

EXPANDING THE COMMUNITY: *SOJOURNING TO BELFAST*
NEW REGISTRAR | *FEATURES, P. 5*

LEARNING FROM THE
KING OF THAILAND |
OPINIONS, P. 6

FURTHERING THE
DEGENERATION OF HAITI |
OPINIONS, P. 7

ARTIST OF THE WEEK:
HOLDEN COLE
FEATURES, P. 8

FAFSA Changes Now In Affect

SARAH VANDE BRAKE

Recent changes to the Free Application For Student Aid (FAFSA) system have made the application available since October 1, 2016, instead of on the traditional January 1 release date.

Because the FAFSA is available earlier, students and parents will complete it using tax information from two years ago. This means that this year, students and parents will fill out the FAFSA using their 2015 tax information, according to Financial Aid employee, Susanna Roorbach. The Federal Student Aid website said the new system offers several benefits. One of the benefits will be that the FAFSA will not in-

volve as much estimation of finances since the taxes from two years prior will already be completed. Additionally, it will enable students to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to automatically import tax information to the FAFSA. According to a tutorial on the Federal Student Aid website, this tool makes the process of transferring tax information to the FAFSA faster and more accurate.

Some of the greatest benefits are for incoming first year students, Roorbach said. Before, prospective students had a narrow window between receiving their financial aid package from a school and the school's deadline to enroll. The new system takes the pressure off for new students exploring

See **FAFSA** page 2

Seminary President to Speak at New Vision Week

SARAH VANDE BRAKE

10.24-28.2016

NEW VISION WEEK

FEATURING CHAPEL SPEAKER

MATT AYARS



MONDAY: CHAPEL @11:05 W/MATT AYARS
CULTURE FAIR NIGHT @8:00P CAMPUS CENTER
TUESDAY: WORKSHOPS* @11-12 CHAMBERLAIN
WEDNESDAY: CHAPEL @11:05 W/MATT AYARS
CONCERT OF WORSHIP* @8:00P CFA, RECITAL HALL
THURSDAY: WORKSHOPS* @11-12 CHAMBERLAIN
FRIDAY: CHAPEL @11:05 W/MATT AYARS

*up to 2 alternative chapel credits available

ONE IN PURPOSE
ONE IN PASSION

DESIGN BY REBECCA FIRSTBROOK

Matt Ayars, President of Emmaus Biblical Seminary in Haiti, is the featured speaker at all of the New Vision Week chapel services.

See **NVW** page 3

Wildlife Club To Host Master Falconer



NATE MOORE

MICAH CRONIN

Birds of prey will occupy the Quad on Saturday at 12:30, when master falconer, Pete Lotz, will present a flight demonstration featuring hawks, falcons, owls, and several other species of birds.

The "Skyhunters Falconry Show" is Lotz's third event at Houghton, and a local favorite, having drawn fanfare throughout Western New York.

The event, sponsored by the Houghton Wildlife Club, is free to all, and will include bake sale afterward in an attempt to offset the cost of the show.

According to former club president, Kaitlynn Nikirk '17, Lotz uses his craft both for entertainment and public service. Nikirk first be-

See **BIRDS** page 3

Cross Country Teams Finish Strong

KASEY CANNISTER

The Houghton cross country team had great success on their home course at the Field of Dreams on Saturday, October 8. The Highlanders competed against six teams, with both the men and women taking second place.

According to head coach, Patrick Hager, almost everyone on the women's side ran a lifetime personal record, and both teams beat Allegany County rival Alfred State. "Alfred's beat us the past couple of years, so it's nice to see us get a win over them," said Hager.

The Highlanders of Houghton competed against

See **XC** page 2

International// 2016 Nobel Prizes Selected



NATE MOORE

MATT YOUNG

Last week in Stockholm, Sweden, twelve men were awarded this year's Nobel Prizes for their outstanding contributions to humanity. Prizes were awarded for physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, economics, literature, and peace.

Three British physicists, David Thouless, F. Duncan Haldane, and J. Michael Kosterlitz, who all work in U.S. universities, were

awarded this year's prize in physics. The Nobel Prize website describes the prize being awarded "for theoretical discoveries of topological phase transitions and topological phases of matter," or as described by CNN, "for revealing the secrets of exotic matter." According to Thors Hans Hansson, of the Nobel Prize Physics Committee, this prize is important because their research "could be used in the next generation of electronics and supercomputers."

Another trio was awarded the Prize in chemistry "for the development of the world's smallest machines," according to BBC. Jean-Pierre Sauvage, Sir J. Fraser Stoddart and Bernard L. Feringa "designed and synthesised molecular machines" that are "a thousand times thinner than a strand of hair." These machines have the capability of entering the human body and directly delivering treatment to cells, but could also be used in the development of "smart materials" for use in vehicles and other commonly-used artifacts.

Yoshinori Ohsumi of the Tokyo Institute of Technology

was awarded this year's Prize in physiology or medicine. He is credited with discovering new methods of "autophagy." Autophagy, according to NPR, is a "fundamental process cells use to degrade and recycle parts of themselves." The Japanese biologist's work has "opened the path to understanding how cells adapt to starvation and respond to infection," according to the Nobel awarding committee. Though scientists have known about the process since the 1960's, the precise machinery used in the process were unknown. Ohsumi showed that instead of their being a "waste dump" within the cells, it is actually a "recycling plant," according to the chair of the awarding committee, Juleen Zierath.

