

THE HOUGHTON STAR

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF HOUGHTON COLLEGE

Volume 100, Issue 14

March 17, 2005

NEWS in Brief

by D. ELLIOTT TAIT
Editor-in-Chief

IMing and text-messaging said to improve formal writing ability

After the most comprehensive revision in its 80 year history, the new SAT was revealed to High School students all over the country last Saturday. Among the new sections of the 2400 point test is a 25-minute, two-page essay worth a possible 800 points. Yet when the new essay section was announced, parents raised worries of how their children would fair, claiming that the IMing and text-messaging craze inhibits a child's formal writing skills. Research released on Monday, however, shows that the opposite is true. "People are so intent on seeing contemporary popular culture as bad, as lesser, that they can't sort out certain ways in which young people today, because of the Internet revolution, are better at what we used to do," says Al Filreis, director of the Center for Programs in Contemporary Writing at the University of Pennsylvania. Although IMing and text messaging is full of informal speech, studies of IM conversations have shown that spelling, grammar, and punctuation is at an astonishingly high level. (From source: <http://www.csmonitor.com/2005/0311/p01s02-ussc.html>).

see NEWS, page 2

The Middle States Campus Visit: What it was, What it means

by BEN WALKER
Star Staff Writer

An eight-member visit team from the Middle States Commission visited the Houghton College campus last week from Sunday, March 6th through Wednesday, March 9th, as one of the final steps to Houghton's decennial reaccreditation process. Posters with pictures of the visit team members greeted students on doors all across campus, but many may be wondering what exactly the team was doing as they walked around campus those four days, and what their decisions mean for the future of the college.

Dr. Daryl Stevenson, the chair of the Psychology Department, is also chair of the Steering Committee responsible for directing all aspects of the reaccreditation process. In a brief interview, he emphasized that it was not

the Visit Team's job to determine whether Houghton gets reaccredited or not. A major part of the reaccreditation process, he said, was the production of a Self Study, which every college is required to do during this process, and which this year ran 410 pages. This study is meant to demonstrate

that the College is sufficiently meeting a set of 14 standards drawn up by the Middle States Commission. These standards are very thorough, said Stevenson, covering all aspects of college life, from building maintenance to student services, to quality of the faculty, to academic considerations. The Visit Team's purpose is to verify the information

reported in the Self Study.

The Steering Committee began its work over two years ago, beginning the process of self-study and planning all of the details that would go into it, down to the nitty-gritty of arranging transportation and accommodations for the members of the

see MIDDLE, page 2



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY MICHELLE RUSSELL

Dr. David Parkin, Chair of the Middle States Commission visit team presents yellow chrysanthemums to Rene Stempert, head custodian of East Hall, during a surprise meeting to honor her commitment. After hearing about Rene from students, Dr. Parkin said, "I really want to meet Rene."

IN THIS ISSUE...

FEATURED THIS WEEK:

- The Middle States Visit...front-page1
- News in Brief...front-page1
- Meet the New SGA Cabinet...page3
- ESA Sponsors Women's History Month Events...page7
- CAB puts on "Let's Make A Deal"...page8

REGULAR FEATURES:

- WorldView: India, Interview with Janelle Wetherby...page4
- Faculty Profile: Joanne Young, Equestrian Program Director...page5
- Movie Review: Robots...page6
- Where to Get Your Movie Fix...page6
- Humor: Cowboys and Princesses...page7

NEWS, from page 1

Author selected to write official sequel to "Peter Pan"

As a result of last year's rebirth of Peter Pan both on the stage and on the silver screen, an author has been selected to write a sequel to J.M. Barrie's classic work. The Great Ormond Street Hospital, which received the rights to "Peter Pan" in Barrie's will, chose children's author Geraldine McCaughrean for the job. The work, already titled "Captain Pan" must feature Pan, Wendy, the lost boys, and, of course, Hook, the Hospital stipulated. Jane Collins, the Hospital's chief executive, said the hospital has always wanted to do a sequel to "Peter Pan" because of the pleasure he has given children and adults for more than 100 years and to build on Barrie's generosity. (From source: <http://apnews.myway.com/article/20050313/D88Q57R81.htm>).

Amidst constant cell phone interruptions, "jammers" remain illegal in US

Industry experts project that by the end of this year more Americans will be using cell phones than land line telephones. Although this is great news for companies like Verizon and AT&T, it is awful news for stage actors, church leaders, professors, and considerate audience members everywhere. Worldwide, the constant problem of the cell phone disruption has been answered by an equally popular product – the cell phone jammer. Jammers are used in theaters in France and Japan, in churches in Mexico, and in the Indian parliament; however they remain illegal in the US. The user of a jammer faces a \$11,000 fine per day and up to one year in prison. (From source: <http://abcnews.go.com/WNT/Technology/story?id=565739&page=>).

