

December 8, 1989

Volume 82.9

The State of Security: Houghton and Harrassment

by Beth Johnson

Although Houghton is still "basically a safe place to live," as Dean of Student Development Robert Danner remarked in chapel recently, circumstances occurring through-

out the semester have raised questions about security on campus. Both Danner and Ray Parlett, head of campus security, expressed concern over past situations and voiced optimistic attitudes that alert, cooperative and careful students will greatly decrease incidents of harassment or theft.

The type of harassment from outside forces is basically of two types: high school students driving through campus and drunken individuals. Parlett agreed that situations involving off-campus individuals coming on campus or placing harassing phone calls to Houghton students, mainly women, have increased. He stated that he believes this to be an unfortunate comment on atti-

tudes in society and urged the use of common sense when walking at night or in difficult situations.

"Harassment will undoubtedly continue," he explained, "but so far,

we have been able to react to harassment cases efficiently, with no constant problems evolving."

When asked about any improvements in the existing security sys-

tem—additional security guards or increased patrols by guards at night—Parlett responded that the budget would not allow for additional manpower, and that no other precautions would be taken at this time. He commented on his frustration, for the roads running through campus are county roads, and therefore are public. Outsiders are legally allowed to come onto campus; it is only when they actually cause damage or harass a student who decides to press charges that the college can also press charges for criminal trespass.

Although he maintained that Houghton is indeed safer than a larger, urban college, Danner urged that we "not be lulled

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Security worker David Weisensale makes his rounds.

Photo by Dave Perkins

NEWS

The State of Security

(continued from page 1)



to sleep by our rural setting." He remarked that "it is always distressing when something of this nature happens; it gives you a different image of your community," commenting on the recent events of harassment. He wants to reassure everyone, however, that he is serious about the safety of students and is now more willing to call in state police to investigate incidents.

Danner stated that he has contradictory feelings when harassment is done by students themselves because student involvement is not some anonymous external disruption. In these situations, he has the opportunity to judge their motives: whether the situation was meant as a joke or prank, or was undertaken with more serious intent. Danner is distressed that responsible students would act without thinking and end up hurting someone, however.

The Houghton Star is a weekly student publication; its focus is on events, issues, and ideas which significantly affect the Houghton College community. Letters (signed) are encouraged and accepted for publication; however, they must not constitute a personal attack, they must be submitted by noon on Tuesday, and they should be no longer than two double-spaced pages. The editor reserves the right to edit all contributions.

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Open Period Declared

by Dave Wheeler

Stating in the fall of 1990, no fourth period (12:45 p.m.) classes will meet on one of two proposed days of the week. According to Academic Dean Clarence Bence, Tuesday and Thursday are the proposed days, and the Academic Affairs Council will decide between the two in December.

"There is no place during the day, which starts at 8:00 a.m. and extends until 5:00 p.m., when we all shut down, except for chapel," Bence explained. "There was a desire for a [convenient] time for students to meet and for faculty to hold division

meetings." Such a declared opening in the academic schedule would provide such a time without interfering with the family lives of professors or the evening studying of students. The options were narrowed to fourth period on Tuesday and Thursday because "very few" classes are currently held during those time frames.

According to Bence, this measure will be carried through with flexibility; there will be exceptions. Certain musical groups and choirs will probably meet during the open period.

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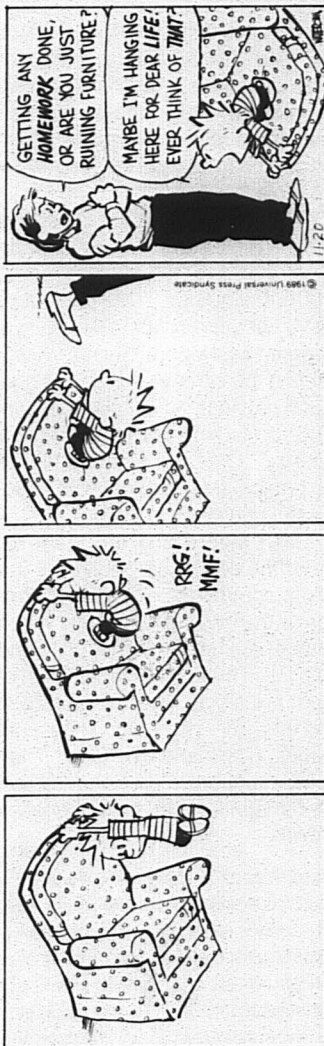
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NEWS

Senate Charity Drive Recipient Decided

by Stephen Virkler



Although little new business was discussed at the sixth Student Senate meeting this year, held on Tuesday, November 28, topics discussed included World Missions Fellowship (WMF) plans, the newly-formed parking committee, Christmas music on WJSL, and the annual Senate Charity Drive.

World Missions Fellowship president Kristen Roth informed Senate about the next few missions trips that WMF is organizing. According to Roth, students will be sent to Paterson, N.J. over Christmas break, to New York City over spring break, and to Asia (Outreach Asia '90) next summer. About "100 young people from all over the world" will participate in this final missions trip, according to Roth. Also, WMF may send a missions group to Europe in May.

Senate president Thom Fenner announced the formation of a committee designed to look at the current parking situation on campus. The members of this committee are Kristi Duliba, Scott Fogel, Steve Manney, and Joe Galli.

According to WJSL committee representative Darren Chick, more and more Christmas music will be played on the college radio station as Christmas approaches. This week about one third of the songs played on WJSL will be Christmas music, and after that, the majority of the songs played will be Christmas music, Chick said.

Senate voted to support the Allegany County Outreach in this year's Senate Charity Drive. According to ACO representative Tim Hegarty, the money that ACO obtains through this drive will be used to buy a "newer used van" to transport children and college students throughout Allegany County. They are currently using a 1980 Dodge van with "150-plus thousand miles" on it. According to a recent appraisal, the van probably "won't make it through next year."

