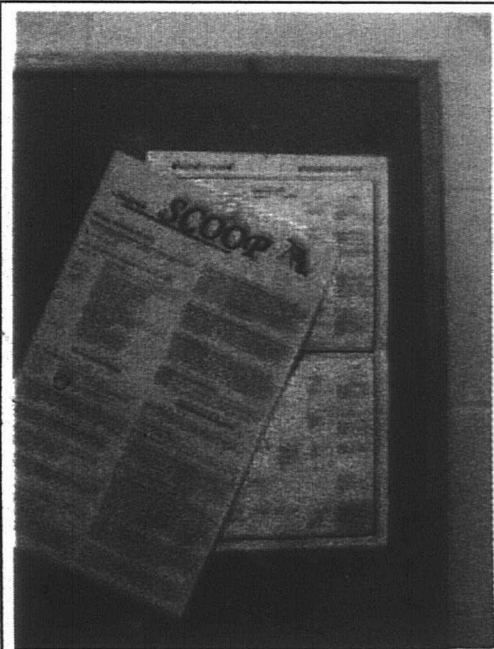
The goal for the new calendar is to be very up-to-date and flexible so it can include breaking news easily. Equipped with pictures, the calendar will grab attention and let its viewers quickly take note of important highlights.

The calendar is all about convenience; it may even be distributed right to students' doors. Student life is looking into hiring students to hand out the calendars door-to-door in the dorms. This way everyone will

be sure to get it so they can hang it on their wall or take a look at it every morning when they get up.

According to Dennis Stack, the Scoop will be produced along with the calendar as a "step up;" but the printing of both seems unnecessary. The Scoop will still have important information not included on the calendar (which will focus mostly on events and activities) that Student Life considers to be valuable for students to read. More detailed, long-term information on such things as mission trips, May Term and job opportunities, and explanations of events will be included in the Scoop. Mr. Stack hopes to add a Scoop archive to the Houghton Website as well, so students can find information they saw in

past Scoops that is no longer in the current issue.



Prepare to say goodbye to your beloved Scoop in 2003. It will be replaced by a bi-monthly calendar.

Houghton College's Network Woes, part 2 of 3 Worms, Viruses, and Hardware

BY D. ELLIOTT TAIT
STAR STAFF WRITER

The first article of this three-part feature described the legal and technical problems peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing can cause and have caused Houghton College's network. As stated in Jeff Spear's October 9th email, the most serious complication has been the information bottle-neck caused by the loads of traffic P2P file sharing produces. P2P file sharing, however, is not the sole cause of the problems experienced by users of Houghton's network.

The Blaster and Nachi (or Welchia) worms (which have wreaked havoc upon many networks all over the world for an estimated 1.4 million total machines) have infected many computers on Houghton's network. The main problem these worms cause is that, much like P2P file sharing, they flood the network and internet with enormous amounts of traffic. Some of this formulated traffic was directed specifically at Microsoft's Windows Update servers which hold the operating system's (OS) only defense against the worms, while the rest simply acted as a nuisance.

Unlike a virus which is transferred by e-mail and infects a computer only if opened by the user, a worm hits every computer that is vulnerable. While each computer the worm hits is not necessarily attacked by the worm, all infected machines are used to spread it. Since it spreads via the Internet,

just being online makes all users susceptible.

Those who are vulnerable to the Blaster worm are users with Windows NT 4.0, Windows 2000, Windows XP and Windows Server 2003 operating systems. At the start of the school year, Houghton College Tech Services required all student laptops (minus the Compaq V300 and 1500c models) to be re-imaged with Windows XP, thus leaving most everyone on Houghton's network susceptible to attack. This is why on September 12th, Tech Services sent a mass email demanding that all Windows XP and 2000 users download the latest patch (update) for their respective OS.

This patch fixes the security problems that Microsoft had announced in June as well as other problems found during the few months before and the month following the release of the Blaster worm on August 11. The patch also protects users from the Nachi or Welchia worm which was released a week after Blaster. This worm cleans out the Blaster worm on the computers it infects only to replace it with itself and similar traffic-flooding problems.

The mandatory "re-imaging [process] saved a lot of trouble" with regard to the spread of these two worms says Network Administrator Jay Livingston. He claims that "students with desktop

computers" that do not have the latest Microsoft patch, do not have the proper anti-virus software and were not re-imaged, are responsible for catching and spreading the worm throughout Houghton's network.

Both worms have the ability to spread and infect quickly, and all network users experienced the effects of the velocity and volume of traffic these worms have been and still are producing. Computers with the worms also experience some other side effects, such as random error messages and reboots.

Tech Services has the ability to detect the specific area of these infected computers, but not the actual location of the desktops, unless they are registered. Thus, some employees "had to knock on doors" to inform the users of the problem and have them remove it, remarks Patti Smith, Associate Director of Tech Services. "It's just so time consuming," Smith says, as there are only "two people" working with the network.

The other cause of network and internet trouble is related strictly to hardware: the machines that create and run the network and the machines that connect to and use that network.

Houghton's network is

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lies, told the Associated Press that they will seek around \$1 billion dollars, which they hope to get by settling out of court. Dutch peacekeepers who were supposed to protect the area failed, and the Dutch government resigned from their post because of this in April 2002. A year ago, Guzin sent a letter to the United Nations on behalf of the survivors requesting compensation of \$1 billion. According to Guzin, the United Nations never responded to the request.

Nigeria Tells U.S. to "Back Off"

The Nigerian government has instructed the United States government not to attempt to apprehend Charles Taylor, the former Liberian leader who was ousted from office and exiled to Nigeria in August. The United States has posted a \$2 million bounty that is believed to target Taylor. A spokesperson for the Nigerian president said that Nigeria "would not be harassed by anyone" into handing Taylor over so that he can be tried for war crimes in the west African nation of Sierra Leone. Nigeria hopes that no country will violate its sovereignty, which it would interpret as an act of hostility. The Nigerian government has said that Taylor will be allowed to remain in Nigeria as long he stays out of trouble and does not try to get involved in the politics of either Liberia or Nigeria.