MIDDLE, from page 1

Visit Team. Stevenson professed himself relieved to be almost finished with the responsibilities of chairing the Steering Committee, though he noted "there's no end to the details." Friday night, he said, included a final celebratory and "thank-you" dinner for the twelve faculty members comprising the Steering Committee, each of whom chaired a separate sub-committee responsible for one chapter of the Self Study. The considerable time and effort for this work, he emphasized, was completely uncompensated, or, as he put it "came out of their hides," and only he, as Committee Chair, was excused from teaching one class in order to dedicate more time to the reaccreditation process.

The Visit Team made sure to interact with students as well as faculty, even setting aside times to have lunch with various student leaders on campus, with no Houghton faculty present, so students would feel free to talk about what was on their minds. Stevenson affirmed this policy of openness, stating "It's not just a matter of showing them our best face. We have to

be open and honest and very transparent, which we were." He also added that the Visit Team was impressed by what it saw of the student body. One highlight of the visit even came about because of the student lunch. Visit Team leader Dr. David Parkin had asked the students at the lunch who on campus (of faculty, staff etc.) they thought was most connected with students, knew what was happening, was well-liked and really embodied the spirit of the school. Surprisingly, about half of the students had the same answer— East Hall Chief Custodian René Stempert. Parkin was so impressed by this that he and East Hall RD Michelle Russell arranged a surprise meeting with Stempert as well as friends and colleagues and presented her with a planting of yellow chrysanthemums to honor her commitment and to thank her.

Before the Visit Team left on Wednesday Dr. Parkin gave faculty members an "exit report". This report contained what the team saw as positive aspects of the school as well as giving suggestions about things which could be improved, and "recommendations", which require that within two years the college submit a report to the Middle States Commission, detailing their response to the issue, and what has been done. This "exit report" becomes a written report and a final report which goes to the Middle States Commission in June. The actual letter of accreditation arrives in July. Steven said that there were "no surprises" in the exit report, and only a few recommendations.

Although the Visit Team's written report hasn't come out yet, Stevenson said that one area that Houghton did well in was the exceptionally long terms of Houghton's presidents—one Visit Team member came from a school that had just appointed its fourth president in 10 years, while Houghton has had four presidents in the last 80. The Visit Team also complimented the loyalty and continuity of the school's administrative team as especially strong. One of the "recommendations" that Houghton needed to improve on was having more consistent practices of institutional assessment, especially in non-academic areas. However, Stevenson said that the exit report was overall overwhelmingly positive, and the Visit Team was very impressed with Houghton. Stevenson also said that besides getting reaccredited itself, "probably the biggest benefit [of this process] is all of the time and effort we spend doing our Self Study", since it gives campus leaders a clear and comprehensive picture of both the current state of things and future trends in many areas of the college.

CORRECTION:

The front page story of Vol. 100 Is. 11 of The Star contained a typo that should have said that President Chamberlain will step down in May of 2006, or when a successor is found.

New Cabinet, New Challenges

by ELAINE TOOLEY
SGA Commissioner of Communications

In just a few weeks, the current SGA cabinet will bid their positions adieu, and welcome in the new servant leaders. For some in cabinet, it will be a time of anxiety – as it is the last position they will hold at Houghton before graduation in May. For others, it is a time of relief – when the criticism of fellow students, faculty, staff and administration will fall to another's shoulders. For a few, there will be little change for their service is continuing.

For the past year, the cabinet adjusted to different philosophies that two offices, Student Life and Student Programs, were adopting as the norm. With the initial induction into what will now be protocol, the incoming cabinet will be familiar with the goals of those two student-service offices.

"We are eager to continue working with the Office of Student Life and the Office of Student Programs to provide services and activities for the students here at Houghton," current vice president, and vice president-elect, Kevin Thompson said. "It will be my second year in office, and I believe that this year of experience will help next year."

Thompson will be joined by Jason Shambach at the helm. Shambach won the presidential election against Kyle Nagy, this past year's Commissioner of Finance. His service as a senator of the junior class will prove to be beneficial as he will need to establish and maintain a working relationship between the senate,

the cabinet, the student body and the administration.

