



BEYOND SPOT: GLOVER'S NEW ALBUM | CULTURE, P. 4

# the houghton STAR

Houghton College's Student Newspaper Since 1909

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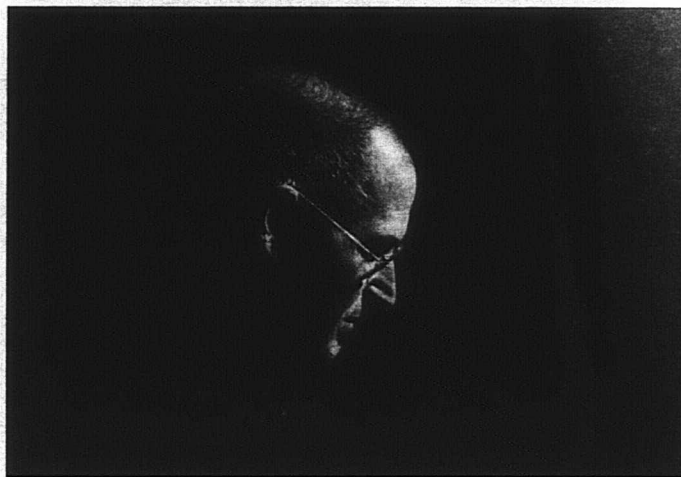
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## STEVE JOBS' TECHNOLOGICAL ACHIEVEMENTS REMEMBERED

by STEVE MCCORD

Since the death of Steve Jobs October 5, news corporations and commentaries have attempted to encapsulate the significance of his life. Whether commentators abhor anything Apple or are obsessed with everything that comes out of Cupertino, California, very few are denying the significance of the life, and now death, of Jobs in the digital world. Perhaps Jobs' greatest achievement was the production of groundbreaking technology that built Apple into the largest publicly traded company in the world, momentarily having more capital — \$153.3 billion — than the U.S. government.

Jobs grew up working with his hands, beginning his computing expertise through spending several summers as an employee of Hewlett-Packard. After graduating from high school, Jobs attended Reed College, dropping out after one semester and instead studying various courses that interested him. At the age of 20, he co-founded Apple and helped start the personal computer revolution with



Steve Jobs passed away Wednesday, October 5.

the debut of a graphical user interface.

Forced to resign from Apple in 1985 for erratic and irresponsible leadership, Jobs founded NeXT Computer, a floundering software company that was eventually acquired by Apple. Using \$5 million of his own capital, Jobs then bought what was to become Pixar Animation Studios from

George Lucas. Producing box-office hits like *Toy Story* and *Monsters, Inc.*, Jobs steered the studio toward fame and eventually a \$7.4 billion merge deal with Disney, making him the largest shareholder and giving him a seat on the board of directors. At the

See STEVE JOBS page 3

## First Phase of Paine Renovations Complete

by KATHERINE BAKER

The first phase of a three-part renovation plan for the Paine Science Center is complete. The project aims to renew the building and to add a new wing, "keeping the tradition of science excellence at Houghton alive," said President Shirley Mullen. The first phase was designed so as to be compatible with the future addition of the atrium and

extra teaching and laboratory space.

Construction began December 2, 2010, and the building was ready for occupancy by August 29 of the following year. In total, the project cost \$4.1 million and was finished with no debt incurred. This is the largest project to be completed debt-free at Houghton in a long time, according to Mullen. The project was accomplished with help from some generous donors, most notably Alan



Alan Johnson and Bob Kale both received awards from President Mullen for their generous donations to the renovation of the Paine Science Center. They were presented with plaques Homecoming weekend.

Johnson and Bob Kale. A couple of Johnson's grandchildren went to Houghton for pre-med, and the new wing that is scheduled to be part of the second phase of the renovation will be named in honor of Johnson's wife. Along with Johnson and Kale, there were many other donors who contributed to the completion of the first phase of renovations, and all were thanked by Mullen at the dedication ceremony Homecoming weekend.

Upgrades to the Paine Science Center include 11 labs, five classrooms, four offices, a math student study library, a machine shop, and a faculty lounge with a kitchenette. George Marsh, the Principal Architect, worked to reflect the natural beauty of Western New York in the project. The rooms are finished with regional native black cherry and maple woods, and the most current accent design colors were incorporated into the space.

"It looks a lot more pleasant with all the warm colors," said Marilyn Holt, senior.

"A lot of the renovation's impact on students is felt in how the classrooms are set up and the increased space," Holt added. She

See MEMORIAL page 3

## Houghton Hosts Environmental Summit

by EMMA HUGHES

This weekend, Houghton is hosting the second Renewal National Student Environmental Summit. The Summit's focus is on teaching students about current environmental topics, training students to start sustainability projects on their own campuses, and providing a network for the attendees in the environmental justice world. At the same time, it provides an environment for students to examine current sustainability issues in a Christian environment.

The Summit features keynote speakers such as Peter Illyn, executive director of Restoring Eden; Chris Elisara, executive director of the Center for Environmental Leadership and founder of the Creation Care Study Program; and Ben Lowe from the Evangelical Environmental Network, among many other speakers — all from Christian environmental organizations.

"As Christians, we're called to bring renewal to God's creation," said junior Olivia Nijssen, president of the Environmental Club. "It was created harmoniously and perfectly, and man caused it to fall. If we love God then we should be able to love what's His."

Renewal, which is one of the many Christian environmental organizations resulting from the increasingly popular "Creation Care" movement, sponsors the Summit and finds different hosts for the conference each year. Approximately 12 to 50 students from all over the United States attend each annual event. This year, Renewal chose Houghton to host the Summit partially because of its proximity to Buffalo, as the Summit is being planned in conjunction with the Center for Environmental Leadership's Sustainability Symposium taking place there next week.

Still, Houghton's own reputation for involvement with Christian environmental issues continues to grow.

"We are gaining quite a reputation for environmental involvement among Christian colleges," said Ginny Routhe, director of Our Common Ground, Houghton's sustainability office.

Houghton is one of out of only six schools in the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCCU) that has signed the CCCC's President's

See RENEWAL page 3



# SGA / COCA-COLA RESOLUTION ON THE TABLE



by GARRETT FITZSIMMONS

As reported earlier in the month, the SGA Senate is currently considering a resolution to call for the boycott of Coca-Cola products on campus. The SGA has been considering the boycott since last semester. It was sent back to the sponsors a few times to examine the amount of evidence substantiating the allegations against the company. It was eventually passed by the Senate but then vetoed and brought back for yet another examination of the adequacy and the reliability of the evidence.

