

March 19, 2003

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campus.houghton.edu/orgs/star

the HOUGHTON STAR

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THE
World
OUT
there
BY ROSA GERBER
STAR STAFF WRITER

Elizabeth Smart found alive

Last Wednesday, police arrested Brian David Mitchell, 49, in the kidnapping of 15-year-old Elizabeth Smart last summer. Elizabeth was taken at knifepoint from her Utah bedroom during the night of June 5, 2002. Her younger sister witnessed the abduction, but police were not immediately follow up on the description given by the girl.

Residents in Sandy, Utah, recognized Mitchell, clad in robe and beard, and with two veiled women. One was his wife, Wanda Ilene Barzee, 57, who police also arrested.

Mitchell called himself a prophet named Emmanuel. His attorney said Monday that Mitchell considers Smart his wife and claims she loves him.

Mitchell's father, who developed his own personal theology, defended Mitchell, claiming responsibility for influencing Mitchell as a child. He exposed young Mitchell to sexually explicit material at an early age, which he believes later led to a series of disciplinary problems for Mitchell.

Mystery pneumonia responding to medicine

The World Health Organization (WHO) issued a rare emergency global travel advisory this weekend after several cases of a mystery pneumonia emerged in Southeast Asia. WHO officials called the strain Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and a "global threat." The severe pneumonia has killed nine people and infected approximately 200 others. The infection seemed to be spreading worldwide, causing WHO to ask airport officials to be alert for passengers with pneumonia symptoms and to ask clients to reconsider trips to infected areas.

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SGA presidential elections remain undecided

After an all-day stint at the voting booth in the Campus Center, SGA elections coordinator Matt Preston was weary. "I'm here all day," he said in the afternoon.

Despite Preston's diligence and hard work in coordinating the elections, there was not a majority vote for president. Presidential candidates Brian Glenney and Danielle Luckey received the highest number of votes and will participate in a run-off election on Wednesday, Mar. 19. This will allow whichever candidate does not win to run for a class cabinet position if he or she wishes to do so.

More information about the two remaining presidential candidates can be found on page 3.

The other SGA positions,

however, were filled easily. Laura Pasieka won the Vice Presidential vote; Rod McCallum took the Chaplain

position; Amy Griffin won the commissioner of communications; Jessica Spear remained as the Commissioner of Finance; Ben Howard also remained incumbent as Commissioner of Activities (CAB director); Jamie Potter was elected as the editor of the Boulder; Aaron Boynton was elected as the editor-in-chief of the Star; and Katie Felton will remain the general manager of WJSL.

Several of the publications' positions were not filled; interested parties may contact Matt Preston for more information. Most likely those candidates will go before the Senate before the end of the semester.



FILE PHOTO
To finalize a presidential vote, the SGA will be holding a run-off voting on Wednesday, March 19 in the Campus Center.

The Importance of Being Earnest opens Wednesday

BY BETHANY SCHWARTZ
STAR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Bruce Brenneman has done it again. Much of the success of the spring play is due to a stellar cast appearing in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, but a lot of it is the fault of writer Oscar Wilde.

The play, which will be opening on Wednesday, Mar. 19 at 8 p.m., is an ingenious comedy that pokes fun at life, love, and language. Twists of fate follow cast members throughout the show, making the play ironic and enjoyable.

"The audience has to be keyed in to the play, listening closely just because of the phrasing itself," said director Brenneman.

The cast members also agree that the group dynamics have added a special touch to the play.

"Every day we find something else in the script that's hilarious," said Walter Hopkins, who plays Canon Casuble.

"It's an incredibly talented group of

people to work with," added Eryn Austin. "It's just been a fabulous experience."

Choosing *The Importance of Being Earnest* as this spring's play was the

the fall play because *A Doll's House* was so serious," said Brenneman. Brenneman was shocked to discover that he had directed *Earnest* 13 years ago, instead of the two or three that it seemed to him.

"Maybe after 13 years, it's time to do this again," he remarked to Good.

Out of 48 students who auditioned, only nine received parts. Brenneman and Good have been extremely impressed with the talent that the actors have shown, especially those who play characters so different than themselves.

"Emily Weidman is just too much in [her] role," remarked Brenneman.



PHOTO BY BETHANY SCHWARTZ
Actors Jon Wise, Brian Gidley, Walter Hopkins, Ryan Mayers, Michael O'Brien, Laura Slye, Eryn Austin, Emily Weidman, and Rebecca Ballard pose in costume.

idea of student director Tim Good. Good approached Brenneman in December and suggested either *Earnest* or *You Can't Take It With You*.

"I said we needed a comedy after

"She's the quintessential society woman."

Eryn Austin, who plays Miss Prism, has had to learn to act many

► See play, page 2

► From world news, page 1

Although the pneumonia was not responding to standard treatments and antibiotics, patients in China seem to be getting better.

WHO communications officer Dick Thompson said there were three main clusters of the infection: Guangdong province in China, Hong Kong, and Hanoi, Vietnam. Officials reported cases of the pneumonia in Canada, Germany, Indonesia, the Philippines, Taiwan, and Singapore. Most of the people infected were doctors and nurses directly exposed to the infection.

Bush warns of coming war with Iraq

President George W. Bush was scheduled to address the United States on Monday to discuss the possibility of war with Iraq. He demanded that Iraq's president Saddam Hussein step down from power and leave Iraq. Bush administration officials said a 72-hour ultimatum was expected, not more than a few days.

United Nations representatives from the United States, Britain, and Spain announced they would not seek a second Security Council vote on a resolution dealing with disarming Iraq of its weapons of mass destruction.

U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan withdrew weapons inspectors from Iraq. The United States advised the U.N. to remove its inspectors and officials in case of war. The U.S. State Department had also asked all U.S. citizens to leave Iraq because of the threat of war.

U.S. officials also announced "more chatter in the system," indicating the possibility Iraq may be preparing chemical weapons for use in a war led by the U.S.

► From play, page 1

years older to fit her part. "It's been stretching to act 50 years older," she said. "It has been a little bit difficult...working on the voice and posture of being older."

