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Houghton College's Student Newspaper Since 1909

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November 2, 2012 • Vol. 109, No. 7



## Students, Faculty Attend Penn State Conference on Childhood Sex Abuse

KATHERINE BAKER

Thanks to a grant from the Katherine Lindley Project Fund, John Van Wicklin and Mike Lastoria, along with four of their psychology students, were able to attend the Penn State Conference on Childhood Sex-

ual Abuse on October 29 and 30.

"The origins for this conference go back to one year ago in the weeks following the release of the Jerry Sandusky grand jury presentation," Penn State President Rodney Erickson said during his opening remarks. "As a community we resolved

to move forward by using all that is right about Penn State to tackle what is an insidious, hidden, and epidemic issue... This conference is one of our many initiatives to serve that end."

Carly Trask, a student who attended the conference, said, "I really appreciated what Penn State was doing...it was done with humility, and this conference is a good way to continue the healing process that's been happening on campus."

The speakers featured at the conference included many scholars at the top of their fields as well as several survivors of childhood sexual abuse who talked about their own experiences. And despite bad weather from hurricane Sandy, there were few cancellations and the conference went forward with only minor changes.

Lastoria said that when he learned of the conference, he "was interested in it at two different levels. First as a therapist who has occasion to work with individuals who've been sexually abused, and second as an educator who has interest in the issue from a broader perspective."

Van Wicklin shared this academic interest and added that the topic was especially pertinent to his



RUEBEN HAND

Sugar Ray Leonard, Olympic medalist, speaks at the childhood sex abuse conference. Leonard was victim to sexual abuse as a child.

See PENN STATE page 2

## Faculty and Staff Hiring Update

ABBY BUCKINGHAM

Many Houghton students have been affected by the departure of quite a few faculty this past summer. The various departments have been working to fill the empty positions, with nine teaching positions currently looking to be filled this school year.

The process of hiring new faculty begins in the various departments, which file a request through the Academic Dean, Dr. Linda Mills Woolsey's, Office. The department then writes an advertisement for the position, sending it to Eva Hillman, the administrative assistant to Dr. Mills Woolsey. The two women work together to "make sure that the ads all have consistent Houghton language, so that when they go out, we present the college in a consistent way," said Mills Woolsey.

The full ads are then posted on Houghton's employment website. The positions are also advertised in the Chronicle of Higher Education and Inside Higher Ed referring potential candidates to the Houghton website for the full job description, along with advertising in specialty publications for a specific area. Each department sends letters to departments at other colleges, inquiring about possible recent graduates who may be interested in the position. Some disciplines also take brochures for the positions to national conferences.

"Sometimes you get the best leads by working in your field or by doing something like that at a conference," according to Mills Woolsey.

When a candidate is interested in a position, they send their material to Ms. Hillman, who posts them on a confidential file accessible only to the search committee. Since hiring and personnel issues are confidential, only members of the committee are allowed to look at a candidate's CV.

Once the search committee decides on a small group of candidates, they conduct a phone interview with each. They then narrow the group down to two candidates, sometimes "with a third on reserve in case the first two candidates come to campus and don't prove to be as exciting as they were," said Mills Woolsey. These candidates are then brought to campus to meet with people in the department and students.

The department then makes a rec-

## On-Line Courses Become Increasingly Affordable

SARAH JACOBY

Beginning in the summer of 2013, Houghton's summer online program will become much more affordable for students who are interested in taking online courses.

Whereas the previous pricing was \$270 per credit, Houghton recently reduced its rates to \$125 per credit hour, a figure that translates to a total of \$375 for a 3-hour course or \$500 for a 4-hour course.

This change is expected to increase the number of participants in the online program, as the new pricing gives Houghton's program a competitive edge for students who are looking for affordable ways to take summer classes. The new cost of \$125 per credit compares very favorably to alternative summer course options, including the majority of community colleges and other online

programs.

When interviewed on the pricing changes, Dr. Mark Hijleh, Assistant Academic Dean, stated, "As we consider creating other access points into a Houghton education for students—including online



and in Buffalo—the cost to students will be a key issue."

This change in pricing is reflective of Houghton's desire to help rather than hinder students who are looking into taking classes over the summer, making it simpler and more affordable for Houghton students, as well as expanding the

potential market for Houghton's online program.

Since the summer online program began a couple of years ago, it has averaged approximately 20-25 participants per summer. Due to the decrease in price, these enrollment numbers are expected to rise over the next couple summers, with a goal of 60-75 students for the summer of 2013 and potential program expansion slated for the summer of 2014.

Hijleh stated, "We hope to expand the program further, to offer additional courses in two consecutive sessions over the whole summer. At that point [summer 2014] we would be hoping to have upwards of 100 students or more participating."

The lowered prices are not the only benefit of Houghton's online sum-

See ON-LINE page 3

See FACULTY page 2



## SGA / Latest Issues from Student Government



LUKE LAUER

BEN HARDY

This past week is a fine example of the SGA at its best. The Make a Difference Day project (initiated by Leadership Allegany and spearheaded on campus by the SGA and the Office of Community Relations) took place this past Saturday and was a great success, with almost 325 students participating. The SGA helped to promote this event through funding a bus and helping with recruitment tables and even walking the cafeteria soliciting student sign-ups during meal times.

Last Tuesday night at Senate,

two requests were made for funding for students to go to conferences. Lee-Anna Upperman, RD of Gillette, requested funding for gas mileage to the Jubilee conference. This is a yearly conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, sponsored by the Coalition for Christina outreach. We also approved funding for a group of five students to go to Washington DC for a human trafficking conference where they will both expand their own knowledge of the issue and make connections for Houghton College and the Faith and Justice Symposium.

Jeff Kirksey from Admissions also visited Senate Tuesday night to talk about the state of admissions and some strategies for how current students can get involved in bringing students to Houghton. He reminded us that "Admissions is everybody's job." An ad hoc committee (that is, a committee that exists until either a set date or until its task is completed, as opposed to a standing, long-term committee like the Committee on Student Organizations) was formed to further discuss ideas for ways that students can work with admissions and admissions can work with students to increase the size of the incoming classes.