After a hefty revision, the Senate tabled the motion to vote on the resolution until after October break so that Senators could have adequate time to look over the information. However, what has not been introduced into public discussion is the actual set

of issues concerning Coca-Cola. I suppose it accomplishes little to inform the public of a corrupt company without including how we came to that conclusion.

The allegations against Coca-Cola include: a suspicious situation in Guatemala concerning the murder of eight union leaders who were attempting to unionize at a Coca-Cola factory; a lawsuit concerning racial discrimination in which the Coca-Cola Company settled, paying out \$192 million in damages; the indirect benefit from child labor Coca-Cola receives in El Salvador in the consumption of sugar cane; and lastly, the exploitation and pollution of drinking water in India by Coca-Cola factories, as well as inconsistencies in their public message concerning scientific studies of the situation.

However, there are some difficulties in analyzing these accusations. For example, in the case of the murdered Guatemalan union leaders, there is no evidence directly incriminating Coca-Cola. However, there is no evidence vindicating them either. The murders were carried out by paramilitaries in the region who have a history of oppressing unions, sometimes on the payroll of companies, sometimes on the payroll of the government, and sometimes neither. However, while a direct connection cannot be established, we could not

find a reasonable attempt by the Coca-Cola Company to investigate the management of that facility in the wake of the incidents.

Another tricky situation is the El Salvador child labor issue. The company does not receive refined sugar from child labor utilizing refineries, but those refineries receive their raw sugar, in part, from child labor. However, child labor is partially legal in Guatemala unless the child is under 12 years old, but even that limitation is difficult to enforce. Presently, the Humans Rights Watch is working against child labor and Coca-Cola in the region.

The racial discrimination case, though, is a bit more cut and dry. Statistics revealed stark contrasts in pay, promotions, and performance evaluations between African American employees and other employees. Coca-Cola settled out of court and paid out \$192 million in damages, the largest settlement in a corporate racial discrimination case at the time.

The final issue mentioned in the resolution is water rights in India. This issue is exceptionally complex. However, complexity is not synonymous with ambiguity. Both Coca-Cola and anti-Coke groups misrepresented the situation in various respects. Interestingly enough, both parties heavily relied on a scientific study done by the TERI

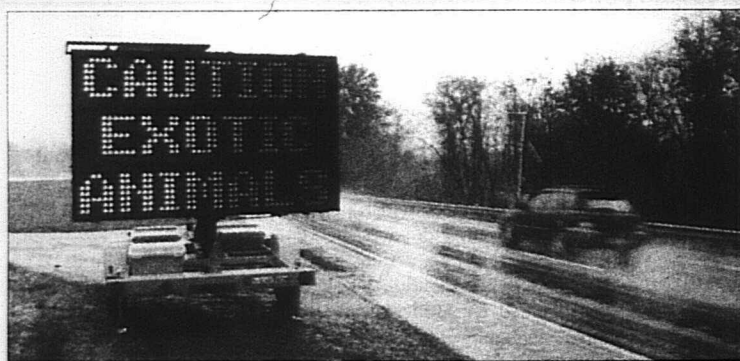
University and came to completely opposite conclusions. Advocacy groups claimed that Coca-Cola was violating state regulations as well as its own regulations concerning water consumption, treatment, and quality, and that the TERI report recommended that Coca-Cola shut down its Kaladara factory. Contradictorily, Coca Cola claimed that TERI proved that it was within state regulations as well as its own regulations, with no mention of shutting down the factory. However, the actual report stated that Coca-Cola was indeed within state regulations but was not within its own regulations and policies concerning water management. The report recommended the shutdown of the factory as the last of three other options, and Coca-Cola did not seem to address any of the three options recommended.

So should the SGA vote to boycott Coca-Cola products? Does this information compel a moral community to boycott a company engaged in such actions? Regardless of the actions of the Senate, the weight of the boycott ultimately rests on each student's personal decision and resolve. Is Coca-Cola the liquid of the blood-red can? Or is it, as Coca-Cola India's slogan states, "little drops of joy?" ★

*Garrett is a senior political science major and the president of the SGA.*

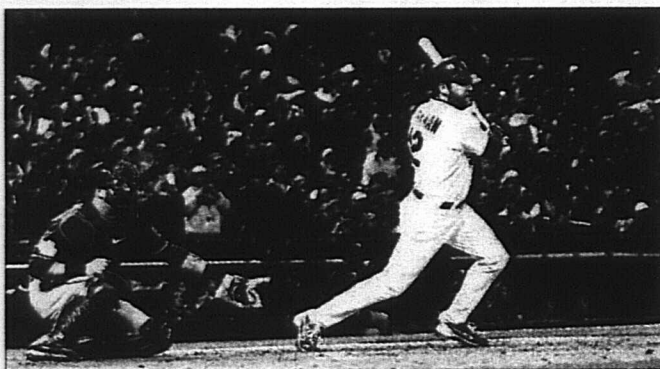
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## IN THE NEWS



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**MENAGERIE UNLEASHED** | On Tuesday, more than 50 exotic animals were released from a farm owned by Terry Thompson in Zanesville, Ohio. According to investigators, Thompson released the animals from their cages and then committed suicide. As of Wednesday all of the freed animals, except for a monkey, have been killed by police.



WWW.NYTIMES.COM

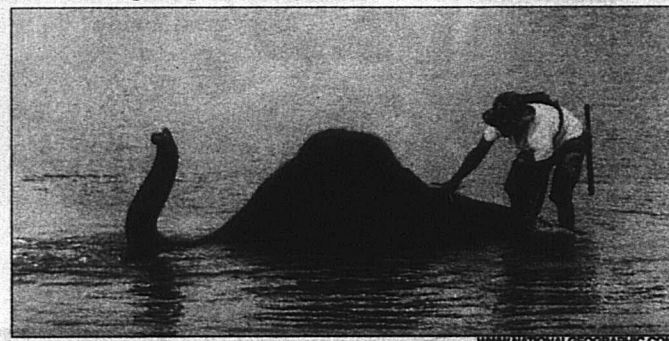
**WORLD SERIES: THE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS VERSUS THE TEXAS RANGERS** | The 2011 World Series began this week with the Rangers facing the Cardinals at Busch Stadium in St. Louis.

