



THE HOUGHTON STAR

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SPF Funds Allocated to Make Room for "Precious Moments"

By Don and Jon Butcher

This past Tuesday, a report was made by Senator Andrew Slocum in which he outlined plans to build a new "Special Moments" Prayer Chapel in the basement of Wesley Chapel, which will be funded by the Student Project Fund.

The Student Project Fund (SPF) is designed to help finance major projects that are proposed by students and that will particularly benefit students in some way. Around \$40,000 is allocated to the SPF budget each year, but recently the fund has not been used.

In fact, next year no money has been allocated to the SPF due to budget cuts. Students have been assured, however, that this is only a one year cut and that SPF funds will return for the 2010-2011 academic year. Slocum's proposal would use the significant funds left over in the SPF after years of rollover.

The plan for the latest SPF project, according to Slocum, is to create a room in the basement of Wesley Chapel, which will be equipped with comfortable furniture and dimmed lighting so that students could have some alone time to think about those they love most dearly. The chapel will also have a locked door so students won't have to worry about their "special moments" being interrupted. Slocum says, "There is a just a lack of appropriate spaces of this kind on campus and I thought, what better way to use student funds."

Many students avail themselves of the semi-privacy afforded by the "smokers' gazebo" near Gillette Hall and as well as the small hut down on the Field of Dreams, but other than these few spots, there just are not many private places to spend some quality time alone.

Senior Stephanie Valle was excited when she heard about the project. "I'm just so glad that someone is doing something about the lack of these kinds of facilities on campus," Valle commented. "Daniel and I have had our 'special moments' interrupted one too many times over at the smokers' gazebo."

Besides those seeking a place of solitude, others will benefit from the installation of the room in the

• *Chapel continued on page 2*

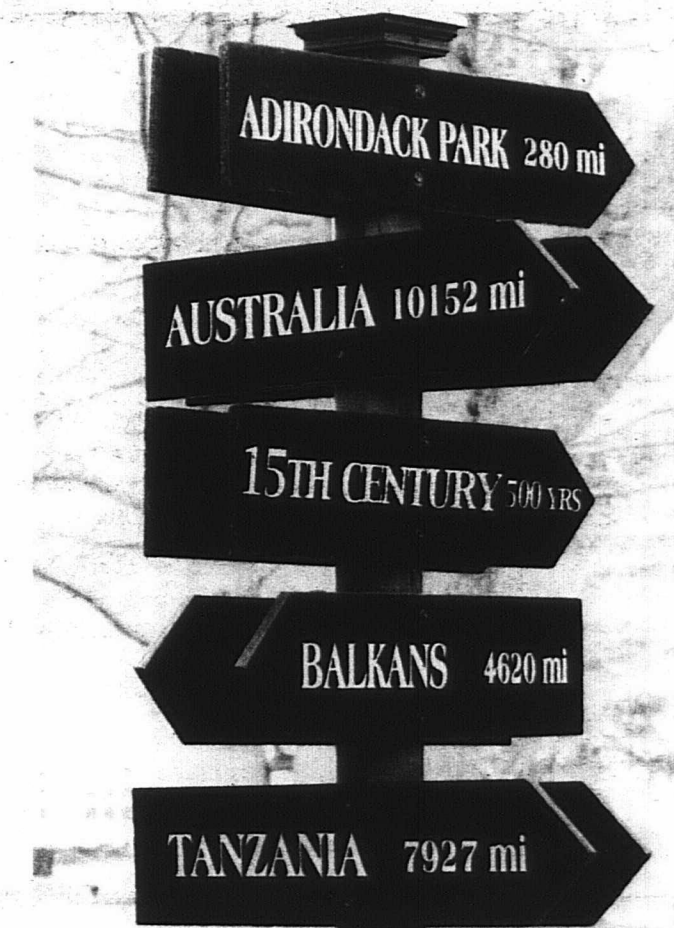
Questions Raised About Future of Past Program

By Weena Mimieux

Houghton College is considering whether to cancel or fundamentally alter its highly regarded honors semester in the fifteenth century. This past Wednesday, responding to a request by Office of the Academic Dean, the Academic Policies Council (APC) opened a discussion of the program's future.

The program, which debuted in the mid-1990s (and the mid-1480s), is distinctive among honors programs at Christian liberal-arts colleges for incorporating time-travel into the first-year experience. Students spend thirteen weeks in the fifteenth century, integrating lectures and readings with an immersive experience of an alien time. Program co-founder and Professor of History Cameron Airhart remarked, "A lot of people told us it couldn't be done—or shouldn't be. But we kept asking ourselves: what's the most profoundly formative experience we could give our students? And we kept coming back to this answer: a full semester in the fifteenth century."

In the wake of the recent economic downturn, the college has been looking for ways to cut costs, and the fifteenth-century program has been a focus of attention. Program costs have become a pressing issue in the past year as the value of precious metals has risen dramatically. "When you go to the fifteenth century, you trade in gold," observed fifteenth-century



program director and Professor of Philosophy, Chris Stewart. "When we launched the program back in the 1990s, gold was at a low ebb; it actually cost less to house students in the 1480s than it did on the main campus. That's changed. It's important to remember, though, as we talk about alternative models: a lot of our costs are in transportation.

And time travel isn't any cheaper, whether you're going for three weeks or thirteen."

The alternative model that the administration has asked APC to consider is that of the more recently introduced "Present Meets Past" (PMP) program. Students in PMP study a variety of historical periods.

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Not Enough Vices, Reports Board of Trustees

By Will Tippin

During their winter meeting in February, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved a motion to create the position of Vice President of Vice Presidents. The VP of VPs will run the newly-formed Office of Vice Presidents, which will coordinate the work of Academic Vice President and Dean Ronald Mahurin, Vice President for Advancement Scott Wade, Senior Vice President for Advancement Robert Van Wicklin, Vice President of Student Life Sharra Hynes, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Market Relations Wayne MacBeth, Associate Vice

President of Conferences H. Skip Lord, and Interim Vice President of Finance, Dale Wright.

