

OCP: Lancaster Cancelled
Free Buggy Rides after
1780's Dance to Compensate
pg. 3

Nerf Club members join ROTC to
prepare for "Training Day";
St. Bono's ROTC "peeved"

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FtED:
"Catching on fire with enthusiasm so
people will come for miles to watch you burn"
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THE HOUGHTON STAR

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Faith-Based Rebranding Breeds Debauchery on Campus

BY BILL BUTTE

"This just isn't something we ever imagined would happen," said Sharra Hynes, Vice President of Student Life, in a discussion on the radically changing face of Houghton following the matriculation of the "faith-based" class of 2015. The much-debated move away from "Christian" language in Houghton's marketing materials and the introduction of the new "faith-based" image was a move that, in the words of Brandon Rush, advertisement designer at Houghton, "was intended to bring in lots of students who were looking to give up far more diverse college careers so that they could come to Houghton." The response, it seems, was more than anyone bargained for.

From the first day of freshman orientation, it was clear that things were going to be different this year. "When we were helping move freshmen into Roth," said senior Bobby Woods, RA, "we were shocked to see guys coming in with case upon case of Keystone Light." Other RAs reported having to take down American Pie posters, confiscate cartons of smokes, and, in at least one case, put out bong fires. The Student Life Office, inundated with cries for backup, took an impromptu three-day retreat to discuss the problem and have not

been heard from since, with the exception of Hynes, who allowed a phone interview from an undisclosed location somewhere behind China Star.

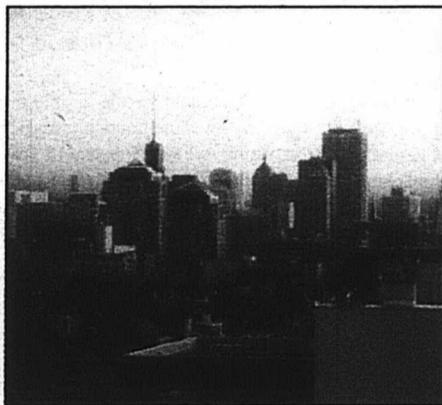
Since the first day of classes, the situation has only gotten worse. Many returning students have boycotted classes, citing unbelievably frequent cursing as the reason. Rick Frito, sophomore, said he was shocked enough when a freshman brought up the concept of evolution as a viable theory in a biology class, "but when he started defending his point with lots of D-words and H-words, I just stopped listening."

The freshmen, however, are wondering what all of the fuss is about. Darien Stevens, freshman, was happy to be interviewed in Java, as she puffed smoothly on a freshly-rolled blunt. "Man, I'm just kind of confused. I've always wanted to come to a faith-based institution, because I have so much faith—in myself, in other people, in a better world, in the rise of Marxism. And here, everyone's just hating on each other. Not cool, bro."

Others have wondered why chapels are so narrow-minded. "I mean, I think Christianity is

Faith-Based cont'd on page 2

Students Blaze Buffalo Trail For Future Generations



BY MISSY SHEBOYGAN

Upon the commencement of the coming fall semester, Off Campus Programs will be sending the first group of students to Buffalo for City Semester. As with all study abroad options offered by Houghton, certain worries arise, as students venture to the world outside our beloved campus so aptly described to be "like nowhere else."

To alleviate student safety concerns, specifically about the frequent and unpredictable "drive-bys," unmarked gang territories, four-lane

highways, pollution-laden city smog, poverty, and the unrestricted use of naughty words (which unabashedly assault the most unsuspecting of virgin ears), Safety and Security has teamed up with Student Life, the Off Campus Programs office, Technology Services, Alumni Relations, the Counseling Center, and CAB in the provision of workshops, lectures, dramatic role-playing sessions, and week-long classes that address such safety concerns. A sampling of these offerings includes "Diversity in the Learning Environment" led by John Smith, senior; "Hear No Evil, Speak No Evil" led by Gabe Jacobsen of Housing; and "What NOT to Wear when Walking Over There" (inspired by the hit TLC television series), an apparel design workshop directed by Dean John Brittain that aims to heighten student awareness of how fashion choices can unintentionally affiliate one with a certain gang or group of hooligans.

As he prepares to settle in Buffalo for the semester, Samuel Jeremiah, junior, expresses his relief, commenting, "When I heard that Buffalo did not adhere to a community covenant and thus is practically crawling with Satan's handiwork of sin and mayhem, I considered withdrawing my application to City Semester. Since the College

Buffalo cont'd on page 2

Keeping With Houghton Tradition:

Campus Center Relocated in "Strategic Move"

BY ALICE HARTFORD

In keeping with the recent trend of campus renovations, last week's Encounter Day was the perfect opportunity to announce the transplant of the Campus Center to the middle of the quad. According to Mac Leonard, head construction manager who has worked with Houghton before, the building was raised up and set onto rows of cinderblocks and lifted over the "80-some" yards of grass, sidewalks, and flowerbeds to the center of the quad.

If this building movement sounds familiar, you are right.

"Everyone wants to be part of a tradition. One of Houghton's little quirks was the grand move of Fancher to its current location by lifting it up and setting it atop several cinderblocks. And we've always found that the very very best traditions to start are the ones that spawn from distinctive events in our community, so that's what we've done here," said President Mullen, who, at the Encounter Day ceremony, donned a hardhat and made the first honorary forklift hoist.

