

L. David Wheeler & Ivan T. Rocha, Editors





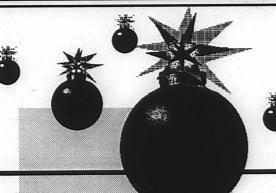














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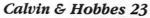
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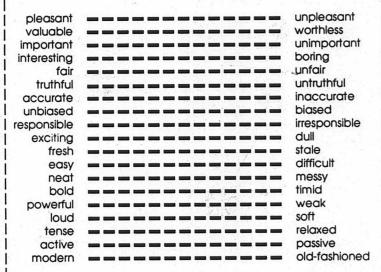
THE HOUGHTON STAR is a bi-weekly student publication; its focus is on events, issues and ideas which significantly affect the Houghton College community. Letters (signed) are encouraged and accepted for publication; however, they must not constitute a personal attack, they must be submitted by noon on Monday, and they should be no longer than two double spaced pages. The editors reserve the right to edit all contributions.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

ith one issue left before the end of the semester, we feel it is time to take a few moments to look back on what we have accomplished so far and evaluate our performance. Where do we need to improve? Where has our performance been stellar? We think we have a pretty good idea of where our strengths and weaknesses as a publication lie, but we would really appreciate your input at this time. After all, the Houghton Star is a publication directed chiefly at you, the student body of Houghton College. And, because we want to serve you better, we would like to have some specifics to work from. As a result, we would like you to fill out this short, simple questionnaire and return it to us at CPO Box 378 or in | the Star office (former site of Zocchino's Basement), some time before December 10. We would like to publish the results of this survey in our December 14 issue and implement some of the conclusions early in the spring semester. Your cooperation is invaluable to us. Thanks!☆

performance survey 90

How have we been doing? On the chart below, mark with an "x" the space on the dotted line which in your opinion best describes the *Star* this semester.



Comments, questions, suggestions?

CELEBRATING THE GLORY OF THE KILL

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why is it that christians delight in witnessing death?

1

by L. David Wbeeler

hile watching the movie Glory a few weeks ago, I found myself quite disturbed at something. It wasn't the movie itself—it was a great film, one of the best I've seen in months. What disturbed me was this: several times, when Confederate soldiers were killed in battle onscreen, a brief but alarming amount of applause would issue from the audience.

Maybe I'm just being picky. But it seems to me that such a celebration of death is out of place among people who believe that human life is created in God's image. Killing occurs, yes, and sometimes it may be necessary, as in the kill-or-be-killed combat situations depicted in the film. But my reaction when one of the Union soldiers

plunged his bayonet between the shoulder blades between his grey-garbed enemy was one of sadness, regret that the fallen human drive for supremacy and sovereignty had led to the actions causing the Civil War (Confederate secession, prolific slavery, etc.) and thereby necessitated two young men meeting in a field as enemies.

Some people in the audience, however, apparently only saw victory and
triumph in such a killing, and responded with
corresponding applause, an almost
Pavlovian response. While I'm quite thankful that the United States did indeed vanquish the rebellion in the Civil War, such
apparent glee at witnessing a killing strikes
me as quite chilling—and very sad. \$\frac{1}{2}\$



Hello from Saudi Arabia:

First let me introduce myself. I am CPT Royce (Anderson) Brand, Class of 85. I am here as a transportation officer in the United States Army. I am serving as a company commander.

Life here in the desert is probably just as you imagine it. Imagine you've landed on the moon—with the exception of oxygen, snakes, scorpions, lizards, beetles and flies; it is the same. Every day we improve by building up or digging in. Supplies come slow because we are at the end of the line. We hope to have all our tents by Thanksgiving and floors in them by Christmas.

We have seen some of the wildlife. This morning, two camels came strolling through our area. Soldiers ran up to them to take pictures and they didn't get excited. One of our neighboring companies has a chuckwilla—a two-foot lizard with strong jaws and a spiked tail. They call him chuck for short. One company has a cobra skin. They found him hiding in a foxhole. Bedouins roam throughout the area with their camels and sheep. Some are more modern than others. They have Toyota Land cruisers to carry goats and camels. I don't know how they coax the camels into the back. Maybe they know it beats walking.

Culture shock isn't as bad as the press makes it out to be. We are trying to be good guests. We are not allowed to talk about religious activities because it is a sensitive topic. We, however, continue to have Bible study and services.

I am a commander of a Headquarters Company. We provide food, water, fuel, maintenance, medical and religious support to the fighting forces. We are up front with the armor, infantry and artillery.

My soldiers come from all over and from different backgrounds. They are black, white, yellow, red, Yankee, Rebel, country boys, city boys, old and young. It is amazing how well they work together. They are all good soldiers and hard workers, and they want to do well. I love them as my family.

The reason I am writing is to ask for your support. I realize that this is a controversial issue. My soldiers have two things in common: love for country and for family. They all miss home but will stay because they promised America they would. A lot of my soldiers are young. This will be their first Christmas away from home. They are scared and lonely. Our APO is not being published because we are a support unit. My guys miss home just like the infantry men do. One night a soldier came crashing into my tent. I thought we were under attack. I finally calmed him down and found out that he was a brand new father of an eight lb. baby girl. He had been trying for two days to get a call through to home. He was so excited that he woke up the whole camp. Letters from the Good Old USA mean everything. Mail call is the best time of day—if you get a letter. I am asking that you remember Americans here in Saudi by dropping them a line. They promise to write back.

I am lucky. My husband is here. I see him once in a while. I am glad I don't have to stay home and wonder how he is doing.

The other day we stopped in a town to make a phone call. Even before we stopped we saw some boys running away with our C-Rations that were on the back of the jeep. One boy waited and politely asked for some food. We gladly gave it to him. He was from Kuwait and spoke English very well. He asked how President Bush was doing and how some of our football teams were doing. He fled Kuwait right before the invasion. We exchanged small talk and then he became serious. He told us he missed his family and country and wanted to know if we could help him return. We told him that we miss our families and country too and that we hoped someday we both could go home.

That is everyone's wish here. We ask for your prayers and support.

Happy Holidays Royce R

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Any Soldier c/o CPT Brand HHD 115 FSB 1 CAV DIV APO NY 09306-0170

GULF

MERCY & FAIRNESS

academic dean clarence bence discusses academic alternatives for houghton reservists in active duty



by L. David Wheeler

hree Houghton College students, reservists in the United States Armed Forces, were given their orders two weeks ago. Randall Thomas, Doug Smith, and Luther Stevens will join Operation "Desert Shield" in Saudi Arabia, an initiative designed to forestall further aggression by Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein. Currently there are at least six other reservists at Houghton.

Leaving college in the midst of a semester, for whatever reason, is troublesome: tuition has already been paid, months of effort have been put in. Academic Dean Clarence Bence agrees. "It is an extremely unfortunate situation, academically," Bence said. "What Houghton wants to do is make the best of a bad situation."