Two professors from Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) share this year's Nobel Prize in economics. Oliver Hart from Harvard, and Bengt Holmström from MIT, were both awarded the prize for their contributions to contract theory, which, according to CNN Money, is "the agreements that shape business, finance, and public policy." Hol-

mström's research focused on employment contracts, including those between CEO's and shareholders. When asked in about the sizeable bonuses many CEO's have taken as of late in a CNN article, he described them as being "extraordinarily high." CNN reported Hart's research as having "looked at whether providers of public services, such as schools, hospitals, or prisons, should be publicly or privately owned," and determined that the "incentives for cost reduction are typically too strong," which can lead to a decrease in the quality of services.

Colombia's President, Juan Manuel Santos, was awarded this year's Nobel Peace Prize. According to the awarding committee, he was recognized for his "resolute efforts to bring the country's more than 50-year long civil war to an end." According to the New York Times, the agreement the Colombian government reached with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) would have ended the "longest-running war in the Americas." The efforts for peace seem to have been, at least temporarily, thwarted by

the rejection of the agreement by the Colombian citizenry, whose approval is required for the peace-deal to take effect. However, in spite of this set-back, after receiving the award, President Santos was resolute in his commitment to the peace process, and stated "I invite everyone to join our strength, our minds and our hearts in this great national endeavor so that we can win the most important prize of all: peace in Colombia." The chairwoman of the Prize committee shared the President's feelings, and stated, "The committee hopes that the peace prize will give him strength to succeed in this demanding task."

American singer, songwriter, and artist Bob Dylan was awarded the Nobel Prize in literature. The Nobel Prize organization stated this honor was bestowed upon Dylan "for having created new poetic expressions within the great American song tradition."★

Matt is a junior philosophy major.

XC from page 1

Roberts Wesleyan, Penn State Behrend, Alfred State, Keuka, Finger Lakes Community College, and Elmira. Penn State Behrend took first place in both the men's and women's races.

The men and women had several athletes finish in the top 10, and both teams ran faster than they have in the past three years.

Reflecting on the team's success, Rachel Hummel '16

said, "It was really rewarding for all of us to have months of training visibly pay off, especially at the last home meet of the season."

Hummel finished sixth in her race, right behind teammate Ella Hotchkiss '18 who placed fifth. Gwen Stokes '20, finished close behind finishing eighth. All three competitors finished within 15 seconds of each other.

"Running alongside some of my closest friends is a huge motivator. We've been through a lot together in training and I think we would all say that we couldn't and wouldn't do it

alone," said Hummel.

Stokes attributed their success to their committed mindset of racing as a team and not just as individuals. "Running together as a pack is really nice and motivational because it really makes you remember that you aren't doing this for yourself, you are running for your teammates," she said.

On the men's side, Tyler Deuschle '20 was the first finisher for the Highlanders, placing sixth. Not far behind was Matthew Gostomski '19 placing tenth, Daniel Burdo '20 placing eleventh, and Cory McCarty '17

placing thirteenth.

"We have some very strong underclassmen guys who have really brought a lot of success to our team. I'm excited to see them led the team and keep improving over the next several years," said captain Aaron Eisenhardt '17.

Hager commented, "This is the closest team I've had the pleasure of coaching. The freshmen really adjusted quickly and mix well with the upperclassmen personality. I think everyone will look back on this season with a big smile because of how close the team got."

According to Hager, the meet resulted in the best overall races for the cross country teams in his three years as a coach. The meet was also the biggest home invitational they've hosted.

"We got confidence at this meet, and our athletes know that they're fit and capable of running even faster in a few weeks. We pride ourselves on having a pretty consistent team, and peaking well at the end of our season. After competing so well, it's fun that we still have a couple of championship races ahead," said Hager.★

LGBTQ

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Trans*,
and Questioning
Houghton College Students.

Come enjoy dinner and conversation
with other members of the LGBTQ
community here on campus.

Share a meal, stories,
experiences, and struggles
with other like-minded students.

For more information, email:
Philip.Maenza17@Houghton.edu
Mary.Cronin17@Houghton.edu