The set, designed by Scot Bennet, features six panels depicting different scenes from the play. "Bennet's genius behind the set gives a different perspective," said Brenneman. "I knew I didn't want a full set, but I didn't know what to do. And thanks to [Bennet], we have it figured out."

Not only is *The Importance of Being Earnest* a hilarious comedy, but Brenneman also feels that it has a strong take-away value. "I think Wilde is saying to us that we have to be careful that we don't take things at face value. That we look underneath the person and find out who is the real person. I think he is poking fun at putting this proper air about things when underneath there are many things you see as you peel the layers away. We laugh at it, but I realize

that I, too, put on a false front sometimes." *The Importance of Being Earnest* opens Wednesday, Mar. 19 at 8 p.m., with

additional showings on Friday, Mar. 21 at 8 p.m.; and Saturday, Mar. 22 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.



PHOTO BY BETHANY SCHWARTZ

Director Bruce Brenneman gives his cast a few last-minute pointers before dress rehearsal on Saturday, March 15. *The Importance of Being Earnest* opens tonight.

Project Vote Smart approves five scholarships for Houghton College students

Project Vote Smart's founding board has approved funds to cover all expenses for up to five Houghton College students to spend ten weeks at its unique political research retreat center.

Considered the nation's most independent, dependable and accurate political research organization with over 5,000 sponsoring news organizations and libraries, the Project conducts background checks on over 30,000 political candidates and issues.

"We lack researchers from New York and we are very interested in attracting students from Houghton College," said Lisa Coligan, the Project's Intern Coordinator.

With its headquarters in an exclusive high-tech wilderness park 6,000 feet up in the Rocky Mountains, the Project's volunteers have created what the New York Times says, "is a program so good even the Federal Government recommends it."

"We are in need of students willing to work on everything from candidate interviews and presidential research to building corral fences and painting lodge facilities," said Coligan. "The big payoff

is seeing the hundreds of news stories and thousands of citizens who now write their thanks and appreciation for our defending the citizens' right to the facts instead of the rhetoric. The work is hard and terribly important, but you get to live in an incomparable paradise that features fishing, hiking, swimming, boating, and horseback riding."

Students must commit to a ten-week internship, which can be scheduled at any time, but those interested in serving during Summer 2003 should act quickly before spots fill up. Interns from all backgrounds, including recent

college graduates and graduate students, are accepted and eligible for scholarship support.

Additional information is available at www.vote-smart.org.

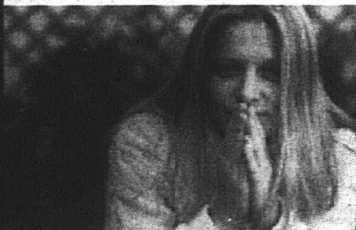
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Are you engaged or seriously considering marriage?

Attend the Houghton Wesleyan Church's
PREMARITAL SEMINAR
on Saturday, March 29 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

\$25 per couple (includes breakfast and lunch)
due before March 21 at the Info Center

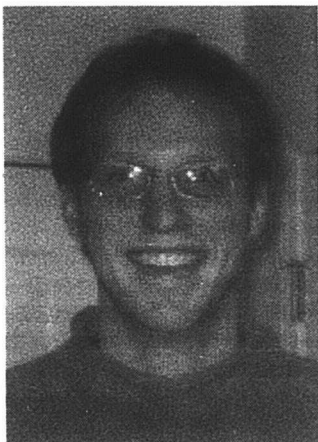
Seminars include "How to Fight Fair," "Marriage and the Family: Ties that Bind," "Babies and Other Consequences of Sex," "Finances, Budgets, and Other Practical Matters," and "Building a Solid Spiritual Foundation."

Questions? Contact Pastor Todd Leach at 567-2264 or [tleach@hwchurch.org](mailto:tlead@hwchurch.org).

Editor's note: The following page contains information on SGA Presidential candidates Brian Glenney and Danielle Luckey. The chart outlines both candidates' responses to questions during the debate on Tues., Mar. 11 (compiled by Liz Sands). Below are platforms from the candidates, which were published in printed form by the SGA and distributed on campus.

Presidential platform: Brian Glenney

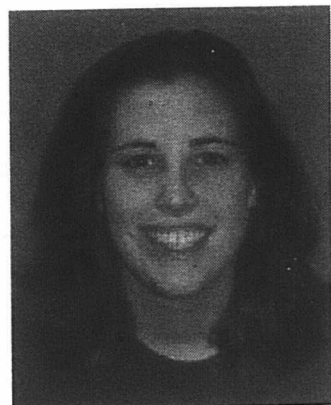
Hello, My name is Brian Glenney. I am running for the office of SGA President and I believe that it is imperative that we as a campus understand the nature, vision and character of the person whom we elect to this office. We must realize, not only whom we are electing, but also why we are electing them. What is it that they will do for us? So, Brian Glenney, what on earth are you going to do for us? What a fine question. Well it all starts with the role of SGA and its relationship to the students. The very goal of SGA should be to act in the best interest and in accordance with the students of Houghton College. Therefore I want to help us all understand the workings and the actions of SGA with more depth and understanding: to report to you the vision of the SGA, develop tasks of the SGA and accomplished improvements of the SGA. We must maintain the SGA as a student-based, student-accountable, and student-informed SGA, all things that should be the very core of what the SGA is and govern how it functions. Secondly, we must strive to counter practical problems with practical solutions, solutions that affect the



students quickly, efficiently and are lasting. Problems such as parking on campus or the conditions of various townhouses should be met by the solutions of opening up the East Hall parking lot to those that come from the apartments or Leonard and by channeling various funding to the maintenance of our homes. These practical problems are those that affect us the most and are at the root of unneeded frustration, since they remain year after year when they should be the first to be remedied. I believe that the reason the SGA exists is to meet these practical problems and the only way to do this is first to be a student-centered SGA. It will be my goal as President to strive constantly to understand and listen to you, to us, the students, to ensure that the SGA always represents you.