## FACULTY *from page 1*

ommendation to the Dean, indicating their first and second choices. "Most of the time, I agree with their recommendation. If I don't, then I go back and talk to the search committee or the department about why I don't agree with their assessment of the candidate," said Mills Woolsey. She then makes a recommendation to the President.

The Education Department is working to fill the most openings, with four vacancies. Dr. Cathy Freytag, Chair of the Education Department, said when asked about the progress of the searches, "The Education Department has successfully filled the Field Placement Coordinator position. Martin Coates - who has served the Education Department in a part-time capacity for several years - will assume this full-time position."

As for the other three positions in Education, searches are underway in Literacy Education, Educational Foundations, and Special/Inclusive Education. "There are several viable applicants in each pool," said Dr. Freytag. They hope to narrow the candidates down and invite the most promising to campus by the end of the semester.

Chemistry is continuing their search from last year for a professor of biochemistry who will also teach Nutrition, Impact: Science and Society, along with sharing the General Chemistry load.

Dr. Keith Horn, head of the search committee, said of candidates, "They are expected to have an active collaborative undergraduate research effort. Special consideration will be given to those whose research is at the interface

between chemistry and biology." Dr. Horn hopes to interview candidates this fall and winter, making an offer in winter or early spring.

The physics department is also currently searching for a new faculty member to replace assistant professor Christopher Wells. According to Dr. Mark Yuly, "We have started advertising and are currently collecting applications. We are not yet at the point where I can say much about the candidates." Dr. Horn said the department "hopes to interview candidates this fall and winter and make an offer in the winter or early spring. The successful candidate will start in the fall of 2013."

In Intercultural Studies, a new Linguistics/TESOL professor is being sought after. "We have a good pool of candidates to work from. We will be reviewing them soon," said Dr. Marcus Dean. "We are positive we will have at least one good candidate. That's about all I can say now."

The Art Department is currently searching for a Digital Photography and Media professor. Professor Jilliar Sokso, head of the committee in charge of the search, said, "There is a steady stream being received and we hope for even more as the November 15 application deadline approaches."

Professor Sokso hopes they will be ready to invite three candidates to campus during the second half of February and make an offer to the first choice at the beginning of March, but she adds, "It is difficult to know how the process may unfold."

The Music Department is also searching for a new Music Education professor. ★

## PENN STATE *from page 1*

work with children through the Royal Family Kids camp since 25% of those kids have been sexually abused.

Aneka Zimmerman, another student who went to the conference, explained some of her reasons for attending by saying, "Some people in my family have been sexually abused as children...that made me want to understand it more and work to prevent it."

Sugar Ray Leonard, professional boxer, Olympic gold medalist, and survivor of childhood sexual abuse, spoke to the audience on the first day of the conference. Elizabeth Smart,

who was abducted from her home at 14 and repeatedly sexually victimized by her captor for nine months, closed the conference by telling her story. Interspersed were expert speakers reporting research findings and clinical data.

Lastoria said that "The choices for speakers were very good, as it helped create a balance...it is easy to remove feeling from this subject matter, so it was good how they mixed the research and personal stories." Van Wicklin agreed, saying that it was "a good combination of theory and praxis."

Despite their unspeakable hardships as children, Leonard and Smart both ultimately delivered messages

of hope and healing.

Rueben Hand, a student who also attended the conference, found that listening to the survivors' stories was very motivating and made him feel like he "actually can make an impact" by working with children who have been sexually abused.

"It is very important for someone helping an individual who has experienced abuse to give a message of hope that they can live well and healing can occur," said Lastoria. "That ending was reinforced several times throughout the conference listening to individuals' stories of people not only surviving but thriving through such horrible experiences."

During breaks between speakers,

the audience members were able to visit some of the many exhibits set up by organizations working to raise awareness of and prevent childhood sexual abuse. This provided many networking opportunities for attendees, survivors, experts and advocates. "The conference brought people together to learn from each other," Van Wicklin said.

"The 500 or so people who attended this conference have worked in this area in a variety of ways," said Lastoria. "I know I myself carried a couple of ideas away...that reinforce and inform the work I do, and I suspect that is going to happen 499 times to others." ★

## Murder Mystery Investigation

November 9, 9-11pm in Chamberlain

Free Admission (& coffee) for students & faculty  
Hosted by Class of 2016 Cabinet

Join us on Facebook: "Murder at Chamberlain Manor"

## Want to write for the Houghton Star?

Send an e-mail to:  
[editor@houghtonstar.com](mailto:editor@houghtonstar.com)



## ON-LINE *from page 1*

mer program: the type of courses offered are also beneficial for participants, as all of the courses except for one are general, staple courses that fulfill Houghton Integrative Studies, or IS, requirements and could easily transfer to another institution, if the student does not attend Houghton. This will prove invaluable to Houghton students who are looking to get ahead on their IS requirements over the summer, while simultaneously retaining its appeal for high school students and students from other colleges.

These developments, both the price drop and the potential for expansion, should not be surprising to students and faculty. A study regarding online learning was conducted on Houghton's campus in 2008-2009, and both students and faculty were open to the idea of online learning—and even since that survey, higher education as a whole has increasingly turned toward online learning, as Hijleh states, “The world has already changed since then and all evidence suggests that we know we need to incorporate online educational opportunities into Houghton's program. It's merely a ques-

tion of how.”

Although it could be contended that online courses take away from the quintessential face-to-face interaction of the Houghton classroom, the online program should not be seen in opposition to this traditional model, but rather as a supplement for the in-class learning that takes place throughout the year.

Hijleh states, “We will proceed thoughtfully to discover the right mix of traditional, online and hybrid course offerings that will provide access, enhance competencies and maintain Houghton's quality.” Houghton's commitment to offering students an affordable and convenient way to earn credit hours over the summer and fulfill IS requirements will hopefully simplify some students lives as they try to graduate early or earn college credit while still in high school. As Hijleh says, “It is all about helping the students.”