Bobbie Strand, Chair of the Board of Trustees, explained the rationale for creating a new administrative position while faculty positions were being scaled back: "the Trustees believe that in order to ensure that our many Vice Presidents don't get in each others' way, we need to appoint another Vice President to oversee Vice Presidential interaction."

Strand went on to say, "With seven Vice Presidents and five Deans at this small college, there's no way some of these positions are not overlapping one another. It will

be the responsibility of this eighth Vice President to make sure that the other Vice Presidents work together in an effective and efficient way."

President Shirley Mullen is enthusiastic about the trustees' decision and is excited about working with the new office. "I'm certain," said Mullen, "that the new Vice President will strengthen the sense of community within the Vice Presidential offices."

Others, however, are not convinced that now is the time to be creating a new position, considering the troubled financial climate. Sharra Hynes, Vice President of Student Life, said,

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THE WORLD out there

By Constance Zener

FOCA Indignation Rises, Still Not Real

Outrage continues to froth against the so-called Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA), a bill that does not actually exist in the 111th Congress. An estimated 200,000 users of Facebook alone have rallied to condemn the fictional bill that would purportedly codify sections of *Roe v. Wade*. Though similar bills have been proposed in Congress in the past, they have never gained much traction. This time around, precise details of the legislation have yet to be released, mostly due to the bill's imaginary status. The founders of FightFOCA.com scheduled a press conference to defend their organization's message. "This is an extraordinarily urgent, if somewhat unnecessary, issue to discuss," said Jane Roe, president of FightFOCA. "Sure, we could be directing our resources towards combating poverty, tackling global climate change, ensuring that every American has access to decent healthcare, or fixing our country's banks and loaning agencies, but doesn't opposing a hypothetical piece of legislation with no underlying political muscle seem like a bigger problem?" Added Roe: "Hell, we could even direct resources towards comprehensive sex education, but what's the point of preventing unplanned pregnancies?"

NHL Still In Existence

Despite years of obscurity and low television ratings, the National Hockey League still exists. Not only is the wildly unpopular professional sports league still around, it apparently still has 30 teams, according to Wikipedia. When Chim Richards was informed of the League's status, he responded, "wait, you mean the National Horse-shoe League? Of course that's still around. Everyone loves Horse-shoes." The NHL's least known players are Alexander Ovechkin, Evgeni Malkin, Jarome Iginla, Pavel Datsyuk, and Joe Thornton.

"I Also Drowned Puppies," Reports AIG Exec

Disgraced AIG executive Philip McKraken has admitted to a reporter that, on top of misleading investors, authorizing the sale of damaging credit-default swaps and paying gross, multi-million-dollar bonuses to the employees who dreamt up the horrendous schemes in the first place, he has also been drowning puppies on a recreational

basis for almost three years.

Report: Senior Student May Go to Tim Horton's Tonight

In a press conference held early this morning, Aimee Kelly informed the public that she was considering a drive to Arcade for coffee and "maybe one of those muffins." Kelly plans to work on a group project for Kelvin Friebl's class and anticipates wanting a reward upon the completion of the project. "It's supposed to take like 15 hours," reported Kelly, "Will that happen? We'll see." In addition to the stresses of group work, Kelly has a small fragment of orange rind stuck under her finger nail at lunch when attempting to peel the citrus fruit. Although the prospects for a relaxed drive to Arcade look good, Kelly is also considering, "going to bed at 11, as usual."

G20 Summit

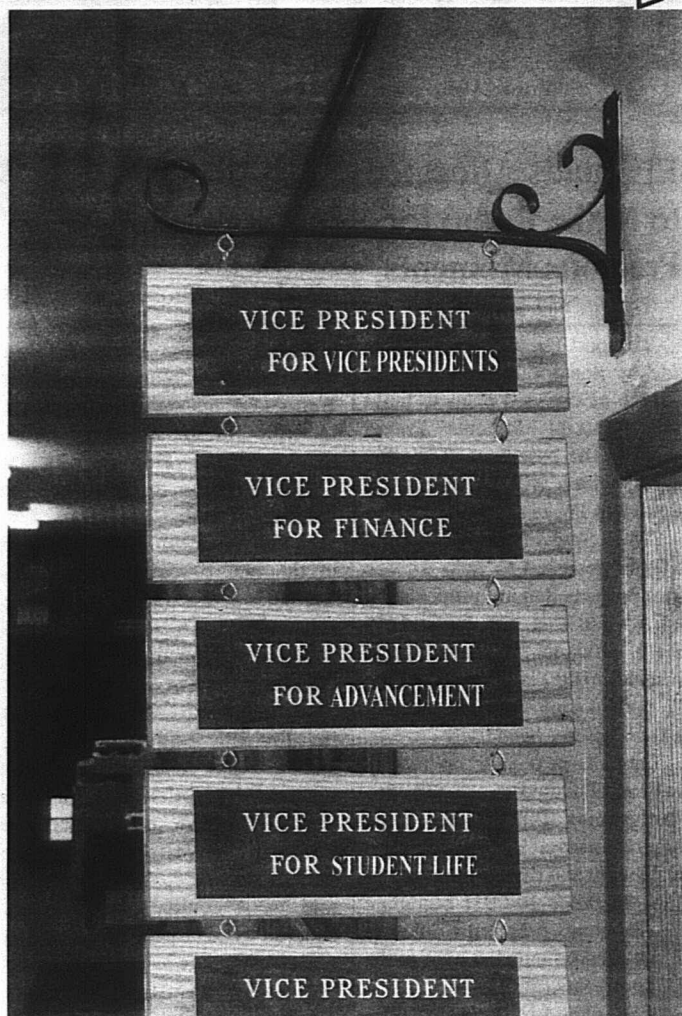
The most powerful economies in the world met this week to discuss the growing number of countries included in the group of "G" countries. Nicolas Sarkozy, Prime Minister of France, was especially outspoken about the issue. "We can't just let our numbers inflate like this. There needs to be some sort of oversight. What happened to G8? Since then, our numbers have simply exploded." British PM Gordon Brown echoed Sarkozy's concerns. "Indonesia? Turkey? How are we supposed to take ourselves seriously?"