Presidential platform: Danielle Luckey

One of my desires is to help the students of



Houghton College make the most of their experience here. From my past two years of involvement with Student Government Association, I believe that the position of president of SGA would be the best means of fulfilling my desire.

There are three specific goals that I would like to accomplish. The first is giving you, the students, more of a voice. I feel that

Question	Brian Glenney	Danielle Luckey
Why do you want to be SGA President, and what makes you qualified for the position?	Brian's number one reason for running is his love for Houghton College. He wants to impact Houghton in a better way. His qualifications: involvement in CAB and his ability to "convey ideas effectively," for his summer job consisted of selling books door to door.	Danielle first considered running after being asked by others to contemplate it. She loves working with the constitution, bylaws, and legislature. Her qualifications: two years in Senate, various committees (APC, SEF, Student Judiciary), president of H2S, FYI leader, Admissions and Advancement jobs.
What is the best thing about Houghton College?	The students: love for one another, how they act, the love of Christ.	Everyone on campus from Rene in East Hall to Dr. Chamberlain.
About what do you think the student body here at Houghton is most dissatisfied?	Tuition, townhouse/apartment living, practical issues, wasting meals, parking.	Unhappiness with facilities (res. halls, sci. building), open house hrs., meal plans, and tuition.
Which facility upgrade do you think should be Houghton's top priority?	Wesley Chapel	East Hall
What is your experience with faculty/staff/administration at Houghton, and how would they respond to you as SGA President?	Brian works with faculty/staff in organizing Koinonia. He has good relationships with faculty and calls Dr. Lipscomb Ben!	Danielle works on various committees directly with the admin. and faculty, including Drs. Tilley and Oakerson. There are no foreseeable problems.
How would you, as President, facilitate a sense of teamwork among your cabinet?	Brian thinks having good communication and an open forum to express ideas among all staff members is necessary. He wants his staff to have "groupness," where everyone has an important job; the entire staff does not revolve around one.	Communication is also key for Danielle. She wants to facilitate relationships by getting to know each member individually, meeting with them, and sharing a vision with them. She wants to find out what their positions are on issues.
What are two or three specific changes or projects you plan to introduce if you are elected as SGA President?	Parking, a more student-accountable SGA, divert funds for improvements; outward faith to our area by having a "cleaning service" for single parents.	Keeping students informed about SGA information, getting class cabinets more involved (perhaps with Homecoming, etc.), and emphasize service.
What are the strengths and drawbacks, in your opinion, of the Student Projects Fund (SPF)?	Strengths: that it exists! Drawbacks: At times, the fund is used for things that it should not be.	Strengths: Open to any student, regardless of involvement on campus. Weaknesses: Misuse of fund, receiving applications for requests that the college should take care of, not SPF.
As SGA President, what is your greatest strength and your greatest weakness?	Strength: people skills and conveying ideas soundly, being in touch with student body. Weakness: organization	"Your greatest strength is also your biggest weakness": a "go-get-em" attitude, at times makes her not always the most sensitive.
How would you go about increasing and encouraging student involvement in the SGA?	Better education about SGA, what it is and does; tell vision to students and what IS happening, poll students more frequently.	Inform students more about SGA, the funds that are available for students, and decisions that are currently being discussed.

there are a number of issues you are passionate about, but your voices are not being heard. I would also like to get class cabinets more involved. There is potential for more student events on campus. Nevertheless, it has been my observation that these cabinets do a poor job capitalizing on this potential. My third and final goal is to work alongside Dr. Tilley and the new Dean of Chapel to find opportunities for you to become more active in service. I feel that it is very easy for us to become inwardly

focused due to the closeness of our community. However, I believe we can experience more joy and make more of an impact by serving others.

I do not think that any of these are small goals, but I do believe that I am ready for the task. Besides my recent years in Senate, I have also served on various committees with faculty, including Academic Policy Council, Student Emergency Fund and Student Judiciary Committee. This experience would be very beneficial as the President serves as a liaison between

you, the students, and faculty. In addition, I have spent this past semester as president of Helping Houghton Seniors, a position that has given me the opportunity to hone some of my leadership skills.

Though the skills I have are still being developed, I believe that by working together to accomplish these goals, I can help you make the most of your Houghton experience. President Luckey worked for you in the past. Let President Luckey work for you in the future!!!



**The Advice/Chris-Says-
What-He-Wants-to Column:
I got nothing**

by Chris Austin

This week makes me angry. And I am going to write about it because I can. I have a column, which means that I write, and you read. So you just have to listen to me talk about whatever I want to talk about and you can't do a darn thing, except put the paper down. Also, I can not and will not be held responsible for anything in this article. It may not be the least bit informative or funny. And that's ok.

First off, I wanted to write about Spot, but a few things stopped me. A, I would write things that I would probably regret later (imagine that) and B, everything that I could possibly say has already been said in many a conversation. So that scratches that topic.

I am not sure if this will actually be in the paper this week. Not that you would know, only I would know, and the editors too. I only say this because I am writing it late Tuesday night, knowing full well the paper comes out tomorrow. Anyhow, I will answer today's question, which is not the research question. I was supposed to meet about the research question this week, but was unable to, due to the work I have. So an easier question:

Which intramural team do you think has the most spirit?

- I lost the note so I don't remember what the name is. So if the person who wrote it is reading this, my apologies, I will just call you Intramural Person.

To me, this is a no-brainer. I am assuming, Intramural Person, that you are referring to the basketball season. The team with the most spirit is obviously the Houghton Globetrotters, who won 0 games in the season, and scored no more than 36 points in any given game. And yet they continued to play the entire season knowing they would never win a game, and they were happy about this, and made other teams happy playing them, and made the refs happy to ref, and made the spectators moderately happy to watch. Most importantly, however, is the fact that I was on this team and of course I think that my own team has the most spirit. But I am not biased or anything so don't worry about that.

I feel like answering 2 questions tonight, so here is *numero deux*.

What kind of superpower do I possess (or wish I possessed, I can't remember which - I lost this question too)? I possess the ability to talk to laundry.

