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The Houghton Star

The Houghton Star



College Mourns Fancher

by Patricia Uleskey

Zola Kitterman Fancher died Tuesday, November 3, at Age 91. She was born on June 3, 1896 in Fairport, Indiana. She graduated from Fairport High School in 1914 and entered Houghton College in 1918 and graduated from Houghton with an A.B. in 1926.

She married Professor Willard LaVay Fancher in August 1920 and he died in 1934. At the time of his death, Professor Fancher was serving as academic dean of Houghton College. Mrs. Fancher was a widow for 53 years. She taught math and Bible at the Houghton Academy for 20 years from 1934 to 1964. She also taught at the College as well. Specifically. she taught math methods, eco-

ACS Available for Student Use

The Houghton College Academic Computer System is being made available for general use. Students and faculty will have access to the Academic DEC VAX 8200 facilities, including over 20 general access terminals, a high speed draft quality printer, and a new Digital LN03 Laser printer.

The Academic Computer System will provide access to the Word Perfect word processing program, DECalc spreadsheet, Oracle Relational Database, BDMP statistical package, and several programming languages.

Another highlight of the Academic Computer System is the electronic mail and bulletin board facilities. These will allow elec-

nomics, and accounting while her husband was away working on his Ph.D. When he died during the school year of 1933-1934, she finished his courses for him, and then went directly to work teaching math, geography, and history at the Academy.

The span of her service at the Academy covered onethird of the life of the school, which was established in Houghton 88 Wesleyan Methodist Seminary. "During the intervening years, she had been a witness to the tremendous growth and development of the college," according to Philip J. Birchall, president of Houghton Academy and College in 1964.

Her years of service began during the presidency of Dr. James S. Luckey, under whom the college attained full accreditation in 1936. During those years, the academy was operated by the same administration as the college and the academy shared the college facilities.

A separate campus for the academy was constructed in 1958, which began with the first spade of earth being turned by Mrs. Fancher during ground-breaking ceremonies on April 22, 1958.

Those surviving her include her two children, Frances Gwendolyn Shelden, and Maxwell LaVay Fancher, both Houghton College graduates and five grandchildren and five great-grandchil

tronic communication among any users of the Academic Computer

Two terminals are scheduled to be installed in each dorm within the next two weeks, and the Academic Computer System will be available there as soon as they are installed. Information about the system, and obtaining accounts will be posted in Room S119 (Science Bldg). A user's manual is being prepared by the Computer Center Staff, and will be sold in the Campus Store.

The Academic Computer System is being made available for YOUR use, so try it out!

Houghton Celebrates N. C. D.

by Dave Caccia Today, the first National Chemistry Day was celebrated. Sponsored by the American Chemical Society (ACS), the event is aimed at communicating to the public the benefits of chemistry and responding to the public's apprehension about the risks associated with chemistry and chemicals. Across the country, local sections of ACS observed the day in various ways from viewing museum exhibits to competing in a high school chemistry contest called "The Battle of the Burettes."

At Houghton College the chemistry faculty, who belong to the Corning Section of ACS. planned events for this special day. Students in Dr. Frederick Shannon's general chemistry class prepared chemical demonstrations to show area middle-school students about how chemistry works. This morning, chemistry faculty presented demonstrations and lectures in the local schools.

> Houghton Takes "Trip to Bountiful" Directed by Bruce Brenne-

man, The English Expression Club at Houghton College will perform Horton Foote's "The Trip to Bountiful," November 12th and 13th at 8pm, and November 14th, at 2pm.

This is the poignant story of an aging widow, Mrs. Watts, living with her son and daughter-in-law in a three-room apartment in Houston, Texas. Fearing that her presence may be an imposition on others, and chafing under the harsh and selfish supervision of her daughter-in-law, the widow imagines that if she can get away and return to her old home in the town of Bountiful, she will surely regain her strength, dignity, and peace of mind. Thus she attempts an escape; in Bountiful she realizes that old friends of her youth have died or moved, and her house

And in the afternoon, anyone who wanted to examine jewelry for nickel (to avoid nickel allergy) or anyone who wanted to check whether his stoneware leached toxic amounts of lead into his food. or anyone who suspected that his calcium supplements are not dissolving properly, was invited to room 414 of the Houghton's Stephen W. Paine Science Building to test his materials. The nickel and lead tests were non-destruc-

National Chemistry Day was celebrated regionally and nationally. According to the chairman of the Corning section of ACS, Dr. Stephen Tong of Corning Glassworks, thirty-one middle schools in the Southern Tier were visited by local section chemists during the first week of November 1987. Dr. Tong estimated that as many as 3,000 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students were invited to participate in this pro-

is a crumbling wreck.

The only redeeming part of her trip is the supreme satisfaction of plunging her hands into the strength-giving earth, leaving her with a sense of that strength and dignity which will give her the courage to survive. Mrs. Watts returns to Houston, secure in the knowledge that the remainder of her existence will be enriched as a result of her last contact with Bountiful.

Of seven characters acting, three are New York residents. They are: Rebecca Shenk, East Irving; Jenna Geiser, Greenville; and Rand Bellavia, Waterport.

Tickets are available at the door for \$3.00, or \$2.00 with Houghton ID. Children under 12 may get in for \$1.00. All performances are in Fancher Auditorium.

Area News Briefs

Has alcohol abuse been a part of your home life? There is a resource that can help with information, insights, and support on this issue. There is an ACOA (Adult Children of Alcoholics) group on campus that meets every Tuesday from 10-11 pm. If you grew up in this type of environment, find out more information and call James or Wanda at ext. 271.

There were many who donated blood or worked to help make this fall's Red Cross Bloodmobile a very successful one. The bloodmobile had 166 donors and collected 146 pints of blood. The spring blood drive is scheduled for Feb. 2, 1988.

By J. P. Gre "The T percent of th

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Houghton Joins Overseas Development Network

By J. P. Greg Laing

"The Third World, with [76] percent of the world population, subsists on only [27] percent of the world income—and even this meager income is so maldistributed internally as to leave the bulk of its population in abject poverty." Santiago Declaration of Third

World Economists.

Responses by Western Christians to these facts has varied from disinterest or token sympathy, to shock coupled with a numb feeling of helplessness. Granted, the solutions to the problems of Third World development may be beyond our comprehension, but this should not hinder our willingness to be informed and involved.

A group of Houghton students and staff discovered a strategic way to get involved while attending a conference this past spring on Washington D.C. The challenge was compelling: to have Houghton College join in partnership with over 50 American colleges and universities who share in the concern to increase awareness of global development issues and demonstrate how students and others can play a direct and positive role in that process.

This partnership is called the Overseas Development Network Inc. The Overseas Development Network (ODC) is a nationwide, student run organization founded in 1983 in Massachusetts. This rapidly expanding organization includes schools such as Harvard, Duke, MIT, George Washington, Yale, and now Houghton.

While it is agreed that joining the network and fulfilling the annual requirements for membership would not be difficult, the following question still had to be answered: "Does a Christian College like Houghton need an organization like ODN?" The answer is yes, and these were some of the reasons why:

Concern was expressed by several students and faculty that
many of their peers seemed nor
only ignorant of Third World affairs (or even international affairs)
but also cared little beyond their

own self-interest.

 More and more students have displayed interest in non-traditional careers. Many are seeking opportunities for overseas work, especially in the area of economic development.

3) Students who are aware of the deprived economic conditions of

the majority living in the Third World are easily overwhelmed and can end up saying, "What difference can I make anyway?"

Being an affiliate of ODN provides some of the necessary information and support to address each of the preceding concerns with hope and enthusiasm. The main objectives of ODN are threefold: first, to prompt greater public understanding of the problems in the Third World through educational tools and opportunities, secondly, to provide intern opportunities in Third World countries, and finally to raise funds for indigenous self-help projects.

