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the houghton STAR

Houghton College's Student Newspaper Since 1909

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CONTEMPORARY CONTEXTS PROGRAM REPLACES LONDON FYHP THIS YEAR

By LINDSEY HOUGHTON

Contemporary Contexts (CC) replaced the London First-Year Honors Program this year, and the change has been total. CC is not merely a revamping or a variation of the London Honors program, but an entirely new curriculum and structure. The switch has been hard to sell to many students and faculty alike.

"It's just not the same," said Mark Hijleh, Associate Academic Dean and Academic Honors Advisor. "To try to lay those types of [London FYHP] expectations on it is not going to work."

Instead of spending a single semester abroad in London, as London Honors students did, CC students this year will take eight literature and philosophy credit hours together throughout the Fall Semester, then travel to London for a four-week Mayterm, followed by four credit hours of Introduction to Christ in the Spring of 2012.

"In fact, it's not even a first-year honors program anymore," said



Contemporary Contexts students will spend Mayterm in London this year.

senior Elizabeth Zahorsky, former London FYHP student. "It continues into at least fall of sophomore year, with potential future designs to continue beyond that." In this way, CC differs from East Meets West and

offers honors students the opportunity to continue their honors studies beyond their first year.

The switch was initially touted by

See CC LONDON page 3

OUTREACH PROGRAM AIMS TO CONNECT STUDENTS WITH COMMUNITY

By JOELLA EPPEHIMER

Members of the Student Government Association (SGA) have developed the Houghton Outreach Project (HOP) in attempts to broaden the extent of outreach programs available to Houghton students.

SGA members Joel Ernst, Joshua Mertzlufft, and Sarah Jacoby, juniors, as well as senior Bethany Cheney began work over the summer to design the initiative, but its roots began last February when former Student Body President Zach Adams organized a Buffalo immersion trip to seek ways in which Houghton students could get involved in the Buffalo area. The mission of HOP is to "facilitate project creation and opportunities for students to grow as scholar servants," according to Cheney. While HOP is still in a stage of development, Ernst hopes to start some projects this spring and ideally have the project running "full-fledged" next year.

Essentially, the vision for HOP is to develop a framework for connecting students to outreach programs in Allegany County and in the Buffalo area. One component of the initiative, said Ernst, is to compile already-existing groups in an accessible manner so that new projects are not created that draw away from or double up on efforts. Where there are needs in the area that are not being addressed, new ideas will be created to meet those needs.

In order to make HOP a functioning program, a significant amount of research is involved to discover areas of need in the Allegany and Buffalo areas. Jacoby, as well as junior Will Evans, began this process over the summer. Jacoby focused her research on schools that already have similar programs, discovering among other things a partnership between Wayne University and the city of Detroit in 1976 that involved the city sending a list of issues to the school, which students then addressed. Jacoby hopes for a similar effect between Houghton and the Allegany and Buffalo areas, desiring a "beautiful collaborative relationship" to develop. Sample service projects that were brainstormed this summer, according to Mertzlufft, include an outdoor Koinonia service in the city.

One of the desires of HOP is to be able to involve students of all majors in areas of service that are applicable to them. According to Ernst, HOP will involve internships and hands-

Campus Center Basement Rennovations in Motion

By COURTNEY COIRO

Plans to renovate the basement of the Campus Center are still moving forward despite delays over the summer. Last semester, the Student Programs Office and Student Government Association (SGA) worked together to find a donor, outline a vision, and pursue contractors. The vision is "to have the basement to become a destination," according to Greg Bish, Director of Student Programs. Though work has only just begun, they hope to utilize breaks this semester to complete

most of the renovations by January.

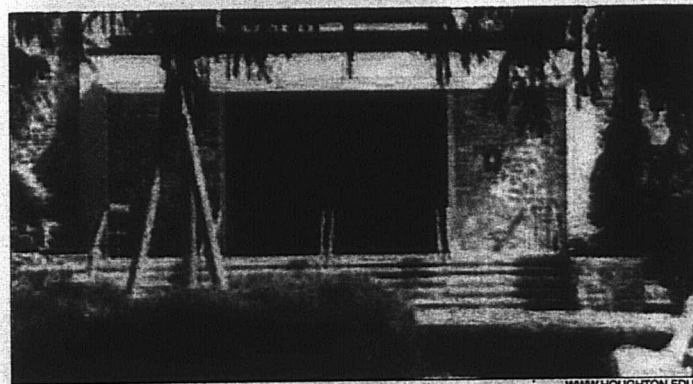
Over the summer, the contractor chosen to execute the work was preoccupied with another large project in Rochester. Engineering drawings were delayed, and deadline windows began to close as the campus became immersed in conference season, making large-scale renovations impossible.

Now two more construction firms are submitting proposals, and "we've seen more progress recently," said Bish. The majority of the work can be accomplished while students are away from campus, with the possibility of

smaller projects being finished during the Spring Semester. Exact timing will depend on engineers, as well as maintenance and custodial assessment of costs. Student Body President Garrett Fitzsimmons, senior, clarified that some renovations may have to "be completed over the summer, depending on how much... we want to have construction pour into the Spring Semester."

Finances for the project were secured from Sodexo and the remains of a Student Projects Fund (SPF) created by the classes of 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013. "Since the Senate did not want to put the SPF money to a half-finished proposal, they created a committee that could approve final plans over the summer," said junior Josh Mertzlufft, Speaker of the Senate. Since the work was delayed, the committee has expired, and now the approved funds will have to be confirmed by the Senate as a whole when plans are finalized.

Facets of the plan are already underway in updating the post office and the incorporation of Sandella's food options at Big Al's. The post office window is moving to the opposite wall, allowing more space



The Campus Center basement is to be renovated in the coming months.

See BASEMENT page 3

See OUTREACH page 3

WORLD / Nuclear Energy Debate in France



JORDAN GREEN

By MONICA SANDRECZKI

Last Monday, one person was killed and four were injured in a foundry explosion at the Marcoule nuclear waste treatment site in France, near Avignon. According to the French power facility, EDF, which owns the site, the accident was, luckily, not nuclear but industrial, and the cause is unknown. No radiation leakage was reported, but the effects of the explosion reach further than French national borders.