If you are interested in taking a summer online course, you can find more information about course offerings and pricing on the Houghton website, as well as by stopping by the Academic Records Office. ★

**Goal: \$2000**  
Dean Brittain will dress up in the costume you picked!

**Goal: \$2500**  
Michael Jordan will dress up in a mystery costume!



**Show your support by:**

- Donating in the jars located in the dorms, CC, or Java
- Coming to see the Dark Knight Rises: Nov. 2nd, 7:00 and 10:00
- Come to the Turkey Drive Classic: Nov. 16th & 17th

**Help us provide Thanksgiving turkeys to over 200 local families in Allegany County!**

## WORD ON THE STREET

### Q: Are you voting? Why or why not?

A: I plan on voting--I haven't yet. Probably just because people tell me it's a good thing to do, but I don't fully think that it's beneficial for me to vote. I think that the government system is pretty good relative to other systems. And with the system of checks and balances, I think pretty much anyone could be the president and the country would be fine. You could even put a chinchilla as president and the system would be fine. Also, because of how the electoral college is, I don't think my vote really matters.

--Cory Brautigam, sophomore



LUKE LAUER



LUKE LAUER

A: Yes. I already sent in my absentee ballot. I did it because I felt like I should.

--Jody Crikelair, senior

A: Yes, because it's a right accorded to me by my government and it's a right I choose to take because they're representing me and I want to be represented properly. Moreover, I feel I don't have a right to complain unless I've contributed. What's that quote? “You get the government you deserve,” speaking in terms of how much you hold them accountable.

--Caroline Erker-Ferreira, senior



LUKE LAUER



LUKE LAUER

A: I have not voted yet, but I'm torn between voting and not voting. I haven't fully decided yet. Because everything just seems fake, the negativity between people. They're saying they're not as bad as someone else. I want someone to tell me they can run the country, not that “they aren't as bad.” I also think the electoral college is frustrating because I feel like they say every vote matters, but does it really? If it was popular vote, literally every vote could come down to one person. [Dr. Gaerte] said in his lecture that Obama already has New York wrapped up, but I haven't voted, so why would that make me want to vote? That discourages me from voting when they say the state is already wrapped up.

--Matthew Dean, sophomore



# XC Strong at Championship



Jillian Lewis running for the Highlanders

KATIE ADAMETZ

SPORTS RECAP

Men's Soccer

Houghton 0-0 St. John Fisher

Overall 9-5-2

Men's XC

7th of 8 teams at Empire 8

Women's XC

5th of 8 teams at Empire 8

Volleyball

Houghton 3-1 St. Laurence U

Houghton 3-0 Wells College

Houghton 1-3 SUNY Canton

Houghton 3-2 Brockport

Overall 18-10

Field Hockey

Houghton 2-1 Ithaca

Overall 9-6

All information from

http://athletics.houghton.edu

the athletes and the coaches. With this closer pack, the women struggled a bit in the Empire 8 Championship, but still performed well, and because the conference dropped from 20 teams to eight, the race called for different strategies.

In races with more teams, pack running is extremely effective and usually produces higher scores and places. The sudden drop in the number of teams this year called for a change in strategy, said Dougherty, but now that the team has the experience under their belt, next year's season and post-season should prove to be much more successful.

The women placed fifth out of the eight teams, and Dougherty expressed his belief that they could have reached second. With the changes to the conference and the need for altered strategies, however, he is not too disappointed with the performance. On the individual level, Houghton senior Jillian Lewis finished fifth place in the 5k race with a time of 18:38.58, earning the honor of First Team All-Empire 8 Conference.

The men fared well for a young team with several injuries. Placing seventh out of eight teams, Dougherty was pleased with the performance, and is anticipating lots of growth and rebuilding for next year's season. Particularly successful was freshmen Tim McGowan, who placed ninth in the 8k race with a time of 27:13.49 and earned himself Second Team All-Empire 8 honors.

Looking forward to the National Christian College Athletic Association National Championship on November 10, junior David Richards said that, as far as the men's team is concerned, "I'm not sure how that meet will go, but if we stay focused and try our best, we could do pretty well."

Dougherty expects a top 20 finish out of the women's team, and for the men, he simply wants to see them try their best and get the experience. "We just want to end the season on the right note," Dougherty explained, "and build toward next year."

Ultimately, the cross country team has one goal: to glorify God in all that they do. "We've had a lot of positive feedback from other coaches this year about the attitude of our athletes and the way they conduct themselves at meets," said Dougherty with a smile, "and all we can hope is to glorify God and be a huge success in that way." ★

# Basketball Preseason: Training for Solid Start

ANDREW JONES

As fall sports seasons are winding down, the men's and women's basketball teams are only just beginning their preseason.

Since previous head women's basketball coach Skip Lord is now Houghton's full-time Executive Director of Athletics, the women's team is entering this season under the direction of new head coach and Houghton alum Alicia Mucher.

Mucher graduated from Houghton in the spring of 2003 and was a successful member of the basketball team as a student. She scored 1,353 points in her varsity career, making her the second highest scorer in Houghton women's basketball history. Mucher has been coaching for nine years and has coached teams in Colorado and Indiana in addition to working as an assistant coach here at Houghton.

Mucher brings a passionate style of coaching to her team, emphasizing the importance of helping her athletes develop into women of integrity and faith, as well as basketball players. "Our main goal is to play to our best ability and work together at all times while honoring God and representing him in the process. Our team focus this year is to give ALL Out, ALL The Time, and ALL for God."

The Highlanders lost five seniors to graduation last year, but they still sport a roster that features a solid veteran group. Junior Kristen Moose will continue to be a focal point for the Highlanders, building off the success she experienced last season when she scored 391 points and had 165 rebounds, earning honors from the NAIA for her on-court accomplishments.