Coup D'état Somewhere in Latin America

In a tragedy foreseen by almost everyone, an unstable Central American government was overthrown by its army officials or something like that. The small nation was probably in the midst of a contentious election when a former army official or former army official's son rallied his supporters and stormed La Capital. This coup will cause six-twelve months of violent clashes between citizens and soldiers, at which point the old government will be re-established with a new leader and a re-focused political agenda.

Dogless Obama Signs Book Deal

Despite failing to follow through on his most-loved campaign promise, the selection of the "First Dog," President Barack Obama has already signed a deal for a post-Presidential memoir documenting his first days in office.



• Vice continued from page 1

the money to be making new hires, especially when the responsibilities taken on by the new position can easily be taken care of by the current Vice Presidential staff."

The Vice President of Vice Presidents will also chair the Committee on Vice Presidents, which will include all seven current Vice Presidents of the College, the new Vice President, as well as the Vice President of the

Student Government Association as a student representative.

Trustee Bruce Horsman, of Darlings Island, New Brunswick, hinted that the Board also discussed the possibility of creating another administrative position to oversee cooperation between the college's five Deans and eight Vice Presidents. The motion to begin a search for a Dean of Vice Presidents will likely be raised at the Board of Trustees' Spring session.

It will be the responsibility of this eighth Vice President to make sure that the other Vice Presidents work together in an effective and efficient way."

• Chapel continued from page 1

chapel basement. Junior organ student Ben Stanford loves the idea because it will keep students in search of privacy out of the organ practice rooms. "I feel bad when I have to kick students out the practice rooms, but I really need to use the organ," remarked Stanford.

As the project moves forward, student input will be sought at the first Senate meeting of the 66th Senate on April 7, 2009. In addition to student support for the project, faculty and administration were very supportive of the idea. Vice President for Student Life Sharra Hynes remarked that she

thought the project was "sweet." The Student Programs Office Director Greg Bish also remarked that he thought the project was a good idea and that it took him back to his days as a college student, when he had his fair share of "special moments."

"Daniel and I have had our 'special moments' interrupted one too many times..."

Other SPF-funded projects have included the renovations of the Chamberlain Center atrium, gold-plating the handrails in the handicaps bathroom stalls of the Luckey Memorial Building, the "sky way" built to connect the third floor of the library to the Chamberlain Center, as well as the entirety of Lambein.



• PMP continued from page 1

but remain on-campus, and in the present, until Mayterm, when they visit a sampling of different historical periods with a focus on the development of Byzantine and Islamic cultures: the initial subdivision of the Roman empire, year one of the Islamic calendar, the first crusades, and the fall of Constantinople. "Spending a few days in each period, you experience so much," remarked senior Jordan Zaner, a member of the first PMP cohort, which traveled in 2006. "I wish I could go back and live it all again."

Past participants in the fifteenth-century program, faculty and students alike, are upset by the proposed changes. "Taking nothing away from the 'Present Meets Past' program," said junior Sarah Brunea Schultz, "I couldn't imagine missing the whole-semester experience. I know there are costs, but settling into the rhythm of fifteenth-century life at the Tabard Inn, reflecting each day that I was staying in the same rooms the wife of Bath did—it was awesome."

Airhart agreed. "Good night!" he exclaimed. "Our students have witnessed the birth of the Spanish Inquisition, the stabilization of England under the Tudors, and the first stirrings of the modern scientific revolution. The subtleties and implications of these changes would be lost on anyone who dropped in for just a few days."

Critics, on and off the APC, question the necessity of a whole semester in the fifteenth century. "With the increased availability of internet resources," remarked one APC member, "students can look at the Sistine Chapel without having to be there when it was dedicated." Junior art major Jeff Andersen disagreed. "No reproduction can do justice," he said, "to the vibrancy of the colors when Botticelli's contributions were newly completed."

The program has long been controversial. Early on, parents and administrators alike worried about the safety of students, far from home in time and space. "A number of parents were concerned about plague," recalled Stewart. "We explained to them, as best we could, that the program designers had carefully studied the period we were visiting, and that there were few major outbreaks during the second half of the fifteenth century." Students more often worried about their spiritual well-being, spending so long in a pre-Reformation context. Many program alums

were pleasantly surprised, though, at what they experienced. "Some classmates had service placements with proto-Protestant groups like the Lollards," commented senior Kyle Vitale. "But I settled right in at the parish church nearest the Tabard. Worshipping, week after week, with my fifteenth-century brothers and sisters, I found they had a lot in common with Christians of our time. There was this one chorus we sang—it seemed like every Sunday—that I wish we could sing in chapel sometime: 'Agnus Dei, qui tolis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tolis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.' The song leader led us through that one over and over."

"There are legitimate fears associated with time travel," Stewart stressed, "but they aren't so much, 'will I be bitten by an infected flea?' or 'will I find a church home?' as, 'will I bring it about that my great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-grandparents were never born?'"

"Those are the risks you run in any cross-cultural encounter," added Marcus Dean, Director of Off-Campus Programs and Associate Professor of Intercultural Studies. "Any time you really encounter an alien culture, you take a risk: the risk that the person who set off on the adventure won't be the one who comes back. You risk a shift of identity."

Faculty selection has also been controversial. The program gives credit in English literature, the fine arts, history, and philosophy. But "the fifteenth century is about more than the build-up to the High Renaissance," remarked Dave Huth, Assistant Professor of Art and Communication. "This is the era in which the basic

communication technologies of modernity established themselves, the communication technologies now collapsing around us. I don't see why Ben Lipscomb, who works on the *Enlightenment* for crying out loud, gets to go to this century and teach about it, and I don't."

