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the houghton STAR

Houghton College's Student Newspaper Since 1909

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CLASHES BETWEEN THEOLOGY AND
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COLLEGE INTRODUCES NEW ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS, LIMITS WORK HOURS

by BEKAH HALL

If you're a Houghton student, chances are good -- 80.3 %, in fact -- that you receive some sort of institutional aid from Houghton. This year alone, Houghton awarded over 11 million dollars in institutional aid, according to Marianne Loper, Director of Student Financial Services. With the move to Division III athletics and students waiting for jobs on campus, Financial Services is making changes to scholarships and work-study on campus.

Two new scholarships were added this year, according to Loper -- The James S. Luckey Excellence scholarship and the Arts Excellence scholarship. The James S. Luckey scholarship, equal to the amount of the first year of tuition, and the Arts Excellence Scholarship, an annual \$5000 award, "are intended to attract high quality, academically capable, and spiritually engaged students to Houghton who have a stated interest or intended vocation in one of the three thematic areas of emphasis at Houghton in this coming year -- science and technology, global engagement, or the arts and Christian life" according to Loper. While only

three students will be awarded the James S. Luckey Scholarship, four to eight students will be chosen to receive the Arts Excellence Scholarship.

Houghton was able, in part, to provide for these new scholarships because of the College's switch to Division III in athletics, explained Dale Wright, Chief Business Officer. No longer able to award athletic scholarships, this freed up some money for additional academic scholarships, he explained.

Despite the increase in new scholarships, the College is struggling to provide for all the students who need assistance paying for their Houghton education. Last Saturday, a campus wide email was sent from Loper discussing the work study options on campus. According to the email, there are students waiting for jobs on campus. Two solutions were presented: reserve all the jobs for Houghton's "neediest students" or ensure that "students to be held their awarded work study hours." Student Financial Services has chosen the latter option and, starting next fall, Loper has asked students "to limit your work to average 10 hours a week. If you work multiple jobs, the total number of hours should not

exceed 10. I am sure this will not be easy for some, but we are trying to be fair and give an opportunity for all to work."

Some students are already concerned how this will affect them next semester. Junior Ben Valyou, who currently works over 10 hours in the dining hall, stated that 10 hours will not be enough for his tuition payments, and since he is able to eat during his shifts, fewer hours mean fewer meals which mean higher food expenses. He also stated that he believes there are plenty of jobs on campus: "From my experience working for Sodexo, I know that as the beginning of the new semester comes up the managers work pretty hard to make sure there aren't any unfilled shifts (and there are often quite a few that need to be filled). As I've heard it aptly said, 'It's only students who wait until a month into the semester to decide to start looking for a job who have any trouble finding an on-campus job.'"

Senior Adam Townley also said there are jobs on campus that haven't been filled, such as someone to shovel the snow for the flats. The position

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Highland Mascot Suggestion Gains Support



Ryan Spear suggested that the Highland become Houghton's new mascot.

by DAN SENDKER

On February 10, the Star ran an article by Ryan Spear, Associate Director of Admission, entitled "Highlands: An Unsolicited Mascot Suggestion." In it, Spear proposed that Houghton adopt the Highland cow as an official mascot. He pointed to positive similarities between the College and the cattle and suggested that we could easily retain our current Highlander identity while incorporating the Highland cow.

Feedback to the article and proposal has been largely positive. In a recent poll ran by the Star, 72% of the responses were in favor of adopting the change. Spear himself was taken aback by the enormous response: "I was surprised by the number and diversity of people who mentioned reading the article and liking the idea. I heard from community members, older alums, professors, current students, staff members -- basically the entire spectrum of the Houghton community."

Making ideas into reality can be laborious, especially when the idea affects an entire college. Athletic Director Skip Lord elaborates on the difficulty of incorporating a new mascot. "Changing a logo is a major undertaking. Although anything is possible, the last time we did this, it was a year-long process that cost about \$8,000." Vice President Sharra Hynes echoed Lord's sentiments, emphasizing that "this would be a significant undertaking." Spear, on the other hand, affirms that "Many sports teams have mascots that don't directly relate to their athletic logo -- the Buffalo Sabres, for example have 'Sabretooth' as a mascot although their 'logo' is different." He also points to Wheaton College, whose team name is the Thunder, yet their unofficial mascot is a mastodon. "Rather than suggest that we completely overhaul our current look," said Spear, "my basic push now is to suggest that we simply adopt the Highlands as our mascot."

With all the changes being made in the athletics department, it seems

An Interview With Lawrence Mead

by CHRIS HARTLINE

He has been described as both a hero and a villain: the architect of one of the most important public policy reforms of the last 30 years and the "Darth Vader of Welfare." Granted, the latter is how he describes his own public image, but he emphasizes Vader's redemption in Return of the Jedi.

Lawrence Mead currently serves as Professor of Politics and Public Policy at New York University. With both an M.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard University, he has taught at NYU for over 30 years and has served as a visiting professor at the University of Wisconsin, Harvard, and Princeton University and visiting fellow at Princeton and the Hoover Institute at Stanford University.

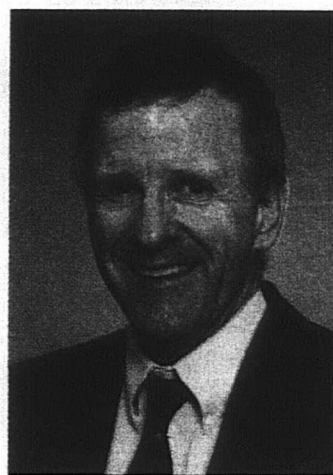
As well as his work in academia, he has a vast array of experience in the policy world. He currently serves as a Visiting Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and has also worked for the Republican National Committee, the Urban Institute, as a speechwriter to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, and as a policy analyst at the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

A self-described protégé of controversial political and social scientists James Q. Wilson, Mead

has focused his attention over the last few decades on the issue of welfare reform. According to Mead, the welfare system was flawed for two reasons. First, the United States had gradually progressed to a system based entirely on entitlement: the government simply aided those who were poor, no questions asked. Second, the system was based only on economics; welfare was simply a transfer of resources from one party to another. However, unlike controversial political scientist Charles Murray, Mead did not suggest that welfare itself was the problem or that it needed to be eliminated -- rather, he fought to fix welfare.

In his recent publication, "From Prophecy to Charity: How to Help the Poor," Mead wrote "Progress against poverty...requires programs with the capacity to redirect lives, not just transfer resources." However, he emphasized in our interview that unlike his mentor James Q. Wilson, or friend and columnist David Brooks, his goal is not to alter values in a direct sense. "I don't aspire to change character...creating character is a fantasy."