"This is actually a very strategic move," said Elaine Tooley, Director of Marketing and Communications. "We have so many valuable traditions at Houghton that really define us and make our community so distinct from other schools."

"From what I've been told by Elaine and the folks over in Advancement, the shift of the students' Campus Center to the center of the quad is a symbol of how students are at the center of all we do at Houghton College," said Mullen.

Several students seemed concerned that this move is "pointless" and "leaves a freakin' huge plot of land between Gillette and Chamberlain."

"This move is so pointless. That giant gap? It just leaves a freakin' huge plot of land between Gillette and Chamberlain," said Sara Ford, junior.

There have also been some students who have praised the Campus Center move, though.

"Yeah, this is going to be great! Now, when I oversleep, I can just get up off my couch in the Van Dyk Lounge and run to class in less than 20 seconds. It's already proven successful twice this week for my Tuesday/Thursday 3M class," said Tamara Moore, freshman.

Thus far, the only other expression of this new tradition is set to occur Fall 2011, during which time the Luckey building will be lifted up and have its foundation raised by two stories, then set back down, making it about 20 feet higher than its current state.

"No. There's no symbolism in that. Why do you ask? It's just quirky," said Tooley.

"Some students and alumni have said that putting Luckey on a pedestal is just a silly idea and frankly, I agree," said Dan Noyes, Director of Alumni Relations. "Lifting up Fancher makes more

Campus Center cont'd on page 2

Engaging the World

Al Qaeda Faces Recruiting Shortfall, Rebrands

BY ALBERT AKRON

As America's War on Terror continues in the Middle East, Al Qaeda has struggled to meet recruitment quotas in recent months. "You'd be surprised how hard it is to get young Muslim men to step up and die fighting the American Satan; virgins in the afterlife just don't have the same recruiting power as they used to," said Muhammad Abdulla Muhammad, head of recruitment for Al Qaeda in Afghanistan. But Muhammad and others have recently been advocating a proposal they believe will boost the enrollment, as well as the image, of the notorious terrorist network.

"In the past Al Qaeda has been known as an Islamic Terrorist organization, because that is what we are," explained Muhammad. Islam, however, has received a bad name of late, "thanks to the all-pervasive Western media," which studies show hampers the recruitment process. One of the suggestions made by Muhammad is to rebrand Al Qaeda as a "faith-based terrorist organization." According to Muhammad, "the hope is that this will make Al Qaeda attractive to those who have a deep-seeded hatred toward the West, but also have certain negative, Western-influenced

impressions about Islam, like that praying toward Mecca five times a day puts unnecessary strain on the knees. The message Al Qaeda hopes to send is that you can blow things up even if you care about other things too, like your knees."

Others, however, are not too happy about the possible change. "I'd rather be strapped to a table, blindfolded, and have pork shoved down my throat," said one foot-soldier who requested anonymity due to the fact that "speaking out on these issues sometimes ends with having your tongue cut out with a dull knife."

"Those who oppose the rebranding of Al Qaeda are clearly over-reacting," said Muhammad, while sawing a two-by-four with a steak knife. "We're still going to mercilessly blow up buildings and kill people, make no mistake, but that doesn't mean we have to let our image suffer for it."

Still, some fear rebranding would just be the first step toward liberalizing the organization. "Before you know it," opined one veteran terrorist, "we'll be sneaking beer into our caves and our women will be walking around in low-cut burkas thinking about maybe, one day, possibly fighting for rights."

Some even fear there is an effort to move the organization away from its

strong commitment to terrorism and instead move more toward freedom fighting. "Freedom fighters have their place," said the previously mentioned anonymous fighter, "but we're not freedom fighters. As terrorists, we are able to better focus our efforts on conducting the most psychologically and physically horrific attacks as possible. As freedom fighters, I'm afraid we might lose focus on that and start worrying about things like providing nominal social services to our poor Muslim brothers in order to boost our political standing."

Muhammad would prefer to neither deny nor confirm such allegations, saying only, "We will never lose our obsession with making streets run red with blood. As long as you're a person of faith who shares in this obsession, Al Qaeda will take you, no questions asked."

Certain Al Qaeda members think this statement is proof that the next item on the agenda is picking up America's recently discarding "Don't Ask Don't Tell Policy" regarding homosexuals in service.

"I don't know of anyone who has suggested this," replied Muhammad, before adding, "but recruitment is really low. So, you know, maybe it wouldn't be the worst thing."

Faith-Based cont'd from page 1

cool and all," said Jay Karpinski, freshman, "but what about Mohammed and Buddha? I consider myself very religious—I've been a Hasidic Mormon of the Taoist Path for as long as I can remember. But so far, Houghton is all about just one faith. Lame."

It is not clear how Houghton will change in light of these recent happenings, but it is clear that nothing will be unaffected. From the addition of a "Secular Culture Diversity Specialist" to CAB following the disastrous confusion over last month's "Fairy Friday Party"—a Disney-themed event that was protested by the now-largely-homosexual Shen Block—to the purchasing of Dodge Vipers for the Safety and Security Office to aid in the increasing number of high-speed chases up Centerville, there is no question that Houghton will be a different place by the end of the year.

Perhaps the words of an anonymous junior sum up the situation best: "I just want it to go back to being a nice, quiet Christian place like it always was. Now that we actually have worldly people here, it just feels so much less authentic." ★

Buffalo cont'd from page 1

has made these preparatory sessions available, though, I have felt much more at ease. I fully trust that Houghton will thoroughly equip me and the other students in City Semester for life off campus."

