

The Houghton Star

VOLUME 82.13

FEBRUARY 2, 1990

Field Hockey Retained

by Kevin Fuller

An overwhelmingly favorable faculty vote has enabled the field hockey team to continue into the next season as scheduled. All but three faculty members ruled in favor of keeping field hockey as a part of the fall sports agenda, and making the program eligible for review in 1992. The program had previously been cut, as detailed in last week's *Star*.

"I feel very relieved!" exclaimed sophomore Donna Forry, who came

to Houghton largely due to its field hockey team. "Transferring was starting to become a real option, but the decision has made my future a lot clearer."

Members of the field hockey team collected 764 signatures from students and community members, demonstrating that interest in the sport is thriving at the school. The team's progress on and off the field makes the future of field hockey appear brighter than ever.

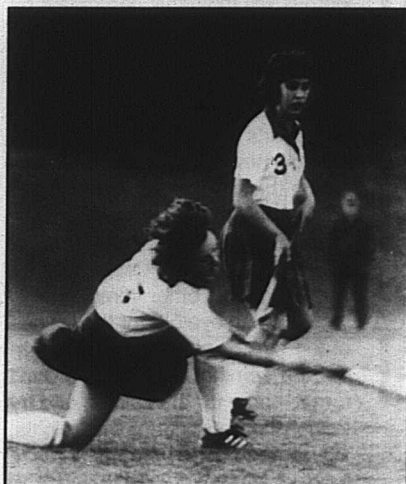
"I'm very excited about the decision because I think we are going to have a good team next year," said Sarah Gunuskey, a junior field hockey player who is looking forward to her fourth season. "We have a great deal of talent, including an abundance of experienced underclassmen."

The decision to retain the field hockey program seems to be a positive one, according to the Houghton community. Hopefully, this little trial will attract as many people to the playing field as it did to the petition area.



**A scene from the past?
No.**

Photo by Chris Daniels



Kenya Programs Offered

by Beth Johnson

A chance to study at Daystar University in Nairobi, Kenya, is being offered to juniors and seniors through the international studies office. [Courses at Daystar run on a three-term schedule: I—last week in September to the second week in December; II—first week in January to the first week in March; and III—first week in April to the third week in June.]

Majors and minors in communications, business administration and management, education, community development, Bible, and Christian ministries are offered. Courses focusing on the religions, history, culture, literature, and politics of Africa are also available to those attending Daystar.

Opportunities to become immersed in African culture while attending Daystar are abundant. Arrangements will be made for consortium students to live either individually or in small groups; with African families or fellow (African) students. Meals will be provided at the college dining hall.

Co-curricular and travel activities are

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NEWS

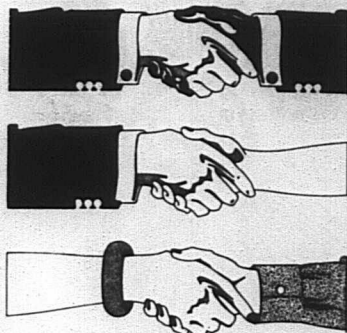
Kenya Programs

(continued from page 1)

also a part of the Daystar program. Safaris, museum and gallery visits, and a visit to the impoverished area of Mathore will be taken.

A semester at Daystar is an excellent opportunity to study abroad

and experience African culture. Any junior or senior interested should contact Dr. Katherine Lindley in the International Studies office, NAB 211, as soon as possible and file an application.



Houghton Students Make Washington Pilgrimage

by Kim Kerr

Eight students--Rich Buck, John Chong, Bob Van Wicklin, Heidi Jensen, Kim Kerr, Kim Simpson, Teresa Kuhn, and Deb Howard--and political Science professor Dr. Blaine David Benedict went to the nation's capital as part of the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) Federal Seminar. The week in Washington comprised special speakers, lecturers, sightseeing and discussion of the Christian's role in government.

Why would a bunch of students want to miss a week's worth of classes and work? One answer would be to take a look behind the scenes of government and politics. We also wanted to see a glimpse of the world outside of Houghton. Ultimately, we wanted to know if Christians can work in government.

We arrived at an answer: yes. There is a body of Christian supporters working for our nation. Not only are they working, but they are a potentially powerful vital force in the political scene. We heard the call for more Christians in the po-

litical mainstream. More importantly, we soon came to realize through special speakers like Senator Mark Hatfield, a pastor involved in Operation Rescue, and Supreme Court Justice Scalia that Christians can have different views on policy in the government, yet still maintain their Christian identity. Discussions on civil disobedience, communism, and social reform helped to open our eyes and reach inside ourselves to really think.

We also saw the social aspects of city life that we don't see at Houghton. Landmarks like the Lincoln Memorial, the White House, the Supreme Court and the Vietnam Memorial all evoked feelings of power, life, the future and the past. We were even a part of history, since our hotel was across the street from the famous Vista Hotel where Washington D.C.'s Mayor Marion Berry was arrested on cocaine charges.

Overall, it was a week to learn, make new friends and experience another part of the world. Would I recommend it? A definite "yes."

PARTNERS

—MAKE IT

POSSIBLE

by Chris Daniels

The 1990 Phonathon campaign will take place from February 5 through March 1, with the theme, "Partners Make it Possible." Callers will try to raise \$275,000 from alumni pledges for application toward student scholarships.

Phonathon Director Melinda L. Trine is working hard to make the "Partners" campaign successful. Through posters around campus and the "Pink Gilligan Notes" (to remind us to limit phone use from 6-10:00 p.m. each weekday during the campaign), students are beginning to take notice. It is hoped that individuals will indirectly participate by praying for effective callers and good responses.