Despite the glad tidings of non-radiation, the Marcoule Explosion is the most recent in a long line of nuclear plant accidents, including the Kyshtym nuclear complex,

Chernobyl, Three Mile Island, and Mihama, Japan. Aside from Marcoule, the most recent nuclear explosion occurred in Fukushima, Japan, earlier this year, when it was struck by the magnitude 9.0 earthquake in March. Two-thirds of the nuclear reactors at the plant were damaged, resulting in subsequent fires and radiation leakage.

According to the BBC, in the aftermath of Fukushima, several European countries, many of whom are France's top trading partners, altered their nuclear energy policies. Germany, in particular, indicated that it would phase out its 17 nuclear reactors by 2022. Despite the reactionary moves of its neighbors, France did not follow suit. President Nicolas Sarkozy announced that France remained confident in the safety of nuclear power and had no intention of lessening its nuclear energy. In fact, as recently as June of this year, France announced that it would invest 1 billion euro in nuclear power.

Currently the world's largest consumer of nuclear energy, France relies on nuclear power for 75%

of its energy needs, with almost 60 nuclear reactors in operation, second only to the United States. Its nuclear dependence augmented with the oil shortages of the 1970s and now, with its dwindling supply of fossil fuels, France fortifies its reliance on nuclear energy with billion euro investments. Needless to say, there are no immediate plans to reduce this dependency. According to MP Claude Birraux, nuclear energy is essential for "French independence," and French leadership on the European scene.

However, nuclear energy, in addition to being France's main energy supply, is also one of France's largest exports. With the creeping aversion to nuclear energy on the part of its European neighbors, the question rests of what sort of effect these nuclear misgivings could have on French exports. Birraux has said that France will only sell nuclear technology to responsible countries, giving a sort of "safety first" response.

"There are three rules: safety, safety, and safety, whatever the cost," he said. "You need to have regulation, legislation, and you need

an independent safety authority... otherwise no...you can't have it."

As Germany plans to shut down its nuclear reactors, though, suspicions rise across Europe as to whether or not Germany will become one of these "responsible countries," a buyer of nuclear technology.

"The decisive issue for Germany now is that it is highly likely that it will increase imports of nuclear generated electricity from France," according to Andreas Carlgren, Sweden's environment minister.

In that case, perhaps the real issue at hand is not the face of the Marcoule explosion, but the interdependence of nuclear energy. Given Germany's attempt to hide behind the fig leaf of nuclear energy termination, will this European country support its public face and seek alternate forms of energy, or bolster trade relations with its western neighbor?

According to this editor abroad, and BBC News environmental correspondent, Richard Black, all effects of the Marcoule explosion and the implications for the French nuclear program remain unclear, until 2022, at least. ★

IN THE NEWS



Afghan soldiers run toward building occupied by insurgents during an attack on the US Embassy and NATO headquarters in Kabul, Afghanistan.

The US Embassy and the NATO headquarters in Kabul were attacked by insurgents last Tuesday, causing an estimate of twenty-seven deaths. Afghan and NATO troops quickly responded to the attacks and the siege ended on Wednesday morning. This incident was the most serious attack on the embassy since it opened ten years ago.

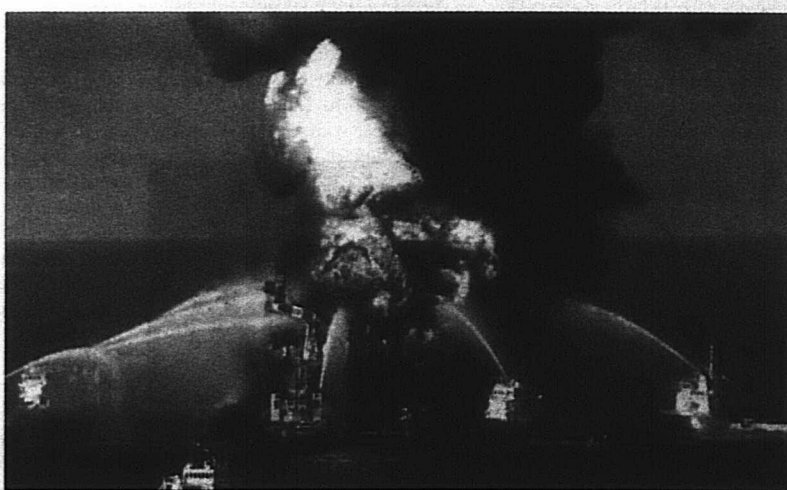
French President Nicolas Sarkozy and German Chancellor Angela Merkel affirmed their support of financially-strapped Greece on Wednesday following a teleconference with Greek Prime Minister George Papandreou. In exchange for their support, the French and German leaders are demanding that Greece adhere to strict budget-cuts and increased tax revenues.

Mexican authorities suspect cartel involvement regarding the deaths of a young man and woman after their bodies were found hung from a bridge in a small Mexican town. Posters next to the corpses warned "Internet busy bodies" to keep from reporting violence on social networking sites.

On Tuesday, a Senate panel voted to freeze basic Pentagon defense spending, keeping it at the 2011 fiscal levels, just short of the extra \$26 billion that President Obama proposed for 2012's fiscal year. The panel's vote waits to be approved by the Appropriations Committee and then by the Senate.

Special elections were held in Nevada and New York last Tuesday. In New York, Republican Bob Turner was voted into former Representative Anthony Weiner's seat and in Nevada, Republican Mark Amodei defeated Democratic Kate Marshall. Both of the Republican candidates attempted to establish their races as a referendum on President Obama's presidency.

A federal report on the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill named BP, Transocean, and Haliburton companies responsible for the tragedy that killed 11 rig workers and released 200 million gallons of oil into the gulf. Specifically, the report places the blame on poor management and numerous violated federal safety regulations.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WWW.CSMONITOR.COM AND WWW.CNN.COM

The 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill killed 11 rig workers and caused 200 million gallons of oil to be released into the gulf. A federal report names three companies as responsible.

FIRST-YEAR LEARNING COMMUNITY TAKES OFF FOR THE SECOND YEAR RUNNING

By JOELLA EPPEHIMER

Last year marked the introduction of a new program for first-year students on campus. The First-Year Learning Community (FYLC) involves the integration of the residential and academic components of college life.