Truly, the students of Houghton College who will be so courageously trailblazing City Semester's beginning deserve the whole campus's respect, admiration, awe, and prayer support. ★

Campus Center cont'd from page 1

sense. We could create a tradition where we do some funky nonsensical renovation to Fancher every 15 years or so, like add a wrap-around porch or a 'Welcome Wall' with action shots of dynamic life at Houghton, right in the middle of the foyer."

According to Tooley, there is no immediate concern that the Campus Center will sink further into the moist ground on the quad.

"From what I was told, moving the Campus Center to the quad will really cut down on the number of flooding problems caused by students trampling it when it's been raining, destroying the quad," said Zach Adams, SGA president. "Oh wait, that was from our first meeting. No, no. What I meant was that this is actually a very strategic move. We have so many valuable traditions at Houghton that really define us and make our community so distinct from other schools." ★

The World OUT There

BY JAMES BATAVIA

Cuba Mayor Announces Shift to Totalitarian Government

Following the lead of Cuba's namesake from the South, the mayor of Cuba, New York, announced Wednesday that she will turn the city into a totalitarian dictatorship and named herself as the first Prime Minister of Cuba. When asked about the rationale for the change, mayor Tara Bynes said "I find capitalism repugnant. It is filthy, it is gross, it is alienating because it causes war, hypocrisy, and corruption." Surrounding towns Rushford and Olean immediately announced they would impose an embargo on Cuba, denying the exportation of its most profitable products including and limited to cheese. Bynes' announcement commenced a flurry of refugees seeking asylum to cross Cuba Lake in canoes, rafts, and cardboard boxes. However, refugees were disappointed to find they were still in Cuba when they reached the other side of the lake.

Vigorous Debate Marks Oramel Town Council Meeting

The Oramel town council debated Wednesday to reduce the speed limit on Main Street from 45 mph to 40 mph. Councilmember John Johnson commented that "the 45 mph speed limit poses a serious threat to the bustling hub of downtown Oramel. It had to change if we want our economic activity to flourish." DeLores McLaughlin, who owns a cafe in downtown Oramel, added, "when people drive 45 on Main Street, they sometimes don't even realize they're going through a town. If they have to drive 40 instead, they'd have time to look around and see the vibrant society that they otherwise would have missed." The entire voting population of Oramel was in attendance at the town council meeting leading to some vigorous debate. The resolution passed 3-2.

Suicide Pact Leads to Deer-Related Phenomenon

A strange event last Wednesday has led to what scientists have characterized as a "mass suicide of the Letchworth deer population." Two deer, described as a buck and a doe, simultaneously jumped off a bridge, over the falls in what seems to have been a suicide pact. As a result of the suicide pact, hundreds of deer that lived in the park have followed the fateful couple and jumped over the falls. One witness, a local Chestnut-sided Warbler, commented, "chirp chirp chirp, chirp chirp, chirp chirp chirp." Professor Eli Shupak, ornithology, translated the quote: "It's sad, isn't it? We really miss the deer out here. They really added a sense of coziness to the forest." Scientists have yet to figure out the rationale for the initial suicide pact, but anonymous sources have stated that it may have revolved around a "Romeo and Juliet-type relationship" between the buck and the doe.



College Announces 2050 Developmental Goals

BY RONNI RICHMOND

Last week, the Houghton College Board of Trustees released the new "2050 Development Goals." The list of eight goals is set to be successfully completed by the year 2050. The list was compiled after a careful study of goals made by other Christian liberal arts colleges around the country. Each item on the list addresses a current grievous problem in the college or surrounding community and provides an achievable, though challenging, goal to aim for by 2050.

Goal One: Increase student body to 1300. This might not seem like a very significant or difficult goal to reach, but one must keep in mind the "2012 Development Goals," which state that the College will aim to eliminate foreign language, Bible, and religion departments by the year 2012. The institution is well on its way to fulfilling this goal, and making up for the lost students by 2050 might prove quite a daunting task.

Goal Two: Eliminate half of the poverty in Allegany County. Each fall, as Houghton students drag van loads of stuff to their dorm rooms, they are reminded of the needs of the greater community of Allegany County. The school does not really know exactly which half of the poverty in the county the goal refers to,

but they have the next 39 years to figure that out.

Goal Three: Community Segway program. By 2050 the last bicycle of the community bike program is expected to go out of service. Instead of merely replacing the program with fresh or recently refurbished bicycles, the Board of Trustees urges the College to take a more "futuristic" approach with a Community Segway program instead.

Goal Four: Eliminate SGA. This goal may prove to be the most contested and difficult to accomplish, but board members hope to eliminate the time wasted by students involved with SGA over "issues that don't really matter that much," as the original document makes clear. "We strongly believe that salvation is free to all, but we worry that the SGA is proving to be a stumbling block to many students."

Goal Five: Come up with a better name than "2050 Development Goals." Board members recognize that the current name of the project is lackluster and less than inspiring, but it was the best they could come up with. Rejected ideas included "The Big To-Do List" and "Super Awesome Things to Change."

Goal Six: Increase student satisfaction in food service to 50%. No one really knows how this goal is to be achieved. Speculation of different food service providers in the future only provides a hollow hope. Honestly, no matter how good the food is, college students will find something to whine about.