Since ODN is not a Christian organization, the supporters of the Houghton College Chapter see this as an ideal opportunity to make credible the Christian world view in the realm of economic development. If concerned World Christians participate in the leadership of groups and organizations who promote Third World development, then the "cup of cold water" can be given with compassion to the needy in the name of Jesus.

The Houghton ODN chapter is one of the newest student organizations on campus as its constitution was approved by the Student Development Council in late September. Look for promotional material about ODN later in November and plan to attend the first general meeting for Houghton students and community. If you are interested in more information, contact this year's officers: J.P. Greg Laing, President; Anke Suelzner, Secretary; Steve Browning, Treasurer; or Professor Richard H. Halberg, faculty advisor.

Part of the contribution by ODN to the Houghton community will be a column appearing in the Houghton Star called "Merging World." Each column will focus on a specific country in the Third World and will include both an overview of the current development situation, as well as reports from ODN member students who have live in these regions.

Merging World Smokey Mountain By David Baltz

North of Manila's urban core, on the fringes of the poor district of Tondo, lies one of the Philippine capital's several waste disposal sites. Rising from the shore of Manila Bay, this hill of refuse has come to be known as "Smokey Mountain". It is one of the highest points in metro Manila, and the hazy, foul quality of the atmosphere derives from high humidity, rotting garbage, and the air pollution of a large city.

Although what ends up here has been discarded by the city's residents, there is still another sorting or recycling that occurs before the remains are left to settle as landfill. On the lower slopes of Smokey Mountain lives a community of scavengers who manage a living by collecting bits of broken glass, metal, paper, and other reusable materials. Residing amidst the shocking squalor that is found in poor areas throughout much of the developing world, the people of Smokey Mountain sell their gathered "harvest" for about twenty centavos, or one US penny, per kilo.

To reach the homes of Smokey Mountain, it is necessary to walk from the road along paths that are thickly slimed with black sludge and decaying debris. The first-time visitor may try to hop from stone to stone and avoid stepping ankle deep into this nameless mire, but soon enough the attempt to maintain one's distance becomes futile, especially in the rainy season. Some of the people who live and work here wear kneehigh rubber boots, but for the most part, the Filipinos wear rubber thong shoes, or are barefoot.

The haphazard clutter of shanties at close range is rather disorienting to the newcomer. There is no order to the layout of the shacks, nor is there running water, electricity, or toilets. Flies

swarm everywhere and the stench is overwhelming.

Further up the slope, the living areas end and the horizon looms ahead as a wall of refuse. Trails lead up the grade to an expansive plateau at the summit. Along the way are workers with small carts or shoulder bags, raking through the area near them by hand or with crude tools. More scavengers labor at the top where a fine view back to central Manila is unexpectedly revealed.

Despite an environment that an outsider finds unrelentingly degrading, the people of Smokey Mountain are not bitter. Many have come from the provinces, and in fact believe that life is better in the city. At Smokey Mountain, they are paid at the end of each day and while their wage is by every standard marginal, it allows them to eat. In the countryside, there is often no chance to earn income between harvests. Statistics that measure quality of life indicate that metro Manila is clearly the region of the Philippines where opportunity is the greatest. For the visitor, this realization is perhaps the most disturbing aspect of a trip to Smokey Mountain.

Davis Baltz, a student at University of Massachusetts, Boston, spent the summer of 1987 in the Philippines on an Overseas Development Network internship program.

The preceeding article is taken from Merging World...a project of the Overseas Development Network, volume 1, number 1, October, 1987.

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The Houghton Size is a weakly publication attempting to represent the wise of the students of Houghton College The Size recoverages thought, discussion, and the free exchange of opinion; but the opinions and ideas express havin do not necessarily represent the views of the Size or of Houghton College or the editor. The Size encourage signed latters to the sellior, however, the editor reserves the right to edit all contributions. All letter for inclusion must be submitted by 1100 am. Menday. The Sizer subscribes to the Washington Pest Writer Group and Tribuse Media Services.

Cook Lectures on Ethical Dilemmas

by John Bright

Dr. E. David Cook, a visiting professor from Oxford University in England, was the most recent speaker of the Houghton College Lecture Series. I have had the opportunity to attend most of the series so far, and they have, for various reasons, often been lessthan-enthusiastically attended. This was not the case with Dr. Cook. While I would have expected an Oxford professor to be interesting, I did not expect that he would be so dynamic. The hook of his chapel presentation on Thursday was enough to draw the largest crowd yet to a regular Thursday night lecture.

The presentation itself was as far-ranging as it was fascinating. The only unfortunate thing about the evening was that Cook did not have enough time to expand more fully on each of the many topics he covered. Indeed, the first question that came to my mind at the close of the meeting was "Who told him he had a time

limit? Doctor Cook addressed most of the pertinent issues in his chosen field of bioethics. He raised many questions, including experimentation on human embryos, the "right" to have children, especially as addressed to inseminating maternalistic lesbians, and the obligation of sperm donors to their eventual children. He moved on to abortion and how its acceptance and legality has opened the floodgate not only for a lower view of human life but also the mindset of pregnancy in itself being dangerous, and therefore an undesirable quasi-disease. The logical step from devalued human life, of course, is euthanasia, and there he addressed the difference between the "right" to die and the "right" to

them all to their lowest common denominator: "What is the value of life is derived from the question, "Where does life come from?" that is where he led us next.

He then moved on to a different area, that of homosexuality. He discussed the beliefs of "Christian" homosexuals who say that for

be killed. After speaking to the

specific issues, he then reduced

every instance in the Bible where homosexuality is condemned, there is an underlying, non-moral, cultural cause for God's condemnation. He also discussed nonpracticing homosexuals who hold positions in churches in England.

He talked, as a corollary to

the issue of homosexuality, on the problem of AIDS. Dr. Cook believes that AIDS is a substantially more serious problem than our governments portray. The virus, he says, is now in different forms, which makes it even more formidable. He spoke of countries in Africa where 60% of men between 18 and 35 are infected. If 100% of those people get AIDS, as he says they will, entire nations could collapse. In what he says is the British government's worst case scenario, all those infected would be moved to militarized zones for the good of the country and those not infected.

I had the pleasure of interviewing Dr. Cook last Friday, and what follows are some excerpts, meant to fill in where perhaps more could have been said, and to provoke further thought.

When asked about Houghton, Dr. Cook took the opportunity to address the purpose of Christian liberal arts colleges. He believes they serve an important ministry function, with their greatest asset being the kind of people they attract. He also warned, however, that the greatest danger of an environment like ours is to become introverted and unconcerned with the world around us.

Dr. Cook's lecture provided many thought-provoking ideas about Christian approaches to problems, but he barely mentioned any institutional roles in problemsolving. Therefore, I asked him about the role of the government in all of this. The answer which I got back was that government is to preserve good and limit evil.

I asked him about our Presidential race, and how he thinks the ethics of the candidates relates to their ability to do the job. "Unfortunately," he said "Countries often get the leaders they deserve." He believes that a candidate's personal morality does reflect in an important way on how they will carry out the job they are so eager to be elected to.

On specifics of his beliefs, he said that he does not believe in anything further than fertility treatment for couples who cannot have children. Surrogate motherhood is not an option. As to whether a fertilized egg is a human being or not, he would say that it is a human being with potential or a potential human being. For him, the two terms are interchangeable. He believes that any experiments conducted on fertilized eggs ments conducted on fertilized eggs continued on page 5

Anywhere But Here...

by John Bright

President Reagan nominated federal appeals court judge Douglas Ginsberg as his choice for Supreme Court Justice. Ginsberg. 41 years old, could be the youngest Justice since William Douglas. He has been a professor at Harvard Law School, the chief of the antitrust division of the Justice Department, and has worked in the Office of Management and Budget. The nomination is considered to be a victory for Attorney General Edwin Meese and a defeat for Chief of Staff Howard Baker, who wanted Reagan to choose a more moderate. and thus more easily confirmed, nominee. The choice is also a victory for conservatives, for in it President Reagan has apparently kept his promise to nominate some one just as conservative as Bork was, and therefore someone whom the judiciary committee would like just as little. Indeed, Senator Ted Kennedy has said that Ginsberg is an ideological clone of Judge Bork a Judge Bork without a paper trail .. " Interesting, considering that about a year ago this same Kennedy called this same Ginsberg "openminded" and "compassionate." Not having been nearly as prolific as Bork, Ginsberg's stance on many sues remain unknown. Friends and acquaintances say that he is an across-the-board conservative, and therefore would accomplish President Reagan's goal of leaving a lasting, positive mark on the high court.