Shambach is ready to take leadership. "I have been given a great example of this year's cabinet and an image of SGA that I would like to continue and improve," he said. "With my creativity and goal-oriented character, I will form and advance

Assisting Shambach and Thompson will be Commissioner of Communication Ashley Shambach, Jason's sister, and Chaplain Chris Fiorello, who is currently off-campus. At the present time, because no one ran for the position of Commissioner of Finance, petitions and applications are being solicited. The

position will be filled after the senate reviews individual candidates and approves one. Due to the constitutional change prompted by last year's SGA, the CAB Director will be approved by the senate following an interview process and subsequent recommendation by the Selection Committee. Hopefully the entire cabinet will be in-place before the end of the semester.

The future looks bright for the Houghton student body. There are several upcoming issues and challenges that will require the opinion of students. The college is looking to increase enrollment to 1,400 students, which means

major creative brainstorming as to how this goal will be met falls to several groups around campus.

Also, with President Chamberlain's announcement of retirement, it will be the responsibility of members on this campus to choose who will carry the mantle of leadership. First we must decide what this campus wants in a president, and then we must trust God to bring the right person here. Additionally, the building bond project is underway, and students will be involved with that addition to the library.

Next year's SGA has been handed a great opportunity to assess what Houghton students can benefit from, plan for achieving those needs, implement the plan, and evaluate the success.

"The end of success is not a license for pragmatism, stubbornness, or moral compromise," Shambach said. "I will compose myself with patience and maturity. Certainly, these are necessities for fostering communication."

A new year means new people, new ideas, new vision, and new opportunities for cooperation and success.



PHOTO BY ROBYN BAKER

Stepping up to their new positions in the SGA Cabinet are Ashley Shambach as Commissioner of Communications, Jason Shambach as SGA President, and Kevin Thompson as Vice-President. Also elected as SGA Chaplain was Chris Fiorello, who is not pictured because he is currently involved in an off-campus semester.

my vision. With integrity as my motivator, I will be aggressive in representing the students' will and fighting for the best interest of Houghton to my capacity. With wisdom, I will discern what the most beneficial road is, and lead the students whom I represent, down it."

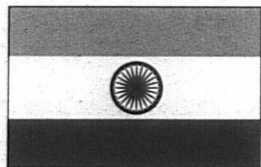
Current SGA president Marisa Roach spoke highly of Shambach. "He's driven and persistent. I think Jason will do a fine job representing the students to the administration. He has the good of the students and college on his mind when it comes down to making a decision."

One of the responsibilities of the SGA president is to represent the student body to the Board of Trustees. While some students are intimidated by this charge, Shambach has already had the opportunity to give presentations to several groups on this campus, including the Alumni board, the vice presidents, and the faculty. Many faculty and staff endorse and are encouraged by the students' choice in Shambach as the student leader and representative. One staff member said, "Jason's extremely bright and articulate. He'll do a wonderful job as president."



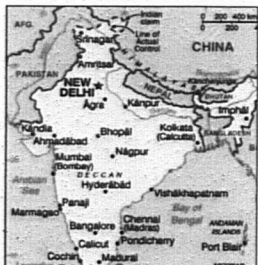
Dear Dr. Brittain....

Have a problem or a question that you want answered with the wisdom, humor, and unique flavor of Dr. Brittain? Write to The Star at star@houghton.edu or CPO #370. Letters should be no longer than 250 words.



THE FACTS:

Country: India
Languages: Hindi, English, Bengali, Telugu, Marathi, Tamil, Urdu, Gujarati, Malayalam, Kannada, Oriya, Punjabi, Assamese, Kashmiri, Sindhi, and Sanskrit
Population: 1,065,070,607 (July 2004 est.)
Capital: New Delhi
Main Religions: Hindu 81.3%, Muslim 12%, Christian 2.3%, Sikh 1.9%, other groups include Buddhist, Jain, Parsi 2.5%
Literacy (age 15 and over can read and write): Total population: 59.5%; male: 70.2%; female: 48.3%
Government System: Federal Republic
Chief of State: President Abdul Kalam
Head of Government: Prime Minister Manmohan Singh
Major Industries: textiles, chemicals, food processing, steel, transportation equipment, cement, mining, petroleum, machinery, software
(sources: www.cia.gov)



WORLDVIEW: INDIA

INTERVIEW WITH JANELLE WETHERBY, MK FROM INDIA

by KRISTEN NIEMI
 Staff Writer

Where in India did you live? My first four years in India I lived in a city called Varanasi. The place I would consider to be my home, though, and where I spent the most amount of time was at a Christian boarding school in the foothills of the Himalayas. My school, Woodstock, is in the hill station of Mussoorie. It is beautiful. Just for some perspective, by foothills we mean 7000 ft., I don't really understand the "mountains" around here!