Goal Seven: Reduce tuition to \$1,000,000 per year. This goal required some very delicate explaining by the board, but upon examination, makes perfect sense. Through a combination of rising education costs and inflation, the figure of \$1m will actually constitute a net reduction in tuition. Even though it appears on paper that students will be paying over 30 times more than current tuition rates, all other economic factors must also be considered.

Goal Eight: Zero carbon footprint. This final goal is to make Houghton have no negative environmental impact whatsoever by 2050. Any energy intake must have no effect on the environment (such as solar power), or if there is any effect, it must be offset by planting the appropriate number of trees or some other such measure. One idea thought up by a graduating senior is the construction of a giant hamster wheel where part of the FYI program will have first-year students generating energy for the college; another idea is the abandoning our Wesleyan roots for the more environmentally friendly Amish tradition.

"I know it is a long way off," says one enthusiastic aging board member, "but we need to be realistic about these things. They will take time, but I bet this vision is the right place to start, and future board members will have them all taken care of in the next 40 years."

Bloodless Coup d'État Befalls SGA Office, Adams Ousted

BY IRENE DECATUR

The SGA office was thrown into a tussle Wednesday as newly elected student body president Garrett Fitzsimmons led some college senators and other students in a bloodless coup d'état to overthrow Zach Adams. While Fitzsimmons' term was not scheduled to begin until the fall of 2011, he felt as though Adams' leadership did not warrant his finishing out his term of office.

According to bystanders, at around 3 p.m. Adams and Fitzsimmons began arguing vehemently. No one knows for sure what was the cause of this argument but one student overheard Fitzsimmons yell, "you don't even know how much the SGA by-laws mean to the student body!" Adams then responded, "I helped amend them twice. Don't forget who you're talking to. I am Houghton!"

At this, Fitzsimmons flung his copy of the by-laws at Adams and flipped over the desk. Meanwhile, his gang of agitated compatriots stormed the office, locking the doors behind them. At approximately 4 p.m., Fitzsimmons sent out a campus wide e-mail informing the student body that he would assume the office of the presidency, and Adams would be "heretofore banned from campus."

When asked why he acted in this way, Fitzsimmons stated, "I just felt that Zach didn't have the necessary respect for the office of student body President and the students that he is supposed to represent. In my opinion, the ideal presidency is embodied in the great Portuguese leader Francisco

Franco who went by the title *Caudillo de Espana, por la gracia de Dios*, which means leader of Portugal by the grace of God. He saved his people from inept leadership, and that is what I am attempting to do."

When confronted with the fact that Franco was actually the leader of Spain and a Fascist dictator, Fitzsimmons added, "You know what I mean."

While Vice President of Student Life Sharra Hynes declined to comment as she was still in a state of shock, President Shirley Mullen stated that "Zach was a good leader, and he always represented the administration well to the student body. He will be missed. But Garrett will bring some much needed discipline to the Student Government Association, and I look forward to working with him."

Student reaction has been mixed. When asked what he thought about Fitzsimmons replacing Adams, one student—who asked to remain anonymous—responded, "I've never heard of either of them. But I've also never heard of SGA doing anything besides doughnut day so I guess it doesn't really matter who the president is." Another student responded, "Garrett always seemed pretty cool, and being president doesn't really involve doing much so I'm sure he'll do a great job."

It will now be the new administration's goal to bring peace to a conflict-ridden campus. While this is the second coup d'état in Houghton SGA history, it is the first that was accomplished without bloodshed. ★

Houghton Joins Liberty, Bob Jones to Create Holy Trinity Conference

BY SID TOPEKA

After the controversy surrounding Houghton's consideration of joining the Empire 8 conference, which would have involved playing games on Sundays, the Division III Exploration and Transition Team decided that it needed to move in a different direction. Athletic Director Skip Lord commented that "the legitimate concerns of students, faculty, and alumni about altering the Sunday Observance Policy has led us to consider more godly options as we continue in this process."

On Monday, the committee announced that it had come to a decision. Effective July 1, Houghton will band together with Bob Jones University and Liberty University to create the Holy Trinity conference. Vice President of Student Life Sharra Hynes, a member of the committee, stated that "these two illustrious universities are the only ones we could find that adhere to the Biblical guidelines we sought."

The stated purpose of the Holy Trinity conference is to "glorify God through athletics and to wage an athletic holy war against all infidel institutions including state schools, liberal elite institutions such as the Ivy League, and any schools that accept people other than those chosen by God."

The switch to NCAA Division III as part of the Holy Trinity conference will involve some changes to Houghton's athletic program. First, chaplains will be provided for each team with the responsibility of praying before, during and after practices and games. Dean Brittain stated that "this will remind the athletes who we are playing for and the

evils we are fighting against."

Second, there will be some significant changes to athletic uniforms. With the concerns that the shorts worn by men's athletic teams are "causing women to stumble," pants will now be a part of all men's athletic uniforms. This includes soccer, basketball, track and field, and cross-country, as well as any other men's sports teams that have been forgotten. The uniforms for all women's teams will now be denim jumpers. Officials at all the universities involved in the Holy Trinity conference have assured students and alumni that the jumpers will always be at a modest length, with the hem at least six inches below the knee.

Student body president Zach Adams added, "I think this is the best situation for everyone. Our athletic department is bolstered by upgrading to NCAA Division III, and we remain pure and determined in our Christian faith."