Staffing concerns about the college's time-travel-based honors programs are not limited to the fifteenth-century-semester program, though. Both programs are conducting a routine review this semester, and a number of people have raised concerns about the long-term sustainability of the "Present Meets Past" program. The four-year-old program was the brainchild of Professor of History Meic Pearse, who is uniquely qualified to prepare students for



Sir Airhart leads students through the 15th century fearlessly and valiantly.

and guide them through the periods they encounter each May. For four months each year, Pearse lives in the past—specifically, in the year 622. "We got to study with someone who really has a sense of the past, who really belongs there," said junior Elisabeth Wenger.

"If Pearse were ever to leave Houghton," remarked Peter Meilaender, Associate Professor of Political Science and director of the college's honors programs, "the future of 'Present Meets Past' would be in doubt."

Anticipating future needs, the college is about to roll out a third honors track: science honors. "We have great hopes for the science honors program," remarked college President Shirley Mullen. "Whatever else comes of the program, we know this for sure: the class of 2045, supported by a fiftieth anniversary gift from the remaining members of the class of

1995, will perfect a time-machine and donate it to the Chamberlain administration."

Meanwhile, the fate of the fifteenth-century program remains to be decided. "I sincerely hope the administration will see the value in the full-semester program and retain it," said Ben King, Professor of Voice and Dean of the Greatbatch School of Music. "Last fall, we took a straw poll among faculty, and they overwhelmingly affirmed the program as it stands. Gold doesn't grow on trees, though."

Stewart and others in program administration insist that the fifteenth-century program pays for itself with the students it recruits. Mullen seemed open to this argument. "It *might* pay for itself, if you assume—but this is an assumption—that there are students who choose Houghton based on an opportunity to travel in time."

**"Good
night!"
Airhart
exclaimed.**

Campus Wide Forum:

new houghton campus:

Florida

email

ryan.ledebur@houghton.edu

with questions or comments



Allegany County Transit Converted to C.R.U.N.K. Bus

By Skyy Bailey

After two years of evaluating the Covenant of Community Responsibilities, the office of Student Life, headed by Vice President Sharra Hynes, has repealed the prohibition of beverage alcohol for Houghton students, faculty, and staff. The revised policy maintains that no alcohol will be allowed on campus, but permits the freedom of choice off-campus for those of legal age.

Because the college is located within Houghton, NY, a dry town, students may be drawn to other local watering holes without a safe means of transportation back to their college residences. In no way wanting to encourage drunk driving, the Office of Student Life has proposed, along with the help of the Leadership Council (LC) of the Flats and Townhouses, to provide local pick-ups for Houghton College Students at area establishments.

LC members would work rotating shifts on Friday and Saturday nights along with Tuesdays and Thirsty Thursdays from 11:00 p.m.-3:00 a.m. The project will be known as "College Rides for Undergraduate Night Kommutes" (C.R.U.N.K.), providing a safe alternative to driving while under the influence. A twelve-passenger bus purchased from the Allegany County Transit



has been designated for the transportation and will be known as the C.R.U.N.K. Bus. LC members and any other drivers will be required to go through the required college driver certification and will also be trained for driving with intoxicated passengers. Training will include how to safely change vomit bags in the bus, hangover cures, and appropriate responses for handling sad and affectionate drinkers while at the wheel.

The C.R.U.N.K. bus will make its rounds to many local

favorites such as Stillwater Inn, The Belvidere, The Fillmore Hotel, and The Oasis (Belfast Hotel). The Student Life Office hopes the C.R.U.N.K. Bus will provide students with an opportunity to exercise responsibility over their own affairs. Hynes is excited about the project saying, "Many other schools have been successful with such endeavors, such as St. Bonaventure and SUNY Geneseo. We hope Houghton will reap the benefits of the C.R.U.N.K. Bus program as well."

The dramatic change in the beverage alcohol policy is part of the re-evaluation of Houghton's Covenant of Community Responsibilities, which began in an effort to produce a document reflecting the values of our community in a form approachable by faculty, staff, students, prospective students, and parents. This is the second significant alteration in the Covenant of Community Responsibilities, following the dance policy, which was changed last spring.

Women's History Month Event Falls Through, Goes Unnoticed

By Barbara Mikulski

An exciting new event to discuss women's roles in history died in the conceptual stages, as March came and went and Women's History Month once again went unrecognized at Houghton. While there have been "celebrations" in past years of notable female accomplishments like poetry and pictures, there hasn't been a campus-wide recognition of the national event, which seeks to commemorate the contributions of nearly half the world's population to humanity.

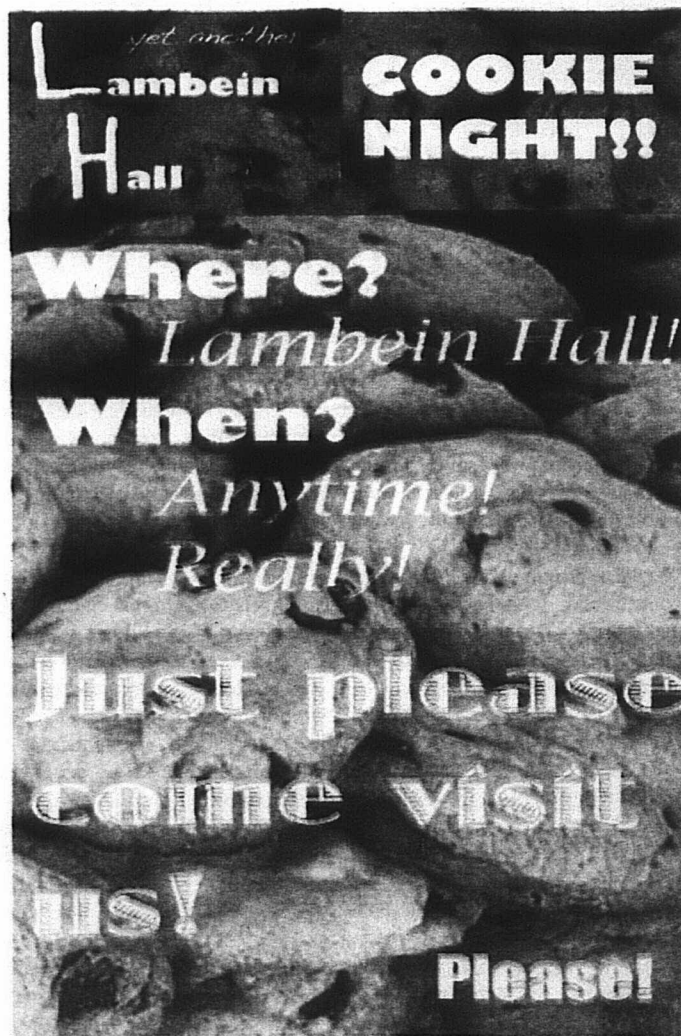
Katarina Kieffer, a senior double major in Political Science and Humanities and Editor of the Star, and her roommate, Clara Sanders, a junior Double Major in Intercultural Studies and Piano Performance as well as a Student Senator and Chapel Deacon, wanted to plan an event but found they were just too busy. "I think we just had too much on our plates to balance," Kieffer said.