According to Bence, the college hasn't had an official policy regarding student call-ups; the last such situation was during the Vietnam War, and government policy then was built around the draft, with routine deferments. "We were hoping that the situation would not escalate, that there would be non-military solutions to problems of this kind," said Bence. "We had hoped that reservists would be allowed to finish a semester. The government appears to have taken a no-exceptions approach, and the students are caught in that kind of policy."

This "no-exceptions approach" has necessitated the development of an official college policy regarding reservists called during a military crisis such as that in the Persian Gulf. The policy is still going through proper channels, circulating among administration officials, but the draft copy of the policy has been prepared. The details of the policy are not public yet (as the approval process is still not finished), but Bence did state the college's general position: "Our commitment is to try to see that there is no academic or financial loss to the students."

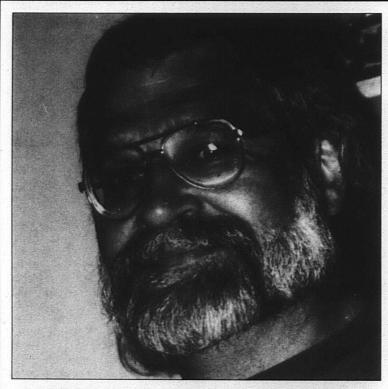
Bence was quick to clarify bat this doesn't mean instant tuition refunds or A-grades for reservists called overseas. Students leave Houghton mid-semester due to a variety of factors: illness, injury, family or personal crises, etc. Bence affirmed that he and the administration are "sensitive to not let the fervor of this situation create a policy that says 'everyone who leaves Houghton early does not have to meet our academic requirements."

Instead, Houghton College will attempt to work with each case individually, offering the student, upon return from military duty, several options [alternative ways to finish course work, opportunities to step into course work in a different semester, etc.] regarding finishing the course requirements. With only two full weeks of classes left in the semester, Bence stated that he doesn't anticipate many problems in helping Smith, Stevens, and Thomas.

Bence did, however, acknowledge the problems of the situation. "We're working on the assumption that they will be overseas for at least six months, which is a loss of two semesters," he said. This may, of course, be a conservative estimate, particularly if the United States takes a more offensive posture in the Gulf, as seems likely. "We'd like to think they could come next year if they want to, or earlier through a correspondence arrangement. We'll be sending out creative suggestions."

"The real issue," Bence stated, "is to be both merciful and fair. Merciful to those students caught in a situation beyond their control, fair to the thousand other students who are expected to do the work and pay the bills." Bence "hope[s] we've seen the last of it," but realizes that "if we [the U.S.] decide the military option, I suppose we'll be calling virtually everyone there is." "A

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ANGE SZYMANSKI

IN PROFILE

article and photograph by Ivan T. Rocha

nge (as he is known to most of us at Houghton), was born Gerald Anthony Szymanski, the son of a Polish butcher, June 14, 1944, in Niagara Falls, New York. The nickname came in grade school, and was quickly adopted by family and friends, sticking with him to this day. Why "Ange?" Why not "Gerry" like his oldest son? No one knows. Currently the head of the custodial department, Ange has been described by Academic Dean Clarence Bence as "one who marches to a different drummer." He is, indeed, by no means a conformist, and his interests range widely from music of every kind (anything but rap!) to big game hunting, the pleasures of fine cuisine, and the repair of things mechanical.

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But who is Ange, really? What lies beyond the genial, long-haired, blustery custodian, the father of three? Ange describes his personality as addictive, and considers himselfa workaholic as well as a "people person." Indeed, his addictive personality has led him through periods of compulsive, ruinous spending with painful slow periods of recovery. Most significant, however, is Ange's continuing battle against alcoholism from which he has found relief in Alcoholics Anonymous and his faith in Christ. Though the worst is now over, and recovery is almost complete, Ange continues his battle against alcoholism through active involvement in leadership roles with AA. He periodically leads AA sessions at the county jail and plans to enterfull-time counseling some time in the future.

His wife Rosalind (to whom he has been married 26 years) refers to him as "a driven man," incapable of sitting still. To call him a jack of all trades is almost an understatement, for while at home, Ange is constantly tinkering with one thing or another. It is almost easier to ask what he has not done during his 46

years (carpentry, he admits, is not a forte) than what he has, in fact, experimented with. In the course of a five-day holiday I spent at the Szymanski home, Ange managed to overhaul a wood-burning stove almost entirely, change the gas lines on my car, go on two deer hunts, take his wife shopping, cook several major meals, finish a firewood support, and make several repairs to the house.

Ange's love for nature becomes clear when he speaks of his involvement in the movement to prevent the installation of a nuclear waste dump in Allegany county. He is one of the leaders of the movement, and coordinates an extensive and efficient support network including telecommunications, the management of roadblocks and protests, and aid to those who are arrested in the course of the manifestations. An avid hunter and naturalist, Ange speaks with obvious pleasure of days spent in the woods in contemplative solitude, "hugging trees and smelling the earth," in a an attempt to "fit in with nature." At home, the Szymanskis are surrounded by a pack of inquisitive, curiously arboreal, semi-wild cats, and a friendly, lovable salad hound (my term, his lineage is impossible to discern), dubbed Bandit as the result of a black patch over his right eye.

This enthusiasm for the Creation explains in part the decision the Szymanskis made years ago to move from the Buffalo suburb of Tonawanda to an ancient farmhouse on a remote, windswept hill-extremely difficult to reach in winter—only a short distance from Allen Lake. The house itself has been painstakingly and lovingly restored over the years and now approaches the lavish historical homes so often seen in Country Living or House and Garden. In a way too, the move and the many remodelling projects were an escape, a retreat from life in the city, a return to nature, and a definite separation from the relationships and social circles which made more difficult Ange's battle against the bottle. For some time Ange commuted to the city until a change in careers made a woodsman of an insurance manager. Three years spent in the professional logging business brought the Szymanskis closer to the earth and established several lasting relationships which have been a source of support and comfort over the years.

While it was necessary for him to do some research in order to recall when he first came to Houghton (1983), Ange is not in any way reticent about the relationship with Vic Dana-former head of the custodial department-which led him here. His previous work experience as an insurance manager and professional logger did not really provide the adequate background for custodial work, but when he was assigned to take care of East Hall on his own, Ange had no alternative but to learn his new trade very quickly. Vie, he says, was a very helpful friend, and was happy to share much of his extensive expertise in the field of cleaning products, equipment and procedures. Stamina, drive, and a selfsacrificing perfectionism gradually brought Ange to his present position as head of the the custodial department. Custodial work, Ange says, is a boring but ever-changing job which nevertheless provides daily challenges to be tackled in new, creative ways. "My commitment is first to the Lord, second to the students, and third to Houghton College as an institution," says Ange of his professional life, and adds that he is currently quite happy to

Ange speaks with obvious pleasure of days spent in the woods in contemplative solitude, "hugging trees and smelling the earth"

be running the custodial department. A commitment to the preservation of the environment is evident in Ange's continual search for nature-friendly cleaning products, recycled supplies, and reusable products. Aware of the frequently higher cost of such materials, Ange laments the somewhat restrictive budget under which the department has to operate.