FAFSA from page 1

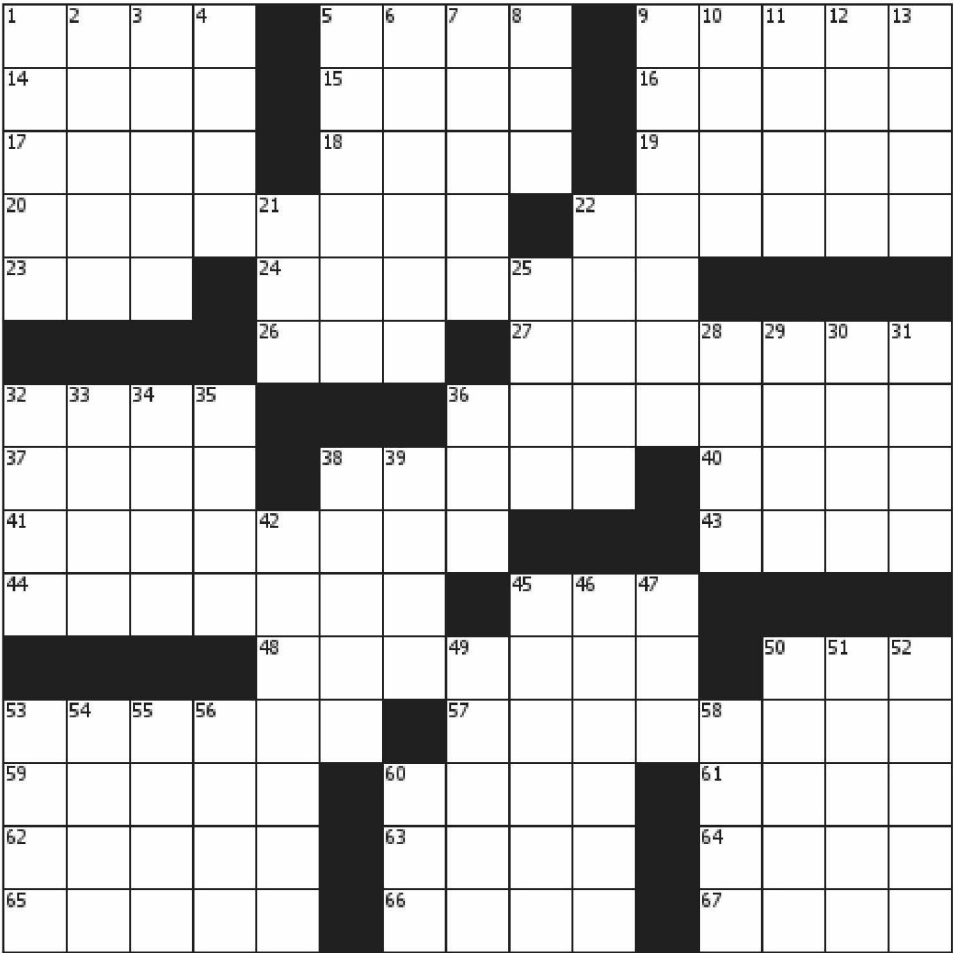
their options. "It will allow students to have their financial aid award letters sooner and give them more time to make a decision," said Roorbach.

For returning students, Roorbach said, "When we award financial aid at Houghton, we give students the best package we can up front and we typically don't change that, but this could really affect federal and state aid." Using tax information from two years prior means that it takes longer for a change in finances to affect a student's federal and state aid. Roorbach said if a student has a circumstance where their income dropped significantly or they recently had high medical expenses, they can fill out a Special Circumstance form along with their FAFSA which will allow their aid to reflect these changes. On the other hand, if a student's in-

come rises significantly, this change will not catch up to their aid as quickly as in previous years, Roorbach said.

The Financial Aid Office is changing their calendar to accommodate these new deadlines, Roorbach said. She explained the new system will mean sending out financial aid packages from October until August. "It's something we thought would be helpful for a while," she said. "Now that it's here it could be a little challenging to implement, but I think things will run a lot smoother once we have a year of using this system under our belts."

These changes will likely be helpful to Houghton students across the board. According to the Houghton College website, students receive roughly \$13 million in aid, grants, and scholarships. Roorbach said returning students generally shouldn't worry about completing the FAFSA until after Thanksgiving. ★



Across

1. Chums

5. Thailand, formerly

9. Sun-dried brick
14. Margarine

15. Impulse

16. Settle a debt

17. Commits perjury

18. Red wine
19. Poke fun at

20. Lamp fuel

22. Theater passages

23. Some

24. Clergymen

26. NBC's rival

27. Inert pill

32. Recipe abbr.

36. Made of large particles

37. Above

38. Remains behind

40. ____ Fitzgerald

41. Like lines that never cross

43. Vend

44. Sound systems

45. "Oh, give ____ home..." (2 wds.)

48. Entice

50. Physicians' gp.

53. Memorizes

57. Expanded

59. ____ Murphy of "Beverly Hills Cop"

60. Japan's continent

61. Staff officer

62. Lacks

63. Sub store

64. Slide

65. Beginning

66. Heavenly light

67. Warmth
8. Converged

9. Craftsperson

10. Inferior grades

11. Milky stone

12. Army camp

13. Peepers

21. Watering place

22. Motorist's aid

25. Agile

28. Actor's signals

29. French female

30. Lucille ____

31. Spoken

32. Bugle call

33. EMT's word

34. Tiny opening

35. Mast

36. Guy's date

38. Vegas machines

39. ____ pilot

42. Least fatty

45. Capital of the Philippines

46. Pastry

47. ____ loss (2 wds.)

49. Put back to zero

50. Spry

51. Newspapers and TV, e.g.

52. Proficient

53. TV host Jay ____

54. Paradise

55. Thirst quenchers

56. Be a passenger

58. Impulsive

60. Paid notices

Down

1. ____ dot

2. Foreigner

3. Suspicious

4. Middling (hyph.)

5. Terrific

6. Satiric

7. Consent

Want to write? Email us at editor@houghtonstar.com

NVW from page 1

since. Shea emphasized the importance of student participation in the event, and stated, "If students don't get involved, New Vision Week doesn't happen."

Planning for the event is headed by Bethany Rudolf '17

She has been involved with GCF since her sophomore year and is passionate about missions. Rudolf said, "I really love the opportunities to explore different topics and questions through the workshops and chapel messages, but my biggest interest within NVW is just trying to open the missions circle and break down some of the perceptions that are built up about missions."

