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ARTS AND SPORTS, P. 4

the houghton STAR

Houghton College's Student Newspaper Since 1909

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MEILAENDER'S RESEARCH DURING SABBATICAL BREAKS NEW GROUND

BILL CLUNN

Professor Meilaender, political science, is on sabbatical this semester. While the words for "sabbatical" in Latin, Greek, and Hebrew connote a "ceasing," Meilaender has kept himself very busy as he translates and researches the works of early 19th century Swiss-German author Jeremias Gotthelf.

In the United States the works of Gotthelf are few. Meilaender said that, "almost nothing he wrote has been translated into English" further explaining that he probably has, "the best Gotthelf library in the States."

Meilaender first heard about Gotthelf while reading a work by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, in which Bonhoeffer mentions Gotthelf and explains that his readings were very enjoyable and interesting. Meilaender followed up on this reference while visiting Switzerland. In particular, Meilaender soon developed a keen interest in Gotthelf's writings of fiction in which characters would dialogue about the major political issues of the time including topics such as socialism, communism and industrialization, to name only a few.

Gotthelf, who was a pastor in a small fairly conservative Swiss village, wrote while living through several French revolutions and the Napoleonic Wars. He called himself a

republican (lower case), and warned that Europe was coasting towards far-left political philosophy which, in his opinion, went against Christian doctrines. His contemporaries Alexis de Tocqueville of France and earlier statesman Edmund Burke of England were all, at the time, discussing similar issues focusing around the same centennial period.

Gotthelf novellas are well-known in Switzerland and Germany (where the novella is more commonly accepted in literary circles than it is in

the United States). However, most of his fiction tends to average at the 500 page mark. By the time Gotthelf turned 20 years old, he had written 42 volumes, 60% of which was fiction. He is regarded as one of the top three 19th century Swiss authors and actively pursued reforming Swiss poverty law and education. The Willard J. Houghton library possesses one book written by Gotthelf "on order," another book by him in the stacks, and

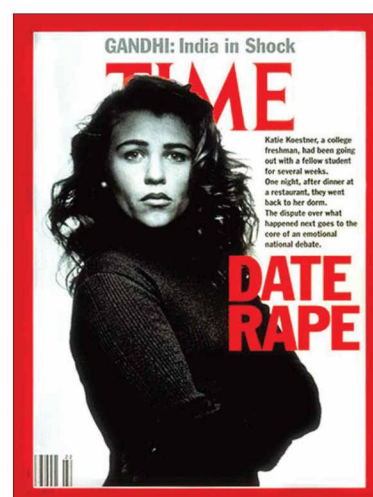
See MEILAENDER RESEARCH page 3



HOUGHTON.EDU

Professor Meilaender is a professor of political science

Take Back the Night Event at Houghton: A Stand Against Sexual Violence



TIME.COM

Katie Koestner on the cover of TIME

KATHARINE LABRECQUE

The term "date rape," as it is used today, is familiar to many adults and adolescents living in the twenty-first century. Studies have shown that more women have been raped on dates by their boyfriends than by strangers.

In 2001, to address this issue, one date rape victim committed to speak out against rape culture. Katie Koestner lead the initiative and, along with other victims, established Take Back

See TBTN page 3

Student Publications Plan For the Rest of the Semester and Next Year

EMILY MORROW

The Lanthorn and *The Drawing Board* will be finishing up the year with some new events. *The Lanthorn* will be releasing a staff edition of the publication and will host a storytelling night. *The Drawing Board* will be ending this semester with a color issue for the first time in at least four years.

Both the editors of *The Lanthorn*, Megan Specksgoor and Hannah Hanner, as well as Patricia Powles, the editor of *The Drawing Board*, will be graduating at the end of this semester, and so new editors will be coming to take their place. Leah Doty, junior, will be replacing Powles as editor of *The Drawing Board* and the next editor of *The Lanthorn* has not been chosen yet. Applications for this position are available online through Survey Monkey, and they are due no later than Monday, April 15.

See STUDENT PUBLICATIONS page 2



ANDREA PACHECO

Students share some of their literary work during the Lanthorn anniversary festivities in Java 101 a few weeks ago.

POLITICS / PRESIDENT OBAMA UNVEILS BUDGET PROPOSAL



ANDREA PACHECO

SARAH HUTCHINSON

This past Wednesday, President Obama unveiled a new budget plan to be sent to Congress. Obama's proposal will also be considered next to other plans that have already been proposed, including, most notably, two separate competing plans drawn up by Representative Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) in the House and Senator Patty Murphy (D-Wash.) in the Senate.

Obama's proposal, a ten year plan, calls for about \$300 billion in new spending measures for employment and public works. The plan calls for, among other things, an extra charge of 94 cents added to the cost of a pack of

cigarettes. (The proceeds from the charge will be used to help finance programs for preschool education, programs that Obama mentioned in the State of the Union Address earlier this year.) Besides this striking feature, the plan will also call for major tax increases. Specifically, it \$700 billion in new tax increases for the wealthy which, not unexpectedly, does not please many Republicans in Congress. However, the President has also made several concessions to Republicans, such as reducing Medicare benefits for wealthy couples.

By far, however, the largest concession that the President's plan offers the Republicans is to reduce Social Security by applying a chained consumer price index (chained CPI) that will be less generous in calculating benefits. (Along with Social Security, the chained CPI will index spending and taxes by tying them directly to the rate of inflation.) Compared to the old model of calculating benefits, the new formula will cause benefits to tick up at a much slower rate. This is expected to save the federal government about \$130 billion within the next ten years.