The other two charity drive proposals, turned down during the meeting, were for Africa Renewal Press, represented by Patrick Bamwine, and the STEP program, represented by Prof. Doris Nielsen. According to Bamwine, Africa Renewal Press is involved in publishing scriptures and Bible study material in Uganda and setting up Bible studies for the people there. According to Nielsen, the STEP program is designed to help Allegany County high school students in danger of becoming juvenile delinquents through backpacking and rock climbing, taking them through the ropes course, and having "sessions where they talk together" under the supervision of student directors from the college. Nielsen said that she noted significant positive changes among the youth involved with the program last year.



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NEWS

Making a Difference: Houghton Prison Ministry

by Patrick Bamwine

Back in the 1970s, the sheriff of Allegany County made arrangements with Houghton College through Richard Barnes (then college chaplain) for students to hold a weekly Bible study with inmates. Now, years later, someone is always there, taking the time to care.

A group of four men and periodic guests visit the Allegany County Jail every Tuesday night. Dan Moore (coordinator for Media Services) organizes this outreach. His team includes Rob Jacobson, Bill Allen, and junior Rick Ives. Moore and Jacobson have been together for almost four years.

"It's absolutely thrilling to see men take deep interest in scripture, study and discussions," said Moore. "We hold excellent discussions with these men and are always sensing the presence of the Lord. It's a great joy working with these inmate."

When the team arrives at the jail, all the inmates are invited, and those interested are taken from their cells to a room set aside for the meeting. The purpose of the meeting, Bible study, is clearly announced, and the team members take turns making presentations, ensuring that they remain open to any subject that the inmates may want to discuss. Rob Jacobson plays the guitar, and the inmates love it.

Attendance averages around ten but sometimes up to thirty show

up. Some of them are professing Christians who had been brought up as Christians and who understand the Gospel message. "This group shows great enthusiasm," said Moore, "but others don't know Christ at all and they are fascinated by the message."

"Sometimes we've sensed a tremendous move of the Spirit," said Ives, "and as we've found out, those are times when class prayer meetings are also taking place. The junior class, in particular, prays for us."

The first time I went," continued Rick, "I had this typical stigma of hardened rebels and anti-God fellows who are set in ways that it would be hard to minister to them." The first time can be scary, as the giant gates and bars are opened and officers check through your stuff. "But soon we get to know their names," said Ives, "and eventually walls are broken down as relationships are formed."

Once, according to Jacobson, the sheriff told the group, "We really owe you a big thank you. When I go into the cell, especially when they aren't looking, and see many of them reading the Bible by themselves, I know that your programs are making a difference."

The college and the Village Church have been very supportive, especially by providing money for

Bibles to encourage scripture study. The inmates first study the books of the New Testament and answer basic questions. "After successful completion," said Moore, "we reward them with a complete Bible, with their names inscribed in gold on the Bible."

Many people ask about helping with the Bible study, but with groups larger than five, the inmates would feel outnumbered. "In particular, we've not been able to take along a woman," said Moore, "for fear of distracting the inmates." Still, this outreach provides an excellent opportunity for students interested in prison ministry. Over the years, a few of the participants have gone into successful ministries in prisons.

Dan Moore and the team request the continued prayers of the whole community. Of special concern is the issue of follow-up. When inmates are released, they often end up back in their old crowds. Most of them are single, between eighteen and thirty-five years old. They need friends, Christians who care. They need a supportive environment and encouragement in their Christian growth.



NEWS

And in Other News . . .

by John Chong

Since the last issue of the *Star* [November 17], quite a lot has happened in the world: the Malta summit, the attempted Philippines coup, shuffling in the Czechoslovakian government, etc. The following are summaries of the current events during the past two weeks.

Malta

This past weekend, U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev met off the coast of Malta on ships. During this mini-summit, nothing of major significance occurred. Both men expressed interest in encouraging reforms in Eastern Europe.

The meeting of the two leaders was very important, however, because it was the first time Bush and Gorbachev had met since Bush's election. There is hope that in the coming summer, NATO and the Warsaw Pact will sign a historic agreement to cut troops in Europe to a level of about 275,000 each (U.S. troops would be cut by 30,000; Soviet troops, by 325,000).

Bush wanted to use the summit as a springboard to a greater understanding of Gorbachev's intentions with the Iron Curtain drawn. Bush said that he was "pleased" with the outcome of the meeting, and many of the NATO allies praised his performance. On Monday, November 4, Bush briefed the NATO allies on the two-day meeting.

Rome

Seventy-two years of hostility between the USSR and the Vatican ended this past weekend before the Malta summit. Pope John Paul II and Mikhail Gorbachev met for a private session, and the two agreed to establish formal diplomatic ties between the Vatican and the Soviet Union.

After the meeting, Gorbachev offered the Pope an invitation to visit the Soviet Union. The Pope refused, because the Communist state does not offer its people freedom of religion. Gorbachev pledged his commitment to introducing "a law on the Freedom of Conscience," which would grant citizens some form of religious freedom.

the Philippines

This past weekend, 200 rebel soldiers occupied a Filipino Air Force base in Manila. The rebel band attempted a coup in order to oust President Corazon Aquino. Failing, the rebels retreated and took over the Manila financial district, taking control of a ten-rise building housing 2000 foreigners, including 200 Americans. The mutineers vowed not to release the Americans due to Washington's support of Aquino.

On the way to Malta aboard Air Force One, Bush gave orders for the U.S. military to aid the government troops fighting the rebels. The U.S. provided air support using F-4 fighters, in the event that the rebels might use an air assault on the Loyalist troops.

Due to the active support by the U.S., the rebels initially refused to negotiate the release of the Americans. They eventually let them go on Wednesday, and Aquino called a national state of emergency.

Czechoslovakia

Major changes are occurring in Prague. A chanting crowd of 150,000 protesters gave the Communist-dominated leadership less than a week to form an acceptable government. By Sunday, Premier Ladislav Adomec must form a 21-member cabinet. Adomec announced a new cabinet consisting of five non-Communist members, but this did not satisfy the opposition.

Last week, Communist Party leader Milas Jakes and 13 members of the ruling Politburo resigned due to tensions caused by their lack of response to the growing cry of the masses for reform. On the eve of Jakes' resignation, Dubcek, the leader of the crushed Prague Spring reform, addressed the crowd; he was received with much enthusiasm by the protesters.

East Germany

The East German Parliament today amended the country's constitution, abolishing the Communist Party's right to control the government. This proposal was initiated

by the Communist Party and four other non-Communist parties.

