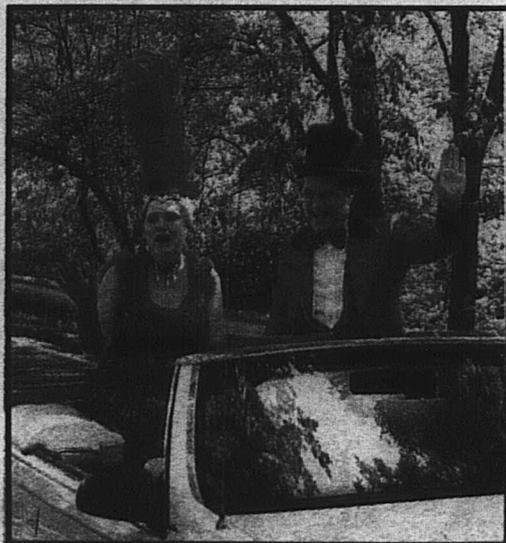
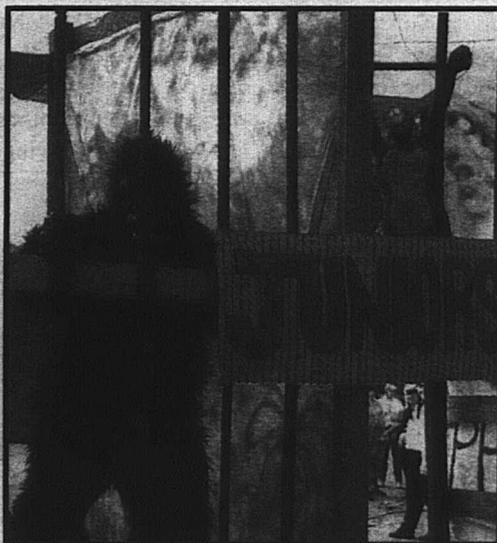


SEND IN THE CLOWNS

HOMECOMING TURNS INTO A CIRCUS



The Chamberlains lead the parade
photo by Kevin Giacconi



Jason Bedford monkeys around for the Junior Class
photo by Kevin Giacconi



Freshmen heat things up with their float
photo by Scott Taylor

The Big Parade

Tara Smalley

Saturday, October 5, 1997 dawned bright and sunny—a perfect day for the homecoming parade. By 11:00 AM a crowd had gathered to witness the floats coming up the road from the maintenance area, where parade participants had been busily preparing all morning, and for several days before hand. The big moment had finally come.

The parade was led by the ROTC members performing various flag drills, followed by children's Sunday school classes from the Houghton Wesleyan Church, and then the International Students Association.

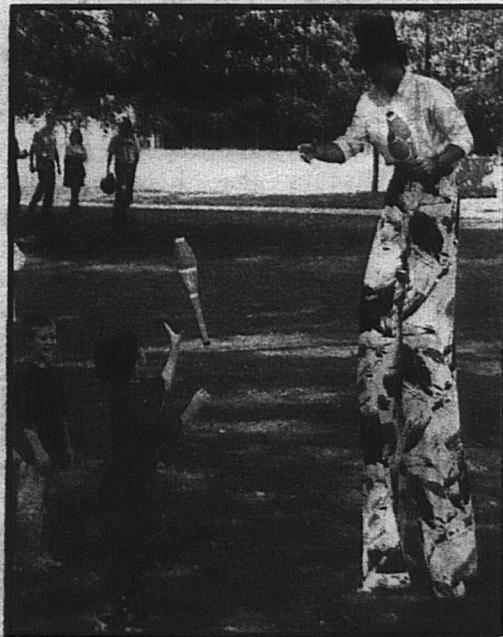
Next came the homeschoolers of Houghton, and finally the "Briefcase Drill Team," comprised of various Houghton College staff and their briefcases. Then the freshmen float was seen. After their first float idea, Freak Show, was rejected, the freshmen decided to create a clown fire scene. Members of the freshmen class dressed as fire hydrants, firemen, and flames. They enlisted the help of the Houghton fire department in getting firemen's uniforms and a firetruck to pull the float.