This is a bold step by the President, as trimming Social Security is often considered untouchable by the members of his own party. Some Republicans in Senate are pleased with the concession and see this as a point where Republicans and Democrats can begin to compromise, though many Republicans advocate for high-

er Social Security costs. Other Republicans, however, do not see Obama's move as a conciliatory measure and do not think that the concession really reforms entitlements. According to the Washington Post, Representative Ryan said that, "I don't see this as fundamental entitlement reform as much as clarifying a statistic which does happen to save money."

Obama's proposal comes several days late - 65 days, to be exact. Usually in Washington, the president is the one to initiate discussions on the budget but, with several fiscal crises in the first quarter of this year, Obama's initiative was delayed and the Senate and House of Representatives have already proceeded with their own initiatives.

Republican congressional plans generally seek to balance the budget within ten years and cut spend-

ing. Their counterparts, Democrat congressional plans, also seek to reduce deficit, but not to balance the budget. President Obama's plan is no different in this respect. Regarding the level of national debt, one Republican plan from the House will level off debt within ten years, but another plan submitted by the Republican Study Committee would reduce it significantly. Obama's plan, like other Democrat plans, will not reduce national debt significantly and will continue to let it to swell.

Budget talks in the upcoming weeks will continue to be debated. Make sure to keep an eye on the news as congressional and executive leaders decide on the fiscal direction of the United States.



MONEY.CNN.COM

President Obama announces his \$3.77 trillion budget proposal for 2014



STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

from page 1

“She [Leah Doty] is going to be great,” said Powles.

The Drawing Board hopes that the color issue will be much different than the regular issues not only because it is in color, but also because it will hopefully be a larger in size.

The Lanthorn's last publication this year will be an issue with all staff material; usually, *The Lanthorn* takes submissions from the student body and then as a staff chooses which pieces to publish. By publishing an all-staff issue, *The Lanthorn* hopes to show a different side of their publication.

“People doesn't always realize that we have very creative and talented staff,” said Specksgoor.

As part of their year-end activities, *The Lanthorn* will also be hosting a storytelling night.

“We want to go back to the oral tradition,” said Specksgoor.

In looking ahead to the coming years, the current *Lanthorn* editors plan to encourage the new editors next year to start a website, which would offer the opportunity for creative writers at Houghton to get their work published to a larger audience.

A website could also open up Houghton to prospective students. Hanover said, “That way when prospective writing students and art students look at [the website] they see a

TBTN from page 1

the Night (TBTN), the first nationally recognized charitable 501(c) 3 foundation.

On Thursday, April 18, Houghton will host its own TBTN event. Students have the opportunity to march around the campus and “speak out” against sexual violence. Survivors or friends and family of survivors will be invited to share their stories with the campus. As one of the organizers, Lydia Strand, senior, said, “I think having Take Back the Night here at Houghton is so important because we are often afraid of honestly talking about sexual abuse in our own communities and in our own families.”

The TBTN events will begin with a kick-off party on Monday April 15 at 6 p.m. in the campus center. Printed Matter Press will be printing the TBTN logo on shirts or other items that students bring. At 7 p.m. that evening, there will be a panel discussion of rape culture in America in the third floor library room 323.

On Wednesday April 17, religion professor Kristina LaCelle-Peterson will be leading chapel. She will also be available for lunch afterwards. The final event of the week is a march around the quad starting at 8 p.m. on Thursday April 18 at the chapel steps. There will be a station during the march focusing on statistics and headlines about rape, followed by a

station incorporating a poetry reading, and finishing with a station involving a communal art project. The march will be followed by a speakout in the chapel and a prayer service in the chapel basement.

Naomi Woosley, an alumna of Houghton, is also one of the TBTN organizers. Woosley said, “We seek to empower and promote healing for survivors of sexualized violence who are in our campus community. One goal for this year’s TBTN is to open our eyes to rape culture and beginning to realize the subtle (and not-so-subtle) ways in which our culture—sometimes even our church culture—contributes to it.”

The TBTN foundation’s mission is to eliminate all forms of sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and sexual abuse. Woosley emphasized that, “A person’s gender—a person’s physical existence—should not be cause for that person to fear for her or his safety.”

Sharing stories and experiences reminds individuals that sexualized violence is not okay, despite what rape culture suggests. Speaking out can help break the cycle of violence. For more information on the Take Back the Night Foundation, visit their website at <http://takebackthenight.org/> or contact Sydnie Cunningham to learn more about Houghton’s Take Back The Night events. ★

take back the NIGHT

April 15 – 18
Events

Monday (15th):
Kick-off Party
Printing by Printed Matter Press
Campus Center @ 6 PM

Panel Discussion of
Rape Culture in America
Library, Room 323 @ 7 PM

Wednesday (17th):
Chapel + Lunch,
Kristina LaCelle-Peterson

Thursday (18th):
March Around the Quad + Speak Out
Chapel Steps @ 8 PM

Come join us! Take back the night
+
make public spaces safe again.

Sponsored by: the Psychology Club

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS cont’d

venue for publishing.”

Hanover and Specksgoor hope for new editors who share a similar vision for *The Lanthorn* next year: one that allows for branching out and reaching all of Houghton’s community.