Mead's goal -- partially achieved in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996 -- was to create a paternalistic program to alter



Lawrence Mead is the architect of important public policy reforms regarding welfare.

behavior, not necessarily character. As he wrote in his book, "In a rich society, poverty means not deprivation of resources but a breakdown of order. The solution must be to restore order." According to Mead, there are two essential characteristics of social order: employment and

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WORLD / Good Intentions, but Invisible Children Should Refocus Energies



ANDREA PACHECO

by JENS HIEBER

A heavy pounding on her door at 6 one morning brought Angelina Atyam face to face with a neighbor who had come to tell her that the Catholic school that her daughter attended had been raided by Joseph Kony's Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). Angelina's daughter was 14 years old and had been kidnapped along with 138 other girls.

That happened in 1996. Recently, the Kony2012 video has been infecting the social media sphere. It gives some history on the LRA, on Kony, and on Invisible Children, an organization that advocates for the children that have been kidnapped by the LRA. They aim to pressure the world to capture and try Joseph Kony at the International Criminal Court at the Hague.

Invisible Children not only advocates for these children, but has also instituted an early warning radio network to warn villages of coming

attacks, a rehabilitation center, and a livelihood program to help promote sustainable economic welfare for the affected region in Northern Uganda. This video and Invisible Children have caused millions of young adults to care about an issue that they were not aware existed before. However, the organization has had a number of criticisms leveled against it. These include that only a part of the vast amounts of money they are receiving is going to those programs that are making a visible difference, that too much is being spent on simply raising awareness, that they oversimplify the problem, have misleading statistics, and are patronizing and neo-colonialist in nature.

The validity of these criticisms has been much debated, yet some questions must be considered. Is military action the best way to go about "solving" such an issue? Toward the end of last year, U.S. President Obama announced the deployment of 100 "combat-equipped" troops to Uganda to assist in the capture of Joseph Kony. This was seen as a huge advance by the Invisible Children organization. But what would happen if Kony were actually captured or even killed? Past military action has not solved the problem. Is donating to a large Western organization going to be as effective as perhaps donating to several smaller local organizations that do similar work?

When her daughter was kidnapped, Angelina Atyam was only able to imagine what her child was going through. Angelina was bitter and angry, but then, she said, "I was convicted of the need to first deal with our feelings of hatred and to pray for forgiveness toward the

rebels -- we had put a curse on them. Praying for those who had wronged us became our sacrifice."

Angelina and other parents founded the Concerned Parents Association (CPA) and began to advocate for the release of their children. When her story began to create a stir, Kony offered to release her daughter in return for her silence. "Getting my child back would be absolutely wonderful, but if I accepted the offer, I would be turning my back on all of the other families, I'd destroy the new community spirit we had created -- the hope of getting all of the boys and girls back.... Some people thought I was crazy, but all those children had become my children."

Emmanuel Katongole, a Ugandan Catholic priest, has written a book called "The Sacrifice of Africa" in which he explores how the Church can have a lasting impact in changing Africa. He stated that "Northern Uganda desperately needs not only a cessation of fighting, but a story that can radically interrupt the story of warfare, with a vision of a new future that is grounded in a totally different idea.... This future is not simply a return to civilized warfare, in which the weak, crippled, and children are protected during fighting."

"You cannot overcome violence with violence," said Angelina. "Some look at it as justice. I don't know. Me, I would like justice to preserve life, rather than taking away somebody's life -- even if he's a witch, a murderer, a bad man like that." If a woman who has endured so much at the hands of the LRA can forgive and strives for a peaceful resolution to this conflict, what right do Westerners on social

media sites have to assuage their guilt by calling for more violence?

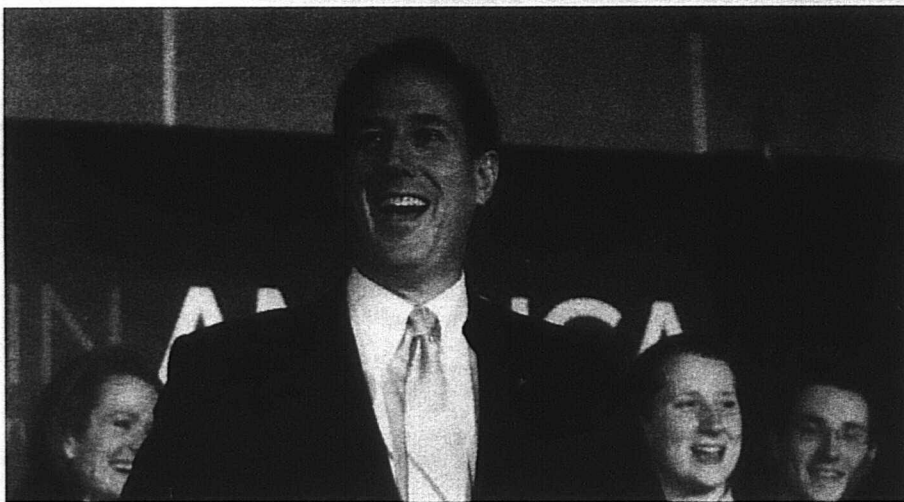
After almost eight years in the hands of the LRA, Charlotte was guided away by the voice of the Lord and escaped with her two children. "She is the Lord's answer to my prayer," Angelina said. "I saw the miracle of the living God when Charlotte was given back to me." How is such faith possible? Katongole said, "It is this spiritual and theological lens that confirms Angelina's advocacy on behalf of children is not grounded simply on humanitarian ideals, but her relationship with God."

Invisible Children's actions are done with good intentions, but they need to refocus their energies. They should do more to build on the good they have done in Uganda and expand that to the surrounding countries that are also affected. They should support local initiatives like the CPA. And yes, by all means, advocate. Not for more violence, but for peace. Prayer, Angelina said in a sermon at a Peace-building conference, is the answer. "Many more children are still outside there. We need your prayers. The Lord hears prayers, I know. But maybe, help me so that it is more powerful."

For the full sermon, Google "Angelina Atyam video" and select the third result. It is only a little longer than Kony2012 and not nearly as flashy. It doesn't have a cute kid, engaging videography, or dramatic speeches, but it is worth listening to this woman of faith who forgives as Christ calls all of us to. Anyone looking to donate to help victims of the LRA, can do so via www.mcc.org. ★

IN THE NEWS

SANTORUM PULLS UPSET | Rick Santorum pulled an upset victory Tuesday when he won both the Mississippi and Alabama primaries, defeating fellow contender and perceived frontrunner for the Republican presidential ticket, Mitt Romney, by 2.2 percentage points in Mississippi and 5.5 points in Alabama. Santorum was not projected to win either state by any of the polls taken before the voting. In Hawaii's primary, however, Romney won with 45.4% of the vote.



WWW.POLITICO.COM



WWW.CNN.COM

AMERICAN SOLDIER KILLS 16 CIVILIANS IN AFGHANISTAN | An American soldier based in a rural area in Afghanistan killed 16 villagers, including nine children, in an early morning shooting spree on Sunday.

Vehicle Rams Runway as U.S. Official Arrives at an Afghan Airfield

An Afghan man crashed a stolen truck onto the runway of a military airfield in southern Afghanistan just as U.S. Defense Secretary arrived. No one was harmed in the incident.

ATTENTION ALL WRITERS!