The idea for FYLC was developed two years ago, primarily by Gabriel Jacobsen, Director of Residence Life, and Professor Susan Bruxvoort Lipscomb, English. In the program, students both live together and take classes together, fostering an atmosphere in which the academic experience can be extended beyond the classroom and into the more extensive campus life. The female participants live on the same floor of Gillette, and male students reside on the same floor of Shen. Each semester, students take two Integrative Studies courses together.

Along with the academic and residential experience, students also participate in a number of other activities together, such as attending

lectures, fine arts events, and athletic games. The group also has regular dinners together to further enhance community.

One of the primary reasons for the program's creation, according to Jacobsen, is to encourage students to be intentional in the ways they engage on campus. It is a goal that extends beyond participants in the program, he said. He hopes that the entire student body will "consider things outside of the classroom as part of the educational process," explaining that the FYLC is just one model of this comprehensive learning in operation.

Among the numerous goals of the program is to provide for a smooth academic adjustment from high school to college. Current program RA and former participant Kathryn-Rose Mello, sophomore, reflecting on her experience, outlined some of the ways in which this occurred, including forming natural study groups, developing the ability to work together, and getting to know people outside of class. Current FYLC student Anna Toegel echoed this

sentiment and said that "the FYLC is like a family, and we do so much... together, [such as] movie nights, study sessions, [and] dinners." One of the things Mello enjoyed about the program was the "built-in time with each other," making it easier to get to know people at college. Jacobsen also sees this as a positive aspect, as first-year students start forming strong bonds immediately.

In only its second year on the Houghton campus, the FYLC has seen growth from last year, according to Jacobsen. He attributes this mostly to logistical factors, as faculty was fairly rushed to put the program together last year. Students also had the opportunity to talk to past participants, rather than just seeing a written description. Current FYLC member David Weigle said that he chose to join in order to "help introduce me to the type of work college courses will require of me...[and] because I had heard of the close bonds of friendship that are found between the students involved in the program."

While there is a palpable

community among the members of this program, Jacobsen and Mello emphasized that the FYLC does not yield an exclusive community. Pointing to data from last year, Jacobsen said that students who were participants in the program were involved in "just as many outside clubs and activities" as other first-year students. Mello acknowledged that "some people think it's weird," but added that "we're not a closed community." One of the greatest benefits she found in the program was experiencing the same things with the same people, and being able to go to the room next door, or any room on the hall for that matter, and ask a question about the material.

Many competing institutions, according to Jacobsen, have similar programs to the FYLC. In some ways, he said, its introduction is "getting [Houghton] up to speed." Outside of the First-Year Honors Programs, FYLC is the only offering of its kind at the College. ★

CC LONDON from page 1

Administration as a way to decrease spending and budget better.

"The administration was confident they could generate as much revenue as before," said Professor Christ Stewart, philosophy, who is one of this year's CC professors. "A lot of faculty wasn't convinced by that. If you replace a previous program—the London program—with something that attracts even as few as three or four fewer students, you're not actually saving money. You would be no better off, and actually worse off with this program."

This year, there are only 21 CC students, though the ideal number for the program is 25. Hilleh pointed out, however, that since this is the first year for the new program, it took a little longer for it to get off the ground. "By the third year, we'll know the content of the CC program at least 18 months in advance," he said, and that will allow more time to draw potential students.

The CC program operates under a much more fluid structure than the London Program did. "Contemporary Contexts is just a structure—not content. Content has to be proposed by a team of faculty," said Stewart.

Each CC program will be different

from the last, with faculty offering different proposals for the program each year—next year's Mayterm, for example, will be in Vienna. This allows a wider range of faculty from many different disciplines to be involved in the program. "The faculty were looking for an honors program that has flexibility and the ability to bring in faculty from a variety of departments, and this program has that draw," said Zahorsky.

The program will also draw a wider range of students. "I was really relieved that we no longer would be spending an entire semester abroad," said freshman Meghan English. "As much I would like to, a Music

Education major doesn't really comply with the old program very well." The shorter study-abroad portion of the program, in English's case is beneficial.

"I wanted to be a part of Contemporary Contexts, because I liked the opportunities the program offers," said freshman Mariyah Carlino. "It feels great to be the beginning of something. I feel our group can make this an incredible first."

"I'm excited to be blazing a trail, so to speak," said freshman Elizabeth Spaulding. "I feel honored to be a part of this new program." ★

OUTREACH from page 1

on projects that will "hopefully be more than just a one-time thing," although such tasks could be part of the program. Since there are already some majors and classes that provide a significant amount of opportunities for student service, Jacoby said that a list is being compiled of these so that areas of interest in which opportunities are lacking can be determined.

A large concern of HOP is how to make it sustainable, especially as the four students most involved right now will all graduate within two years. Jacoby said that they will make "a big effort to get people involved who will be here longer." Other steps toward the longevity of the initiative include

working with other groups on campus and pooling resources. Maintaining HOP long-term, said Jacoby, will be a challenge that the core group will be talking about with the administration considerably.

Acknowledging that HOP is a large endeavor, Ernst hopes that "even if what we are planning doesn't get implemented, hopefully student interest sparks something." Cheney is excited for the potential it has for "building service-oriented relationships" between Houghton and surrounding communities, encouraging "the recognition of using one's interests...to serve and honor God." ★

BASEMENT from page 1

for ease of access and a better layout for managing packages inside. Eventually the snack shop layout will be more open, removing the long window wall behind the booths and including two seating areas—a café and a sports bar. Planners envisioned an "updated ambiance with historic Houghton...and surrounding area artifacts."

A combined Student Involvement Center will be shared among Student Programs, CAB, SGA, the Star, Boulder, and other student organizations. "A one-stop-shop for opportunities to get involved on and around campus" would feature offices and shared workspace in an effort to combine efforts and coordinate

scheduling of campus events. The class of 2011's senior gift will go toward furnishing this conference room.

The room next to the print center, which was formerly, at various times, a TV studio, commuter lounge, and storage space, will be made over into an event room. Though not definite, ideas center around creating a space flexible enough for a variety of events. Student groups numbering up to 70 could reserve the room to schedule a meeting, watch a sports event, stage a small play, or host a party.