The Teamsters Union will be allowed to rejoin the AFL-CIO. The executive board of the AFL-CIO voted unanimously to allow the renegade union, which was expelled in 1957 for refusing to coo erate with an investigation into its ethical conduct, to rejoin the larger organization. The news comes at a rather ironic time, considering that, at present, the Justice Department is trying to take over the union under racketeering laws, and its current President Jackie Presser, is under indictment by a federal grand jury. The teamsters have historically been associated with organized crime. The Organized Crime Commission recently named it as being one of a small number of unions with underworld ties, and its last four presidents were either forced out because of alleged misconduct or are prison. Many members of the AFL-CIO hope that the renewed associadoesn't tarnish their organization's image, while Teamers hope that the association will help improve their's. The Teamsters will add the strength of their 1.5 million members to the AFL-CIO's 12.7 million.

China held its 13th Party Congress last week, and the tone re-

flected the desire for change that experts have been pointing to in that nation for some time. The legendary party leader Deng Xiaoping is expected to step down to make way for his heir apparent, Cina's premier and acting party chief Zhao Ziyang. Deng is not retiring altogether, however. He will assume leadership of the country's military machine, which includes an army of some 3.2 million. The conference began with a 2 1/2 hour speech by Zhao, in which he prom ised to accelerate the country's economic modernization, including the use of techniques associated with capitalism, provided, of course, they encourage growth. He protrayed himself as a moderate, able to balance between the economic good of the country on the one hand and preservation of the culture and the purity of socialism on the other. He suggested several specific measures such as the issuing of stocks and bonds to the public, a free real estate market, and a system of civil service jobs awarded on the basis of competitive merit. He is expected to succeed Hu Yaobang, who was removed during the past year's sutdent demonstra-

tions, as party chief.

The Air Force successfully launched a Titan rocket with an officially secret payload into orbit last week. The liftoff from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California marked the restoration of the military's ability to put satellites into orbit on its own. The timetable for the launching of various military projects was set back years by the explosion of the Challenger, and the last two times the Air Force has tried to launch Titans, they have met with similar fates. Last week's payload was believed to be the largest and most advanced spy satellite the United States has ever launched, several generations ahead of the equipment we had

been relying on.

Two U.S. Air Force sergeants and a retired serviceman were killed in separate shooting incidents in the Philippines last week Both of the murders, which took place within fifteen minutes of each other, were believed to have been carried out by Communist rebels The increasingly lawless and chaotic state of Manila and the country as a whole are prompting its citizens to wonder how much longer President Corazon Aquino can hold on to power. Her term officially expires in 1992, but many expect an end to come in or before 1988. While Communist rebels attack from the outside, Mrs. Aquino also has to deal with increasing pressure from the military and within her own cabinet. The question on the minds of most insiders seems to be who will succeed her.

Dear Editor:
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Robert Danne
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Kushkowski Replies to Danner's Letter

Dear Editor:

I'm compelled to reply to Dean Robert Danner's letter in the October 23 issue of the Star for many reasons. I attended Houghton from 1981 to 1985 and knew numerous people, myself included, who at one time or another used (and abused) alcohol. During my time at Houghton I noticed that alcohol was a problem on campus and the issue hit me when I realized that I could not control my own drinking.

When I realized that I had a problem with my own alcohol use. I also felt that attempts to seek help via the administration would be to no avail, mainly because of the attitude I saw which was that alcohol use did not officially exist. With the help of some good friends I managed to stop for awhile, but the problem continued returning until I seriously sought help two

vears ago.

The point of this is that at the time I felt I needed help with my drinking I also believed there was no way I could approach members of the Houghton community with my problem because of the possible sanctions attached to my violating the rules. While at Houghton there were instances of disciplinary action for alcohol use, such as the St. Patrick's Day Massacre (A party that occurred several years ago that involved drinking on campus). There were also instances of students leaving school in order to be treated for their alcohol problems. On the whole, though, I have to say that there was no real commitment on the part of the administration to deal openly with the problem of alcohol.

I applaud the current efforts of the administration to come public with the fact that there is an alcohol problem because it's an issue that deserves an open forum. The Dean's letter is a step in the right direction but there are points

where I disagree.

On the subject of integrity, everyone I know has had lapses of integrity and these lapses come in various forms. For instance, telling your roommate that his or her outfit looks wonderful when in fact it looks positively horrid. Whether it's lying to your roommate about clothing or drinking alcohol when you've pledged that you won't, the result is the same and integrity has been compromised. Given the imperfect world in which we live, these things are bound to happen in spite of our best attempts to the contrary.

I thoroughly disagree that "the motivation to drink is primarily individualistic and selfishly motivated." That statement can be applied to any activity. Consequently, everything from studying for an exam to eating dinner or sleeping can be considered selfish. That's a pretty cynical view of human nature. To say that drinking is primarily a selfish behavior simplifies that point immensely.

There are as many reasons for drinking as there are people who drink, and I admit, some of them are selfish. At Houghton I heard a number of justifications for alcohol use. First, there were the people who used alcohol simply because they knew they shouldn't. For such people I have little regard because of their insistence that they be allowed to do what they please without regard for others. Second, there were people who saw no problem with drinking from a Biblical standpoint and used their liberty in Christ to exercise their right to drink. In every case I can think of, the people involved drank in the privacy of their own rooms, rarely if ever drank to excess, and tolerated the right of the majority not to drink. Finally, there were people who drank because they were physically addicted and had no choice but to drink. For these people there needed and needs to be intervention, counseling, and some type of treatment.

The Dean's comments on alcohol's effect on the value of life take the extreme case. Scare tactics about drunk driving don't usually have an effect on people because they rationalize that it just won't happen to them. What should be stressed is the effect on everyday living that results from alcohol use. Taken to excess, alcohol not only has physical effects, it also affects the spiritual, emotional and social well-being of the user. Alcohol isolates the individual from God, himself, and others. For the social drinker I can't say that these things happen, but it certainly is something to think about before that first drink.

My greatest concern comes with Dean Danner's comments about his response to alcohol related offenses. I see no contradiction in offering both disciplinary action and counseling for alcohol offenses. In Bloomington, Indiana, alcohol offenders are subject to both a) jail time of some kind, and b) counseling through either the Mental Health Center or a private practitioner. The fact remains, though, that in spite of the ethic of confidentiality in the counseling service, the threat of disciplinary sanction will keep some persons who need help from seeking it. In the few instances of alcohol related offenses I knew about in Houghton, disciplinary sanction was always given, counseling (i.e. education about alcohol, not just a spiritual inventory conducted by the Dean of Students) was treated as a kind of last resort. Rather than treating problems with alcohol as solely the result of an individual's spiritual problems, the administration needs to look also at the social factors involved (such as Houghton's relative isolation from the rest of the world and it's in loco parentis approach to male-female interaction, i.e. "open-house") in assessing the reasons for alcohol use on the campus.