“We really want it to be less of a ‘here are twenty English majors on a pedestal’ kind of thing . . . we really want [*The Lanthorn*] to be more open so that everyone can feel included,” said editor Specksgoor. ★

A Letter From the Student Financial Services Office

Dear Students,

Houghton campus is finally starting to thaw and that means a season of preparing for finals, getting ready for Mayterm, graduation and most importantly- letting loose on the long-awaited summer. However, this time of year also marks another season: that of readying ourselves for the upcoming financial school year. FAFSAs are completed and packages for both incoming and returning students are rolling out the doors of the financial aid office.

This year timing is especially important because it marks a new policy change for The Student Financial Services Office at Houghton College. Students have been receiving emails regarding this policy change- the introduction of EBilling which keeps us in-line with Federal Regulations regarding tuition overload; SALT, which will help students understand their financial responsibilities, enforcement of Church Match deadlines, and a comprehensive checklist to ensure all students are financially registered before returning to campus next year.

In previous years Houghton has given much grace when it comes to financial registration. Over the years we have seen this result in frustrating situations for our students. Students arrive on campus excited for a new semester and quickly become involved in academics, activities and friends. The last thing they want is to add financial strain to their lives. For that reason the new policy will strictly enforce that a student must be paid in full before he or she arrives on campus in August.

The process to be financially registered has not changed dramatically. Students will receive their tuition bills in July. Bills will be due August 16th. Students will be expected to pay the bill by that date. This means that any alternative

payment plans and loan applications should already be in place and approved. After August 16th it will then be too late to apply for loans or make other arrangements.

Until a student formulates and communicates a plan in conjunction with SFSO to pay their bill, their housing key will be withheld, a stop put on their account, and their meal plan frozen. The intent of this is to alleviate the frustration and stress that accompanies long overdue bills.

If the student has a special circumstance where the usual payment plans and methods are not possible, they must communicate this with SFSO so that an acceptable alternative payment method can be decided upon before the 16th of August.

Once a student has reached a \$0.00 balance on their account, an email will be sent confirming this. The email will act as financial clearance to return to campus, move into their housing and attend classes.

The hope is that through this strict financial policy, the billing process will be easier and smoother for both our students and the institution. Our intention is to engage with families and work through their plans at earlier dates so that the burdens of finance do not linger over the heads of students as a new semester starts. In addition SFSO will be able to proceed efficiently and without the fear of financial dismissal of students we feel should not have to leave our campus prematurely. Moving forward we are optimistic about the new policy and we are looking forward to August where we will find all students financially registered and ready to start a fresh year of academics, activities and friends.

Sincerely,
Sally Murphy
Financial Services Receptionist,
Student Financial Services Office

MEILAENDER RESEARCH from page 1

a brief biography of him also in the stacks. All of these books are written in either Hoch Deutsch or Swiss-German, languages that very few students speak. Thus, the work that Meilaender is undertaking this semester will be of great academic benefit to Houghton College and others.

Specifically, Meilaender is presently in the midst of a long and difficult process in translating several of Gotthelf’s works and compiling a comparative political philosophy book in which Gotthelf’s theories will be compared to other political philosophers of his time.

The struggle throughout this process has been translating Swiss-German as a non-speaker. Dr. Meilaender, who is quite able to translate from German to English, is reading in Swiss-German which, though similar to German, is still a unique and complex language. Presently, Meilaender

is translating a Gotthelf novella *The Son of Tell*, which is a Swiss version of the famous *Wilhelm Tell* story. During his interview for *The Star*, Dr. Meilaender explained that though translation is easier when he can take his time and read the language, he is stretching his translation skills with Gotthelf. He expressed that Swiss radio podcasts have been helping him develop better skillful translation of the language, but the translations are still coming slowly.

This sabbatical for Meilaender has been a time of intense, and enjoyable, academic research into the works of a lesser known political philosopher and Christian.

Through his work, Meilaender shows us that while the pursuit of knowledge may be lengthy and difficult, it ultimately provides satisfaction and new opportunities for more than oneself. ★

Atoms For Peace Release Album



Album artwork for Amok

BEN MURPHY

Atoms for Peace is variously referred to as either a supergroup ‘including’ or a side-project ‘belonging to’ its most famous and influential member, Radiohead’s Thom Yorke. Technically speaking, it might better be described as a supergroup

formed as the result of a side project of a side project, considering that the band’s first and only album originated due to a string of live performances of Yorke’s 2006 solo release, which was, in itself, a foray away from Radiohead.

It was in 2009 that Flea (bassist for Red Hot Chili Peppers), Mauro Refrosco (Forro in the Dark percussionist and tour performer for Red Hot Chili Peppers), Nigel Godrich (Radiohead producer), and Joey Waronker (Beck and R.E.M percussion journeyman) joined Yorke to provide live renditions of his highly computer-generated *The Eraser*. The chemistry and material developed during the practice sessions for this tour period would, several years later, materialize into the group’s February 2013 *Amok*.

Though surely crucial to the finished product, the names of the producers and percussionists are, perhaps unsurprisingly, not nearly as eye catching as is the renowned moniker Flea. Almost always performing in some state of undress, this is the same Flea who, in the early days of RHCP, joined his bandmates on stage wearing nothing more than a single, strategically placed sock; it is also, perhaps less famously, the same Flea who voiced the feral child character of “Donnie” in the now classic cartoon show, The Wild Thornberrys.

Such a past doesn’t seem to immediately accord with Yorke’s social activism and highbrow music recognition. The seeming disparities between Yorke’s public image as the chic albeit weird British vegan and Flea’s long, and very punk American history are bridged by a single word: ability. Only a bassist with the technical skill and acumen that Flea has would stand a chance of turning anything that Yorke made on his laptop into a playable, performable track.