Sanders agreed, stating that the demands of balancing work, studies, and relationships made

it necessary to sacrifice the idea. "It would have been nice to do something for us," she said, "But it's just too hard to try to think about how to solve the crisis of starving children in Africa, maintain a healthy relationship with my boyfriend, and put work into my studies and plan for my career. I guess we just can't do it all."

Joel VanderWeele, a junior Math and Philosophy major, didn't understand what all the fuss was about. "I didn't even really think about it. I may have heard something about Women's Appreciation Month, but I try to open doors and stuff for them on a regular basis, so I thought I was probably safe."

Kieffer, when asked whether she thought the campus would actually talk about Women's History in coming years, expressed doubt. "We're all so busy. I guess you don't always get to do what you want to do. And nobody noticed, anyway." She sighed, then added, "But that's not exactly anything new."





CAB to Host American-Idol Style Faith Journey Competition

By Grott de la Beaume

CAB's highly publicized competition, The Amazing Grace: Faith Journey, will conclude tomorrow night after four weeks of memorable competition. The original group of 16 contestants has been narrowed down to just two, sophomore Doug Stoit and senior Breanne Kloberdanz. Kloberdanz is the clear favorite with four years of summer camp counseling under her belt and a tragic family life, but some say that Stoit's debilitating humility and stage fright will ultimately give him the edge.

CAB, working in cooperation with the Committee on Spiritual Life (CSL), organized The Amazing Grace: Faith Journey after receiving very positive feedback from the student body about the faith journeys delivered in chapel. CSL wanted to highlight the popular faith journeys and CAB was looking to replace the Film Festival, which struggled to solicit submissions this year.

The Amazing Grace began four weeks ago with an unforgettable night of journeys from a group of students, faculty, and one

community member. The 16 contestants were selected from a competitive field of 23 journey hopefuls by a panel of expert judges which included Dean of the Chapel John Brittain, Vice President of Student Life Sharra Hynes and her baby, and CSL student representative Clara Sanders. "We got a good mix," said Brittain, "some second semester seniors with nowhere to go, the token MK, and of course a life-changing 'week - in - Africa' story. My heart has been strangely warmed by this process and I'm pleased that The Amazing Grace has been so well received by students."

Although most of the contestants are veterans who have already

delivered their faith journeys in chapel, there were a number of surprise acts who tried out for the event. Among the more surprising contestants was Chris Brewin, who was assumed to be a spiritually vapid

basketball player until his moving account of growing up in a non-Christian home brought many to tears. Brewin also scored points with the athletes in the audience by giving a number of "shout-outs" to



his teammates who supported him through his struggles. Despite a strong showing in the semi-finals, Brewin's opening joke and slides of family members failed to garner enough votes to push him through to the championship round.

Far from Brewin's performance was the disappointing faith journey of Peter Meilaender, professor of Political Science. Meilaender received the fewest votes in round one after admitting to Catholic sympathies and telling distasteful jokes about the obscure Missouri Synod of the Lutheran Church. Meilaender was practically booed off-stage when, rather than choosing a scripture passage that was especially meaningful to him, based his sermon on the verses in the Lutheran Lectionary and closed with two technically complex hymns, one of which had 7 verses.

"The beginning was kind of

fun, but I was expecting him to mention a secret addiction to alcohol, drugs, or maybe tobacco, given his articles in last year's newspaper," said sophomore Amy Buckingham, "but he had nothing. I don't want to hear about someone who's been a Christian all his life. Where's the 'journey' in that?"

Tomorrow night's highly-anticipated championship is sure to bring with it many surprises, but there are rumors that Kloberdanz will take the "intimate chat while sitting on the stool" approach with a mime team finish and Stoit will reveal that his grandmother passed away the summer before starting at Houghton.

To emphasize the importance of the event, CSL has decided to require attendance and will assign a grade to students who attend, based on a mandatory reflection paper.

Kloberdanz presents her Faith Journey.

Community Builds Up as Walls and Clothes Go Down

By Rusty McGunns

Amidst much divided opinion about Dr. J. Matthew Sleeth's Scholar-in-Residence position at Houghton this year, some students have stood up in staunch support of him, clothing themselves with his words – and not much else. In response to his numerous chapel talks, the campus-wide Simplicity Initiative, and the drive for a greener campus, a group of students have decided to serve God and save the planet in the nude.

The movement is a recently-added element of Sociology professor Aaron Routhe's "Seed House," a CLO option that seeks to live with minimal environmental effect and an eco-friendly mindset. "By getting rid of clothes, we've gotten rid of energy waste through laundry, the capitalist pitfalls of the fashion industry, and tan lines," said Routhe, who currently has 33 enthusiastic students on the

waiting list for his housing project. Senior Tim Chen, president of ESA, explained, "It's really been a growing experience for me, and I've found that without clothes, community just sort of...happens." Chen is an avid conservationist who has been living in the buff for over a week.

How did students from Houghton, a notoriously conservative bubble of evangelical dogmatism, decide to make such a bold move? "We were thinking a lot about what was unnecessary to us as students, and as people," commented senior Kyle Vitale. "Pioneer Food Services really inspired us with the removal of trays from the eating process. We decided that if we could do without costly items to hold our food in place, we could do without clothes to hold...well...us in place, I guess."