Want to be a part of the Houghton Star? Email us at houghtonstar@gmail.com



HOUGHTON BUSINESS STUDENTS WIN COMPETITION | A group of Houghton business students won first place in the 2012 Society for Human Resource Management Northeast Regional Case Competition. From left to right: Josh Akpan '12, Petar Serifimovski '12, Meredith Toombs '12, Mark O'Brien '13, Katie Schutte '12, Shawn Gillis '13, and Prof. Ken Bates.

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like this might be a great opportunity to add a mascot. "We're adding new sports and transitioning to NCAA DIII, and I think the timing is perfect," said Spear. According to Lord, however, things are busy enough in the athletics department as it is. "Given the new national affiliation, the new conference membership, the new sports and the Kerr-Pegula Sports Complex, I would think we have plenty to concentrate on right now." At the same time, he made it clear that "if a significant interest remains when those projects are completed, it might be possible to re-visit this topic."

Currently there are no concrete plans to move forward with any sort of change, though the administration and athletics department are both willing to consider it further. According to Hynes, "if there appears to be strong support from students and other constituencies for such a change, we'd have to evaluate the idea amidst other priorities." Lord quite understandably has his hands full with the current developments in the athletics department, but is still open to the idea in the future. SGA President Garrett Fitzsimmons said that "Senate might discuss it sometime soon."

At the end of the day, this seems to be a serious but light-hearted attempt to instill some much-needed pride in our college. "Houghton could use more team spirit and those awesome shaggy beasts might be conducive of that," said Fitzsimmons. Spear agreed, citing this as one of the reasons he came up with the idea in the first place. "Despite some of the difficulties that Houghton is going through, there is so much to celebrate and be proud of. This is something fun and a bit quirky to rally around during this moment."

For more information on the current conversation, check out the Facebook group "Highlanders for Highlands." For more information on the animal itself, check out the Twitter group @highlandfacts, Wikipedia, or a nearby farm. ★

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was never filled this semester, so Townley and another student split the responsibility for shoveling. Townley, a General Biology TA, also voiced concern over TA positions on campus. Often TAs must work over 10 hours, and he is unsure there will be enough eligible students to split the hours.

For those students currently working over 10 hours a week at campus jobs to help pay their education expenses, this new policy will make finding ways to fund their education difficult, as Loper's email admitted. Some are even hoping another alternative will be found. "I'm not sure what I'm going to do to make up for my lost hours yet," said Valyou. "I'm hoping at this point that the backlash the administration is going to get from this will be enough to make the point that it's a bad idea." ★

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marriage. Essentially, the emphasis on economic resources when discussing poverty distracts from the true problems.

The goals of welfare reform were partially accomplished by mandating work, since nonwork is the main cause of poverty, and in doing so fostering a greater sense of community and order. Mead commented that the results of the

1996 reform were far better than even the most optimistic predictions. He admits, however, that the issue of marriage was not addressed, except rhetorically, and a solution to the marriage question remains elusive.

This leads to the question of whether more reforms are likely or even possible. Concerning the current state of American politics, Mead commented that "within the last 50 years, Communism and Marxism overshadowed the Western world" to the point where "the intelligentsia

believed that this was the future." Currently, however, he stated, "we are not ideologically divided today. It's just a matter of degree...Even the left in America now accepts the market like it didn't 50 years ago."

The problem for Mead, and the community of theorists and policy makers focused on welfare, is that "the public is satisfied with the '90s reform." Welfare is no longer a salient policy issue in America. Mead added that "there are still major mysteries about welfare," but the reforms of the '90s at least moved the debate from "an ideological to a moralistic" one.

While Mead is well-known in the policy community and the reforms that he spearheaded have been widely praised, his work has not been without criticism. Efforts to reform the welfare system, both nationally and on the state level, were described by Loïc J. D. Wacquant as occurring "under the gleeful eye of neopaternalistic advocate Lawrence Mead."

Writer Kenan Malik, in his essay "We Used to Want to Change Society. Now We Just Want to Coerce the Poor," criticized the reform efforts of Mead. "It is a policy that makes low paid, non-unionised jobs socially acceptable and declares those who refuse to take such jobs to be 'immoral.' Its real impact is not in creating jobs or changing the lives of the poor, but in shifting the blame for poverty and unemployment on to the poor and the unemployed themselves."

These types of criticisms are characteristic of efforts to reform major areas of public policy. Whether or not he is the supreme arbiter of the fortunes of the poor, Mead has spent a lifetime studying and implementing the solutions that had previously been illusory. The quality and quantity of his contribution to public policy and American society is evident. ★

SGA ELECTION RESULTS

President:
Joel Ernst

College Senators:
Nick Cannistraci

Vice President:
Benjamin Hardy

Julian Cook

Michael Hardy

Commissioner of Communications:
Jennifer Freeman

Elizabeth Raucher

Aaron Rider

Commissioner of Finance:
Austin Rudd

Megan Specksgor

Chaplain:
Jonathan Durweiler

Hannah Vardy

Life at Houghton for The Visually Impaired

by SHANNON AMES

This week I sat down in the noisy cafeteria for an interview with sophomore Alicia Ucciferri, who is a Vocal Performance major, to get an idea of what it's like for her as a Visually Impaired (VI) student at Houghton College. With a lot of laughs, Alicia shared her Houghton story.

What's it like to be a VI student at Houghton College?

At first when I came here it was disconcerting. I'd never been in a place where people were so helpful. I thought they were being nice to me because they were like, "Oh someone to help" and were just trying to get "heaven points" or something. I was scared I would never know who my actual friends were and because I was blind and some sort of charity project; then I realized it's just how life is when you love the Lord.

Occasionally there are times and there are certain people that put a lot of emphasis on the fact that I'm blind in the things that they say and in their humor, but for the most part nobody here really cares. I don't feel like it actually influences my friendships at all.

What made you decide to come to Houghton College?

The Lord. I had a counselor at a blind camp I had gone to. She went to Houghton and she asked me what I wanted to major in. I told her that I want to do voice performance and she said, "You should go to Houghton," and I was like, "What's Houghton?" I came and visited and I was like "Oh my goodness this school is so strict, but the people are really nice."

Still though, I was going to go to a school in Florida and I was dead-set on it and really excited about it. Four days before the enrollment deposits were due the head of their disabilities office calls me up and basically is like, [reverts to southern drawl] "Ma'am we do not support blind individuals on this campus." When I got off the phone I was really upset.

A few weeks later I went to Mass with my Grandma and I felt like "I really

need the Lord." All I could think of was I need to go to Houghton. And I didn't feel peace until I was like "Fine God, but you need to renew my enrollment deposit" and He did, and then I was like, "Well they still have to accept me even though it's past the due date, and they said, "Oh we were hoping you would change your mind." So it was like, "Ok, God."

Do you feel that Houghton has met your needs? How?

Houghton's been very accommodating. Professors that are dogmatic about wanting things printed out have allowed me to email them assignments. They've also been very understanding about hurdles with inconsistently functional technology, and hiring readers and scribes for some classes.

Are there aspects of Houghton that have made it difficult to be a VI student here?