The recreation area, currently housing the ping pong tables, will be transformed from an in-between zone to the central hub of the basement, flowing to each of the other spaces. ★

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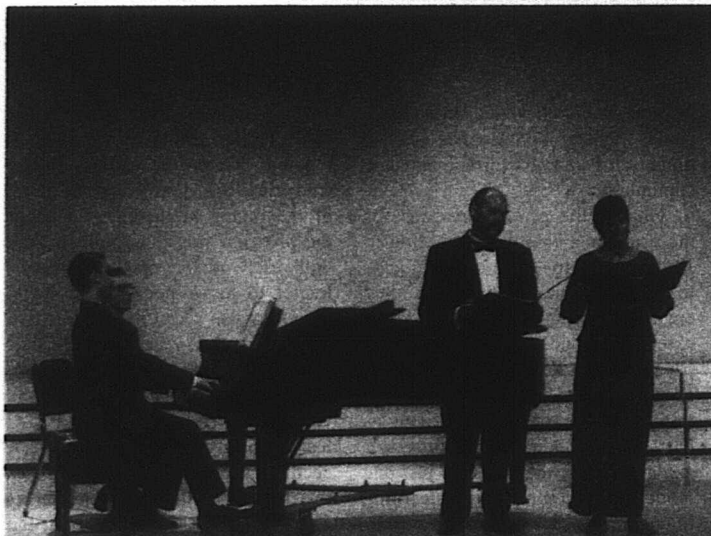
Crosby Offers Breadth and Depth in Guest Recital

By STEVE CORELL

Monday's Luanne Crosby recital began on a regretful note, as Professor Benjamin King, voice, remarked on his departure from the College before prayer. The music that followed showed an appropriate range of emotion; from songs about passionate love to songs about death and the sorrow of losing a loved one, the music was thought-provoking and beautiful and the repertoire well-chosen.

The concert began and I, who had been set on getting some homework done while I listened with a half tuned-out ear, found myself having to put my book down. The music was delightfully poetic and added to the imagery of the lyrics. In one song, Crosby sang about "water and reeds" while Adam Potter, who shined as an accompanist, played an accompaniment that sounded precisely like that combination of natural plant-life, water and reeds.

Another impressive aspect of this particular concert was the use of acting and facial expression in each piece. In the Verdi piece, Crosby and JR Fralick acted out a scene from "La Traviata", one of Verdi's most well-known operas. Their ability to make the music come alive with more than just their voices astounded me. During the sorrowful, dirge-like Rachmaninoff pieces, there was no cheesiness or fake sorrow pasted on Fralick's face - his expressions were apt and well-chosen. It is regrettable for the state of music performance in general that Fralick's expressiveness was unique. Quite often at voice recitals, singers



Luanne Crosby's Recital was both animated and eclectic.

produce a song from moving vocal chords and a stiff body, showcasing their vocal talent but nothing else, with no delivery of a feeling, or a scene, or an emotion. This was not the case Monday evening.

The concert, however, did not limit itself to somber, emotional songs. One of the final pieces was a song by Alfred Novello entitled "Her Mother Came too!" Fralick, in his presentation of this piece, exhibited a jovial, sarcastic quality in his singing and expression, along with

a brilliant pun at the end that made the entire audience burst into fits of laughter at various points.

All in all, comedy and tragedy were exhibited well and presented beautifully in a venue in which I am used to hearing dry, albeit well-trained voices simply presenting themselves through the vehicle of song. Crosby and Fralick, instead, presented an experience through the vehicle of their voices. ★

Justin Vernon Flourishes in "Bon Iver"

By BEN MURPHY

Justin Vernon's newest release is purely instrumental. That unmistakable folk falsetto which crooned through "For Emma Forever Ago" and "Blood Bank" has taken another step toward becoming a purely versatile and bizarre instrument. The sometimes inaudible, often fictitious, and almost exclusively enigmatic lyrics mean less as interpretive pieces in a puzzle, and much more as elegant cadence and pulse. For Bon Iver's self-titled 2011 release, movement is everything, and Vernon's voice is the transporting force.

In tracks like "Perth," "Calgary," and "Minnesota, WI," he winds words together into alliterated phrases which travel over, under, and within layers of snare drums, guitars, and countless other unidentifiable sounds. Passages like, "Settle past a patience/where wishes and your will are spilling pictures" reads as enchanting

poetry while functioning as a meticulously crafted driving rhythmic compulsion. These are words for words' sake.

However, to maintain that Vernon writes without purposed expression would be to cheat his subtle genius. Within the seamless flow of the album, each track carries a specific and biting emotional character. This is how, despite the abstract storytelling and fragmented fairy tale references, "Towers" still conveys a brisk recollection of youthful rebellion and regret. "Wash," though minimalist in delivery, still addresses tension between growth and decay—opportunity and obstruction. And "Hinnom, TX" builds its beautiful, wailing call and answer sequence from a driving need for rebirth. A closer listen, or perhaps absorption, reveals deeply powerful sentiments.

Within each independently poignant track, careful orchestration allows specific words and phrases to strike

with unbelievable weight. The chorus of "Holocene" repeats, "...and at once I knew I was not magnificent/strayed above the highway aisle/(jagged vacance, thick with ice)/I could see for miles, miles, miles." *Holocene* refers to the latest geological epoch, and by evoking this idea, Vernon is engaging the entirety of human scope perspective.

"Bon Iver" samples a myriad of styles. "Minnesota" sounds like the ambient group "Explosions in the Sky" thieved Sam Beam's steel guitar. The lyricless "Lisbon, OH" could easily be a James Blake composition. Most surprisingly, the closing track "Beth/Rest" finishes the album with an uncanny '80s bang. But through all of these eclectic elements, the album's kinetic spirit takes precedence. Vernon has delivered a collection of tirelessly complex and layered vignettes which, together or alone, are always moving. ★

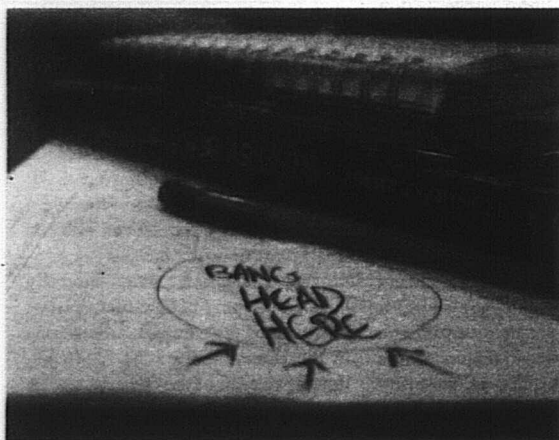
VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

By NICK FREDETTE

The Houghton volleyball team is returning this fall with only half the squad from last year, but players are hopeful that a young team can help to earn the Highlanders a successful season. The women's volleyball program, like other sports at Houghton, has always been focused on a holistic approach to personal development. The players and coaches all strive for excellence both on and off the court. Senior team chaplain Sammy-Jo Marr said in regards to this approach, "The team is really evaluating the new motto for athletics at Houghton, 'Excellence for the glory of God.' We want it to be evident in our academics, relationships, and of course on the court. Excellence is truly something to strive for, and we intend to."