In addition to his constant tinkering in a favorite back room at home, Ange is an enthusiastic chef with a marked preference for bold, spicy dishes, liberally laced with onions, garlic, and hot peppers. His chili, made with two varieties of beans, and lovingly prepared with generous amounts of cooked tomatoes and sautéed onions, is magnificent on its own and only improves with the addition of "Jamaican Hellfire Hot Sauce" (with predictable results the day after), a recent find on a trip to Toronto. Imported peppeoncinis (those spicy, pickled green peppers Big Al has in his salad bar), are a favorite, and a collection of hot sauces from various parts of the United States and the world grace an impressive rack of dried spices and herbs in the Szymanski kitchen.

The present is one of stability, and Ange's objectives for the future are closely linked to his past as an alcoholic. He speaks with gratitude of the Houghton atmosphere which, while not problem-free, is at least free of "smokers, drinkers, and swearers." Though not ashamed to speak of the past, Ange often speaks of becoming a fully certified counselor for victims of alcohol and drug abuse. "I am under no pressure from myself," he says of completing the remaining hours of classroom training, but at the same time he continues to take courses in what little spare time his activities, children, and multiple projects allow him.☆

EXPRESSIONISM OR TRASH?

controversial art sees its day in court

by Amy Abbink

o some Cincinnati residents, the two monumental victories in the month of October came largely unexpected. Just as the Reds reveled in their upset sweep of the 1990 World Series, the art and museum community felt a sense of triumph with the acquittal of a Cincinnati museum director in a trial over artistic expression.

The Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Center and its director, Dennis Barrie, went to court in the beginning of October on obscenity charges relating to the showing of Robert Mapplethorpe's artwork last spring. Mapplethorpe's controversial exhibit included several photos showing explicit homosexual acts and frontal nudity of children. To some, his work is trash; to others, it is expressionistic art. This dispute led to the nation's first obscenity trial for an art gallery and its director.

In his testimony, Barrie stated that he had never wavered in his commitment to showing Mapplethorpe's display. The works of art had visited six other cities and were exhibited in the Contemporary Arts Center as planned. In preparation for an indictment, however, the local police closed the museum.

Barrie cited a parallel between his indictment and that brought against a record store owner in Florida who was recently convicted for selling the music of 2 Live Crew, the controversial rap group which itself faced prosecution on obscenity charges. In their lyrics, the Florida rap group describes exactly how they would mistreat women to satisfy their desires. The group's defense claimed such explicit language is "a joke, a parody, and parody is one of the most venerated forms of art." The group was recently acquitted.

Courts are coming down harder on this type of "art," and many have expressed feelings that their basic freedoms are coming under fire, and that unnecessary censorship and conservative drift will eventually eliminate all freedom of expression.

"I think it's part of a national pattern to restrict access to the written word, to the painted canvas, to recordings and to the movies," argues Barrie.

In contrast, there are many groups who vehemently oppose uncensored expression and crusade against it, claiming that it violates moral and legal standards. Monty Lobb, chairperson of Citizens for Community Values, said, "We as a society have gotten to a point where we're so desensitized and calloused to things that are just common sense."

The recent hearings on artistic expression will not settle in the long run the continuing dispute as to

what is obscene and what is art. The rulings might hamper the spirit of prosecution for a while or might adversely increase the public's awareness of controversial expressionistic works and incite them to censor such art more carefully.

Standards have changed markedly since Elvis Presley was televised only from the waist up to avoid broadcasting his gyrating pelvis. That instance seems quite tame now, as we must deal with obscenity hardly imagined eight or ten years ago.

Times change and art will evolve to imitate life, regardless of the integrity therein. True art still remains that which appeals to our highest aesthetic senses. We should be careful when we begin to think that because we can do something, and do it well, it is art.

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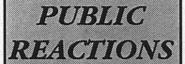
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How do you feel about censorship of art? Should certain types of art be withheld from public display? Who should make this decision? How do you feel about the work of recent controversial artists such as Robert Mapplethorpe?



The Star solicits opinions from various people around campus compiled by

Lee Morris



Rand Bellavia Senior

As an American, I must defend Mapplethorpe's right to produce what he calls art. My opinion of his work is immaterial. As far as censorship goes, I feel that as Christians, we should convert, not condemn.



Robin Scherer Freshman

I definitely think art should be censored--some is really sick. Every organization that may publish or display works should have a committee to decide whether they are decent enough. Obscene things may be art but should not be published or shown to the general public.



Jen Garrison Sophomore

To decide to censor art, you must first define art; and that in itself is difficult because one man's art is another man's pornography.



Cliff Powell Sophomore

There should be no censorship of art or anything, because if you can censor evil things, people who don't want to see Christian things should be able to censor that too. I'm not worried about bad things being out there...people are smart enough to make up their own minds. If someone is creating something to be art, it should be considered art.



Brangwynne Caves
Senior

If there is art censorship, the best people to decide would be artists themselves and the art community rather than others.

AND IN OTHER NEWS

by mike ballman and rich buck

ow many of you remember the "Throw the Bums Out" mentality that was so potently prevalent during the weeks preceding the election? Remember the outrage? Citizens voiced their frustration with Congress's ineptitude regarding the budget. It seemed, for the first time in decades, citizens were going to remind that elite group that represents "the people" that they are indeed servants of the people, not policy makers for a limited audience of financially powerful special interest groups who can guarantee their reelection. It appeared that the citizens had unified, and in that unification had realized the power of the vote. Those up for reelection felt our power and feared it. Campaign efforts doubled; incumbents were sweating.

In response, we the people returned 391 out of 406 incumbents (96%), 79 of which ran unopposed. The turnover rate in the Soviet Politburo before the Cold War ended was higher than that. We the people sent the message that the members of congress can continue to increase taxes, continue to allow our country to descend to the status of a debtor nation, continue to give us the bill for the Savings and Loans bailout, continue to charge us \$400 for a standard ballpeen hammer, continue to allow Barney Frank to run a homosexual escort service out of a tax-funded government office, indeed to continue to allow the ethical

foundation of our country to erode.

We can't blame those we elect into office for the state of our government. In a democracy, people get the kind of government they deserve.

Margaret Thatcher, Great Britain's longest serving Prime Minister this century, stunned the world last Thursday by announcing her resignation as head of government after 11 1/2 years.

Her decision to step down came in the midst of heated battle with Michael Heseltine for control of the Conservative Party. Thatcher's support began to erode when she failed to capture enough ballots in the first leadership challenge, forcing a second ballot. Fearing an embarrassing defeat in the second ballot, Thatcher decided to resign.

The anti-Thatcher sentiment which allowed Heseltine to challenge for party leadership stemmed from her support of a very unpopular poll-tax and her belligerency towards full economic integration with the European Economic Community.

Her resignation opened the door for two more challengers for the leadership of the Conservative Party, Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd and John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Major, 47, the youngest member of the cabinet riding on the

strength of Thatcher's endorsement, was able to win enough ballots to gain control of the majority Conservative Party and the position of Prime Minister on Tuesday. Major, the most politically Conservative of the three challengers is expected to follow Thathcher's hard-live military policies, while easing up on relations with the rest of Europe and the Economic Community.