No Kissing in Moscow?

According to the European branch of the Associated Press, Moscow officials, at the request of police and city education officials, are considering fining people for publicly displaying affection. As part of an effort to "improve morals" in the Russian capital, the Moscow government is working on a law that would prohibit kissing in subways and other public places, reported one Moscow newspaper. Committee member Tatyana Maximova said, "People are making out even on the escalator in the metro. Something must be done about this." According to *Stolichnaya Vechernyaya Gazeta*, a leading newspaper, the fines would range from 300 to 500 rubles (or 10 to 17 U.S. dollars). If the "culprit couple" cannot pay the fine, they would be held at the police precinct until someone came and bailed them out. This same law also plans on banning other "immoral acts," such as loud cursing, drunkenness and spitting. A decision on the law should be made in the next month or so. The full story can be found at http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=518&ncid=732&e=5&u=/ap/20031109/ap_on_re_eu/

world news continues in next column

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U.S. Wants to Discard Iraq Council

The Washington Post reports that the United States government has become extremely frustrated with the Iraqi Governing Council and its failure to make important decisions. Officials say the U.S. is frustrated because council members are pushing their own agendas rather than making decisions that help war-torn Iraq. One Pentagon adviser says that the U.S. should not disband the council because "it consists of people who represent large elements of the Iraqi society." One possibility that is being considered is having an interim sovereign body to govern over the country, as is the case in Afghanistan at the moment.

Apart from "No Kissing in Moscow," all other news stories can be found at <http://news.yahoo.com>.

Subway Give-Away: Get Free Food!

BY AARON BOYNTON
MANAGING EDITOR

On October 27th, Subway began a give-away contest where students are eligible to win a free 6-inch sub sandwich. The drawings will be going on every week school is in session until the final drawing next April. Each week, Subway will give two free subs to two lucky Houghton College students. There are two ways to win a free sub: 1) A CPO box number will be drawn at random each Monday, and the winner will get the coupon in their mailbox, or 2) A student's name will be

entered into a drawing every time he uses his Big Al's bucks. This drawing will be held on Mondays as well. The more you use your Big Al's bucks at Subway, the more your chances of getting a free sub increase. Subway hopes that this promotion will attract more students to do business with Subway and use their Big Al's bucks there.

The Houghton Subway opened during Summer 2002 and is owned and operated by Randy and Susan Searl.

GETTING TO KNOW ...

Dr. Ron Rohe

by MARISSA ALBRECHT
STAR STAFF WRITER

Position: Professor of Physics

Age: 48

Hometown: Syracuse, New York

Alma Mater(s): Undergraduate: B.S., Physics & B.A., Applied Math: University of Rochester (1978)

Graduate: Ph. D., Physics: Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1985)

Graduate Certificate of Biblical Studies: Columbia Bible Seminary (1986)

M.A., Theology: Cincinnati Bible Seminary (1998)

Are you married? Do you have any kids? Yes; my wife, Vivian, and I have eight children.

What sort of previous employment experiences have you had? Associate Professor of Physics

at Mount Vernon Nazarene College (OH), faculty member at the Dept. of Electrical Engineering at Petra Christian University (Indonesia), Research Assistant and Professor of Radiology at the U. of Cincinnati Medical Center.

How long have you been at Houghton? Three years.

What do you enjoy most about your job? Working with students; I really enjoy interacting with them.

What is your favorite Bible verse? Mark 4:18-19 "And others are those sown among the thorns: these are the ones who hear the word, but the cares of the world, and the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it yields nothing." It seems most relevant to my life and where I'm at right now.

What would you say is your favorite thing about this time of year? The colors; this season is a favorite to both myself and my wife. We were married this time of year, in October.

What is your favorite Thanksgiving dish? Moist turkey smothered with cranberry sauce and gravy (none of that dry stuff).

What's your biggest pet peeve? Secular moral relativism.

Pepsi or Coke? Coke.

How many times do usually you hit your SNOOZE button in the morning? Typically just about once or twice. I'm a pretty early riser. With eight kids, my only quiet time is early in the morning (5 AM) so it's typically not too hard...although it usually depends on what time I go to bed...

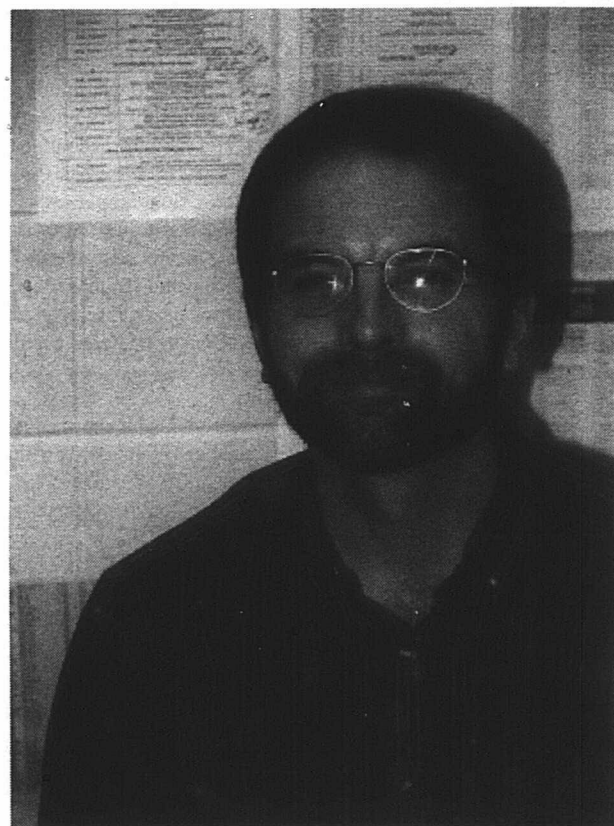


PHOTO BY NATHAN BOYD

Dr. Brittain's Goals for Houghton Spiritual Life

BY CHRISTINA TURNER
STAR STAFF WRITER

From the new mentoring program to the prayer request folder, the chapel program at Houghton is undergoing some changes under the leadership of Dr. John Brittain, the new dean of the chapel. Dr. Brittain, who has served for twenty-five years in campus ministry, came to Houghton in August from the University of Evansville in Illinois, where he served as the university chaplain.