On the court, the Highlanders have already appeared in two tournaments - one in Montreat, North Carolina, and another in nearby Elmira, New York. In North Carolina, the team faced four tough opponents, suffering losses to three and winning against West Virginia Institute of Technology. While the tournament may have been a tough road trip, it gave the Highlanders an opportunity to experiment with lineups and get a look at some younger players. Freshman player Hayley Day said that "the trip to North Carolina was a great experience to see how other Christian schools perform in their sports and [there was] great competition to get us going head-on into our season." In their second tournament, at Elmira College, the Highlanders fared equally well, winning one of four matches against four tough opponents from a bit closer to home.

Through two tough tournaments, the team has faced several difficult challenges and skilled opponents, and this will only help to prepare them for the road ahead. The Highlanders will look to improve upon last year's 12-16 record, while also eager to be competitive in the American Midwest Conference. A big part of this will include being more dominant at home, in Houghton's Nielsen Center, and improving upon last year's 3-5 home record. While conference play does not start until September 20, when the Highlanders face Daemen College on the road, Houghton will participate in a cross-over tournament this weekend. ★



When people ask stupid questions in class I draw a circle and BAM! -Raphael Derungs



This semester I am at home and doing my final credits to complete my major. The awesome thing about this is that, as an international student, I can sit at home and still be a part of the Houghton community. The attached picture says it all.... "Houghton from my Balcony." -Cliff Chandler, '11



I took this on Sunday, September 11 a little before Koinonia. The storm had passed but there was still a light sun shower. I have no idea who these girls are, by the way. -Emily Williams, '15

"This Week in Pictures" will be featured bi-weekly this semester. Submit your pictures (with photo credit and a brief description) to houghtonstar@gmail.com to enter!

9/11 Memorial Service: Remembrance Through Music

By JIM VITALE

Last Saturday, the Houghton community gathered in Wesley Chapel to remember the events of September 11, 2001, and to commemorate those who died, as well as those who gave their time and their lives to rescue and protect.

The Symphonic Winds Orchestra, conducted by Professor Brian Casey, music, played a number of elegies and other various arrangements. "Chimes of Liberty," by E.F. Goldman and L. Schissel, and "American Dream," by J. Beckel, Jr. focused on themes of patriotism and joy for the gift of life, while pieces such as "Elegy for a Young American" were more somber. In addition to the Symphonic Winds Orchestra, a small group of vocalists from the College Choir performed Casey's arrangement of the hymns "God of Our Fathers" and "Peace, Perfect Peace." Students Jonathon Duttweiler and Jessi Temple performed "America, Spread Your Golden Wings," accompanied by a small ensemble.

"I think what I appreciated about the program was that it attempted to formulate a deep theological response to the problem

of grief, anguish – even death," said sophomore Greg Young.

"It was as if at this time of remembering one catastrophic, historical event, we remember the movement of the God of history as a whole, by which we can make sense of any single event. Music is the only effective medium for doing so, as it requires communal participation."

The event culminated with "An American Elegy," by Frank Ticheli, which was preceded by a moment of silence and taps played by Professor Paul DeBoer, music. Once "Elegy" began, a slideshow consisting of many slow-moving images from 9/11, from tributes to the lost to images of families reunited, was played

above the orchestra.

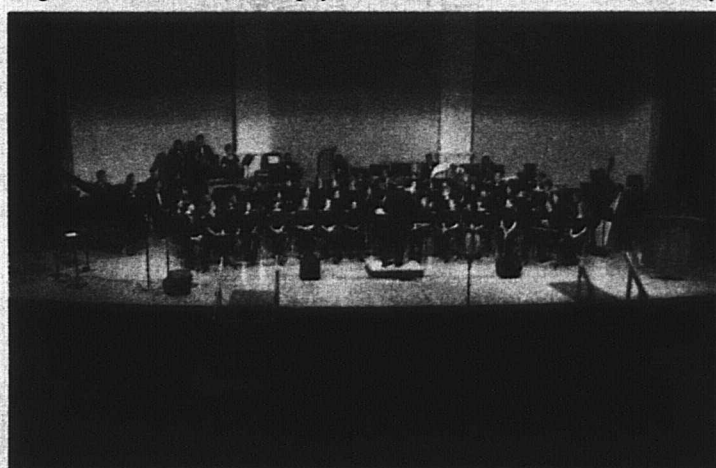
Along with music, the ceremony consisted of other various readings, speeches, and comments. Mary Jo Cronk, a Houghton Volunteer Firefighter, told the story of her assistance at Ground Zero with the Houghton ambulance team in the days following the attacks. Professor Richard Eckley, theology, expounded upon the possibility of simultaneous remembrance and forgiveness in times of sorrow. Pastor Todd Leach from the Houghton Wesleyan Church and Professor Brittan, Dean of the Chapel, both offered prayers for the victims, their families, and all others who felt the effects of 9/11. Junior Isabel Sanders, senior Laura Stoltzfus, and Casey

all participated in the reading of Psalm 27, a psalm that urges the weak to find strength in the Lord in times of struggle.

Professor Stephen Woolsey, English, also read a pair of poems at the ceremony: "The Names," by Billy Collins, which invoked a feeling of sorrow and longing for love ones lost and "The Voices Live," by Andrew Motion, which shed the light of hope on hearts filled with grief and mourning.

"When I saw Billy Collin's name I was instantly attracted to that poem, because Billy Collins has made a commitment to bring poetry back to the people," said Woolsey.

"Poetry ought to be the literature that brings us together... These are both poets who have made a commitment to use their poems to help people come to terms with life." ★



Above: Saturday's memorial service was a collaborative event, with students, professors and community members contributing.

Right: Paper cranes made by students to decorate the chapel for Saturday's service.