Diane Galloway, assisting Trine with the Phonathon, is excited about this year's campaign. She mentioned a new highlight aimed at students: the addition of exciting prizes for top callers. These will include assorted gift certificates, jars of candy, brunch at the Old Library, as well as various other items.

Keep an eye out for the listings of top callers and awards throughout the coming weeks. And don't forget—pray for the callers, and try to limit phone use during weeknights. We all need to be partners to make it possible.

NEWS

Jack Duff: The Long and Winding Road

by Stephen Vorkler



Jack Duff, the new resident director (RD) at Shenawana Men's Dorm has taken a long and winding path to get to where he is today.

Born in Pennsylvania in 1963, Duff and his family moved just outside of Cleveland, Ohio, when he was in fourth grade. Upon graduating from Avon Lake High School in 1981, Duff moved on to Wheaton College in Illinois. At Wheaton, he played varsity football for four years and made the All-Conference team.

In 1984, Duff took off a year from school and worked for a moving company, a grocery store (assistant manager), and the United Parcel Service. The next year, he went back to Wheaton, graduating in 1987 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in communication and a minor in physical education (coaching). He also coached the defensive linemen,

scouted, and oversaw the weight room from 1986 to 1987.

After graduation, Duff enlisted in the Army and became a member of the 82nd Airborne Division stationed in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. In early 1989, he was medically discharged from the Army after fracturing his leg on a parachute jump.

From there, Duff became a work crew supervisor at Hilltop Ranch in Coloma, Maryland. He was responsible for overseeing the work of six high school boys and acting as their house parent. Eventually, he was promoted to projects director, one of the three camp directors.

In November 1989, Duff began work at Riley's Plumbing and Heating, Inc. in North East, Maryland, continuing there until December, when he was offered the Shenawana RD position. His next mile-

stone occurred on December 27, when he married Julie Riley, a junior secondary education major at Houghton and the daughter of his former employer.

Along with being a resident director, Duff is also the Houghton College weight program coordinator. In this position, he implements "workout programs for students, faculty, and student athletes" and works with the proctors to improve the weight room.

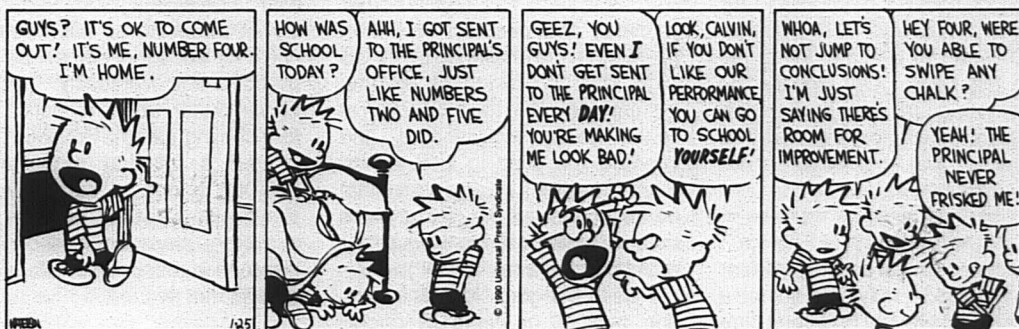
To Duff, these jobs aren't ends in themselves. Instead, they are a "good way to offset costs for a master's degree," which he will start working on in the fall. "I want to get back into coaching," he said. "[It is a] good way to serve the Lord."

It would seem that the long, winding path in Jack Duff's past will continue on into the future.

The Star regrets the fact that, due to film-related difficulties, no picture of Jack Duff was available for publication.

Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson



NEWS

And In Other News

by John Chong and Kenneth Cole

Romania

A tense stand-off eased in Romania on January 31 with the interim government still in control. The National Salvation Front sent home thousands of miners and factory workers who flocked to the capital to face off with the anti-government protesters. Interim President Ion Iliescu told the pro-government crowd, "We need you at work. Please go home."

There is much tension in Bucharest following the confrontation between pro- and anti-government demonstrators. Both sides are claiming responsibility for the revolution that overthrew the communist government last month. Opposition leaders say that struggle will continue but not in the form of street demonstrations.

The National Salvation Front is accused by critics of trying to govern in the same Stalinist mode of executed dictator Nicolai Ceaucescu.

U.S.S.R.

Earlier this week, there were rumors that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev was considering giving up his position as Communist Party General Secretary. CNN (Cable News Network) was the first to release this news. On January 31, Soviet foreign minister spokesman Gennady Gerasimov reported that Gorbachev has no intention of resigning his post.

Washington, D.C.

Former national security advisor John Poindexter may have scored a victory in his attempt to defend himself on five felony counts relating to the Iran-*contra* scandal. On January 31, U.S. District Judge Harold

Greene ruled in Washington, D.C. that former President Ronald Reagan must turn over certain diary entries written in 1985 and 1986 to Poindexter's lawyers. Judge Greene's decision is based on an assessment that the entries are vital to Poindexter's claim that Reagan was aware of his activity on behalf of the Nicaraguan *contra* rebels at a time when such aid was banned by Congress.

Reagan may refuse Judge Greene by claiming "executive privilege." Most likely, the Supreme Court will be the site for the ensuing battle regarding "executive privilege."

Washington, D.C.

President George Bush gave his State of the Union address Wednesday night. In this annual speech, the executive explains the general position of the nation and the intentions of his administration, both domestically and with respect to foreign policy.

Bush began by lauding the freedom apparently breaking out in many regions of the world, and spoke of the impact that the United States political system has had on other countries and peoples. He then offered that the challenge to the US is to keep improving its existing system. He urged the production of quality goods and services, and stressed the need to look toward "human capital." He also stated that he intends to cut the capital gains tax and implement a family savings plan (inferring a tax "break").