Flea is evident throughout *Amok*, making himself immediately apparent

Film Festival TONIGHT

HOLLY CHAISSON

The annual Film Festival is on Friday, April 12 this year, a night for Houghton’s amateur filmmakers to showcase their current creative endeavors. The first event of the evening, a formal event, will first feature a “Blue-Hue” pre-party that will be hosted at 8 p.m. in the Van Dyk lounge.

The competition, following the pre-party, will take place in Wesley Chapel promptly at 9 p.m. As in any competition, the judging and awards will follow the screenings. Categories this year range from animation and comedy to commercial and drama. According to one of the judges in the competition, Sally Murphy, points are awarded according to different elements of the films such as acting, directing, and cinematography.

The awards are given for achievements such as best actor or actress, best cinematography, best editing, and of course, best picture. The competitive nature of the festival aside, contestant Aaron Fitzgerald, senior, regards it as an opportunity to “celebrate the work of filmmakers on campus.” Cory Martin, junior, said that the purpose of the festival is a chance for students to proudly “display their art to the public.”

Expectations are high for this year’s turnout. “In the past, the Houghton Film Festival has been a big letdown

for me. The content was not good. It did not provide a good context to show something you had worked hard on. It was a popularity contest,” said Fitzgerald. “On further inspection, the quality of work and the attitudes of the people submitting films this year seems to be a much higher level and I am happy that I submitted something.”

Submissions this year range from the serious to the comical; “some are stupid and make you scratch your head and laugh, and others are on a more serious note,” senior contestant Andrew Jones said. From an animation film based on a Richard Simmons’ dance video submitted by Martin, to a short film-poem that adapts *Ulysses* by Tennyson entered by Fitzgerald, this year’s entries are sure to both entertain and encourage thought-provoking dialogue for filmmakers and attendees alike.

This evening would not be possible, of course, without the interest of Houghton students in the art of filmmaking. Jones is looking forward to the Festival as an opportunity to showcase his videos on a larger scale than the in-class critique. Jones said, “Video is such a big part of our culture and it’s great when I can contribute my own ideas and stories. I just enjoy telling stories through film, and much like writing, acting, singing, or painting, film is

See FILM on page 5

CALENDAR

4/12

Houghton Musical Theatre Players
present *Annie*
BB vs Stevens Institute of Technology
SB @ Stevens Institute of Technology
Men's and Women's Choir Concert
“Blue Hue” Film Fest Pre-party
7th Annual Student Film Festival

4/13

T & F @ Roberts Wesleyan Invitational
BB vs Stevens Institute of Technology
SB @ Elmira
MLAX @ Keuka
Jazz Combo & Big Band Performance
Houghton Musical Theatre Players
present *Annie*

4/15

Student Recital: Robert Martin, organ
Graduate Recital: William Strydhorst,
organ

4/16

WLAX vs Nazareth

4/17

SB vs Medaille College
MLAX vs Wells College
BB vs D'Youville
Student Recital: Kendra Andrews,
voice and Liesl McCloskey, flute
Graduate Recital: Dewi Thio, piano
WG @Keuka Spring Invitational

4/18

MG @Keuka Spring Invitational

All information from
houghton.edu/calendar-events/

Things to Eat



PHOTO COURTESY OF ISABEL SANDERS
Finnish pulla bread

ISABEL SANDERS

The first time I made bread, it turned out like a rock. I asked my mom what had happened. You killed the yeast, she told me. If you want to make bread, know this before anything: don’t add boiling water to the yeast. If the recipe says warm water, then that does not mean boil water and let it cool for a few minutes before using it. My sister does that, but I’m wary. I turn the hot water faucet on as hot as it will go.

There are basically two kinds of breads: quick breads and yeast breads. Quick breads include things like banana bread. Yeast breads take much longer to bake, roughly two hours give or take for the whole process, and include your typical sandwich breads. You can make an enormous variety of breads. I used to make bread every Sunday morning last year when I lived

in a townhouse. I started with basic wheat bread: water, yeast, butter, a little brown sugar, wheat and white flour. Then I branched off into other wheat bread recipes. Then oatmeal and rye. Finnish pulla.

After you realize that warm water does not mean boiling water, making bread is pretty simple, especially if you choose a standard recipe like the one outlined above. Things get more complicated if you branch off, but if you can buy ingredients and read a recipe, you’ll be fine. For example, rye flour and the caraway seeds make rye bread rye. Trying out new bread recipes might mean buying other kinds of flour, adding molasses, eggs, or even cocoa powder to your dough, or shaping the dough into braids or circles.

Baking bread usually occurs in this sequence: mix ingredients, knead dough for eight minutes, let dough rise in bowl for an hour, punch risen dough and form into loaves, let dough rise for half an hour, bake for thirty minutes. And the result? A slice of bread way heartier and tastier than the flimsy pieces you usually find in the grocery store. Kneading bread can also be therapeutic. Don’t have time to make bread? Try walking down to the co-op and buying some of theirs. Yum, I mean YUM.

Lastly I would advise future bread makers not to be afraid of failing. Even a semi-experienced bread maker like me still has the occasional rock loaf that didn’t rise. Just feed it to the birds and try again! ★

See AMOK on page 5

New Tennis Coach Selected

AMANDA IRWIN

Next fall, yet another sport will be introduced to the athletic department at Houghton: tennis. Coach Charlie Ellis will lead both the men’s and women’s teams.