The Athletic Department will now begin the process of planning schedules for each team. So far no school has expressed any interest in playing any of the teams in the Holy Trinity conference. According to Hynes, "they're just scared of playing teams with an army of angels at their disposal." ★



Opposing Views on Saturday's Musical Guests

The band was "pure dreck"

BY FRANK JONES

The much-anticipated Friday night concert by the up-and-coming Christian punk/worship fusion band, WeGoToChurchAFewMilesDownTheRoad, was the scene of a great revelation for me; the Wesley Chapel stage has some really nice steps. You may be wondering why I spent my Friday evening appreciating aspects of the chapel stage, and the reason is simply that the stage itself was far more interesting than what was happening on it.

So what, you may ask, was so terrible about Friday's concert? What in the world could have been so bad that some scuffed wood would have held more interest for me? The answer, in a nutshell, is everything. If they'd stopped after their first half-baked, sloppy, harmonically bankrupt track, I would have at least expressed my condolences to them for being such a shoddy outfit, and perhaps even waved at them as they drove away in Mom's minivan, hungrily digging into their pre-packed Hulk lunchboxes. But the torture was endless. Set after set of pure dreck.

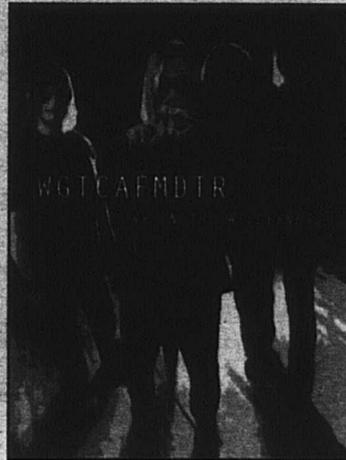


Photo courtesy of www.goodmusic7.com

Even though WGTCAFMDTR were brought in, so I'm told, on the recommendation of Kevin Jackson, Assistant Professor of Microphones, I'm surprised the sustainability committee didn't immediately rule against the decision on grounds of unnecessary air pollution. Every off-kilter chord, every misjudged note, every little-melodic-line-that-couldn't was like a fresh coat of smog on my eardrums.

I was relieved when the band took a break in the middle of the show to pull out

an acoustic guitar and pluck softly while showing slides of the Pattersons, friends of the lead singer who are missionaries in Lima, Ohio. But unfortunately, guilt-tripping the audience into giving up some cash to help the Pattersons buy a third vehicle to further their work took much less time than I had anticipated, and the aural assault was back in full swing before I had even the slightest moment to recover.

All in all, the evening was a complete waste. I wish there was something good I could say - I really do. But I can't. Coming out of that concert, I felt about as blessed as Judas, post-intestinal rupture. And that's pushing it.

These guys were really "real"

BY PETER SELLER

Friday night's concert by WeGoToChurchAFewMilesDownTheRoad was everything I had hoped for, and more. From the moment I heard that they would be here, I used their band picture as my desktop background, and started a "countdown to concert" timer in Google Apps. I even started structuring my daily Bible study around their songs. I began to wonder if I had committed the sin of idolatry, but those fears were allayed as soon as I heard them sing, and I knew

that Jesus was super among them.

It's always a privilege to hear a band that not only sets my toes-a-tappin', but sets my heart-a-praisin' as well! These guys had some really sweet guitar riffs, and lots of driving rhythms. They were just so passionate and real about what they were doing. They clearly had a lot of stuff in their past, because they all had tattoos, and it was also clear that they had met Christ in a big way. It just came through their music. It was joyful, it was loud, and it was authentic.

I also was really moved by the time they put into evangelism. They have these friends in Ohio that they support, and it was just so moving for them to take the time out of their concert to raise support for this ministry. I don't know what the ministry is, but it seems really real.

I got the chance to talk with Kevin Jackson afterwards, who met the band at a skate park and emo salon in Detroit, and he said that they were "basically above criticism, since they are like brothers in Christ to me." I completely agree, and felt so blessed to be a part of this head-banging time of just surrendering to God.

Prayer Interrupts Soccer Game



Photo courtesy of Coach Walsh

BY TRACY NOLES

As spring dawns anew on Houghton's campus and graduation approaches, students might be re-thinking the alignment of their priorities. Houghton's men's varsity soccer team, however, believes that they have their priorities set straight.

Which is why, at the team's last away game last week, the players didn't express disappointment at their loss. The Highlanders, with 20 minutes to go in the second half and a score of 6-5 Houghton, formed an impromptu prayer circle in the center of the field.

"When you need to pray - when you need to reconnect as a team - it doesn't matter where the ball is or what the score is. Prayer comes first," said senior Brett Langston, captain.

During play, two of the players knelt in the center of the field and began to pray together. The rest of the team quickly followed, until all 11 players formed a prayer circle at midfield.

The session lasted for approximately

14 minutes before the Highlanders returned to play. By that time, the score was 19-6, and the Highlanders scored no goals in the final six minutes. However, the players insist that the opportunity for ministry to the opposing team during that game made up for any loss.

Towards the end of the prayer session, the team spontaneously broke out into a small worship service, singing the songs "Lord I Lift Your Name on High" and "God of Concrete, God of Steel."

Though the game was lost, the captain insists on focusing on the positive growth of the players during both the game and the season. "Jesus is the only explanation for a team of guys so unified and filled with so much Spirit, and I will cherish this rich memory I have with this team for the rest of my life," said Langston.

As the Highlanders soccer season comes to a close, one thing is for certain: players, fans, and chapel deacons alike have enjoyed and "cherished" the "success" of a great game. ★

Don't miss this week's OCG Crafternoon Event...

