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the houghton STAR

Houghton College's Student Newspaper Since 1909

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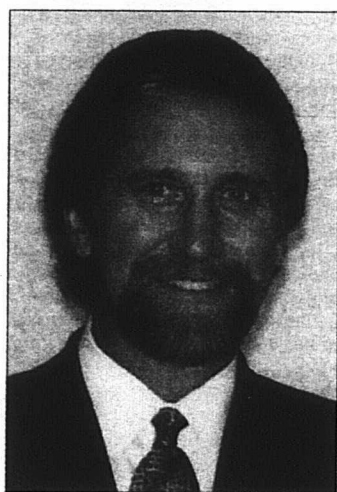
ARTIST OF THE WEEK:

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Van Dyk Gives Boost to Student Life



Van Dyk donated the money for the recent Campus Center renovations.

by KRISTEN PALMER

Last month, a few of us had the pleasure of meeting one of Houghton's generous donors. He's the guy who donated the money for the recent renovations of the Campus Center basement. Robert Van Dyk -- yes, the Campus Center lounge is named after him -- lives in a beautiful

house just outside of New York City. He ushered us into his home, and we found him easy to talk to, genuine, and pretty funny, actually.

Van Dyk's parents wanted him to go to a Christian college because he "was a little on the wild side." He chose Houghton because of its ski hill. "That's when I learned what false advertising was," joked Van Dyk.

A New Jersey native, Van Dyk spent his first- and sophomore years (1971-73) at Houghton. His father wanted him to go into business, but he wanted to go into "art and design and architecture." He ended up majoring in business but specializing in dating.

"I hated school," said Van Dyk. "Classes were immaterial to me."

While at Houghton, Van Dyk was a ski instructor at Houghton's bunny hill -- Holiday Valley is where he trained with the ski patrol. He also worked in the grille, or what current students know as Big Al's.

Van Dyk met who is now the mother of his children at Houghton. The two married when they were 20 years old and moved back to New Jersey when his wife decided to go to nursing school. Meanwhile, Van Dyk buckled down and finished his undergraduate degree at Farleigh Dickinson University with honors. He went on to earn his graduate degree

in health management at George Washington University, where he also graduated with honors. From there, Van Dyk made a name for himself.

Van Dyk now owns and operates nursing homes and assisted living facilities. He took over the family side of the business about 18 years ago and has grown the business since then. He also owns a home care company in Arizona and a rehabilitation center and is the director of a New Jersey bank which has 45 branches and \$4.6 billion in assets. He has recently started a post acute cardiac care program. Van Dyk is involved with other projects, as well, including online sports management. He is currently working on patents (one relating to tinnitus, or a ringing in the ears) and serves on several community committees. Several years ago, Van Dyk was elected chairman of the National Center for Assisted Living and is also a recent chairman of the American Healthcare Association.

In his limited spare time, Van Dyk collects wine. In fact, he is about to travel to California to attend an executive wine course ("I'll learn how to turn water into wine," he joked. "[The class] is an extension of Houghton."). He also loves to golf and travel. He's recently been to

See VAN DYK page 3

Obamacare Heads to the Supreme Court

by CHRIS HARTLINE

On March 26, 27, and 28, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments concerning the constitutionality of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, better known as Obamacare. The six hours of oral arguments spread over three days is unprecedented; by comparison, the 2000 case of Bush v. Gore, which stopped the Florida recount and handed the presidential election to George W. Bush, was given 90 minutes for oral arguments.

In the lead up to this unique spectacle, the Court was faced with one overarching challenge: the majority of Americans believed that the case would be decided on a political, rather than legal, basis. From the Bush v. Gore decision in 2000 to the Citizens United decision 2010 -- both of which were 5-4 decisions along party lines -- the Court, which was created to be the least political branch of government, has been viewed as increasingly partisan.

Chief Justice Roberts, who was confirmed as the 17th Chief Justice of the United States in 2003, is keenly aware of this reputation and has made it a point to avoid highly partisan decisions, particularly 5-4 decisions with an ideological divide. In discussing his role as Chief Justice, he stated, "I do think the Chief Justice has a particular obligation to try to achieve consensus consistent with everyone's individual oath to uphold the Constitution, and that would certainly be a priority for me."

In choosing to hear this highly charged case, however, Roberts knew that the political implications were unavoidable.

Over the three days of oral arguments the Court sought to address multiple issues involved with the law. During day one, the Justices sought to answer the question of whether they could even hear the case since penalties for failure to purchase insurance will not take effect until 2013. Section 7421 of the Internal Revenue Code states that "no suit for the purpose of restraining the assessment or collection of any tax shall be maintained in any court by any person." During the Congressional debate over the bill's passage, Democrats and the Obama Administration vehemently argued that the penalty was not a tax, a position that was more politically palatable. Ironically, if it had been a tax, the Supreme Court would be barred from hearing the entire case

See HEALTH page 3

Tocqueville's Moment: Wilfred McClay Speaks at Houghton

by EMMA HUGHES and
SARAH HUTCHINSON

The Houghton College Lecture Series continued Wednesday evening with a lecture given by Wilfred McClay, a history professor at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and noted voice among contemporary conservative thought. In an introduction given by Professor Meilaender, political science, Meilaender expressed that he had "hoped to have [McClay] as a lecture speaker for a long time now." Indeed, McClay's numerous academic achievements and studies made him an insightful speaker on issues regarding politics and history.

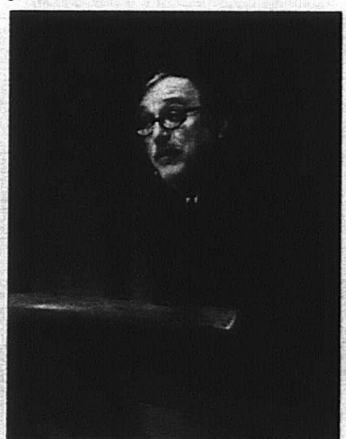
McClay's lecture, entitled "Tocqueville's Moment...and Ours," examined the issues at stake in cultural and civilizational transformations -- the kind of transformation that may well be observed in contemporary times -- and the lessons to be gleaned from Tocqueville's own approach to a rapidly changing world.

According to McClay, it is essential in "the Tocquevillian moment" to accept the inevitability of change and the contingency of history, while still

not abandoning the past. This we do by incorporating "what was noble in the old" into the new order. McClay emphasized the value of the liberal arts in this endeavor and focused on the "serious reading and re-reading of old books" as a valuable part of education. McClay, paraphrasing Tocqueville, said that the incorporation of the past "teaches democracy to know itself and contain itself."