**CLINTON ARRIVES IN KABUL** | Secretary of State Hillary Clinton arrived in Kabul, Afghanistan, Wednesday to discuss peace talks, the security hand over between the U.S. and the Afghan forces, and U.S. strategic relations with Afghanistan.



WWW.REUTERS.COM

**FLOODING IN THAILAND** | Massive flooding in Thailand continues to inflict incalculable damage to the country. Below, an elephant keeper stands on an almost submerged elephant to keep himself above the water.



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## Trustee Invitational Ideas Will be Implemented in the 2012-2013 School Year

by OLIVIA TYRRELL

The 2011 Trustee Invitational has come and gone, and it was announced at the first October faculty meeting that two proposals — the sophomore retreat and the Center for Learning and Teaching — were selected for implementation.

The Trustee Invitational was presented to faculty members in April as a chance to generate ideas to make a Houghton education more attractive to potential students, as well as more efficient and purposeful for those already in attendance. In order to be selected, ideas must have been able to “enhance Houghton’s core mission as a high quality, deeply Christian liberal arts college, or one of Houghton’s particular identifying distinctives, such as intercultural engagement locally, regionally, or globally; our location; an ethos shaped by the creative and performing arts; importance of calling and vocational preparation; engagement with science and technology; or commitment to linking Christian faith to concerns of justice,” according to those in charge of selecting the winners. Factors also considered included how well a proposal demonstrated a commitment to admissions and retention efforts, how it would impact existing structures or programs, how it worked in collaboration between departments, and that it engaged only current personnel.

Essentially, a winning idea will increase the value of a Houghton education by enhancing what already exists without requiring the College to spend more money.

The proposals were recently

collected and reviewed by a committee comprised of two to three faculty members, the Academic Dean, the Associate Dean, the President, and an honorary trustee.

Professor Mark Hijleh, who was part of the selection process as Associate Dean, said that “while all the proposals were considered to be good ideas that should, and will, be followed up on, two rose to the top in the committee’s estimation.”

The first idea was a proposal to design and deliver an annual retreat for sophomores that will focus on vocation and calling, and, second, a proposal for a Center for Learning and Teaching.

The sophomore retreat was proposed by Director of Residence Life and Housing Gabriel Jacobsen; Director of Alumni Relations Dan Noyes; Director of Career Services Brian Reimour; and Dean of Admissions and Retention Jeff Kirksey. The Center for Learning and Teaching was proposed by Associate Dean for Institutional Research and Assessment Daryl Stevenson and Chair of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department Kristin Camenga.

Now that the winning proposals have been selected, they will receive funds for further development. Development will include working to encourage broad participation from faculty and appropriate staff, as well as finding ways to connect these proposals with existing programs and personnel. As the process continues, additional funding for implementation will also be made available from the original trustee grant as necessary.

The two proposals are expected to be implemented in the 2012-2013 school year. ★

### RENEWAL from page 1

**Climate Commitment:** President Shirley Mullen committed Houghton in 2008. Houghton’s sustainability office works with various areas of the College, such as Sodexo and the student Environmental Club, putting on such events as this November’s Food Waste Awareness Week. During the week, the amount of food wasted each day in the dining hall will be graphed in an effort to bring more awareness concerning waste and as a result, decrease the amount of discarded food.

In addition, Houghton is also involved in more widespread efforts to form a sustainable community — a 45-page proposal for the College on the subject of carbon neutrality was submitted by Our Common Ground October 18 to the President’s office for review over the next week and a half. The review is in accordance with Houghton’s membership as part of the CCCU President’s Climate Commitment and fulfills the requirements of that contract.

Houghton’s Environmental Club, led by Nijssen, plays a large part in the sustainability work. Founded

in 1995 by then Houghton student Aaron Routh, the club’s focus is on exploring the relationships among humans and their relationships with God’s creation, and working behind the scenes to assist in various campus sustainability projects. In recent years, the club’s work in off-campus environmental action has increased.

“In the past few years, the club’s been more into activism,” said Ginny Routh. “Last year a few of the members even lobbied in Washington D.C. against mountaintop coal [and] mountaintop removal.”

“I do think it’s important for Christians to be concerned about the environment,” said junior Anna Brunner. “It’s great that Houghton students and professors are involved and look into these things, like environmental justice.”

At the very least, Houghton’s openness to sustainability discussion provides an opening for students’ interests.

“Even if people aren’t passionate about the environment,” said Nijssen. “I’d still encourage them to look into the Summit and just talk to people, because now is the time for renewal.” ★

### PAINE from page 1

gave the example of the math floor, where “there is a lot more blackboard space so that professors do not have to erase, and [they] can take up as much space as they need.” Most of the rooms are designed with reconfigurable furnishings, which Holt said provides “functionality both for small and large groups.” She explained that benches can be pulled apart or pushed together, enabling professors to teach groups of any size in the same space.

At the dedication ceremony, Mullen spoke about why the renovation of the Paine Science Center is especially important for Houghton.

“Science has changed significantly since this building was new,” said Mullen. “The updates enable the facilities to keep up with the academic quality at Houghton.” Furthermore she said “sciences are highly valued by society, and new facilities will help draw students to Houghton who are passionate about

making academic skills count in the real world.”

Also at the dedication ceremony, Keith Horn, Associate Dean of Natural Sciences and Mathematics at the College, spoke about why the renovation of the Paine Science Center matters for the world.

“Houghton believes in God and that everyone has value and worth through God, so we have a fundamental, rational, objective reason to address the problems in the world,” he said. “Houghton trains graduates who are servants.”

Mark Lindley, a science alumnus of Houghton, spoke about why the renovation of the Paine Science Center matters for students and alumni.

“Buildings are tools for greater purposes, and the effect of a good space on learning cannot be overestimated,” he said.

Linda Mills-Woolsey, Interim Dean of the College, concluded the speeches by reminding students and faculty to be good stewards and to thank God for this gift. ★

### STEVE JOBS from page 1

acquisition of NeXT, Jobs was brought back into the first company he founded and became an interim CEO of Apple. Holding that position, he revived the company by releasing the first stylish iMac, the industry-changing iPod, and the successive Shuffles and Nanos. With the debut of the iPhone, Jobs launched Apple into a new area of personal communication and the introduction Mac Book Pro and Air showed his ability to cater to a specific audience. After the release of the iPad in March of last year, Jobs was praised for his foresight and genius, and it was said that he created products for consumers before they knew they wanted them.