- Superhero Person

If I had a superpower trait, I would not want the ability to talk with laundry. That is probably really annoying anytime you go in a laundry room, always hearing, well, the speech of the laundry folk.

Rather, I wish that I could turn into stuff, like other people, or a helicopter, or a dresser. If I were a dresser, then I would push my drawers out at people when they tried to put stuff in me. I really can't think of something that would be more satisfying to me than pushing drawers on top of people, or into people. But that's just me. I could also turn into the O-zone layer and stop people from getting skin cancer, however, that would have to wait until after the dresser experiment.

Well, I am spent. The key words of goodness today are **Globetrotters, O-Zone Layer, and midtermsarecrap.**

Bebo Norman in concert

Saturday, March 29 at 7 p.m.
in Wesley Chapel

sponsored by Young Life
tickets \$10 at lunch and dinner

Ineligible Bonaventure player sparks another NCAA scandal

BY AARON BOYNTON
STAR STAFF WRITER

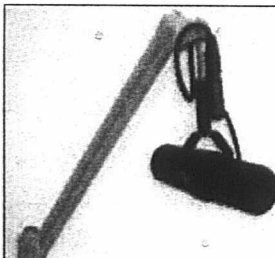
Just over two and a half weeks ago, a recruiting scandal at St. Bonaventure in Olean, NY sparked an uproar that was felt across the college sports and academic world. Junior transfer Jamil Terrell was ruled ineligible to play the rest of the season for the basketball team because it was discovered that Terrell only received a welding certificate from Coastal Georgia, the junior college Terrell transferred from last year. According to NCAA regulations, a transfer student must have an associate degree or the equivalent of one. As a result of Terrell being ruled ineligible, St. Bonaventure was forced to forfeit six conference victories it had achieved during the season. The Bonnies were also suspended from the Atlantic-10 conference tournament, and the NCAA Men's Basketball tournament.

The whole truth was not revealed until a few days after this scandal was made known. Dr. Robert Wickenheiser, then St. Bonaventure president, made a statement that he was responsible for the approval of Terrell's transfer. Reports stated that the Registrar's Office at Coastal Georgia refused to pass through the forms for Terrell because he did not have the equivalent of an associate degree, but the athletic department at St. Bonaventure pressured Coastal Georgia to make the transfer happen. This admittance of fault created uproar from sportscasters, sports journalists, and sports fans calling for the president, athletic director, and head coach to be fired.

The day after St. Bonaventure was ruled ineligible, the players met by themselves and decided not to play the final two regular-season games against the University of Massachusetts and the University of Dayton. Because of this decision, the Atlantic-10 board of directors pondered kicking St. Bonaventure out of the conference. This decision has not been made yet, but the Board of Directors should come to a consensus in the coming weeks.

The most important group of people to meet about this situation was the St. Bonaventure Board of Trustees. This board met to decide what to do with the responsible parties. After much pressure, Dr. Robert Wickenheiser resigned. Jan Van Breda Kolff, head coach; Gosford Lane, athletic director; and Kort Wickenheiser, assistant coach were all put on administrative leave. The popular opinion is that Van Breda Kolff and the younger Wickenheiser, the former president's son will have their contracts terminated.

The St. Bonaventure community was shocked, disappointed, and angry at this situation, but now the healing process has begun, with the hiring of an interim athletic director, and appointing a Bonaventure religion professor as interim college president. For more information on this story, visit www.espn.com, www.buffalonews.com, or www.stbonaventure.edu.



**Mc
CHECK!**

Ten reasons why Houghton is better than Tanzania

- The risk of being charged by an elephant is actually much greater than the risk of being charged by a squirrel
- You think frostbite is bad... try second degree sun burn
- Dave Hough has decided to stop showering
- **It was a lie!** People don't start singing when the sun comes up, like in the *Lion King*
- You don't have to worry about stepping on sea urchins while snorkling
- Barry King's dad won't send us the Hymn of the Month
- Houghton doesn't have Gecho poop in the mango juice.
- It's hard to concentrate on school work in 80-degree weather
- We miss Noel Habashy
- We have no idea what is happening on *American Idol*

brought to you by Barry King, B.J. Haas, Hiram Ring,
David Hough, and Brian Reenders in Tanzania

Wheaton College revises its "Community Covenant" to permit dances and more

BY JOSH MILLER
STAR STAFF WRITER

In a small town outside of Chicago, Illinois, a small Christian college recently made a decision that journalist Richard Osterling dubbed, "a shift on roughly the same level as a single-sex school turning into a coed institution."

While his statement may be slightly exaggerated, Wheaton College's recent emendation of its community covenant was a dramatic alteration of school policy. After two years of research, consultation with Wheaton constituents, and deliberation, the College's Board of Trustees and President Duane Litfin decided to allow their faculty to use alcohol and tobacco products in private and to permit student dancing off-campus.

Wheaton says its decisions were based on a careful analysis of the difference between cultural and biblical concerns, as well as legal matters. In addressing the issue of alcohol and tobacco use, Wheaton

failed to find a biblical injunction against either practice. This absence of a biblical mandate created legal tensions due to The Illinois Right to Privacy in Workplace Act (IRPWA), which prohibits employers from discriminating against an applicant or employee "because the individual uses lawful products off the premises of the employer during nonworking hours." The Trustees consulted with legal authorities, who claimed that the school could be exempt from this Act if they presented sufficient evidence that using certain "products," such as alcohol and tobacco, violated the institution's religious principles. The Board was unable to establish what it believed to be "sufficient evidence," therefore it chose to alter the community's rules.

Although the IRPWA did not apply to Wheaton's policy on social dancing, the Board and President Litfin were still troubled by the lack of biblical precedent concerning their prohibition of dancing off-campus. They also noted that, over the past

couple of decades, dancing has shifted from a social evil to a matter of personal discretion in evangelical circles. These two factors convinced Wheaton's administration to lift the ban on off-campus dancing.