Gettin' Kitten Mitten Knittin' and Babysittin'!

Facilitated by traveling cat enthusiast group "Feline Fashionistas," number one in kitty couture for the Allegany County region.

No knitting experience? No problem!
We've got you covered:



Yarn and needles provided - We'll make sure your pet's paws are clad in only the finest, earth-loving alpaca wool! With a variety of colors to choose from, you'll have no problem finding the purrfect complement to Mister Scamper's calico coat!

Can't find a sitter for Friday night? Babysitting provided! (And, baby gloves make great kitten mittens! If you'd like to donate your infant's outerwear for the Feline Fashionistas' cause, we'll have a box available at the door.)

Come for food, fellowship, and some plain ol' feline fun!

The Feline Fashionistas' are returning next month for "Put A Bonnet On It: Vintage Headwear For Classy Cats"

The 7 Words You CAN Say At Houghton



PHOTO BY KRIS HOTTLINE

BY CRYSTAL NELSON

Chris Hartline's article entitled "The 7 Words You Can't Say at Houghton" was malarkey and a bogus, bush-league shot at a great institution. As President Mullen pointed out in her February 4 chapel address, his emphasis on the words we can't say at Houghton fails to account for the words we CAN say at Houghton. These words include: chastity, honesty, Houghton, safe-spaces, John, sobriety, Wesley, Sierra Leone, quad, and scholarship. I know that's more than 7, but there's just so many. These words—the ones we CAN say at Houghton—should be our focus, not Hartline's egotistical rant about everything we can't do as students.

Houghton has erected a community where our purity as Christians can remain intact. We don't have to worry about the normal pressures that are part of the secular world. At other colleges, girls are constantly pressured to have sex, and all are constantly faced with sexual innuendo.

At Houghton, instead of having to worry about "owing" my date for dinner, my boyfriend and I can be happy just going on a walk near the field of dreams. A nice, slow walk around the field of dreams is the perfect climax to a perfect date.

Chastity is one of the most important virtues a woman can enjoy. Virginity is like a fragile rose; take care of it and it will allow you to blossom into a beautiful flower, neglect it and you will wither on the vine. Nothing could compare to the ecstasy I felt when my boyfriend gave me my promise ring. There is nothing like those soft, tender caresses of our fingers intertwined, his firm grip as he massages my shoulders or his happy shudder as I rub his head. None of it, however, involves sacrificing my chastity. Furthermore, caring friends have stayed on top of me about maintaining my purity so that I can save myself for marriage. It is a hard and rigid task, but the actions of friends and defenses that Houghton has erected against sexual impurity have penetrated my soul

and shown me the path towards becoming a beautiful flower.

Houghton is also an institution that has safe-spaces where those who live a different lifestyle can be comfortable and free

How can Hartline be so critical of a place where complete sanctification is more likely than any place on Earth?

from harm. At other schools, homosexuals are free to flaunt their sexuality and take an "in-your-face" attitude toward their agenda. Once, while I was in New York City, I witnessed a "Gay Pride Parade" and am still scarred from that experience. I am not homophobic, but this is not the type of event we want at Houghton. Here, sexuality is such a distant concern that homosexuals actually forget that they're gay unless they are in one of the safe-spaces. This allows them to live their lives in a normal fashion away from social pressures. It also protects other students from the immoral and worldly behavior that they would otherwise be intent on practicing and preaching.

I have always appreciated Houghton's background as a Wesleyan institution and the teachings of John Wesley. My favorite

quote by Wesley is "My ground is the Bible. Yea, I am a Bible-bigot. I follow it in all things both great and small." How can Hartline be so critical of a place where complete sanctification is more likely than any place on Earth? Studies have shown that more Houghton graduates are completely sanctified than those at any other institution in the world.

Wesley's teachings have supported my Biblically-based opinions that homosexuality is an abomination, non-believers are destined for eternal damnation, and women should be subservient to men. At other schools, an organization like the Domestic Divas would not be allowed to exist (mostly because it's incredibly sexist) but at Houghton, that's not the case. At Houghton, sexism is cool and Godly, and that's the way it should be. As a woman, I seek in all things to be subservient to men because that's what John Wesley taught, that's what the Bible taught, and it's just the right thing to do.

Overall, Hartline's article is simply off-base. I will be more prepared for a career in the "real world" because I have been untouched by the wily hands of immorality. He can have all the booze, tobacco and sex he wants, but I'll be confident in the fact that I'll be living the life that God intended for me, purity and innocence intact.

Crystal is a senior Family Studies minor and a friend of the Opinions Editor

The Antepenultimate Word

If You Make Any Decisions Ever You Are a Dirty Conformist



PHOTO BY ELISA SHEARER

BY REBECCA CUMMINGS

I've noticed a disturbing trend at Houghton - students (and sometimes professors) go around making decisions willy nilly, with not a trace of debilitating indecision about them - clearly denying their individuality and being completely sucked into social norms. We as a campus need to be asking questions about everything we do, taking into consideration every one of our options, no matter how much it delays our actual existing. If we place practicality and action before eternal deliberation, we will lose our identity as people and slip into the vast grey pool of conforming Western American Protestant WASP White Caucasian Christians. Sure, we could focus on doing beneficial things for others, but do we sacrifice our individuality for the petty and worldly reason of actually getting something done? No. No we do not.