Jobs’ days at Apple were not flawless though, as evidenced by the antenna problems with the hyped-up iPhone 4. During this “Antennagate,” Jobs answered each question from the press with poignancy and humor, attempting

to reduce the embarrassment of the situation. He worked to remedy the problem, offering free bumper cases and a liberal take-back policy for unsatisfied customers, but the ridicule continued. Despite this haphazard solution and the merciless derision by the media, though, the iPhone 4 went on to become the best selling smartphone in the world.

Jobs had 317 patents to his name. He was noted for crafting beautiful, simplistic products that have changed how people communicate, learn, and are entertained. Apple products become sentimental parts of people’s lives; with products so emotionally integrated, Jobs ensured that his “design [was] not just what it looked like. Design [was] how it worked.” This attitude set him apart from other technology companies.

One thing is for sure — Jobs had a lasting influence on the digital world and beyond. ★

#### ANNOUNCING THE PAINE CENTER OPEN HOUSE RESEARCH POSTER CONTEST WINNERS:

1st Place: Colin Lauer '13; Physics Faculty Sponsor: Christopher Wells; Title: Simulating Coulomb Interacting Dark Matter

2nd Place: Michele Adams '12 and Maya McElfish '12; Biology Faculty Sponsor: Aaron M. Sullivan; Title: Do recently metamorphosed American toads (*Bufo americanus*) respond to chemical stimuli from vertebrate and invertebrate predators?

3rd Place: Alyssa Rasmussen '12 and Kathryn McLendon '12; Biology Sponsor: Kurt Vandock; Title: Phospholipid Dependence of the Reversible, Energy-Linked, Mitochondrial Transhydrogenase in *Manduca sexta*.

4th Place: Dana Duke and Nicholas Fuller '13; Physics Faculty Sponsor: Mark Yuly; Title: The NIFFTE TPC Gas Handling System

It came to a one point difference between 2nd & 3rd place.

Prize money will be given to the student name underlined above and will be deposited into your student account by the end of next week. Certificates will be given to winners and all participants. 2nd and 3rd place winnings will be split 50%-50% between the 2 students.

Reminder: Prize Information:

First prize - \$150      Second prize - \$100  
Third prize - \$50      Fourth prize - \$25



# A full-length album from alumnus Alex Glover

by ELISA SHEARER

Alex Glover, class of 2010, released his first album "No. 104" under the project Endswell in September. Most students know Glover as the guy who sang at Spot all the time, satirizing such hard-hitting issues as missing trays and Swine Flu; many probably remember him as the guy who rapped with President Shirley Mullen.

For those who remember Glover mainly for his satire, the mood of "No. 104" might surprise them — the second song is called "You Make Me Smile" — and the consistently upbeat music didn't really convey to me what I imagined as the abstractly dark wasteland that is post-graduation, but it was a good surprise. It was a surprise to Glover, too. "I never thought that this is the style of music that would come out of me," he said.

The thing about "No. 104," too, is that it refuses to be dismissed as naïve. Playful, yes; romantic, definitely. But not naïve.

"Right now I'm really enjoying what I'm doing," said Glover. "I hope the energy, passion, and general all around (mostly) good feeling translates to anyone who checks it out."

The music in "No. 104" is consistently entertaining — I tried to figure out an "at its best/at its worst" comparison, but the music doesn't really have a "worst." The music is, for the whole album, a solid and generally unmemorable support for Glover's lyrics. The music is well-played, pleasant, and meticulously recorded, but for some reason most of the songs don't tend to differentiate well from each other. Stylistically, the album isn't monotonous but somehow still blends together. Also, if you don't like acoustic guitar, this album might not be for you.

The instrumentation is well-done, with some very well-arranged trombone parts (by Kevin Gleeson) and a fantastic featured violin (Josh Knowles, "See You There"), one of the best instrumental moments of the album. Other featured artists include Glover's conveniently musical friends and other musicians with whom he's worked before: Dave Anthony, Danny Ensanian, Jon McKinley, '11 graduate, and Mikey Molloy (whom Glover describes as "my life-long friend [thus far]"). It's evident from listening to the album and hearing Glover talk that he



WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ENDSWELL

Glover produced, recorded and mixed Endswell's "No. 104" himself.

highly enjoyed collaborating with so many other musicians on the project.

Throughout the album, Glover's voice is sweet, with not so much character as would make it less easy to listen to him sing for an hour, but enough to be unique and expressive. He maintains an un-manipulated singing style without sacrificing pitch and his vocal harmonies (both with himself and with Molloy, McKinley, and Anthony) are clean and well-written and a pleasant surprise from a singer who has so far done mostly solo work. The best musical moment overall is probably Glover's falsetto harmony with himself in "From the Moon."

This is Glover's first major project — one he produced, recorded, and mixed himself. The experience, for him, "was mentally one of the most taxing experiences I've had." He said that spending so much time recording "gives one ample time to explore every flaw, nitpick every lyric, and generally end up hating the project. By the

end I was so scared to put down (almost) all my savings to get the physical copies of this CD, because I wasn't sure if it was even worth it. Luckily with the encouragement of all people close to me, I got it done and so far people have generally responded pretty well."

The lyrics are the heart of this album; Glover is a poet, and his lyrics defy anyone who would accuse him of simple optimism. He deftly, and kind of obstinately, sings

of the complexity of goodness in a world "so far from perfect." Don't let the lazy and fashionably cynical part of you scoff at cheerful subjects — pay attention to lyrics like "While wasted wicks were burning nobody wanted to watch, and / No one went to wish their way to wealth with breath upon those wicks, oh well / In every entry ending everyone enters alone, they edit ends and end it when they emit any emptiness, oh well, I guess / I'll blow the candles out," and "I heard the hearts of hundreds harboring hatred they had, with / Half a head to get a head with hands so red from hard work shot to hell."

Pay attention to "The Day Ahead," a story set to music of a man's wife who dies before he can sing to her the song he wrote — it is sweetly and sadly and unapologetically romantic. On the other hand, pay attention to "Who cares?" which features a hilarious trombone and a reggae beat and lines like "Got excited and knocked down the ceiling fan with a chair, but who cares?" and "Let's pool our money and buy a pet that we will never feed!"

The stories of older couples and passing time complement the album cover, which features a ridiculously adorable picture of him as a child outside playing a piano (Glover maintains that this was a spontaneous and perfectly explainable picture; I only sort of believe him).