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aphorisms, adages, and all that

The unity of freedom has never relied on uniformity of opinion.

John F. Kennedy

These people who pray know what most around them either don't know or choose to ignore: centering life in the insatiable demands of the ego is the sure path to doom.

Eugene Peterson
Earth and Altar

Older men declare war. But it is youth that must fight and die.

Herbert Hoover

It is a good thing for an uneducated man to read books of quotations.

Winston Churchill My Early Life

Who loves not Woman, Wine, and Song

Remains a Fool His Whole Life

Long Martin Luther (probably apocryphal)

All you need is love. . . Love is all you need.

Lennon/McCartney

An Aristotle was but the rubbish of an Adam, and Athens but the rudiments of Paradise.

Rev. Robert South

The devil's most devilish when respectable.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning Aurora Leigh (bk. i.)

"Hain't we got all the fools in town on our side? and ain't that a big enough majority in any town?"

Mark Twain Huckleberry Finn



NATURE'S OCCASIONAL STRUGGLE WITH INTERROGATIVE PRONOUNS

SENATE...

AT YOUR SERVICE

senate commentary by barry s. mactarnaghan

enate has been working hard to please the student body. Some topics that have been in review are a 24-hour study lounge, next year's academic calendar, free courts at the gym, chapel, and the dress code.

What's this about a 24-hour study lounge? Well, in case you haven't heard about it yet, there has been an attempt at creating a place on campus where members of the opposite sex may get together any time of the day or night for studying, talking, etc. (not for various other activities that might be thought of). The lounge is supposed to be connected to Shenawana, but would only be entered from outside the dorm. A proctor would be on duty to ensure that the lounge is used only for its intended purposes. Because there is no other place on campus practical for a 24-hour lounge. Shen is the ideal place.

Even though many think there is a need for this lounge, the idea has met with some opposition. Initially, certain administrators led students to believe that the study lounge was approved, but these same persons have changed their tune. Now they are saying there is no money for it, but students have volunteered to build it, and the materials are already provided. The only problem with funds is this: who pays the proctor? A solution to this problem may be a desk which sells things to support itself. So, I ask just one question: What is the problem here—why isn't this study lounge being approved by the administration?

For those of you who will be here next year, you might be interested to know that there will be some changes in next year's academic calendar (spring semester). The change will lengthen Christmas Vacation, so spring semester will start on January 13 instead of January 8. The extra days will be made up by eliminating a very early February reading day (which would have been on a Wednesday), a full day of Spring Break, and a half day of Easter Vacation. So, in order to gain three days during Christmas Vacation, we must give up two and a half days during the semester. The reasoning behind the change focuses around activities that occur during Christmas Vacation. For example, those students who need to work during vacation receive a few extra days in which to work. Also, many students like to have a little more time to spend with their families. Spring Break still consists of two weekends and the days in between, but classes resume on March 9 instead of March 10. Easter Break begins at 11:00 on April 16 instead of 5:30 on April 15.

How about those of you who like to use the gym for recreational purposes? When do you start getting what you want? Well, you who would like to have the gym available for all students are on the verge of having your prayers answered. In response to complaints by students that only collegiate and intramural sport teams get to use the

gym, Student Senate is working with the coaches to provide at least one open court that may be signed out by students, much like the racquetball courts. Part of the problem is that off-season teams can reserve two courts for a two-hour time span. even after their season is completed for the year. Perhaps the off-season teams could be limited in their use to one hour slots during Friday or Saturday. Another problem is the increase in the number of evening classes. This increase (whether imagined or real) pushes the collegiate sports practices later into the evening. This conflict might be resolved by having morning practices for the sports teams, but nothing is definite yet. More details will be presented in further issues of the Star.

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There's been a lot of talk about chapel-what's going on? Well, the chapel task force has been gathering information from the student body concerning chapel, and if they keep to their schedule, they will be ready to make some conclusions in January. Soon after conclusions have been made, they would like to hold an open informational meeting. As for next semester's chapels, there will be a Christian Classics Series of no more than eight chapels (focusing on major figures in Christianity such as Augustine and C.S. Lewis). You will have the chance to participate in a variety of chapels next semester, including a blind pianist. As usual, there will be at least two Music and Praise chapels, and in addition, there will be two days of Student Testimony and Worship.

Lastly, there is the issue of the dress code. The Student Handbook will be changed to read: "Students are expected to dress neatly and modestly at all times," eliminating any mention of shorts.

Until next time, do well and do good.☆

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A GOOD TIME WAS MEN'S HAD BY ALL B-BALL

ho'ton runners finish 40th at nationals

by David McMillan

he Houghton College crosscountry team capped a successful season with a trip to the NAIA national championship meet at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside on November 17.

Because it captured the District 18 championship, the entire men's team went to nationals, where it finished 40th out of 42 schools. Senior Jon Cole was Houghton's top finisher, placing 269th out of 358 runners with a time of 28:23 over the five-mile course. Also running for the men were senior captain Bernard Waugh, junior Mike Jones, and freshmen Mark Stoesz, Tim Thurber, Charlie Roberts, and Eric Runyon. Captain Jill Clark and Marion Austin represented the women's team in Wisconsin, with Austin finishing 86th out of 370, covering the 3.1 mile distance in 19:38. Clark placed 202nd, crossing the line in 20:57.

Although both teams ran mostly against larger schools, due to a low level of competitiveness within the district, they placed high in many meets. This included second place finishes for both teams at the Christian College Invitational,

held here on October 27. The men's district title was the only victory for either squad, but coach Bob Smalley said that "it took us a while to peak."

Houghton attained its main goal this season by fielding a full women's team for the first time in seven years, despite having four of the six team members fighting illness during the campaign. Other runners besides Clark and Austin included senior Karen Wolfe, junior Sue Crafts, sophomore Mim Grooms, and "Superfreshman," Heather George.

Looking to next year, Smalley said that if everyone works out as expected and a couple of recruits are added to each squad, both teams should do well. Smalley hopes to take both teams to nationals next year and have them finish in the top 25 nationally. Smalley would also like to see the teams continue to be effective witnesses to their opponents. Finally, Coach Smalley said that he has seen many good runners on campus (especially women), and encourages any of them to come out for the team next fall. \$\times\$

MEN'S B-BALL STARTS SEASON WITH 1-3 RECORD

by nathan ransil

he Houghton College men's basketball team's record stands at 1-3, after opening its season with four games on the road.

The team's tip-off tournament was at Mansfield, Pennsylvania, where it won its opener handily, then narrowly lost to Mansfield, a NCAA division II team. Sophomore point guard Darren Berkeley was tops, averaging 18.5 on 15 of 16 shooting from the floor. Berkeley and junior co-captain David Binkowski were selected to the all-tournament team.