What language was spoken there? Did you learn how to speak that language? Most people in India speak many languages. The two official languages of the country are Hindi and English. At my boarding school we always spoke English. As a child though in Varanasi I did grow up speaking Hindi, even though today I'm pretty pathetic at it!

What are some of the biggest differences between India and the U.S. (especially culturally)? Indians are a very vivacious people—they love to laugh and enjoy themselves. Time and events are not as structured as in the States. Society though, and social classes are still very important. Also, the food has a lot more flavor and spices and we eat tons of rice.

What do you miss the most? I miss the mountains in Mussoorie; you can't understand how beautiful they are until you see them for yourself! I also miss my boyfriend, Hminga a lot and my friends who I grew up with. It's strange but I just miss the country and a people as a whole, the separation is very hard.

Why were you living there? How long have you lived there? My whole family went over to India in 1986 as my parents were called to be missionaries there. I have lived there on and off (through furloughs) until I graduated from high school in 2004.

What would you say is an Indian trademark? Indians are very expressive when they talk; it is very common to move your head from side to side when speaking and answering. And who could forget Bollywood!?!

What would you say are the biggest issues in India? The gap between the rich and the poor in India is tremendously large. India has some of the richest



Janelle with friends, Gina and Sradda.

people in the world and also some of the most destitute. It's really hard to come to grips with inequality like that. The government is also very corrupt. The AIDS rates in India are currently the second highest in the world, and it is said that within the next few decades they will be the highest of any, which is a terrifying thought.

I learned from CNN.com that only approximately 2.3% of the population is Christian. How did/does this affect your life and the lives of your family? What I mean is, due to

the extreme minority your family was in, was it an overall danger like it would be in Iraq or Afghanistan? What kind of effort is being put forth to increase this percentage (is there a large amount of work being done that you know of)?

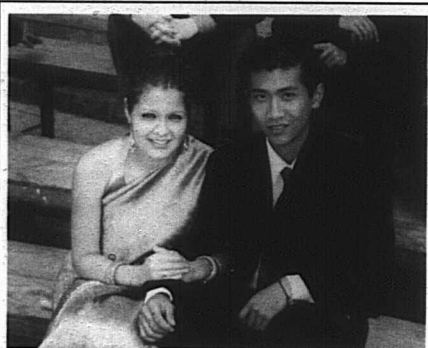
While the percentage of Christians in India is very low, I would not say there is that much danger of being a Christian. Indian people are generally

very accepting of other people and their religions. A lot of this is probably because the majority of Indians are Hindu, so there really isn't the extreme Islamic fanaticism found in countries like Iraq, Afghanistan or Pakistan. Christians still do have to be careful though, as missionaries my parents have to watch what they say and to whom they are saying it. As for the effort being put forth to increase the percentage of Christians, there is a growing number of missionaries to India. But there are so many people, that there is a great need for workers.

What is the worst American imitation of the Indian culture (food, music, etc) that you have encountered? Where do I start...?! There is a great misconception that every Indian wears a turban, which isn't true, only Sikhs (around 3% of the population) wear turbans. Also the food in most Indian restaurants in the States is not very good and is so expensive, they really are ripping you off! Don't go to them! Many people seem to believe that India is still in the dark ages, where everyone lives in huts and rides elephants which is totally inaccurate. Some of the wealthiest and most cultured people I know have been Indians. They have basically all the modern "conveniences" like McDonald's, Pizza Hut and movie theatres. I might be slightly biased, but India really is a beautiful country!



The place where she grew up in the mountains in a boarding school in Mussoorie.



Janelle with her boyfriend, Hminga.

Faculty Profile: Joanne Young, Equestrian Program Director

by RACHEL MORAN
Staff Writer

Describe yourself growing up: I was the typical eldest child, in that nothing less than excellence was acceptable in my mind. I had very godly parents who were very loving, very firm and fair in discipline. Every morning before they left the bedroom my parents would pray together that God would give them wisdom in the training up of their children, and every night before they went to bed they would pray that God would protect their children from any mistakes they made while parenting. All the kids in my family grew up to love the Lord. I feel it is an important part of what I do as a professor, praying that God would guide me in preparing the material to meet the needs of my students, that I would be teaching life skills as well curriculum. I was also horse-crazy as a young child. One of my earliest memories is when I was about 5 and supposed to be in bed, mom would come in and catch me straddling the bedpost, pretending to be riding.