The first step in combating the alcohol problem at Houghton is awareness, and that seems to be happening. The object of this new awareness on campus should not be just information about alcohol and its effects. It also needs to include an honest discussion of the alcohol policy, something which Dean Danner neglected to mention in his letter. I realize, as does anyone who has been at Houghton, that change comes very slowly, and that on the issue of alcohol change is unlikely. However, discussion of the current alcohol policy and some possible alternatives to it needs to be an integral part of any alcohol awareness program. What may be discovered is that the policy should be changed. I fear that all this education will have the opposite effect and that more people may go out and "experiment" with alcohol. Just as banning books causes them to be read. so might education about alcohol without revision of the alcohol policy result in more drinking instead of less

Finally, I disagree that students should be taught "how you responsibly decide about the alcohol issue after you graduate." What the students need is open discussion about the issues related to alcohol including use, not just the "you can't do this now, maybe when you leave" arguments. The education about alcohol needs to include information about what to do now - when your roommate comes in drunk or when you discover that you can't stop drinking. Students don't need platitudes about what to do when they graduate, they need good common sense advice (other than "Just say no!") about possible approaches to alcohol while they're at Houghton. Please don't insult student intelligence by doing otherwise.

Sincerely, Jeffrey D. Kushkowski '85

Typo Troubles Dear Pat and everyone else,

Two things.

First, there was a typo worth mentioning in the editorial I wrote last week. The sentence, "I haven't met any students who feel like I do." should read, "I haven't met many students who feel like I do." I don't believe I have the corner on truth; I thought I'd make this clear.

And second, whoever thought up the caption, "O'Byrne Okays ROTC," for Bruce O'Byrne's letter last week hit it right on the nose. O'Byrne okayed ROTC, and that's all. folks.

Dave Perkins

Cook Continued from page 4 must benefit the eggs themselves, or they are wrong.

When further questioned on his beliefs about the nature of homosexuality, he maintains that some people are homosexual, and that it is one of the results of living in a fallen world. Working from the presupposition that some people are homosexuals then, he logically concludes that the right thing for those people is chastity, just as it would be for an unmarried heterolaures

All in all, Dr. Cook's words, were an enjoyable benefit to all those who were fortunate enough to hear

In last week's issue (Oct. 30, 1987), on page six, a letter was run titled O'Byrne Okays ROTC. The author of that letter was Bruce O'Byrne, not professor O'Byrne. We are sorry that his signature got cut from the article.



Men's Soccer Finishes: 8-4-3

The Houghton College Men's soccer team completed the final section of their scheduled games during the 1987 season, winning 3 out of their last four games. Houghton defeated Alfred. Elmira, and Behrend, and lost a close game to Fredonia University.

The Highlanders hosted Alfred University on October 27th, as they were able to pull off a 2-1 victory. The Alfred offense scored first midway through the first half, as a crossing pass near the touch line was shot past the Houghton keeper. At the opening of the second half, Houghton was able to tie the score as David May crossed the ball in front of the Alfred goal, and Brian Thompson was there waiting. Thompson headed the ball beautifully into the goal, causing the onlooking fans to erupt on the sidelines. With six minutes remaining in the game, Mark Ashley found Robert Beckford alone near the goal, where Beckford came out on top following a one on one confrontation with the Alfred goal keeper, assuring the Highlanders with a 2-1 victory.

Houghton's final regular season home game was played against Elmira College on October The presence of good weather was very limited that afternoon, with cold temperatures and occasional showers, but Houghton's scoring attack was unconfined as they shut out Elmira 5-0. Myron Glick started things off on a positive note, as he drove easily down the field, and netted a beautiful shot within the first minute of the game. Keith Davey followed with two impressive goals, as he lobbed the first one over the head of Elmira's goal keeper, and then beat him to his right minutes later. Houghton went on to score twice more, giving them a 5-0 shut-out over Elmira.

Houghton finished up its regular season with a record of 8-4-3. The team is scheduled in post season play, with a game to be played this coming Wednesday.

Women's Volleyball Overview

by Don Tremblay

This year the Women's Volleyball Team, under the leadership of new Head Coach Harold "Skip" Lord and assistant coach Kirk Sabine, ended their season with a 13-18 record.

The team was a young one, with five freshmen, four first year sophomores, and only three returning players: Cindy Antisdel, Diana Bandy, and Heather Werth. They started the season fairly well, and acheived a record of around .500 halfway through the season. At this point the team lost their starting middle blocker, freshmen Audra Seymour, to a serious ankle injury. Heather Werth and Cara Christensen were injured, less seriously, but enough

to hamper their playing ability.

Two freshmen left during the season due to academic difficulties. With these player losses, the team's record suffered. The team finished up with a fine performance at the St. John Fischer Tournament, handily defeating St John Fischer and Elmira and narrowly loosing to Niagara.

Another addition to this year's team was Banboo, a new companion to Banabi, the present team's mascot

Coach Lord will go on to coach the Women's Basketball team this winter. He comes to us after six years of coaching on the highschool level with a record of 110-15. Good luck coach.



Women's Soccer '87 Season: 5-8-1 by Kevin Fuller

If one were to haze at Houghton College during the latter part of August, one would seldom discover more than an occasional faculty member preparing for the fall semester, or maybe a group of freshmen lost in the woods while enrolled in the Highlander program. Upon venturing over to the Houghton soccer fields, the women's soccer team could be found working hard on the baorious aspects of their sport, while most students are still lounging in the last bit of summer sun.

Coach Paula Maxwell was faced with a difficult schedule at the outset of the 1987 season, going up against Niagra University, Geneseo, and other divisional powerhouses. This year's women's soccer team consisted mostly of players with limited experience, but various returning starters along with constant encouragement from the coach provided the team with the necessities to compete aggressively. As games progressed, and experience was

gained, members of the team felt more comfortable with one another, and many important skills were solidified. The women watched as their passing became increasingly more effective, and their defense more intact.

"Our season was very enjoyable." reflects junior Diane Trasher. "The second half of the season was especially satisfying after the team started to play well with each other."

The Highlander's 5-8-1 season was highlighted by victories over Wells College, Elmira College, Fredonia University, St. Bonaventure, and Gannon University.

After spending over two months preparing for and playing in games, some may wonder if the teams constant effort and daily practice was worth the energy exerted by the players.

"Oh, definitely!" insists freshmen Mary Biglow. "We are ready to do it all over again!"

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Fridge's Line

- Congratulations to Becky Seher on placing ninth in the Cross-Country NCCAA district tournament last weekend.

- Good luck to the Men's Soccer team in the upcoming NAIA tournament

- Interested in a Men's Volleyball team at Houghton? Contact Kirk Sabine.

- Referees are needed for basketball intramurals. Contact Jan

- Men's Basketball team open their season next Friday night at Robert Wesleyan College against Spring Arbor. Go and support the

- Good luck to all the winter sport teams.

Special thanks to Kevin Fuller and Don Tremblay for writing this

Next week, Fridge's Line will feature an exclusive interview with Jan Kennedy, Director of Intramurals.



Ignorance and CCCP Battle in Flag Football

by Punque Vance

In front of a crowd of about fifty spectators, Ignorance and CCCP (Concussion Crew and Causers of Pain), the two finalist in coed-flag football, battled in a game of big plays and flared tempers in which Ignorance prevailed 4-3. The game was held on the wet and muddy Alumni Field under the lights. Both teams came into the game boasting excellent regular seasons records: Ignorance at 5-0, and CCCP at 4-1, their only loss coming from the hands of Ignorance, 3-2, several weeks earlier.

The opening "festivities" were a nice touch to the spectacle of the game. The players for each side were introduced from the press box by Jan Kennedy, Head of Intramurals. This was followed by the singing of both the Canadian National Anthem by Alice Putney, and the American National Anthem sung in a duet by Samantha Barrett and Larry Leaven. Student Senate President Robert Beckford performed the traditional coin toss which was won by Ignorance who elected to receive.