Snowy weather can make it difficult to get around outside. For me, I'm also night blind, so before I had Brownie getting around at night was difficult.

The hardest thing for me was when I got Brownie. I felt like I was constantly being stared at. And people for months were constantly saying, "Oh, I just want to pet your dog." Walking around and hearing people constantly going "Aww..." felt sort of dehumanizing, but people don't do it anymore.

Are there aspects of Houghton that have made it easy to be a VI student here?

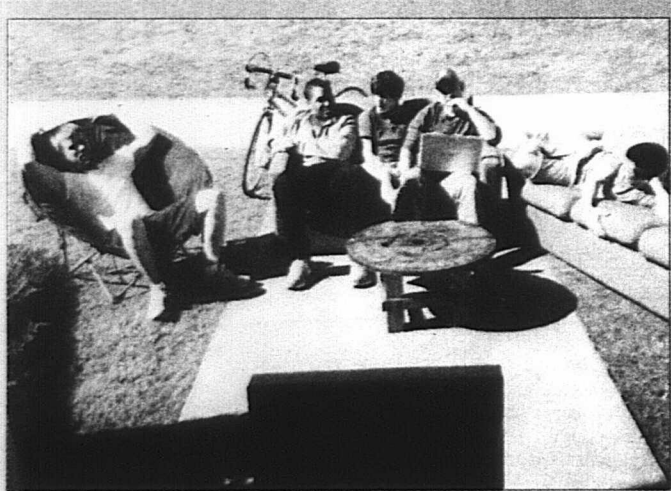
Just like anything else, the Lord, and also just the fact that nobody cares that I'm blind.

What do you want to tell fellow students about being a VI student at Houghton?

What do I want to say to Houghton students? I love them, they're wonderful. They're a big, fat blessing.

What do you want to tell fellow students about being a VI student at Houghton?

I don't really think about the fact that I'm blind on a regular basis, it's not like I forget about it, but it doesn't really come to my attention. It doesn't really have that much to do with my life. ★



Justin Bowersox '12

**PICTURE
of the WEEK**

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

Jim Ruoff: The Man Behind the Moustache

by MEGAN SEAWOOD

Jim Ruoff is the man that is often seen, but rarely heard. He came to Houghton nearly two years ago as the General Manager of the newly implemented Sodexo Catering Services. But behind the many managerial tasks and the big burly moustache is a man that many students at Houghton don't really know.

Jim came to Houghton with over 12 years of experience in the field of dining services. He worked as dining manager for many college campuses including Bucknell University, Shenandoah University, UMBC, and the Catholic University of America. In addition to campus dining experience, Jim has also managed numerous meals honoring dignitaries as well as PGA Tour events.

But Jim would be the first to tell you that it has always been working on college campuses that has been his passion. He claims that it is the youthful energy that college campuses offer that keeps him coming back to universities noting that, "Young people believe that anything is possible and things can be better. That attitude is just contagious."

Jim got his start in college catering while he himself was in college. He attended Allegheny College in northwestern Pennsylvania to play football and pursue a history degree. Because of the athletic division of the school, he wasn't receiving any athletic scholarships and decided to pick up a few shifts in the school

kitchen to supplement his tuition payments. Eventually, he was asked to be a student manager, sometimes being responsible for running one of three dining halls on his school's campus.

He graduated with a history degree and within three months found himself as assistant manager at Gannon University's dining services. He began to move around with his job, being assigned to many different schools in the mid-Atlantic region. It was in the Washington, DC area that Jim met his wife Beth.

The two have been married for over 18 years and have three children: Ben (15), Katie (12), and Megan (9). While his family resides in the Binghamton area, Jim commutes to Houghton on Monday mornings and leaves Friday nights, spending his precious weekends with his wife and children. He and his wife are committed servants of God through their Catholic Church at home and committed parents to each of their three unique children.

Jim has counted his experience at Houghton as one of his best experiences in college dining. He came here to help establish the dining service at Houghton and seems to have done a fairly good job. He hopes to have proven that he always hears the voice of the students and tries to meet their requests. While he is sad to leave Houghton, he is thankful for the chance to be on the campus, working with talented people and giving them opportunities to use their gifts.

HPO'S PREMIER EVENING



LUKE LAUER

The HPO was approved to be a provisional student organization Wednesday.

by LYDIA WILSON

On the evening of March 9, the newborn Houghton Pops Orchestra presented itself for the first time in concert with Hearts of the Highlands, a compilation of Celtic music.

Houghton Pops Orchestra (HPO) is the product of Robert Martin's passion and hard work. Martin, a junior Music Education major, organized the formation of the HPO and saw his plans come to fruition as he conducted on their premier evening. The HPO is a

student-run project, funded and fueled entirely by student volunteers. After an initial meeting before Christmas, the HPO began practicing for their debut in February. Each of the student volunteers put in great effort, led on by Martin, as sophomore Meghan Vanderkruk, one of two cellists with HPO, said "It was great to be a part of a purely student-run group. Rob did a great job putting music and rehearsals together. Everyone in the group is so

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From Indoor to Outdoor: Track Team Sees Success

by HANNAH JENNINGS

February break marked the end of the indoor track season and the beginning of training for the outdoor season for Houghton's track athletes. Individual accomplishments, broken school records and national competition marked the success for the athletes in all events.

Despite the lack of a conference championship (the American Midwest has never hosted a championship meet), the women's team proved their strength as a team through qualification for and participation in two national championship meets. The women's team scored 7th in the nation at the National Christian College Athletics Association (NCCAA) National Championship meet, and sent eight runners (and one jumper) to the NAIA National Championship meet. Assistant Coach Josiah Snelgrove was pleased with the performances throughout the season, applauding how the women "pushed each other and ran consistent, right from the beginning."

Senior captain Danielle Brenon continued to prove her value on the team, being named NCCAA Athlete of the Week and finishing 5th in the NAIA National Championship 3000-meter race, achieving the title of All-American athlete. Brenon commented on the dedication of the team as a whole and said, "It has been a joy to watch my teammates improve and work relentlessly toward the common goal of glorifying God. I believe He was pleased with our efforts."

Sophomore Alyssa Figueroa, a first-year runner for Houghton, broke multiple school records as a sprinter and jumper, took first place in the 55m race at the NCCAA National Championship meet and participated in the NAIA National Championship meet. Dougherty is pleased with Figueroa's performances and the prospects of future successes: "It is pretty phenomenal to go to Nationals in sprints as a first-year athlete. Sprints take a kind of maturity to excel in competition, different from other events."

Both Brenon and Figueroa travelled to the Armory New Balance Invitational in New York City in February to compete against Division I athletes, a highlight of the season according to Dougherty. "The track at this meet is the oldest in the nation and it is one of the most prestigious meets in the United States," said Dougherty. Brenon broke her own school record in order to place 5th overall, landing her a ranking of 2nd in the nation for NAIA athletes.