Over Thanksgiving, the team traveled to Indiana for a holiday classic. A three-pointer at the buzzer lifted Anderson College to a two point victory over Houghton. Then Taylor University, ranked NAIA national number 19, dealt the foul-plagued Highlanders a 29-point defeat. Binkowski had 31 and 30 points in the games, and was named MVP of the classic.

Despite the 1-3 record, the team seems to have the potential to do well in league play. Be sure to catch its first home game Tuesday, December 4, at a gym near you.



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"FULLER FIBERS:"

QUILTS & WOOD IN GALLERY

by June Johnson

uller Fibers," an exhibit of Richard and Lillian Fuller's work, will be on display in the art gallery from November 27 to December 20.

Lillian Fuller has sewn all her life, but took a special interest in quilting about 15 years ago. It was at this time of the American bicentennial that there was a revival of the interest in and practice of the art of quilting. While Lillian's quilts have obvious practical uses (covering the beds and walls of her many relatives), there is no denying their ability to stand alone as true artistic expressions.

Richard Fuller, a longtime wood "whittler," has in the last ten years produced works of a highly skilled and creative wood sculptor. Richard works with a variety of wood types, including the unexpected medium of willow burls. Willow burls are the large knot-like formations that develop on the trunks of infected willow trees. Richard has developed a unique art form through carving bowls of various shapes and sizes from willow burls.

A reception will be held Saturday, December first at 6:30 p.m. for the opening of "Fuller Fibers." &



Dear Christians:

Hi. Two issues ago I wrote a letter about interdenominational rivalries. At the end of that letter I asked a few questions centered around the theme of the Golden Rule. In this letter, I would like to pick up where I left off.

One of the questions I asked was, "What ever happened to the Golden Rule?" I pose that question to you one more time. I mean, seriously, what ever did happen to the Golden Rule? Oh, I see it in use (more than just a little), but that's not enough. There are many times when the Golden Rule should be applied, but isn't. And I'm guilty of it too. Now I'm not gonna get picky and harp on everyone about each timethey've broken the Golden Rule, but there is one particular topic that needs to be mentioned.

So often we think the Golden Rule means doing good things to other people, and we stop there. That's only half the picture. We also need to keep from doing bad things to other people. Think about it-what good is it to do something good to someone when you do something bad to them the very next day? It just doesn't make sense! Anyway, allow me to continue with what I was getting at. Have you ever noticed that it's easy to tell someone they've screwed up, but it's not so easy to tell someone they've done well? If you haven't noticed that, then think about how other people treat you, especially within

an employment situation. Does your boss ever tell you that you've done an extra good job? Okay, so maybe he/she does. But how often? I'll bet you much more often hear about your performance when you've really made a mess of things.

I am not advocating that you never tell someone they made a mistake. I'm sure you like to be told when you err, but you like to be told in a certain manner. I suggest to you that you approach the errant individual in that manner. And furthermore, don't be so afraid to tell people they've done well. Don't you like to hear a little praise every once in a while?

If you don't understand yet, then maybe this example will help: The Star occasionally prints mistakes. Does the staff ever hear about the mistakes that are discovered? You bet your buns they do. But do they ever hear about the great job they did on a particular issue? How about the great job they do on every issue? Not nearly as often.

Here are some other people or organizations that usually only hear the negative comments: Senate, Big Al, the administration, chapel speakers, the *Lanthorn*, WJSL, etc. And I could go on and on, but I think you get the point. So, be well and do good.

Sincerely,
Barry S. MacTarnaghan
P.S. That last sentence means what
it says. It is not a mistake.

Dear platin

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MAIL

Dear Editors:

After many hours of contemplating and deep thought, I have decided that it is time for my proverbial letter to the Star. This letter will be completely different. I will not criticize Security for its inconsistent enforcement of parking regulations, nor will I challenge the College Democrats to show their face in public. I will not attempt to display the negligence of the Administration, in its attempt to focus on the reformation of chapel while overlooking a severe alcohol abuse problem on our campus. This time the criticism falls on you, the students of Houghton College.

To explain why, I will ask you to think back to before Thanksgiving break. I realize some of us would like to forget a lot of things up to that point, but try and remember what you did the Saturday night before you left for Turkey Day, if you had not already left. By the looks of the crowd I would say that a majority of Houghton students attended the Spot at approximately 10:30 pm (by 12:15 there was less than a majority). My point is this, the Spot was bad. Not harsh enough? Okay, it was so bad, it smelled like Babbit House on a Wednesday night after Big Al served chili for lunch.

After they finally plugged in the microphones I sat and watched two hours of low or no quality acts. I will admit there were two good acts, perfectly placed, but not purposely I might add. The first was the girl who sang a very nice solo somewhere in the middle, which kept me awake. The second was the last skit, which I was actually looking forward to, and therefore the only reason I saw the entire Spot. The last skit was sixteen Michael Jacksons singing "Houghton College" to the tune of "Billie Jean." While I am good friends with most of those moonwalkers, I found the act to be a fair attempt at redeeming a two hour long pitiful display of entertainment, one thumb only. There was a bonus though: we got through the entire thing without a Monty Python skit, while only suffering poor impersonations of David Letterman and Ferris Bueller for it.

Somewhere in the beginning of this letter I pointed the finger at you the students. I myself, being a student, am also at fault. According to Dr. Perkins, I would be a liar if I said I did not have any "time" to do something for the Spot. The truth is I did have "time" but I chose to spend it doing other things. My point is this: if you have a good idea, take the time to try it. If you can play guitar, play it. Please don't leave the Spot coordinators with a repetoirè of acts like that again.

As for the Spot coordinators themselves, we cannot let them off the hook. They are boring and unamusing. Who was the actual MC of the show? Was it Dave Lennon? Was it Eric Darling? Was it really Rand Bellivia? Will the real host of the Spot please stand up? Does every introduction skit have to be void and without a point? I don't know about you, but I am tired of seeing the same faces before, after, and during most of the skits.

What can we do about it? Let's choose to take the time to work on a skit. and then do it. There is too much talent on this campus unnoticed because people are afraid t take the time to do something. If you have talent, make the choice to utilize it, so we don't have to suffer again at Winter Weekend.

If it is any consolation, my ACO kid liked it. One last question-What was Tom Woods doing with the guitar, and where did he get those pants?

Joe Galli

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Dear Editors:

While reading the article entitled, "What If It Happens Here," on pages 6 and 7 of the October 26 Star. I was shocked to read about how restrictive the federal and state laws are in the area of dealing with AIDS. The 1970 law was obviously passed before AIDS was around, at least to any great extent. I may be wrong, but I suspect the New York state law was passed some time ago before AIDS became the problem it is today. I would not be surprised if at the time it was passed it was still largely thought of as a disease restricted to the homosexual community, and gay activists wanted a law to combat discrimination. While I see Dr. Lastoria's point about not wanting to announce to the whole campus that an individual has AIDS, I do think that health authorities should have the power to do whatever they deem necessary to prevent the spread of the disease. I also feel that anyone that could have the type of contact with an AIDS patient that may transmit the disease has the right to know he or she has AIDS. I recently heard of an oral surgeon who had AIDS and gave it to several of his patients. Legally, he did not have to tell them he had AIDS. This is a downright outrage! Protecting the rights of the minority while endangering the majority is individualism gone rampant.