The first several drives stalled for both sides. CCCP appeared to have momentum on their second drive with a 40 yard gallop by Brent Thompson deep into Ignorance territory but it was called back on a penalty. The Ignorance defense stiffened and let the offense take over. On the third play of the drive, quarterback for Ignorance, Bill Bentley found Dan Bellavia across the middle and connected, Bellavia's first of three receptions that resulted in touchdowns during the game. Once CCCP got the ball back deep in their own territory, the drive stalled again and Ignorance collected again with a touchdown by Paul "Goat" Allen. The half ended with Ignorance leading 2-0.

After a brief halftime show

provided by twirlers Sharon Klay and Eileen Omland, CCCP received the kickoff and appeared to have something going with runs by Rick Mucher and Jim Harmon but again they were stalled only to have this failure result in another Ignorance touchdown coming from Dan Bellavia, his second tally of the game, 3-0. Momentum shifted sides in the middle of the half with Rick Mucher receiving a seventy yards for a score, 3-1. The CCCP defense rose to the occasion when Brent Thompson picked off a bad pass and returned it for a significant gain. The drive soon was killed on a key interception by Dan Bellavia. Bellavia subsequently capped off a short drive with a 40 vard touchdown run after a short pass from Bentley, his third, making it 4-1.

CCCP matched the TD with a 35 yard gallop by Jim Harmon on their next possession, 4-2.

The game up to this point had been fairly clean and temper free. However, frustrations and accusations were voiced vehemently towards the end of the half. The tension produced several cheap shots and a fight which resulted in the ejection of three players. CCCP got the ball back after the fracas and on the last play of the game scored on a 50 yard pass play from Brent Thompson to Hank Beekly, 4-3.

Tensions subsided after the final whistle and hands were shaken and congratulations offered. MVP's for the game were chosen by the Intramural writer's poll and are as follows: for Ignorance, Dan Bellavia, and for CCCP Rick Mucher and Jim Harmon (guys), for Ignorance, Mary Harpel and Lynn Leathers, and for CCCP Becky Mucher and Amy Anderson (Girls). Congratulations to Ignorance, winners of the 1987 coed flag-football championship.

Floor Hockey Season Overview

by James Ether

The playoffs for intramural floor-hockey got off to an exciting start last week with competitive action in both the men's and co-ed leagues. There have been fairly large crowds at the games which help to make the games even more exciting.

In the men's division the most exciting game featured the upset of Kick Butt (team name) by the Chucksters. The final score was 2-1 with both scores for the Chucksters being registered by Mark Blasko. Chuck Barnes played brilliantly in goal. In the other game, Hysteria beat So What If You Lose 2-1 as they came from behind to win on a goal by Steve Steiner assisted by a splendid pass off the stick of Mark Thorp. Games in the men's league continued this week in the double elimination tournament.

The co-ed league also got off to a good start in their regular format playoffs. First place All My Children easily handled the fourth place Shinshooters 6-2. Paul Bever and Mike Ranneklev led the attack. The other coed game pitted second place Shell Shock against third place Dave Huh & the Pencilnecks. This turned out to be a very exciting game as the teams played very closely during the year. Shell Shock won 5-2 as they were led by Brian Carswell, Gary Salvatore, and Kevin Seaman. Iggi Ether had a good game in goal. The final game will be played between All My Children and Shell Shock. This could prove to be the best floor-hockey game of the year. Come out and support your favorite team as they push toward the championships.



Floor Hockey Champions: Shell Shocked

by Annie Lennox

The intramural Co-ed Floor hockey Championship took place on Nov. 4th at 10:00 pm in the gym. Paul Beyer's All My Children and Iggi Ether's Shell Shocked were evenly matched teams, providing an excellent game for the spectators that lined the railing above.

Quick action was the key as Beyer got a shot on the Shell Shocked goalie in the first seconds. Shell Shocked battled for the ball, causing play to switch from one end of the court to the other with goalies making several saves.

Shell Shocked player Steve Steiner was the first to score less than three minutes into the first half. Play heated up as the All My Children offense line fought to even the score.

They succeeded with 12:05 left on the clock as Mikal Ranneklev shot the ball past the Shell Shocked goalie. Less than two minutes later, he returned to score again, bringing All My Children into the lead 2-1. But Shell Shocked wasn't satisfied until they brought the score to 2-2 with a Kevin Seaman goal.

The second half contained furious play by both teams, with strong play by Shell Shocked Nora Wenger, and good passes by All My Children's Ranneklev and Roy Seland.

The ball continued to switch ends helped by the abilities of two key players. Beyer, who used more room and went to more extremes to keep the ball away from the opponents, and Shell Shocked offensive player Brian Carswell, a stick handler who can play in tight situ-

Steiner scored the third Shell Shocked goal with 9:22 left in the game after an earlier controversial shot was deemed no goal. The All My Children offensive line fought to even the score with supportive play by defense players Kendra Outlar and Sue Schmidt, who more than once stole the ball from an unsuspecting Shell Shocked player. But when the buzzer rang, the score was 3-2 in favor of SHELL SHOCKED.

Three Gorges Dam Project Fated

Editor's Note: The factual information are taken from Tropical Rainforests and the World Bank, Environmental Policy Institute, 1987.

The largest and most expensive dam project in history is currently in the planning stages in China with growing participation by the World Bank. The Three Gorges Dam will be a massive barrier across the world third largest river: the Yangtze.

The environmental and social impact will be devastating. Thousands of square miles will be inundated, including a magnificient area regarded as "the Grand Canyon of China." The downstream flow of silt and nutrients, vital to tens of millions of farmers, as well as fishermen in the Shanghai estuary and offshore, will be blocked.

The giant reservoir, extending more than 250 miles upstream from the dam, will displace as many as three million people. The social impacts of this massive relocation have scarcely been addressed; there is little additional space in this already-crowded Sechzuan Province.

The cost of this project is estimated between 10 and 20 billion dollars, depending on the dam size. In 1986, the Chinese government secured the assistance of The World Bank and the Canadian government in feasibilty and planning studies. The U.S. government is actively promoting this project as well. The international engineering and construction industries are locked in fierce combat over potential contracts which means large profits for sucessful bidders.

Unfortunately, the longterm costs and consequences of the project to China are being

All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.

-Cecil Frances Alexander

ignored in the rush to develop one of the world's major rivers. The critical downstream levees will be badly undercut by the clearwater releases from the dam. The floodplain lakes that provide critical habitat for wildlife, such as the Siberian crane, will be dramatically altered and will probably dry up Dr. Calvin B. DeWitt, director of Au Sable Institute for Environmental Studies, spent two weeks in China this summer with International Crane Foundation founder, George Archibald, assessing the impact of the proposed three Gorges River Dams on three endangered species of crane. Upon returning to the U.S., They where not at all optimistic regarding the survival rate of these cranes or any other form of wildlife in the affected

Fishery impacts along most of the Yangtze will be severe. Unique species of dolphin and sturgeon would be endangered. Immense coastal erosion and saltwater intrusion, the lesson of Egypt's Aswan Dam, will befall the Shanghai region. More than 400 miles of coastline could be adversely affected by the erosion. Tens of millions of Chinese will face serious economic and social losses as a result of this ill-conceived megaproject. The Chinese government may be overstraining its budget with the Three Gorges Dam. Many other developing nations now regret investing in such dams.

In my opinion, the World Bank must cease its ill-planned involvement in areas all over the world. The futures of entire nations are at stake. I urge you to write to the World Bank asking them to stop their destructive abuses of power and to plan and research their projects before they are need lessly implemented.

Sincerely,

Patricia Uleskey

Horne Blasts Kennedy

To Anyone Who Is Interested:

In the October 15 issue of the Star, an opinion piece appeared entitled "Kennedy Predicts Ecological Extinctions." In this letter, Will Kennedy discussed what he saw as a crisis in what he called environmental stewardship and the specific issue of deforestation of the tropical evergreen rain forest and resulting extinctions. The cause of this problem, he believes, is overpopulation. His solution to this problem is "that we cease our expansion world-wide in population and 'development' immediately, and learn how to live with nature and not to its permanent disadvantage. We need an organized, immense effort by a responsible world government to (in my opinion), remove everyone from the tropical rain forests. We need a miracle second to Creation."