Vice President for Student Life Sharra Haynes has called a

meeting of the newly-formed Task Initiative for Blatantly Indecent Appearance (TIBIA) to discuss the situation. "We're going to find these people, and we're going to bring them down," she stated positively during a press conference last week. President Shirley Mullen does not seem to be as concerned. "When I first passed by Seed House, I thought for a brief second that I was back home in California – it reminded me so much of the beaches near Monterey."

One of the main concerns that has been voiced regarding the new initiative is not, surprisingly, that nudism is indecent and offensive to many Houghton community members, but rather that living unclothed is spiritually presumptuous. "Being unclothed dates back to the Garden of Eden, when man was in a sinless state. These people are essentially saying they have nothing to be ashamed of, which is a distinctly non-

Wesleyan standpoint," commented Kelvin Friebe, Professor of Old Testament. John Brittain, Dean of the Chapel, was less verbose but just as passionate, saying, "I wish they'd just get fig leaves or something."

The clothes-free group has been the topic of several campus-wide rumors, some stating that the nudists were forming a gang known as "The Skins," and were planning on pillaging laundry lines by night. Others were certain that the group would be joining the annual Rothenbuhler Hall "Boxer Run," but with some obvious modifications to the usual tradition of caroling in skivvies.

The nudists are taking it all in good stride, however, confident that this new movement will gain popularity and become less stigmatized over time. "We're just laughing it off, and hanging in there," commented junior Jens Hieber, "er...out there."



在凌晨以後: (Censorship Policy) 在外由

by Liu Guoliang

由於Houghton的違規事件層出不窮,近日學校的司法委員會展開緊急會議處理堆積如山的事件。委員會的主席雪拉·海音斯 (Office of Student Life) 提出了幾項改革,希望可

以減少在校事件,以減輕校長與其他行政人員的負擔。首先,海音斯提議以大金剛來防範學生 scanning-and-scramming; 由於禮拜堂的出口眾多,這項提議所需的經費將會相當龐大。有鑑於此,海音斯建議差派由大一學生

組成的小隊至鄰近的城鎮請

求捐款。由於金剛對於環境的影響相當大,學校的一間

宿舍(目前還未

定哪一間)將會

被改成衣間小型

動物園。此舉除

了提供金剛們住

宿的場所,也將

提供生物係許多

研究機會。海音

斯另外也建議學校規定學生

不許在凌晨以後在外遊蕩,

以減少高爾夫球車失竊的次

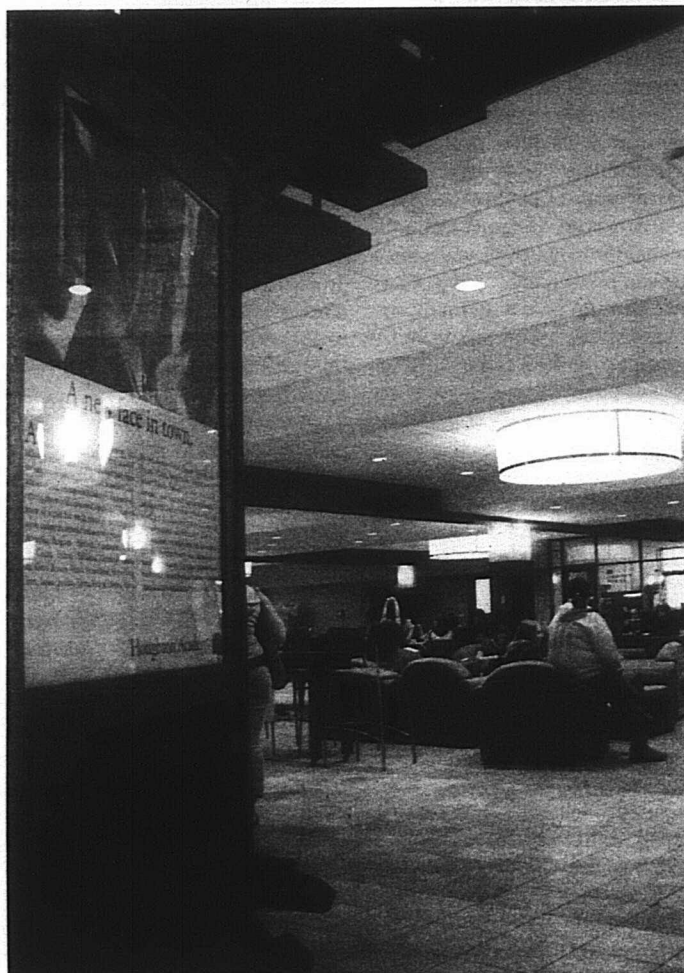
數。最後,這一則新聞完全是

捏造的;這是未了愚人節而

編輯的。若有疑問,請對著你

的refrigerator 鞠躬三次。赫赫

赫赫赫赫!



望可以減少在校事件,以減輕校長 Campus Center 與其他行政人員

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

As an avid reader of the Star, I just wanted to officially commend the staff on a job well done. I am especially fond of the work of Editor-in-Chief Katarina Kieffer, who manages to juggle her Honors' Project and Editing the newspaper... and always looks really pretty, especially on Fridays at 2:50 when she is exiting Library classroom 308. I've never seen Katarina walk back to her house before 2:30 a.m. and sometimes her bedroom lights stay on for a good 2 hours after that. That's what I call dedication to your academics.

Keep up the good work!
Love and Love,
Anonymous, Class of 2009

Dear Editors,

I was extremely offended by an event that took place on Tuesday, and the campus wide email that supported it. I'm speaking, of course, about "Green Envelope Day." Green Envelope Day is a national movement among Evangelicals to petition President Obama and other government official to embrace Psalms 104:14 ("He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, and the herb for the service of man.").

As a Houghton student, I have had several experiences with the green, as I am sure many other students (and some faculty) have as well. However, even at Houghton,

we shouldn't assume that everyone is a liberal and shares our political sentiments; while there may not be many of them, there are likely a few Republicans on campus. Although I personally agree with legalization of the green, I do not believe that a class event and a campus wide email are the correct forum for political action.