SPORTS RECAP

FIELD HOCKEY:

Friday, 9/9

at Susquehanna Univ - Cancelled

Tuesday, 9/13

vs Geneseo - L 0-2

Season Record: 2-2-0

Upcoming this weekend:

Saturday, 9/17

at SUNY Oneonta @ 12pm

MEN'S SOCCER:

Friday, 9/9

vs Buffalo State - T 0-0

Saturday, 9/10

at Fredonia - L 2-3 OT

Season Record: 1-4-1

Upcoming this weekend:

Saturday, 9/17

vs SUNY Cortland @ 7pm

WOMEN'S SOCCER:

Saturday, 9/10

at Carlow Univ. - W 1-0

Season Record: 5-0-0

Upcoming this weekend:

Friday, 9/16

at Grace College @ 6:30pm

Saturday, 9/17

vs Olivet Nazarene Univ @

5:30pm

VOLLEYBALL:

Friday, 9/9

vs Utica College - W 21-25, 25-7,

25-6, 25-17

vs SUNY New Paltz - L 13-25,

16-25, 15-25

Saturday, 9/10

vs Hartwick College - L 21-25,

18-25, 25-23, 21-25

vs Elmira College - L 20-25, 20-25, 16-25

Season Record: 2-6

Upcoming this weekend:

Friday, 9/16

vs Walsh Univ. @ 5pm

vs Malone Univ. @ 7pm

Saturday, 9/17

vs Univ. of Michigan Dearborn

@ 11am

vs Mountain State Univ. @ 1pm

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

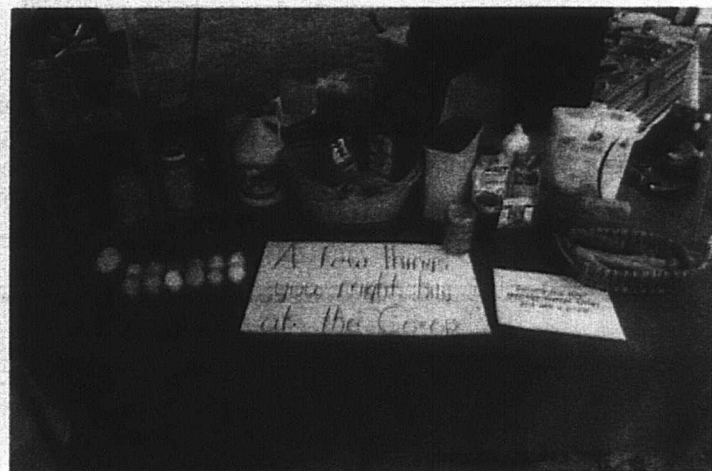
CO-OP WORKS TO INCREASE LOCAL GROCERY OPTIONS

By EMY HIEBER

The Allegany Harvest Cooperative Market began advertising in Houghton and the surrounding area this past spring, and now hopes to open its doors February 15. That is, if it gets the support of 300 invested member-owners. This cooperative will be a consumer-owned business that focuses on bringing organic, animal-friendly, bulk, and local foods to Houghton's doorstep. The cooperative grocery store will share a space with Our Common Ground in the old gas station across from Subway.

Two summers ago, a group of concerned community members realized they wanted to have local access to organic, bulk, and specialty items, which, for Houghton residents, are not easily found closer than a 40-minute drive away. After discussing their concerns and wishes together, they formulated a plan to create a local cooperative market.

According to the co-op's informational presentation, the founders are following a path with several stages to reach their goal of creating a functional grocery store. Starting last spring, they began to conduct surveys of the future market to determine feasibility, and after determining the possibilities, made the project official and began inviting member-owners. The co-op met its first goal of 100 member-owners by June 1 and moved on to plan the details. November marks the end of the planning stage—the goal is to have 250 member-owners by November 15. The final stage will be implementation, when the co-op reaches the goal of 300 member-owners. During this stage, the co-op will purchase equipment. On this timeline, the co-op will open February



The Allegany Harvest Co-op has been getting the word out at local fire-hall sales, along with other various local events, since this spring.

15. As of the time of publication, the co-op has recently welcomed 170 member-owners on board. This means they are halfway to their final goal of 300 member owners by February 15. Although they met their 100 member-owner goal back in June in a rush, the joining rate dropped over the summer, so that by the time the semester started they had fewer than 130 member-owners. However, in a little more than a week, 20 more member-owner households have joined the cause. On Monday evening, an informational meeting was held in Hazlett 37 for those curious about the cooperative.

"Students either aren't aware of the project, don't understand it, or perhaps don't comprehend its full vision," said junior Alice Browning, who was in attendance. "If students got involved,

this project would take off and benefit the student body, the entire community, and Allegany County as well." Browning's sentiments echoed those of many of the students present at the meeting.

Previous marketing strategies include setting up booths at farmers markets, fairs, and other local events. Current student-led organizations, such as the Environmental Club, have expressed interest in the co-op's ideals and may promote the initiative in their own circles. Brochures around campus with detailed information are now more readily available, and the Web site www.alleganyharvest.coop is updated with information and a FAQ page. Through these and other means, the co-op will continue to reach out to the student body and larger Houghton campus as they move forward to opening a local grocery store. ★

Touchstones: Benefitting from Retrospection



BY ELIZABETH ENGLEBERTH

Take a moment and think back. Do you remember how you saw the world as a five-year-old? How about at age 10, or even 15? Maybe you can effortlessly transport your mind back into those days, but perhaps there's a strong, strange feeling of dissociation—almost as if the experiences and thoughts of that 10-year-old are unrelated to you, leaving you a stranger to your own past. It can be difficult to project ourselves back to who we used to be—whether because of fear of what we might find, or huge changes in personality or outlook, or even plain old forgetfulness. And yet, often when we lose or deny our former selves, we cut ourselves off from the very things that continue to define us, whether for good or ill—and, consequently, we don't understand ourselves terribly well.

One way we can travel back in time is by rummaging through old interests. Doing

a little cultural background check on ourselves can be an invaluable tool, particularly for us, a generation inundated with media and entertainment on an unprecedented scale. By sifting through the fads that blazed brightly for a month or two and uncovering the enduring passions, we can find concrete evidence of our former selves.