I do think the general public has the right to be protected. Traditionally, there has been the concept in society that people should be protected from contagious diseases. This fall there has been a major measles scare in my home area. I have been amazed at the power the regional board of health has in taking measures to prevent the spread of the disease. One high school in my county was under quarantine for most of the fall. Its fall sports schedule was all but canceled.

The closest high school to my home, where my younger brother is a student and my father is a teacher, also was under quarantine for a little while. Why? Because one, yes, only one of the approximately 900 students there had the measles. A football game had to be postponed. Students were not allowed to go to night classes at other schools. The school has a coop program in which students earn credit through working at local businesses, and they were told they could not go to work during that time. Members of the cross-country team who qualified to go to the all-Ontario provincial finals could only go if they had an immunization at least ten days before the meet, if they had not already had one since 1980. However, measles is generally not a fatal disease; most people recover.

When my mother was a child, she had scarlet fever. Her house was placed under quarantine. At least in those days, that meant only the doctor was allowed to go in and out to the house. However, my mother recovered from that. Even when I have a common cold, I feel an obligation to do what I reasonably can to make sure I do not pass it on to others.

None of the above diseases is nearly as deadly as AIDS. Of all diseases, the general public has the right to be protected from it. I also would like to point out that there are even examples in the Bible that show the general public should be protected from contagious diseases. People with leprosy were required to separate themselves from the rest of the community. This law was not

one made up by a bunch of afraid and bigoted Jewish leaders. Believe it or not, it was a command from God Himself. See Leviticus 13, particularly verses 45 and 46.

What is my point? My point is that the general public should have the right to be protected from contagious diseases. The more deadly the disease, I think the more people have the right to be protected. Health authorities should have the power to do all they think is necessary. However, I do agree that patients should not be discriminated against in ways that are clearly not necessary. If it is clear one cannot get AIDS from casual contact, then AIDS patients do not need to be totally isolated, and people only having casual contact with them do not need to know they have AIDS. But, those having more than just casual contact (including health workers, or, in cases of sick doctors, patients) should have the right to know if someone has AIDS. Otherwise, we may have to treat everyone as a potential carrier of the AIDS virus.

You may be thinking that this all sounds good, but we must deal with the laws as they exist. In the short term, this is true. However. we do not live under the laws of the Medes and the Persians that cannot be changed. We live under the laws of a democracy. We have the right and freedom to pressure those in authority to change the laws. With laws as outrageous as the ones we currently have, we should use these rights and freedoms. We should petition our representatives to change the laws and convince others to do the same.

Finally, I do want to point out that, of course, we should not forget to show love and compassion to AIDS patients. They are hurting individuals, and this should not be forgotten.

David Gillham ('90)

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Will the last person out of the tunnel turn out the light?

-Graffito in Saigon, 1973

ood evening, sports fans! I am yet again going to ram a point down your throat that you probably don't really want to hear. That's probably because you're just as guilty as I am. About what? Well, energy, that's what. Yeah, yeah, I know. You would rather drink an entire bottle of Ex-lax and attend the Super Bowl than listen to me bawl you out about wasting energy, but too bad!! In these trying times (sheesh) of Insane Hussein and his bargain oil for third-world countries, we must conserve so that we can swerve this idiotic haste that creates our waste that you may thing of, yes, we are on the brink of: an energy crisis.

You pay tuition, right? Well, other that all of you college-employee brats, you do pay for what you get here, one way of another. That means that when you leave a light or a fan or your TV on in your room whilst you attend a class or whilst you sleep, you are effectively raising your own tuition, as well as the general consumption in this area. So, what? So, your tuition goes up. Hey! It's only eight-thou-a-year, right? No big thang. So what it is goes up another thou or two, you're going to be outta here in a few years anyway. Who cares about what the other people hafta pay for their tuition. [Chrstian College.]

O.K. If you don't feel guilty,

let's try to make the College feel that way. Tell me, who in the heck looks at the bell tower [all hail the bell tower!] at freaking 3 in the morning?! Is this why we have the undying need for spotlights that burn hot enough to put a second degree burn on your hand from two inches away? And how about that lovely spotter that they put up in front of Shen for the flag pole? [Maybe we should hold the flag about two inches from this light and see what kind of results we'll get!] Incidentally, that light cost an additional four shrubs (live, and in great health) as well as the thousands of watt-hours that it consumes nightly.

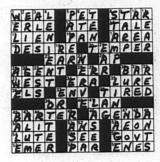
Guess what? You pay for that too! Why am I telling you all this? Why have you [I hope] read this far? Because I feel that we, as Christians, should give a rip about this stuff. We have been hollering about being ecologically sound Christians by recycling [something I have yet to see here]. We claim that it is our Christian duty to care about the environment. We must also be energy wise to do this. For every minute that you leave your light on, we strip the earth of that much more exhaustible energy. Don't listen to the people that say that we have enough oil. We don't. We also don't have enough coal, natural gas, or room for nuclear waste.

So come on, people. Wise up and shut it off. If you're not there to use it, always remember: cockroaches can see in the dark.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Issues 83.6 & 83.7





OOPS, WE GOOFED!

Two rather blatant errors inadvertently found their way into our last issue. While it is true that to er is uman, we would like to believe that this will not happen again. As it is, we must right our wrongs:

- Bethann Mitchell had her name changed to Elizabeth in the article she co-authored with Dave Wheeler on page 10. Sorry, Beth!
- Dan Noyes became Nathan Ransil in the basketball article on page 15.
 Our profuse and sincere apologies to both Nathan and Dan.

-Ivan and Dave

THE

HOFFMAN CINEMATOGRAPHIC V E R T E X

The Rescuers Down Under

by Randy Hoffman

appy holiday season to one and all! Happy Thanksgiving! Merry Christmas! Happy New Year! Shalom—or whatever—Hanukkah!

These cheery off-work things said, let's get down to bizness (as in "showbizness."

THE RESCUERS DOWN UNDER (G) with

THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER (G)

☆☆☆1/2

Recommendation: Escape to the nearest theater, mate.

Approval: Absolutely not. You see, I've calculated that, if current trends continue, by next fall no film that's not hotly controversial will be submitted for review.

Capsule Comment: Another jumbo shrimp on the Disney barbie; animation at the peak of its form plus a welldone, satisfying story—hard to ask for better.

Changes, changes. The waves of time bring them ceaselessly, and I'm going to ramble on about them for a few paragraphs.

In 1977, when the original THE RESCUERS was released, the Walt Disney Corporation was at its lowest ebb. The interval between animated films had slipped to three years; as far as live-action, Disney was known as "the studio of last resort." There was talk of selling off the film library to settle debts. It looked like the end of an era was at hand.