This action meets one of the demands of the reform movement and the hundreds of thousands of East German citizens demanding change. It also was announced that West Germans will no longer need visas to visit East Germany as of next year.

El Salvador

Renewed violence in El Salvador prompted the U.S. government to charter a jetliner to evacuate some 300 Americans from the war-torn country. After five days of relative calm, leftist rebels launched a new attack on San Salvador, destroying the home of a U.S. official.

Dozens of Americans filled the heavily-guarded U.S. Embassy, joining about 120 embassy employees and their families, who spent the night in the building. As the Americans prepared to leave, the rebels announced that they would observe a six-hour cease-fire "so that the foreigners can be evacuated."

Columbia

The Justice Department extradited a Colombian drug "kingpin" to face charges of cocaine smuggling. Colombian authorities turned Jorge Mario de la Cuesta over to the U.S. marshals in Bogota on November 30. The suspect will be flown to Jacksonville, Florida, to face charges in a federal court.

On December 5, another Colombian judge was gunned down by a drug-cartel hit-squad. The judge had led an investigation into a rural cocaine-processing lab. He was killed on the streets of Medellin by two armed men with automatic weapons. This has been the eighth attack on a Colombian legal worker in the past three months.

(Acknowledgements due to UPI for reference use)

NEWS

Waste Conflict Continues

by Kim Kerr

New developments have arisen in the Concerned Citizens of Allegany County's (CACC) fight against the proposed nuclear waste dump in Allegany County.

On November 13, about 400 people gathered to protest the dump at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center where Governor Mario Cuomo was holding a fund-raising dinner. Representatives of various groups went to Albany to meet with the governor. Cuomo refused to stop the siting commission from doing its job; however, he plans to sue the federal government for forcing the states to bear the responsibility of nuclear waste disposal. This announcement was a sign to some anti-dump citizens such as Gene Hennard of Fillmore that "Cuomo is getting nervous."

The siting commission is planning a visit to the proposed areas the week of December 11. No drilling or heavy equipment will be brought in; instead, it will be a "walk over" the land. The commission will only be allowed to "walk over" land that they have permission to be on. Several people have filed lawsuits to keep the commission off their property. A judge in Belmont ruled that the commission is allowed on the properties; however, due to an appeal, the commission cannot yet come onto the land. The commission has postponed its selection date until the beginning of next year.

Meanwhile, others have been continuing to get involved in Allegany County's fight. Two consultants from the Institute for Environmental and Energy Research came to Allegany County to look at reports, see the various sites and talk to the citizens. They also met with

Houghton College science faculty on campus. Both sides agreed to cooperate.

Glenna Frederickson, the treasurer for CCAC, felt that there was a need for internationally-known and experienced scientists to be brought in. The siting commission has disregarded the county's own research and scientific findings. The CACC hopes that the consultants' findings will not be disputed.

The band 10,000 Maniacs, originally from Jamestown, NY, will hold a concert on December 17 in Alfred, NY, to benefit the CACC. The band was asked to perform the benefit because of its liberal political and environmental views and its roots in the Southern Tier. Net proceeds from the concert will help pay for CACC's legal expenses and public education programs. The concert will begin at 7:00 pm in the McLane Center at Alfred University. Tickets are \$15, and can be obtained from area box offices, music-related stores and college student centers, as well as from Hennard (names and addresses are available in the Star office).

Overall, the mood of the people of Allegany County is "up and down," according to Dr. Irmgard Howard. There have been some great achievements on the CACC's behalf as well as some disappointments. Participation has been good, according to Hennard. Hennard feels that as the truth about nuclear waste is being revealed, many people are showing their support. To get a feel for the attitude of the county, one needs only to drive to Belmont and see a house lit up in Christmas lights that spell out, "no nuke."



OPINION

To the School (not just the editor)
(PART TWO):

Everything has a sequel these days, so I thought my original letter (Oct. 30) should not be different. My reasons for writing this time are a little different, however. In my four years at Houghton I have written to the *Star* four times (now five). The first three all received very negative letters responding to mine. In my college years, I knew of no precedent to a letter like mine (Oct. 30). People in our type of community do not easily open up—especially publicly (this is certainly not meant to receive applause for me). I sincerely expected to be torn apart by conservative people who felt I was "rebeling" or condoning certain behaviors. To my delight, I received through intracampus mail and face-to-face conversations all positive and supportive comments. I know many do not understand my struggle, but they can accept me in spite of it. And to these people I am grateful. It reaffirms my belief in the goodness of the Body of Christ (a belief that was waning due to my conflicts with many and my internal cynicism). These are the people who truly deserve applause, and I would like to take this opportunity to do just that. I don't get to speak for Our Father very often, but I believe He has found favor with those who showed their support instead of emptying the stone pile on me. Again, Thank You.

To those who read my letter and said, "I know what you mean" and feel tired and a bit angry, I would like to recommend two things:

1. Don't give up—we truly do serve an awesome God who is not yet judging the world (although it's rapidly approaching). Give Him everything you've got. He does not deserve the blame for the mistakes of His people.

2. If you like acoustic rock music and lyrics that constantly struggle with you, buy Mike Stand's

album *Do I Stand Alone?* I promise you will find it fulfilling; his message summed up says, "It's easy to get angry when life's unfair, the challenge is to know a faithful God is there" (from "I've Seen Gray").

These are two suggestions based on my own experience.

Because I still care,
Rob Vargeson



Dear Editor:

We would like to thank you and Beth Johnson for the article "Building Concretely: the Peace Corps" which appeared in the Nov. 17 *Star*. We would like to take this opportunity to clarify a few points which were not reported accurately in the article.

We wonder what Ms. Johnson meant by "building concretely." Did she mean building with concrete? The "edifice complex" displayed by many Western aid workers and their governments perhaps does more to hinder development than promote it. After two years of observing various approaches to development, we are convinced that education, whether in the classroom or in an informal setting, is the key component to successful development projects.

Many Ghanaians, especially children, suffer from malnutrition, but starvation is extremely rare now. It is true that most Ghanaians are poor by American standards, and the first encounter with such poverty might be overwhelming to us as Americans. Yet we were often humbled by the genuine happiness and generosity of these people who have so little.