The import of Wheaton's new community covenant is heightened by the college's high standing as a leading Christian institution in both the academic and evangelical spheres. In the world of Christian colleges, "Wheaton is the flagship," according to Rev. Timothy Fulop, the academic

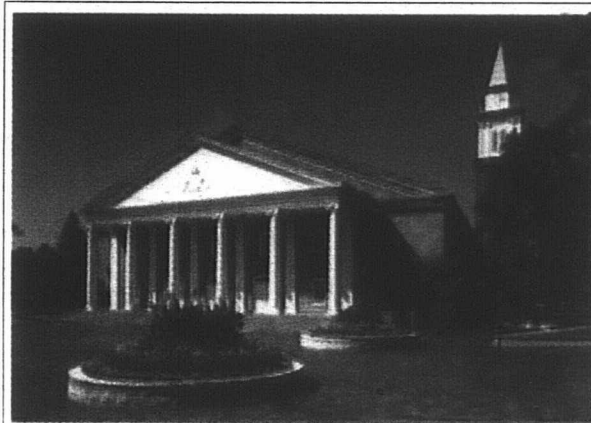


PHOTO COURTESY WHEATON COLLEGE
Wheaton College has just changed its community covenant to include permissible off-campus dances.

vice president of King College. "[It] really does set the tone." In some respects, this is what Wheaton hopes to achieve. By attempting to create an atmosphere that acknowledges the "vital difference between clearly biblical vs. extra-biblical standards of behavior," Wheaton challenges other Christian colleges to do the same.

taking/sides

Students discuss controversial issues on campus
This week's topic: WHEATON'S NEW POLICY

And They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Teetotalling...?

"Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy."

For approximately the last three millennia, Jews and Christians have been striving to live up to this heavy command with varying degrees of success. Prior to the exile, Israel had God-given books of revelation that provided specific instructions on how to properly live and worship in a "holy" manner that would set them apart from their neighbors. After the exile, however, many of the rites and regulations of the Pentateuch could not be incorporated by the Jews in their new surroundings. To overcome this logistical difficulty, the exiles began to reinterpret Scripture to fit their current situation. In an effort to live holy lives, the Pharisaic sect built "a fence around the Law"; their concern for pleasing God was so great that they developed other laws to keep their followers from possibly violating the smallest detail of the Mosaic Law.

Then Jesus came and challenged their methodology. While he did not disapprove of their zeal for serving God and obeying the Scriptures, he criticized their exaltation of their own traditions, which they had, for all practical purposes, equated with biblical codes of conduct.

Two thousand years later, Christians continue to struggle with this Pharisaic tendency. We know we are to live in the world, but not of it, and this creates pragmatic

problems. Most of the time, the Christian solution consists of extrabiblical rules and regulations created to help Christians abstain from worldly evil. Unfortunately, these rules are often treated as biblical mandates and are used to judge others and limit Christian freedom. Instead of keeping our brothers and sisters from temptation, we build a fence around Christ, disconnecting both ourselves and others from the love, joy, and freedom he gives.

Recently, this issue of Christian legalism was addressed by a revision of Wheaton College's community covenant. After two years of research and debate, the college's administration concluded that the use of alcohol and tobacco by faculty and off-campus dancing would be permitted, primarily due to the lack of biblical support for prohibiting these activities.

This was a big step for Wheaton, and a step in the right direction. As a Christian institution, they struggled with the difference between cultural prohibitions and biblical prohibitions, and opted to discard the former when they could not support them with the latter. Wheaton has made similar decisions in the past, concerning the prohibition of billiards, "cards and other games of chance," and movie and theatergoing-prohibitions which all seem ridiculous now.

Houghton College has also gone through this process. Denise Bakerink establishes this fact every year in her FYI talk on community responsibilities. In describing her own experience at Houghton, she recalls that face

cards were not allowed—a rule that appears to be unfounded today. She then muses that a few years from now, when those attending her FYI session have graduated and have families of their own, their children will be equally surprised that their parents were not allowed to dance on campus.

While the general evangelical opinion on dancing has shifted over the past few years, some members of this community still cringe at the idea of on-campus dances, and many more are adamantly opposed to the use of alcohol or tobacco by anyone associated with the college. Their wariness is understandable, even wise, considering the damage that smoking, drinking, and lewdness (occasionally present at dances) have done to the health and morality of our culture. Nevertheless, we cannot attempt to claim a biblical foundation for prohibiting these activities, especially since Jesus and the early church participated in both drinking and dancing. Yes, their drinking and dancing differ from ours, but people in the Roman Empire of the first and second century were drunkards (1 Cor 5:11) and engaged in erotic dances (Mt 14:6-7), just as our contemporaries do. In light of this, perhaps the most appropriate approach to these issues is to take Paul's advice in Romans 14: "It is better not...to do anything...that will cause your brother or sister to fall. So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed are those who do not condemn themselves by what they approve. But they who have doubts are condemned if

they [act against them], because their [actions] are not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin."

In short, if social dancing or using alcohol or tobacco troubles your conscious, don't do it, and if you are around others who will be tempted to act against their conscious if you do these things, don't do it. And remember, the evaluation of these issues is between the believer and God. Any regulation of these activities—good intentioned or otherwise—is legalism unless it is agreed upon by community consensus, which is currently the case at Houghton. But in the future, perhaps today's Houghton students will tell their children—with the same air as Bakerink—that Houghton didn't allow dancing or faculty smoking or drinking when they were in college, and they'll all have a good laugh.

*In citing Romans 14, I made some slight emendations to the text because Paul was dealing with the specific problem of eating food sacrificed to idols. However, the principle behind this text deals with separating Christian commands from Christian cultural preferences, which applies directly to the matter of social dancing as well as faculty use of alcohol and tobacco at a Christian institution.