"I was really impressed with our class spirit," said Serge Mazza, the screaming old lady on the freshmen float, "and so were a lot of other people I talked to." Sophomores came next; their float expanded on the circus theme, with a carousel and members of the class carrying wooden cutouts of various animals. The junior float also expanded on the circus theme; their float resembled an animal cracker box. The "cage" contained a "live" chicken, gorilla, and lion. Finally
(continued on page4)

The Big Bonfire

Jenn Greggo

Homecoming festivities were kicked off Friday evening at the Alumni Field. Students did not have to huddle around the bonfire to keep warm this year as temperatures were quite warm for an October evening in Houghton. Instead attention was turned toward the stage in order to hear "Fat Astronauts", the band providing the music during the event. After a few songs, Coach Lord announced the games that would be played the next day inviting the crowd to cheer on the various teams. This portion of the event was a bit weak compared to last year's festivities.
(continued on page5)



HEY!! Pick on somebody your own size!
photo by Scott Taylor

The Big Laughs

Jim Roberts

The men of Townhouse Eight Productions out-did last year's efforts and put together a rollicking collection of skits, music and special effects that will have the campus talking about Homecoming SPOT for a long time.

The beginning was very innovative, a video that showed the Townhouse Eight Productions staff rounding up the professors. The history department came along, the English department followed (after they figured out how to open up the door), the foreign language teachers danced their way down, the Bible and religion teachers came, going so far as to drop their poker game with about thirty dollars in the pot. The economics department, the science and math department, the library staff, the SDO and counseling offices, the staff at Luckey and Fancher, all goofed around on camera. The tape ended with four members of townhouse eight rappelling onto the stage although one member got stuck part way down.

Mark VanderHaar was there, as usual, wowing the audience with his combination of slapstick, face-pulling and well-timed delivery. His impression of Jerry Seinfeld was overshadowed by his material, mocking the "innovations" in food service like the gates that block students from getting at the food and pork pockets which gave him his best line of the night: "When pork is crunchy, you know there's a problem."

If Mark started the crowd off with a laugh, Sue Crider, Jean Reigles, Sharon Givler and Laurie Merz brought down the house with a rousing chorus lamenting the dating scene for
(continued on page4)

WORLD NEWS

Jim Roberts

(Split, Croatia) The United States and its allies won a major victory as the top Bosnian Croat war crimes suspect and nine other men surrendered to face charges by an international tribunal. Dario Kordic is charged with commanding troops who murdered Muslims in central Bosnia. U.S. officials had been pressuring Croatian President Franjo Tudjman, who has great influence among Bosnian Croats, to turn over the suspects. It also was a big boost for the tribunal in The Hague. Few suspects are in custody, and the trials of those who have been arrested have lasted for months.

(Paris) Maurice Papon, the man accused of sending more than 1,690 Jews to Nazi death camps during the World War II German occupation of France, is on trial in Bordeaux for "crimes against humanity." French collaborators who worked for the wartime regime of Vichy deported 76,000 Jewish men, women and children to concentration camps where only 2,500 of them survived. Papon, now 87, will be the first high Vichy official to stand trial for his wartime acts.

(Cairo, Egypt) Gunmen threw grenades and fired bullets at the World Health Organization headquarters in Iraq, which houses an office for UN officials monitoring the oil-for-food program, destroying one vehicle and damaging three others, officials said Sunday. Only one of the four known attackers was taken into custody by the Iraqi army. The incident occurred after office hours, so it is expected that only guards were in the building. UN officials are outraged, noting that under the UN's auspices, the W.H.O. property should have been protected against harm by the Iraqi government.

(Algiers, Algeria) Armed men attacked a school bus in Bouinan, a region hard-hit by Algeria's Islamic insurgents, killing 16 schoolchildren and the driver. The bus crashed when the driver tried to run a roadblock set up by the attackers. The Armed Islamic Group has been pressing attacks despite a cease-fire by the other main insurgent group, the Islamic Salvation Army. Algeria's insurgency started when the army canceled 1992 legislative elections that the now-banned party was poised to win.