The keynote speaker for New Vision Week is Matthew Ayers, who spoke at GCF last year. Ayers serves as a missionary in Haiti as the president of Emmaus Biblical Seminary, and is the author of a number of books and scholarly articles. Rudolf stated the seminary works alongside Haitians, and its goal is "to reproduce Christ-like leaders equipped for effective ministry and committed to the

transformation of Haiti and the world." Ayers will be speaking in chapel for the entirety of the week, with a Flag Ceremony taking place on Monday to usher in the event. Students representing countries from all over the world will bear their flags in a striking visual of the global church, which Dean said is a great opportunity to find out where students are from.

In addition to chapel, those

planning NVW have scheduled a number of workshops, a prayer and worship night, and a culture fair. The workshops will take place on Tuesday and Thursday, covering a broad range of topics including discussions on cross cultural missions, Islam, Bible translation, and human trafficking. The culture fair will take place on Monday at 8 p.m., with the prayer and worship night on Wednesday also at 8 p.m.★

BIRDS from page 1

came acquainted with Lotz through her work at the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) Erie County Wildlife Department. Additionally, Nikirk will also participate in the demonstration.

"Lotz has actually partnered with local airports to clear runways of 'nuisance' birds as flying hawks or falcons periodically between flights scares off birds that could potentially damage a

plane that's taking off," Nikirk said.

In addition to the thrill of watching the flight demonstration, the show will also promote education and conservation. According to Nikirk, Lotz plans to bring "Education Animals" to the event, which have a greater purpose. "Wild falcons that have sustained injuries that would not allow them to thrive in the wild, with the proper permits, can be used in educational programs to teach the public about the species. 'Non-releasable,' or Education Animals play an important role in raising awareness for conservation, giving us a small glimpse of our wild neighbors," said Nikirk.

According to the Houghton College website, over 250 people have attended the past two falconry shows.

Wildlife Club member, Gabrielle Brewster '18, expects an equally successful turnout this year. "All animal lovers should come," she said. "It's another way to get closer to and appreciate God's creatures. Opportunities like this do not come around often. For students that are interested in ornithology, this is a no brainer, and environmental biology students would benefit from hearing his presentation."

"If you've never seen a bird of prey up close and personal, they're really quite majestic," Nikirk added. "Plus, how many opportunities are you going to get to see a bird of prey flight show?"

The Wildlife Club encourages all students, faculty, and community members to take advantage of the free event. ★

Correction:

The October 7 edition of the Houghton Star incorrectly reported the semester in Tanzania program would be changed to run biannual.

According to Marcus Dean, Director of Off Campus Studies, the semester abroad will only be halted for the spring semester of 2017. Dean stated his intentions to continue the program in the Spring of 2018, "It will resume in 2018 with full intentions to continue to offer the Tanzania semester every year."

There were many factors that went into the decision to halt the program for a semester, Dean said. One of those factors was low enrollment "at

the time of the decision." Dean continued, "We felt it in the best interest of students to make the decision during the summer not to run the Spring 2017 semester to give students plenty of time to choose another option if they desired to do that."

Dean also hopes to improve upon the popular semester during the semester's break. He said, "We do hope that by waiting a year we will be able to make the program better in the future."

Additionally, Dean said, there was no discussion of eliminating entirely, and stated, "It is our full intention to continue to offer the Tanzania semester."

Expanding the Community: New Registrar

BETHANY KUIKEN

In June, Houghton welcomed a new registrar to the community. Kevin Kettinger, described by his colleagues as “devoted, kind, caring and committed,” as well as “professionally competent” started his new position in Registrar Office this fall. This may be his first time working with Houghton, but Kettinger is not foreign to this position. Kettinger spent 17 years in higher education at Roberts Wesleyan College, 13 of those years working in the Registrar’s Office, and four years in Student Financial Services. In his position in the Registrar Office at Roberts Wesleyan, he had been responsible for the day-to-day operations of the office, as well as continuing to further the efficiency of it through the use of technology within the department. John Wise, Director of Institutional Research and Assessment, said regarding Ket-

tinger’s credentials, “Kevin has a real concern for student success as well as an understanding of technology applications in the Registrar’s office. He will help to apply our data systems and processes to improved student services and satisfaction.” Prior to his position at Roberts Wesleyan College, Kettinger worked eight years in finance at the credit union for the Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, Michigan. He received his B.A. degree in philosophy at Asbury University and a M.S. degree in organizational management at Roberts Wesleyan College. The Houghton search committee, Jack Connell; Eric Currie; John Wise; and Dale Wright, strongly endorsed Kettinger, as well as did President Mullen, Area Associate Deans and the Directors of Student Financial Services and Admissions. Jack Connell, Dean of the College and Vice President of Academic Affairs, believes Kettinger’s previous experience has prepared him well for his new po-

sition. “Mr. Kettinger has a deep commitment to and understanding of Christian higher education. For the past 13 years he has worked in the Registrar’s office at a Christian liberal arts college, and prior to that he graduated from one himself. He knows who we are and what we are about, and embraces all of that warmly.” Although uprooting from Rochester was not an easy decision, Kettinger and his family are looking forward to integrating into the life of the community and have already been made to feel very welcome. “I have enjoyed the thoughtfulness and community feel of this institution as I observe and interact with students, staff, and faculty members,” Kettinger said. “This is a special place and I am very blessed to be here.” Kettinger and his wife have five children. Their oldest is a transfer at Houghton, in her junior year. Jack Connell speaks highly of Kettinger’s honorable character. “Mr. Kettinger is a man of rock-solid Christian faith,