In "Still Beginners," Glover said "[when] my throat dries up and I'm out of key / I'll still sing to her." This kind of earnestness is what shines in "No. 104" and is free of naïveté, I think. The album is definitely worth being purchased, and even more definitely worth being streamed for free at [endswell.bandcamp.com](http://endswell.bandcamp.com). For more information about Glover, "No. 104," or Endswell, go to the above site or [facebook.com/endswellmusic](http://facebook.com/endswellmusic). ★

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## Loyalty.

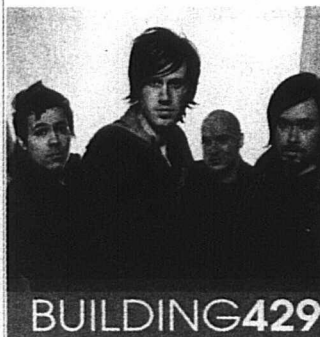
Spring 2012

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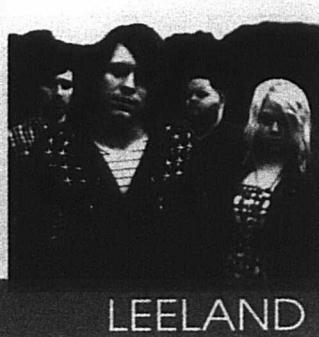
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# GUNNING BRINGS A TASTE OF TENNESSEE TO HOUGHTON

by LINDSEY HOUGHTON

Last night marked the premiere of Houghton's production of Tennessee Williams' iconic play "The Glass Menagerie," which will run performances throughout the weekend. It is the fifth college play directed by Nicolas Gunning, '05 graduate, and the first Williams play to be produced by Houghton for many years. With a cast of only four people, "The Glass Menagerie" offers an intimate look into the memories of Tom, played by sophomore Ben Layman, who is the son of an overbearing mother Amanda, played by junior Carly Trask; brother to a shy and crippled sister Laura, played by senior Amber Marie Payne; and friend of the good-natured and earnest Jim, played by freshman Dan Buckley. Tom brings the audience with him as he peers into his often painful past. Although the play resonates with anger, pain, resentment, and disappointment, there are indeed shining moments of hope.

"Even though this play is so sad, it has life-affirming moments," said Payne. "It's so raw and real."

It was the small cast size that originally attracted director Gunning.

"This semester, I wanted to do a smaller cast and show," he said. "It provides the opportunity for more one-on-one, something that's lost in a larger show, which prevents me from spending the time that I'd like with each person. The small cast allows us to dialogue about things."

Buckley also appreciates the smaller cast size.

"I really like it, because we really do get a lot closer," he said. "Everybody's in on all the inside jokes."

Aside from being a benefit for director and actors, the small cast allows the audience time to connect with each character.

Many plot elements of the play

connect to the playwright's life. Williams, christened Thomas Lanier Williams III, was the son of a traveling shoe salesman who was often away from home. His mother was an overbearing Southern Belle with misplaced social aspirations. He was very close with his older sister Rose, a shy and frail girl who spent much of her later life in a mental institution after being diagnosed with schizophrenia. Tom, as Williams was called by his family, attended Soldan High School, and mentioned by the character Tom in "The Glass Menagerie." Later, he worked for a time at a shoe factory, which he despised, much like the fictional Tom.

Williams would go on to be considered America's most iconic playwright and one of the most well-known playwrights of the English-speaking world by many.

Williams' plays remain some of the most produced in the world, as well as some of the most loved. The night "The Glass Menagerie" opened on Broadway in 1945, the cast responded to an astonishing 25 curtain calls, and the standing ovation given to Laurette Taylor for her performance as Amanda was 12 minutes long. Many actors and critics have acclaimed her performance as the greatest performance the Broadway stage has ever known. She died in 1946, just one year after her groundbreaking performance.

Trask is ready and willing to take on the challenges of playing the iconic Amanda.

"I've always done the college plays, but for this one, I was personally drawn to Amanda," she said. "My approach to the character now is totally different than when I first got the part. It's such a big, encompassing role that it's really neat to be a part of American history."

One of the most interesting elements of Houghton's production of "The Glass Menagerie" is the portrait of Tom and Laura's father that hangs center stage. Gunning specially commissioned the portrait for Houghton's production of the play. Professor Ted Murphy, art, took photos of Payne and Layman and combined features of each into a father's portrait that resembles them both.

"I think that's a really interesting element," said Gunning. "The audience can connect to it a little more, because it's clear that the man in the portrait is connected to the characters."

Gunning has tried to follow his own instincts in this production rather than rely on traditions or techniques established by other productions.

"I approached the script with the ideas I had from my initial reading of it, and it's worked really well with the cast," he said. "Everyone's really excited to do this play that's really well-known in theater and to take a fresh approach to it."

Trask and Layman appreciate Gunning's hands-off approach to directing.

"This is my fourth play acting with Nic," said Trask. "Where Nic differs from other directors is that he doesn't try to mold too much. He gives us a sense of artistic freedom to sort of make the character who you want. It allows you to grow as a character because he lets you be who you are."

"He has a great way of bringing out the humor in a situation," said Layman.

For some, it was the opportunity to work with Gunning that led them to "The Glass Menagerie." For others, it was the play itself.

"I love Tennessee Williams," said Payne. "He is a genius. He has a way of writing an illusion that is so real. His characters are so complex, and there are so many layers to them. Laura is such a complex character—she's so much more than just a shy girl. There's a lot more to her."

Buckley also appreciates the opportunity to be in such a well-known play. "To do a play that's iconic puts you a step ahead," he said. "When people come to a show that they already know, they get a completely different experience than if they're seeing it for the first time. Rather than being caught up in the plot, they can enjoy the interpretation of that particular show."