(Charlotte, North Carolina) An armored car company employee, a company van and \$15 million were discovered missing and a police search went underway. Police bulletins were issued for David Scott Ghantt, 27, of Kings Mountain, N.C., who officials said disappeared during or after his Saturday work shift at Loomis, Fargo & Co. The same firm was hit in March by one of the largest armored car robberies in U.S. history. Most of the \$18 million stolen in the earlier heist was recovered.

(Washington) Murders in the USA dropped to the lowest rate in more than a quarter-century in 1996 as serious crime posted its fifth straight annual decline, the FBI reported. There were 19,645 murders in the U.S. last year, down 9% from 1995. The murder rate was 7.4 per 100,000 people, the lowest since 7.3 in 1969. Overall, the FBI report chronicled 13.5 million crimes in 1996, down 3% from the year before.

(Atlanta, Georgia) A federal task force is trying to identify a bearded man seen at a gay nightclub before a bomb exploded there in February. The man, who is wanted as a witness and not as a suspect, may or may not be the same person seen near an abortion clinic bombed five weeks earlier, agents said. The task force is investigating the nightclub and clinic bombings and the July 1996 bombing at Centennial Olympic Park that killed one person and injured more than 100. A \$500,000 reward is being offered for information leading to an arrest in any of the bombings.

(Alexandria, Virginia) Three people were charged with conspiring to spy for East Germany, the Soviet Union, Russia and South Africa during the Cold War, federal prosecutors said. The three include a former Pentagon attorney and her husband, code named "Ken" and "Tina" by their handlers, who used miniature cameras to photograph secret documents and shortwave radios to receive coded messages. All three were arrested after an FBI sting operation. If convicted, they would face a maximum sentence of life in prison and a \$250,000 fine; however, they also could face the death penalty if certain statutory criteria are met.

(Washington) Upsetting some lawmakers in both camps, President Clinton used his line-item veto powers for the second time to eliminate 38 projects from a military construction bill. Vetoed items included projects in California, Colorado, Florida, Virginia and Texas. Noting he vetoed projects supported by Democrats and Republicans alike, Clinton said, "These are tough calls, involving real money and hard choices." If projects had not been on Clinton's original budget request, if design work had not been completed or if the project did not hold the potential for providing a "substantial contribution" to improving the lives of U.S. troops, they were vetoed.

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Really Local News

NAB Garden / Study Area

Jim Roberts

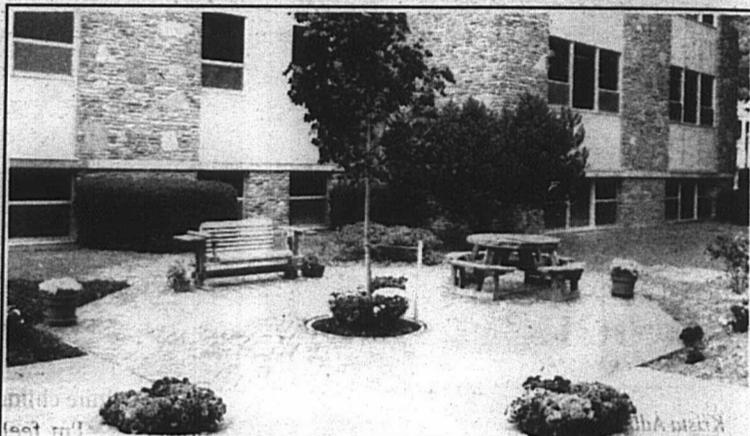
Houghton College now enjoys a new place to study, read or just hang out thanks to Betty Johnson and her friends at Houghton College. On February 13th, 1997, Betty Johnson died after a battle with cancer and her former co-workers decided to honor her memory by creating a memorial garden between the library and the Academic Building.

Betty worked at the college and academy libraries from 1972 until 1994 when she retired to Maine with her husband Paul who taught French at Houghton. She was also a member of the Houghton church's choir and former co-worker Sharlene Holmes described her as "the most loving and Chris-

tian woman you could ever meet." Even after her retirement she volunteered as a clerk in the Casco Village Library in Maine.