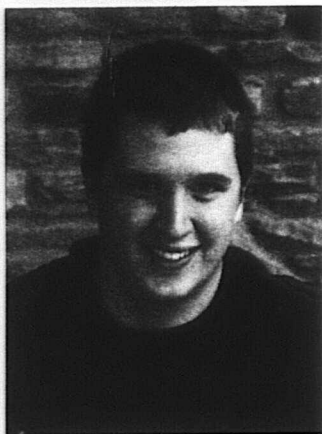
McClay also serves as the SunTrust Bank Chair of Excellence in Humanities at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, as well as holding a position as a Senior Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC. In addition, he is a Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, Senior Fellow of the Trinity Forum, and is a member of the National Council for the Humanities, the advisory board of the National Endowment for the Humanities. He is the recipient of the 1995 Merle Curti Award of the Organization of American Historians for his book "The Masterless: Self and Society in Modern America," and has also written other works, including "The Student's Guide to U.S. History," "Religion Returns to the

Public Square: Faith and Policy in America," and "Figures in the Carpet: Finding the Human Person in the American Past." Currently, McClay is working on a book focusing on the concept of "place" in American society and has written an article for the latest edition of First Things academic journal. ★



Earlier in the day, McClay also spoke during chapel on "Mourning with Those who Mourn."

SGA / New SGA Transitions in this Week



ANDREA PACHECO

by GARRETT FITZSIMMONS

As of this past Tuesday, this year's Senate and Cabinet have turned over their responsibilities to the new SGA members. Former President Garrett Fitzsimmons, senior, has stepped down and current Student

Body President Joel Ernst, junior, has assumed the responsibilities of the presidency of the SGA.

In taking office Ernst said, "Starting this week, I am serving as your Student Body President. I am excited to have this opportunity, and I will do my best to represent you — the students — to the Administration, faculty, and staff. My goals for next year include expanding service activities at Houghton, promoting Christian life activities on campus, and supporting vibrant club activities and campus-wide events. With these goals in mind, I am working right now with Student Life and Student Programs to sort through the complete restructuring of CAB. I will work with the Senate and Student Programs to find out how the Houghton Outreach Project (HOP) may function next year. I am also working on ways to ease the rush between Chapel, lunch, and afternoon classes. If you have any questions, let me know."

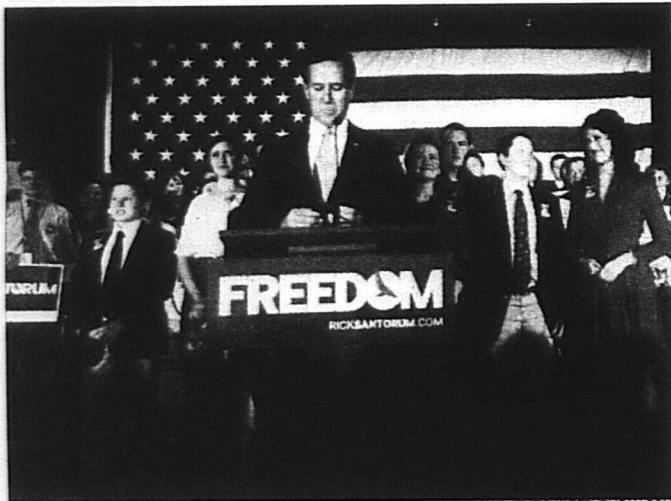
Other new members of the Cabinet include sophomore Benjamin Hardy

(Vice President), junior Jonathon Duttweiler (Chaplain), and junior Austin Rudd (Commissioner of Finance). Junior Jennifer Freeman will continue as Commissioner of Communications. These new officers and the new SGA Senate will have heavy responsibilities and important decisions to make in the remainder of this semester. Houghton is one of the few colleges that allows students to be represented directly on its administrative councils and committees. It is the responsibility of the SGA Senate to elect student members to each of these councils and committees for next year. Interested students should watch for campus-wide emails indicating elections at Senate. Also, each year, the College allots funds for all of the student clubs and organizations on campus. This is known as the Campus Service Budget, or the CSB. The new SGA will be responsible for allotting the CSB among the various groups. This year, the CSB was cut and the funding for CAB was removed. However, the

total number for the CSB remains above \$100,000 for this coming year.

While the funding for CAB was cut, the new SGA cabinet and Student Programs are working on how to restructure CAB in order to still provide quality programming for next year. Houghton's clubs and classes already provide events for the campus, and they will be relied upon. President Shirley Mullen said that she wants to maintain the "vibrancy" in student-led organizations and events for next year. Ultimately, Houghton's unique atmosphere is largely dependent upon the willingness of students to be dedicated to expressing their interests, whether it be acting on stage for a Eugene O'Neill play or hosting a campus-wide banquet or shooting fellow students with foam darts in Chamberlain. The new SGA must be dedicated to maintaining, fostering, protecting, and communicating those interests as they represent the voice of the students next year. ★

IN THE NEWS



WWW.THEOWAREPUBLICAN.COM

RICK SANTORUM DROPS OUT OF RACE | Rick Santorum, Republican presidential contender, dropped out of the primary race last Tuesday. Santorum was leading candidate Mitt Romney's most formidable challenger for the Republican nomination.



WWW.IT.COM.COM

U.S. FILES SUIT AGAINST APPLE AND OTHER COMPANIES | The Justice Department filed an antitrust lawsuit against Apple and other companies, claiming that they colluded to fix eBook prices.



WWW.TELEGRAPH.CO.UK

PARTY SCANDAL IN CHINA | The scandal surrounding Bo Xilai, former Communist Party secretary, widened this week as Bo was stripped of his remaining party positions and his wife was arrested on suspicion of homicide. Party officials, fending off criticism for the removal of Bo, have united around his replacement.



WWW.WASHINGTONPOST.COM

ZIMMERMAN CHARGED WITH SECOND-DEGREE MURDER | George Zimmerman was charged with second-degree murder in the death of Trayvon Martin, a seventeen-year-old who was killed in February. The incident has sparked nation-wide controversy on racial-profiling.

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HEALTH *from page 1*

since the challengers would not be able to show standing, or any harm that has come to them resulting from the law.

Day two focused on the individual mandate, which forces everyone in the country to purchase insurance or pay a penalty, and whether it fits into the definition or understanding of the commerce clause. The question of constitutionality hinges on whether the individual mandate is viewed as regulating existing commerce within the parameters of the commerce clause -- for which the Court has given Congress almost unlimited prerogative -- or whether it is forcing individuals to engage in commerce and then regulating it, which would be a unique action.

The Obama Administration's argument, which was made by Solicitor General Donald Verrilli, is that since all Americans are legally entitled to medical care in the case of emergency, all Americans are already part of the health care system, whether they have insurance or not. The challengers, however, make a slippery slope argument: if the government can force everyone to purchase health care, there will be no limit to the government's power. The government could force

everyone to join a gym, eat broccoli, quit smoking, etc.