Dr. Brittain's work as dean of the chapel thus far has focused on lining up chapels for the rest of the year, but he is looking forward to focusing on larger issues. Brittain hopes to focus on expanding Houghton's emphasis on missions and building community between faculty, staff, students, and other Houghton community members.

"Houghton has some very impressive opportunities for students to do missions," Brittain said. However, he would like the school to take missions to a higher level and give all students the opportunity to do missions work, not just athletic teams or intercultural studies students.

Brittain and the Spiritual Life Committee are currently working out the details of several such mission trips. Students will have the chance to serve in many different countries during Mayterm. The Spiritual Life office is also teaming up with the Salvation Army to provide opportunities to serve in Buffalo over February break. Since the trip will only cost \$25-50, it is ideal for students with limited finances. The details of these missions trips will be announced in

future chapel services.

Dr. Brittain's second focus for the upcoming months is what he refers to as "community building." Since Brittain's arrival at Houghton, he has taken several steps toward this goal. One such step is the Imitators of Christ mentoring program. When Brittain first visited Houghton, he was astonished at the number of faculty and retirees who lived in the community and envisioned developing a program in which students could benefit from this rich spiritual heritage. Brittain discovered that several students had been trying to develop such a program for the past few years. Because of support from Brittain and the Spiritual Life office, the program, which matches students with spiritual mentors, is now underway.

Brittain's goal for the Prayer Request folder is also to encourage community by making students aware of others' needs. "I hope that this will encourage and challenge us to remember that there are all kinds of needs beyond whatever little group we're in," Brittain says. His next step is to develop intercessory prayer teams: groups of students who will commit to praying for requests for a week every month. However, all students are encouraged to pray for the requests, which are available in the Public Folders section of Outlook Express.

Brittain and the Spiritual Life office are also preparing other opportunities for students to build bridges with those in the community. On Saturday, January 31, a campus-wide spiritual life retreat will be held in Cuba. The goal of the retreat, which will be free to all, is to gather a cross-

section of those in the community for a time of music, teaching, and sharing.

However, Brittain emphasized that these changes are simply building upon the strong spiritual foundations Houghton already has. "We have a wealth of resources here: enormous musical talent, real hearts for missions

and ministry, and deep faith," says Brittain. "There is a strong sense of cooperation."

With the introduction of these new programs, Brittain hopes that Houghton's tradition of community and serving others will continue to develop and grow.

OPINION

-- TECH CORNER --

by DAN PERRINE

P2P: The Other Side

As was explained in the *Star* last week, many colleges across America are struggling to deal with both the legal and technical implications of peer-to-peer applications, commonly known as P2P programs. While it is true that these programs are often used to download copyrighted materials without the owner's permission, it is unfortunate that so many colleges have chosen to place harsh restrictions on them and thus curtail the many legal uses of this powerful new technology.

The Recording Industry Association of America is understandably upset over P2P music downloads. After all, how will they get people to pay grossly inflated prices for CDs when they can get music for free? However, many musicians, most often those deemed "unmarketable" by the recording industry, have embraced P2P technology as a way to promote and distribute their music. By choosing to block P2P programs, colleges are once again restricting students to only being able to listen to what record executives decide to fund and produce.

In an ironic twist, it is no longer even in the recording industry's best interest to encourage colleges to block P2P applications. The same measures taken to curb the use of programs such as Kazaa and WinMX also block legal, pay-to-download programs such as iTunes (www.apple.com/itunes) and the new Napster (www.napster.com). Interestingly, this site is still blocked here at Houghton despite Napster now being a legitimate company). The record industry is trying hard to get college students to switch to these programs for their music needs. News outlets recently carried the story of how Penn State is including the new Napster service as part of students' tuition (see http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/031106/lath099_1.html for more details). It seems that PSU has noticed that blocking the use of popular download programs does nothing to change students' opinions about piracy, while offering them a legal, easy-to-use alternative can.

Independent artists aren't the only little guys hurt when colleges block P2P programs. Bittorrent, a wonderful new utility much maligned in last week's article, was originally developed to provide an economical way for independent software developers and open-source software communities (who can't afford the dedicated download server that large companies can) to distribute their software. My first experience with Bittorrent was using it to download Linux Mandrake, a popular free alternative to the Windows operating system. Blocking programs such as Bittorrent cripples the ability of small coders to get their programs out to the public, once again limiting consumer choice to what is offered them at high prices by large corporations.

Instituting draconian measures to block P2P programs is not a good solution to this problem. Trying to eliminate a powerful new technology just because some people misuse it and it poses a few initial technical difficulties simply defies common sense. There are better solutions available; all it takes is an open mind and some effort to implement them.



FILE PHOTO

In time, Dr. Brittain, hopes to expand Houghton's spiritual vision to areas outside of Wesley Chapel. Though the Chapel program is central to the campus' spiritual life, Brittain has his eye on moving into other ministries as well.

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connected to the internet via four T-1 connections located in the Paine Science Building. A switch at Tech Services then transfers these connections to four other switches located in buildings like East Hall and the NAB. From these switches other buildings like Shenawana and South Hall are connected. This is what's called a "star configuration," says Smith. "There are many paths packets are able to travel. Typically packets take the shortest route to their destination."

The actual speed a user experiences at any given time is limited to the current specifics of the switch(es) he/she uses. Some of these details are

concrete, such as the limitations of the switches due to physical hardware. The main hardware, including the five core switches on Houghton's network, is five years old and "not as efficient as we would like," says Livingston.

Other specifics fluctuate, such as the amount of users sending or receiving information, what they are sending/receiving, and how much they are sending/receiving via the same switch(es). Thus, if someone in Lambien is experiencing slow (or no) internet response, it is probably due to a large amount of traffic created by another user in Lambien who's using P2P file sharing or has an unknown worm or virus.