It was Sharlene who headed up the memorial project although all her friends helped out. Tom Machamer, an employee in Houghton's maintenance department, worked extra hours to make the garden, the bricks were donated by friends of Betty and the cement walkway was paid for by the college.

Soon buds will be planted so the garden can flower again in the spring and there are other plans to add to the memorial, including another picnic table or swing.



(Oh great, another place to study) photo by Doug Burns

Answering the Call Coach Tackett Leaves

Ward Mesick

This past weekend Christian men of every denomination and race traveled to Washington D.C. to answer the call to "Stand in the Gap." While there are hundreds of estimates of how many men were present, they are all irrelevant to anyone who was there. Most men who attended the much anticipated event felt that numbers were unimportant compared to what most of them received from the six hour meeting.

Promise Keepers have been stirring up much talk from many groups such as NOW and Equal Partners, both groups who claim that PK has a hidden political agenda against women and minorities. Both groups say that because many of the men in attendance are pro-life and opposed to homosexual lifestyles, they will not support PK. The event did receive some good press when it was covered extensively by the media, with both CNN and C-Span covering the rally live.

To anyone at the rally it would be hard to find any trace of a political agenda. The sole purpose of Promise Keepers, founder Bill McCartney says, is for men to come together and admit their sins to be

(continued on page 4)

Jen Crawford

To the dismay of his students and colleagues, Greg Tackett announced his resignation on Friday, September 23rd, only a week before his departure from Houghton. Tackett has been an instructor of Physical Education and the assistant men's basketball coach for the past three years, as well as having been the events coordinator his first two years here.

Tackett left Houghton to become the assistant men's basketball coach at Northeast Oklahoma A&M Jr. College. In this position he will be in constant contact with NCAA Division I coaches who will be recruiting his players. As much as Coach Tackett loves teaching, (his master's degree is in College Teaching, and his favorite class is Walking/Jogging), his real dream is to coach basketball. Tackett was aware of this position in August, but it was not officially offered to him until September 23rd.

Coach Tackett's decision to leave was not an easy one, but with the opportunities presented to him through this new position he believes it is definitely a "good career move." His "biggest regret is having to leave in the middle of the se-

(continued on page 4)

Somethin's Fishy In Houghton

Denise Dunckle

A quaint house located between the Houghton Wesleyan Church and the BP, (about three weeks ago) began to display a homemade sign labeled Dean's Fish. The occasional passerby may be wondering what this new place is all about.

Since fish are the only pets allowed on campus, Dean's Fish is a store specifically designed to cater to the Houghton student's pet needs. Dean Wittwer, a 1997 graduate of Houghton College and current employee of the school, started this store because he has always loved fish and knows the problem students have with getting fish supplies.

"The closest fish supply store is in Olean," said Dean, "and it closes at six." Dean's ideal location and late hours (weekdays 6-9 p.m. and Saturdays 12-4 p.m.) are intended to solve these previous problems of Houghton's fish lovers.

The most popular fish so far at Dean's Fish are the goldfish, followed by angelfish and neon fish. Bowls, tanks and food are also sold at the store to provide students with the means to best care for their pets.

Dean acquires his supplies in Niagara and replenishes his selection about every other week.

Founder's Day

Krista Adlhock

Chiming bells, choral anthems, and organ music ushered in this year's Founder's Day Convocation. Some may view this ceremony as the official start to the school year.

This year's convocation began with some members of the Handbell Choir performing the Fanfare for Founder's Day, written by our own Jane Allen. The processional followed, including faculty of the present and the past. What a sight it was to see all of our professors in their regal robes! As I listened to the music of the organ, I found myself thinking about the students who sat in this same building years ago and viewed this same processional.

Following the processional, the College Choir, directed by Dr. Reigles, treated the audience to two majestic numbers. The perfect harmonization of the choir awoke thoughts of the music we will one day hear in heaven.

Barry L. Ross, an alumnus of Houghton, gave the address. Dr. Ross spoke of the importance of each of us taking up our cross. "Anyone who allows a love for the things of the world to take precedence over the things of His world cannot be His disciple," said Ross. Each of us is called daily to take up our cross, and it's a constant action of "relinquishing all those things that Jesus said are incompatible with following His commands."