Ellis has over 30 years of experience within the tennis world. He began learning what he could at a young age until he joined the tennis program at the University of Georgia. Ellis was ranked eighth in college tennis and then went on to be first in the state of Georgia, earning a World ATP top-300 ranking. From there Ellis went on to coach and then settled into the field of club management, where he has stayed for over 20 years.

The nationwide search to find Houghton’s first tennis coach was extensive and competitive, in hopes of finding a near perfect fit to Houghton’s athletic program. Athletic Director, Harold Lord, said that Ellis was ideal for this position. Lord believes that Ellis will be a “quality member to the department, campus, and community”.

Up to this point Ellis has developed numerous tennis programs for all ages and skill levels ranging anywhere from toddlers to elite adult players. He also spent time as the general manager for Sportime Fitness in Schenectady, NY where he taught lessons to over 100 players. In addition, Ellis founded Fair Play Tennis, a company dedicated to helping young athletes create individual plans to enjoy and succeed at playing the game of tennis.

Ellis approaches this new opportunity with three principles in mind. He begins with the foundation of a faith based team with players

who “show a godly respect for one another.” His next principle is that each athlete will have a particular group of people who will be devoted to promoting and maintaining his or her academics. Lastly, Ellis wants the team to “enjoy the journey of getting better at tennis.”

As Ellis looks forward to the upcoming season, he is eager to be working at a college level again. He said he wants to “get as many people involved and interested as possible in embracing the game of tennis.”

Lord said that the addition of tennis will hopefully create a different atmosphere on campus, spurring students to play recreationally. He said that, “tennis is an intercollegiate sport that will last a lifetime.”

As a result of the integration of NCAA tennis into the athletic program at Houghton, the first season will have an abbreviated schedule. The season is also split, with the women’s team beginning with their Empire 8 conference meets in the fall while the men’s team participates in non-conference events. The teams will then switch in the spring.

Each team will consist of approximately 12 to 15 individuals who will play both singles and doubles matches. The season will conclude in the spring with the NCAA National Championship.

Bethany Chesebro, freshman, began playing tennis sophomore year in high school. She chose Houghton knowing that there were plans to form a tennis team. Chesebro said she is excited “about being part of a team and being challenged at a more competitive level.” ★

AMOK *from Page 4*

in the opening track, “Before Your Eyes,” and particularly integral in tracks such as “Stuck Together Pieces” and “Reverse Running.” Without his invigorating line delivered starting a minute into “Dropped,” something like a sped-up version of Weezer’s “Only in the Dreams,” the track would lose both momentum and appeal.

Although neither the riffs nor the jumpy, explorative bass are completely beyond the punk and funk roots with which he is so long acquainted, Flea does, overall, settle into an uncharacteristically understated role. His consistent bouncing along underneath Yorke’s familiar “Creep” croon and varying degrees of synth inundation doesn’t so much overwhelm the Chili Peppers legend as it does sublimate him, making him more of a textural accent than a center of attention.

While playing find-the-Flea throughout *Amok* provides a familiar point of reference, navigating the more computerized extremities of the album is a much more nebulous task. Speaking to *Rolling Stone* about the sessions that produced the album, Yorke commented, “One of the things we were most excited about was ending up with a record where you weren’t quite sure where the human starts and the machine ends.”

This certainly seems to be the effect.

There are points in certain tracks that seem to occur in a realm entirely above where traditional instruments and voices can follow, such as the whole of “Ingenué” or the psychobabble interlude in “Unless.” Luckily for the group, this ethereal realm also happens to be where Yorke’s voice seems most comfortable.

Whatever the finer technicalities behind the particular indefinable noises happens to be, it is hard not to appreciate them simply for their immaculate precision. They are hard to explain and figure out, but, somehow, they “just work” and we appreciate it. Indeed, isn’t this the way we often think about and thank our machines? This, it seems, is precisely Yorke and company’s point.

While both the intriguing collaborative product of RHCP and Radiohead and the mysteriously alluring mechanization are worth considering, *Amok* is, as a whole, a journey to nowhere. The album lacks the energy and smart distinctions, subtle or otherwise, needed to alert the listener to progress or development. There are no maps and no landmarks; a writer for *Pitchfork* describes it as “giving a perpetual sense of jogging in place.” It is ironic that an album which ends with the repeated lines, “to run amok, run amok, run amok,” does, in fact, pan out like a treadmill stuck on some useless in-between speed. ★

FILM *from Page 4*

just another way you can tell a story in an engaging and entertaining way.”

Senior Nicholas Quigley said, “I wanted to submit my piece to share with my friends what I actually do as a communication major.” His entry, *Visions*, is a submission in the Drama category; he said that his piece “is an ambiguous piece that takes you on a journey in and out of this guy’s head as he deals with his darkest time in his life. What I love about the piece is its ambiguity that leaves the viewer open to interpreting it as they want.”

This year’s Film Festival is a celebration of film that offers a chance to view some fantastic amateur films by fellow students. Murphy said that it is an opportunity to “feel a little Hollywood glam,” making this an event that students will not want to miss. ★



Things to Do



PHOTO COURTESY OF GORDON ARBER

Glassware at Delectable Collectables

KATHERINE BAKER

Some of our readership may not be aware that Houghton Safety and Security’s very own Gordon Arber is also a small business owner. He and his wife Debbie own Delectable Collectables, formerly The Old Garage next to the firehall in Angelica on West Main Street.