According to Livingston, "new

systems generating more traffic" is the other main hardware hindrance. A few years ago when student laptops were relatively slower and less powerful, the network's main hardware was sufficient because these laptops did not generate a lot of traffic. Houghton upgrades student laptops every year to faster and more powerful systems, however, which in turn generate more traffic and use an increasing amount of bandwidth. Current sophomore and freshman computers are considerably better than previous laptops; and because they make up about half of all of the computers connected to Houghton's network, they themselves create a significant amount of traffic with general use.

The congested highway caused by all of the traffic generated from P2P file sharing, worms, viruses and hardware is a problem that affects all of Houghton's students, faculty and staff. Random AIM disconnections, unstable internet gaming latencies, and inconsistent web browsing speeds are all the results of this traffic and outdated hardware that is unable to handle it.

Next week's concluding article will describe what Tech Services is doing to solve these problems entitled "Houghton College's Network Woes: The Solution."

Houghton's Nurmira Salimbaeva: A Cellist After God's Own Heart

BY SARA ELSTON-MOORE
STAR STAFF WRITER

Nurmira Salimbaeva was born and raised in the beautiful, Muslim country of Kyrgyzstan. Her life's been quite a long journey, from being the little girl who sang for guests in her Muslim home to the vivacious, poised young woman who has played cello for heads of state.

Nurmira has loved music since she was a little girl. Her mother, a physician, realized early on that Nurmira was musically gifted and sent her to music school. At the age of nine, Nurmira was accepted into the Abdraev Music School in Kyrgyzstan. Because of her talent and long fingers, she received instruction in playing the cello. By the age of thirteen, Nurmira had been diagnosed with chronic Hepatitis C and was told that she would spend the next ten years in and out of treatment. She often found herself in the hospital with severe pain. In 1992, one of her fellow students at Abdraev Music School converted from Islam to Christianity. He told Nurmira about Jesus and took her to church. Even though it was

dangerous, Nurmira slipped into a Russian Christian church service. It was there that her life changed forever. "At the church I went to, they were really praying and singing to God, really sincerely," Nurmira said. "I was so touched by it, that people could have a close relationship to God. Plus, I felt God's presence at the church very strongly in my heart. Suddenly I realized that I needed the Lord and redemption." In the Islamic tradition that Nurmira grew up in, she had never before heard of a God who wanted to have a personal relationship with humans. "In the Muslim religion we don't have that redemption," Nurmira explains. "When I first read the Bible, I was really touched that God is love. In the Koran you would never find that God is love. Jesus touched my heart, healed me, and heard my cry."

Two weeks later, Nurmira felt the familiar pain of Hepatitis C return. Crying and doubling over in pain, she called out to Jesus for help, and in minutes the pain left her body. Later she would discover that the Hepatitis C was gone for good. After that miraculous experience, Nurmira

shared the joy she felt with other students in the music school, and those students put their faith in Jesus. When the headmistress found out, the students were interrogated, beaten, and many were expelled. Nurmira was allowed to stay because of her remarkable talent, but she was no longer permitted to live on campus. She now had to commute from her home two hours away by bus. Many nights she would get out of rehearsals late and miss the bus, and would have to either stay at a friends house or stay very late at the station, waiting for the next bus home.

Despite all of this, Nurmira excelled in her cello playing. After graduating from the music school, she was accepted at the Kyrgyz National Conservatory on a full scholarship. She played in the Ethnic Folk Theatre and was the principal cellist on the Conservatory's Symphony Orchestra of Kyrgyzstan.

Nurmira was one of the musicians selected to travel with the President and First Lady of Kyrgyzstan. During these travels, she had the opportunity to play for heads of state in Switzerland, perform a concert tour in Turkey, and also play in Moscow for an organization of gifted children. In 2000, Nurmira received the Prelude award from the President of Kyrgyzstan for continued study in cello, and in September of that year, she arrived in the United States. She gave a musical performance in Seattle, Washington, for a Russian Christian Conference. It was then that friends convinced her to stay in the United States to continue her

music studies. Even though she barely knew English and had only the clothes on her back, God was faithful and provided numerous families for Nurmira to live with. One of these families introduced her to Stephen Kates, a distinguished professor of cello at Peabody Institute. Even though Professor Kates was not taking

Quotable Quotes

"Having trouble getting a date? Sacrifice a few doves to the goddess Aphrodite."

-Dr. Paige

"Write down that quote. No, wait ... that's not funny."

-Hi Uan Kang (class of '06)

"Women should never marry if they want to keep power. Look at Elizabeth I and Catherine II of Russia. And if you do get married, then what do you do with your husbands? ... Kill them!"

-Dr. Benedict on Feminine Power and Marriage

"But tractor-pulls, they do it for me. I'm there!"

-Dr. Beach in Metaphysics, Morality and the Mind, talking about things that bring pleasure

"To your right we have the reference collection and to your left we have ... a couple making out?"

-Angela Pearce (Class of '04) making a surprise discovery in the library

Have you overheard a student, professor, or staff member say something witty or funny on campus recently? The Star would love to take that quote out of context for the enjoyment of the campus! If you have quotes or quips, send them, along with the name of who said them, to the Houghton

So They Have Thanksgiving in Canada, Eh?

BY JOSH MILLER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

This Saturday, Houghton's offices of Advancement and Intercultural Affairs are teaming up to organize a Thanksgiving meal for our fellow Houghtonites who are from the lovely nation to our north. That's right, on the 16th, Houghton's Canadian students, staff and faculty will have an opportunity to celebrate Thanksgiving Canadian style.

"But wait a minute!" you Canadian scholars say. "Didn't Canadian Thanksgiving already pass?"

Right you are. In Canada, Thanksgiving falls on the second Monday of October, our Columbus Day. Unlike our Thanksgiving tradition, which derives from and still focuses on the Pilgrims'

settlement at Plymouth Rock, Canadian Thanksgiving is a harvest celebration: it centers on appreciating the bounties of the farm.