A traditional part of the Founder's Day Convocation is the presentation of the Boulder, the college yearbook. Editor Jill Herman and co-editors Tara Smalley and Liz Nies likened the organization of this year's Boulder to the process of chiseling a sculpture. The artist has a vision, and this vision becomes reality after much hard work and dedication. This year's yearbook is evidence of the hard work of these three talented individuals and the staff who assisted them.

Each year, the college selects several individuals to receive honorary degrees. This year's recipients were Clarence L. Jordan, Chung Dong Sung, and Barry L. Ross. These three men are living examples of what it really means to "take up your cross." Whether serving in Syracuse or Seoul, each of these men is changing the world for Jesus Christ.

Ann Boyer LePere Visits Campus

Winona Houser

Powerful. Disturbing. Undeniably thought-provoking. These words, although inadequate, can begin to describe Ann Boyer LePere's oil painting "The Trivialization of God," a piece done especially for her exhibit which will remain in the college art gallery until October 31. The painting essentially forces the viewer to think about his or her perception of God.

On Friday, October 3, LePere was on campus for a reception in the gallery, where she shared about her artwork in an informal question and answer setting. The exhibit includes oils, pastels, and mixed media; and three divisions are evident. Most of LePere's work involves portraiture, and four samples of this branch of her work are on display. Another section contains several pieces with a water theme, most of which are pastels. The third section, in LePere's words, is a conglomeration of "whatever," including a non-traditional self-portrait, the "Trivialization" piece, and a "conservative social commentary" in mixed media.

LePere, a 1967 Houghton graduate, now resides in Raleigh, North Carolina. Her work has appeared (and been awarded in) many juried exhibitions and is exhibited in several galleries.

One theme evident in much of her artwork is that of motherhood or children. LePere views the mother-child relationships that appear again and again in her work as only natural: "I'm a woman and a mother, and I've taught children. In our culture children are getting put lower and lower . . . I'm feeling better and better about painting children."

Whether it is a baptismal scene at the Black Sea, an abstract collage of Puritan ances-



"The Trivialization of God" by LePere

tors, a touching vignette of a mother and child, or the direct words contained in "MIA" and "Trivialization", LePere's artwork is definitely a medium for expressing her beliefs. LePere's faith becomes even more evident as you talk to her.

Ann Boyer LePere's aptly titled "Human Landscape" exhibit is much more than a collection of oil paintings and pastels. It is a fascinating variety of social and spiritual commentary. Take a few minutes to visit the gallery in the basement of Wesley Chapel. Stand in front of "The Trivialization of God" and ponder for yourself not only what your perception of God may be, but also what the artist is saying to us as the Houghton community and to society in general.

Not Just Good, Good For You

Jason Poole

This year, Pioneer has introduced a major change in the structure of the meal plan. Previously, a student could purchase a full meal plan (21 meals per week), only lunches (5 meals), only dinners (5 meals), or only lunches and dinners (10 meals). If you were on the lunch plan, and happened to miss a lunch, it was TOO BAD. This year, however, students buying less than a full meal plan are conveniently allowed to use their weekly allotment of meals on ANY meal-breakfast, lunch, or dinner. This makes it easier for students to structure their meals around their schedules.

Consequently, as with any new change, adjustments have to be made. While adjustments are being made, often things do not run as smoothly as desired. And when things do not run as desired, people are apt to complain. So, to try to build a bridge of awareness between Pioneer and the student body, the Star is pleased to present some commonly asked questions about the meal plan and their answers. We hope this will help clear up any misunderstandings. So, the next time you take a big bite of shepherd's pie, you can rest assured that your meal plan is one that is centered around YOUR best interests.

Q: Is Pioneer trying to make money off me?

A: Yes. One of the points in Pioneer's mission statement is "maintaining profitability, which enables our existence and continued

growth." Pioneer's profit is our profit.

Q: Why, when we forget our I.D., are we not allowed to eat, when we have already paid for a meal?