NATE MOORE

After 17 years at Roberts Wesleyan in higher education, Kevin Kettinger has accepted a position as registrar at Houghton. deeply devoted to Christ and to the church. He honors and adores his wife and five children. He is a genuinely kind and caring person. He works hard, is thoughtful in his decision-making, and seeks excellence in all things.” As one of the newest members of the Houghton community, Kevin Kettinger is looking forward to furthering the development of the Registrar’s Office. “My goal is to work with the great staff here to continue to move the Registrar’s Office forward to best aid and serve the students through their academic journey. We do all of these things ultimately for God’s glory.” ★

Review: Spot (Mostly) On

JACKSON WHEELER

Fall SPOT is as much a part of Houghton culture as are lanky white boys playing the acoustic guitar, so naturally this year’s show was hyped to be the perfect sendoff for Homecoming 2016. Having experienced six of these during my tenure as a student, as both performer and audience-member – overall, I’d call this one a success, though sure, there may have been a number of missteps over the near-ninety-minute running time. Hosts, Sarah Duttweiler ‘17 and Travis Trotman ‘17, exuded a palpable energy onstage, doubling down on their peppy “Purple vs. Gold” theme. They did the whole “shoot a video of the

hosts frantically racing to SPOT, making it to the chapel, and then entering through the aisle doors as the video ends” thing, and as overdone of a concept as that may be, I couldn’t help but smile watching the two of them shimmy up to the stage in all of their wavy-armed, leg-flailing enthusiasm. Their overall contributions to the show were minimal as far as skits were concerned, but they did handle the job with a whimsical nonchalance. The acts were a mixed bag, as has come to be expected. It is surely no easy task to cobble an act together in the three weeks between the first day of classes and the week of auditions, much less one that is original, funny, and well-orchestrated all at the same time. While several acts managed, only two of those conditions there were certainly a handful of acts that had me gasping for air between fits of laughter.

The way that Michael Carpenter declaimed “Smack it” again and again, reading Beyoncé’s 7/11, with equal parts drama and articulation had me absolutely rolling, regardless of the fact that I’d already basically seen the act several times before (and once again that night, strangely enough). The Impractical Shen Men skit was something I’d hoped to someday see in SPOT, and it did not disappoint. I’d love to see it again a few more times, next time maybe outside of Houghton or at another college campus (Roberts, let’s go). But my favorite act of the night had to be Bad Anniversary Presents, its success resting squarely on the shoulders of Ian Smith and Luke Duttweiler. Their originality, wit, and delivery easily made it the highlight of the show. Ian Smith, if you’re reading this, I would happily watch an act of you reading ingredients off the side of a

cereal box. Kudos to you, sir. Comedic acts aside, while Laura Johnson’s voice may have been noticeably absent from this fall’s SPOT there was certainly no lack of singers to fill the void. The pipes on some of these people, my word. Their voices were beacons of hope. Their voices were islands I wanted to live on. They were lighthouses I wanted to swim to. They were silverback gorillas in the Cincinnati Zoo and I wanted to protect them. All who sang, bless you. Now... there were a lot of you and variety is the spice of life, but there was admittedly an overabundance of singing acts, and some did fall a bit flat as a result. Some acts, unfortunately, fell inordinately flat. Watching swing dancing is like watching the Presidential debates. When everything’s going well it’s a decent watch, but more often than not we spend the whole time wait-

ing to see if something terrible is going to happen. It’s stressful. My favorite part of the Hannah Montana skit was watching a gangly freshman dancing up in front of the stage trying to cut a jig. And then there was THAT act. Yeah. That one. All I’m saying is that it would be great to stifle too much further tongue on tongue action moving forward to Spring SPOT, Snow Patrol notwithstanding (Just kidding guys, congrats on the new relationship). Overall, it was fine, to me, a net positive. Inoffensive hosts, some hilarious skits, some amazing performances, and another fabulous turn by the SPOT band (Never stop, SPOT Band), were enough to balance out some of the cringier moments sprinkled throughout. It was a good night as far as good nights in Houghton are concerned, and for that I’d call it a success. ★

Photo of the Week

Micah Modesto ‘20



Houghton Athletics Celebrates Major Milestones

ALANNA PARIS

Houghton College is embarking on a new chapter of athletics starting this year as it enters a full membership in the National College Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III. According to Jason Mucher, the Empire 8 (E-8) category has proved to be a great fit for Houghton College. “It’s allowed for less travel time, keeping students around,” said Mucher, who also mentioned how the schools themselves were more like Houghton, with the E-8 mainly composed of “small to midsized, private liberal arts colleges who emphasize good academics.” The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletes (NAIA) ceased to be a viable fit for Houghton geographically, and was slowly diminishing, which led Houghton to pursue membership into the more widely known NCAA Division III.