Bush set goals for US education: by 2000, he wants US schools to graduate no less than 90% of high school students, to assess students on critical subjects in the fourth,

eighth, and twelfth grades, and to be "the first in the world in math and science."

The President noted that the deficit has shrunk by an amount equal to 5% of the country's GNP (Gross National Product) and meets the Gramm-Rudman goals. By 1993, said Bush, the budget "will be balanced," and the debt will begin to decrease. Ovation here came predominantly from the right, with the Speaker of the House markedly refraining from applause.

The Environmental Protection Agency has been given a cabinet position, Bush announced. Also, a "Keep America Beautiful" program has been instituted to clean up and expand federal parks and reserves, and to plant a billion trees a year.

Bush recommended an investigation into the future of health care, including studies of quality, accessibility, and costs. Social Security will remain untouched.

As for the military, although the interests in Europe have changed, Bush urged that an American military presence (in agreement with NATO wishes) in Europe is necessary. Forces will not be tied to the Soviet presence as has been the norm for decades, but will be prepared for any eventuality. Talks on conventional arms reduction are forthcoming, said the President, who offered a bilateral reduction to 195,000 troops in both sides of Europe. He stressed, however, that a military presence is necessary, because in many regions "reality is conflict, not peace."



Values Study Results

by Becky Lutz

Houghton students are "never made to forsake their values," says psychology professor Dr. John Van Wicklin. Van Wicklin, with Ron Burwell from Messiah College (PA) and Rich Butman from Wheaton College (IL), conducted a study in the fall of 1987 to evaluate value changes in students during their four-year college experience.

The study is an outgrowth of a Pew Grant, which provides money for studies in ethics across the curriculum for the 13 Christian College Consortium schools. Van Wicklin, a member of Houghton's Ethics Across the Curriculum Task Force, saw the need to assess students' values when they enter and depart Houghton in order to better determine how to work through the curriculum and enhance students' ethical decision-making skills. He then contacted Butman and Burwell, asking them to become involved in a broader evaluation of three Christian colleges.

The three professors took a sample of 100 college freshmen and 100 seniors from a combination of the three schools. The students were given three tests and had a one-hour videotaped interview. *Defining Issues Test* (DIT) was used to look at students' response to moral dilemmas. The *Rokeach Values Inventory* gave them 36 value statements such as salvation, honesty, world peace and comfortable life, and asked them to prioritize them. The third test, *Pace Survey of Major Special Issues*, examined the students' positions on certain ethical issues like treatment of minorities, women's rights, and political issues.

The videotaped interview became the tool used to find the basis of the students' values through discovering the factors contributing toward their moral development and reasoning for beliefs. (For example, did they adopt parents' values or were values based on personal rationale?)

The results of the study were very similar across the three schools, but the team took it a step further and contrasted them with the norms found in secular university settings. One of the differences between the Christian freshmen and seniors was a move slightly toward liberalism.

Seniors tended to favor values such as freedom of expression and the world at peace, and were more sympathetic toward women than were the freshmen. Basically, however, there were no significant value changes from the freshmen to senior years since the top priority of salvation among the Christian schools remained. In contrast, salvation in the secular schools was least valued. Three important values found in Christian schools—loving, helping and forgiving—were replaced in secular schools by being capable, logical and broadminded. Honesty ranked high in both environments.

One of the distinctives of the Christian college is the increase in moral reasoning and development between the freshman and senior years. Christian students overall were more in favor of restricting pornography, tended to be against abortion, and preferred that a woman with small children not work outside the home. Some slight differences between Christian freshmen and seniors concerned ecological matters and the belief more common among freshmen that minorities can "get ahead if they work hard." The more "liberal" views of the seniors can be attributed partly to the improvement in their basis for moral reasoning. They have taken more time for personal reflection and therefore have developed personal commitment, which is actually the goal of a Christian liberal arts college, Van Wicklin said.

Van Wicklin was disturbed by some of the study results. For example, most of the Christian students have poorly thought-out beliefs. "A higher proportion remain uncritically identified with parental values," he noted. The students could state their beliefs, but couldn't explain why they held them. There is a greater need for critical thinking that would likely result in students' holding slightly different views from their parents, due to self-searching.

Another deficiency is in beliefs surrounding the area of politics, Van Wicklin believes. Seventy-five percent of the freshmen and 50 percent of the seniors are politically apathetic and uninformed. This was the most disturbing result to Dr. Van Wicklin since he believes that political issues

The article below, second in a series of articles on Ethics and Academia, is excerpted from the November 1989 issue of *Houghton Headlines*.

go beyond the "parties" to issues concerning United States' involvement in other countries, gun control, abortion, and other relevant issues. He hopes that the local low-level nuclear waste site debate will make students more sensitive politically.

Since the study was conducted, it has been presented and published across the country and overseas. An article appeared in the fall 1990 edition of *The Journal of Psychology and Christianity*. Van Wicklin presented their results in a paper in July 1988 to the International Conference of First-year Students at Cambridge University in England. Also, he presented a "spin-off" article of the study in March 1989 for the Eastern Psychological Association in Boston, MA. Last June the three researchers participated in a workshop for the consortium college's faculty at Westmont College (CA).