For me, one of the most potent touchstones are my books and the memories tied up in them, books that gave me insight and direction that I could never have achieved on my own. Some books contained epiphanies that were loud and immediate. Maybe you have had one of those moments when you suddenly see something—yourself, a friend, an enemy, an aspect of your life—with a brilliant, almost frightening new clarity, thanks to a book (or a song or a movie); I can vividly recall reading an out-of-print book under my desk in my eighth grade math class and feeling a burden I wasn't even fully conscious of lift from my shoulders. Suddenly, thanks to

the side story of a supporting character, a struggle parallel to my own, I felt I had permission to say *no* to a path that I had started down.

Examining your past is not merely self-indulgent navel-gazing, but a way to truly move forward as well.

However, I've found that those sorts of epiphanies are relatively rare; most of the time, I only understand the deep connection that I felt to certain books once I revisit their pages. For the first time, I can single out—in a way that I simply couldn't then, embroiled as I was in the messiness of everyday life—what exactly about a particular book addressed or affirmed my deepest fears and hopes. Only in retrospect can I articulate why, for instance, certain characters—Mr. Jenkins, Katherine Brooke—became touchstones in my mind. Only now is it clear to me why, when I first read this or that story, some subterranean part of me shifted, murmuring, "Look at this (phrase, character, theme). If you let it, it will help you make sense of the world. Use it." And I did use it, making a map, as it were, for how to live my life,

and now that I finally recognize why they were important, it helps me imagine myself back into my own former mindset. Able to name the emotions that prompted such a response, I can connect the dots between Then and Now. Suddenly I realize that so many of my current worries, fears, and dreams, were initially planted long ago. Examining your past, therefore, is not merely self-indulgent navel-gazing (although in excess it can degenerate to that), but a way to truly move forward as well.

Sorting out the past can be a messy process. Sometimes, when you look back, you're faced with a chicken-egg-type conundrum. Were you drawn to a book or movie because it spoke to you then? Or has it impacted how you think so deeply that, in returning to it, it seems profoundly personal? But it can also prove deeply rewarding. So, if you feel so inclined, use a book or a movie or a song as a stepping stone to the past. Maybe you'll feel an unexpected shiver of recognition; maybe then you'll reach out a hand to the five(10, 15)-year-old you, a stranger no more.

Elizabeth is a senior music major

How do you feel about Houghton's transition from NAIA to NCAA membership?

I'm for it and the wider opportunity it will provide to play and minister.

47%

I'm uneasy about playing larger universities on a larger field.

0%

I'm against the implicit shift in balance in athletics / academics / Christianity.

13%

I don't care.

40%

VOTE IN THIS WEEK'S POLL AT WWW.HOUGHTONSTAR.COM

OUT OF 15 VOTES

Letters to the Editor

send to houghtonstar@gmail.com

Dear Editor,

For the past three years, my favorite food at Big Al's has been the chicken and cheese quesadilla. I know I'm not alone in this. The quesadilla has been an invaluable staple of my Houghton experience. When I'm having a sad or frustrating day, a quesadilla makes it better. When my friends and I are about to watch a movie in the Campus Center, we always run downstairs for quesadillas first.

Try to imagine my excitement when I discovered that we'd be starting the year with \$100 credit for Big Al's. I instantly envisioned myself in a castle made of quesadillas, sitting upon a throne of cheese. Now imagine not my disappointment, but my *horror* when

I learned that quesadillas have inexplicably been taken off the menu. My desire to spend money at Big Al's was effectively cut in half. Now what am I supposed to buy? Cheeseburgers? I've eaten six burgers in the past four days in the dining hall. Now, I know what you're going to say: "You can buy our new super-cool quesadillas at Sandellas!" But I don't want your new super-cool quesadillas. They're not even all that super-cool. They have all sorts of weird herbs and veggies in them. I just want my simple, unhealthy chicken and cheese quesadilla. I miss the feeling of knowing that my arteries are getting just a bit more clogged with each bite of greasy goodness. It made me feel reckless.

Please bring back the Big Al's quesadilla. I don't even know why you got rid of it in the first place. It would be like

Finding Balance Between Euphoria and Anxiety

— FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK —



BY ELISA SHEARER

Frederick Jameson said that "Contemporary people alternate between states of euphoria and anxiety."

Euphoria, perhaps, because that is one natural reaction to being in the state of perpetual stimulation and entertainment and comfort (at least objectively) that we, the middle class, experience. Any thought of YouTube or Hulu or Grooveshark makes one realize how kind of horrifyingly immense is the amount of entertainment available to anyone with an Internet connection. Information has always been that vast—for at least the last few centuries—but never before has it been so readily available almost all the time. With smartphones and developments like SixthSense (where information about products and people is projected into the air in front of you—look it up), access to the Internet is going to start feeling like an extra limb, something without which you will feel nervous and clumsy and limited. For some people, this is already true. And the Internet, while immensely significant, is not the only aspect of the culture of euphoria—the mere fact that we are all consistently fed and

clothed and educated and mobile frees us from tensions and workloads that few generations before us have escaped.

And Anxiety, I think, because of the natural panic that is caused by the incredible unevenness of our own fortunes—the middle class doesn't just inherit money; we inherit social skills that will help us succeed throughout school and in the business world, innate knowledge on how to conduct ourselves

in professional settings, an easy respect for authority, a confidence in the system that is necessary to operate within it, a tendency towards working for long periods of time, familiarity with deadlines, an acknowledgement of punctuality—we realize that

these aspects are not just a part of our charming personalities; we inherited them. Any of the middle class born into poverty would have just as many chances of remaining in poverty as anyone else, and the idea arises that we don't deserve the abundance around us, the source of our euphoria. And we don't, not more than any other person. So what do we do? How do we assuage our consciences and fix the imbalance?

I am not an expert in green living, or macroeconomics (or microeconomics, for that matter), or social justice or poverty. But I've seen a lot of people try to answer this question—maybe it's a college

thing, maybe it's a Christian thing, maybe it's a middle class thing; I go to a private Christian college so it's hard to distinguish. And what I see happening the most is not so much an alternation but a paralysis between euphoria and anxiety.

What some of us do, a lot of us at first, is consider the option of completely renouncing our situation. Giving everything up. We feel guilty about attending college because of all of the people who

can't. Having breakdowns when trying to buy laptops and thinking of the guy without a place to sleep down the street. Eating less, even, out of guilt.

Such obsession with asceticism makes sense, logically, but rarely helps anyone besides ourselves.