Their tradition began about forty years before the Pilgrims landed, thanks (no pun intended) to the initiative of English explorer Martin Frobisher. Frobisher was one of many European seamen who came to the New World in search of the ever-elusive Northwest Passage. Unfortunately, poor Frobisher was unable to discover a quicker route to India, so he settled down in Canada and initiated an annual celebration of a harvest feast. These festivities continued on an unofficial level until 1879, when the Parliament declared that November 6th would be a national day of Thanksgiving in Canada. As time went on, Canadians

began to change the date of celebrating Thanksgiving. Most had their feast on the third Monday of October. Later, the date was changed again to fall on the first Monday of the week of November 11th, so that Thanksgiving would coincide with the date of the World War I armistice. Finally, after over half a century of debate, Parliament settled the date for good. In 1957, they declared that the second Monday of October would be "a day of general thanksgiving to Almighty God for the bountiful harvest with which Canada has been blessed," or "Thanksgiving" for short.

Although the origins of Canadian Thanksgiving and its American counterpart are quite different, many of their traditions are the same. This is primarily due to massive Tory emigration from

America to Canada during the Revolution. The colonists who were loyal to the British Crown brought with them Thanksgiving treats such as the cornucopia and the pumpkin pie. The two Thanksgivings do, however, have their differences...like a different date of celebration...and they're celebrated in different countries.... OK, so basically they're the same thing. Most Canadians even have turkey and all the trimmings on their Thanksgiving tables.

So, for those of you who knew nothing of our northern neighbor's tradition of Thanksgiving festivities, now you know, and according to GI Joe, knowing is half the battle. And to those of you from Canada itself, I wish you a happy yet very belated Thanksgiving, and hope you enjoy some turkey this Saturday, eh?

Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir Comes to Houghton

BY RYAN ENGELBRECHT
GUEST STAR WRITER

The Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir is said to be the best choir in the world. The ensemble has sung all across the globe in Europe, the United States, and Asia; and its recordings have won Grammys. So when this prestigious ensemble performed at Houghton College on Thursday night, November 6th, it was definitely the experience of a lifetime.

Most of the repertoire performed was sacred, consisting of Psalms, prayers, Latin liturgical texts, and even texts from Russian Orthodox liturgy. The secular sections were a setting of poetry by Spanish poet Juan Alfonso Lorca and the Finnish national epic poem The Kalevala. The choir sang in Estonian, English, Russian, Latin, and Spanish. The concert ended with an encore of an arranged Estonian folk song.

This difficult repertoire showed

the ability of choir through its extremely complex and dissonant harmonies and rather tight intervals. Despite the works being on the lengthy side, there was never a dull moment as the choir maintained the audience's interest with its musical phrasing, giving full expression to each word.

Within the choir, every singer had a huge voice but was able to control it well enough to maintain the music's texture. Their collective sound was very dark, warm, open, pure, rich and round. They paid very close attention to matching each other's vowel sound, through which they achieved a unified sound. The choir also had near-perfect intonation. They performed the entire concert a capella and stayed completely in tune, which was particularly impressive because of the difficulty of the pieces they sang.

Director Pall Hillier's conducting looked simple yet profound; he was efficient in directing the choir and did

nothing more than was needed.

The choir's use of dynamics was incredible. Its soft singing was practically hushed, and its loud singing was almost deafening. Each of the individual sections also added to its sound's intensity. The basses were singing notes that make the ground rumble, while the tenors and sopranos reached notes in the stratosphere.

Along with its tone, the choir also did a remarkable job with the various languages of its pieces. Since its sound was so round and focused, some languages were easier to understand than others. Russian, Spanish, and Latin were the easiest to comprehend while English was the most difficult to follow because of the nature of English (it is hard to sing pure vowels in a language that is almost devoid of pure vowels), and their Estonian accents were somewhat evident in the English sections. However, their English was still better than most Anglo-speakers singing in

Estonian.

While most of the performance was top-notch, some of the choir members were mildly distracting, which took away some of the quality from the concert. One of the female vocalists had her arms crossed in front of her during the first half of the concert; and another moved her hair away from her face during a song. Several members did not even watch the conductor; they were too focused on the music in front of them, only looking up every so often. However, for the most part, their final cut-offs and final consonants were together.

On the whole, this concert was a quality performance, worth every minute of the program. Houghton College was definitely blessed to have had the "world's greatest choir" travel all the way to western New York to share some of the best singing and the best choral works the world has to offer.

Houghton's First Dinner Theater: An Enjoyable Evening Out

BY RACHEL INGRAHAM
GUEST STAR WRITER

This past weekend, Bruce Brenneman and his drama students, along with Fred Libick and Pioneer food services, were able to provide the Houghton community with an evening of fine dining and entertainment. Their dinner theater, which ran from November 6 through November 8, paired a three-course meal with three one-act plays.

The first dramatic offering of each evening was Dutton Foster's, "The Wild Flowering of Chastity, or Chaste Across the Stage." Foster's play is filled with over-the-top phrases and cartoonish melodrama, and the cast did an excellent job of bringing these elements out and keeping the audience in stitches. Alicia Berbernick was the very picture of innocence as Chastity Wildflower, a sweet (if oblivious) young maiden whose life is beset with many "gruesome spectacles" and "pageants of horror." Among these trials were villain Desmond Darkacre (Jesse Orton) and Violet Nightshade (Keeley Woodworth), the "fallen woman" who also happened to be Chastity's older sister. Despite these

many setbacks, Chastity was able to maintain her purity, and return to the side of her love, the hero Terence Truelung (Ethan Stowell).

In the second play, a stage adaptation of Guy de Maupassant's "The Necklace," the cast attempted to bring the many nuances of de Maupassant's short story to the stage. This famous story, which deals with issues of class conflict and the need for honesty within relationships, was brought to life by Tara Fisher (Mathilde Loisel), Lisa Kolb (Emilie), Mike Arensen (Henri Loisel), and Liz Sands (Jeanne Forestier). Arensen was especially believable as Henri, the good-natured man who must work hard to meet the demands of his unreasonable wife.