A second phase of the study is scheduled for re-evaluation of the 1987 freshmen as seniors to complete the longitudinal part of the study. The students will be shown their first videotaped interview after they have been retested to compare the changes in their values. Each of the participating schools has had a faculty workshop to explain and discuss their results. The faculty were all receptive, Van Wicklin said, and one impact has been much more cooperation among the consortium schools in other areas as well as in ethical studies. More political awareness and involvement and a more informed approach to social issues will be encouraged among students. This study has also stimulated a larger ethics assessment and grant from Pew, now \$50,000 for the consortium schools. This, in turn, is drawing more interest from the schools to participate.

Van Wicklin concluded that though there are few tangible improvements for Houghton College, the workshop from the study proved stimulating and valuable. He is pleased that the project "didn't just collect money and get put on a shelf, but was transmitted into other useful activities." An ethics assessment project is now underway.

OPINION

Dear Mark [Horne],

I felt very frustrated and angry after reading your letter about the dump/abortion issue in the Jan. 26 *Star*. What I heard you saying was that you were enraged at the mixed-up priorities evident in people protesting the dump and not doing a thing about abortion. To use a word from your WWII analogy, you think the dump activists are "demon-possessed" in protesting something that you believe might kill one or two children a decade while allowing unborn children to be killed every day.

I think you brought up an important point. Abortion is a serious problem and is something we shouldn't turn our backs on.

But there are many problems in our world today, not only abortion and care of the environment, but also discrimination, child abuse, and care of the poor, to name a few others. I was frustrated and angry at your view that we must all become abortion activists and that those protesting the dump have their priorities mixed up. All the issues above are important and they all need to be dealt with, now. We need people to work on all issues. If we wait to care for the environment until the abortion issue is solved, our earth will be destroyed. The work involved in seriously fighting an issue—education about the issue, writing letters, prayer, attending meetings—can be overwhelming. Few people have the time and energy to actively fight more than one or possibly two issues.

I applaud the people of Allegany County and throughout New York State for getting involved in an issue. Too many people today sit and read about the atrocities in the world but don't do a thing about any of the problems. The dump protesters are faced with a problem and are standing up and trying to do something about it.

Thank you, Mark, for reminding us that there are more issues out there to be fought, but don't put down the hand because it isn't a foot (I Cor. 12:12-26). Don't put down the dump protesters because they aren't fighting abortion. Our world has many urgent needs, and these call for a variety of urgent actions.

Sincerely,
Theresa Hoffmann

AN OPEN LETTER TO MARK HORNE

Dear Mark,

Thank you for your letter to the *Star* (1/26/90) which helped me to understand how misperceptions can be generated from assumptions stimulated by selected media coverage.

I'm so glad that you and I have had a post-publication chance to talk about the issues and that we can agree that we both seek to serve the same Lord in the same concern—sanctity of life. You are well-placed to observe and convey the seriousness of abortion, while I am better placed to observe and convey the seriousness of pollution. But neither of us is limited to acting on one issue alone.

Please pray for us, as we pray for you.

Sincerely,
Irmgard K. Howard

**"Fools, said I, you do not
know
Silence like a cancer
grows."
-Simon & Garfunkel**

Talk, Part II An Explanation of Sorts

by Mark Shiner

I was a weird kid. One of the things I would often do was to pick a word (frequently, for some reason, the word "egg") and say it over and over again until its meaning melted away. There was something cool about doing this—I guess it somehow revealed to my impressionable mind the impermanence of language. The word I was repeating quickly lost all meaning: it sounded like gibberish, and the connections between the word and the reality it expressed were lost.

Last semester I think that I experienced this sort of thing large-scale. It looks something like this in my head: As a result of all this god-talk (chapels, 15 credits of religion classes, the *Star*, everyday Houghton life), it felt like all the meaning had melted out of my religious words. Somehow the symbols that had once brought me some degree of comfort were no longer connected to any sort of reality. A lot of it seemed irrelevant, foolish, and unbelievable. And I came very close (or so I thought) to throwing it all away.

But somehow I realized, as religious words swirled around my head, that to throw "it" all away would mean to throw away everything I have ever been. I once told someone (a former Houghton student) that Christianity (Christ?) has been carved into my guts, that it's more a part of me than anything else. I guess that in my life I've found the symbols and metaphors of Christianity inescapable. And in this, for some reason, I place my hope: that in some mysterious way, despite my pleadings to the contrary, my life has been seized by the Word.

I'm still uncomfortable with religious talk—still prone to distrust (even to dislike, unfortunately) people who use these religious words. And I still wonder why we always use the same words to describe our experiences of the One who is so far beyond words.

"The mere fact that you wish to give God glory by talking about Him is no proof that your speech will give Him glory. What if He should prefer you to be silent? Have you never heard that silence gives Him glory?" (Thomas Merton)



OPINION

To the college community:

Thank you all for the concerns and encouragement you've expressed regarding the field hockey program at Houghton. I believe I speak for the team and staff in saying that we are deeply grateful to you, and we feel revitalized by your support. I'd especially like to thank the student body for protesting this recommendation in a thoughtful and mature way. I believe your approach has helped us acknowledge differing views within the community while maintaining our sense of oneness. What we've experienced together seems to me to be at the heart of the gospel—recognizing our diversity and differences while preserving our unity.

We still have some hard questions to address regarding Christian athletics. How does a Christian define "competition" differently from the world around her? Does better quality always mean more money? Is a Christian athlete's motivation to win any different from the "world's"? I am too often embarrassed by the

lack of difference between Christian athletes, spectators, and coaches and our secular counterparts. Yet I believe this "difference" can be a strong witness to our world. I invite you to help Houghton become a school known for its distinctly Christ-like approach to athletics.