So we try to help—and the more we try to help, if our actions are driven by a need to placate our own personal feelings of incongruousness, usually what happens is the more hopeless we get. The emotion is captured perfectly by the dialogue at the end of Schindler's List:

Oskar Schindler: I could have got more out. I could have got more. I don't know. If I'd just...I could have got more.

Itzhak Stern: Oskar, there are 1100 people who are alive because of you. Look at them.

Oskar Schindler: If I'd made more money...I threw away so much money. You have no idea. If I'd just...

Itzhak Stern: There will be generations because of what you did.

Oskar Schindler: I didn't do enough!

Itzhak Stern: You did so much.

[Schindler looks at his car]

Oskar Schindler: This car. Goeth would have bought this car. Why did I keep the car? 10 people right there. 10 people. 10 more people.

[removing Nazi pin from lapel]

Oskar Schindler: This pin. Two people. This is gold. Two more people. He would have given me two for it, at least one. One more person. A person, Stern. For this.

[sobbing]

Oskar Schindler: I could have gotten one more person... and I didn't! And I...I didn't!

This is where the Anxiety in "euphoria and anxiety" comes from. If we try to operate under the assumption that the imbalance is fixable, then we will either ignore the bizarre inconsistencies in universal justice and continue to buzz in a state of constantly entertained euphoria, or be paralyzed by anxiety about the illogic of our good fortune and our inability to ever earn it. A realistic and humble outlook, both towards our own prosperity and the pain of the world in general, seems to be the only possible way to avoid being paralyzed between recurrent states of euphoria and anxiety.

Elisa is a senior psychology and English major

Obsession with asceticism makes sense, logically, but it rarely helps anyone besides ourselves

McDonald's dropping the Big Mac, or Burger King losing the Whopper, or KFC getting rid of whatever it does best. The quesadilla was so popular that it was intentionally withheld from the transfer menu to keep lines from getting too long. If you bring back quesadillas, I will buy lots of them and give you my money. I'm graduating in May, and I'm going to miss Houghton a lot. Don't make me miss quesadillas just yet.

-Dan Sendker, Class of 2012

Letters to the editor should be 350 words or less and can be submitted to houghtonstar@gmail.com

You can also comment on articles online at www.houghtonstar.com

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ARTIST OF THE WEEK

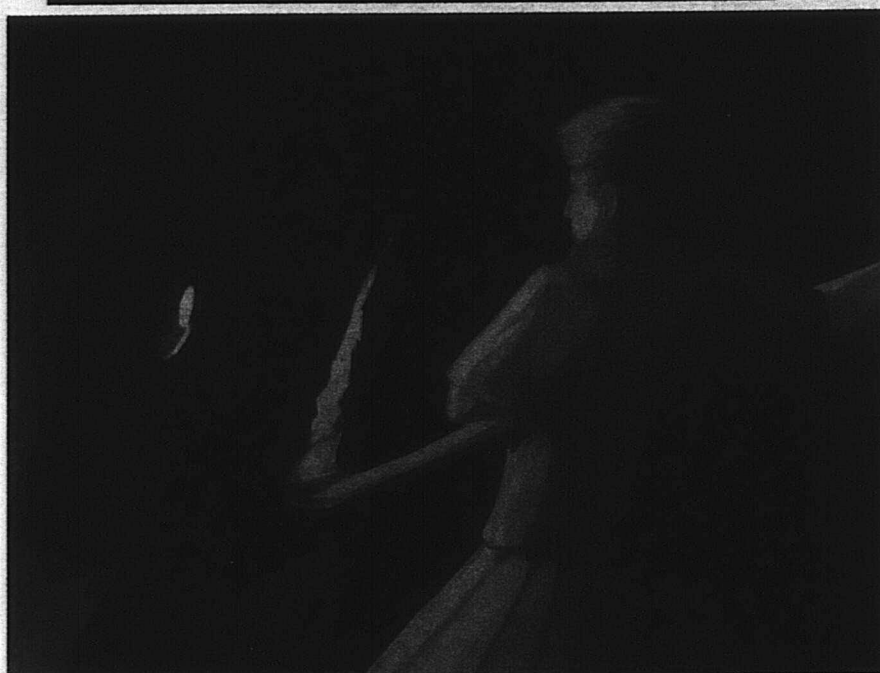


ANDREA PACHECO

GARETH BRANSCOMBE

As an art major with concentrations in painting and graphic design, I really enjoy using digital media to create art. My passion is attempting to capture things from the imaginations of myself and others, and my goal is to get a career illustrating things, possibly as a concept or character artist in the entertainment industry. Over the past summer, I've started taking on commission work, in which I get paid to make digital paintings of other people's characters, and it's been a blast! I can only hope people enjoy my work as much as I enjoy making it.

L-R: *Defeat of Death* (in progress), digital painting; *Untitled* (commission), digital painting; *Digital Botany* (book cover); *Ninja Osprey* (CD cover)



MORE ANSWERS
THAN QUESTIONS

DIGITAL BOTANY
BREEDING & ENGINEERING

**NINJA
OSPREY**

Keepin' It Steel



EMILE LAWSON

SUDOKU

			6			3	9	
5		4				2		
		3	9					8
				3	2	6		1
2		6	7	8				
4					1	7		
		1				4		5
	8	5			7			

Sudoku solutions from 9/6:

6	5	9	1	8	4	2	7	3
2	7	8	3	5	9	4	6	1
1	3	4	7	6	2	9	5	8
4	8	7	2	1	3	5	9	6
3	6	5	9	4	8	1	2	7
9	1	2	6	7	5	3	8	4
5	4	3	8	9	7	6	1	2
7	2	6	5	3	1	8	4	9
8	9	1	4	2	6	7	3	5

8	9	1	7	2	6	5	3	4
4	3	5	1	8	9	6	2	7
6	2	7	5	3	4	8	1	9
5	4	3	9	7	2	1	8	6
9	1	6	8	4	5	2	7	3
2	7	8	3	6	1	9	4	5
3	5	2	4	9	8	7	6	1
1	8	4	6	5	7	3	9	2
7	6	9	2	1	3	4	5	8

To win a prize, bring your finished sudoku puzzle, clearly marked with your full name, to the Star office in the basement of the Campus Center.

Last week's winner was MILES SABINE! Come to the Star Office to claim your prize.