In the last play, Thornton Wilder's, "The Happy Journey to Camden and Trenton," Jennifer Neroni shone as Ma Kirby, the character whom Wilder himself acknowledged as "the play's center." Wilder also expressed concerns that amateur productions would portray her with an excess of sentimentality, but Neroni was able to steer clear of such a trap. Her characterization revealed Ma Kirby to be by turns funny, loving,

overbearing, and strong. Ethan Stowell (Elmer), Julie Waltz (Caroline), and Andrew Gaerte (Arthur) also gave strong performances as the other members of the Kirby family, who undertake a one-day journey to visit their daughter/sister Beulah (Linda Monath). Mike Farley displayed his versatility in this production, as he stepped into the role

of one of Wilder's seemingly ubiquitous stage managers.

Though the plays did have their rough spots, each cast did its best to bring their respective play to the stage. An evening out is always appreciated in a place like Houghton; and on the whole, this evening out was an enjoyable experience.

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NOV 13, 14, AND 15

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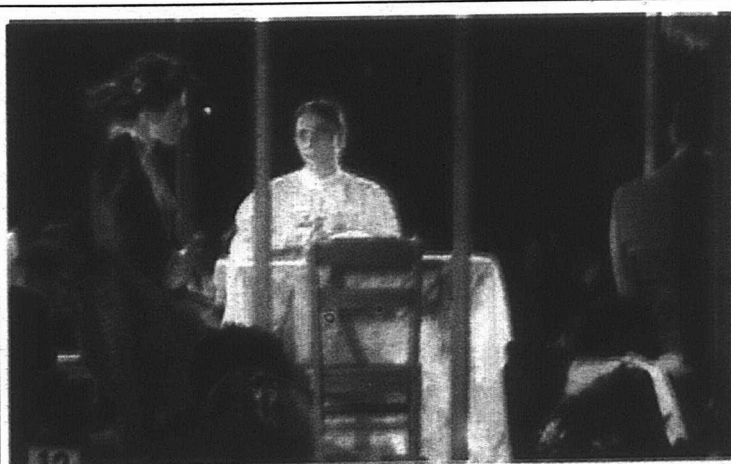


PHOTO BY AARON BOYNTON

"The Necklace," seen here with Liz Sands and Tara Fisher as Jeanne Forestier and Mathilde Loisel, respectively, was one of three one-act plays performed.

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Suites and Stanzas: Ortlip Gallery presents Jim Zingarelli

BY RACHEL BRASK
STAR STAFF WRITER

As you walk into the Ortlip Gallery this month, you'll notice something a little different. Paintings still adorn the walls, but the center of the room is not occupied by pedestals featuring pristine and untouchable sculptures. Instead, several flat marble slabs lie on the floor with loose, shaped pieces scattered upon them. You've walked in on Suites and Stanzas, a dynamic sculpture and painting collection featuring the works of Jim Zingarelli, artist and art professor at Gordon College. The exhibit opened with a gallery talk on Monday, November 3, 2003 and will run until December 14th.

The works of art on the floor are the "Stone Table Suite," a sculptural work of many uniquely carved abstract pieces of marble intended to engage the viewer in interacting with the piece. In his gallery talk, Zingarelli emphasized how he wants the viewer to experience the "suite" tactilely, not just as something to be viewed from a distance. There are pillows on the floor around each exhibit, encouraging viewers to sit at floor level and play with each piece. Zingarelli said that he wants to "give latitude to the viewer." To allow a viewer to touch a sculpture usually

places an artist in a difficult and vulnerable position. There is always risk involved in allowing viewers to handle a piece, especially the possibility of it sustaining damage. In response to this, Zingarelli says, "If something breaks, then it was meant to be two pieces!"

Along the walls hangs a series of "stanzas": abstract paintings featuring intricate shapes and lyrical lines, each titled numerically in the "stanza" series, reading chronologically from left to right. Zingarelli opened his gallery talk by discussing the meaning of the word "stanza" as an Italian term for a rather large room, and how each of his paintings is supposed to be like a frame-contained room, with jagged shapes, vivid colors and dynamic movement. He mentioned that he wanted each of his paintings to come back to language, and that each contains "glyphs, cyphers and scripts" to be read. A musical quality can also be seen in the pieces, perhaps because of Zingarelli's love of jazz. The paintings are very active and with vivid overarching color schemes in each, until the black and gray pieces towards the end of the series. Zingarelli also emphasized that this work is not yet finished; like an epic poem, each stanza lends itself to the next.



PHOTO BY AARON BOYNTON

The "Stone Table Suite," part of Jim Zingarelli's "Suites and Stanzas" show now on display in the Ortlip Gallery, invited viewers to come down to its level and interact with it. Actually touching and moving about the pieces of sculpture is a rare experience for gallery goers, and is one not to be missed.

The Matrix: Revolutions A Spoiler-Free Review

BY DAN PERRINE
STAR STAFF WRITER

For those of you who have been really out of the loop, or live in North Dakota, *The Matrix: Revolutions* is the third and final installment of the *Matrix* series.

Recapping the entire series would take a lot of time and space and would fail to do the movies justice; so if you want to know what happens leading up to *Revolutions* go watch the first two. *Matrix: Revolutions* picks up immediately where the second movie, *Matrix: Reloaded*, left off. While the first two *Matrix* movies were like action-packed philosophy lessons (impossible as the concept may sound), the third installment is much lighter in the discourse department, but makes use of much more religious imagery. In case you're concerned, no one outside of Jerry Falwell's congregation should find these references to be sacrilegious. *Revolutions* has a much more intense dose of action than its predecessors as the entire movie is basically a climax and conclusion to parts 1 and 2. Believe it or not, the special effects are even better than in the first two. I highly recommend seeing the movie in a good theatre (I saw it on IMAX) to experience them in their full glory. The martial arts work is amazing, as should be expected from Woo-Ping Yuen, the coordinator behind *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* and *Kill Bill*.

Concluding a story as epic as the

Matrix saga is always difficult. I felt *Revolutions* did an admirable job of tying up the main storyline with some unexpected twists that succeed in



shooting down those who thought they had the whole thing figured out after *Reloaded*. There are, however, some side stories that are neglected—a blemish but not a critical one.