Arguments on day three were split into two parts: the severability of the individual mandate and state objections to the Medicaid expansion. If the Court were to deem the individual mandate unconstitutional, the question would become whether the rest of the law would stand. Most of the lower courts that have heard this case ruled that the two were severable, and thus the Court could strike down the individual mandate and allow the rest of the law to stand. But the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the two were not severable and striking down the mandate would mean striking down the law in its entirety. Since the individual mandate was the primary cost-cutting provision of the bill (it forces younger, healthier people to buy insurance as a means of subsidizing others), striking down the mandate and upholding the rest of the law could actually be the larger political dilemma for the Obama campaign.

The issue of Medicaid expansion is just one more mutation of an ongoing argument between the states and the federal government over unfunded mandates. In expanding Medicaid, the federal government has put the onus on the states to handle more responsibilities and pay for it out of

their own budget. The states argue that the 10th Amendment, as well as a legally dubious coercion theory, give them the right to make these types of decisions themselves and negate provisions, such as the expansion of Medicaid, that the federal government has mandated. While this was the least talked about issue of the case, its implication are far-reaching.

Going into oral arguments, Court watchers and prognosticators believed that the individual mandate and the law itself would be upheld. Some even believed that the Court would rule in the government's favor by a 7-2 or 8-1 margin. After three days of arguments, however, the general consensus has shifted. Justice Anthony Kennedy, who is often the swing vote in 5-4 decisions, was very critical of the individual mandate during his questioning saying that it "changes the relationship of the Federal Government to the individual in the very fundamental way." Statements such as these would tend toward the challengers' arguments making a 5-4, politically charged decision all the more likely.

The members of the Court have already given their preliminary votes in conference, a confidential meeting of the Justices, and will begin drafting opinions. A decision is expected in June. ★

RUNNYMEDE PREPARES FOR MOCK TRIAL

by KATHARINE LABRECQUE

Think of your favorite crime-scene investigation show. Perhaps CSI or NCIS? Picture the judge, swift and determined as he walks into the court room. The jury lined up, and the witnesses nervously fidgeting with their hands. Splitting the room in half is the prosecution and the defense attorneys. Silence engulfs the court room, while witnesses sit in agitation. Finally, the court commences, and the trial begins.

Now, Houghton students wait eagerly as the Runnymede Pre-Law Society prepares for its campus-wide advertised mock trials. Helping the Society out is a local firm owner and lawyer Tom Fuoco of Angelica, New York.

Mock trials enable students to have an extracurricular opportunity to participate in rehearsed trials in order to learn and experience more about the legal system in a competitive manner. This especially caters those interested in pursuing a career in law and also in politics, though mock trials are available to anyone interested.

The trial is scheduled to take place from 3 to 5 p.m. tomorrow in the Recital Hall. The prosecution and the defense will be arguing the case of "The People of the State of NY vs. Donna Osborn." The case is a model provided on behalf of the American Mock Trial Association. In addition, a jury will be present, and made up of 12 members of the audience. The jury members will listen to opening statements, an examination of witnesses, and closing arguments of both sides in the case, and then dispute amongst each other to determine the verdict of the case.

Senior Chris Hartline, Runnymede's Vice President, described the extensive work put into the upcoming trial and said, "Many of the students have put a lot of work into preparing for this. The teams have been meeting for the last few weeks to prepare their opening and closing statements, as well as their witness' testimony." Along with Hartline, President Kathleen Elenfeldt, senior, also waits eagerly for tomorrow, when the team's laborious efforts will shine.

Established in the fall of 2010, the Runnymede Pre-Law Society hosts many of the political and pre-law events on campus, though the Runnymede Society was not granted official club status until this year. The Society was named after the meadow in England where the Magna Carta was signed. In addition to running mock trials and organizing political and pre-law events, the Society also works with potential law students to facilitate practice LSATs. Current officers include Elenfeldt; Hartline; Secretary Derek Schwabe, senior; and Treasurer Margaret Monthie, freshman. Runnymede hopes to remain active in the Houghton community and provide more opportunities and events for students interested in law and politics. ★

VAN DYK *from page 1*

Dublin, Zurich, Paris, and is heading to Tuscany in a few weeks. Van Dyk attempts to learn the language of every country he visits. "It's kind of fun," he said.

Van Dyk has two children. His son Reed attended Cornell University for theater and film. His daughter Kristina, when looking at colleges, had two requirements: she wanted to go somewhere warm and with a women's tennis team ("She was a phenomenal tennis player," said Van Dyk). However, she followed in her father's footsteps and ended up at Houghton, because after visiting a few secular colleges realized she wanted to go to a Christian school. According to Van Dyk, she was accepted at Fordham University, visited the campus, and "felt like it wasn't the kind of environment she wanted to be in."

Kristina, who entered college as an art major, "felt comfortable [at Houghton] and really liked the art professors a lot," said Van Dyk, who himself took every art class offered at Houghton. "There is a really a great, great group of people up there." Kristina worked as a styling manager for Nordstrom straight out of college in 2005. She now owns her own business as a stylist in West Hollywood.

Van Dyk, like his daughter, thinks fondly on his time at Houghton but recalls being bored. "There was no student life," he said. "I really felt that's what Houghton needed." And that's how Van Dyk's giving began. He said after visiting Cornell with his son and seeing the University's athletic facilities, he thought, "We need this at Houghton." So he provided Houghton with money to renovate the fitness center, which,

according to him, used to resemble a fenced-in cage. Since then, Van Dyk has also helped fund Big Al's, Java, the Campus Center lounge (more specifically the fireplace), and most recently the renovations to the Campus Center basement. "Everything I've done since then has been toward [student life] in one way or another," said Van Dyk, who turned down the College's request to give to endowment. "Everything I've done has been for the students." He hopes his contributions have made Houghton a more enjoyable place for even prospective students.

Van Dyk, although concerned with Houghton's ability to provide a good student life environment, has not worried about the College's foundational values. "Houghton has high academic standards and a good Christian environment, and they didn't let it get watered down," he said. Van Dyk does not consider any of the recent changes, such as dancing, to be "watering the College down." "That's a good, progressive thing," he said.

When asked what he took away from Houghton, Van Dyk responded, "I appreciate the faculty and the people who have given their lives to Houghton. That's what I always respected about Houghton." He remembers his daughter telling him time and time again about the kind of experiences she had with the faculty while at Houghton. According to Van Dyk faculty members at the College take a special interest in the lives of students, which was not something Van Dyk's son experienced at Cornell. Van Dyk believes Houghton's "talented faculty" could work at other excellent universities but choose to "dedicate their lives and serve the Lord by giving of their time and talents at Houghton." "These are the men and women who make Houghton

a special place," he said.

"My daughter received a great education at Houghton as well," added Van Dyk. "Her business class at the time took a national exam and ranked in the top 5% of the United States."

Van Dyk is on the President's Advisory Board at Houghton and his hope for the College is sustainability. Van Dyk recognizes that in this current economic environment all private colleges are facing challenges. "I guess I hope the College will be adaptable," he said. "Houghton's unique." He realizes the Administration has been faced with some tough decisions, such as letting some faculty go, which is especially difficult in a closely-knit community like Houghton. "It takes courage to do the right thing, and it's not always easy for everyone to understand that," he added. He believes Houghton is on the right track.

Van Dyk did have advice for Houghton students. "I have always felt it's important to treat people the way you want to be treated," he said. He believes being truthful and honest has helped him gain respect throughout his business career. "There are three things a successful business person needs to be able to say," he added. "I don't know," "I need help," and "I am sorry." "I have been fortunate in my life to be successful and consider that success from the Lord," he said. "Anything I do I consider the words in the book of Luke that 'to whom much is given much is expected.'" Houghton, according to Van Dyk, is the only college he supports through financial gifts.

So, the next time you are hanging out with friends at Big Al's or working out in the fitness center, remember that behind the improvements we all enjoy on campus is a guy who is looking out for students. ★

"Hunger Games" Offers Food for Thought

by LINDSEY HOUGHTON

On its opening day, "The Hunger Games" earned \$68.3 million, the highest single-day earnings of any non-sequel movie. Fans of the book by Suzanne Collins had been eagerly waiting for the film's release and flocked to the theaters.

The movie, set in a futuristic dystopian America, centers around a teenager named Katniss Everdeen who volunteers to participate in the brutal government's gladiatorial-style "hunger games" in order to save her younger sister. Twenty-four children and teenagers aged 12-18, called "tributes," are selected from across the country to fight to the death in a televised performance, with the final winner being rewarded with a life of ease and luxury. Katniss is forced to grapple with the reality of her situation, while wrestling with the fact that in order to survive, she will be expected to kill other innocent children, or be killed herself.

The subject matter is heavy, and the film does not shy away from the reality of violence. The film manages to keep its PG-13 rating by using a shaky camera technique so that moments of extreme violence are implied rather than visualized, but the reality of what is happening to the children in the arena is clear. Even with its cut-away and shaky camera techniques, the film pushed the boundaries of its rating, with many disturbing and intense

scenes of violence and death.

The violence of "The Hunger Games" is deeply unsettling — and that is a good thing. "The Hunger Games" does not idolize or venerate violence, but instead shows it for what it is — disturbing and disquieting. It portrays the games themselves as the products of a bloody, brutal, and unjust regime. Katniss' dilemma is that she knows that the games are unjust and yet also knows that she will be killed if she does not participate — she must choose between two seemingly insurmountable evils.

And it is a very serious dilemma. I found myself wondering what I would do in such a situation. What would be honorable and just in the Hunger Games? Katniss finds the strength to survive by thinking of her younger sister and refusing to kill other tributes unless she is directly threatened.

But in "The Hunger Games," events work out just right for Katniss. She is never forced to choose to kill someone she deeply cares about, or who is truly innocent. The other young people she kills in self-defense are invariably "the bad guys," the tributes who are most brutal and ruthless. She never has to decide whether or not she will kill young Rue, a 12-year-old girl with whom she forms a deep friendship. In this way I think "The Hunger Games" skirted some of the serious implications of Katniss' predicament. What if events hadn't worked out just right? What if Katniss had found herself at the end of the games alone with Rue? What would have been the right thing to do?

Throughout the Games, Katniss manages to keep her respect for human life, refusing to give in to the entertainment aspect of the games and even performing death rites for a fellow tribute who has been killed, arranging flowers around her body. Katniss is not a weak character — she is strong, and that strength leads her to kill in self-defense. I think it is important to ask ourselves, however, whether such strength is entirely noble. Katniss is, after all, fighting against other children, other innocents, who, aside from certain tributes who have volunteered out of bravado, have found themselves in exactly her situation — kill or be killed.

As Christians, should we not ask ourselves the hard question — whether it



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wouldn't be better to be killed? To lay down one's life for another equally innocent person — or even a person who is guilty — is the essence of Christian selflessness. Different people will doubtless come to very different conclusions on this issue, but as Christians, it bears careful consideration.

The Hunger Games offers a lot of food for thought — about the nature of violence, the justice of killing even in self-defense, and our own future as a society. In a culture that often eschews careful thought for mindless entertainment, "The Hunger Games" holds up a mirror and asks us to consider ourselves.

Softball's First Season

by NICK FREDETTE

Spring sports are fully underway for the Highlanders, and Houghton's first softball team has already had several games under its belt. The team is beginning what will certainly be a formative year, but has seen great improvement over the course of the season.

The team is coached by Jeremy and Annette Shepherd, a duo coming from their most recent coaching endeavor at Ohio Northern University in Ada, Ohio.

Jeremy is very involved in Highlander athletics as the Assistant Sports Information Director, and both he and his

wife have been instrumental in re-building Houghton's softball program so far. Both Coach and "Mrs. Coach," as some of the players have been known to call her, are very enthusiastic about the opportunity that has been given to them to build this softball program from the ground up.

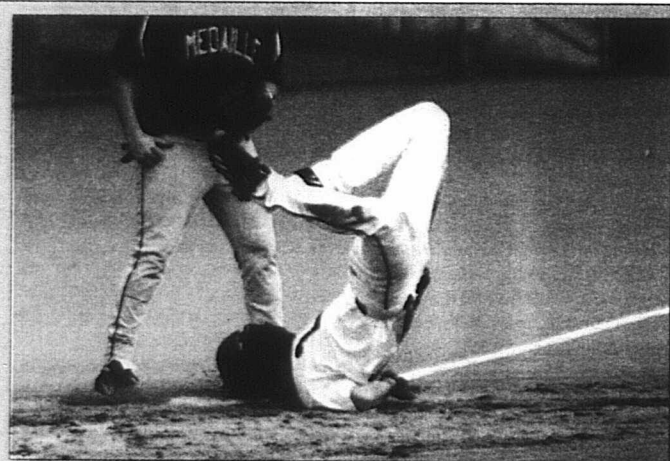
They are both looking to develop not only players, but people. "My goal as a coach," said Jeremy, "is to see all of my student athletes reach their full potential in all aspects of their lives including spiritually, academically, and athletically, and Houghton is unique in that it fosters an

Cont'd on page 5

Were You Aware?

by ANDRÉ NELSON

Stephen W. Paine became President of Houghton College at 28 years old, making him the youngest college president in the United States at the time. He graduated from Wheaton College in 1930 and then received a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. He began teaching Greek at Houghton in 1933, became the Academic Dean in 1935, and in 1937 he became the President and remained so until 1972, at which time he stepped down. He often stated "my goal is to do the will of God." President Paine also served as Chair of the Translation Committee for the NIV Bible.



^ Senior Mitch Weaver slides into third base. submitted by face-plant enthusiast Johnmark Pocock '12

**PICTURE
of the WEEK**

Enter our biweekly photo contest by submitting to HoughtonStar@gmail.com. Please include photo credit and a brief description.

The Runnymede Pre-Law Society Presents a

Mock Trial

On April 14th 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
in the Recital Hall

Come watch your fellow students debate as they fill the roles of lawyers and witnesses in this case. You can come to be selected as a member of the jury!

Cont'd from page 4

environment that allows for that growth."

Together, they will look to utilize their gifts in coaching that allowed them to turn around the ONU softball program, leading it to three Ohio Athletic Conference Championships, a Central Region Championship and trip to the 2009 NCAA Division III College World Series. Houghton's new softball team will certainly look to earn some impressive accolades of its own in the near future.

So far, the Highlanders have struggled, but have not lost heart. With a record that unfortunately cannot yet post a win, Houghton softball is certainly not defeated. The team has improved exponentially from the start of this season. With only two seniors and eight first- and second-year students, the team may lack experience now, but will have several players to rely on as the program builds a foundation at the College. There have been many obstacles in the team's path thus far, but adversity has not caused the team to break down. In spite of losing key players to injury and suspension, the team has managed to keep an optimistic outlook on the season and the program as a whole.

Individually, several Highlanders have shown strong performance so far this season. Four players boast an impressive 1,000 fielding percentage, with no defensive errors, and the team has found strong pitching from freshmen Sarah Beirne and Morgan York. Beirne was credited with a one-hitter against Geneva College early in the season, and York has pitched strong innings in each of her outings this season. Offensively, the Highlanders have found strong performance from senior Susie Black, with two home runs this season, and productive at-bats in every game thus far.

The Highlanders play their first home games this weekend against Fisher College at Cuba-Rushford High School.

SPORTS RECAP

BASEBALL:

TUES 4/3

at Walsh Univ. - L 2-4; L 3-9

WED 4/4

at Walsh Univ. - L 3-20; L 2-11

TUE 4/10

vs D'Youville College -
W 11-5

UPCOMING GAMES:

FRI 4/13

vs Fisher College @ 2PM &
4PM

SAT 4/14

vs Fisher College @ 12PM &
2PM

SOFTBALL:

TUES 4/3

at Walsh Univ. - L 0-10; L 1-18

WED 4/4

at Walsh Univ. - L 0-15; L 0-10

WED 4/11

at Alfred Univ. - L 23-4; L 7-0

UPCOMING GAMES:

FRI 4/13

vs Fisher College @ 3PM &
5PM

SAT 4/14

vs Fisher College @ 1PM &
3PM

All information from
<http://athletics.houghton.edu/>

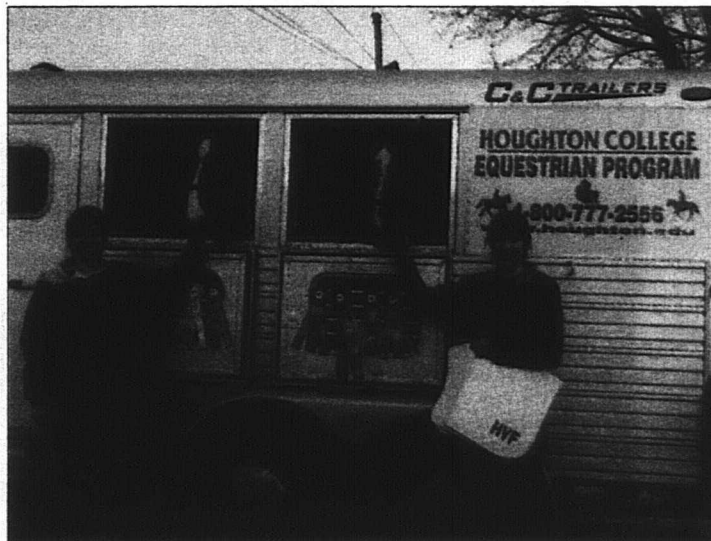
Equestrian Gains Positive Attention

by ANNELISE HEIN

In the past few weeks, the equestrian program has received exciting and positive attention as students have participated in local horse shows and clinics. On March 10, junior Andrea Ypma and senior Erin Smith rode at the Lehman Farms Winter Horse Show Series. In the Suitable Hunter division, riding against professional trainers, Ypma won the hunter under saddle class and placed fifth in one over fences class. She rode a college-owned horse named HC For Love ("Elvis"). Smith rode her own horse "Bailey," a small 15.1-hand Quarter Horse. She competed against a dozen large Thoroughbreds and Warmbloods, and became the division champion by winning all three of her classes in the Level 1 Jumpers Division.

Jo-Anne Young, director of Houghton College Equestrians, said of Smith, "In her first class she was 6.6 seconds faster than the second place horse; in the second class, she was 10 seconds faster than the second place horse; in the last and most difficult class, she and Bailey were 20 seconds faster than the second place horse."

The following weekend, March 16-17, the Equestrian Center hosted "Ride-a-Test/Jump-a-Course," a clinic to prepare riders for show season. Dressage participants



Andrea Ypma '13 and Erin Smith '12 both performed impressively at the Lehman Farms Winter Horse Show Series.

were scored on their initial performances and then received coaching to improve problem areas. Jumping participants also received coaching to improve their performances on a competition-like course. Both Houghton students and

riders from as far as two hours away all benefited from the clinic, according to Young.

On March 18, seniors Smith, Kala Stafford, Liz Herman and first-year Meghan McCuiston participated in a dressage riding demonstration at Equifest, an event which drew participants and spectators from all over New York. While the aforementioned students rode in the demonstration, Young spoke about dressage riding and training principles. Among those who visited the Houghton booth were youth interested in the College's summer equestrian camps, high school prospectives, and adults who signed up for Adult Dressage Camps.

Several people gave glowing feedback about the event. Molly Vacco, a 3-Star Parelli Professional, wrote to Young, "You really represented your program, dressage, and most importantly the horse -- so well. I felt like you were truly the only presenter to honor the horse!" The organizers of Equifest also said, "We were so delighted that Houghton College agreed to come." Debbie Huckle of the Western Chapter of the New York State Horse Council extended sincere thanks and gratitude for Houghton's participation and said, "In trying to diversify our clinicians, the entire planning committee believe that you added a special touch with your knowledge and expertise."