The evangelical missionaries with whose work we were most familiar were involved mainly in the watering, fertilizing, and weeding (rather than planting) of churches

and the training of national leaders. They could not have been further removed from "handing out tracts and lofty preaching" as described by Ms. Johnson. Unfortunately, these missionaries had to deal with expectation that they be Santa Claus-like as well as Christ-like, bestowing on their congregations both material and spiritual blessings. In many ways the relationship between missions and the national church in Ghana is going through a difficult time of transition, as both groups reevaluate and redefine their roles.

Finally, one small point of clarification regarding Peace Corps training: trainees normally receive only a brief orientation in the U.S., with the actual training being conducted in the country of service and lasting two to three months.

Sincerely,
Dale Shannon
Robynn Shannon



To the Houghton community:

A word of gratitude to all of you who have expressed your concern to me over the last week about my wife Roselyn's health. Her situation did give us a bit of a scare, but, thank the Lord, she is healthy and at home after three days of being checked out at St. Francis Hospital in Olean. Many of you have stopped me on campus to inquire about her and to express your support and prayers. We deeply appreciate the strength we feel in the Houghton community. Thanks so much!

Robert F. Danner



OPINION

Dear Dave,

I am surprised to hear that you think ESA was one of the best chapels in the last two years. My interest was kept only through shock and outrage at what I saw in the speaker. Note: Before I begin, I am in favor of ESA, just not Cerbone. His performance was unacceptable in three areas:

1. His pacing was so distracting that I began to wonder whether he was sending out messages through walking patterns or was just moving about so no one could get a clear shot at him.

2. His point, as I perceived it, was that we should promote love, peace and repentance. But his only example was of the KKK rally. What about politics and church hypocrisy? Surely he doesn't want us to carry peace signs in church to counteract trite behavior. His call to action was missed.

3. The most outrageous: he started his love, peace and repentance message with a sarcastic back-biting of various events and public officials. Will this bring about the peace he is promoting? No, it stings too much. It tells me more about his personality and political slant than about events. Next time, he should check his sarcasm at the door. To illustrate in characteristic Cerbone style: No wonder he prefers a voluntary chapel—his emotion-ridden, left-wing ranting can only thrive in smaller gatherings of his own cynical groupies. Ooo, stings a little, don't it.

Brennan Smith

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Simply Suggestions

by Jenna Guiser

The only responses I have gotten from what I have been writing lately have been overwhelming cries of "That's exactly how I feel!" and "Sure those are problems, but what solutions do you suggest?" I wish that there were easy answers and that at this point in my life I might have gained enough wisdom to know what they might be.

I have no solutions, but there are three suggestions I would like to make that might lead to solutions. The first is directed to the entire Houghton community: Check the Focus. Check the focus of Houghton College as an institution, and check the focus of your life. The focus of both should be a dynamic relationship with God, living according to his will, and serving Him. If our individual focus is clearer, i.e. strengthened, the focus of Houghton will be made clearer too. As we strive to walk according to God's will we become daily more Christ-like. Our lives will no longer revolve around ourselves, grades, or a "good job" in the future. Our lives become a ministry. We must discover what is distracting us and then force eyes from this back to focusing on our living Father.

The second suggestion, directed to the administration, comes

from a line spoken by Angelo in Shakespeare's Measure For Measure:

We must not make a
scarecrow of the law,
Setting it up to fear the birds
of prey,
And let it keep one shape till
custom make it
Their perch, and not their
terror.

The final suggestion calls for triumph over apathy. *Carpe Diem*. You've seen the movie, you know what it means; now apply it to your own life here at Houghton.

Houghton College can only be a caring Christian community providing an atmosphere that nurtures personal growth and academic achievement if we, as a community, are united in striving to make it that. We cannot sit back and expect Houghton to be a wonderful place. We cannot gripe Houghton into a caring community. We must, through commitment to active participation, hold one another accountable and make Houghton everything we want it to be, and know it can be. **CARPE DIEM!**



OPINION

Dear Editor:

I am afraid I have to take exception to Brenda Bolton's letter in the November 17 issue of the *Star*. As the media librarian at WJSL, all of the Songtime broadcasts must cross my desk. After Brenda's article, I returned my undivided attention to that particular broadcast. If Brenda had done the same, I wouldn't be wasting this time.

First of all, Don Macalvey is from Denver, Colorado, not Dallas, Texas. And what is so ludicrous about an "International Politics Expert" in Dallas, anyway? Briefly, it sounded like someone was shocked that learned people live in Dallas!

Now, nowhere in this broadcast did Mr. Macalvey say, "Gorbachev is the Anti-Christ!" He said, "The Anti-Christ would have a hard time being any greater a deceiver than Mikhail Gorbachev." You see, as Gorbachev talks about *glasnost* and *perestroika*, he is building up the Soviet Army faster than any other Soviet leader since 1917. Also, the Soviet Union is pumping arms to its "revolutionary surrogates" in South Africa, the Mideast, the Philippines and Central America. As the Bible says, "Beware when men come to you crying, 'Peace, peace' when there is no peace." One could argue the same case against the U.S. But that wasn't the point of Brenda's article.

So, what is my point? My point is this: there is a managerial staff of six students and one very committed General Manager who are knocking themselves out to make WJSL a quality Christian station by bringing new music, new ideas and up-to-date news coverage to Houghton and the rest of WJSL's listening audience. I think it is safe to say our listening audience is bigger now than ever before. And I don't think it's the students of Houghton who are adding the numbers. If students don't

RANT: The Movie, Not the Book

by Mark Skinner

The film *Dead Poets Society* told the story of a teacher who urged his students to look at things from a new perspective. To assume that the way we've always



looked at things is the only appropriate way, this teacher argued, is to live a life of fearful superficiality. The students were encouraged to think critically, and to live their lives at a deeper level than the status quo.

There was one character in the film, a dorky little redheaded kid named Cameron, who just didn't get it. For Cameron, everything had to be by the book. And when things got rough for the teacher, Cameron decided that it was much more important that peace be maintained, that he go through his schooling with as little discomfort as possible, than that he take a stand. And these convictions led him to betray not only his teacher, but also his own friends, whose lives were profoundly changed by this teacher.