Connie Finney

Dear Sir:

I am writing in regard to the atmosphere at the men's basketball games. Upon the conclusion of C.F.H. [Cheer For Houghton] night Saturday I was questioning whether it would be more enjoyable to return deposit bottles to the Market Basket instead of going to a Houghton basketball game. I mean, I have seen more excitement in the food lines Sunday night than at the game. Now, some of the cheering may have been harsh, but I note that nobody brought a rope, or, worse yet, a tree, and I don't believe that any referee's life was in any such

danger. It is very frightening to me that basketball is starting to resemble chapel. I do notice though that more people find the urge to stand up for an organ playing than for Bink's three-pointers or Brian's blocks. I have realized that what C.F.H. has done is change cheers into fears, and it is up to the fans to turn these fears back into cheers or just stay in chapel.

Sincerely yours,
Rich Vitale

"It is very frightening to me that basketball is starting to resemble chapel."



YOU TOO?

by Jenna Gieser

I'm just too busy. Me too! Everyone else has too much to do too. That's too bad.

Have you ever stopped to think about the way we use the word "too"? It is a very inarticulate word meaning everything from "also, in addition, or besides," to "more than enough or overly" and "to regrettable extent," it can even be used as an emphatic. Amazing how diverse three letters can be.

How often do you hear someone say (or say yourself), "I'd love to, but I'm too busy." Does that mean, "I'm overly busy," or "I'm busy to a regrettable extent," or is it meant emphatically, "I am too busy!" We have created a new use

for the word. It is used as a kind of apologetic, an excuse, combined with an emphatic. "I'm too busy" is stated as the catch-all reason for numerous sins of omission, while the tone of voice used dares anyone to deny the claim.

Instead of saying, "I don't want to" we say, "I'm too busy." We don't feel comfortable with saying, "That is not high on my priority list," or "I have already invested my time in other areas" or even, "I just need some time alone right now." Most of the time "too busy" is a fallacy. We aren't "too busy"; we are either not managing our time well, or we are not interested. NO one is capable of doing everything that comes along; that is why priorities are important.

If we can say, "I'd love to, but I'm too busy" it is probably not something we want to make a sacrifice for. Think it over.

"Then He will say to those on His left, 'Depart from me you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'" Matthew 25:41-43

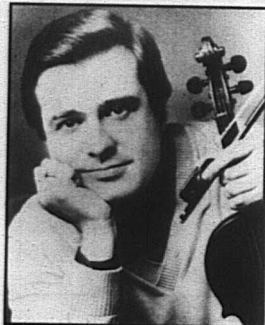
"But God, I was too busy!"
Doing what?



OPINION

In response to the views expressed by Mr. Shiner in the 26 January 90 issue of the **Houghton Star**, I would offer the following observations. The trite characterization of the Houghton College ROTC program as "playful, naive fascism...justified with religious talk" is unwarranted. ROTC is offered to educate students in various aspects of the military, and allow for a change of pace from the normal liberal arts curriculum. ROTC is an optional college course with potential career opportunities; we do not attempt to justify the course with "religious talk." The class is physically and academically oriented, and makes no more claim at religious instruction than any phys. ed. course offered at Houghton. I personally believe that Christians do have a place in the military, and I am pursuing a career as an Army officer, but the ROTC class at Houghton is not attempting to justify its existence on the basis of its religious merit. The characterization of people pursuing a military career as "fascists" is as close-minded and stereotypical as referring to liberals as "fags." It is easy to place a label on a group of people; it is more challenging to relate to the members of that group as individuals and to try to find a common ground for mutual respect. Without too much "religious talk," I would like to suggest that as Christians we owe that much to one another.

Cadet Captain Jeffery N. Hice
Houghton College ROTC



Take 6

by Dave Klemow

Monday, January 6, at 8:00 p.m., one of America's hottest new groups will be visiting Wesley Chapel for an evening of sensational gospel music. Take 6, the Grammy award-winning a cappella group from Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama, will be in Houghton to participate in the Side Artist series as well as Black History Month.

The group, which has gone from obscurity to superstardom in the past two years, is composed of Claude McKnight, David Thomas, Mervyn Warren, Mark Kibble, Cedric Dent, and Vinnie Chea. They used no instruments, only their voices, to take home two Grammy awards last year [Best Jazz Vocal performance group and Best Soul Gospel performance

group]. They were nosed out of the Best New Artist award by Tracy Chapman. They have opened for such acts as Amy Grant, Sandi Patti, Quincy Jones, and Stevie Wonder, and have appeared on the Arsenio Hall and the Pat Sajak television shows.

It was Dr. Bruce Brown's persistence that made Houghton a stop on Take 6's tour, said Darren Chick of the Campus Activities Board. The agreement to come was made before the Grammys; if it had been made afterward, it would have been much too expensive, the tickets are almost completely sold out. "I think this is the biggest group we've ever had here," said Chick.



Violinist to Perform

submitted by the Public Information Offices

Master violinist James Buswell will perform at an Artist series concert in Wesley Chapel on Friday, February 9 at 8:00 p.m.

Buswell is principal violinist for the Chamber Music Society of the Lincoln Center (New York) and is professor of music at New England Conservatory. A graduate of the Julliard School, Buswell has played concertos with the most important conductors and with all the major orchestras in America. He records for Musical Heritage, Desto and Co-

lumbia labels.

The **New York Times** has described Buswell's performances as deserving to be "rated among the finest musical events of any kind. [He] has long been among the violin elite, and each season his artistry seems to broaden and deepen." **Time**, in a critique of a Buswell concert, claimed, "He has temperament and spunk, a luminous tone and controlled technique."

Tickets for the concert are available at the door.