In 1990 we have a sequel to THE

RESCUERS, and the picture—on screen and off-is very different. In the business world, Disney CEO Michael Eisner is toasted for making changes. Since his selection in 1980, the company has become lean and, often, mean. While it holds on to its wholesome family image with one hand, its new Touchstone Pictures division makes R-rated entertainments with the other; while it entertains millions of guests at increasing numbers of theme parks worldwide and brings the Muppets onto the bandwagon, it has become extremely commercialized and is very liberal with lawsuits. As someone concerned about value messages to children, I have mixed feelings about these changes. But there is no doubt that they are allowing a lot of people to reap a bumper crop of green

The two strips of celluloid I'm reviewing here highlight many recent developments. Most obviously, a new generation of animators working in farflung branch studios is cranking out short films, features, and TV shows at high volume. And, having seen a good bit of what I consider the highest quality of commercial animation in today's world, Japanese anime or manga, I'm making no light statement when I say you will see sporadic examples of superior animation in these films. I'm not talking about the computer-generated backgrounds that pop up in THE RES-CUERS DOWN UNDER (except for the opening credits, these are distracting); nor do I give the nod for the smoothgloss color blending (after a while you start really itching for some sharp edges). The accolades are deserved for one thing in particular which Disney still does better than anybody else: complex three-dimensional moving objects. The villain's vehicle in DOWN UNDER is amazing.

Speaking of villains, one thing that's refreshingly consistent is that Disney heroes are better than good and their villains are viciously, desperately worse than bad. In DOWN UNDER, Eva Gabor and Bob Newhart return as the voices of the Rescue Aid Society's courageous mouse agents Miss Bianca and Bernard; George C. Scott provides the voice (and profile!) for an extremely detestable poacher named McLeach who kidnaps a young boy; and John Candy is excellent comic relief as Wilbur the Albatross, supposedly the brother of Orville (if you remember the first film).

And this leads me to the subject of humor (told you I would ramble). THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER features a conspicuous amount of slapstick, seeing that in most Mickey Mouse cartoons up to and including MICKEY'S CHRIST-MAS CAROL (1983) the details of the story and characterization are allowed to provide the humor. It seems clear to me that the Disney writers have "learned" from WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT? that people are more interested in falling anvils and boots to the rear than genuine wit. It might be true, but since when has it been a rule that Disney has to follow the crowd? Hmmm...hmmm...

Finally, contrast. It's very confusing to note that the short film PRINCE AND THE PAUPER, just like MICKEYS CHRISTMAS CAROL before it, features the American icon Mickey Mouse but is a British story; yet the movie THE RESCUERS DOWN UNDER showcases a supposedly Aussie kid and a supposedly Aussie bad guy who are both as American as you can get. Beats the pumpernickel out of me.

Enough triptrap! Both these films are better than almost anything else you'll see this Christmas, and a lot of fun too. Go watch them, and if you happen to pass a hyperbolic funnel (the greatest thing to hit charities since the celebrity telethon) race a couple of pennies down it for me. You'll feel good. Happy Martin Luther King, Jr., Day!

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THE DAY THE MUSIC DIED

a tribute to the memory of john lennon on the tenth anniversary of his death

by Jamie Lindsay

"I can't remember if I cried when I read about his widowed bride. Something touched me deep inside the day the music died" — Don McLean

here were you ten years ago? If you were like me, and I suspect many of you were, you were in about sixth grade. When I was in sixth grade I was still living in my childhood world of Superman and Luke Skywalker. Harsh reality was not really a concept I had to address. I grew up in a loving home and no great tragedies occurred anytime during my short life, at least none that I was able to fully comprehend. I remained blissfully unaware until December 8, 1980. On that day John Lennon, a member of the greatest rock and roll band of all time, The Beatles, was shot to death outside his New York City apartment.

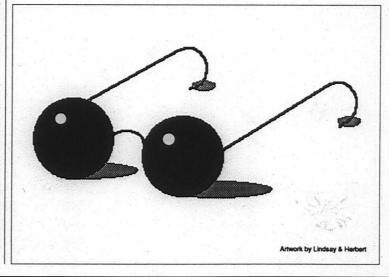
At the time, I had no idea who John Lennon or The Beatles were. All I knew was that there were thousands of people, including many around me, who were mourning this man's tragic death. Why? As I explored Lennon and The Beatles more and more as the years went by I came to understand why those people were so shattered by the death of someone they did not know, and I developed my own feelings of sadness and loss at the death of this man.

Now I suppose many of you are wondering why those of us who feel this loss still do so. Its quite simple: he touched our hearts and conveyed our emotions. This certainly is not the only reason for this feeling amongst his fans, but it is one of the main ones.

Have you ever wondered why many people are so attached to their favorite music? It's because that music expresses something they are feeling. For me, at least, music

helps me express what I feel in a way far better than I can myself. From Beatle songs like "Help" and "In My Life" to solo tunes like "Woman" and "Watching the Wheels," John Lennon does this. With his melodic, emotional voice and personal, introspective lyrics he identifies with what I feel. I find that to be very comforting. Lennon is certainly not the only musician who does this, but he is one of the best at it. This is one reason his death is so tragic to me. What we lost was a man that could help us and comfort us with his gift of music. How could we help but feel the loss?

Ultimately, Lennon was searching for the same things most of us are: love and a reason for living. He once stated, "Why on earth are we here? Surely not to live in pain and fear." His songs were often about that search. I really do not know if he found the answers he was looking for. I do not know if he found a personal relationship with God in his life. But whether he did or not. I do know this: I thank God for John Lennon and what his work has meant to me. He made mistakes, but he tried to find answers. That's got to count for something.☆



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that man behind the curtain

Gather round folks, here's where the kid goes out on a limb. Do me a favor, would you? Ready? Here it is: no matter what, read this entire article. There you go.

What I've got this week deals with a very touchy and some would say-very tired subject. Three little words that make the world go round. And they're not "I love you." The phrase of interest is "Word of God." Okay, now that the cougar's torn its way out of the Hefty 3-Ply, let's get to work, shall we?

The apostle John is the only writer in all of the Bible to define the Word of God. In the first chapter of the Gospel of John, we read that "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God." In the four-teenth verse, we see that, "the Word became flesh." When John was describing the Battle of Armageddon, the one who defeats the forces of Satan "is clad in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God" (Revelation 19:13). Yeah, yeah, yeah. We all know that Jesus is the Word of God. So here's my question: Is it blasphemy to refer to the Bible as the Word of God?

Okay, okay, let me tell you what I'm not trying to do. I'm not trying to ruffle feathers, I'm not trying to become a "liberal Christian," and I'm most certainly not trying to say that the Bible isn't at all inspired. What I am trying to do is apply the notion of Christ as the Word of God to scripture passages that have commonly interpreted the phrase "Word of God" to be the Bible. These verses aren't meant to be conclusive or exhaustive, just thought provoking. (All verses are taken from the RSV version, by the way.) There. I've said my piece, so rather than comment after each verse, I'd prefer to let them speak for themselves and let you draw your own conclusions. That being said, let's have a go, shall we?