Frankly, I do not understand how any Christian can subscribe to the views expressed in Mr. Kennedy's letter. His presuppositions about Humankind's relationship to the environment seem completely unbiblical. Consider these statements: "Earth has never before had a shareholder [humans] with a majority," "The average [extinctions] for the past billion years has been about one per year," "Nature has, over a billion years, created a magnificent genetic library . . . " The first question that comes to my mind is just who is Nature? The Bible teaches that God created and controls everything that exists. He made us His stewards of His creation. It is no accident that we have the "majority vote" in the ecology. God gave it

The overpopulation rhetoric Mr. Kennedy employs is nauseating. How can anyone who takes the Dominion Mandate seriously, subscribe to such ideas? There are plenty of reasons to see population growth as a benefit instead of a problem (see *The Ultimate Resource*, Princeton University Press-1981, or Productive Christians in an Age of Guilt Manipulators, Institute for Christian Economics-1981).

Mr. Kennedy calls the extinction of certain species "mass genocide." Apparently it is wrong for us to consider our population more important than those of the other animals, the plants, and the other kingdoms. This makes me wonder: Is it a tragedy that small pox and polio are extinct? Certainly the elimination of these

diseases is responsible for our "overpopulation." Is it terrible that we have removed "Nature's" controls on our population?

Mr. Kennedy may have a better view of the value of the resources of the rain forest than others, but whose rain forest is it? If half of all medicines originate in the rain forests plants and animals then obviously there will always be a market for keeping the rain forest in existence. The same market forces that are responsible for the deforestation in Brazil (U.S. demand for beef) will keep the deforestation from going too far assuming Mr. Kennedy is right about the worth of the rain forest's value.

Mr. Kennedy does not seem to believe the Brazilians have the right to own their own forests. Instead he advocates a world government. Besides stealing meat that the American population is buying at a fair price, he is basically proclaiming that totalitarian controls should keep subsistence-level farmers from subsisting. Perhaps he considers the excess population in the way of the more important flora and fauna that they destroy in order to grow something so trivial as food.

The oxymoron, "responsible world government" deserves attention. What Mr. Kennedy somehow misses is that it is a world government, at least in the economic sense, that is responsible for the rapid deforestation in Brazil. As the editorial based on sources provided by Mr. Kennedy clearly showed, the World Bank funds projects that are nonproductive and unprofitable. This should be a surprise to no one. What motivation does an organization have to be productive if it can raise capital by confiscating wealth? The World Bank gets its money from our taxes and uses it to run other peoples' lives. How a world government is supposed to stop this problem is beyond my comprehension since it is the problem.

As Christians, we have an obligation to proclaim God's judgement on all tyrannies that enslave people and keep them from their God-ordained responsibility to be stewards of His creation (see Judges 9:8-15). Global theft, like that of the World Bank, must be opposed if we wish to promote wise stewardship of creation.

Mark Horne

There are so to contribute t on Houghton's ROTC program

I. No Compel

The first po though not th that there se which compe volvement wit hand, there ROTC in par which has cla as Christian volved in a co to supporting eral arts edu out faith-visio hand, anythir the liberal a Christian visi to reach out things ROTC "particular" t it is in ROTC ROTC especi sense availab of our comi through ROT

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Waging Peace on ROTC

There are some thoughts I'd like to contribute to the present debate on Houghton's involvement in the ROTC program.

I. No Compelling Reason

The first point I'd like to raise. though not the most important, is that there seems to be nothing which compels Houghton's involvement with ROTC. On the one hand, there is nothing which ROTC in particular has to offer which has claims on our attention as Christians intentionally involved in a community dedicated to supporting and providing a liberal arts education infused with out faith-vision. Nor, on the other hand, anything in the principles of the liberal arts endeavor or the Christian vision which compels us to reach out for the particular things ROTC has to offer. I use "particular" to indicate whatever it is in ROTC which identifies it as ROTC especially and is in some sense available to us, in the scope of our community experience, through ROTC and not elsewhere.

We might, of course, rightly refer to some other standards beyond those contained in liberal arts ideals and the Christian faith. Standards found in patriotism may come most readily to mind. Yet even though some in our community no doubt feel it right to refer to patriotism as a guide which informs their decision making, they will find nothing in patriotism which compels college involve-ment in ROTC. Even in times of war America has, by providing for legal conscientious objection, removed military involvement as a test of being a loyal American. Thus those motivated by their patriotism need not feel that they are not "doing their part" to support national welfare and interests when they decline to become involved with the military. Similarly, Houghton College need not feel it has been unappreciative or failed to do its part in support of American welfare and interests should it decide in favor of abandoning its ROTC involvement.

All of this is not to say that some, maybe all, community members will not find fine and desirable things happening in connection with ROTC involvement. It is to say, however, that fine and desirable things happening in connection with ROTC is not the same as those things happening because of ROTC. There is nothing in the ROTC program and involvement which is good which cannot be had elsewhere and by other means by our community members. Again, no particular contribution or feature of ROTC can be found which lays claim to our attention or can compel us to desire its continued presence on campus.

As I said, this is not the most important point I would like to make, but it is a point I would like to have recognized for a moment as a corrective to 1) citing good experiences had during ROTC/military service as reasons why we ought to have ROTC available to Houghton students, and 2) the related argument - often implied or assumed rather than formally presented that, based on good experiences, individuals have had perhaps only through ROTC involvement, that those good things will no longer be available to others unless the ROTC program continues to be made available.

Which, finally is to say that while the case might be effectively made that it may be desirable to continue ROTC involvement, there is no case to be made that there is any compelling (I'd like to slide a bit and say "pressing", but I am probably not quite welcomed to that) reason to be found for continued ROTC involvement based upon the particular contributions of ROTC, of the demands of patriotism, of our dedication to the liberal arts endeavor, or of our faithvision.

II. An Uncritical Invitation

Allow me here a personal note so that I will be less easily misunderstood. Those who know me well, and probably those who know me much at all would testify that I am no isolationist. With that preface let me make my second point. Allowing a ROTC presence at the college amounts to an uncritical invitation of a value system not particularly Christian. This, in light of Houghton's traditional effort to infuse its community life and enterprises with a specific vision which may be simply put that Jesus Christ is Lord of all, and in light of its unceasing daily effort (which has taken many forms over the years - some effective and wise, some less so) since the first morning Houghton Seminary opened its doors, to resist secularization (i.e. profane) influences, is to me nothing less than astounding.

I hope that I have written clearly. I have not said, at this point, anything like "ROTC is profane." I have said that the ROTC's

Pandora's Box

by Giocchino Jack Urso

Note: The opinions represented in this column do not necessarily represent those of the editor, this newspaper, or the author for that matter.

Last year, I attended a lecture given by Ron Sider, author of Rich Christians in a Dving World. As I seem to recall I was not quite impressed by what he had to say and I regretted my attendance. Anyway, during the question and answer period I had the opportunity to ask Mr. Sider. and a panel of Pastors from noted Buffalo area churches (all evangelical, of course), a question. My question was, "Are you, or the panel, aware of any area programs, or nationwide, ministries. geared to integrating new Christians, who are homosexual, into the evangelical church?" Well, my question was not as well-worded as that, but that was, in essence. my inquiry. The reactions I received were unusual. Dead silence first, the girl next to me sunk her head out of view and the panel of Buffalo pastors, who should have been able to answer the question, were curiously silent. Ron Sider briefly mentioned a program in Philadelphia that is ministering to homosexuals. How fortunate for San Francisco, I thought. After that I felt kind of guilty because I knew that one of the panel members asked a man to leave his church because it was found out that he had some kind of homosexuality in his life. Okay, I suppose I asked a loaded question and no. I didn't know the circumstances concerning the excommunication, but it did get me thinking about the homophobia the Church is being noted for.

Homosexuality does bother me, but then many Christians I know bother me, and in the same way too. I know a number of homosexuals and I find them (at least the ones I've met) to be courteous, well-mannered, and caring than some of my classmates, or myself, in many cases. I've noticed in the churches I've attended that everyone hugs and kisses and lays hands on everyone except for the

new Christian in the back who comes from a gay lifestyle. Maybe you have observed this type of response in your church as well. I know it is a struggle for a new Christian to conquer homosexuality, but so it is drug addiction, alcoholism, fornication, or gluttony. We love and support them, but the gay person we love from

The prejudice even extends to reactions to sins. If I have sex with a girl I'm more likely to be forgiven and accepted by my brothers then if I had sex with another man. Both are wrong and sinful, however, our love falters with the homosexual, we can't get ourselves to accept an individual who

participates in such behavior. I know that it's only a normal human reaction, but maybe Christ demands something more from mature Christians than normal human reactions when a person is in need of love and acceptance.

The Metropolitan Community Church is the gay evangelical church. It's dedication to providing a place for homosexuals to be Christians and practicing homosexuals. While this is clearly an improper integration of two diametrically opposing principles(I didn't want to say heresy) it is unfortunately a result of the churches', non-evangelical and evangelical, failures to minister to the large sector of homosexuals who desire a relationship with Jesus Christ. Because of our failures to love and minister to them. and our refusal to help integrate people with a homosexual background into Christianity, the Metropolitan Community Church was created. I'm not suggesting that we tolerate homosexuality in the church, I'm suggesting that we learn to love and, more importantly, accept the homosexual as a human being in need of Christ as you and I both are. It is only by love and acceptance that anyone will be able to see the character of Christ and come to know Him. It is time we stop isolating the homosexual from God, that is, if God is with the Church.

presence at the college amounts to an uncritical invitation of a value system not particularly Christian. To invite, as a matter of institutional program, ROTC instructors to, in their teaching content and method, in their leadership roles, and in whatever other parts they play as instructors of Houghton students, present the values ROTC finds necessary and desirable for the formation of the kind of thinking and person it needs to accomplish its agenda without Continued on page 10...

Art: the Faculty Disagreeing?

To the editor.

Carlton Fisher's letter to the Star two weeks ago contained an objection to the inference given in a review of an art exhibit. In particular, Carlton objects to the suggestion that if one does not like the art in question, it is probably because one doesn't understand it. Rather condescending, he says. Well, I have a question for Carlton, but first a story.

When I was in college, I took an introductory philosophy course. An early assignment was from Plato's Republic. The section we read concerned a bunch of guys tied up in a cave. They spent most of their time looking at shadows on the wall. One of them eventually got free and wandered outside. There he came to realize . . . well, you know the rest.

Anyway, one student (myself, to be exact) claimed that Plato's metaphor was convoluted - that Plato was being unnecessarily vague, and that the assignment was pretty much a waste of time. The professor (Arthur Holmes, to be exact) told me that "the unfamiliar often has to be put in the form of metaphor so the point can be brought home all that more powerfully" (or words to that effect).

In other words, Holmes seemed to be saying, when you understand Plato's metaphor as well as I do, you'll learn some important things about life. I remember being pretty put off by that.

Now, my question is this: in what substantial way is Professor Holme's advice to me different from that contained in the review of the art exhibit? The reviewer writes: "the unfamiliar... must be understood in order that we may grow into a new awareness..."

Sure, Plato's Republic has "stood the test of time," but what if I, as a student, had been a contemporary of Plato with the same complaint?

Actually, my question is this: suppose you have a gritty student who objects to reading "vague nonsense" about cave metaphors. Claims it's a waste of time. How do you respond?

Platonically yours, Rich Perkins Dear Editor,

Professor Perkins was kind enough to discuss with me the letter he sent you concerning my comments on the current art exhibit. In response to his invitation to me, I respond.

I quickly suggested that lack of appreciation was not a sufficient test for determining a lack of understanding in matters of abstract art. I still believe that to be true and will explain further. But let me say first that I have no warrant for accusing any of our art faculty for thinking otherwise. Instead. I was commenting on the Star article and the suggestion in it about such connection. Even there the point that I believe to be in error was not explicitly made and thus I would not want to accuse the authors of that article of truly endorsing what I take to be an error.

Professor Perkins is right that this error is not confined to the art world. What is fallacious for the goose is fallacious for the gander. One must be careful when using appreciation as a test of understanding in any discipline.

However, there is an appropriate use of appreciation as a test for understanding - in art as well as in philosophy, etc. understanding can be tested in other ways, e.g. by a written essay explaining Plato's allegory of the cave and the various points that interpreters have suggested he was trying to make, or similar tests of understanding of a work by Mozart or Michelangelo, then we can ask whether or not there is some correlation between understanding and appreciation. If there is, and a professor has discovered this over years of experience, then she might well be justified in using the absence of appreciation as a sign of an absence of understanding.

The danger to which I was alluding is that of using appreciation as a test for understanding when there is no other way to determine whether someone understands than to check her appreciation. It is this which makes an appeal to the lack of appreciation is such cases a totally inadequate warrant for the accusation of a lack of understanding. And I admit to suspicions that these unwarranted accusation frequently are made when the subject matter is modern abstract art.

Sincerely, Carlton D. Fisher Peace Continued From Page 9

subjecting these matters to an extremely thorough critical evaluation especially by our college faculty and administration is disturbing me and should be disturbing to every community member. An analogous example, to my mind, would be allowing corporate America - let's imagine General Motors on campus to install its business management training. We can imagine that while we would share some values such as fiscal competence, honesty, and concern for human welfare, we would be uneasy with the fact that, while our community strives to make these fall into place behind the teaching and person of Jesus, General Motors makes them fall into place behind the pursuit of profit within the tenets of capitalism.

Perhaps with a great deal of continuing oversight, critical evaluation, and some modification we could welcome the expertise of General Motors, although I think we would remain pretty nervous. Shall we recommend that for ROTC? To suggest such adjustments would, of course, be some kind of foolishness.

ROTC is not here to contribute. It is not here to contibute to anyone's liberal arts education (although it may do so). Nor is it here to deepen the faith of our students (although they may find help there though ROTC involvement). ROTC is here to fulfill its needs, accomplish its agenda without reference to Christ's Lordship and love, without reference to any liberal arts ideal. That is its only goal and interest as a program. To invite a program of such character to remain at the college is to write, if not a blank check, a check with a very high and unspecified ceiling.

III. Resource Commitment Priorities

I understand that there are those of my brothers and sisters in Christ who do not have the objection to military involvement that I with my Mennonite perspectives have. I also understand that it is unfair of a pacifist to claim as his or her special distinction, "I am for peace," for certainly non-pacifist Christians, too, are for peace. It is likewise unfair to see as distinct opposite those who support the presence of a military training program and those who would, like me, like to see a coherent program to assist student in sharpening their skills and deepening their understanding as Christ's peacemakers. Yet I would like to say that for this college to devote resources (students, time, space, organization) to an ROTC program while other colleges and organizations take the lead in providing peace studies programming - something I suspect many community members would be profoundly interested in - saddens me. It is especially disturbing when one considers what an opportunity exists at Houghton to become a leader rather than a follower in this area of study.

IV. Waging Peace

Any Christian community, organized for whatever good purpose, should be a shalom community. I am one who cannot find room for military activity in our shalom community at Houghton, although I've tried also to demonstrate clearly above a major objection against a ROTC presence here which has nothing to do with a pacifistic stance. But whatever our stances vis-a-vis the military, it is a corollary of Christian discipleship that we shall be shalomthinkers, that we live a life characterized at its center by the kind of wholeness and rightness of relationships which Christ in His love

Biblical peace, shalom, is an active thing. It is the kind of peace which must be waged. Its focus is those who require healing, which is all of us, in body, mind, heart, circumstance, and relationship. Jesus reflects this when he says "Love God and love your neighbor" or "love your enemies." James, his follower, has learned this lesson well when he says, "How can you praise God with your mouth one moment and harm image of God people with the same mouth the next."