I was overwhelmed and saddened by the irony of the whole thing as I watched this movie in Wesley Chapel on Saturday night. Here I am at Houghton, a religion major, getting ready to say farewell to a Bible professor who urged me to view things from a different per-

spective, who encouraged me to look deeply at my faith convictions so that I wouldn't build a wall of dogmatic religion around me too thick for even God to penetrate.

But yet an entire community—hundreds of the people who are now reading this newspaper—last year decided that this sort of freedom to think was simply unacceptable; that it threatened the status quo just a bit too much for comfort.

Think about it: many of the same people that cheered wildly on Saturday night when Cameron got his face bashed in were relieved to see that my teacher was denied tenure last year. And these same people who were thrilled by the deviance of the members of the *Dead Poets Society* were quite disturbed, even angered, when they were asked to skip a chapel to protest the unethical treatment my teacher received.

Perhaps Cameron represents the ugly part of us that we don't want to acknowledge. Houghton doesn't really want the sort of freedom eschewed by the film *Dead Poets Society*. We fear it. We'd rather keep the peace. We'd rather get through our schooling with as little discomfort as possible. We'd rather do it by the book.

want to listen to quality Christian music, that is fine. If they only tune in for the weather, that is wonderful! At least we can serve you in some capacity. However, please don't half-listen to our broadcasts and then run them down in the school paper, as this is not "constructive criticism." Rather, you are destroying, with one poorly thought-out letter, some of the credibility we have worked so hard to establish. If you have a concern about what is being broadcast over WJSL, come see us, or send us a letter. Last I knew, we were nice people.

Mr. Macalvey never said, "Drop everything, run to the deepest woods in Allegany County and build

a bomb shelter." Rather, the principles that made America great, especially those from the Word of God and the foundations of Jesus Christ, have been forgotten. Sadly, he is right. But, he says, the 1990s will be an exciting and challenging time. And we at WJSL are looking forward to serving our Lord and the community to the best of our ability in 1990. If that concerns or embarrasses you, Brenda, I apologize.

Sincerely,
Stephanie M. Langford



OPINION

Dear Sir:

I am writing to express my appreciation for your newspaper's ongoing interest in the activities of the New York State Low-Level Radioactive Waste Siting Commission. Coverage by local media of the issues surrounding the siting commission's mandate is a key channel for people to become aware of our work and of how they can effectively participate.

I want to take this opportunity to address a question we hear often at the siting commission: why can't waste be disposed of where it is generated rather than in a single state facility?

It would be possible to have many on-site disposal facilities at the source of generation, but that would make it difficult to monitor and regulate their safe operation. It is also not clear that generators' sites (especially in the case of nuclear plants located near large bodies of water for cooling the reactor) would meet the stringent regulatory requirements (e.g. hydrology, geology) for disposal of low-level radioactive waste. Because of the concern over safety, state and federal laws require the state of New York to construct one, or at most, two, permanent disposal facility(ies) for the low-level radioactive waste generated within the state. New York State's law is based on the belief that proper management of low-level radioactive waste can be ensured by providing a state-owned and operated disposal facility that is fully paid for by the waste generators. Finally, the storage of low-level radioactive waste at nuclear power plants is regulated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, not New York State, and permits are limited to five years.

Often people suggest on-site disposal because of concern over the safety of the proposed facility. An important part of the siting com-

mission's task is regulatory performance assessment of the selected site and method. This involves complex technical evaluation to demonstrate long-term facility performance. I emphasize that the results must demonstrate that the features of the site and disposal methods, in conjunction with the procedures for operating, closing and maintaining the facility, will ensure that radiation releases are well within regulatory limits and are as close to zero as possible.

Angelo F. Orazio



Dear Editor:

One spring day when I was in sixth grade, our whole elementary school was sent home early. We had a short vacation, three days I think. It wasn't fun like all other vacations, though. Although I didn't fully understand it, I knew something was wrong. I knew that I might have to leave home and never come back. That was scary, for my home was all that I knew, and it meant everything to me.

That spring was 1980 and that threat was Three Mile Island. Now, nine years later, I am in a different community, and I know a little bit more about the threat that I experienced when I was twelve years old. The threat of nuclear disaster still exists, and its terror may affect the people in this community. A nuclear disaster could be anything from a tractor trailer accident on Route 19 to an explosion at the dump site. Dr. Ted Taylor, a nuclear physicist who recently spoke at Houghton, told us that there is no safe method known for storing nuclear waste. Other scientists explain that this area is geologically unstable. So it seems that an unsafe facility may be built on an un-

safe area.

Once again I am scared. Not for myself, for I will be leaving soon, but for those who live here, those for whom this land represents home and "place." According to Walter Brueggemann, the word "space" describes an area of freedom but does not imply responsibility. He describes "place," however, as "space in which important words have been spoken which have established identity, defined vocation, and envisioned destiny." Those who have such a "place" are responsible to maintain that "place." I realize now that I almost lost such a "place" when I was twelve years old. Many who live here may also face that possibility. Those who propose this area as a site for a nuclear waste dump view this area as "space." But it is a "place" for many who live here.

While my original home and "place" is in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, Houghton is very much a "place" for me also. Certainly, here, many "important words have been spoken which have established identity, defined vocation, and envisioned destiny." Surely Houghton is "place" to all of us. Therefore, even though we students are here only temporarily, we too are responsible to help maintain this "place."

As Brueggemann also explains, a "sense of place is a primary category of faith." "Place" has both physical and spiritual dimensions. What happens when the physical dimension, a gift from God, is lost, taken away, or ruined?

Eric Ashley



OPINION

To the Students:

I owe many of you an apology. I've failed you in several big areas, and I honestly know of no other way to rectify my wrongs to you than to apologize. . . I am truly sorry. As a class chaplain, Koinonia leader, and PACE leader this year, I've come in contact with so many different people, and this letter is primarily for them, although if you know me, it's for you, too. Too many times I was the class chaplain, the Koinonia leader, or the PACE leader, and too few times was I your friend. I especially want to say I'm sorry to those of you who were hurting and I gave you a sermon. And if I said "All things work together for good. . .", I beg your forgiveness! Sometimes it's not that easy, believe me, I know.