How and why did you come to Houghton? I attended here as a student, and prayed about where God wanted me to go. In Advanced Comp. freshman year, I surveyed the student body to see if there was interest in a riding program. Eighty percent of the student body returned that questionnaire, and 86% of them were in favor of the college having an equestrian program. This was an exercise in research; I had no thought that the college would ever have an equestrian program or that I would end up running it. As my parents used to say, any time God drops something in your life, take advantage of it. This is my 19th year teaching at

Houghton, and the Equestrian Program is 21 years old.

What are your responsibilities here? As director of the Equestrian Program, I teach some classes. I supervise students who do chores in the barn, students who are TAs, etc. I'm also involved in long-term planning for improvement of the facilities and better equipment.

So, why horses? What's the draw? There's a certain segment of the human population that seems to be created with a horse-crazy gene. Sometimes this pops up in families where none of the parents or relatives care diddly-squat about horses. For these people, the fascination will last through adolescence; they will still want to work with horses when they are adults. Also, when you go back to the mission field concept, most professionals in the horse world have rarely if ever darkened the door of a church and probably never heard the Gospel. While horses can be a very healthy, wonderful, enriching part of life, they also can become an avenue through which people can fulfill the baser part of nature with cruelty, greed, self-aggrandizement, etc. The lack of the Gospel being promulgated in the horse world can open up all kinds of avenues where people need to hear the Gospel and they're not hearing it. Also, the hero-worship often involved in the relationship between student and instructor opens the door for many life lessons to be taught. I feel very strongly that I'm preparing our students to be missionaries, not just riders and trainers.

What are some of the most beneficial and most difficult aspects of living and working at Houghton? Beneficial: it's a great community. I don't think I could ask for a better job because

nobody takes the courses I teach unless they really want to. I get fabulous attitudes on the part of the students. Even though Houghton is out in the country, I'm a country girl at heart so that's an advantage for me. I really feel that living in Houghton, without having to be

wealthy, I have all the advantages of being wealthy. If I lived in the city, it would cost me between 25-50% of my salary to have access to the kind of opportunities I have here, both with horses and cultural opportunities, relationships, etc. I find my job tremendously exciting and fulfilling, and I'm always left

wondering what God is going to do next. We've grown from a few dog-food quality horses to the high-quality 49 horses we house today in a facility that is very attractive. As for disadvantages, if you really want to go shopping, you're not just going to pop down the road 5 minutes.

Who or what would you say has had the most formative impact on your life? Lifelong, it would have to be the Lord. But my parents had a very strong influence, as did godly grandparents. I find myself quoting my grandmother often to students. She didn't have more than an 8th-grade education, she was from a German immigrant family, but she possessed a lot of godly wisdom and was a very humble woman.

Horse racing: good or bad? I know many people who are involved in racing, but as a Christian I have a tough time reconciling how someone can walk closely with the Lord and be involved in an industry that treats horses as a commodity and is supported and run by gambling. A lot of people don't realize that 80% of horses break down before they ever get to the track.

I have to admit, I'm a little in awe of breeches. Are they worn for style, or practicality, or both? Practicality. They provide needed stretch and flexibility for the rider, and avoid wrinkles on the inside of your knee that could cause blisters or loose flaps that could be dangerous for the horses. They're wonderfully comfortable to wear and obnoxiously ugly to look at.



Joanne Young with horse, Ben.

The Houghton Star Staff

EDITOR IN CHIEF

D. Elliott Tait

MANAGING EDITOR

Sarah Allen

DESIGN EDITOR

Rachel Brask

BUSINESS EDITOR

Kyle Crocker

ADVISOR

Prof. Ben Lipscomb

PHOTOGRAPHY

Rachel Brask
Kaitin Wilson
Kimberly Barnett
Kristin Niemi
Robin Baker

STAFF WRITERS

Josh Miller
Kristen Niemi
Heidi Sprunger
Virginia Wheaton
Ben Walker
Rachel Moran

COLUMNISTS

Kathie Brennehan
Adam Kline
Elaine Tooley
Mike Mordenga

COPY EDITING

Kirstie Chen
Jaynee Van Wormer
Linnea Landin

**STAR STAFF OPENING
FOR NEXT YEAR!
LAYOUT/DESIGN
EDITOR NEEDED!**

**Interested? Email David.
Tait@houghton.edu for more info.**

MOVIES

with Adam Kline

Grade: B -

Computer animation is clearly the norm nowadays as it provides a greater opportunity for artists to create worlds which are highly imaginative and sometimes surprisingly believable and realistic. Fox Animation Studios alongside Blue Sky Studios in the past five years have brought us the wonderful films *Titan A.E.* and *Ice Age*. In their latest effort, they bring us the highly imaginative world of *Robots*. Granted, these studios are no Pixar, but they are worthy opponents.