—Josh Miller, '05

Responses to this week's Taking Sides may be sent to star@houghton.edu for publication in the Letterbox. If you have an opinion and would like to submit a piece to be published in this space, please email it to star@houghton.edu

Review: Switchfoot's *Beautiful Letdown* won't let you down

BY MELANIE MARCIANO
STAR STAFF WRITER

It's amazing when you can turn on the radio, fall in love with a new song and just as you are dying to know who sang it, the DJ says the name and you are happily surprised to find out it's a Christian band about to make it big. This is happening with Switchfoot after they signed a mainstream contract with Columbia and scored a track on the movie "A Walk to Remember". They truly deserve it; they are a top class Christian band. Switchfoot is balanced and natural, they are not processed copycats or extremists trying desperately to be noticed, just

themselves. Their new album, *The Beautiful Letdown* continues the band's improvement with each record.

Their alternative, rock, pop sound can be compared to Smashing Pumpkins and Matchbox 20, with vocals similar to Cake. Instead of a big bowl of porridge they are a bowl of good listening, neither too hard nor too soft—just right. They have a very popular, likeable sound coupled with intelligent, deep



lyrics. "When everything inside me looks like everything I hate / You are the hope I have for change / You are the only chance I'll take" from the song "On Fire" expresses the burning desire and struggle inside Christians to be

more like Christ.

This album has a little less diversity from track to track than the other three albums. It was refreshing when they switched it up a little with different styles before, but now they

have a consistent style, a good one, yes, but they should've kept the variety going.

If you don't know who Switchfoot is yet, don't worry, you probably will soon. They are honest and up to date, meeting the radio audience where they are and challenging them to inspect themselves inside and out and see what they find. If they are not happy, they are not alone, and unlike some other Christian bands, Switchfoot tackles these hard questions we have inside and answers them.

Rating: 9 out of 10

Review: Audio Adrenaline Travels *Worldwide*

BY AARON BOYNTON
STAR STAFF WRITER

Every so often, a band releases a record that is reminiscent of their early albums. The latest release from Nashville rockers Audio Adrenaline is one of those albums. *Worldwide*, Audio Adrenaline's newest studio release, takes the listener on a refreshing trip to the days of *Live Bootleg* and *Bloom*. The guitars of Tyler Burkum are, for the first time, very similar to the sound of Barry Blair, Audio A's guitarist, who left after the *Bloom* era. "Worldwide One," "Dirty," and "Worldwide Two" are the most uptempo rocking songs on the album and should turn into crowd favorites at the excellent shows Audio Adrenaline puts on for their fans.

The one drawback that many critics have decided upon is the sense of overproduction on a few of the tracks. Five of the tracks are produced by legendary Christian musi-

cian and producer Charlie Peacock, and involve the assistance of seventeen additional musicians, which seems to be a little much but is so common in many albums out nowadays.

Above all, this effort by Mark Stuart and rest of the guys from Audio Adrenaline is a good album, and a must for the album collection of a big time Audio Adrenaline fan. Audio A is a band that does not care about the money, and is in the business to worship God first and foremost. This band has been around for many years and will continue to be around for more years to come.

Rating: 6.5 out of 10

and I quote...

QUIPS HEARD ON CAMPUS

"I'll ask you to respond if you're here. If you're not here, don't respond."

-Dr. Harold Kingdon-

"We don't vote on too many things up there [on the theology floor] but we have an official beer, that's Red Dog, and an official format, University of Chicago."

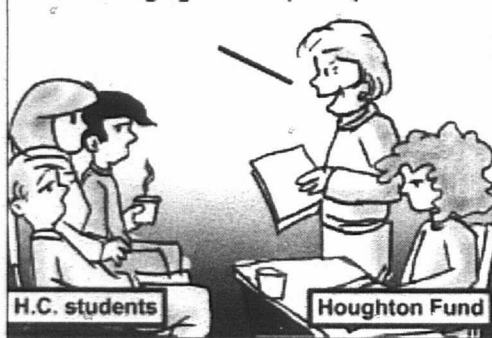
-Dr. Richard Eckley-

"Blood-stained hands, rings in their noses...good grief, it sounds like an undergraduate class."

-Dr. Cameron Airhart, referring to an account of the Carthaginians-

People all over campus say funny, random things! Sometimes they say serious things, too... Either way, the Star would love to print any quotes that you hear, so please email them to star@houghton.edu!

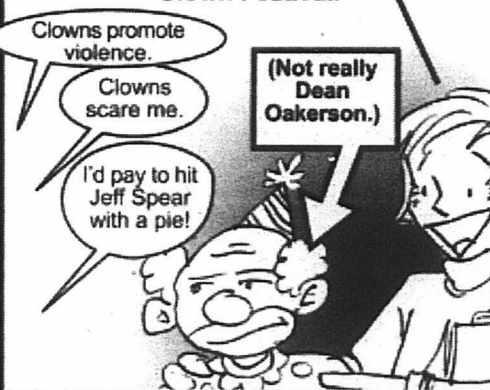
Thanks for coming to our Fundraising Ideas and Gimmicks focus group. Please give your honest opinion regarding these ideas for encouraging student participation...



The "Buck-N-A-Drachma" campaign! U.S. money and ancient biblical coins with buckets and adult male deer...

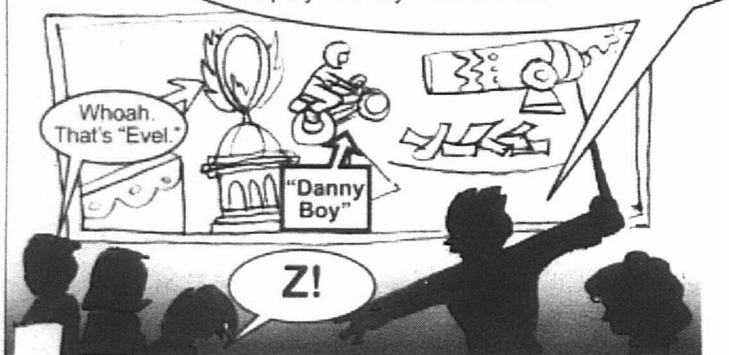


How about CLOWNS?! Houghton VPs in a Clown Festival!



MUCH LATER...