The roster for both the men's and women's teams grew significantly from last year, adding depth to all area events. Head Coach Matthew Dougherty commented that "As a young team, it's exciting because we are growing. With mostly first-year athletes, there is a lot of room for growth in our already strong performances and we're gaining depth."

The men's team, although missing national qualifying marks, saw several strong individual performances. "The men's team, less than half of whom are returning athletes, need time to

mature at the competition level," said Dougherty.

Despite being a young team, there were notable individual performances. Sophomore sprinter Steve Piazza was named NCCAA Athlete of the Week for his performances at the North Coast Invitational at the Spire Track Complex in Geneva, Ohio. In addition, sophomore David Richards just missed the NAIA qualifying time for the men's 5000-meter race, a difficult standard to meet compared to previous years. "This year has been a solid rebuilding year for the men's team," said Assistant Coach Stevie Hine. "Next year will be a big recruiting class and we are looking to grow."

The outdoor season will begin with the Jack Thoms Invitational in Lynchburg, Virginia, this weekend. The women will have a good chance at an American Midwest Conference Championship, according to Dougherty, as well as good prospects for the National Championship meets. ★

Were You Aware?

by RENEE ROBERTS

In 1883, the first donations for a school were received and ground was broken in April. Upon opening, the school had between 70 and 80 students with only three teachers and one principal. It was an elementary and secondary school with tuition at \$4 a semester. The only scholarly accoutrements were a globe and a chalkboard. It wasn't until 1923 that Houghton became an accredited college.

LAST ARTIST SERIES CONCERT OF THE YEAR: CANADIAN BRASS

by BRIAN LUSTIG

Wesley Chapel will soon be filled with the brilliant sounds of brass instruments. At 8 tonight, the Houghton College Artist Series will host the Canadian Brass. The group will present a program that will feature a variety of style periods which will ultimately satisfy the musical tastes of all listeners.

Formed in 1970 and comprised of five professional brass players, this brass quintet has presented programs in many major American concert halls such as Carnegie Hall in New York City and the Kennedy Center in Washington DC, as well as abroad in Australia, the Middle East, the Soviet Union, Europe, and South America. Most notably, they were one of the first Western musicians allowed to play in China following the Cultural Revolution that lasted into the mid '70s. In addition to the plethora of tours the ensemble takes, they have a discography of over 100 albums ranging from the music of J.S. Bach to tributes of Louis Armstrong, and have been featured on the Billboard Classical Top 25 Chart. They have also been featured on a number of television programs, further increasing the popularity of this

professional ensemble.

Over the years, the Canadian Brass ensemble has seen a variety of trumpet, horn, and trombone players. However, Dr. Charles "Chuck" Daellenbach has been the tubist for the now 40-year-old ensemble for the entirety of its existence. After receiving his doctorate from the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester, he moved to teach at the University of Toronto. Upon meeting Gene Watts and hearing of his idea of a new brass quartet, eventually changed to a quintet, Daellenbach's life changed.

The other current members of the quintet hold degrees from some of the most prestigious music schools in the world. Trombonist Achilles Liarmakopoulos, the newest member of the Canadian Brass, holds degrees from Yale University, the Curtis Institute of Music, and the San Francisco Conservatory. Hornist Eric Reed graduated from Rice University and the Juilliard School. Trumpeter Brandon Ridenour graduated from the Juilliard School, and at age 20 was the youngest member to ever join the Canadian Brass. Chris Coletti, trumpet, graduated from the Manhattan School

of Music and the Juilliard School. Together this group has received several Junos (Canadian grammy), an Ecco (German grammy), received honorary doctorates, and was once nominated for an American Grammy award.

Tonight's program includes standard brass composers such as Giovanni Gabrieli and Samuel Scheidt. The audience should also expect well-known arrangements of popular classical music including Bach's "Air on a G string," various arrangements of Brahms' works, and the extremely virtuosic "Carnival of Venice." The program concludes with a "Tribute to the Ballet," which includes musical quotes from Tchaikovsky's Romeo and Juliet, Swan Lake, the Nutcracker, and Grieg's Peer Gynt.

The College is more than fortunate to host an ensemble of utmost professional quality for the last Artist Series concert of the year. Tickets for students are free, and will be available during meal times. In addition to the virtuosic playing you will experience, you might be most surprised by their concert attire, especially what they wear on their feet! ★

HPO from page 4

talented ... Rob deserves huge props for all his hard work pulling this together."

Martin selected the music for the Hearts of the Highlands show, a blend of traditional Irish and Celtic music. This particular show was put on in collaboration with dancers from Soul to Sole dance studio. "They were fantastic," said sophomore Nicole Mobach who was in the audience. "Their tap dancing piece was incredible. They were definitely a crowd favorite." HPO was also joined by Houghton alum Alastair Hutton, who added a traditional Irish quality to the night with his performance on the bagpipes. From the stage during the show, Martin explained the difficulties of finding a place for Hutton to play, due to the immense volume level the instrument produces. Eventually a spot was found for him just offstage, and his resulting contribution to the overall

concert was truly impressive.

The soft yellow glow of the stage added to the feeling of Celtic music rising over sunlit Irish hillsides. The combined efforts of the students involved made for a spectacular show. The songs ranged from age-old Irish tunes to the hymn "Amazing Grace" and the song well-known for its role in the soundtrack of "The Boondock Saints," "The Blood of Cu Chullain." The evening was sprinkled with stand-out performances from student soloists, including the mind-blowing violin piece "The Butterfly," executed with precision by sophomore Elena Velazquez. There were multiple vocal soloists, including a haunting a cappella rendition of Danny Boy featuring junior Kathryn Dygert and senior Kelly Van Kirk, and farewell tune "The Parting Glass," sung by freshman Emily Maynard, who doubled as both a soloist and member of the choir.

The final piece of the night was "You Raise Me Up," a hymn appropriately written by an Irish composer. "Rob did an amazing job with the harmonies and the vocal soloists were fantastic," said Vanderkruk. "It was a great way to end the show and a great testament to our faith." Overall, the first revealing of the Houghton Pops Orchestra was a success. Unique in many ways, the experience was made even more interesting in that the audience was encouraged to participate by clapping at any point during the performance. This liberty was taken full advantage of. "There was so much support that there was standing room only in the recital hall," said Mobach. "You could definitely tell that the audience enjoyed the music."

The Houghton Pops Orchestra was approved to be a provisional student organization at Senate Wednesday. ★

SPORTS RECAP

BASEBALL:

UPCOMING GAMES:

FRI 3/16

at Geneva College @ 2PM & 4PM

SAT 3/17

at Geneva College @ 1PM & 3PM

TUES 3/20

vs Medaille College @ 3PM & 5PM

SOFTBALL:

UPCOMING GAMES:

FRI 3/16

at Geneva College @ 3PM & 5PM

SAT 3/17

at Carlow Univ. @ 1PM & 3PM

THURS 3/22

at Grove City College @ 3PM & 5PM

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

Catholic Teaching and Religious Liberty: Understanding the Nuances of the Contraceptive Debate



by ZEKIEL MIENTKEWICZ

Since the time of the French Revolution, liberal democracies and the Roman Catholic Church have experienced a great deal of conflict, both ideological and political. The most recent of these debates focuses on mandate of the Obama administration that will force Catholic Institutions to provide contraceptive coverage and sterilization treatments in their health coverage.

Unsurprisingly, this debate has released torrents of charged rhetoric flowing in both directions. However, I don't believe that the public understands the full scope of the philosophical differences that have led to this debate. Some claim that the Roman Catholic Church's opposition to President Obama's mandate generates a war on "poor women and families who will suffer the most." This idea is ridiculous. The poor have always been loved by the Church. Indeed, the largest non-governmental charity organization in the United States is Catholic Charities. In addition to this multi-billion dollar network, many individual dioceses, churches, and monastic orders assist the poor with their own programs. In addition, the Roman Catholic Church

also strives to alleviate the situation of the poor by focusing on social justice for all peoples and nations. The idea that the Roman Catholic Church was against the poor demonstrates a profound ignorance of the Church's mission and doctrine. Instead, the Catholic Church opposes Obama's mandate for more important reasons than mere class conflict. It opposes the mandate because it needs the freedom to live its teachings on the sanctity of human life.

This Catholic theology is based upon the basic Christian idea that human life is sacred, because it is made in the image of God. Because human life is sacred, it is infinitely valuable and can only be possessed and governed by God. Thus, only God can decide the time of our births and the time of our deaths. Catholicism opposes the use of contraceptives for the same reasons that it opposes slavery, suicide, eugenics, euthanasia, racism, murder, and abortion, because each of these acts cheapens and weakens the innate dignity of the human person, making him or her something to be controlled by another. While the issue of contraceptives may seem small when compared to these other evils, the holistic nature of this theology makes any attack against one part of it an attack against all of it, and any compromise in one area compromises the entire theology. Because of this, the Roman Catholic Church refuses to take part in any action that directly or indirectly supports contraception. To force Catholic institutions to administer contraceptives violates their own beliefs, by forcing them to subscribe to church teaching merely in name, and not in action.

It is at this point that I wish to consider the reasons why the Obama Administration created this policy in the first place. Much of the administration's rhetoric is based around the concept of promoting women's

health. In addition, some have suggested that Obama's mandate was created for fiscal reasons. In her article for the last issue of the *Star*, Dr. LaCelle-Peterson wrote: "Given that birth control is cheaper than abortion or childbirth, insurance companies will most certainly comply with [Obama's orders]."

However, while advocating the health of women and seeking financial savings are both laudable goals, one must consider the context in which we are speaking. In regards to promoting health, contraceptives do come with their own risks, ones which may outweigh their rewards. In addition, to advocate contraception for financial reasons demonstrates severely misaligned priorities.

Children, even ones born into unfortunate (or merely imperfect) circumstances, are the future of all societies and without them nations are doomed to failure. According to Catholic doctrine, human lives are not mistakes produced by faulty contraceptives but are gifts from God. Thus, Catholics see the gift of a child as something that is precious and outweighs its financial costs. Simply, pregnancy is not a disease but a blessing that should be embraced.

Instead of buying into the Obama administration's rhetoric, the Roman Catholic Church suggests that this mandate is an attack on religious liberty. This is an appropriate description, for the mandate gives them freedom of worship but not freedom of religion. This distinction is not a choice between two synonyms, but it reflects another question that is at the center of the conflicts between the Roman Catholic Church and the states in which it resides.

At the core of this debate over contraception lies another debate — one that questions the very nature of American

society. According to John Courtney Murray, secular states prefer to see one society within their nation, whereas the Catholic Church insists that there are two: the society of the state and the Church universal. Under the secular view, religion becomes a private thing of personal conviction and it should be removed from the public consciousness and discussion. However, the Catholic Church believes that religion is primarily a public institution and should have a place in the public mind and discourse.

And what does this have to do with the debate over contraceptives? Quite simply, it has everything to do with this debate. The debate over forcing Catholic institutions to pay for contraceptives isn't a debate over who can have sex when. Instead, it is a debate over whether the Roman Catholic Church and other Christians can critique and engage the larger American culture as an equal, offering two thousand years of wisdom and philosophy. In the end what I find unreasonable and bigoted in Obama's mandate is that it seeks to limit the witness of the Roman Catholic Church and her institutions in the name of its own ideologies. America is a vast nation, with its citizens' proponents of all religions and philosophies. The idea of any ideology or religion — whether it be Protestantism, Secularism, Communism, Judaism, Hinduism, Liberalism, Conservatism, Islam, or even Catholicism — denying another's members or its institutions the right to speak and live its beliefs in the public square is contrary to America's founding principles. President Obama's mandate is a direct violation of the First Amendment and should not be tolerated.

Zeke is a senior humanities and writing major

The View From Down Here: Politics, Media, and Generation Y

by CHRIS HARTLINE
and ELISA SHEARER

Politics has always been prone to backbiting and petty theatricalities. Why, then, does the current scene seem especially hopeless? Why has the younger generation of voters so significantly withdrawn from political involvement? We suggest that a distrust of the news media is what makes the political scene look especially bleak to young voters.

The typical miasma of political contention has spread out of Capitol Hill and into our news channels and newspapers. News channels feature political commentary more than news, and political commentary features belligerence more than political commentary.

A clear manifestation of the deficit of trust of the media was a 2009 poll done by Time magazine. Walter Cronkite held the title (since 1974) of "Most Trusted Man in America". Cronkite was the most visible figure in the media, which at the time provided objective discourse and information to the public, and he died in 2009. In the subsequent Time poll, voters said that the most trusted news anchor in America was Comedy Central host and political satirist Jon Stewart.

The fact is that the news media is supposed to provide a momentary stay against political hostility, an unbiased source of objective information for the public, and that it is not doing this. Consequently, the public is losing their faith in the news media, and by extension

the American political system itself.

News media has become another tool used by political parties to influence the opinions of the public. A particularly blatant example of this is the "Plan for Putting the GOP in the News" memo from the Nixon administration. The 15-page memo was anonymous, and has written comments on it by Nixon's then-advisor and current Fox News President Roger Ailes.

The memo stated that television was the best medium for political persuasion because of its imminent popularity: "People are lazy. With television you just sit - watch - listen. The thinking is done for you." The plan was to record prepackaged interviews with Republican politicians and deliver the videotapes to local news stations. Presently, critics say that Fox News has demonstrated their role as an arm of the Republican Party.

MSNBC, while on the opposite side of the political spectrum from Fox News, is similar in its audacious political stance. In a distasteful and recurring ending rant on his show, former host Keith Olbermann once shouted (his monologue was directed at then-President Bush), "This war is not about you ... shut the hell up!" Fellow

host Chris Matthews also said after a 2008 Obama speech that he "felt this thrill going up my leg as Obama spoke."

So it can be concluded that the media has become unabashedly partisan. Even the very fact that it is standard for each major newspaper to endorse a presidential candidate reflects a problem in the nature of journalism. It results in an overtly ideological news organization - the New

York Times is liberal, the Wall Street Journal is conservative; the Washington Post is liberal, the Washington Times is conservative, etc.

A news staff tending to lean one way on the opinions page is typical and expected; however, the fear is that the ideological slant of the editorial pages will seep into the news coverage. The potential and underlying 'spin' of news stories becomes more important than the objectivity of the events being reported.

And maybe the Nixon administration's prediction about the easy audience of television was prescient: political commentary television programs can be especially caustic and, at times, juvenile. They seem to appeal to the lowest common denominator of the public and

News channels
feature political
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than political
commentary.

Part 2 of a 3 part series

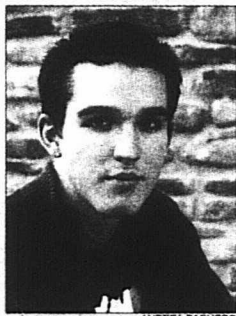
of individuals. Keith Olbermann, Glenn Beck, Rachel Maddow, and Bill O'Reilly are all political commentators who base their rhetoric on the petty mockery of whoever disagrees with them - their arguments are negative, not positive, and clever insults take precedent over constructive criticism.

Most of the public is aware of Rush Limbaugh's stupid and unfunny bit in which he referred to a Georgetown student as a "prostitute" and a "slut" for saying that Georgetown health insurance should cover contraception. But the name-calling does not stop there: other instances of sexist slander have been just as offensive but haven't received as much news coverage as Limbaugh's insult. Bill Maher, a liberal comedian and amateur political commentator on HBO, referred to Sarah Palin as "a tw-t" and "a c-nt". Chris Matthews, MSNBC host, called Hillary Clinton "witchy," "uppity," and claimed that she was elected to the Senate only because her "husband messed around."

The state of the news media today is disheartening because the system of acidity seems to be self-perpetuating. Indeed, truculence has become a prevailing rhetorical device. Keith Olbermann had a segment on his show (and a book) called "The Worst Person in the World". Glenn Beck wrote a book in 2009 called "Arguing with Idiots: How to Stop Small Minds and Big Government".

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Clashes between Theology and Linguistics



by ANDRÉ NELSON

For years now there has been a discussion between missiologists and linguists concerning proper translation of certain key terms into various languages in the Muslim world. The discussion has focused mainly on the translation of the term "Son of God." The concern has been that this term translated literally carries with it sexual connotations, suggesting that God had sexual relations with Mary in order to conceive Jesus. A means by which translators have been overcoming some of these misunderstanding is through what is commonly known as idiomatic translations, or dynamic equivalency translations, these search to convey meaning and concepts but do not translate literally. Some theologians, however, have voiced their opinions about the dangers of such translations. In the case of the "Son of God" there are multiple risks that both sides are

grappling with how to solve: on the one hand there is the deity of Christ that they do not wish to compromise, and on the other hand there is the risk of conveying sexual connotations that are by no means true either.

Many have accused Wycliffe Bible Translators and SIL of translating these terms in a manner as to appease and avoid offending the Muslim world, because "Allah has no son." Wycliffe has responded to these accusations on their website and through multiple blogs stating that "Wycliffe USA's policy requires that the eternal deity of Jesus Christ and His relationship with the Father must be preserved in every translation in such a way that communicates accurately and clearly." Furthermore the process of translation and publishing of the Bible is a rigorous one that involves teams of translators from the local areas as well as consultants and advisors from a range of organizations that all consider very seriously the accuracy of the finished product. This is by no means an easy process that anyone takes lightly.

For years the discussion has remained amongst peers; however the issue "exploded" recently with the drafting of various Internet petitions that have accumulated close to 11,000 signatures and brought the spotlight on the issue. Due to the attention this has drawn, the

various extremes have increasingly entrenched themselves in their positions. Missiologists such as George Houshney, who was heavily involved in Bible translation in the Muslim world, have been extremely critical of the idiomatic translations of the Bible. Other translators see this as a necessity in conveying the word of God.

There is an imbalanced relationship between theology and language. While language is adequate for the purpose it serves, what happens when concepts are introduced that the language has never had to define? "Words do not match in a one-to-one fashion across languages" stated

Theologian Vern Poythress. Religion contains a timeless message in a time bound form. Language is a time bound form. The terms "the Son of God" and "the Son of Man" are both terms that the Bible interprets for itself. The "Son of God" out of context could mean "biological" son on the surface, while the "Son of Man" is just as meaningless as we are all "sons of men." Our understanding of these terms happens as Christianity transforms our society.

A society that has not been transformed by a history of Christian thought cannot understand these seemingly nonsensical terms as translated in a word-per-word fashion, so preeminence is given

to meaning rather than to literal translation.

The difficulty with this imbalance between linguistics and theology is increased when cultural context is overlaid. Islamic culture believes that the Quran is dictated entirely by Allah whereas the Christian Bible is not; this allows for the Bible to be translated whereas the Quran cannot be translated. When a Muslim reads multiple translations of the Bible, their view of inspiration creates a perception that Christianity lacks in consistency. Historically a big area of attack against Christians has been that they change their scripture. Translators weigh all of these potential issues very carefully and determine which translation will convey the meaning intended in scripture most accurately.

Houghton College has played a significant role in dealing with this dilemma. In June of last year Dr. Benjamin Hegeman and Dr. Don Little, members of Houghton Faculty, hosted a conference called "Bridging the Divide." This conference invited approximately 100 members, 50 from both sides of the issue, to come and discuss the problem.

At this point the issue is far from being resolved. However, understanding the difficulties behind translation and understanding the relationship between linguistics and theology is essential in understanding the dilemma in these areas.

André is a sophomore communication major

There is an imbalanced relationship between theology and language

continued from page 6

The media also plays up and encourages contention between politicians. Recently, Obama and John Boehner were arguing about Obama speaking to a joint session of Congress about the American Jobs Act. The back-and-forth between the two politicians, as described by Ezra Klein, was all day "dominating and delighting the political news media," while the focus on the discussion about the employment bill was ignored.

The news media, in the decades when a news anchor was the most trusted human being in the country, served the needed purpose of sorting out the mess of political rhetoric and communicating events to the public with clarity and transparency. In the formative years of the current generation of young adults, however, the public reports to trust a political satirist more than the most prestigious news anchors.

The media itself has not only lost its ability to objectively inform the public of unbiased political events - it has become a tool for fostering and encouraging political contention. The role of the news media is not just lost - it has been perverted. As Jon Stewart said to the hosts of *Crossfire*, this inflammation of petty and theatrical bickering isn't just bad journalism - it's hurting America.

David Brooks said, "There's a collapse in the public's faith in American institutions. The media has done a poor job. We've become as insular and self-regarding as any [other institution]." It is no wonder, then, that there is a deficit of trust among the younger generations - the apparent disintegration of the integrity of our news sources is nothing less than repelling.