ARTS

THE HOFFMAN CINEMATOGRAPHIC VERTEX

by Randy Hoffman



BORN ON THE FOURTH OF JULY

Recommendation: If you're looking for a deep, heartfelt, thought-provoking story that's masterfully presented, and you don't care if you have to wade through raw sewage to get it, this movie's for you.

Approval: No.

Capsule Comment: Tom Cruise proves to any remaining doubters that he's a really good actor; Oliver Stone directs the viewer through a tight, polished tour de force; the movie will probably get its share of Oscars; but it still managed to turn me off in a big way.

Revenge of the Nerds was widely regarded as a hilarious comedy. But it was consistently foul.

Tom Robbins' novel *Even Cowgirls Get the Blues* is supposedly an "important" book.

It alternately serves as a vehicle for anti-Christian mysticism and smut.

Many secular rock groups write songs with rhythms and harmonies that I will remember all my life.

And frequently the percentage of those songs' lyrics that aren't endorsing promiscuity are spelled out with clusters of four letters.

My dominant impression of this movie is the same. No matter how well it's put together from a technical standpoint, I can't ignore the content. Perhaps you've heard of "shock DJ's" who try to gain an audience by talking and joking a navy blue streak; well, this is "shock drama," an attempt to impress with sheer iconoclasm. An effort not merely to offend but to destroy the sensibilities of every religious and/or Republican and/or feeling-even-slightly-positive-about-Vietnam person in America.

Plot: a biography, the life story of Vietnam veteran Ron Kovic (played by Cruise). Kovic is indeed born on July 4, the oldest son in a devoutly Catholic family, and grows up as a more-patriotic-than-average kid. President Kennedy's "Ask not" speech greatly impresses him, and as graduation approaches a few years later he enlists in the Marines.

After the movie shifts to Vietnam it rarely escapes distortions of history and human nature created by Director Stone's simplistic vision. Surely during Kovic's two tours in Vietnam he saw some successes and some heroism, even if only in petty victories. But we bear witness to only two events—one in which he leaves a baby to die and accidentally kills a friend, and another in which his platoon is surrounded and he receives a

paralyzing bullet in the neck. The scenes that follow in a Bronx VA hospital are horrific (though not as bad as I was expecting); then an uneasy reception at the old homestead and a scene spent with a vet friend in which he realizes that none (yes, none) of his friends in Vietnam came out unscathed accelerate his disillusionment. At last he loses it entirely, curses out his mother (who serves as yet another Christianity-is-rules-not-love parent for the mass media hit squad), and is thrown out of the house.

Kovic spends time in Mexico, which initially seems like Paradise to him; we eventually have the obligatory sex scene, in which a prostitute proves to him that even a paraplegic... well, you get the idea. Kovic falls in love with the woman, because she is the first person to show him real caring. But he sees her with another man, and this locale, too, sours for him.

Once our boy comes back to the States, the film more or less turns entirely into propaganda pabulum for the Democratic left. He goes through a "healing process" of participating in antiwar demonstrations in which every protester is righteous and innocent and sincere and every cop is just itching to dent a few skulls with his truncheon. Then he and a few disabled vet buddies go to the 1972 Republican National Convention and attempt to wheelchair-bulldoze their way onto the stage; it's just scandalous how those nasty evil Republicans throw them out. Finally we cut four years into the future to another National Convention, where everyone is friendly and people congratulate Kovic and they let him speak. He says, "I've come home." Guess which political party we're talking about now?

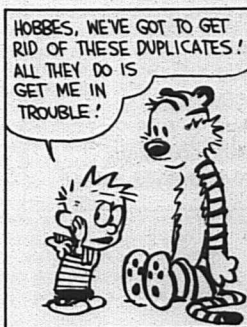
And that's the movie.

Well, it'll probably get bookoo awards anyway. But I doubt that the award ceremonies will show footage from any of the several scenes whose dialogue runs like this:

"F— you!"
"F— you!"
"Yeah? F— you!"
"You f—...!"

What a heartwarming example of American expression. Something tells me we should be glad this guy wasn't born on the National Day of Prayer.

Rating: ☆ ☆ 1/2



EVERYONE THINKS I'M DOING ALL THESE ROTTEN THINGS, WHEN REALLY IT'S A DUPLICATE! I'M BEING FRAMED BY MY OWN DOUBLES!



SPORTS

UB Overpowers Houghton

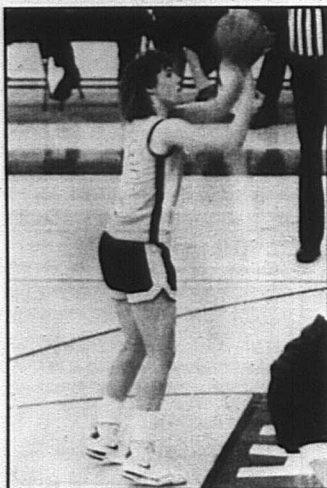
by Dave McMillan



The University of Buffalo Royals outscored the Highlanders 44-18 on their way to a 77-42 triumph Wednesday night.

The Royals opened up the game with an 8-2 run in the first minute-and-a-half. Houghton cut the lead to 18-17 with about eight minutes left in the half, but ended up trailing by nine at halftime.

UB was led by Heidi Steckstor's 20 points, followed by Lynett Bubel with 14, all in the second half. Stacia Dagwell led Houghton with 12 points and Michelle Morris added 11.



MISCELLANEOUS

"Pardon me, but hath any of you perchance seen my wife hiding anywhere?"



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The Houghton Star is a 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 Tuesday, and they should be no longer than two double-spaced pages. The editor reserves the right to edit all contributions.