Surrounding Moose are seniors Kaitlyn Gaffney, Michelle Persons, and Kim Lockard as well as juniors Kaitlin Hammersley and Emily Wendell. Mucher said, "We have some great returning players who have worked hard at improving their game. Captains Michelle Persons and Kristen Moose have provided incredible leadership to this team on and off the floor."

While Mucher and her new team continue to adjust and prepare for the upcoming season, the men's team has also been hard at work getting ready for the upcoming season. Head Coach Andrew Hannan is beginning his third year at Houghton, and he is experiencing some changes due to the transition from the NAIA to the NCAA Division III level of play.

"The offseason was different this year as we no longer could have out of season contact with the team per NCAA rules," said Hannan. "This put much more emphasis on each player motivating himself to get better and get in shape. I think the guys bought in to that and the first couple of weeks of practice have overall been good."

Despite losing Mike Munoz, the number two rebounder in the nation, the men's team features returning seniors Chris Confair, Marc O'brien, Michael Ball, and Seth Shay. Standing at 6'6, Confair scored 358 points last season and

snagged 136 rebounds. Another notable asset is O'brien, who will help drive the team forward with his hardnosed style of play.

Other key returning players include Michael Bova, Matt Ball, and Andrew Makori, all of whom scored over 100 points last season. The Highlanders still have a wide range of talent and depth that should allow them to continue developing as a team. ★

Venison Vindaloo

ANDRE NELSON

3lbs ground venison

1/4 cup vegetable oil

3 tablespoons tamarind pulp

salt to taste

2 tablespoons vegetable oil

6 garlic cloves

2 tablespoons ground ginger

1/2 cup vegetable oil

3 cups onions, thinly sliced

1 teaspoon ground cumin

1 teaspoon ground mustard

3 teaspoons turmeric

1 1/2 teaspoons cayenne pepper

3 teaspoons paprika

1 teaspoon ground sumac

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

hot water

Mix venison with the oil, vinegar, tamarind and salt. Marinade at room temperature for 8 hours, or refrigerated for at least 24 hours. Puree onion, garlic, ginger and oil. Heat 1/2 cup oil in large skillet over medium-high heat. Carmelize onions. Add the puree. Reduce the heat and add cumin, mustard, turmeric, red pepper, paprika, sumac and cinnamon. When the spices begin to sizzle and turn dark (about 15 seconds), add the Venison. Cook until slightly seared (about 10 minutes). Add water to the marinade to make 2 1/2 cups liquid; add to pan and bring to a boil, then lower the heat and simmer, partially covered, until meat is very tender (about 30 minutes). Serve over rice.

A photograph of a plate of venison vindaloo. The dish consists of small pieces of meat in a dark, thick sauce, served over white rice. There are some red chili peppers and a sprig of green herb on the side. The background is a blurred blue and white pattern.

WWW.GOOGLE.COM

A plate of venison vindaloo



# Dygart and Kitchen Take Java Stage



Dygart and Kitchen practice together for their performance

LUKE LAUER

MEGAN SPECKSGOOR

“We’ve been talking about doing this for the past year and we’re finally making it happen,” said senior voice major Kathryn Dygart about her upcoming coffeehouse with sophomore biology major Zach Kitchen. Dygart and Kitchen have been leisurely making music together for around two years, but this is the first time the pair will be performing jointly on stage.

Dygart recently held a voice recital in which she was accompanied by a guitarist, but she has yet to sing in a coffeehouse setting with an extensive repertoire. “I’ve never done anything with this many songs,” she said. “It’s a new challenge for me.”

Among her selections, Dygart chose songs by the Civil Wars and Mumford and Sons because of “the depth to the lyrics.” These artists can “say a lot even without explaining their songs,” said Dygart. “I just want to give people more of an appreciation for depth in the folk style.”

Dygart has been singing her whole life, but it wasn’t until her senior year in high school that she settled on music as a career path. During a presentation given by a few librarians from her school district on a musical organization that had travelled to Malawi, Dygart decided “my voice can make a difference” and “music is what I want to do.”

Dygart is drawn to music by its wide capacity of expression and its ability to articulate what the musician cannot. “Music is one of the best communication tools that we have,” said Dygart. “There are so many things you can communicate with music that you can’t with words.”

Dygart spent a portion of her summer in Spain pursuing an internship which broadened her understanding of musical diversity. “The ideas in music are very real and relatable; it puts you on the same level as others. But, it’s versatile; a funeral dirge sung in one culture could be a worship song in another,” she said.

Ultimately, Dygart explained, “I sing because it’s a gift from God and if you made a gift for someone it would bring you joy in seeing that person use it.”

Like Dygart, Kitchen is making his debut as a Java stage artist. “I’m nervous because I haven’t done anything like this before,” said Kitchen, who has primarily played “single songs for minor events” and worship music in the past. Kitchen is anticipating a “relaxed” atmosphere where he can enjoy providing “background music” for those who simply want to “drink their coffee and have a good time.”

Kitchen started learning the guitar around the beginning of high school. His parents were very encouraging, and he later began playing regularly for his home

church.

“It’s a really good hobby to have because it’s diverse,” he said. “You can bring it along while you’re chilling by a campfire with friends” or contribute to Sunday morning services.

Kitchen’s musical taste has “ebbed and flowed a lot” over the years, but an artistic standout for him is musician Josh Garrels. “I like him mainly because of his lyrics,” Kitchen said of Garrels. “They’re almost ‘spoken word’ and nothing about them is cliché.”

Kitchen can trace retrospectively his appreciation for lyricism to bands he grew up listening to, such as Relient K, and even to the nursery rhymes of his youth. His selections for the evening will include, among others, songs by Nickel Creek and the Wailin’ Jennys.

Kitchen compared the act of making music to that of painting, referencing the process of renewal that stems from such symbolic and personal creation.

“It’s healing,” he said. “Music is an art by which you can express your feelings, whether joy or sorrow, but it’s also just beautiful to listen to and pleasing to the ear.”