Content-wise, *Matrix: Revolutions* is rated R for violence, language, and brief sexuality. There is substantially more blood in this one than the last two, and any attempt to count the number of bullets fired would be pointless. The language level is moderate and not gratuitous. Finally, the sexuality is indeed brief and more along the lines of the club scene from the first *Matrix* movie than the protracted rave/orgy of the second. Overall, I loved this movie. If you liked the first two, you'll like this one.

Thousand Foot Krutch Throws Up Their "Rawkfist!"

BY MIKE MORDENGA
STAR STAFF WRITER

For the longest time, Christian alternative music was labeled a low-fat substitute for the real thing (secular music). In many ways this was true in the early nineties, a time when most Christian artists couldn't establish their own sound. Recently, however, there has been an increase of original Christian rock artists. Thousand Foot Krutch (TFK) emerged into the rapcore scene with a vibrant and incredibly lively sound. Their new CD *Phenomenon* continues in the footsteps of their previous album *Set It Off*. The razor-sharp guitar riffs along with Trevor McNeven's rapid-fire passive/aggressive voice make TFK a band with tons of potential. While *Phenomenon* continues to utilize TFK's rap and rock stylings, some

things have changed. The band's sound has elaborated and matured. They are no longer just raw rockers; now they have an abstract angle on their music playing. Their hip hop has been toned down a bit and replaced with more alternative and catchy choruses. Songs like "Phenomenon," "Last Words," "I Climb" and "New Design" showcase their newer sound while "Rawkfist," "Bounce" and "Quicken" maintain the traditional TFK feel. The band still has an emo-esque song about depressing girls and boys entitled "This Is A Call," which shows Trevor's passive side. Another difference you'll notice in

the album is that the spiritual bluntness of *Set It Off* is toned down



considerably. The Christian emphasis is somewhat hidden in the art of the lyrics (but not so much that you can't find it). The band still glorifies the Christian lifestyle by focusing on their own lives and struggles. Songs like "Last Words" carry strong messages about making the best out of life and avoiding big mistakes, while "Phenomenon" talks about rallying together to experience the supernatural. Still, this CD is probably not an effective ministry tool; but it is a great representation of Christian art. The biggest problem of the album is its length of only twelve tracks and barely over 35 minutes of music. They have the potential to make so much more. In spite of this, TFK is a band that worthily represents the Christian lifestyle and all its energy. I highly recommend their CD and seeing these guys in concert.

AUSTIN TIME

The Advice/Chris-Says-What-He-Wants-to Column

BY CHRISTOPHER AUSTIN
HEAVILY-FINED STAFF WRITER

This Week's Topic:

THE PARKING PROBLEM

I did not receive any questions today. It seems the student body of this college is not writing enough questions to sustain the 'advice' part of this column. Thus, I am forced to ramble again on a topic of my own choosing.

Today I received a parking ticket from the ever-so-kind safety and security forces of Houghton College. When I say 'ever-so-kind,' I am of course employing the exceedingly popular literary device known as sarcasm. Because when I declare they are ever-so-kind, what I really mean is not ever-so-kind. I had parked my car in the campus center lot for about 40 minutes, and when I returned, I discovered a green ticket, left to inform me that I did not in fact have a permit to park by the campus center.

I decided I would go pay the ticket when I found out about it, so I rushed to the safety and security office; but alas, no security officers were to be found! One guess as to where they were: out giving more people parking tickets for illegally parking on the Houghton campus. It's as if they don't have anything to do but bust people for parking. Perhaps we should rename safety and security to parking patrol, or the find-and-fine gang.

I guess really I am just bitter about getting a parking ticket; but let's face it, no one likes getting parking tickets. It all comes down to my strong sense of laziness. And not being able to park on campus somewhat hinders this said laziness.

Truly unfortunate is the miniscule amount of parking spots on this campus. I remember reading an article in the *Star* which said that because of fire codes we are going to lose five more parking spots when they take out the road between Luckey and Paine. The article said we lose only five spaces, but hey! Five spaces are nearly 20% of Houghton's parking area!*

Let's think of it this way. I have a big chocolate Hershey bar, which has oh, 25 squares on it. I give some to commuters, some to staff/faculty, and some to RDs. A few squares fall on the ground (by the gym) and so I give them to the students to chew on. Not for free of course; I charge everyone who wants a piece \$50 for the chocolate that fell on the ground. Then I decide to re-form the chocolate bar, and take away five pieces, in an attempt to keep people healthier. If people try and borrow my chocolate because they need food to live, I will fine them, put a muzzle over their mouth so they cannot chew anymore, and eventually I will have them towed at the owner's expense.

I particularly dislike the last sentence on the parking policy, stated in big bold letters: "Parking lots are provided and maintained as a privilege for Faculty, Staff, Visitors, and Students..." Privilege. It sounds similar to parents threatening to take away play time in the third grade if their kid doesn't eat his green beans. If no one maintained parking lots, no one would attend the school (oh no, then the Houghton Fund would be in big trouble). They are not really providing them as a privilege; it is more of a necessity.

To summarize, the parking at Houghton College is inadequate. We should be making more chocolate, not taking it away. Parking lots are provided and maintained as a necessity for faculty, staff, visitors and students, and should be expanded accordingly. The key words of the day are privilege and ever-so-nice because they are both vastly unsuitable when used as adjectives relating to Houghton's parking.

*(The facts in this sentence may be partially exaggerated for emphasis)

EDITORIAL

Commitment to God--The Best Choice

by Aaron Boynton

Being fully committed to God may be a hard process, but it is one of the most important and best choices we could ever make. I read an online article the other day and God laid it on my heart to talk about it. Kristen McNulty, a Canadian radio host wrote an article called "Total Commitment" that was featured on CMCentral.com, a prominent site covering Christian music. Here is one of the things she said that really got me thinking:

In our society we don't often whole-heartedly commit to anything, which can be illustrated in the fact that half of marriages end in divorce. But unfortunately, this lack of commitment isn't only occurring in our society. It's also occurring in Christianity.

The sad part is that what Ms. McNulty is saying is true. I see many people (including myself) who go on this streak of doing great things for God and being on fire for him, but then fall back into the daily routine and conveniently push God to the back of their minds. God has to be at the front of the line in our life. He is the reason for living and we must live our lives for Him and according to His plan.