"The Glass Menagerie" runs at 7 p.m. tonight and tomorrow, as well as at 2 p.m. tomorrow. Performances will be held in the Tysinger Auditorium at Houghton Academy. Tickets are \$5 and will be available at the door. ★

## SPORTS RECAP

### FIELD HOCKEY:

**WED 10/12**

vs Ohio Wesleyan Univ. - W 1-0

**THU 10/13**

vs Mansfield Univ. - W 4-0

**SAT 10/15**

at St. Vincent College - W 3-0

**Season Record: 9-3-0**

**UPCOMING GAMES:**

**WED 10/26**

at Univ. of Rochester @ 6PM

### MEN'S SOCCER:

**FRI 10/14**

vs Point Park Univ. - L 1-2 2OT

**SAT 10/15**

at Daemen College - W 2-1

**WED 10/19**

at Robert's Wesleyan - W 2-1

**Season Record: 3-10-3**

**UPCOMING GAMES:**

**TUE 10/25**

vs Daemen College @ 7PM

### WOMEN'S SOCCER:

**FRI 10/14**

vs Point Park Univ. - W 5-0

**SAT 10/15**

at Daemen College - L 0-1

**WED 10/19**

vs Carlow Univ. - W 4-0

**Season Record: 13-3-0**

**UPCOMING GAMES:**

**SAT 10/22**

vs Walsh Univ. @ 2PM

### VOLLEYBALL:

**SAT 10/15**

vs Tri at SUNY Geneseo w/  
SUNY Canton - W 25-15, 24-20,  
22-25, 25-10

**TUE 10/18**

vs Daemen College - L 16-25,  
13-25, 19-25

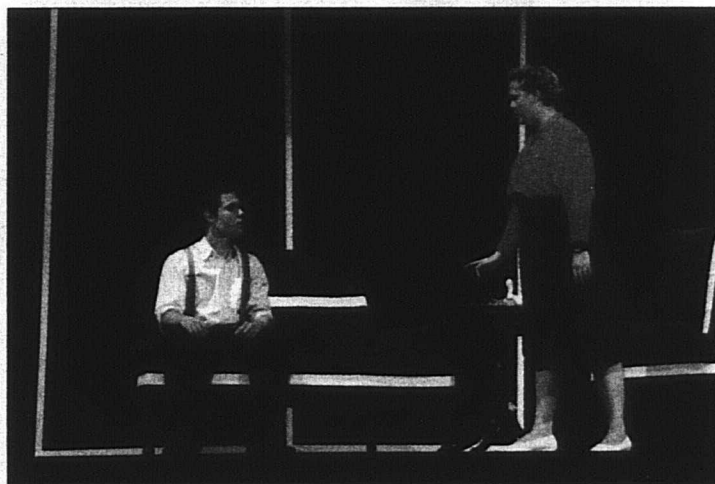
**Season Record (as of 10/5):**  
**5-15**

**UPCOMING GAMES:**

**SAT 10/22**

at Walsh Univ. TBA

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



Sophomore Ben Layman plays the role of Tom opposite his overbearing mother Amanda, played by junior Carly Trask in Tennessee Williams legendary play.

## DIVERSIONS/ LETCHWORTH

by MELINDA RAMEY

Often I've walked down the path from the Campus Center to the townhouses and thought, "What could I do with my friends around here that doesn't involve food?" One exciting site comes to mind: Letchworth Falls. Just take a left out of Houghton's driveway and drive 30 minutes down Route 19, and you will find the beautiful natural treasure.

Letchworth is a New York State park which contains the Genesee River and some of the most beautiful waterfalls around. Inspiration Falls, located at Letchworth is the tallest waterfall in the state with a drop of 300 feet, although it rarely contains water anymore.

Letchworth is the perfect place to go any time of year—with sunshine in the summer, beautiful turning leaves in the fall, frozen sculptures in the winter, and new flowers in the spring. It is a great place to take relatives or friends who are visiting, proving to them that, yes, there is something splendid about living in the middle of nowhere. I have heard many observers say that Letchworth impresses them more than Niagara Falls, while being far less expensive and crowded.

Many students enjoy doing homework in the grass listening to the rushing water in the background. If moving about is more your style, the park offers great opportunities to hike

up and down the 66 miles of trails throughout the park. The trails create an opportunity for great exercise, whether it be hiking in the summer or cross country skiing in the winter. The train trestle is a great photography project waiting to happen, as the craftsmanship one sees from the falls below is breathtaking—only because anyone who has any sense of respect for authority would only look and not explore on foot. Observing the animals, birds, and plants around the park is also captivating for anyone interested in outdoor recreation. The falls are simply a great place to escape from the hectic demands of college life.

Letchworth provides a one-of-a-kind opportunity to experience the power of God's creation in an extremely intimate way. The falls are intriguing with some areas surging powerfully and almost frightfully before your eyes while other places remain still and enticing; they seem to live and change as we do. Every time I have visited they seem to be inviting in a new and unique way. I have had many unforgettable experiences there myself, from chasing frogs and taking pictures with friends to going on a winter hike and writing poetry in peace and solitude. Yes, Letchworth is definitely something to see around here. It's an adventure waiting to happen.



# Houghton Fails to Respond to the Case of Troy Davis



by GORDON BROWN

At 10:53 a.m., September 21, Troy Davis was executed by the state of Georgia. Convicted with the 1989 shooting of an off-duty Savannah police officer, Davis' subsequent trial and death sentence has been one of the most hotly contested cases in recent history. In spite of his conviction, many questions have arisen concerning the validity of the case. Of the nine key witnesses, seven recanted their testimonies, and of the two who maintained theirs, one is suspected by many to have been the actual murderer. Further, the case has been haunted by allegations of police coercion in procuring testimonies, as well as a lack of forensic or DNA evidence that has only served to intensify doubts about Davis' guilt. Calls for clemency for Davis were raised by notable organizations such as the NAACP and Amnesty International, and from public figures such as Pope Benedict XVI, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, former president Jimmy Carter, renowned anti-death penalty activist and author Sister Helen Prejean, and

former FBI director William Sessions. Nevertheless, Davis was executed, having spent nearly half his life in prison, protesting his sentence to the end.

Denouncements of the execution have flooded in from both the U.S. and around the world, ranging from official statements by the European Union to vitriolic celebrity tweets to a veritable ocean of essays, YouTube videos, and blog posts from activists and journalists. But for all the indignation and calls for rededication to the anti-death penalty movement, one secluded New York college has remained strangely silent throughout.

Indeed, of all the Houghton students I spoke to in the days and weeks following Davis' execution, only a handful even recognized his name. It seems strange that a case so controversial as to be dubbed by some a "state sanctioned lynching" would not be discussed, even in passing, here at the College. Nevertheless, many students remain ignorant about the gross miscarriage of justice committed less than a month ago.

Now, obviously the world is rife with injustice, and we are not going to

be aware of every single wrongdoing committed. Even so, I cannot help but find myself confused, disappointed, and frustrated at the reaction, or lack thereof, of the student body, and indeed, the Houghton community as a whole.