I agree with Paul when he said that he was chief among sinners (1 Timothy 1:15). I'll be honest, I have a lot of character flaws. My faith, while built on a Sure Foundation, is, at times, really flimsy. I tend to be extremely impatient with God, and I'll get really frustrated with Him (now I know how *God* feels with *me* sometimes!). And one other thing: if I made you feel guilty for not coming to prayer meeting, I was wrong on that, too. I'm sorry, Class of '92. There were times I was ready to chuck the whole thing (chaplaincy, Houghton College, etc.)—just ask Eric Darling how many times I tendered my resignation as chaplain. Thanks, Eric.

I guess to summarize this letter and its intent, I've been a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. Maybe being a Bible major, I have prophetic powers or I can understand all the mysteries of the Bible (thanks to Dr. Schultz, eh?). But even though I gain all that knowledge, or maybe one day I move a mountain to a location of my choosing, it'll all be dung if I haven't loved you. Forgive me, my friends, for not loving you as I should. I do love you all very much;

it's the greatest thing I can give you, or at least Paul says it is (1 Cor. 13:13). Therefore, Merry Christmas! It's the only gift I can offer you. Please accept it with my thanks. You're the best friends God could give!

In His Service,
Your friend,
Jonathan Jankovich



Dear Editor:

As I glanced through a magazine the other day, I came across an article on the subject of peace. I thought the introduction was particularly appropriate for this holiday season: "Those Christmas card greetings sound so hopeful and upbeat, bringing visions of harmony and good will, circling the globe. Back in the real world we wonder, is peace even possible?" (*Campus Life*, December 1989)

That very same day, I glanced through a new magazine and was greeted by pictures of poverty, war and oppression. Two pictures in particular stuck vividly in my mind. The first is a picture of a young boy about 12 years old. He is dressed in a military uniform, carrying a machine gun, and frowning fiercely into the camera. The second picture is of a homeless woman in New York City. She is walking by two well-dressed businessmen who are pretending not to see her.

To me, these pictures portray the harsh reality of our world during this Christmas season. The 12-year-olds we know will spend Christmas Day playing with toys they receive as presents. Meanwhile, the boy in the picture will be fighting, killing, possibly even dying. The affluent businessmen in New York, and all over the world, will spend Christmas morning opening their gifts of slippers and attache cases;

the homeless will huddle for warmth in cardboard boxes and, if they are lucky, receive a meal of watery, canned soup from the local shelter or soup kitchen.

I am not trying to ruin the Christmas spirit (whatever that is). I am also not asking you to give up giving gifts to friends and give everything to the poor. I am suggesting that as we enter this Christmas season, we reflect on everything we have been blessed with, and also reflect on others' misfortune. Take a few moments to think about our world and peace. Consider these things, and the question that is forever ingrained in my mind: Is there really peace on earth? Will there ever be?

"I heard him exclaim as he rode out of sight, Merry Christmas to all? and to *all* a good night?"

Patti Cowperthwaite



Dear Dave:

In response to your editorial [November 10], I think you posed many good "why" questions. I especially liked your question, "Why doesn't everybody leave Dan Quayle alone?" I do not know why everyone attacks him either. It's not like he has done anything wrong and, in fact, I think he is doing a fine job. In any event, I think you missed a very important "why" question and that is, "Why are all the people around the ice cream in the cafeteria generally female?"

Jamie Lindsay

Before anyone rises up in righteous rage to slay Mr. Lindsay, Uncle Ledley wishes to remind us all that taking oneself too seriously leads to ulcers and hasty actions. -LDW



OPINION

What the "hell" is going on on Houghton Campus?

I want to begin this letter with a small disclaimer: the opinions I have stated here should not be considered a condemnation or an answer to the above question. Rather, they are just some concerns I've heard repeated on numerous occasions and by various people. I am looking for some responses to this letter and I hope that each of you as Christian students think about it and give me some insight as to where I might be wrong, or where I am correct.

"Hell," I believe, is a good way to phrase the beginning question since Hell is the place where Satan reigns and takes control of everything around him. Now I'm not saying that Houghton is a little "Hell," but have you noticed how much of a grip Satan seems to have gotten on our campus? Why do I say that? Well, have you noticed how many people are struggling on this campus with a variety of problems? How many friends have come up to you in the past few months with sadness in their eyes and pain in their hearts because they feel extremely lonely, because they feel very worthless, because they feel that they don't have time for anything but school, because they feel like God isn't real anymore, because they feel as though the world is crashing in around them and there is no one there to cushion the fall, because life just doesn't seem worth living anymore, because they feel so guilty that their Christianity isn't what it ought to be and they can't seem to do anything about it, because... because... because... and the list can go on and on. In talking with a few people as well as being involved in a meeting that Al Gurley set up with all the students in leadership positions on campus, I've become very aware that some sort of battle is going on—and this battle, I believe, is a spiritual one.

I have heard students comment

that they see a spiritual oppression on our campus. When was the last time YOU took a good look at Houghton's spirituality? As a Christian campus, we shouldn't have to take "a good look." It should be very evident, but it isn't and *that* is what I think bothering a lot of students besides me. Am I correct in saying that academics seems to have consumed this campus and the spiritual emphasis that Houghton is supposed to be known for seems to be coming slowly to a halt?

Why is it that all I've heard ever since September is, "I've got so much work to do"? Keeping up with academics seems to have burdened many of the students on this campus, and their spiritual lives have taken a back seat. Just today I was talking to a friend and she mentioned that she's spent so much time "DOING" this semester that she hasn't had any time for herself or her friends, and least of all God. She said she developed a very negative attitude towards her work because it consumed every hour of her day, and as she began to concentrate completely on academics instead of leaving some room for God, all kinds of things happened. She became overstressed which turned into depression and a feeling like nothing was ever going to get done. She didn't have the time to be depressed, so she pushed it to the back of her mind and kept rushing and rushing to get everything done—and God, instead of just being on the back burner, was instead thrown off the stove! Finally, last week, after being totally frustrated with herself and school in general, she blew one morning off and dedicated it to herself and God. It was this morning by doing things she wanted to do (instead of things she needed to do) and spending some real quality time with God that enabled her to relieve much of the pressures she was feeling. She was able to think more positively about the semester and

realized that things will indeed get done—one thing at a time. She also stated that getting on track with God again has helped her emotionally in coping with all the personal and academic stress she was feeling—no longer did depression have its ugly hand on her shoulder.