To engage in that opportunity is something Kitchen can only describe as a meaningful “gift.” He has enjoyed working with Dygart and joked that, if nothing else, people should attend the coffeehouse because “Kathryn is singing, and I’m not.”

Dygart and Kitchen’s coffeehouse is scheduled for Tuesday, November 6 from 8 to 10 p.m.

## Philharmonia Performance Tonight

EMILY MORROW

Houghton’s orchestra, Philharmonia, will be performing tonight in the Wesley Chapel at 7:30 p.m. along with featured vocal soloists Suzannah Waddington and Julian Cook.

After Philharmonia’s program in Angelica last month, the orchestra has been hard at work preparing an array of pieces by composers who share last names beginning with “B.” Apart from this similarity, the pieces Philharmonia will perform have few shared characteristics, creating an exciting, varied repertoire.

Along with the wide range of orchestral pieces, Waddington and Cook will each sing a piece accompanied by

the orchestra. Ethan Hall, assistant director of Philharmonia and graduate student at the Greatbatch School of Music, said, “I’m really looking forward to the soloists because they’re both so talented...it’s going to be really exciting just to have this collaboration.”

The concert will be featuring “B’s” such as Britten, Brahms, Bax, and Beach.

Among others, Philharmonia will be performing Britten’s “Simple Symphony,” which was featured in the recently released Wes Anderson movie, *Moonrise Kingdom*. Greatly inspired by Britten, Wes Anderson included many of Britten’s pieces in his film. Britten was somewhat of a child protégée, as he began composing at a very early age. The eight different themes in “Simple Symphony” are based on themes Britten wrote during his childhood.

After “Simple Symphony,” all the violinists will bid adieu, and the remaining orchestra members will continue with a “Serenade” by Brahms. In the absence of the violinists, the violists and cellists will show their deep, resonating strength.

“Mediterranean,” by Bax, is one of the most playful pieces of the

night. With tempo changes and some “Mediterranean” rhythms, the fun melodies are enough to transport you from this cold, rainy week at Houghton to a relaxing, sandy beach.

Freshman Chad Sell, a cellist in Philharmonia, has enjoyed his time so far playing with the orchestra. “Compared to my high school orchestra, it’s been really nice playing here just because all the musicians in Philharmonia are all high-level musicians,” Sell said. “You actually feel like you’re getting things accomplished and the pieces weren’t nearly as satisfying as the stuff we play [in Philharmonia].”

Tonight will be Philharmonia’s second of three main performances this semester, the first being the 1812 Overture played in Angelica and the third being the Sixth Annual Christmas Prism at the beginning of December. With a number of pieces to learn in a short amount of time, Philharmonia’s members have had to work hard. Janelle Conklin, junior and music education major, said, “We’ve been challenged, but we’ve still had fun while doing it.”

## Things to Do

EDWARD LINNECKE

If you ever find yourself in the midst of one of those hunger-filled conundrums that can only be resolved with a trip to “fried-food heaven,” than you may consider taking a drive to the Texas Hot, a well-recognized local restaurant that offers what many consider some of the best food rural Western New York has to offer.

The Texas Hot is located on Main Street in Wellsville, which is about a 35 minute drive south on Route 19. Because of its distance, a trip to the restaurant probably won’t stand as a spur of the moment affair, but if you like the quintessential hotdog and burger joint, a trip to the Texas Hot is a must during your stay in Houghton. Many people claim that the restaurant is near the top of their “to do list” when visiting the surrounding area.

If you haven’t gotten it from my comments thus far, the Texas Hot isn’t really the place for the very healthy-minded, and probably not for vegetarians either. But if you can set aside calorie counting for a day, then

you are in. The most popular orders at the restaurant are of course, Texas Hots, fries with gravy, milkshakes, and Texas cheeseburgers, which are cheeseburgers topped with the Texas hot sauce. However, the restaurant sports a decent variety of food, and if you can imagine it in a diner, it will probably be there. The Texas hot sauce is a house recipe that the restaurant actually sells quite frequently by itself, if that may serve as any testament to its quality.

Along with good old-fashioned fried food, the Texas Hot offers reasonable prices. After all, it is a hot dog and burger joint. Thus, it stands out as a nice place for college students, who more often than not are strapped for cash. Like most any diner-style restaurant it is pretty informal, and you can expect satisfactory service when you visit. So if you are having one of those “need something to do” Houghton afternoons, and you’re a hotdog or burger person, then taking a trip to the Texas Hot will almost certainly leave you satisfied. Its local renown should place it at the top of anybody’s rural Western New York “bucket list.”



WWW.GOOGLE.COM

A street view of the Texas Hot



2012: The Case for Romney



LUKE LAUER

JOSH MERTZLUFFT

‘Boldly cautious’ is the phrase that I would use to best describe the campaign for president that has been led by Willard Mitt Romney. He has proven to be a leader that the average working-class American can rally around because of his goal of solving the puzzle that is our economy.

Mitt has been extremely bold throughout this campaign season, acting not simply like a candidate trying to gain popularity, but rather in a very presidential manner. His statements on major issues that occur, his demeanor both in public and in official debates, and his treatment of foreign policy show his ability to fill the role. He has also held an unusually high level of respect for his opponent, although what he receives in return is a constant character assault. Romney has shown that he knows what he’s getting into and that he could handle the presidency well.

Romney certainly hasn’t hidden the fact that he has had an extremely successful business career, and that he wants to apply business principles to the federal government, such as balancing budgets by reducing overhead and unnecessary programs. For anyone, seeing that the nation is moving down a road to financial instability, it would be wise for our next president to prioritize the stability of the dollar and the economy that backs it.

He also has proved bold in his ideas to mend the economy, refusing to support tax rate increases. Even his Vice Presidentpick, Paul Ryan, the House Budget Committee chairman, shows that he

is truly placing the economy and the shrinking of the government at the top of his list. The shrinking of the government is something that is absolutely crucial if one wishes to see the overspending eliminated. Yes, one can argue that increasing the tax rate can help rein in the deficit, but anyone who observes history knows that as soon as the government gets more money, it’ll use it to justify an increase in spending rather than use it to eliminate the deficit. This is why Mitt has been correct to say that raising the taxes will not help get our nation out of the hole we are digging.