If we are not questioning every single decision we make, we are living a false existence with false actions, borne

of our subconscious desire to conform to those around us. If you're not freaking out about every decision, from the church you attend to which bathroom stall you go into, you're basically at the same level of existence as some sort of herd animal. And do we want to be herd animals? No we don't.

The music you listen to, the clothes you wear, the food you eat - all must be painstakingly deliberated or your identity is moot. When you buy plasticware, are you actually thinking about your decision and looking deep within yourself to discern your true desires, or are you blindly conforming to a socially acceptable plasticware purchase? Are your plastic forks and spoons a shameful badge of your need to be accepted by others, or are they a banner of your power to exercise your own opinions? This is just a guess, but they're probably a shameful badge.

And don't give me the sad, overused excuse that sometimes people "just like the same thing." That is a logical fallacy. If your favorite flavor of ice cream is mint chocolate chip, do you think that that just "happens" to be your roommate's favorite flavor too? No - like most of your (but not my) decisions, this is probably just another manifestation of your subconscious desire to blindly conform to society. The only way to escape this herd mentality is by constantly being in a state of paralyzing indecision about every single one of your opinions and preferences.

And in our very questioning, we must not conform. Everyone questions the Bible and modern Christian Theology - we can start there, but we can't stop, or else that would be mindlessly conforming to other's attempts to not mindlessly conform. Short hair or long hair? Hymns or CCM? Creamy or crunchy? These things are extremely important, and you are not

actually being true to your own identity unless you thoughtfully and carefully consider them in a spirit of crippling self-consciousness.

Elisa is a junior Psychology and English major

HOW OFTEN DO YOU ANSWER THE ONLINE POLL QUESTION?

0%	50%	0%	50%
Every Week	Every once in a while	When it catches my eye	Never

Out of 2 votes

PLEASE check out the NEW POLL at www.houghtonstar.com

From the Editor's Desk

Houghton's Unrealistic Estrogen-Filled Farce



PHOTO BY ELISA SHEARER

BY LEVI BRELSFORD

Intelligent, attractive, interesting, enthusiastic, groomed, compassionate, good cooks. What do these seven words have in common? They are all words that describe Houghton women. There is an obvious benefit to attending a college full of attractive, intelligent women, but there is a definite drawback as well. Is Houghton's female population adequately preparing students for the less-than-exemplary women they will meet in the real world?

Will the average female one meets in the workplace be a fit, groomed, pure and modest woman? No! The selection of women Houghton offers is uniformly good-looking, and this is an entirely unrealistic representation of the aver-

age female. The www.houghton.edu banners show happy and unnaturally attractive women - while this is a good representation of Houghton students, it is definitely not what men are going to see when they go into the workplace.

It is understandable why the administration would consider a campus full of beautiful women to be desirable, but these ideals are what hurts men when they leave campus and discover that, while the average Houghton woman is an 8, the average "outside" woman is more like a 5.

Another problem with the women on Houghton's campus is that they are abnormally interesting and intelligent. Where else in the world are Houghton students going to find women who are at once athletes, good students, and active in service opportunities and campus clubs? The soccer-playing biology major who wants to be a doctor and helps plan all of the CAB events is simply not a good example of

the very average and zeal-less women the Houghton student will encounter in the workplace. If Houghton students expect every woman they meet to be independent, involved women with an enthusiasm for life and a commitment

to her community, they're going to be severely shocked when they leave campus.

Houghton's selection of women is too ideal to prepare anyone for the real world - students are given idealistic and fantastical expectations, which will ultimately cripple them when they venture out into the workplace. The student's expectations are raised so high that he might consider graduation without first finding a

wife for himself, thinking that his options after school will be just as high-quality and plentiful as Houghton offers. How disoriented and disappointed will the Houghton student be when he discovers that Houghton is not like the rest of the world, as we all assume and

expect it to be.

If the administration wants the Houghton experience to truly prepare its students for the real world, we need to completely revamp the selection of women on campus.

If an average, nonfabulous looking woman approaches a Houghton student at the water cooler, will he know how to respond? If his new, non-Houghton girlfriend doesn't know the difference between John Wesley and Martin Luther, if she can't discuss micro-economics in the context of developing countries, if she isn't passionate about fixing the entire US education system - will the Houghton male know how to react? Houghton is not giving its students the valuable experience of interacting with women who aren't brilliant and attractive. This is just another aspect of Houghton's isolated community that will literally cripple its students, causing them to collapse in shock and horror upon leaving campus.

Levi is a junior Political Science major and an extremely negative person

Houghton is not giving its students the opportunity to interact with women who aren't brilliant and attractive

Letters to the Editor

Send to

houghtonstar@gmail.com

Dear Editor,

While at dinner on Friday I overheard a student who had just finished reading the Star say, "I can't believe this Chris Hartline. If I see him I'm just going to smack him." I just wanted to voice my support for Chris and the fantastic work that he does for the Star. While it is true that our opinions are very similar and so it makes sense that I would agree with him on many things--last weekend we went for a walk on the path behind Roth and in the process burned a copy of the community covenant together while laughing hysterically--the criticism he has endured is simply unfair. Everything he has written has been logically flawless and spiced with a brilliant wit never before experienced at Houghton. Unfortunately, like many great thinkers--such as Galileo Galilei and Aristotle--Chris has been ostracized and persecuted for his views which I know will soon be proven correct. It's a shame that students, faculty and administration alike cannot appreciate the gift they have been

given in the form of Chris Hartline. He's like an intellectual god.