The college embarked on a five-year process to earn this new status. The process began with one exploratory year, and then four provisional years. Each year, the college received a promotion until full mem-



ANTHONY BURDO

After 50 years of athletics at Houghton, the college is celebrating its official membership into the NCAA Division III after a five-year process.

bership was achieved. In order to start the process, Houghton had to add multiple sports, including baseball, softball, men and women’s lacrosse, men and women’s tennis, and men and women’s golf. When they first started on the path to NCAA Division III, athletic director, Harold “Skip” Lord, met with the Commissioner and the Council President of the E-8 to look at Houghton’s facilities. At the time, the campus only had Burke Field, a practice soccer field, and a field hockey field.

“The question was, what would we do for facilities,”

said Lord. Houghton needed all-weather facilities to be viable along with a baseball and softball field. Mucher and Lord both commented that they started looking into what they would like to see built. This is when the Pegula and Kerr families asked what they could do to help. They then decided to give the gift of the Kerr-Pegula Athletic Complex (KPAC) that includes the Kerr-Pegula Field House (KPFH), baseball field, and softball field.

As Houghton celebrates a new chapter in athletics, it also celebrates its athletic history with this year making 50 years

of athletics at Houghton. Lord praised Mucher and stated, “Jason Mucher has been doing a lot of the work.” He also stated it was a team effort and that “many have vision casted what it would look like.”

Mucher talked much about how Houghton is celebrating the milestone. The department created a timeline of milestones, a logo, the mural, giveaways, events, contests, and many other different ways to encourage students to come to athletic events, while also celebrating the legacy and tradition of sports at Houghton. Events started early in September and

many students have participated through Homecoming weekend, the legacy chapel, and attending sports games on the Saturday of Homecoming weekend. According to Mucher, the original sports teams at Houghton in 1967 were all men’s and included soccer, cross-country and basketball. In 1968, Houghton added baseball, track, tennis and golf. Finally, in 1969 Houghton added its first women’s sport, basketball.

Students have been enjoying the celebrations and revisiting Houghton’s athletics history. Olivia Bullock ‘20, a women’s soccer player, said, “It’s meaningful to be a part of such a long tradition of high level athletics focused on glorifying God through sports.”

Mucher and Lord agreed this celebration has been a team effort throughout the department. Mucher is proud of the well-rounded teams at Houghton, and the attitude being taken beyond the school. As Houghton continues to celebrate its athletics, the department is looking to plant major events in February and April. There will be continual celebratory events throughout this semester, the next including Throwback Thursdays on Houghton social media, athletics panels, and reminders at games. ★

Sojourning to Belfast: Sojourner’s Mennonite and the Houghton Community

EMMA CARPENTER

At 4 p.m. on Sunday, when many Houghton students are resting up for another week of classes, or finally turning their attention to a neglected bit of homework for Monday morning, a small, but diligent group of community members, students, and faculty gathers in Belfast for their weekly church service. This is Sojourners Mennonite Fellowship, led by Houghton College professor, Connie Finney.

“Anyone who’s been to Sojourners could tell you that the services there are... different,” said Bonnie Huegel ‘19, who began attending Sojourners last fall, after professors Benjamin and Susan Lipscomb invited her and several other

London Honors students to visit the church. “When I went to my first service it felt almost more like a Bible study or small-group worship session than a ‘real’ church service,” she said. Since then, however, she said she has come to appreciate this aspect of attending Sojourners.

“I like that there’s so much focus on the community,” said Huegel. “I don’t only feel like a member of a congregation; I feel like a part of a family. Yes, it’s different; I still feel that sometimes, but I feel it in a good way.”

Raisa Dibble ‘17 said, “When I first came to Houghton, I wanted to commit to a church.” She talked to upper and underclassmen about her desire for a smaller, more informal place to worship. “Everybody kept recommending ‘This Mennonite church, this Mennonite church.’” She visited Sojourners for the first time without knowing much about it, but has attended reg-

ularly ever since.

“It’s very comfortable,” she said. “The pastor preaches in her sweatshirt sometimes. I really like that, because, even if you just rolled out of bed, it’s totally fine. They just want you there.”

The format of a service at Sojourners focuses on congregational involvement, encouraging both adults and children to help choose songs during the service, rather than having a worship leader prepare a set list beforehand. Sojourners also stresses the importance of communal prayer expressed in tangible ways, whether through stacking rocks, lighting candles, or some other symbolic, active representation of the spiritual aspects of prayer.

The service also includes a weekly teaching, though it isn’t treated as the “meat” of the service with worship or other elements as appetizers. “The message is very short,” said Huegel. “In most church-

es, the pastor’s sermon is the main emphasis of the service; at Sojourners, it’s easy to tell that worship and prayer are much more important, and the focus is on the church as a whole, and not only the pastor.”

According to Dibble, Finney preaches about twice a month, with congregation members volunteering to speak on most other weeks. Occasionally, said Dibble, the service will forego a sermon altogether:

“We’ll split into small groups and look at a question and talk about it, or in small groups we’ll read a passage and have some reflection prompts,” regrouping afterward to discuss thoughts within the larger congregation.

Finney sees her role as pastor not so much as a top-down leadership role, but predominantly as one through which she serves and empowers the members of her congregation. “If you came

to our church on a Sunday, it might not be obvious that I’m the pastor,” she said. Her goal is to serve as a welcoming presence for newcomers, and to identify and encourage giftings within church members, but not to be the star of the show. “A lot of pastors consider themselves to be the main people responsible for the life of the church,” she said. “And so they overfunction, and other people let them do all the work. At Sojourners we try really hard to keep a balance.”

Dibble said one of the things she appreciates most about Sojourners is the feeling of belonging that the small, tight-knit congregation brings. “Almost everybody there is Houghton students or professors,” she said. “So I feel like it’s taking my big church of Houghton and giving me a small portion of that.” ★

Learning from the King of Thailand



NATE MOORE

BEKAH POTTS

When we think of strong, influential leaders in the world, the King of Thailand isn't exactly the first person to come to mind. While our own election season rages on as a torrent of bad taste and heated tempers, Westerners might have a few things to learn from Thailand's late king.

King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand died last Thursday, October 13, ending a reign that lasted over 70

years. When he first came into power in 1946, King Bhumibol spent his first years composing and playing jazz over the radio, sponsoring charities and farms, and making public appearances with his charismatic and attractive family. By doing these things, the king was strategically building up a relationship with the people of his country. Because he cared so much for them, he became one of them.

A ruler so devoted to the governed that he seeks to become one of them is a rare form of leadership. Over the course of his reign, the king set up over 1,200 development programs all over the country to help those living in the most poverty-stricken circumstances. He visited villages and conversed with the ethnic hill tribes that are considered the lowest on the social hierarchy. He became an emblem of political stability and revered as a father dedicated to improving the welfare of his people.

The passing of the late king will usher in a year long mourning period in which the people of Thailand, ranging from all ages and ethnicities, are weeping over the death of

“He became an emblem of political stability and was revered as a father dedicated to improving the welfare of his people.”

a monarch who had the power to turn their lives into hell, but chose not to. He loved, cared for, and nurtured them even though his position was inherited, not elected. He was not bound by a democratic rule of law that we deem so necessary for an effective leader, and yet he left behind a legacy of stability and a thriving nation. How?

When it comes to approaching politics and the makeup of a good leader, we need to rewire the way we theorize politics and democracy and understand that maybe there's something deeper, something more inherent that we just aren't getting at.

What would it look like if our political leaders cared as much about the people they're serving as King Bhumibol did his own people? What kind

of nation would we be if we revered and respected our political leaders the way Thais feel about their late king? I find it ironic that as a world power, the U.S. is trailing far behind countries that value character, honor, and dignity rather than becoming consumed by our entitlement complexes.

As Americans we pride ourselves for living in a country where our rights are protected by a political system set up almost 250 years ago. We have the right to vote and therefore control, to some degree, who we put into office. Under this system, we should feel some sort of positive emotional attachment to our political leaders since we had a direct impact on their being in office. Instead, we become angry and relentlessly unforgiving when our leaders fail to live up to our idealized

standards. We crucify them as corrupt and self-serving who are no longer fit to hold public office.

When it comes to choosing a leader, I'm more concerned with character than their stance on an issue. Perhaps this is naive, but honor, respect, and humility speak louder than multi-billion dollar corporations and an impressive 30 year resume of public service. In the midst of this stressful election season, with both major party candidates constantly at each other's throats, King Bhumibol serves as a sobering reminder of what quiet yet deliberate leadership looks like.★

Bekah is a senior with majors in international development and political science.

Re-Examining Western Materialism



NATE MOORE

LANDON SHEAFFER

Take a second to think about the things you or your family own. How many of them did you make? My assumption is very few. I've come to realize that I have made very few items by hand. Those I have made, I have taken incredibly good care of. In high school, I once made a secretary-style desk in woodshop class and I cared for it as though it was worth a fortune. If anyone so much as touched it I would watch like a hawk. Why?

Well, I understood first-hand how that desk was made, I knew the amount of work put into it.

My hope is that you have had a similar experience. Unfortunately this attachment to material items, like the one I had with my desk, embodies the very opposite of the consumer culture in which we live. We so often buy things as cheaply as possible, only to discard them and buy more. In fact, the things we buy are often conveniently made to be disposable in order to fuel our culture's love for shopping. Author William T. Cavanaugh put it this way, "Our relationships with products tend to be short-lived; rather than hoarding treasured objects, consumers are characterized by a constant dissatisfaction with material goods."

Our emphasis with regards to the material world, especially in the Christian tradition, is to try to disengage

“...we have no regard for the things we own, the things we buy, and especially where they came from or how they were produced.”

ourselves. This view comes from the way we interpret scripture. In Matthew, Jesus rebukes storing up treasures here on earth. In Colossians, Paul attacks greed. It's obvious that the way we relate to the material world is a spiritual practice, but does this mean we need to become detached from the material world? The problems we face in our culture do not come from excessively storing up treasures, or becoming too attached to the things we own, although this something we must still be on guard against. Instead, it is that we have no regard for the things we own, the things we buy, and especially where they came from or how they

were produced. Because of this, we have no issue filling up dumpsters with our unwanted things. I know this all too well. I may have engaged in the act of dumpster-diving once or twice.

Perhaps the issue stems from the fact that we very seldom play a part in the making of our own goods. In pre-industrial society, homes were a place of production. Whether this involved farming the majority of their own food or making a portion of their own goods, there was pride and meaning in a person's work. This is not to romanticize those times, it had its fair share of challenges. However, it would certainly be a lot harder to waste food that had come from your own garden, or throw away clothes you made with your own hands.