In thinking of this student's example, have the pressures of this semester consumed YOU also, so much so that spending quality time with God has become non-existent? I hope that I don't sound condemning, because if I do then I will be the first to condemn myself. I've spent the last three years here trying to make time for God, but was always "too busy." If it wasn't schoolwork, then it was regular work; and if it wasn't regular work it was extracurricular functions: in my freshman year here I was an academic-aholic; my sophomore year I became a workaholic; my junior year I became a Youth For Christ-aholic. Each year I had another excuse for not spending time with God, and each year I struggled desperately for the reasons as to why I felt so spiritually dead. It was only last year that my spirituality began to soar after going to a YFC conference, but I ended up stunting its growth by being so busy doing youth work and taking care of so many other teenagers' spirituality that I didn't take care of my own. I walked into this year, my senior year, with the determination that I was going to finally cut the bull—excuses and get serious about growing in God. I have gotten serious and my prayer and devotional life have never been better.

Getting my spiritual life in order has definitely reflected in my personal life as well. What about YOU? Are there things that you are struggling with that seem to be consuming your entire life? Are there parts of your past that you haven't dealt with? Are there walls that you've built up that you want to break down,

(continued on page 14)

OPINION

(continued from page 13)

but don't know how to? Do you have disagreements with people on and off this campus that you need to resolve? Do you want so much to see God as a real person, but just don't seem to be able to do so?

We all need to look deep within ourselves and take care of all the grievances and controls that we place on our lives which block the way for God's love and presence to shine through. We need to be honest with ourselves about where God lies as a priority. We need to find the middle ground where we can strive to be the most excellent we can be in academics, and still have an equal amount of room to strive for the perfectness that Jesus calls for in the New Testament. Each one of us has a different middle ground; have YOU successfully found the balance?

I invite your responses to my thoughts. I know I don't have all the answers and that is why I am asking for your opinions. Maybe if enough of you agree with my thoughts and have seen and heard the things I've stated we can take charge of this campus and tell Satan to go back to Hell where he belongs. Houghton College is a Christian campus and we can't let him get a foothold where he can continue to do damage. Think about it.

As a sister in Christ,
Kris Paroline

Sandra MacFarland

by Jediaiah McKee



ARTS



"English Landscape with Cows"

Photo by Dave Perkins

In the midst of the hectic pace of preparing for finals, it is sometimes necessary to take time out to relax and not think about papers or tests for a while. I found viewing the pastel landscapes of Sandra MacFarland to be an activity well-suited to this purpose.

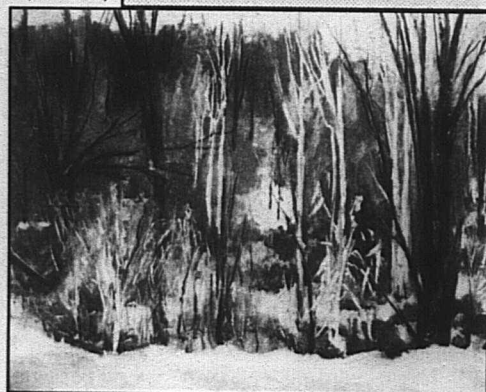
Sandra MacFarland, an elementary schoolteacher at Portville Central School, has been painting for about ten years. She began working in oil, but moved to pastels (over oil or watercolor background, on various types of paper) through the influence of retired Alfred art professor Clara Nelson. She enjoys working in pastels because of the immediacy of the medium; that is, she can put down her thoughts "as they happen."

When Roselyn Danner and the art professors at Houghton approached MacFarland a year ago about doing a show, they expressed particular interest in her landscape pieces. For the past year she has been working exclusively in landscapes, a favorite subject already.

The pieces on display are from the past three or four years. The oldest works can be recognized by an abstract, ethereal quality, with multi-colored shading; the most recent by a stronger sense of line, shape, and color differentiation. MacFarland claims that she was not consciously working for this sort of progression in her work; she looks at each piece as an experiment, a new thing. This is how the sense of immediacy comes through in her work. Go see it, people.

"Fall Weeds From Jean's Window"

Photo by Dave Perkins



ARTS

Laura Grace

by Patty Carole

They say that a kid can learn everything on the streets of New York City. That's where Laura Grace started. The Fashion Institute of Technology, known as FIT, was Laura's launching pad into the glamorous world of silk and satin. Making clothes is a talent she displayed in her senior art show, which was an exhibit in the Wesley Chapel Gallery from November 17 to December 1. That's right, all of the clothes that were modeled are her creations. Do you wonder why the women and men in the photos wear them so well? Because Laura designs the clothes "for the person." When she cuts and sews for Robbie (the reddish-brown haired model) she thinks of what patterns and colors enhance Robbie. It is an approach to fashion design that she firmly believes in.

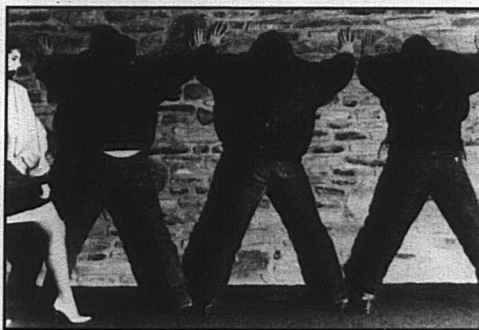
Laura doesn't want the clothes to be the main focus of the

photographs, however. She wants her photos to be recognized as a legitimate form of art. They are fashion photos, but not of the glossy magazine variety (Mention Calvin Klein ads and watch her cringe).

You may say, "Anybody can hold a camera, push a button and say 'cheese.'" Fine, photography is much more than that. For the few photographs of Charlie Howard that Laura selected for the show, she had to take over 100 shots. It simply is very hard to find "the one" that qualifies as art. She included the more thoughtful and melancholy works for this show, because she felt that they made the strongest impact and would hold the viewers' attention long enough for them to wonder, "What exactly is she trying to say here?" There are no easy answers. Only some good art.