In the fall of 2010, the College announced plans to refer to Houghton as a "faith-based" institution, rather than a "Christian" one. Students and faculty alike responded with scathing criticism in the *Star*, and for weeks, the rebranding issue was the center of most of the

“It seems wrong that other disputes dominate the community while the execution of a man widely viewed to be innocent is not even acknowledged.”

debate on campus. Surely the life of Davis was just as important, if not more important than a minor word change in some college promotional literature, but where was the rage and indignation for him? Why was the student body willing to protest semantics but not this execution? Naturally there is nothing wrong with the

rebranding debate, for it was certainly one worth having; however, it seems wrong that it and other such disputes dominate the community, while the execution of a man, widely viewed to be innocent, is not even acknowledged.

As both an academic institution and a Christ-centered one, this seems hypocritical on the most basic level.

The College's Web site boasts that "Faith intersects every area of life at Houghton, from academics to athletics, the dorm to the classroom. There is no separating our Christian faith from anything we do. It's who we are." Anyone who attended chapel a week and a half ago will recall being told that our generation is the one that will make a difference. But why then has the Houghton community remained largely mute on this case — a case that, touching on every subject from law to race to religion, ought to be something on which every student can comment?

Certainly it is not for a lack of passion. Time and again, Houghton students have demonstrated dogged determination in pursuing causes we believe in. Certainly it is not for a lack of resources. With our globally minded courses and slogan of "Bring the classroom to the world," we certainly should not claim ignorance as our excuse.

So again, I am brought back to the question of "Why was the execution of Davis not decried, and not even discussed here in the Houghton community?" In all honesty, I simply do not know.

*Gordon is a senior writing and psychology major*

## Sex at Houghton College | part 2 of a 3-part editorial series



by CHRIS HARTLINE

In the last issue, Elisa described the realities of the issue of sex at Houghton, i.e. people are having it, and they're having it because it's fun. With that foundational understanding, the next logical question becomes, is that a good or a bad thing? Does the prevalence of sexual activity at an earlier and earlier age, and outside of marriage, reflect the moral depravity of our generation? Or does it simply reflect the evolution of social and sociological mores? The reality of the situation is that sex — whether you're having it or not — has a profound impact on Christian college students — impact that is felt for years to come and particularly in the context of marriage.

Whether or not sex before marriage is a sin or harmful to oneself or the community at large is not a black and white issue like murder or lying. It is something that Christians struggle with on a daily basis, and with good reason. As Elisa pointed out, sex is "essentially a good thing." It is the most essential

and natural bond between two people, and it creates physical, emotional, and even spiritual connectivity. But as Dr. Lastoria commented, in many cases it creates a bond "at a time when a young man and woman aren't ready to be bonded."

On the other side of the argument, what role does sex play in the prevalence of divorce in the United States, both among Christians and non-Christians? A recent study by the Barna Group shows that 32% of all born again Christians have been divorced compared to 30% of Atheists and Agnostics and 33% of all non-Christians. Research by Lastoria has shown that approximately 20-25% of Christian college students are sexually active, compared to the almost 90% of unmarried non-Christians.

With the emphasis placed on the family and the importance of marriage in Christian communities, does the relatively low rate of sexual activity in any way lead to the equal rate of divorce? For instance, are more young Christian people refraining from sexual activity, but in turn getting married at a younger age (in order to have sex) and landing eventually in divorce? Is the lack of sexual activity among Christians leading to scenarios where couples get married and realize a dearth of sexual chemistry, which also in turn leads to divorce?

The answer to these questions, according to Lastoria, is no, at least in any statistical sense. There does not seem to be any statistically significant correlation between lack of sexual activ-

ity before marriage and divorce. What Lastoria did say on the subject is that in reality, the increased prevalence of sexual activity creates a system of "serial monogamy." Being sexually active over the course of a few years with multiple partners becomes "practice for temporary fidelity rather than lifelong commitment." The general breakdown of the family has also led researchers to find that young people desire a single, happy marriage but do not think it is possible anymore.

This is the sad reality of a hyper-sexualized world. Because sex is so connecting and constructive, it creates a bond that when engaged in outside of marriage — without the commitment and subject to emotionally traumatizing breakups — can destroy the very fabric of society. What makes it beneficial and beautiful can also make it destructive and damaging.

But on the adverse side, while there may not be statistical causality proving the relationship between abstaining from sex before marriage and divorce among Christians, we should not reject the possibility that lack of sexual activity before marriage can be destructive. I have personally seen this happen in at least one couple. It may not have been the only factor or even the most important; but in general, the fact that Christian couples might misunderstand the role sex plays in relationships can be detrimental, to say the least.

So what is the takeaway? I don't really know. It is statistically, logically,

and spiritually evident that, in general, increased sexual activity outside of marriage can be harmful to individuals, the family, and society at large, but I don't think we can make a blanket statement that it is always wrong and always sinful. Statistics also show that the Christian persuasion toward refraining from sex before marriage does not seem to help marriages avoid divorce. There are situations where an unmarried Christian couple makes the decision to have sex before marriage for beneficial reasons, and they live a long and happy life together. Isn't it a choice best left up to the individual?

Christians generally agree that imbibing unhealthy amounts of alcohol is a sin, but that, after graduation of course, having a beer or two is not. It is a decision each person must make, and why is sex any different? It is not a decision that should be made by a school or a church. The role of the school and church, as well as parents of course, is to educate about the blessings and challenges of sexual activity.

Aldous Huxley said that "an intellectual is a person who's found one thing that's more interesting than sex," or as Elisa put it, "sex is super important." The least we can do as a community is to discuss this issue as rational adults and try to have an open mind about the realities we face on a daily basis.

*Chris is a senior political science major*



## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK /

## Complacent Entertainment: I'd Do Something About It, But I Just Got Comfortable



by LUKE DOTY

I'm fairly aggressive when it comes to stories, which is to say that stories are important to me, and I'm often surprised to find that stories aren't so important to a lot of other people. I got in an argument with a friend the other day about the film *Ocean's 11* and its far inferior sequel, *Ocean's 12*, and found myself growing equal parts horrified and outraged and hollering at my friend in the campus center because he liked the "fun" sequel better than the engaging original.

This is petty, I know, but I think it's sad that people experience stories just to laugh and kill a couple of hours (escapism jumps readily to mind). I feel weird knowing that the goal of the silver screen is to keep me in my seat for two hours, and when there are explosions it feels like somebody jangling keys in front of my face.

I get that sense that people are complacent with how they experience stories. Is it enough to be entertained or to be distracted?