I'm not writing this to give you a guilty conscience, or to demand that you start hand-making all of the things you own. That would be a bit ridiculous. I'm writing this

as a reminder. A reminder that the things we own, the things we buy, and the things we eat all have an impact on our lives and the lives of the people that make or produce them. They are our voice in the dark. As election season is in full tilt, we know that our vote can play a small yet significant role in our own lives and in the lives of others. We do not only vote on November 8, though. We vote everyday with our wallet. How can the decisions we make as consumers help to bring God's kingdom to earth?★

Landon is a senior environmental biology major with a minor in international development.

Furthering the Degeneration of Haiti



NATE MOORE

SARAH DUTTWEILER

In 2010, the country of Haiti experienced a magnitude seven earthquake which displaced thousands of people and left hundreds dead. This earthquake left the country in physical shambles. Many of the people living in Haiti became infected with cholera in addition to being left hungry and homeless. The world’s response was immediate: Billions of dollars were spent on bringing foreign aid to

the people of Haiti to provide clean drinking water, shelter, medical supplies, food, and other necessities. The hope was that eventually aid could relieve some of the strife that occurred due to the earthquake. Sadly this aid only created dependency. The attempt to produce long and short-term aid projects ended up creating a long-term relationship with aid.

Now, just a couple weeks ago Hurricane Matthew hit the Island of Haiti. While the hurricane was only a category four, it had far greater impact on a country that was already struggling. This scenario looks all too familiar for the people of Haiti, as they have been further displaced, harmed, and now are trying to rebuild the lives they have been working on repairing for the past six years. The information coming out of Haiti reports 900 deaths and

climbing. Again, the country of Haiti experienced a tremendous amount of infrastructure damage, displacement of people, and a further dependency on aid. The people located in the more rural areas are once again dealing with a cholera outbreak due to the lack of clean water; it is the disaster of 2010 all over again.

The real question now is what do we do, or perhaps even if we should bother helping. According to the BBC News, “The UN launched an emergency appeal for nearly \$120m in aid, but just a fraction of it has been raised...” Countries are tired of sending money to a country that seems lost and hopeless. Many of us have probably seen the articles about The American Red Cross not actually producing results from the aid in 2010. One Huffington Post article said

the organization had only built six permanent homes in Haiti, claiming 91 percent of donations went straight to charity, when in actuality only 60 percent had gone to charity. Even an organization many know, seemingly cannot be trusted. So where should we be putting our money, and is it even worth it?

In 2010, we ultimately failed Haiti, let us not do it again. Organizations were quick to respond to the destruction caused by the earthquake and in the wake of Hurricane Matthew, but that is not the way to create a sustainable way of living. Yes, we need address immediate needs by supplying clean water, shelter, and food, but we need to have a plan that goes beyond our initial reactions. The country of Haiti is no stranger to a corrupt government, lack of infrastructure, natural disasters, and resource exploitation. It makes sense that the country’s response to foreign involvement tends to be more skeptical and hesitant to allow Non-Governmental Organizations and governments to help. However, when we do so, we need to remember to involve the people themselves. Teams often come in with their own idea of what needs to be done without

understanding the needs of the people. We come in with our checklists and our money, not understanding what the deeper issues are.

Haiti is a country trapped in poverty, corruption and vulnerability, but that does not mean the country is without hope. By empowering the people of Haiti, we build a stronger force of those who believe in the efforts taking place to create a sustainable way of living. Aid must turn into development otherwise it perpetuates the dependency we see. Too often we read articles about people being frustrated with foreign involvement and seeing nothing happen within their country. What we need to see is foreign investors providing work for the people, giving them a sense of ownership and responsibility for what happens in their country. Haiti is not hopeless. The people just need to know they are capable.★

Sarah is a senior majoring in international development and political science with a minor in Spanish.

“The attempt to produce long and short-term aid projects ended up creating a long-term relationship with aid.”

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

SPEAK
OUT!

Letters to the editor
should be 250 words or less

SUBMIT TO
editor@houghtonstar.com

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

HOUGHTONSTAR.COM | EDITOR@HOUGHTONSTAR.COM | [FACEBOOK.COM/THEHOUGHTONSTAR](https://www.facebook.com/thehoughtonstar) | [TWITTER.COM/HOUGHTONSTAR](https://twitter.com/HOUGHTONSTAR) | [INSTAGRAM @HOUGHTONSTAR](https://www.instagram.com/HOUGHTONSTAR)

2016  The Houghton STAR 2017

DANI EATON // Editor-in-Chief
MICAH CRONIN // News Editor
SOPHIA ROSS // Features Editor

RACHEL BELLEROSE// Opinions Editor
MICHAEL SIEVERS // Web Editor

BJØRN WEBB // Business Manager
SUSAN BRUXVOORT-LIPSCOMBE// Faculty Adviser
NATE MOORE // Photo Editor

The opinions and views expressed in the Houghton Star do not necessarily reflect the opinions and views of Houghton College or the Wesleyan Church (our sponsoring denomination.)

Artist of the Week

Holden Cole
//junior studio art and art history major



NATE MOORE



“ One must work and dare
if one really wants to live. ”

- Vincent Van Gogh

Titles & Media

clockwise descending

Titanic, *colored pencil*

Steven Tyler, *graphite*

The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly, *colored pencil*

Tripdic JFK, *colored pencil*

Shrunk 1, *graphite*

Shrunk 2, *graphite*