Romney has not been making abstract or unreal promises to the electorate or attacking his opponent in ways irrelevant to the election or the presidency. Sure, he’s said things like the old ‘on my first day in office’ phrase, but what has always followed that has been something that he can do on his first day in office, such as seeking tax cuts, treating China as the rule bender it is, and repealing Obamacare. The former two of these are easy. They only take a simple statement. The latter is a more intricate situation and it takes a greater understanding of the American government to see how a president can ‘dis-implement’ a law. Simply put, the legislative branch makes the law and then the executive branch chooses to enforce the law. Should the executive branch choose not to implement, even if the bill is already signed, it would take a great movement in the political world to overrule the non-implementation. This great movement is something that Romney knows would not succeed even if someone did try to start it, so he would be able to effectively repeal Obamacare.

I would like to take a moment to dispel a major myth being popularized by his opponent. Romney is not a ‘stingy rich guy’ that does everything in his power to avoid taxes. In fact, by performing even minimal investigation of the man’s history, you can find that he is quite the opposite. Sure, he did only have about fourteen percent of his income paid as his federal income tax last year, but by simply asking why, you can find that he donated thirty percent of his income to charity and only claimed half of that donation total for the associated tax deduction, therefore paying more in taxes than he technically could have. Between taxes and his charitable contributions, he only keeps about half of his total income. I don’t think anyone can count that as unfair; after all, most Americans won’t even give a full tithe at church on Sunday. Time and time again his character is that of a generous man and a good steward of his assets. You can tell that you have a good candidate on your

hands when his opponents and the media try to make overwhelming deals out of miniscule slips, or non-issues.

Federal taxes withheld from my paycheck have increased over the last two years, while I’ve continued to make the same amount and remained a college student, so you understand that I’m not earning anything close to the seemingly lofty poverty line. That’s proof that taxes don’t just go up for the wealthy. The nation really could use a president whose primary goal is to make room for the American economy by getting the government out of the way. We need someone who holds themselves to their beliefs and won’t change once in office. Mitt Romney has shown that if elected, he will be that president. ★

Josh Mertzlufft is a senior physics major

Ex Mea Sententia / A Vote for Liberty



LUKE LAUER

ANDRE NELSON

One of the biggest challenges in representing the Third Party is fighting against the misconception that voting for anyone other than a GOP or a DNC candidate is “throwing away your vote.” But we must ask ourselves what having a right to vote actually means. It is an opportunity to vote for what you believe in. Gary Johnson reminds us on the front page of his website that, “the vote for Liberty is not wasted.” This is not to claim moral superiority, but it is a reminder that we do not have a two party system: we have a multi-party system. Your vote does not have to be between the lesser of two candidates you dislike, it can and should be for the candidate that best represents your values.



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Johnson differentiates himself on many platforms; however, the key ones to point out are his economic and foreign policies.

Johnson was the Republican Governor of New Mexico from 1995-2003. Gov. Johnson has been referred to as the “most fiscally conservative governor in the country.” Before running for president he was a successful businessman. He began a door-to-door handyman business while in college that grew exponentially in the following years, becoming one of the largest construction companies in New Mexico and employing over a thousand employees. Naturally, Johnson brings this businesslike mindset to the office.

While the national debt rises, much of the presidential debates have revolved around the best strategies for eliminating the deficit. The left wants to increase taxes, and the right wants to decrease them, but it seems that the main problem is that neither side envisions significant budget cuts. Gary Johnson makes his position clear by stating, “The math is simple: Federal spending must be cut not by millions or billions, but by trillions. And it must be done today.” In a response to the debates, in *USAToday*, Johnson stated that, “when you do the

math [for either side] there is no plan for eliminating deficits that adds up.” We must cut taxes and reduce federal involvement in the economy. Johnson has been clear that his plan calls for spending reduction of 43%, this is the reduction necessary to match revenues without raising taxes.

Many criticize third party candidates, belittling them on their knowledge of major issues and their plans for dealing with foreign issues and national debt, but it would be ludicrous to ignore Johnson’s economic background. While in office he cut taxes 14 times and never raised them. When Johnson’s term ended, New Mexico was one of only four states in the country with a balanced budget. Few can claim this level of success while in office.

Questions of budget cuts naturally bring us into foreign policies. One of the biggest areas where Johnson differs from GOP and DNC candidates is in his foreign policies. Johnson’s website states clearly where he stands, “given trillion-dollar deficits, America simply cannot afford to be engaged in foreign policy programs that are not clearly protecting U.S. interests,” he continues to state that, “there is nation-building and rebuilding to be

done right here at home.” Johnson has been extremely vocal about ceasing drone strikes in the Middle East. He has refused to support Israel in their calls for war against Iran and he intends to bring troops back from Afghanistan.

It would be misguided to believe that the Third Party is not a serious contender for the presidency. But, what I am most interested in proving in this editorial is not my candidate’s chances of winning. It is that I firmly believe that my right to vote should not, and is not, limited to two candidates, neither of which I believe are adequate for running this country. The GOP got us into the great recession, and the DNC continued with increase defense spending and aggressive foreign policies. Both parties have maintained high government spending. It is time for a party that will follow through with promises; it is time for a government that will stand for your values. A vote for the Third Party is a vote for Liberty. My vote is a statement of where my values lie. Voting third party is not throwing away your vote. ★

Andre is a senior communication major



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK /

A Strong Achievement Record for Obama



LUKE LAUER

KATHERINE BAKER

President Obama was elected four years ago to lead a country that was in the midst of the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. Although his previous campaign slogan “Change” has caused problems for him in this election as voters wonder whether or not they are now better off than they were four years ago, I would argue that the President has brought many positive changes to the nation. One common misconception that has proved damaging to his campaign is the belief that the President has the ability to single-handedly turn the economy around after a recession. In fact, economic recovery is a slow process, and job recovery occurs at an even slower rate. Obama has worked hard with little cooperation from Congress, passing a stimulus package once he

reached office to prevent further job loss. This bill provided states with aid money so they could reduce layoffs and still continue to run balanced budgets. In addition, it gave tax cuts to working families in order to encourage consumer spending, as well as also funding education and clean energy, among other things. Obama’s proposed economic policy involves returning the tax rate on the wealthiest Americans to the level it was under President Clinton, the last president to have run a balanced budget. Romney, on the other hand, has proposed to cut income-tax rates even further than President Bush did. Although this plan is agreeable at first glance, Romney has not been able to demonstrate how he will pay for these cuts without also increasing the nation’s deficit. Obama has worked diligently to improve conditions for the middle class and the working poor by making healthcare more accessible. The Affordable Care Act ensures that those with pre-existing conditions will be covered, makes healthcare more affordable for small businesses, covers preventive care, and allows young adults to be covered under their parents’

Obama has a strong record of both change and compromise behind him that makes him the clear choice in this presidential election.

health insurance plans, among other things. As a poor college student, one of Romney’s disdained 47%, I can appreciate how important it is to still be covered under my parents’ plan. This healthcare reform is not socialism; in fact, the argument can be made that the system it will replace is socialistic. When the uninsured become sick, they are not refused treatment. Instead, they go to emergency rooms, where the price of care is higher. When they are unable to pay those bills, hospitals charge more and those with insurance pay more through higher premiums in order to offset those costs. Although so called ‘Obamacare’ is by no means perfect, it is better than the current system we are leaving behind. Not only is Obama more in touch with the middle class and the working poor, but I think he is more in touch with the needs of women. Romney has made it clear that, in addition to PBS, he would cut funding for Planned Parenthood. Obama, on the other hand, believes that women should have access to free preventive health care, including mammograms, pap smears, and breast exams. Women deserve access to the services Planned Parenthood pro-

vides, and the country does not need any more unplanned pregnancies due to the unavailability of affordable birth control options. The President has enacted several progressive social policies during his term, notably the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 that renews the statute of limitations for filing an equal-pay lawsuit with each new paycheck reflecting that discrimination. A more controversial move was repealing the military’s “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell” policy. These reforms work to reduce discrimination against women in the workplace as well as individuals who identify as gay and lesbian in the military, an attempt to extend equal protection under the law to all individuals. When it comes to foreign policy, Obama pulled the country out of a misguided and expensive war in Iraq and ordered the covert operation resulting in the death of Osama bin Laden. During the foreign policy presidential debate, Romney struggled to differentiate himself from Obama in any meaningful way. Romney is still much of an unknown entity to voters, while Obama has a strong record of both change and compromise behind him that makes him the clear choice in this presidential election. ★ Katherine is a senior psychology and sociology major

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor, Administration, Faculty, Staff, Alumni, and Students of Houghton College who attended SPOT 2012, I would like to address this brief letter to all of you concerning my performance in the Weekend Update. It is much easier to feel certain about what you are saying when you feel it is legitimate or accurate, but I could have gotten the message across with a lot more grace, tact, and especially humor. After experiencing the reactions of the audience during the Weekend Update, I realized that I had hit a nerve and had perhaps crossed a line unintentionally. I think SPOT and particularly the Weekend Update can be a useful vehicle for sparking healthy discussion. However, it seems this particular Weekend Update was more divisive than communicative and that hurt more than it helped. In retrospect, I would like to apologize, not for the comments that I made, but for how I made them. In some ways I am frustrated with Houghton’s situation right now. I am frustrated by the fact that I have a number of qualified graduated friends who are unable to find jobs and feel unprepared in searching for them. I’m frustrated when I see professors that I love and respect working so incredibly hard to make everything on their agenda work. Regardless of my frustration my words should not have been biting, and I regret that they found targets. I could have expressed my concerns without doing that. I love Houghton College. It has been an environment that has affirmed me and helped me to grow not only as a

student, but as a child of God. It grieves me to realize that I may have personally hurt those who have invested so much in me. With that Dear Friends, I do hope you will accept my apology while respecting my position. Even the most difficult things should be said in love and my presentation was lacking in that regard. Sincerely, Alice Browning, Class of 2013; Anchor from the SPOT Weekend Update Dear Editor, “...and that the ELECTED might never form to themselves an interest separate from the ELECTORS prudence will point out the propriety of having elections often” – Thomas Paine, Common Sense These words are from a pamphlet that was first published on January 10th, 1776 and one could say America was founded on them. We are extremely lucky to be in a nation that, if one of our top leaders isn’t doing a good job by our eye, we have the guarantee of being able to elect a new one within the next few years. We are not subservient to a king, at the mercy of a ruling council, nor the afterthought of a self-serving dictator. We, the people, the electors, are the ones that decide the fate of our leaders. This in turn, creates a necessary accountability of our leaders to those they lead. At least that’s how it’s supposed to work. When you move into a new house in a new town, what happens to your neighbor relationships? Usually, because you’re not surrounded by them anymore, the relationships between you and your old neighbors die down over a few years and tend to become almost only that of acquaintances. These relationships are replaced by new ones in your new neigh-

borhood. Yes, there are exceptions, but this is a concept that applies to more than an average moving family. When the elected move away from the electors—a task that must usually be done to fulfill their duty because of practicality and location—their neighborhoods change. No longer are they among their peers who elected them, but they are among others who were elected. It doesn’t take a psychoanalyst to see what has the strong probability of happening here. As electors, we need to realize that our elected only have the powers and responsibilities we give them. We also need to realize that they’re real people too. Every person has faults and likewise every person has desires. We need to check that our leaders’ desires line up with our own as best we can. If their desires fall in or out of line with ours, it’s our job to let them know that. America, we need to be electors again. We need to cast our votes out of our own opinion, based on our own judgment of character, not a party’s, not the media’s, and not even the opinions of our peers around us. Arithmetic is one of the things in this world that is unchanging and votes are added to reveal the winner. Every single vote counts and when Election Day is coming, don’t feel like you must vote with a certain party even if you’ve registered with them. Judge each individual vote as if you were a senator voting on an amendment to our Constitution because in reality, you are voting on an amendment to America’s history. Voting is an expression of what we, as individuals, value. It should not be compromised by lack of time to do it or the feeling that it “won’t matter anyways.” Voting should be done because in America, We, the People, are the ultimate human authority. Josh Mertzlufft, Class of 2013