“I’ve been dealing in antiques and collectibles for at least 30 years,” Arber said. “I just love it.” Delectable Collectables offers a diverse selection of glassware, furniture, comics, toys, primitives, records, jewelry and art. The inventory is constantly changing.

“I always wanted to have my own co-op, and then this building was available in Angelica, so we tried it on a rent to own basis,” said Arber. This is their fourth year owning the business, and he and his wife were able to buy the building last year.

Delectable Collectables has around 25 vendors that rent space, and last year they were able to purchase 20 new display cases. They rent the display cases to vendors, and

vendors can also pay for space in the store by the square foot. “Many of my vendors have sales periodically,” Gordon said.

I have had the opportunity to visit Delectable Collectables myself, and my favorite part of the trip was the \$1 grab bag. After spending an hour browsing in the shop, it felt silly to leave with nothing, and this was a cheap but unique option.

Each grab bag is a surprise; after purchase you can open it and see what little treasures you are coming away with. My favorites were an old pin, a tiny address book, and a diva tattoo. It was exciting to discover what was in my grab bag!

Delectable Collectables is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. year round. “Like” their page on Facebook, and stop by the shop next time you are in Angelica to support a community member and a local family-owned business. As Arber said, “It’s a fun place just to come and browse and go down memory lane.”

Ambiguity and Confusion in the Imitation of God



TED JANNEY

As a kid, my parents bravely took me on a trip to the geysers at Yellowstone National Park. This was daring because they were taking me out on a wooden walkway, surrounded by boiling water mixed with sulfur. I remember being terrified that the wooden structure would break, and my entire family would plummet to our boiling doom. I thought it much better to remain on the dry land, away from the scary wooden walkway, where nothing bad could possibly happen.

My mother would have none of this. She had dragged two squawling toddlers across the continent, and had no intention of remaining on the boring, dry land when she could be walking six inches above a boiling geyser.

As I loudly denounced her, she dragged me by my skinny wrist out to the observation platform. Every time I tried to bolt, she would bring me back, until it finally dawned on me that the wooden walkway was not in fact going to plunge us into Nature’s cauldron.

As a senior in high school, I was pulled aside by a well-meaning, but very conservative, friend. He was afraid that “those professors” with their theories would undermine my pure, simple, uncritical faith. He was afraid I would wander off the walkway of faith, and boil to death in the sulfurous world of academics. Little did he know how correct he would prove to be.

At Houghton, I have learned to doubt. I have learned to doubt simple answers, quick replies and the reduction of life to the formulaic. There are very few parts of my pre-college life that I haven’t learned to doubt. Morality? Check. Faith? Check. Political affiliation? Check. Social views? Check. Star Wars vs. Star Trek? Check. The list goes on and on, until at last I realize that I have, at some point or another throughout my college years, held every single opinion on almost every issue Out There in the world. I have waffled between the isms like a sail in a crosswind.

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I also doubt whether this is a bad thing.

There must be a space for ambiguity in this world. Back on that wooden walkway in Yellowstone, I was convinced we were about to top-ple into the geyser. My four year old brain knew nothing about structural integrity or about the fact that wood floats on water. I didn’t know that the government sent out inspectors to make sure that no one plunged to their doom in the geyser. The entire regulatory and building structure of modern society was almost entirely unknown to me. I hadn’t learned to trust the world.

Nor would I have learned about the trustworthiness of modern carpentry if I hadn’t eventually wandered out onto that wooden walkway.

The only way to learn to trust is to nearly fall into boiling water. I could hardly have known, later in life, that airport terminal arms, skyscrapers, bridges, or the infamous road climbing into the Dalmatian hillside called “The Stairway to Heaven” were reliable if I hadn’t learned to trust that walkway.

Similarly, I could hardly learn to trust modern society and its multitude of intellectual, spiritual and moral develop-

ments without going through a period of complete bewilderment and ambiguity. As human beings, we can’t learn without experiencing confusion, and we can’t love without feeling pain.

Houghton’s official religion, Christianity, contains this belief at its core. God entered the particularity and confusion of human existence, and felt pain, in order that we might understand love.

Here’s to ambiguity and confusion in imitation of God. Here’s to inching out slowly, ever so slowly, onto the wooden walkway. Here’s to continuing to study and analyze and synthesize. May you never wander off the walkway, but please don’t remain back on the land looking anxious. If I try to bolt to the land, make sure I don’t succeed, and when you try to bolt I’ll drag you back to the observation deck. The confusion and the uncertainty is good, and ambiguity is actually healthy, for this is the only way to learn to love. May God protect us all from the denial of confusion, and the elimination of ambiguity. ★

Ted Janney is a senior history major

Ex Mea Sententia / Pros and Cons of Cultural Identity: Part 3 of 3



ANDRE NELSON

When we (Andre and Lydia) began this series before Easter break, we were coming to the idea of cultural identity with vastly different perspectives. Andre came to the idea with strong reservations. He believed that diversity, ultimately, is fodder for conflict and violence. Lydia tried to combat this point of view, saying that pride in background and culture can foster community and peace. However, both of our arguments relied heavily on specific, situational evidence. Andre talked about the lasting effects of the Armenian genocide. Lydia discussed solutions to violence in areas of South America. We recognize that these are inadequate examples to prove our respective points, and we also



LYDIA WILSON

recognize that the extreme poles we’ve presented are in need of some kind of common ground. So, in this third and final segment of our series, we will strive to accomplish two things. First, an acknowledgement of the larger and more general issues relating to cultural diversity; second, a realistic compromise between our opposing viewpoints in light of this broader perspective.