As Christians, we don't always know what total commitment is or how much time this commitment will take. On this, McNulty says:

What is total commitment? It's giving 100% to God. It's passionately pursuing Him and His ways. It's reading your Bible when you could be watching TV. It's finding yourself in church not just on Sunday mornings. It's going through your house and throwing out what you know God wouldn't approve of. It's doing the same with your life. It's speaking up when you would rather be silent. It's standing up for your faith when everyone around you is sitting down. It's getting up to pray when you'd rather be sleeping in. It's reaching out despite the risk of rejection. It's abandoning what you want and obeying what God wants. It's a total surrender of yourself to Him.

How many of us are willing to go that far? I'd say not a lot. Being the fallen humans that we are, we tend to shy away from the thought of disregarding material possessions as more important than the treasures that await us in heaven. This type of radical commitment will take a lot of work, but who said our relationship with God was supposed to be a cakewalk? A relationship with Christ is about sacrifices, being thrown out of your comfort zone, and going places unimaginable doing things you would have never thought of in your right mind. That is what blows me away about God. He is so amazing and will provide great things for us as long as we stay fully committed to Him. Sure there will be trials and hard times, but the reward of eternal salvation is worth it.

Take this to heart, and remind yourself of this verse: "Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in him, And he shall bring it to pass."--Psalm 37:5 (NJKV). Are you willing to be fully committed to Christ?

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Highlander Soccer Teams Advance in Playoffs

BY AARON BOYNTON
MANAGING EDITOR

Last Saturday, both the men's and women's soccer teams won their respective matches to move on to the NAIA Region IX Semifinals, which will take place this coming weekend. In the first game, the women's team defeated Cedarville University by a score of 6-0. Cassandra Mills led the team with two goals, while Hannah Toth, Jessica Stack, Juliann Stoltzfus, and Heidi Toth each tallied one goal. The Highlanders dominated the corner kicks, and outshot Cedarville 15 to 1. Rebecca Fuller and Megan Radimer shared net time to preserve the shutout. This game was the 15th shutout for the Highlanders this year. The team will now move on to host the NAIA Region IX Final Four on Friday and Saturday, November 14th and

15th. This weekend will be Houghton's eleventh consecutive appearance in the Regional Final Four. Be sure to support the women's team this weekend as they try to return to the National Tournament, which will be held this year in Santa Barbara, California.

The men's soccer team won its first round playoff game by a 1-0 score over Ohio Dominican University. Freshman forward Kwame Oduro accounted for the only goal of the game, and then the defense took over. Both teams battled on the field, but Ohio Dominican could not get past goalie Steve Cox. Cox had two saves and recorded his seventh

shutout of the season. Houghton had a 22-7 advantage in shots and constantly denied the Panthers. Senior Trevor Eby tallied his 20th assist on the season, which is first on the team and in the conference. Eby also achieved another honor by moving into a second-place tie for most points in

team history with 156. The Highlander men move on to face rival Tiffin University in the NAIA Region IX Final Four at Rio Grande, Ohio this coming weekend. The winner of the Region IX Final Four will advance to the National Tournament in Olathe, Kansas.



PHOTOS BY AARON BOYNTON

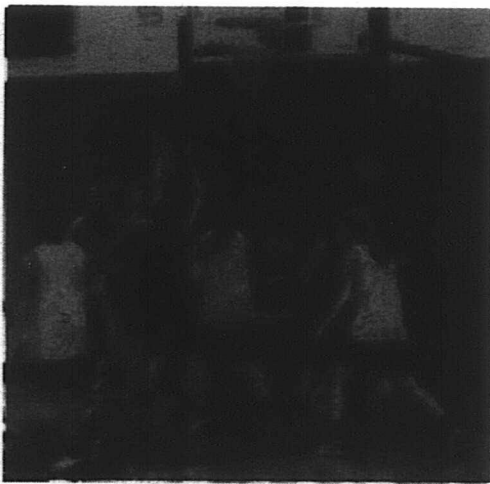
Hoopla Kicks Off Basketball Season

BY KATY SYKES
STAR STAFF WRITER

The Highlander men's and women's basketball teams sponsored the Houghton Hoopla this past Friday. The event introduced the members of each team and promoted support for the coming basketball season. The Hoopla began with a scrimmages of both the men's and women's teams. They were followed throughout the evening by numerous contests and raffles. Dr. Swanson graced the audience with his entertaining commentating and witticisms as the basketball players rallied with the cheerleading squad to spark the flame of Highlander spirit.

The basketball teams were eager to involve the audience in both the

raffles and the interactive audience contests, including the half-court shooting contest and slam dunk competition. The cheerleading squad also encouraged spectator enthusiasm. By the end of the Hoopla, it seemed that both the teams and the fans were excited and all looking forward to an exciting basketball season.



HIGHLANDER athlete of the week

Cassandra Mills / forward, women's soccer



Mills, a 5-5 junior forward from Fillmore, N.Y., scored two goals and added three assists to lead the Highlanders to a 6-0 win over Cedarville in the first round of the American Midwest Conference playoffs. Mills has 10 goals and 13 assists on the season. Her assist mark is second on the team. She has tallied 37 goals and 34 assists in her career.

Top Ten Spring Course Selections

BY SARAH KUZIMKO
STAR STAFF WRITER

10. Initiative: A Course for Shy People 101
9. Dating 101
8. Dating: Lab 101
7. Curling: Eh? 301
6. Going Steady 102
5. Culinary Cooking: Popcorn 101
4. Getting Married 201
3. 340 Castinets 101
2. Getting Down with your Bad Self: Modern Dance
1. FYI: One more round 102

HIGHLANDER SCORES

MEN'S SOCCER

Sat. 8 OHIO DOMINICAN W 1-0

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Sat. 8 CEDARVILLE W 6-0

VOLLEYBALL

Tues. 4 ROBERTS WESLEYAN W 3-1

Sat. 8 CARLOW W 3-0

NOTRE DAME (OH) W 3-0