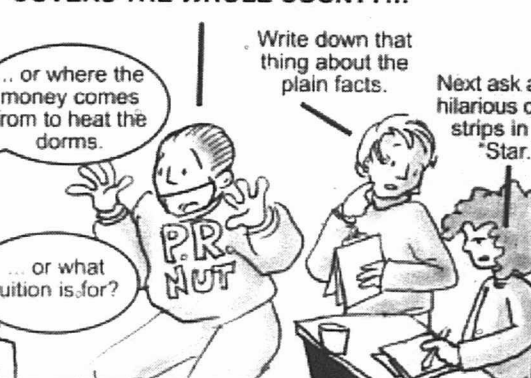
Then, his motorcycle goes thru a hoop of flame, and he's fired from a cannon into a giant pool of "Monopoly" money - on live TV!

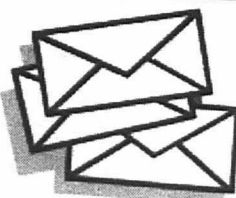


How about clearly and helpfully explaining the facts about scholarships?



OR A TENT!!! A GIANT YELLOW TENT THAT COVERS THE WHOLE COUNTY!!!





letterbox

star@houghton.edu

Disappointed in last act of SPOT

The performance the band "Last Act" gave at SPOT this spring has caused serious controversy among the Houghton College community. While I do not wish to take sides on this issue, I have been disturbed by many of the comments and attitudes I have witnessed the past few weeks.

SPOT is designed to be a place for creative expression by students. While I understand the need for screening the acts, I also believe that we as a student body need to be more open to thoughts and beliefs other than our own. We may joke that we live in a bubble here at Houghton, but sometimes that comment gives us a glimpse into the truth. Oftentimes the student body here at Houghton seems to run from things that seem controversial. Instead of rationally and critically thinking through ideas and topics—and performances—that offend us or shake us out of our comfort zone, many students here seem to react only through defensive criticism and hurtful remarks. How many of you who were offended by the performance "Last Act" gave actually made the effort to talk to the band members? How

many of you, instead of starting rumors and/or vowing never again to attend SPOT, actually sought out the members—Adam, Jacob, and Mark—and talked to them about your concerns?

Houghton, it's time to break out of the bubble. We will be confronted with people and situations and practices that offend, disturb, and even frighten us throughout our lives. Here and now, in the relative safety and harmony of Houghton, is the time to learn how to deal with that. Everything that offends is not necessarily wrong, and that which disturbs may actually teach us the greatest lessons.

—Sara Elston-Moore, '04

What an injustice!

Living in Western New York, I experienced a flood of media commentary on the tragic situation at St. Bonaventure these past few weeks. While most of us were on spring break, and not in this area, I was home listening to every radio show and watching every sports newscast to get the real truth about the whole situation. Dr. Wickenheiser, Coach Van Breda Kolff, Mr. Lane, and Coach Wickenheiser should all be ashamed of themselves for

the wrongful recruiting processes that went down. There is no reason for a college president to get involved with sports recruiting and approving a transfer of a student. Those are the jobs of the athletic director, academic registrar, and academic dean. It seems these grown men did anything they could to get their team to win. I do not blame the players for refusing to play the last two games. The president and athletic administration let them down and messed things up for them. It is a good thing Dr. Wickenheiser made the decision to resign, because he would have been fired if he had not have left on his own terms. I feel that the Board of Trustees should have fired Gosford Lane, Jan Van Breda Kolff, and Kort Wickenheiser and not just put them on administrative leave.

What these men did is a disgrace to the academic and athletic communities. There is now a blemish on St. Bonaventure, which is an excellent, and highly respected institution of higher learning. The players did the right thing, and deserve no punishment whatsoever. I just ask that we pray for our brothers and sisters in Olean, and pray that God will guide them through this situation.

—Aaron Boynton, '04

EDITORIAL

Shining a light in Buffalo Shelley Dooley

Over break I didn't travel far. I had hopes of going south to try out some new climbing gear, but my plans fell through and I found myself here at Houghton. One of my roommates was headed to Buffalo with the Cross Country and Track team, and since I used to run track, I asked if I could join them. Their intention was to help out at the King Urban Life Center and do some odds and ends at Westside Menonite Church. Having only heard about the King's Center in chapel and from the Saturday morning reading program, I was intrigued. For three days I interacted with the children there, mostly in the second grade classroom giving some one-on-one help to those struggling with their math homework. The trip was a unique experience and as I was already contemplating work in the Buffalo area next year, my decision was affirmed by my time with the students.

Like many Houghton students, my parents are both missionaries. I didn't grow up in Africa, Europe or Asia because the ministry in which my parents are involved is in the states. Both work with the prison ministry in Campus Crusade for Christ. While growing up I never felt like they were "real missionaries" because they weren't bringing the word of God to some unknown land. In high school I went on a couple of mission trips to far-off places and felt the call to serve God in some form on the mission field. But where would I go? I couldn't stay in the states because then I wouldn't be real, right? I thought for sure I would return to Africa, deliver Bibles to a remote tribe, or offer medical relief to a hurting nation. You know, be another Mother Teresa. Slowly over the past three years, my mission field has changed and I've found where I want to serve God.

In chapel on Monday the speaker spoke about letting our light shine where we are. Often we hear of people who say they are called to work in the city. In a way I agree that there needs to be some level a call to work there but in a way I don't. At times I get so caught up in the Christian walk that I think the only needy people are those who are thousands of miles away from me, and I don't think of all those just an hour's drive away. The city might not be the easiest place to work, especially for teachers. Education departments are struggling, teachers are underpaid, and students are tough. What a mission field! This weekend many of us are going to be taking part in Service Day (March 22) and as we serve our community, let's all let our lights shine where we are. After this Service Day let's not put the light out after our six or eight hours of service, but instead shine throughout the rest of the semester and even next year. Our mission field doesn't have to be in another part of the world. Our mission field can very easily be in a city nearby where people are hurting, students need love and our light is rather dim.

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What's your excuse (for not participating in intramurals)?

BY LIZ SANDS
STAR STAFF WRITER

"I don't play sports."
"I'm not competitive."
"I don't have time."