"Wedding Dirge II"
—Laura Grace



"Three Men and a Lady"
—Laura Grace



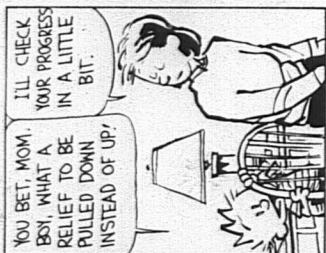
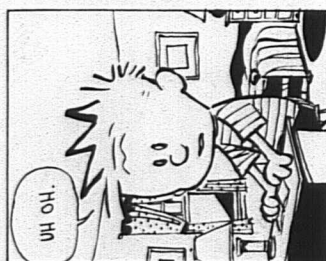
Madrigals will continue to be presented in the dining hall tonight and tomorrow night. The reception will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. Performing will be the Chamber Singers, chosen by audition from the College and Chapel Choirs. The program consists of two parts: first, a traditional 16th-century madrigal concert; second, a Christmas theme.



S P O R T S

Dedication and Effort: Cross-Country Season Finishes

by Kevin Fuller



Now that the runners who competed on the 1989 Houghton College cross country team

have had the opportunity to glance back at their season, their statistics and performance demonstrate that their endeavors have been successful. The team participated in invitationals at Brockport, Oswego, Alfred, Roberts Wesleyan, and Genesee, along with a home performance was against Pitt-Brad.

"This year's runners were quite inexperienced in terms of running cross country," said Coach Bob Smalley, "but they should set a real good base for a stronger and more competitive team in 1990."

The women's team was made up of Jill Clark, Sue Crafts, Carrie Adams, and Chris Kelton. Jill Clark set a personal best at the NCCAA National Invitational in Cedarville, Ohio with a time of 20:31. Also participating in Nationals was

Sue Crafts, finishing with a time of 22:56. Carrie Adams was injured for the majority of the season, but did well at the NCCAA Districts, finishing at 27:37.

For the men, Jon Cole, Mike Jones, and Bernard Waugh ran in the National Invitationals, finishing with respective times of 28:17, 29:36, and 32:47. Jim Harshman, Dan Lingenfelter, and Dan Uitti set personal bests at the Roberts Wesleyan invitational; Matt Hauser did the same versus Pitt-Bra.; Erik Neckelson and Mark Hennip ran well against Alfred, and Jamie Truesdale set a personal best against Brockport, as did Paul Maxwell at Genesee.

The cross-country team ran extremely well this year considering their experience, and Coach Smalley has a positive attitude toward the seasons outcome. "All in all," he said, "it was a rewarding and enjoyable year, especially when I look at the team's dedication and effort."

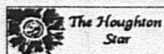
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All student ads must be presented to the **Star** office by 5:00 pm Monday evening with payment in order to be printed in that week's **Star**.

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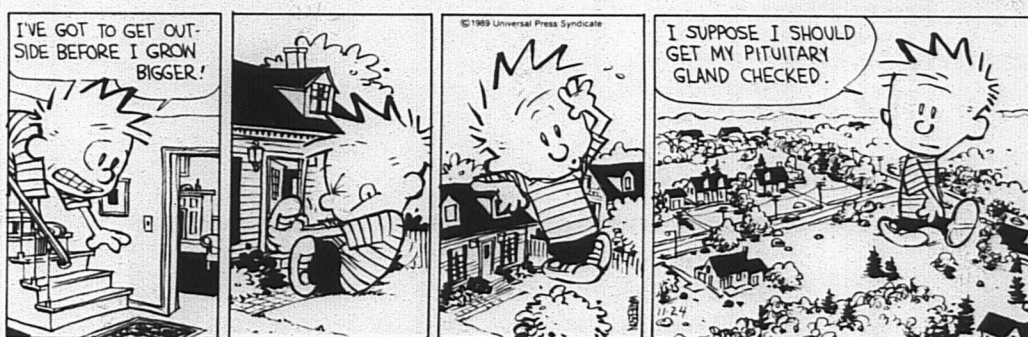
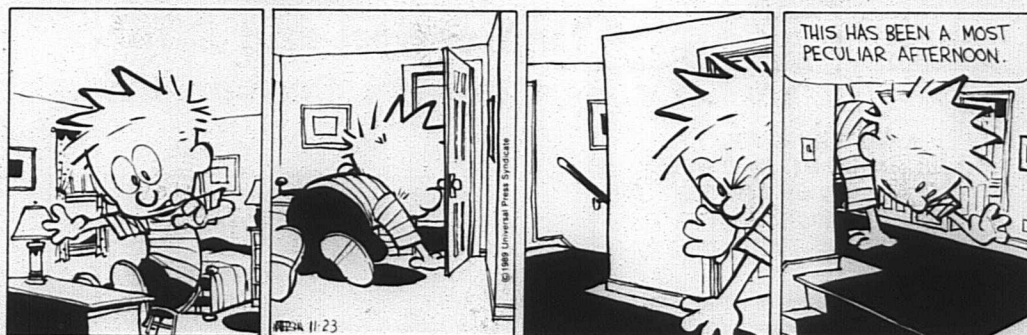
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Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson



MISCELLANEOUS

A BIG THANK YOU
TO ALL STUDENTS WHO WERE
INVOLVED IN GIFT-GIVING
AND IN SERVICE FOR THE
ACO CHRISTMAS PARTY DEC. 2

The children were full of smiles and
laughter due to your participation.
They could not have
enjoyed it without you!

MERRY CHRISTMAS--GOD BLESS YOU!
THANKS AGAIN,
ACO CABINET



BIG AL'S
PARTY PIZZA
w/ Liter of Soda
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Expires Dec. 20, 1989

TUESDAY NIGHT (Dec.12) at 9:30 p.m.,
WJSL invites you "Home For the Holidays."
This 90-minute special features Sparrow artists
White Heart, Steve Taylor, Margaret Becker, and more.
That's Tuesday night at 9:30 on WJSL 90.3 FM.
Don't miss it!!

Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson