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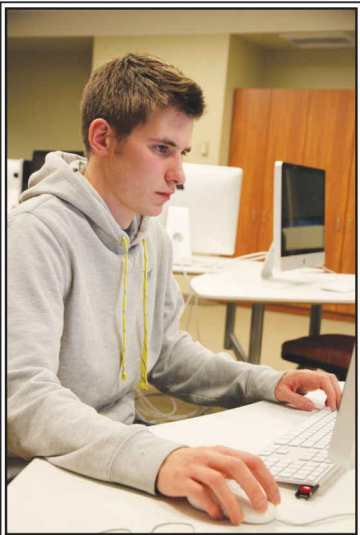
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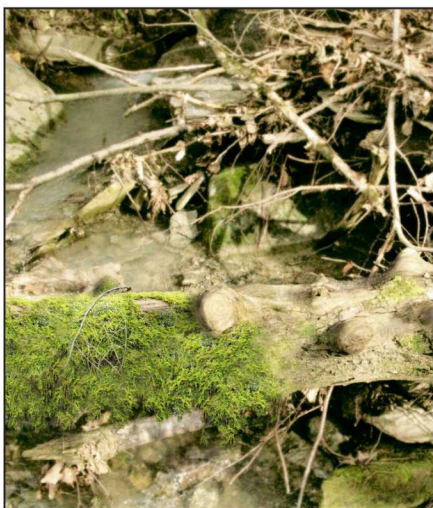


LUKE LAUER

# NATHAN CRONK

My ability to draw or paint ends somewhere between stick figures and finger painting, but I have found the digital world to be a much better medium for me. My digital imaging pieces are almost all based on landscapes and surrealism. I like to play on natural landscapes and make them appear just little bit unimaginable, but plausible. I also enjoy taking a new perspective on everyday things in my photography.

*Nathan is a senior communication major with a concentration in media arts.*



Untitled 2, digitally enhanced photography



Bicycle, black and white photography



Environmental Continuum, Photoshop/image composition



Untitled 1, Photoshop/image composition

## STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: ANIMAL WORLD

### ACROSS

- 1. Girder that looks like a letter
- 6. \*Largest North American deer
- 9. \*Methane release by a cow
- 13. \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ -la
- 14. Actress \_\_\_\_ Thompson
- 15. Rance's wrap
- 16. Luxurious sheet fabric
- 17. Opposite of guzzle
- 18. Donor's loss
- 19. \*Cause of African Sleeping Sickness
- 21. \*Dangerous delicacy
- 23. Nada
- 24. Rented on the links
- 25. Distant
- 28. Fountain order
- 30. Like body temperature of 98.6°
- 35. Month of Purim
- 37. Barber's supply
- 39. A Judd
- 40. Rounded elevation
- 41. Member of the lowest Hindu caste
- 43. "Goodbye" to Sophia Loren
- 44. Fat cat in the Orient
- 46. Toot one's horn
- 47. Julia Robert's character
- 48. Bad blood
- 50. Bassoon cousin
- 52. Ensign, for short
- 53. Student aid
- 55. Grandmother, for short
- 57. \*Dian Fossey's domain
- 60. "Bob Dylan's words, e.g.
- 63. Indian coin
- 64. Austin Powers, e.g.
- 66. Inhabitants of Thailand
- 68. Poker stakes
- 69. Across, in verse
- 70. \*It opens wide

To enter a drawing for a **free Java drink**, bring your finished puzzle, clearly marked with your full name and CPO, to the **Star** office in the basement of the Campus Center by 6PM on WED 11/7.

Last week's winner was **VERONICA GERACE!** Your Java card will be sent to you through campus mail.

- 71. \_\_\_\_ lighting
- 72. Country song "Harper Valley \_\_\_\_"
- 73. Walk through mud

### DOWN

- 1. "\_\_\_\_ alive!"
- 2. Babysitter's nightmare
- 3. Chow or grub
- 4. Sci-fi classic
- 5. \*Praying insect
- 6. "... or \_\_\_\_!"
- 7. "Fantasy Island" prop
- 8. 10th letter of Greek alphabet
- 9. Throw up
- 10. Encourage
- 11. Infantry's last rows, e.g.
- 12. Mont Blanc, e.g.
- 15. "\_\_\_\_ crime"
- 20. One-armed bandits
- 22. Big coffee server
- 24. Used for boiling
- 25. \*Animal life of particular period
- 26. Don Draper of "Mad Men", e.g.
- 27. Teacher of Torah
- 29. Slap on
- 31. Preakness, e.g.

## CROSSWORD: ANIMAL WORLD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
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48					49		50			51		52		
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	57	58	59					60				61	62	
63						64	65			66				67
68						69				70				
71						72				73				

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- 32. Wavelike design
- 33. At full speed
- 34. \*Tsavo man-eaters
- 36. One of "Clue" clues
- 38. Mr. Eugene Krabs, e.g.
- 42. "The \_\_\_\_ of defeat"
- 45. Protrudes outwards
- 49. Sun in Mexico
- 51. 3rd rock from the sun, pl.
- 54. \*He used animals to demonstrate morals

- 56. Root of nihilism
- 57. Ellen Page's 2007 role
- 58. Plotting
- 59. Financial aid criterion
- 60. Vega's constellation
- 61. Al Capone, e.g.
- 62. Plural of #17 Across
- 63. Ewe's mate
- 65. \*Not a wild one
- 67. Fifth note