If these are your excuses for not participating in intramurals here at Houghton College, then you better start coming up with new ones. ASAP! Intramural Activity Director Todd Kleitz has revamped Intramurals—and there's a reason why his title is Intramural Activity Director, not just Director of Intramural Sports. "Intramurals" is not just about team sports. Coach Kleitz is determined to enhance the program to enable all of us here at Houghton to participate, even those of us who "don't play sports." If the seasons thus far this year are any indication, the expanding intramural program is sure to be a success.

According to Coach Kleitz, who is also the assistant men's basketball coach, intramural sports are a significant aspect of life here at Houghton College. Offering a wide variety of activities to include as many students as possible is pivotal to our college, a school that, because of its location, is easily criticized for not providing enough activities for students. Coach Kleitz personally thinks participating in intramural activities is not only a great way to meet new people, par-

ticularly for incoming freshmen, but the activities also offer a way to relieve stress and provide exercise at such a rigorously academic institution. And, don't forget, the purpose of intramurals is to have fun!

Although Kleitz ideally aims for 85 to 90 percent of our student body to be involved in the activities, current involvement probably rests around a little over half. Besides the more prominent team sports, of which most students are aware, like the basketball and waterpolo seasons already underway and the newly starting volleyball and indoor soccer seasons, Kleitz emphasizes that intramural activities also include aerobics, skiing, climbing wall participation, and tae bo, among others. This year, in order to be more flexible for students and to combat the difficulties of busyness and stress that we students often experience, the intramural activities program has introduced "ladder" tournaments in sports like racquetball, enabling those involved to schedule games at times most convenient for them. Even with the introduction of new sports this year, the first year that Coach Kleitz has been the Director of Intramurals, participation numbers are up in many sports and at least equivalent in every previous activity. Faculty and community members (with rec. passes) are encouraged to participate in intramural activities as well.



In case you still don't think that intramural activities are the thing for you, fear not! Before the end of this semester, Kleitz hopes to organize a campus-wide survey to gather student and faculty responses to the current intramural program and to provide an outlet for recommendations for improvement or the introducing of new activities. If there is an interest and an opportunity, Coach Kleitz encourages Houghton College to let him know. Because of limited facility space, Kleitz recognizes difficulties in organizing new team sports, but he hopefully looks forward to new intramural activities nonetheless,

particularly in individualsports. Someday Houghton intramurals may include new tournaments of pool, chess, ping-pong, and other activities Kleitz considers "lifetime sports." Currently being discussed are also activities often labeled "extreme" sports: snowboarding, biking, skateboarding, etc.

To find out more information regarding intramural activities and how easy it is to participate, check the Houghton College website and click on Sports. Do you really have an excuse not to?

Track stars spend break at nationals in Tenn.

BY KATY SYKES
STAR SPORTS WRITER

While many students headed south over spring break to soak in the sun, a few Highlander athletes headed south to compete in the Indoor National Track and Field Championship meet in Tennessee. The meet was of the highest caliber as the fastest and strongest athletes—runners, sprinters, jumpers, throwers and vaulters from across the country competed for national NAIA recognition as the finest in the NAIA. To compete in the meet certain standard qualifications had to be met and several of Houghton's athletes met the qualifications either provisionally or outright.

Among the Houghton representative athletes were both track captains Sarah Gardner, who competed in the 55m hurdles, and Chris Buell in the 1000m. Diane Benedict raced the 800m run and Mary Gibson the 1000m run. The women's 4 x 800m relay team also made the provisional standard, which included Diane Benedict, Kerri Koch, Katy Sykes, and Mary Gibson. The six athletes, coaches, trainer, and fans (family members) headed for the warmer climate of the volunteer

state anticipating some competitive track and field games.

Sarah Gardner, despite being sick, ran the 55m hurdles in a time of 8.76 sec., placing her 14th overall out of the top athletes in the nation and seven hundredths of a second away from the semi-finals. Chris Buell, likewise suffering from an illness, ran the 1000m in a time of 2:40.45 placing him 15th. Diane Benedict ran a personal best and broke the school record in the 800m with a time of 2:22.28, placing 10th. Mary Gibson also had a personal record and set a new school record in the 1000m in a time of 3:03.84. Mary placed 10th, and was two tenths of a second away from moving on to compete in the finals. In addition, the women's 4 x 800 relay record was broken with the new time being set at 9:47.41, placing them 10th.

The Houghton athletes returned from the National meet with 3 new school records, as well as inspiration and motivation for the upcoming spring track season. The track and field team is hoping to send more athletes to the outdoor national championships in May. Their first meet is an invitational Saturday the 22nd at the University of Rochester.

Track team offers to serve inner-city children

BY ERIN LAWLIS
STAR CONTRIBUTOR

This spring break was not only a time of soaking up the sun and enjoying the break from the books—it was also a time of service. As classmates headed for warmer weather, eleven Houghton College runners piled sleeping bags and guitars into the van and headed off for the home of the famous "Buffalo wing," also home to the Martin Luther King's Center Charter School and the Westside Mennonite Church, where the team planned to spend the next four days tutoring and cleaning.

Last year during spring break the team traveled to Owl's Head, Maine and provided a Vacation Bible School for the children in a local church. Donald Merriam, a Houghton College senior interested in continuing the tradition, suggested the idea of another service trip. Rebecca Cole, Houghton College junior, also helped plan the trip through a series of contacts with Houghton College professor Dr.

Charles Massey.

Dr. Massey and his wife, Claitry Massey, have lived in the city of Buffalo for the past twenty years. Mrs. Massey is the director at the Martin Luther King's Center.

The student body of the King's Center reflects the neighborhood—99% are African-American. The constant challenge of the school is to fight against the negative influences of poverty and lack of education that the children are faced with daily, and empower them with education and self-worth.

While in Buffalo, the team spent time tutoring the King's Center students in math, reading to them, and even dancing with them in Spanish class. On Saturday and Sunday the team worked with the congregation of the Westside Mennonite Church to clean and repair the church building (a former television station). It was a rewarding experience for all involved. The team was able to see the work being done to glorify God in the city.

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our upcoming MARCH
MADNESS contest