In *Robots* we follow the journey of Rodney Copperbottom, voiced by Ewan McGregor. In this wonderful world of robots, married robot couples actually have babies, and when the film opens, Mr. Copperbottom is rushing home because he is going to be a dad. As he enters the home, his wife says, "Oh I'm sorry hunny you've missed the delivery," as she holds up a baby robot kit which reads, "some assembly

required."

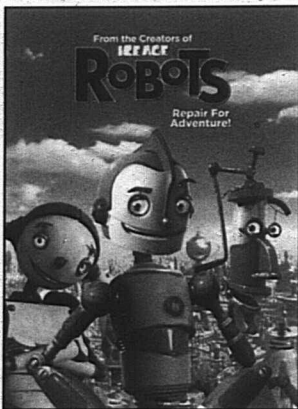
The film is filled with these hilarious parallels in which the robots live lives similar to that of humans, but humans have nothing to do with this world. This is a completely independent, self-produced world of robots. As Rodney grows up, getting upgraded with big boy parts, he dreams of being an inventor and traveling to Robot City where Mr. Bigweld lives. Mr. Bigweld is the owner of Bigweld Industries which produces the spare parts all robots need

to survive, and thus Bigweld himself is an inventor who loves to hear new ideas.

When the time comes,

Rodney journeys to Robot City where he meets a diverse group of robot friends, voiced by Robin Williams, Drew Carrey, Amanda Bynes, and others. When they discover that Bigweld Industries has been taken over and is now led by Ratchet, voiced by Greg Kinnear, who halts the production of spare parts

and only markets full upgrades in order to turn a bigger profit, Rodney and his new-found friends are forced to search for



Mr. Bigweld in order to make things right.

As the journey continues, Rodney Copperbottom, Mr. Bigweld, and their army of friends must take on Ratchet and his faction of workers in order to stop the company from becoming a selfish money-maker, and to prevent older robots, who cannot afford upgrades, from being turned into scrap metal. Throughout the course of the movie Rodney and some of his friends must take risks, and thus come to believe in themselves.

Robots is a wonderful-looking film, and has a lot of good jokes along the way but aside from this, it is nothing spectacular. The storyline tells pieces of previous family films stuck together, so there is not a whole lot that is new or creative being offered or by this movie. It does provide a pretty decent time at the movies because of the wonderful visuals and great jokes, but aside from that experience I would not blame you for waiting until it comes out on DVD.

Last semester I wrote an article about the benefits of going to Geneseo to see movies rather than going to the overpriced and rather unkempt Olean Cinema. This semester I would like to expand the field of my suggestions for those Houghton students who like to see movies but want to save money.

The cinemas. As mentioned, instead of following the pack to Olean every weekend to catch the newest releases in theatre, I

Where to get your Movie Fix

recommend you drive to the Geneseo Square Cinemas. This is a small but well run six screen cinema tucked away in a small strip mall. With a student ID the price of admission is only \$4.50 and on most Friday nights they run midnight shows of all their films for only \$3.00. To get to Geneseo Square Cinemas just turn left out of the college and follow highway 19A past Letchworth State Park until you come to a "v-split" in the road and merge onto highway 39. Following highway 39 all the way through the small villages of Castille, Perry and Leicester, you will come to a "T" intersection. Turn left and after five minutes you will come upon the theatre on your right just

before a Taco Bell and KFC. To check out movie listings and show times for Geneseo, go to www.movietickets.com.

A second theatre I highly recommend is the Little Theatre in downtown Rochester. It is a longer drive but well worth the time. The Little Theatre is a small five screen cinema which caters only to independent and foreign films. To check out their movie listings, showtimes, and directions just go to www.little-theatre.com.

A third destination I recommend to you is The Silver Lake Twin Drive-In located beside the Charcoal Corral. This is a wonderful two screen drive-in that has an admission price of only \$5.00. The drive-

in is currently closed for the season but weather permitting it is planning on opening for its 2005 season on April 8th. To find out what movies they play each week, go to www.charcoalcorral.com.

DVD rentals. Even though I do appreciate the online and mail services of www.netflix.com and www.blockbuster.com I know that students can not necessarily afford the monthly payments. Therefore, I would like to suggest to you the video rental services of The Houghton Mini-Mart. With tax, the cost of a rental is only \$2.91, which is a little cheaper than what the Jubilee offers, and on Sundays and Mondays you can rent two for the price of one.

The Grading System

- A+ = Perfect, no complaints
- A/A- = Great movie, worth owning
- B +/- = Good movie, worth seeing
- C +/- = Disappointing, maybe on video
- D +/- = Bad movie, not worth the money
- F = One of the worst movies of all time

Coming Soon...

In Theatres Friday, March 18th
 - Ice Princess a family movie from Disney
 - The Ring Two starring Naomi Watts

On DVD Tuesday, March 22nd
 - Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason
 - Finding Neverland starring Johnny Depp

Cowboys and Princesses

by MIKE MORDENGA
Humor Columnist

If anybody has kept tabs on the Dr. Brittain articles, then you know that he has gotten a lot of articles regarding courtship. Articles asking the questions, "Can I be in a courtship now?", "Where is my courtship?" or "When will the marriage prophecy come?" are frequent. The topic of courtship has been the hottest Christian topic since...dating. I decided to take one of the letters that Dr. Brittain gets and answer it. Lord willing, I will give one of my pearls of wisdom to Lucilla.

Dear Dr. Michael,

I have no dates. There are no bachelors in all of Houghton that are cowboy knights of chivalry. Last week, I took my pet fish to the East Hall Banquet. THAT IS NOT A BOY! I am dreaming of a world filled with men who are chivalrous knights of honor with a cowboy exterior. They must be open; honest and willing to love at all hours of the day. But there are no men on this campus. I will be sad forever and be forced to think of other possibilities. Please give me hope so I can wait for this true love to come.

*Lonely in Lambien,
Lucilla*

Well, Lucilla, I feel your pain. I know, all too well, what singleness feels like in this cold world. I've looked around this whole entire campus and I have not found one knight in shining cowboy armor. Some attribute it to the iron. Some say there should be more steak options in Pioneer (that would draw the chivalrous men). All those are good reasons, but the real reason is this: no man is a chivalrous cowboy knight. It's just a rumor. Chances are, when the dragon comes to lock you away in the ivory tower, the knight will be playing Nintendo.

So what do you do? I'll tell you that you are not alone. I have spent my days looking diligently for the Beauty-Actress-Princess. She will be funny, adventurous and have an undying love for Nintendo. She will recite comic books at the drop of a pin and know the whole priestly line of mages in Dungeons and Dragons. On top of that, she will be elegant and sophisticated at all banquets.

With all my searching and digging, I have not found one Beauty-Actress-Princess. I have offered free meals (or scans), I have given flowers to random girls in mathematical patterns, I have even hugged many girls every day for a month. But alas, I had found myself taking my pet cat, Fluffles, to the International Banquet...a very bad experience involving hairballs.

If I could share one thing with the world, it would be to relax, take a breather, and enjoy the fact that God does have a plan that totally trumps yours. If we unite hands, as brother and sister we can expel these nasty stereotypes about Cowboy Knights and Beauty-Actress-Princesses and wait for our lives to take shape.

GUIDELINES FOR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Readers are encouraged to write responses to any portion of The Star in the form of a letter to the Editor. Letters should be no more than 500 words in length and should be sent to david.tait@houghton.edu. All letters are subject to editing or dismissal at the Editor-in-Chief's discretion depending on their content and relevance. Letters should be sent to the Editor by noon on the Sunday before the next issue. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

ESA Sponsors Events for Womens' History Month

by HEIDI SPRUNGER
Staff Writer

For the past two weeks Evangelicals for Social Action has been sponsoring events in celebration of Women's History Month. To begin with, they had a table display in the Campus Center where they provided information on upcoming events and handed out ribbons of green for growth, white for purity and purpose, and violet for dignity and solidarity (GWV--"Give Women Vote"). They also had a display panel where people could hang pictures, poems, and other mementoes celebrating women in their lives. The display panel will remain set up for the rest of the month, and ESA encourages students to continue posting up pictures.

The first event of the month was a Human trafficking presentation on March 8th (Tuesday) at 9pm in the NAB. Two movies were shown, one on an organization called Shared Hope, which rescues young women and girls out of sex slavery, and restores them in safe houses called Homes of Hope. The second video was one produced by Dateline. It was about an undercover investigation Dateline conducted in Cambodia to get a realistic picture of what brothels are really like. After the video presentations, Heidi Sprunger, Benjamin Hughes, and Maile Kawakami did a power point presentation summarizing what human sex trafficking is, and how we, as Christians, can help to stop it. The night was very informative, and as Cheryl Winter said, it was "well-presented and very sobering."

At the beginning of March until the 12th (Saturday), ESA sponsored a move-a-thon to raise money for the ACCORD Corporation in Belmont. This safe house provides family development programs and victim services. Students could get pledges for any type of exercise at any time of the week until the 12th. This included miles ran, laps swum, or reps of weights lifted. ESA wanted the fund raiser to be easy for anyone to participate in. As a "final hurrah," on Saturday morning ESA set up a group hike around the snowy Houghton community.

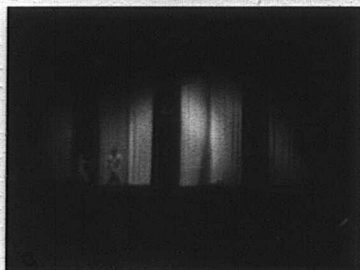
At 11am, immediately after the hike, a woman's health forum was held in Big Al's. Students had a chance to warm up, enjoy fresh-baked goods (compliments of Shirley Close), and discuss different aspects of women's health. Rebecca Ballard, ESA president, opened up the forum with a prayer, and then Nancy Murphy started off the discussion on women's emotional health. Murphy, a part-time counselor/part-time New Student Programs director at Houghton College, emphasized the importance of evaluating and learning from emotions. Next up was Connie Finney, Professor of Education, speaking on spiritual health. "The best thing you can do is be as personal as you can with God," was her opening statement, and she went further to explain the importance of God being connected to every part of a person's life.

Following the week of events, Maile Kawakami, member of ESA, said, "I think it's awesome that we can celebrate the common themes of being a woman, and embrace our differences."

ESA is happy with the turn out for each event, and has already begun to discuss possible events for Women's History month next year.

CAB wins with "Let's Make a Deal"

by LINDSAY YANDON
Star Staff Writer



Contestants got to choose between curtains 1, 2, or 3...



PHOTO BY ROBYN BAKER

PHOTO BY ROBYN BAKER



Sometimes contestants won the unexpected. Paul Christensen won a chicken and a zoo membership!

PHOTO BY ROBYN BAKER



Hosts "Vern" (Adam Sukhia) and "Val" (Kristina van Dyke) and curtain girl, Darcy Stevens, lounge on a vintage couch just won by Ryan Mayers.

PHOTO BY ROBYN BAKER

Marie Wonch, Nick Ruiz and Larry Petry, all won "zonk" prizes and got another chance to win bigger prizes in the final round, such as DVD home theater system, stereo system with 6-CD changer, and a "retro" chair and bookshelf set.



PHOTO BY ROBYN BAKER



PHOTO BY ROBYN BAKER

One of the most coveted prizes of the evening, a flat screen TV, was so coveted that Amy Griffin stole it from its original winner, John Buteyn, who instead won a wedding cake topper and cake knife.



PHOTO BY ROBYN BAKER

The "curtain girls," Amber Schrenkel, Shelly Bloser and Darcy Stevens, and here assisted also by Charlotte Keniston, show off yet another potential prize to a contestant.



PHOTO BY ROBYN BAKER

Nick Ruiz went away from the game, quite content with his new stereo.

Houghton College Campus was the home of stars and big winners last Saturday evening. The chapel was taken over with Houghton's very own rendition of the popular game show, "Let's Make A Deal," sponsored by CAB.

CAB members dressed in era-appropriate attire welcomed the student audience into the chapel before a stage with three reproductions of the famous bright curtains. Vern and Val – also known as CAB members Adam Sukhia and Kristina Van Dyke – took the stage in front of a sizeable crowd and started making deals and giving away prizes. A majority of the many prizes were donated by local stores, restaurants, and businesses.

Among some of the most popular prizes were a flat screen TV, stereo, DVD player, and numerous gift certificates. Some unlucky contestants however, were not blessed with this luck and ended up dealing towards "zonk" prizes. Those who walked away with army green Victorian couches or decorative wedding cake knives were placed in this category.

Houghton College students were in full participation and the excitement and enthusiasm was evident throughout the evening. Cheers were constant and many people who held "winning numbers" exited the chapel richer in some shape or form than they were when they entered two hours earlier.

Show producer and CAB director Amber Klebes stated, "Last years CAB Director came up to us after the game show and said, 'This was the best CAB event ever,' so I have to say this was definitely a success! We felt great about it and the students seemed to really enjoy it to, so I was pleased. I am blessed with a very dedicated and hard working staff, it's nice to know that you can count on your staff to help pull off these fun events."

Congratulations to the winners and especially to CAB for hosting such a memorable event.