LOST

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THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGING...

compiled by Kirk Nelson

Social concerns have long been an issue here at Houghton College. In light of the current debate over the nuclear waste dump and the presence of organizations such as Habitat For Humanity which work for social justice, I thought it might be interesting to see how these issues have affected our college previously. In coming issues, a closer look will be taken at the issues of environmental concerns and race at Houghton College.

A Day For Peace

by Gordon H. Finney, editor

circa April 23, 1971

Tomorrow is April 24 and as such marks the commencement of this year's spring peace activities throughout the country. What has motivated these activities?

That the war is widening seems apparent from recent events in Southeast Asia (remember the good-old-days when it was just the Viet Nam War). We have resumed bombing North Viet Nam, we have increased military aid to Cambodia, the invasion of Cambodia is passed but the legacy of the indefinite operations of the South Vietnamese soldiers there still lingers. Laos has been invaded and, as in most other actions, it was American air strength

which made the difference. Americans are beginning to reject the logic of a policy which says it is ending a war in one country by invading two and bombing a third.

None of us can help but be painfully aware of the destruction that this war wreaks on Asian countries, human life, morality, American civil strength and world stability. Continuing in a mistake will not correct that mistake.

Tomorrow is a day for peace. Let us all pray that the method will be the same as the message and that the message will be heard. Peace and reconciliation should be the duties of the Christian in the political sphere.

excerpted from Summer's Quiet Racism

by Bert Baker, 10/3/69

The Negro realizes that he has come a long way toward the achievement of his goals since 1960. The black community now realizes that by applying a constant pressure on the white man and his government he can back the white man up against a wall.

So when the white man has backed up as far as he is willing to go, the Negro protests more vocally, and demonstrates more violently, thereby forcing the white man to give more rights to the Negro. This constantly pushes the white man backward, forward from the Negro's point of view, toward equality.

The Negro realizes very well that by the application of this constant pressure, the white man is going to back right into equality for the Negro, or pull the whole structure of society down on his head at one of the few remaining walls. The Negro does not see the end in view, but he now understands that he is headed in the right direction if there is a continued wise use of this constant pressure.

"Steel Wheels" a poem by Harry Gross ('33)

circa February 28, 1936

You talk to me about the romance of the Railroad

The nation's arteries... the gigantic monsters that help to feed and shelter the nation...

Furniture, autos, hogs,
Cattle, food, milk,
Iron, steel, coal

All going to the Maw that is New York, and I, you say, have a part in this romance...

Yes, I have a part in this, for I go out in the chill November morning when

the North wind romps thru the yards, and the red and green eyes watch

me warily as I pass through the yards, my fingers numb with cold as I

write on the bending paper numbers... NYC 4238, Erie 86956, NH 3425,

boxes, gondolas, hoppers, tanks...

I have a part in this. I stop at a smoky watchman's shack and call up SK

for the latest dope on train 77, and talk with Old Pete, and he again tells

me of the foggy misty morning when his foot slipped as he was coupling

a couple of boxes, and now all day long he sits in his little shack and

reads the paper, stumping out with his sign six times a day when

numbers 6, 8, and 42 come roaring through with well-fed passengers who

help to pay Old Pete \$1.98 a day... This road doesn't give pensions.

I have a part in this. I talk with dirty-mouthed,

drunken railroad cops who couldn't hold jobs down on the worst kind of police force, and who

shoot kids who play on railroad property Yes, and I've seen them line up

bums who snatched a ride on an empty box and then go down the line with

blilies in their hands, clubbing right and left, while the poor wretches

covered with upraised protecting arms, begging for mercy, and the red

blood ran down their rage... I've seen them, the dirty rats...

I pass down the tracks and check the cars... APX 4233... meat... loaded... eastbound

DLX 6624... milk... loaded... eastbound

ERR 6624... butter... loaded... eastbound

and on either side of the tracks are squalid houses where there are dirty, crying, hungry

children, and pinched, worn, and hungry mothers, and weary, hopeless, hungry fathers, looking

for work to earn a few dollars to feed their hungry children... Train 77 comes lumbering

down the track with the flat wheel on the caboose clacking, eastbound with butter and meat

and milk, and had I Samson's strength...

I'd bend down with my muscles corded and grasp those two steel rails that

would lead it away and twist them into a figure eight... and laugh!

I'd pick up that Baldwin locomotive and toes it away, and I'd split that

milk car apart and watch the milk flow over the dirty and sooty yard,

making it white and clean, and I'd yell to all the kids, COME ON AND DRINK!

And I'd rip the butter cars apart And smash to kindling the refrigerators

And all the people would come to eat And the pasty-faced officials would come

And I'd say to them, "What are you sending this food away for when the

people HERE need it so badly?"...

And I'd rub their pasty faces in the pasty mud. You pass by in rushing number six, each window a picture of luxury, and

you see the squalid yards, the smoke, the filth, steel towers, laboring

men, dirty kids... and you close your eyes and murmur, "This is the

romance of the railroad..."