Historically, culture has been a product of necessity. Traditions and customs grew as a result of specific geographical locations. While this is still true to some extent, we live in an increasingly globalized society. Culture has become much less dependent on location, which quite frequently changes and even less frequently affects daily life, and more dependent upon the interaction of hu-

mans with various backgrounds. It results less in diversification, and more in convergence.

This development would seem to take away from the solution found in Lydia’s article, which focused on how attachment to the land sponsors responsibility and stewardship, which would extend to human beings. Granted, this was a metaphor for cross-cultural interactions, but it still relied heavily on the traditional sense of culture, rather than the globalized sense. Technology makes travel easier, and often there is not a single location that an individual feels any particular attachment to; even if this wasn’t the case, technology has also significantly decreased the interaction between an individual and the environment.

In his conclusion, Andre raises the question of whether or not globalization will eventually bring peace. He hopes that the continued combining of cultures will eventually result in a breakdown of culture as a whole. This would accomplish his vision of peace because he draws connections between contrasts of culture and clashes of civilization. If cultures continue to blend together, borrow from each other, and cover the globe, an erasure of culture altogether could be an expected result.

However, rather than speculate on what globalization may or may not cause in the future, we agree that it is impor-

tant to examine the current effects. Globalization is presently causing an increased awareness of cultures that are still very diverse. Where before, as Andre pointed out, violence grew out of a misunderstanding of cultures, now we have the ability to understand. We have the opportunity to meet people with a history different from our own.

We cannot deny the fact that, as Andre stated, there is a correlation between culture and violence, whether or not the former necessarily instigates the latter. But, in the globalization that Andre wishes for, we can perhaps find the kind of peace that Lydia hopes for—that of positive communication between cultures. It is important that, as Christians and especially as students at Houghton College, we seek to find solutions in this vein. As Christians we are called to strive for peace. As students at Houghton, we are called to celebrate diversity. With a healthy acceptance of the hard truths that Andre revealed and a hope for the sense of community praised in Lydia’s article, we can perhaps use the reality of globalization to these ends. ★

*Andre is a senior communication major
Lydia is a junior art and writing major*

Where before, violence grew
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of cultures, now we have the
ability to understand.

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cultures will eventually result
in a breakdown of culture as
a whole.

FROM THE EDITORIAL STAFF / Students Shouldering Unnecessary Responsibility

It may seem as if all The Star ever writes about is Senate, but perhaps that is because interesting things do in fact take place there.

Sometimes it is not even the funding requests or committee updates themselves, which are the real issues and discussion-starters for Houghton's student government, but rather the implications that come with these seemingly basic requests.

Climbing Club approached the Senate with a request for \$1,000 to go towards renovations for the climbing wall and shoe closet. Usually the Climbing Club makes a request for \$1,000 toward a specific climbing trip's expenses. In the past, the club has gone to Colorado, Canada, and several other prime climbing locations.

This year, the club chose to forfeit their trip in order to use the funds to repair the climbing wall. As of now, the small holes and other damages to the wall pose a problem to climbers, particularly small children, who come to the wall on Mondays when it is open to community members.

It is not surprising that the club is making the effort to pay for repairs and

renovations to the equipment that they use every day. They take pride in what they can offer to students and community members, and they want to see everyone safe and satisfied.

What is surprising is that a student organization on campus has to go to another student organization in order to find the funding to repair part of Houghton College's facilities. We at the Star are not entirely sure when the maintenance and upkeep, and the necessary finances, of the college's facilities and grounds ever became the responsibility of students.

And though the SGA has plenty of money to pass around to different clubs and organizations on campus, it is not the SGA's responsibility to see that renovations are made to a climbing wall that poses safety hazards. According to Tyler Kempney, president of the club, the wall has recently passed inspection, but that does not mean that a small child could not get his or her fingers or hands stuck in small holes and cracks in the wall while climbing. This could easily

lead to serious injuries and the damages could also lead to a loss of interest in rock climbing.

We sincerely appreciate the efforts of the Climbing Club to provide a safe environment; what we take issue with is not their actions. But what we can not reconcile is why they have had to even take these actions. The Equestrian Society is not responsible for buying arena footing, though members are arguably the ones

doing the most riding. The Gadfly Society does not have to pay for the chairs and desks they use while philosophizing, even if they should

break one. Mercy Seat is not responsible for painting Presser Hall or fixing a leak in the roof of the chapel, and so why does Climbing Club find itself having to pay for renovations if they want them done? How do Houghton's commitments to excellence and community line up with a potentially dangerous facility?

Ultimately, though, the issue is larger than the climbing wall. This is not the first time that SGA has funded events or proj-

ects that, as Senator Wynn Horton put it, "It's not our responsibility to pay for." Why is it that students seeking to attend an academic conference specific to their major have had to turn to SGA to get there? Is there a disconnect between these academic departments and the funding they need to make the learning experience truly beneficial and better than at other institutions'?

If so, and if SGA has to continue funding trips to conferences and repairs to facilities, Houghton College, as an institution, can not then make the claim that it provides students with wonderful opportunities and outlets. In reality, without students allocating the limited funds they can control, other students could not have the experiences for which they hope in coming to Houghton.

We may indeed be more powerful than we think, but this power should not come at the price of the institution shirking the simple responsibility of safety. ★

It is not the Student Government Association's responsibility to see that renovations are made.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I was shocked and disturbed to pick up a copy of your April Fool's Day edition and be instantly greeted with the headline "Closeted Students and Faculty Experience Guilt and Shame." I understand that the article may have been intended as satire but unfortunately it did not come off that way. The headline alone was incredibly offensive, as Christian students feeling "guilt and shame" regarding their "closeted" feelings, (in this case "closeted" referring to its actual meaning, that of homosexuals who are not "out" to society), is a very real issue. That it would seem appropriate to make light of something that millions of young people have struggled with and in extreme cases, committed suicide over, is sickening. Yet this article seems to make a farce out of something that is a very difficult reality for many students across Christian campuses nationwide, Houghton College being no exception. I am not at all sure why the last "quote" in the article stating, "I am hopeful that there may come a day when everyone at Houghton can be free to show who he really is," would be considered something to laugh at. Truthfully, that is a desire that I myself have and I would only hope that the rest of this campus would feel the same way. It concerns me that the idea of people being comfortable and not having to hide any part of themselves would be considered so unattainable that it is regarded on the level of an April Fool's Day joke. The most offensive thing about the article was the note in italics at the end, stating that next

The mission of the Houghton Star is to preserve and promote the values of dialogue, transparency and integrity that have characterized Houghton College since its inception. This will be done by serving as a medium for the expression of student thought and as a quality publication of significant campus news, Houghton area news, and events.

week's "Out of the Closet" would be discussing "faculty who fear losing their jobs over being publicly supportive of gay and lesbian students." Please do not tell me that we at Houghton are so naive as to believe that said demographic of students does not exist on this campus. The truth is that they do, and trying to get a laugh out of their struggle or making light of their search for support amongst faculty members, which can be invaluable for a student dealing with issues of sexual identity, is more than just cruel; it is harmful and unspeakably destructive.

Sincerely,

Lizzie Spaulding

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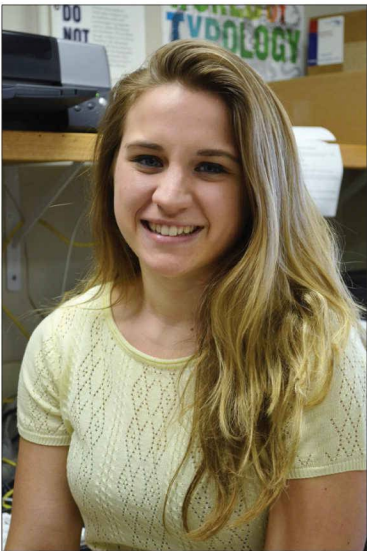
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2012-2013



ARTIST OF THE WEEK



ANDREA PACHECO

VICTORIA MULLEN

Graphic design is a service, a service that requires the collaboration of artists, clients, printers, and a designated audience. As a designer, I enjoy working with others to explore creative solutions to a wide range of problems. I bring to each project my devotion to design, my craving to create, and my passion for partnerships.

Victoria is a junior art major with a concentration in graphic design and a communications



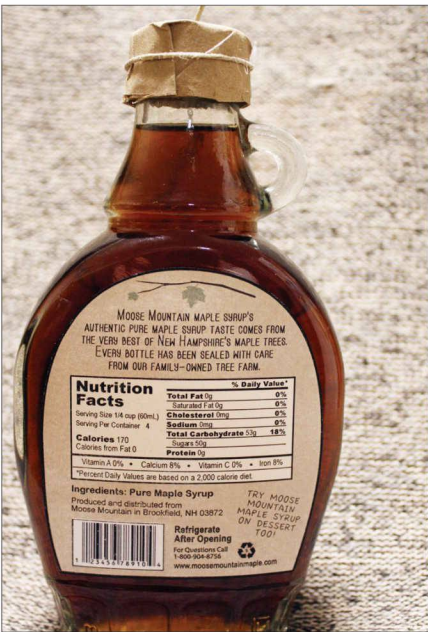
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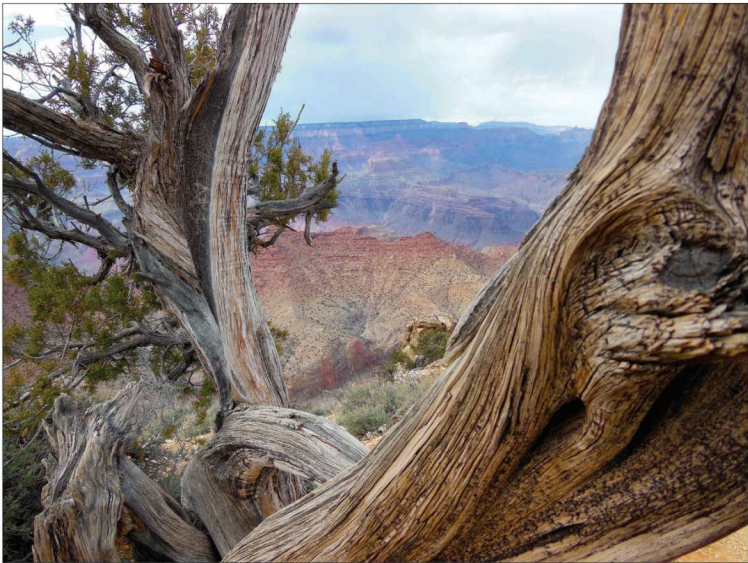
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To enter a drawing for a free Java drink, bring your finished puzzle, clearly marked with your full name and CPO, to the Star office in the basement of the Campus Center by 6 PM on WED 4/17.

Photo of the Week



NATHANIEL KITCHEN

View of Grand Canyon on the Choir Tour.