Letters to the Editor

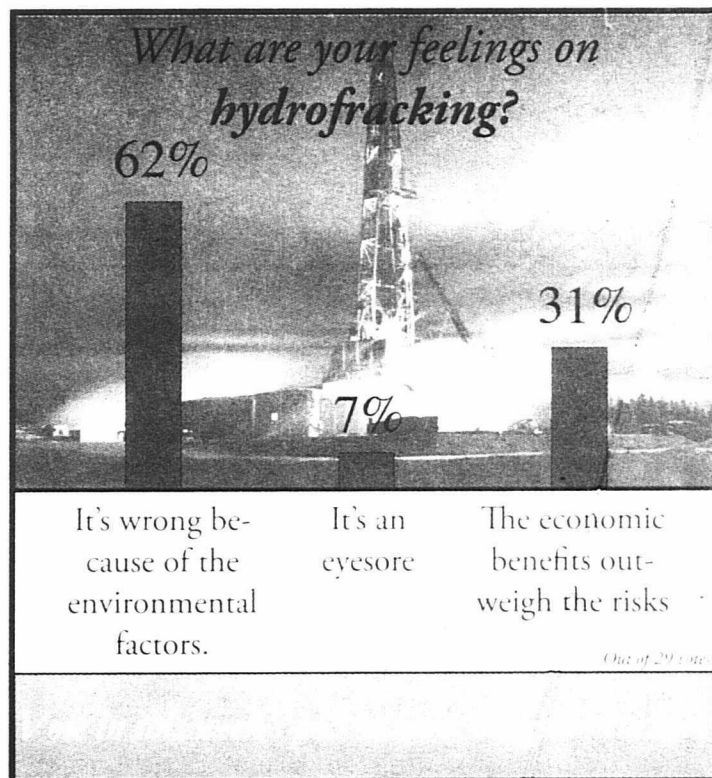
houghtonstar@gmail.com

Dear Editor,

I want to commend the Star for running the dual opinion pieces about hydrofracking in the March 9, 2012 issue. In my view, this is precisely the kind of important local issue (in this case, with national implications as well) that Houghton as a strong, local Christian voice should be at the forefront of in

the dialogue. It is not whether the College takes an official stand either way, but rather that we take the lead on fostering the dialogue because Western New York is where our future as an institution lies. I would encourage additional attention to other local issues in the Star, such as economic and political development in this region, offered from within a Christian worldview (despite disagreements about what that might mean).

-Mark Hipleh, Associate Dean for Academic Administration



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2011-2012

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ANDREW HUTH

KAYLAN BUTEYN

Seven years ago I started out as many college students do, not knowing who I was or what I wanted from my education. When I bought my first DSLR junior year and realized I had found my passion, it was too late to become an art major. I graduated, got married, moved away, but continued to shoot. I had found my passion and pursued it with unbridled desire and drive, starting my own business in the process. I consider it a blessing to have moved back to houghton and be able to study under the professors in this art department. Finishing up a second B.A. in studio art (photo), my work this year has comprised of many themes including reflections on the female form, film and multi-media studies, and experimentation in underwater photography.

ACROSS

1. "Usually second half of "Law & Order"
6. Nada
9. Do, re or mi
13. All plants and animals
14. Dental group
15. _____ of Honor
16. On the move
17. Scottish hero Rob
18. Egg-shaped object
19. "What survivors and losers have in common"
21. Often considered wise
23. Makes feathers stick
24. "The _____ of Life," movie
25. Pipe material
28. Forbidden
30. Crushed grain of various cereals
35. "What "CSI" does on CBS on Wed. nights
37. Original Cohiba producer
39. It's delayed in summer
40. Christmas season
41. "In search of an apprentice
43. Italian money
44. Remote in manner
46. Attorney's bargain
47. Disparaging remark
48. Praying insect
50. Not in favor of
52. Printing unit, pl.
53. Scoff
55. "They know drama?"
57. "What Aguilera judges
59. "One show has 60 of these



Clockwise from top:

Journey to the Light, photo
When Water Comes to Life, photo
Untitled, photo
Untitled, photo

CROSSWORD: PRIMETIME TV

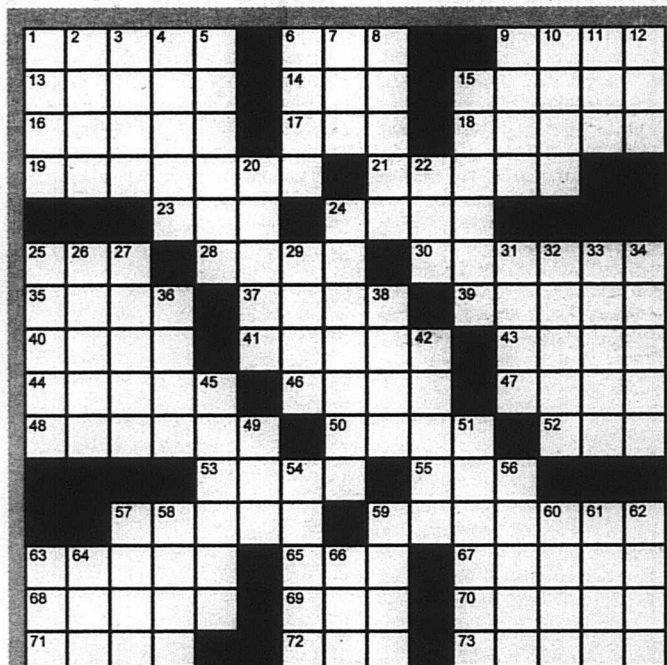
To win a free Java drink, bring your finished puzzle, clearly marked with your full name and CPO, to the Star office in the basement of the Campus Center by 6PM on WED 3/21

Last week's winner was
SARA RAMSEY!
 Your Java card will be sent to you through campus mail.

63. Laughing predator
65. "Everybody used to love this actor
67. Visual or picture
68. Related to oats
69. Overnight lodging
70. Water wheel
71. "Odyssey," e.g.
72. Approximated landing time
73. "He was the dad in "Family Ties"

DOWN

1. Type of ski lift
2. "_____ and shine!"
3. Tiny amount
4. Like Tower of Pisa
5. Cowboy's rope catcher
6. "Not a" or "never a"
7. "Bachelor's last words?"
8. Extra shirt, e.g.
9. "Actress Campbell, formerly of "Party of Five"
10. Smell
11. Mai _____
12. Old age, archaic
15. "Like the Pritchetts
20. Parcel of land
22. Drumstick



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24. Shaped like a tube
25. "Flight's glory days
26. Oscar nominee _____ Davis
27. Famous king of Thebes
29. Stomach reflex
31. Rembrandt's medium
32. Nimble
33. Monotonous hum
34. "They salsa and rumba
36. One-armed bandit
38. Prayer's end
42. Singer LaBelle
45. Fiji native

49. Part of a min.
51. The 9th in baseball, e.g.
54. Fear-inspiring
56. Cancer symptom
57. Obama's right
58. Singles
59. Asian starling
60. Tropical edible root
61. Knight's chest plate
62. Neptune's domains
63. Gardening tool
64. High-pitched bark
66. Marching insect