On the other hand, I've read en-

tire books that I hated just so I could call myself an intellectual. Entire books! I could have been kissing girls! I think the big question is whether or not there is a middle ground. Do stories exist which are neither patronizing nor intolerable?

Yes.

There is enormous potential, some of it already realized, to create incredible, original stories, but frankly, challenging and innovative stories will not be told without an audience to receive them. As long as you don't care about what you are watching, no writer, director, producer, or publisher will care about you.

Still, the production capabilities exist. Only the demand is lacking to create something so real and so expansive as to make the audience shiver and grow.

Unless you don't want a new experience. Maybe you are complete. You do not hunger for something more.

But I don't think that's the case. I think you, too, stare at the wall and think your friends do not truly know you, that love is never perfect, that you will never emit words describing who and how you are (what words? Where would you find them?), that Heaven sounds unpleasant, somehow, and that the Bible sometimes reads like a poorly written book. I think

something in the pit of you is hungry.

"But Luke!" you say, "Isn't it unfair to judge people for taking entertainment lightly? We don't go to the theater for some kind of enlightenment experience,

nor do we crack open a novel looking to fill some pit in our tummies; we want to be entertained."

Shut your stupid face, I reply. Entertainment is everywhere. You can hardly walk out of your house without stepping into entertainment. It's been democratized. It's cheap. You're being entertained right now. Stories offer the greatest opportunity in the world

“Stories offer the greatest opportunity in the world to learn about yourself, and you get upset when they don't sing show tunes and tap dance for you.”

to learn about yourself, and you get upset when they don't sing show tunes and tap dance for you. It's like going to class and complaining that the professor isn't exciting. It's like sitting beside your dying father and asking him to tell you jokes. You are underestimating the power of stories, and subsequently storytellers are underestimating your potential to comprehend them.

Try to remember the first story you really connected with. Every character was an unknown and every plot movement yanked you around by the teeth ("No, Simba, I killed Mufasa"). A happy ending used to be a wonderful thing, not

because you wanted it so badly but because you did not expect it. Now you feed on happy endings, or sad endings if you're lonely. To be robbed of exactly what you expect, you would be furious. When did you become so frightened of bigger things? It used to be everything was bigger than you. There are larger stories out there, stranger characters, truths by which you would long to be scandalized. I think most people remain kids, in a bad way. I think it's a little sad seeing adults watch kid movies and formulaic TV shows because their teeth are too soft for something harder. I think people are starving.

"But Luke!" you howl like something feral. "You are being too hard on good people whose opinions are just as valid as your own!"

"When I was a child," replies Paul the apostle, "I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me."

But maybe you don't feel empty sometimes like I do, or maybe it's just not worth worrying about, in which case I have wasted a good bit of your time (sorry). But if you do have the hollow pit, or the grinding gut, or the heart with what feels like a bite taken out of it, watch *Memento*. Then watch *Brick* and then read *Cruddy* and then watch *The Darjeeling Limited* and then get a hold of a *Best American Short Stories* and read the heck out of it. Just don't get complacent.

Luke is a senior writing major

## HOW DO YOU LIKE THE NEW "FIVE BITES" DORM STORES?

I like that the prices and selections are standard for all dorms.

19%



I don't like the price bump or limited selection in some dorms.

41%



I didn't even notice the change.

41%



Out of 27 votes

## We want to hear what you think.

Letters to the editor should be 350 words or less and can be submitted to:

[houghtonstar@gmail.com](mailto:houghtonstar@gmail.com)

You can also comment on articles online at [www.houghtonstar.com](http://www.houghtonstar.com)



Vote in this week's poll at [www.houghtonstar.com](http://www.houghtonstar.com)



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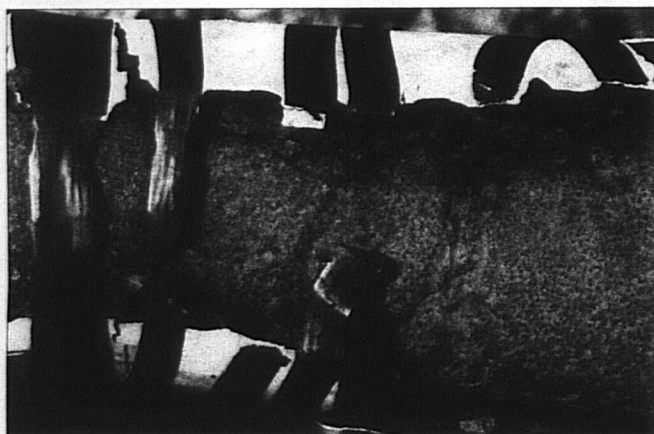
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# ARTIST OF THE WEEK



ANDREA PACHECO

## HANNAH YANEGA

Photography first became my passion in high school. We fight for people to see our point of view, but once I embraced photography, I realized it wasn't a fight; it was an opportunity. No one else could see the world through my eyes until I picked up a camera. Working in both film and digital photo, I love the entire development process. As a double major in art and writing, I am always finding ways to blend my two majors together. Both allow me to focus on things I love and the tiny details others take for granted - I couldn't ask for more.

Hannah is a senior writing and art double major with concentrations in photography and printmaking.

*Clockwise from left: Mid Flight, Corrosion, Pecking Order; digital photography*

## SUDOKU

Last week's sudoku winner was MEGAN TENNANT! Your Java gift card will be sent to you through campus mail.

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

To win 2 FREE TICKETS to the SOUNDS OF HOPE CONCERT, bring your finished puzzle, clearly marked with your full name and CPO, to the Star office in the basement of the Campus Center.

10/7 Crossword Solution:

S	C	R	I	P		B	O	O			B	A	B	E
A	L	A	M	O		L	E	U		A	E	G	I	S
L	E	N	I	N		O	R	T		V	E	E	R	S
	W	I	D	G	E	T		G	E	A	R	E	D	
		E	E	N		B	O	L	T					
D	A	M		E	V	E	R		F	A	R	O	F	F
A	D	O	S		O	R	E	S		R	E	V	E	L
C	O	T	E		I	S	A	A	C		D	U	M	A
C	L	I	M	B		E	D	G	Y		S	L	U	M
A	F	F	I	R	M		T	A	C	T		E	R	E
			O	A	T	H		L	A	O				
	P	O	W	W	O	W		G	O	O	G	L	E	
C	O	L	A	S		A	G	E		I	L	I	A	C
A	L	I	N	E		I	N	N		S	E	T	T	O
B	L	O	G			N	U	T		T	R	E	S	S