In his letter to the church at Ephesus Paul (bear with, Dr. Meade, okay) implores the Ephesians to "put on the whole armor of God" (6:11). In the "whole armor," there is only one offensive weapon, "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (6:17).

In the letter to the Hebrews, the author writes that "the word of God is living and active, sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart" (4:12).

The second letter to Timothy reads in chapter two, starting with verse eight, "Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered."

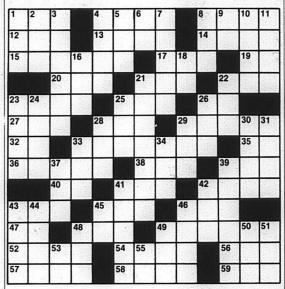
Peter, in his first epistle, writes, "You have been born anew, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God" (1:23).

And let's not forget Psalm 119 which reads (in verse eleven) "I have laid up thy word in my heart, that I might not sin against thee." Later in that psalm we read, "Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (v. 105).

That's that for now. Thank you for your attention.

Peace, Love and Understanding, Rand

Grossword Gompanion



ACROSS

- 1. Ungentlemanly man
- 8. Podium 12. Low number
- 13. Fencing sword 14. On top
- 15. Give meaning
- 17. Plaything 19. Symbol for tantalum
- 20. Abstract concept 21. Dog
- 22. Camping vehicle
 23. Footed base vessels
- 25. Knock
- 26. Southern state (abbr.) 27. Cushion
- 28. Corn-on-the
- 29. Part of flower 32. Without (suf.)
- 33. Carried to the limit
- 35. Direction (abbr.)
- 36. Soak in liquid
- 39. Put on
- 40. Beast of burder
- 42. Outdoor shelter
- 45. Pad
- 48. Drunkard
- 49. Characteristic of old age

Answers to this and last issue's puzzle on page 19

- 52. Twist 54. Thought 56. Animal doctor (abbr.) 57. Whiripool
- 58. Uncluttered

DOWN

- 2. Saturated hydrocarbon (suf.)
- 4. Camera glass
- 5. Monkey
- 6. Direction (abbr.)
- 7. Put in upright
- 8. Light time
- 9. Near
- 10. Small particle 11. Bridge 16. Those in office
- 18. Either

 /21. Storage area
- 23. Arrow po
- 24. Rave

- 26. Jelly-like substance
- 28. Hat 29. Animals foot 30. Anonymous (abbr.)

- 34. Temporary bed
- 39. Obtain from 41. Smooth silk 42. Browned skin
- 43. Green gem
- 44. Among 45. Midwest state (abbr.)
- 46. Hit hard 48. Coy
- 49. Salt-water
- 50. Bulgarian money unit 51. 7th Gr. letter
- 53 Motion toward (pref.)
- 55. Removal (pref.)
 - Puzzle #129

The Traveling Wilburys is one of the most unique bands in music today. It is truly a rock and roll supergroup, composed as it is of Bob Dylan, Tom Petty, George Harrison, and Jeff Lynne. However, these legends prefer to adopt pseudonyms—namely Boo, Muddy, Spike and Clayton Wilbury, respectively—and perform as this unpretentious mythical band.

The Wilburys first album, Volume One, was released two years ago with the present Wilbury lineup plus the late, great Roy Orbison, a.k.a. Lefty Wilbury, to whom Volume Three (there is no Volume Two) is dedicated. Their new album, though not the undisputable classic that the first one was, is an excellent effort none the less.

One of the most endearing characteristics of the Traveling Wilburys is the interesting topics of their songs. One minute they will be singing a fairly serious song like,

"Where Were You Last Night" or "The Devil's Been Busy," which is a track about how the Devil has been messing around with your life while you have been golfing and not paying attention—implying that you need to get your act together before he totally fouls up your existence. The next minute, they will sing a song like "Wilbury Twist," a very fun song about a dance invented by the Wilburys, which I suspect would cause the trustees to consider making an exception for it in the Pledge if they were to hear it.

Picking the best song on this album is no easy task. The prize could go to a variety of songs like "7 Deadly Sins," which takes the very familiar theme of seven deadly sins and turns it into a list of wrongs committed against the singer by his girlfriend. It could also go to "Poor House," a very catchy song about a man who has done his best to please a woman, but she is not satisfied.

She therefore is going to take everything he's got.

Still, those two are not the best songs on this fine album. That distinction goes to "Inside Out," a well performed song about the environmental deterioration of the world. Although the Wilburys' harmonies are exceptional throughout this album, they are especially exceptional on this song. The lyrics are great too; for example, "Take care when your breathing, there's something funny in the air. There's something their not saying about what's happening out there."

In total, this album is exceptional. Musically, it is great; and vocally Boo, Muddy, Spike, and Clayton all sound in top form. The only thing missing is Lefty Wilbury, would that he could be here. I suspect that, where he is now, he is proud of his bandmates' effort—and I can see why.

Rating: ជាជាជាជ

on the by Jamie Lindsay RECORD

Volume Three (Traveling Wilburys) Return (The Winans)

BeBe & CeCe Winans, Daniel Winans, Mom & Pop Winans—there is no way there could be any more Winans, is there? Wrong. There is another, imaginatively called "the Winans," and they have a new album called Return.

As you may expect, the Winans are what I would call a Gospel harmony group, with one of various lead vocalists singing the majority of a particular song while the others appropriately chime in on background vocals. Because the Winans have good voices all around this has a very nice effect. The best songs on this album lean on the Winans' (and their guests') vocals, combining with truly meaningful lyrics to produce

an admirable work.

Some of the standout tunes on Return include "A Friend," a song that chronicles God's role as a friend to all who believe. "Gonna Be Alright," a song of encouragement that reminds us of the blessings of Psalm 23 and God's faithfulness to us even in the valley of the shadow of death. "When You Cry" is a song in the lyrical mode of Phil Keaggy's "I Will Be There," with the Winans taking God's perspective and saying, "Though my house is set on high, doesn't mean that I don't hear you. When you cry, I'm right there by your side." Kenny G adds a melodic saxophone to this piece, further enhancing its quality.

The best song on Return is the

RATINGS

ልቁልቁል Classic ቁቁልቁ Excellent ቁቁል Good ቁቁ OK ቁ Lousy

Irredeemable

heaven-gazing "Everyday the Same," which talks about the joys of heaven where "there will be, there will be no pain. Only days of joy and joy again." The song's fine sound is further augmented by the presence of Stevie Wonder's dynamic harmonica and vocals.

The Winans album, however, is not perfect. "It's Time" starts off with an ill-conceived rap sequence that sets the tone for the whole song—namely, bad. Fortunately, they make no such attempt to rap again and basically stick to their rather upbeat gospel sound. Thus the Winans have produced a satisfactory album that makes you think, "Maybe some more Winans aren't too bad after all." Rating: \(\frac{1}{2} \text{ch} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}

) THE DISTANCE



SATURDAY DECEMBER 1, 1990 Houghton College 8:00 p.m.
Wesley Chapel

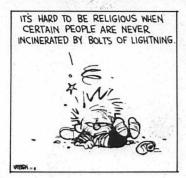
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