On March 23 and 24, Houghton College Equestrians hosted the Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA) Region 5 Conference. Each day of the conference featured five workshops intended to help participants improve their skills as riding instructors. The conference drew more than 30 people from New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Michigan. One of the participants was Shellie Carmoney, a member of the CHA board of directors, who praised the conference. "Everything was a class act," she said.

The next weekend, just before spring break, world famous Olympic coach and author Walter Zettl presented at a dressage clinic hosted by Houghton's Equestrian Program. Young stated, "We are blessed to have had Walter coming for clinics here for 20 years," and said the clinic "was a rich learning experience for auditors, as well as the riders."

All these events reflect the high quality of the Equestrian Program as students stand out at local horseshows and the program gains positive attention. Coming up in the next few weeks for Houghton Equestrians are the HC-WNYDA Challenge Dressage Show on April 21 and the HC Spring Hunter-Jumper Show on April 28.

ATHLETE PROFILE: DANIELLE BRENON



by KATHERINE BAKER

Danielle Brenon is a senior biology and communication major, and she is also the captain of the track and field team. Matthew Dougherty, Sports Information Director and head cross country and track & field coach, said that Brenon "is one of the most successful athletes in Houghton history. She holds more school records than any athlete in school history, and she is a tremendous runner with a great future ahead of her running."

"What is most impressive about Danielle," added Dougherty, "is that she has balanced academics and athletics incredibly well, succeeding not just on a national level as an athlete, but she is a tremendously gifted student. She excels in the classroom and desires to get better in all facets of life."

Junior Hannah Jennings, Brenon's teammate, said, "Danielle is the kind of athlete that demonstrates not only a natural ability for her sport but the dedication and pure grit that makes her a great one. This is evident in all she does, as shown by her work

ethic and commitment to what she is involved with. More than anything, her leadership is by example and the bar is set high by her performances. I've been so grateful to run with Danielle as a teammate and then under her leadership as captain."

Being team captain has "been a big commitment," according to Brenon, "but very beneficial. Keeping the team unified is tough, especially in track." She continued, "Being team captain for track has been more of a challenge because of all the new athletes and underclassmen that have joined the team. But I have loved getting to know all the different kinds of athletes and training with them."

Although she loves both short and long distance, Brenon's favorite race is the marathon (26.2 miles), and she hopes to continue running after college. She is grateful to her coaches and said, "They are fantastic and have really individualized training. I've seen a lot of success and improvement in fellow teammates."

Brenon is also grateful for the friendships she has gained through the track program. "I've made so many best friends through the sport. Running has a way of bringing you close to your teammates. This is probably the single most influential aspect of my college career: the lifelong friendships that have been built."

Dougherty said that Brenon "has been a great leader for our teams not just athletically, but she has challenged her teammates and encouraged them to improve daily. Brenon is a rare student athlete and she has helped raise our whole program's level of expectations athletically and academically. She has worked really hard for four years to become the athlete she is, and it was only through God's gifts, hard work, and focus that she is the athlete she is today."

Current Racial Discrimination and the Enduring Civil Rights Movement



by ZACHARY ADAMS

In February I was asked to be a part of a panel discussion on issues related to civil rights after a viewing of U.S. Representative John Lewis' account of the infamous Bloody Sunday in Selma, Alabama. During the spring of 2010, I had the privilege to travel with Mr. Lewis and other members of Congress to historic civil rights sites in Alabama. I said yes to the panel opportunity, looking forward to the prospect of reflecting with a larger group of Houghton students and faculty on the civil rights movement. Shortly before the event I received a text message from a friend who had seen an advertisement with my name on the panel list that read, "I did not know you were black." Inwardly stunned by the comment, I knew that this attitude toward civil rights was probably not limited to just one of my friends.

As I began to reflect on the message, I was reminded of my own naivete prior to my time spent visiting sites

and listening to stories that were pivotal moments in the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 60s — the 16th St. Baptist Church, Brown Chapel AME Church, and the Edmund Pettus Bridge. Growing up in rural, northern Pennsylvania, the civil rights movement were events that I relegated to the past and reflected on in history lessons. These were moments in history that I thought put an end to racial inequality. It was a chapter finished and American society was progressing forward. I quickly realized it was not that simple. On top of this skewed historical perception I believed my experiences of life were the status quo. Since we had moved past issues of racial inequality, every young person my age had equal choices for college, to health care, to travel, or pursue a developing musical talent. I never got angry when I saw someone in poverty or wasting away their opportunity to excel in school; I did, however, question their motivation and hoped that they would eventually come to their senses.

One of the aspects of the Alabama trip that struck me was the number and status of people on the trip. Why were these people taking almost a week out of their schedule to tour sites, sing songs, and listen to stories from trip luminaries? The first immediate answer was to remind themselves of the rich, storied — and sometimes awful — past that brought them to this point. To understand America's past would surely help them effectively represent and lead in Congress, the boardroom, and community. There is a second answer to this question. Leaders from across the

country came together for this journey because they recognized that the work to overcome social injustice was not over. They recognized that social injustice affected everyone and required the efforts of all. These leaders of the free world recognized that there was still work to be done. And they were right.

At the end of this year I will be moving to Mississippi with Teach For America to address one of the root causes of the inequality that exists today — educational inequity.

The educational gap is growing rather than decreasing between African Americans and Caucasians, and also, in a broader sense, between those living in poverty and those in higher socioeconomic classes. Caucasian students are consistently outperforming students whose socioeconomic status is much lower. In Mississippi and other parts of the country a low socioeconomic status is still inextricably linked to the color of your skin. Socioeconomic status has become a constraining force on access to a wealth of the most basic social advantages. And because of this we see a re-segregation as resources and amenities cluster in affluent communities. It is these complex facts that shape social

structures and when passively submitted to allow a person to succeed or to fail.

Hidden in my friend's comment that day in early March was more than a misunderstanding of the civil rights movement. There was a belief that issues of racial inequality were an odd thing to care about as a Caucasian man. The complete opposite is true. It is crucial to become aware of our own social schema and how different social structures affect daily life and access not only to rights like which part of the bus a person can sit on, but other rights — just as basic and just as deserved — like education and health care. Addressing these issues requires us

all to know what has been fought for, what still needs to be done, and to begin to work tirelessly toward these goals, recognizing that only our combined efforts will make a lasting difference in creating a place in which every person has the same opportunities to thrive and live life abundantly.

Zach graduated in 2011 and currently serves as the research assistant to President Mullen

The civil rights movement were events that I relegated to the past. These were moments in history that I thought put an end to racial inequality.

The Penultimate Word / On a Ticket-To-Heaven Mentality



by ELISA SHEARER

About two years ago I started attending an Anglican church regularly. It was the first time I had ever attended multiple liturgical services — one of the most surprising things to me, after I got over the water the priest was flicking at us, was that Communion happened every Sunday (in any other church I had been to it was only once a month). What was more was the reverence with which Communion was taken. My previous churches weren't irreverent, but Communion wasn't really a big deal at all. This was one of the first discrepancies I noticed between the liturgical service and my own non-denominational upbringing.

My confusion at the Anglican church was due to the fact that I had always learned throughout my childhood that Communion didn't really count — it was just a nice thing to do together to commemorate something. I strongly internalized the idea that there was nothing particularly important about the act of communion.

This seems like a small idea but it suggests something very significant about the more general physical world — that it doesn't matter either. More, it's evil — bodies are the source of

temptations and failings, and about as far from divinity as one can get.

This might sound borderline gnostic and/or heretical to some of you, but I think that at least some students might have also been surrounded by similar theologies at some point in their lives. The tone of the churches I attended — mostly Baptist, Bible, and non-denominational — and the Christian influences (radio networks, authors, etc.) inculcated in me the sense that we weren't so much as "in the world but not of it" but that we were "sort of in the world but definitely not of it nor part of it in any way."

Bodies were inconveniences, to be ignored or, ultimately, despised. I absorbed suggestions that at the rapture our purified souls would leave behind dead corpses. Theological issues and Biblical references like the Kingdom of God on Earth and the resurrection of the body — things having to do with the physical world — were ignored.

Even the Bible's physical existence was ignored. The first I ever heard of arguments about the canon, Athanasius' 367 letter, and all those people mad about James and Hebrews was at college. Before then, I think I just assumed that a copy of the KJV fell out of the sky a few hours after the Ascension. How could the Bible be put together by mere non-disciple humans, over a long period of time? I kept the book nicely separate and away from actual human history. This also suited my willful ignorance of the traditions of the Eucharist and other things that I filed under "weird things that Catholics do."

So I was marinated in this idea that the present world is an unholy place, and therefore not worth participating in, via a solemn practice of communion or crossing one's self or kneeling during services or repeating a liturgy or

anything else.

In my religious surroundings, the logical conclusion to the world's ungodliness was a huge focus on the afterlife and Heaven. Perhaps I'm being unjust to a necessarily simplified message aimed at young children, but when I was young, church seemed to be mostly about accepting Jesus to get to Heaven.

The prevailing Christian teachings in my life rarely addressed issues of the tensions of existence, and this lack of struggle or mystery was convenient for my young mind. Morality teachings warned against a displeased God, not dysfunctional relationships. Evangelism was never nuanced and existence was never complicated.

Everything seemed to point away from the present and toward the future — toward Heaven, which I was assured I would get to? if I said the right prayer. I repeated the inviting-Jesus-into-my-heart prayer once every few months when I was very young, because I was nervous that the first time didn't take (never had Jesus been so thoroughly invited, I was pretty sure).

The problem that I found was that all of this — the whole prevailing culture — pointed me toward a profound disconnect from the world.

If the only thing that matters is my ticket to Heaven, I began to ask myself, then what am I here for? If nothing of the present is holy in any way, I might as well try to expedite my exit, right? Or at least ignore everything until I get to leave?

These considerations troubled me,

and still do. I am not at all 100% gung-ho about either tran- or consubstantiation, nor do I cross myself consistently or demand that I only attend high liturgical masses involving incense burning and silk vestments. I really, as far as theology goes, have very little idea of what is going on.

But I do think that we, as evangelicals and Protestants, need to focus less on prepaid train tickets to Heaven and concern ourselves with trying to find a way to live a holy, engaging existence.

I don't want to argue against points of widely accepted Christian theology, or thoughtful readings of the Bible. I'm arguing against the notion that the only reason to live is for what we believe we get after death — this is, I think, imbued in the current culture; in the unthinking things we say about other doctrines and the assumptions we make about our own. And I think that it is ultimately destructive.

The ticket-to-Heaven idea is by no means ascribable to all of Christian theology, but it is prevalent, especially in Christian culture during the past century. Devaluing physical existence is, I think, an illogical and ultimately damaging thing, and before we talk about how silly Catholics are to believe in transubstantiation we might do well to consider the implications of our own philosophy.

Elisa is a senior English and psychology major

I learned that the present world is an unholy place, and therefore not worth participating in

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK / Desires and Values: What Defines Our Nature?



BY ANDRÉ NELSON

Adolescence and emerging adulthood are periods of self-reflection and self-discovery. It is a period not only where we slowly discover what we desire, but what we believe, what motivates us, and what fuels our passions. This is a time of discovering our "true selves." However, being "true to oneself" has become somewhat of a ubiquitous statement. Just what does it mean, and how as emerging adults should we approach this struggle?

This concept is a distinctive ideal of modern life; a dilemma, however, lies in the word "truth." An article in the New York Times featured the case of Mark Pierpont, a homosexual who "turned from his ways" and began a ministry to the gay communities in which he preached against the so-called sins of homosexuality. Yet through his ministry he admits that he continued to struggle with those desires, through his disgust for his desires

he stated "Good. I hate this. I hate sin, just like God hates sin."

Of course there are two responses to his struggle, the one being that he was born of a homosexual nature and society told him this was immoral, so being true to himself could only take place if he freed himself from the socio-religious "shackles" that bound him. The other response is that his true nature was found in his identity as a so-called Christian and succumbing to his desires was "betraying what is most essential to the person that he is."

Throughout the history of the development of society, individuality has rarely been praised as a good thing. In fact more often than not, individuality appears to be seen as something that threatens to destroy the very fabric upon which the society is built.

The thought "who am I" detached from the community in which "I" am in is not one that has been of much importance until recent times. This is not to say that there was no individual thought in ancient times -- the greatest works of philosophical thought have been produced since before the time of writing. But "Who am I," apart from community, is an irrelevant concept in a society in which survival is contingent on one's integration into that society.

Hunter-gatherer tribes focused on hunting and gathering. Early

societies may have had somewhat broader differentiation, but only as far as necessity would allow, so those who were of a more creative type may have produced clothes and other commodities while others hunted, harvested, and perhaps fought. As the industrial revolution rolled around there was more free time; with free time came increasing amount of opportunities, and with the array of opportunities came the crisis of identity.

No longer did the son of a farmer need to farm. No longer did the son of a shoemaker need to make shoes. They each had the opportunity to decide what they wanted to do, and what their passions were. What they were was not any longer contingent on where they came from, but on what they wanted.

Throughout the search for the meaning of "one's true self" there are two words that keep coming back: "desire" and "value." There appears to be a disparity between the two thoughts and as the shift from society to individuality happens there is simultaneously a shift between values and desires which are not always connected as in the case of Pierpont.

The reasons for beginning with the story of Mark Pierpont are to explore the extent of socio-religious institutions' influence in determining what truth is. Is being true to one's entirely determined by socio-religious

beliefs, or are we breaking away from that and discovering truth in one's self apart from society? In the case of Pierpont, there were two possibilities: that homosexuality was his identity, or that being a so-called Christian was his identity and that his homosexual desires were thwarting his struggle to maintain a pure life.

The issue with the Pierpont case and how it relates to other forms of self-expression is that of value judgment. The writer of the New York Times article stated, "People's ordinary understanding of the true self appears to involve a kind of value judgment, a judgment about what sorts of lives are really worth living."

Society, influenced by religion, has always determined values. However, is our "true self" contingent on society or does it lie in something else? Historically it has always rested in society. Faith and morality have both been institutionalized, but now we live in a society in which we all struggle to individualize. Is our true self found in our desires, or does it remain in values that have been established by society? Are the words of Polonius "This above all: to thine own self be true," misleading?

Andre is a sophomore communication major

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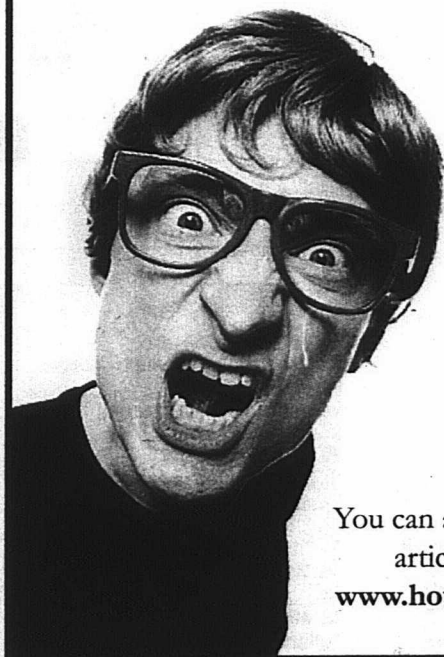
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ANDREA PACHECO

AARON FITZGERALD

I don't care much what medium I'm working in. I think, more than anything, I want my work to tell a story. Stories have had a huge impact on me since I was little. They are such a strong way to convey experience and emotion and to convict and inspire, and that is what I want to do with my life. I want to change the way that people look at things; get them out of a rut and show them that life is more beautiful than they remembered. It would make me happy to spend the rest of my life just telling people stories through all kinds of art.

Aaron is a junior art and communication double major with concentrations in drawing and visual media, respectively.

ARTIST OF THE WEEK



Clockwise from top:
Girl Reading Book, pastel
Utopia, photoshop image
SENTANTA, still frame of animated short

CROSSWORD: CLASSIC NOVELS

To win a free Java drink, bring your finished puzzle, clearly marked with your full name and CPO, to the Star office in the basement of the Campus Center by 6PM on WED 4/18.

Last week's winner was NATALIE VAN DER RIJST (who solved what the editors had intended to be an unsolvable April Fool's sudoku). Your Java card will be sent to you through campus mail.

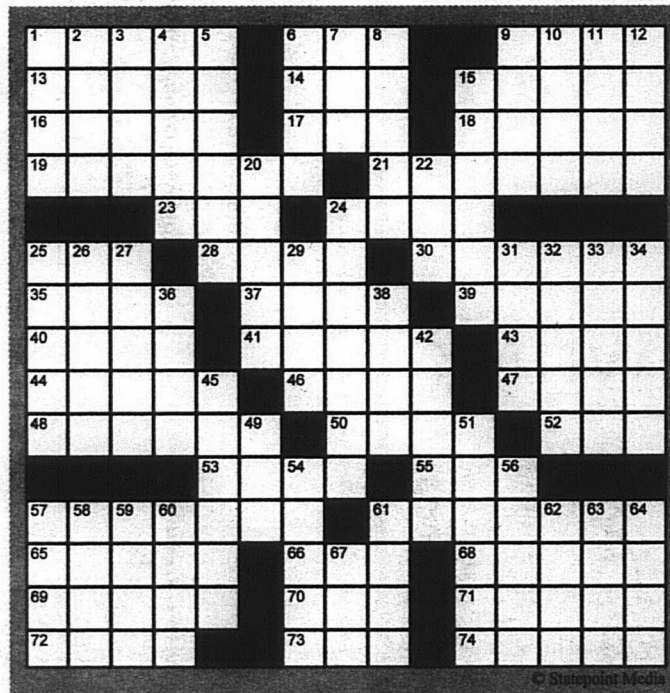
ACROSS

1. Harry Potter's antagonist
6. Hole puncher
9. Attention grabber
13. Beyond suburban
14. Sheepish cry
15. Supports climbing plants
16. Holmes would try to verify this
17. Make a mistake
18. Popular jewelry stone
19. Toni Morrison's Pulitzer winner
21. Emerald City visitor
23. Before tac
24. Sports award
25. Siesta
28. "A Clockwork Orange" protagonist
30. Performed alone
35. Away from wind
37. Heart feeling
39. Mother-of-pearl
40. Live bait
41. "Now _____ entertainment!"
43. Not Sunni
44. Used to call someone's attention, pl.
46. Expression of pain
47. Dissenting clique
48. Street of shops, especially in orient
50. Fraud or imposter
52. U Rah _____!
53. Mixed breed canine
55. _____ de Janeiro
57. "It chronicles Leopold Bloom's journey through Dublin."
61. Twist and Heep creator
65. _____ Protocol on climate change

66. Consumed
68. China Grass
69. NBA great _____ Baylor
70. St. Louis player
71. Speak one's mind
72. Make hot and dry
73. _____ Lanka
74. Used as fertilizer and explosive

DOWN

1. Not bright
2. "_____ of thumb"
3. Seed cover
4. 15th century North America explorer
5. Famous picture book pig
6. Tucked in
7. "One main topic in Tolstoy's 1869 classic"
8. Hog fat, pl.
9. Jumping stick
10. A team reserved for emergencies
11. Comedian with red, curly hair
12. 3-point shot
15. Heavy elementary particle
20. Enthusiastic approval
22. Roman goddess of fertility



24. Car emission, e.g.
25. Honoric title given to Muslim rulers
26. Central Pacific greeting
27. Actress Rosie
29. Repeating sound
31. Lad's counterpart
32. Autumn color
33. "Fear of Flying" author Jong
34. "It happened in Venice"
36. Jane Austen classic
38. _____ A Sketch
42. African river, also spelled "Charl"

45. Dallah's trusting victim
49. Street in Paris
51. One millionth of a meter
54. Former Russian leaders
56. Giraffe-like African animal
57. Short for ukuleles
58. Singer/actor Lovett
59. Hindu discipline
60. Evoke emotion
61. Ashton's ex
62. Give off
63. Number of baseball fielders
64. Tiresias in "Oedipus Rex," e.g.
67. Smoker's lung residue