-Kris Hotline, Class of 2012

Dear Editor,

I am truly and deeply saddened by the recent articles I have been reading in the Houghton Star. Recently, I have noticed the Star becoming more and more controversial in the issues it chooses to address. I must say, I find this deeply disturbing. I think anyone of even moderate intellectual prowess and solid Christian faith could see that a publication that chooses to look at both sides of an issue fails to understand that Jesus took only one side: the side of Truth. If the Star considers itself to be an accurate representation of Christian values and morals, then it must stop the propagation of lies, relativism, and liberal dissention.

I think we can all agree that when Jesus gave such mandates as "turn the other cheek," "pray for your enemies," and "judge not that you might not be judged," he was talking to sinners and Pharisees. What should we Christians have to do with such people?

Additionally, I would like to point out that Monica Sandreczki, the Editor-in-Chief, is a woman. If the Star wants to keep pretending to speak for other Christians, perhaps it should consider a change of management along more Biblical outlines. If Paul would not permit a woman to be heard in church, how can we allow one to be in charge of our news source, which should be,

as Jesus was, a source of Truth?

In conclusion, I have to say that I have finally had about enough of Houghton's fallen Star. I hope that those in management will yield to the conviction of the Holy Spirit and

change their ways, before it's too late - if it knows what's good for it.

-Stanley Naudlehauser, Professor of Biblical Exegesis and Journalist Integrity

Happy April Fool's Day From the Fools on the Hill

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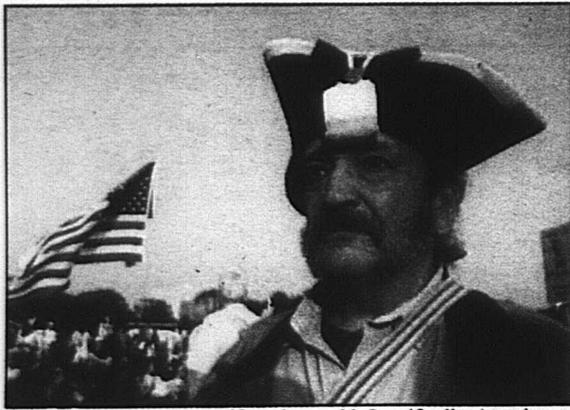
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America; my gift to the world. Specifically, Americans. Specifically, Tea Partiers.



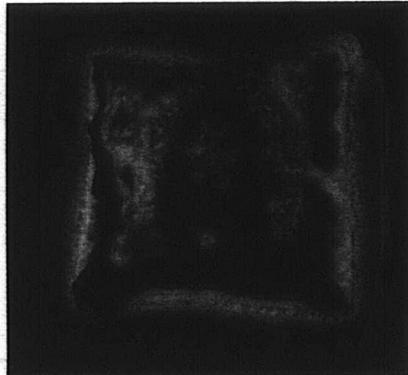
Johnny Depp; Perhaps my finest rendering of symmetry and aesthetic excellence in a male to date.

ARTIST of the WEEK

A note from the artist:

I am an artist of many disciplines. I have to be...the universe is my canvas after all. I have mastered the written word, architecture (Wesley Chapel), subversive street art, performance art, nature, and even the weather, among other things. Some of my favorite artists are Michelangelo, Rembrandt, Leonardo Da Vinci, Andres Serrano, Banksy and of course, Thomas Kinkade (pictured on the right). I see beauty all around me, and really see Myself in nature, and I just want to convey that through my art.

GOD



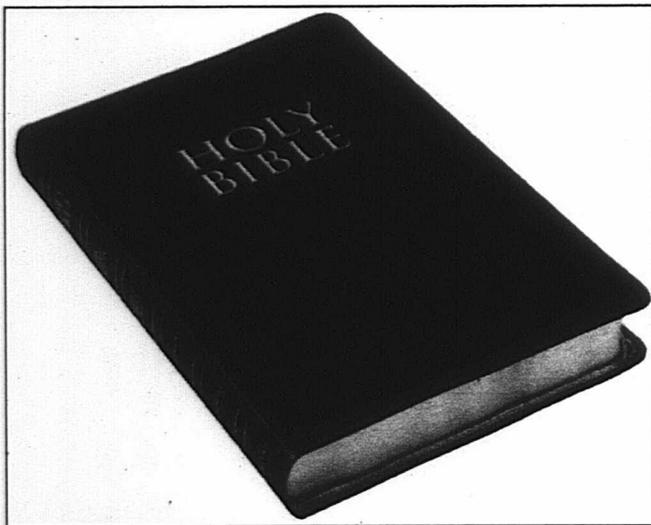
Self Portrait, Kraft cheese, Wonder Bread; Sometimes I like to use unconventional materials.



Thomas Kinkade; Even I am inspired by his work.

Word Search:

Find Your Favorite Justin Bieber Songs!



The Holy Bible; You've probably heard of it, because it's the top-selling work of print in the world. You may also have heard it called by other names, such as "Scripture," "My Word," and "The Sword of the Spirit."

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Last week's winner was Tara McLuckie! Come by the Star Office to claim your prize!

PRIZE: Ned Nickerson 'n' the Star*Gazers album!

To win a prize, bring your finished word search to the Star office clearly marked with FULL NAME.

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Baby | Love Me | Never Say Never |
| Girlfriend | Favorite Girl | One Less Lonely Girl |
| Eenie Meenie | U Smile | One Time |
| Kiss n Tell | Heartache | |