The Green Envelope Day group must realize that not everyone agrees with their position, and must understand that some students and faculty were greatly offended by the event - undoubtedly there are people on campus that have had negative affects from the green, and it was greatly insensitive to these people who may have felt personally attacked. Class Events should be about unifying the class, not about advancing a personal

political agenda.

Although encouraging discussion is good, by presenting only one side of the issue, this event simply stifled it and offended people. A better course of action would have been to have a faculty forum about the benefits (both medically and recreationally) of the green and perhaps even letting students have firsthand experiences with it. This is the kind of class event everyone could enjoy, and then a student could decide to take personal action to pray for those affected by the green, or petition their government officials to seriously consider the green.

- Jaxon Fisher, Class of 2014

Dear Editors,

I wish to call your attention to a misprint in your last issue that I found highly offensive. In the article "Waking and Dreaming", by Ken Orleans, the author stated that "SGA's Donut Days have provided a support network for me." Since when do we bake bread with "do"? The answer is: never. Doughnut. Doughnut, doughnut, doughnut. I'm tired of illiterate people running this college. Get it right, or my hands may never again be smudged with the jelly filling of your appetizing, but orthographically deficient pastries.

- Ogden Nash, Class of 1971

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From the Editors' Desk...

Taking Stock: A List of Gifts That We Really, Really Need

Why the new Business Investment Center proves that the hearts and funds of the Houghton administration are certainly in the right place.

by Edward M. Liddy

In these dark times of economic crisis and financial insecurity, many students have expressed concern or disagreement with the restructuring of Houghton's funds, programs, and staff members to meet the growing monetary needs of the institution. I won't lie and say I haven't been one of those disgruntled folks. But a plan newly approved by the administration has regained my trust, and the trust of the student body, and, I think, brought a renewed sense of unity to the Houghton community initiative to face the economic downturn with as little negative impact as possible.

The project, which has become a symbol of the integrity with which the college's monetary problems are being handled, is an expansion project slated to add a bowling alley, indoor water park, and retro-style soda fountain onto the recently founded Investment Center. These additions are intended to improve the quality of everyday life in the business department. To the non-majors, this could seem to be trivial, but in talking with some of the people it's going to affect, I experienced what could only be called excitement over the project, and the kind of administrative vision that it reflects.

As it turns out, the

Investment Center has become a vital center of help and support for the college in recent days. With the economic crisis, the need for a designated place to watch the stock market and respond to it has become paramount. "What we're facing here is, quite basically, a stock market crash based on many unfortunate global economic situations, and one of the most useful things we can do in the wake of this is to keep better track of how the market is doing", said Dr. Ken Bates, professor of business. Senior business student Chris Cruikshank agreed with this, saying, "if we can know how our investments are holding up, better decisions can be made regarding the college endowment".

The task of keeping vigil over the financial situation of the college is apparently not an easy task, and one which requires frequent late nights, to say nothing of constant eye strain from watching reports scroll by on the 24 foot-long stock ticker. To show its gratitude to the students and professors who are diligently working in the Investment Center at all hours, more comfortable

furniture has been provided than is available anywhere else on campus, including the office of the president. This is a very visual (and tactile) symbol of where we need to be, and are placing our importance right now. These folks are doing some of the most important work on campus, and they deserve to be doing it in style.

The task of keeping vigil over the financial situation of the college is apparently not an easy task...

In addition to the furniture and LED ticker, several ultra-large flat screen monitors and a digital projector have been installed so that the Investment Center inhabitants can relax after a hard day of watching the stocks. "We sometimes just can't watch any longer

— there's all sorts of depressing numbers flying past on that screen," said senior business student Peter Carpenter, "so we just put in a copy of The Money Pit and forget the world for a while."

The expenses of the most recent project have been large, and the bowling ball return system alone has been rumored to cost over 12,000 USD. "But," expressed junior Laura Day, "I'm so glad that our money is going where it needs to be going. If this was going towards professor's salaries, or endangered

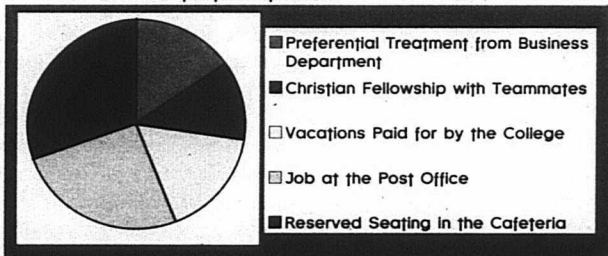
off-campus programs, it would only treat the symptoms, and not the disease, so to speak." I couldn't agree more with her. As a college, we only have a limited amount of funds to work with. Desperate times call for desperate measures, as the saying goes, and desperate measures certainly have been taken. Members of the College Choir were heartbroken when, for the first time in over 40 years, the annual domestic tour was forcibly cancelled due to a reduced budget. Professors are being let go, staff members are being pared down, and there are rumors that the quad is going to be converted into a corn maze to pull in extra funds. But by putting money towards the Investment Center, we're ensuring the college's future, not just padding the nest for the present.

I was curious to get the thoughts of President Shirley Mullen on her vision for this project, and if she was planning on more developments in the future, but she could not be reached for comment. The possibility was raised by a member of her office staff that she may have left for the Investment Center. "She does enjoy knocking those pins over," stated the unnamed staff member, rather distantly, then quickly followed up with "but she was going to check on the endowment."