However, the ROTC debate rolls on, whatever its outcome, wherever we stand, wherever our wisdom takes us, our discipleship requires that we wage only peace, not harm, on those on the other side of the issue. "The wisdom that comes from heaven is first pure, then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere." (James 3:17)

James R. Bailey

I have a for a little over that it is abou nickel in and some "change In Jack

Box last week saying (by his within his ar ment at the more") that shouldn't be wis consistent Christian Lii (CLAC) or whe allowed in CLAC. What my opinion) ROTC, as a r military, is co the life of a C

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Second, that ROTC m with that of the ROTC is a se and the miliorganization and women of lines. It is an

Dear Hough

Hi, mo campus who think of me as and/or likes to that's what I that's true, bu who knows t sleep on an av out of the v trying to get tion by tellin simply going keep praying vival, but it's unless we ma There's

me who are h and there's a keep up front seem to be backbiting an and the like, t the real issue the members think we ast hnity are hu prayer and

Rob's Nickel

I have attended this college for a little over two years and I feel that it is about time that I put my nickel in and maybe even receive

some "change."

In Jack Urso's Pandora's Box last week, Jack seemed to be saying (by his use of the examples within his article and his statement at the end, "Make war no more") that the issue at hand shouldn't be whether or not ROTC is consistent with the aims of a Christian Liberal Arts College (CLAC) or whether ROTC should be allowed in the curriculum of a CLAC. What he was implying (in my opinion) is whether or not ROTC, as a representation of the military, is consistent with that of the life of a Christian.

First of all, I am going to make the claim that war is an inevitable part of our society. It has been around for years and will continue long after we're gone. Wars have been a moving force in history and the question that remains is what does the Christian

do about it.

Second, I have mentioned that ROTC may not be consistent with that of the life of a Christian. ROTC is a section of the military and the military is not just an organization that keeps able men and women off the unemployment lines. It is an organization that is

used defensively and offensively to protect our country. Young Christian men and women who go through the ROTC program and then into the armed forces, except for noncombatal positions, are placed in the roles of leadership in the area of defensive or offensive situations. Here is where I have difficulties understanding some views. I can see joining the army to be a chaplain and share Christ or even a medic and share Christ, but a Lieutenant in charge of teaching men to kill and "love thy neighbor as thyself?" In talking with Jack he mentioned a gross and very extreme example of what I'm saying. That's like becoming a homosexual so you can share Christ to the homosexual (doesn't make a whole lot of sense).

I totally agree that because war is such a real part of our society and that the military is the organization directly related to a war, it is our duty as Christians to be in the military to share Christ. However, remember that we are to "be in the world, not of it."

Yes, ROTC is consistent with the life of a Christian, as long as that Christian is striving to "be all that he/she can be" in Christ first, then ROTC.

Respectfully, Rob Wuethrich

Tres Chic

The Healing Power Of Plants

This week, I decided to move past the world of superficiality that is better known as beauty and fashion and take on another topic that might interest a few (more hopefully, a lot) of you. (See title.) Read on—it might surprise you.

Just how groovy plants can be—especially when you're ailing. Can't be

lookin' your best if you aren't feelin' your best, eh?

Science is finally confirming what grandmothers have been teaching

Science is inally confirming what grandmothers have been teaching for decades: Plants make good medicine. (I see a few biology majors perking up—stay tuned!!!)

The healing power of plants can be seen in many modern medicines antibiotics (yeasts), the heart drug digitalis (foxglove), painkillers such as morphine (poppy seed), and the malaria drug quinine (cinchona tree

Yet, those substances may represent merely the tip of the iceberg of nature's medical promise.

Scientists believe there are thousands of chemical compounds in common plants and fungi that could become effective new weapons against disease.

Ironically, the "new weapons" are often ancient cures. Anthropologists, in Africa, for example, recently wondered why a group of chimpanzees instinctively its eating routine to stroll 20 minutes or so to eat a certain leaf. The chimps would pluck a leaf, roll it around in their mouths and swallow it whole. Later analysis revealed that the leaves contained a powerful antibiotic. The chimps were merely practicing good herbal medicine! (Maybe just doctors evolved? Kinda makes ya wonder...) Further investigation revealed chimpanzees and tribesmen had long used the leaves to treat wounds and stomachaches.

Among new drugs being developed from plants, one will benefit those suffering glaucoma, while another appears to be a more powerful treat-

ment for malaria than any current medication.

Some scientists complain that the discovery of ways to synthesize molecules to combat disease was a setback for research into natural cures.

"For a while," says Stephen DeFelice, M.D., "science was so enthralled with manipulating artificial compounds that nature took a back seat. But now, major companies are actively pursuing natural cures that have been made possible by new technology."

Farra Calls for Religious Awakening

Dear Houghton College (the people)

Hi, most people on this campus who know me probably think of me as someone who smiles and/or likes to give hugs. (At least that's what I've been told) Well, that's true, but I bet there is no one who knows that I cry myself to sleep on an average of three nights out of the week. Now, I'm not trying to get sympathy or attention by telling you this, I'm just simply going to make a point. We keep praying and hoping for revival, but it's not going to happen unless we make it happen.

There's a lot of people like me who are hurting at this college and there's also many of us who keep up fronts to get by. We also seem to be so concerned about backbiting and arguing about ESA and the like, that we've lost sight of the real issues that are affecting the members of our community. I think we as the Houghton Community are hurting and it's love, prayer and encouragement that

we need. We need unity, not dissension among the many different members of Christ's body at our college. Read Luke 6:37-42; Rom. 12:9-21; I Cor. 12:12-13:13; II Cor. 2:5-11; Gal. 6:1-4; Eph. 4:1-6; Phil. 2:1-4; James 2:8-13; II Tim. 2:23-26; I John 3:11-24; and I John 4:15-21 for starters.

Revival is a religious awakening according to Webster, and the only way that's going to happen here is if we apply God's word to our lives. That means getting right with God, and getting right with our brothers and sisters.

I've been going through a lot of painful situations lately which are causing me to get my spiritual life straightened out. Believe me, I am in no way there, but I am pressing on towards the goal. (see I Tim. 1:5) I don't want to see you go through the pain of having your mother suffer with cancer, or have God hit you over the head with something else before you're awakened.

God is sovereign and all

powerful, and he can cause revival to start on this campus. But we also have a responsibility to respond to his word. Let us be doers of the word and not hearers only (James 1:22). Let us stop crying out at each other in anger, and/or crying ourselves to sleep. But let us wake up and go to God in repentance and humbleness, and go to each other to pray together and encourage each other.

This is a Christian Liberal Arts College. I think I'm becoming a Christian. Are you?

In Love, Sandra Lee Farra

P.S. - If anyone wants someone to pray with, my box # is 719 and my phone # is 567-2548. And a big Thank You to those who have encouraged and prayed with me. Let me also say that I think revival has started on campus, I just want to encourage it in others.

In last week's issue (Oct. 30, 1987), on page five, in a letter tittled Sayers Sermon, it was noted that Professor Harrop went over his time limit in the ROTC debate chapel. We thought it only fair to note that Harrop had been cut off one minute early by the moderator.

A Note of Apology

I would like to publically acknowledge that during the Senate Chapel on October 21st, professor Scott Harrop spoke for four minutes and fifteen seconds before being asked to make his closing remarks. As each speaker was promised five minutes in which to speak, professor Harrop was not given about forty seconds of the allotted time. This was a mistake for which I take full responsibility. No animosity was intended toward professor Scott Harrop, and if in the future, Senate attempts another discussion, an independent time keeper will be used.

Robert Beckford

BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed



















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