But I walk along the tracks, checking cars and writing numbers, and I see

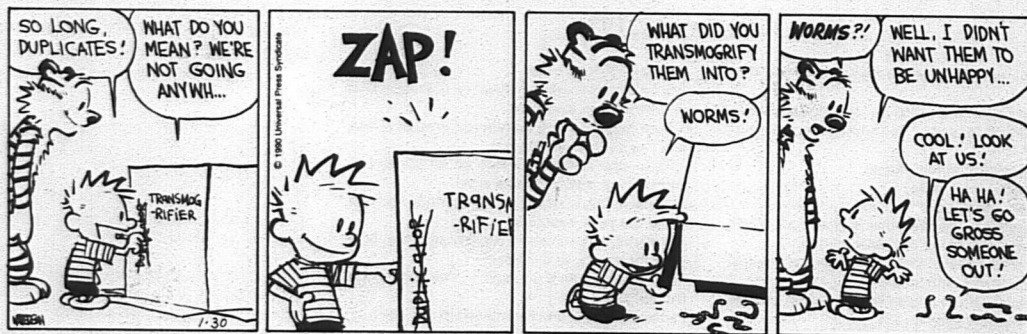
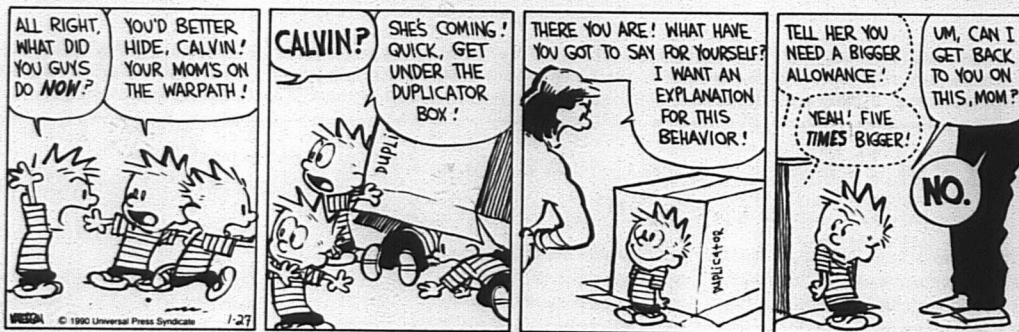
the food on the tracks, and the hungry people... and I say to myself...

"I'm no economist But... here's the food

And... right there the people that need it... Isn't THAT simple enough?"

Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson



Class of '92, it is with pleasure that I have the privilege of announcing to you that we now have an office. This office, which is jointly shared with the other classes, is in the basement of the old Fine-Arts building where the A-center used to be. We, the members of your cabinet, would like you to know that we are here for your convenience to hear your complaints, compliments, and ideas; and to be available if you just want someone to talk to. Please come and see us and let us know how you feel.

The office hours are as follows:

ERIC	Mon. 10:50-11:40; Tues. 12:15-1:00, 2:30-3:30; Wed. 2:05-3:00; Thurs. 12:15-1:00, 2:30-3:30
MATT	Tues. 2:05-5:15; Thurs. 2:05-5:15
KIM	Mon. 4:05-5:15; Wed. 4:05-5:15
JON	Tues. 7:30-9:00; Wed. 8:00-9:00
AMY	Wed. 3:15-4:05; Thurs. 2:05-3:15
KATHRYN	Tues. 3:15-4:05; Thurs. 3:15-4:05
BILL	Mon. 12:30-2:05



Uncle Ledley
Official Star Mascot

Uncle Ledley says:

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Standing Up for Peace CONTEST



Why have some people risked their jobs, their homes, their families and even prison to take a stand for peace? This is *your* chance to find out. The Standing Up for Peace Contest invites you to talk face to face with someone who has refused to fight in war, pay taxes for war, or build weapons for war, and to hear what it's like to take a stand and risk the consequences.

In this contest, you're asked to interview someone who has said *no* to war, and then to express what you think and feel about what you heard by writing something or creating a work of art or music.

The contest is open to young people ages 15-23. The deadline for entries is May 1, 1990.

To enter, send for the Standing Up for Peace Contest Booklet, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Box 271, Nyack, NY 10960, (914) 358-4601.

Standing Up for Peace is a project of the 1990 Celebration of Conscience Committee. Co-sponsors include: CCCO/An Agency for Draft and Military Counseling, Conscience and Military Tax Campaign, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Mennonite Central Committee, Midwest Committee for Military Counseling, National Interreligious Service Board for Conscientious Objectors, National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee, Peace Tax Foundation, War Resisters League.

EDITORIAL

Of Politics and Pentateuchs

by Dave Wheeler



In my two-and-a-half years at Houghton, I have heard much about the high value of the liberal arts education. I believed it all; still do, in fact. The broadening of one's scope to include others' perspectives, the modifications in one's thinking processes, the gradual erosion of fore-closed identities—these are all positive, wonderful aspects of the liberal arts process and hallmarks of maturity.

But just as there are things that go on in the name of Christianity that hardly resemble my definition of Christianity in the least (insert "freedom," "patriotism," or "love" in the place of "Christianity" in the previous sentence if so inclined—they all fit too), there are ideas postulated in the name of "liberal arts" that hardly resemble the liberal arts process. I'm thinking primarily of the presupposition that unless one's thinking doesn't arrive at certain conclusions, one really hasn't thought.

I can think of several instances (the most recent being yesterday) when friends of mine who maintain a "conservative" viewpoint on an issue (political, social, theological—whichever) were accused by some

of being "narrow" and/or "fore-closed." They were said to have simply accepted and incorporated the ideas of their parents, their churches, American society, etc., without thinking through issues themselves.

No doubt several people answer to that description; I wouldn't be so naive as to assume otherwise. But that wasn't the case in these instances. These people had thought through the issues in question, examined the alternatives, and arrived at a conclusion. But since they disagreed with the person or people confronting them, they were accused of "narrowness" by their confronters—as if blindly assenting to the confronters' arguments would have been anything other than narrow.

"Narrowness" charges work, though. They set up your opponent as a straw man, easily knocked over because she's not to be taken seriously—just another intolerant conservative fundamentalist. Simply because she disagrees.

That, say I (for whatever that's worth), is not liberal arts.



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Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson