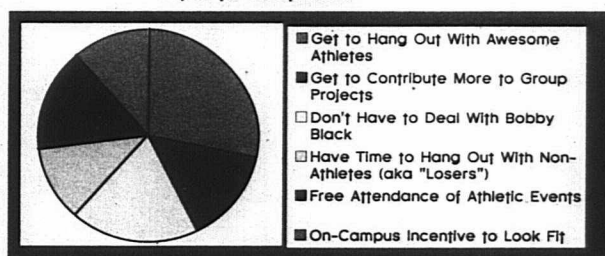
Houghton Athletics

Voices

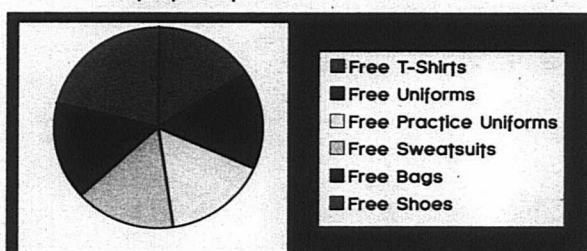
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Non-Athlete Response



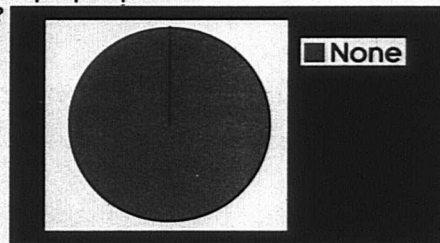
What do you believe are the benefits of intercollegiate athletics to non-athletes?
Athlete Response



What do you believe are the benefits of intercollegiate athletics to athletes?
Athlete Response



What do you believe are the benefits of intercollegiate athletics to non-athletes?
Non-Athlete Response





artist: **ERIC** OF THE WEEK: **STEVENSON**



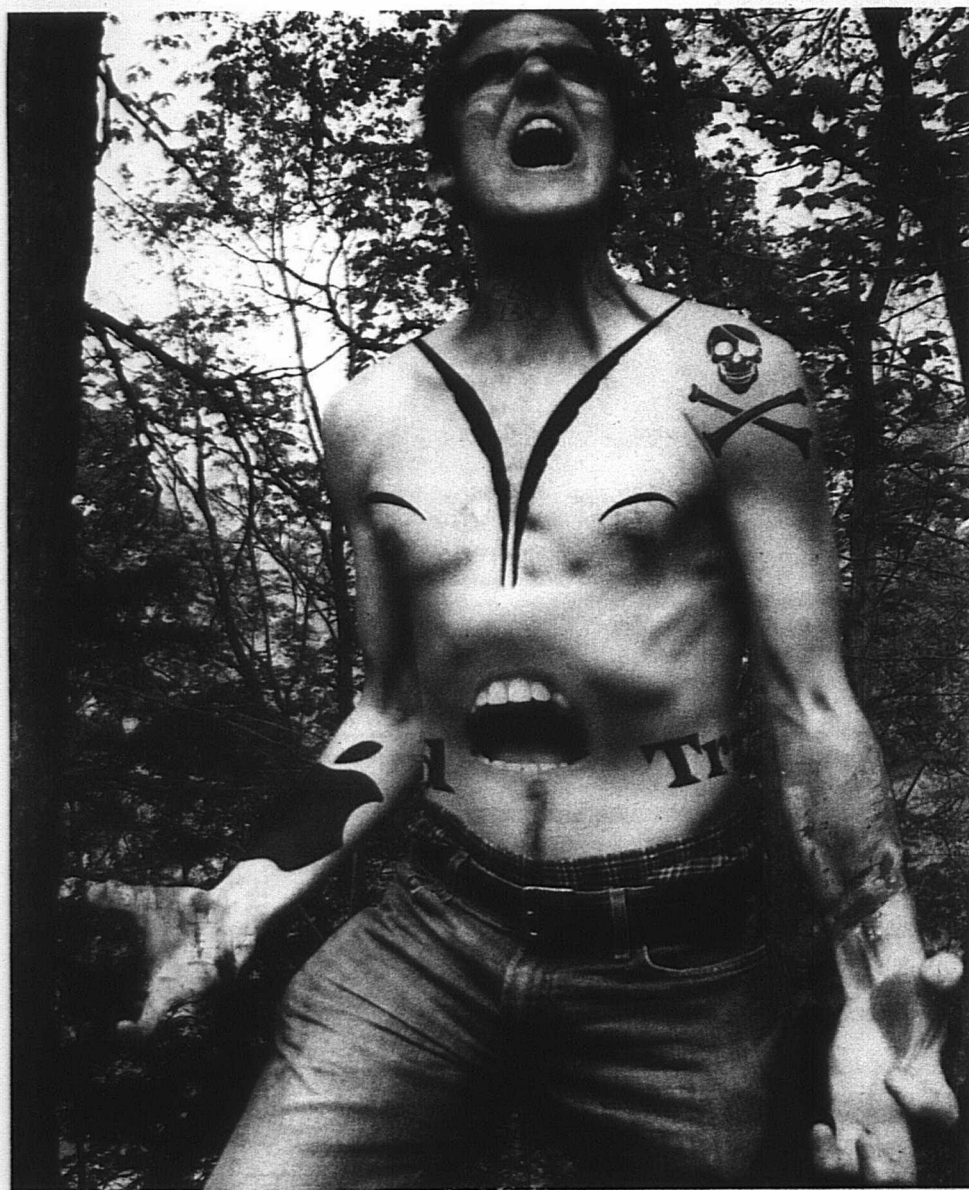
The Thought, digitally manipulated photo

Notes from the artist:

Art isn't something that I simply see. Art is something I live, breathe, and love with. Where one man may simply look off of a mountain and find it enjoyable, lovely view, I look off that same mountain and see much more than that in the trees, the lakes, the stones, and the houses below. They convey in me things that only the Lord can see, things I can describe because the words haven't been invented yet by man or woman, alike.

This is a gift I did not ask for, but feel that is it my duty to express. For if I was to walk this earth and not share with my companions the love I see in a computer program, or a wooden door, or an impossibly soft material, I feel that I would have failed in life, and I earnestly believe that God would be disappointed with me. If you, the reader, feel that one of my pieces moves you in a certain way, please contact me, as I'd love to hear how God has inspired you through me. For I am just a Tool. A tool that God uses to reach you.

Eric is the star of the upcoming hit Christian film "Standing Firm." He is also a cat lover.



The Beast Inside, digital photo