A: Last year the I.D. cards used bar codes, from which was obtained the information needed for Pioneer's records. If a person forgot his or her card, unless the person knew the bar code, he or she could not eat. Statistics are vital in this business. If no one ever brought their I.D. cards and Pioneer had no record of how many students were eating, they would have no way to plan for the future (or to prevent freeloaders from getting free meals). This year, however, the identification system is based on the students' social security number. In fact, within the next week or two, if you forget your I.D. card, you will be able to get your meal (if you know your S.S. number). The glitches are still being worked out of the system. Be warned, nevertheless, that the more people there are who forget their cards, the longer it will take YOU to get in, if you have remembered yours.

Q: What about the meals we don't eat?

A: The price for the full meal plan is based on the percentage of meals actually attended. Students on the meal plan eat, on average, 70% of the meals that they are allotted. If every student who had a 21-meal plan ate all of their meals, Pioneer would go bankrupt.

Q: Why, when we are on a meal plan other

(continued on page 4)

Curtain Call

Jill Knutelski

Bruce Brenneman and Dale Schuurman have combined to cast the fall production, "Harold and Maude." The curtain will rise at 8:00 on November 6TH, for the opening night of the show. This hysterical comedy promises to make its audience laugh as well as cry.

Scott Jesmore plays an eccentric 19 year old boy who inevitably falls in love with Maude, a spunky 80 year old woman, played by Jill Knutelski. Harold's snobby mother, Mrs. Chasen, played by Sara Ryall, is naive to Harold's love for Maude and attempts to find him a wife through a computer dating service. As each of the prospectives, Jule Ann Davis, Beth Homan and Lorraine Robertson, come to meet Harold, they are greeted with more than they expected.

Jim Roberts plays the part of the typical "shrink" and Tom Christensen the typical, overly conservative Priest. Also adding to the laughs are the Maid, Tracy Lockwood -wait till you hear her scream, a Gardener, Sergio Mazza -what an accent, the tough Inspector Bernard played by the tough Dale Schuurman, and his side kick Sergeant Doppie played by Clay Hanna.

Watch for ticket sales at the end of October!

Promise Keepers cont.

forgiven and then to return home as better men, living more like Jesus. No anti-woman rhetoric was espoused nor was any attempt made to influence the political spectrum. No attempts to make minorities look inferior were made either. The message was exactly the opposite. The men at Stand in the Gap were asked to be servants to their wives and we were asked to be the bearers of racial reconciliation (two of the promises of the PK movement.) That is exactly what happened Saturday, as over a million men begged forgiveness from God and each other. Then they promised to go back home and respect their wives the way God has intended for us to do, and to live a life that would show the world what it means to be a Promise Keeper and, more importantly, what it means to be a Christian.

Tackett Leaves continued

mester."

While this obviously puts the Physical Education department in a bind, they are not bitter. Rather, Dr. Swanson is "sorry to see him go. [Tackett] was very efficient, very organized and very personable. This is a good career move and I wish him luck." The department is currently interviewing for an interim position that will last until the end of the semester. The department faculty will be covering the remainder of his first half courses, and the interim will be in place after October Break when the new classes begin.

The "icing on the cake" for Tackett is that this position is near his hometown of Fort Gibson, Oklahoma, as well as near his Alma Mater, Northeast State University of Oklahoma where he first worked under Coach Berry. Another upside to this move is that Tackett never changed the Oklahoma plates on his Red Jeep Cherokee. Now he doesn't have to.

Coach Tackett would like to leave Houghton with this statement, "I have made a lot of friends here, faculty, staff and students whom I will miss. I wish for them the Lord's blessing." We wish the Lord's blessing on you also, Coach Tackett. You will be missed!

Brenneman Thanks Yearbook

I want to thank the Boulder staff for the tremendous honor of dedicating the 1997 Boulder to me. I am humbled, I am grateful, and most of all, I am thankful that God has brought me to this place to work with so many talented and dedicated students. My deepest gratitude to you all.

Bruce

Students are Special at...
Flower Basket Florist & Gifts
Call 567-8612
Address: 1111 E. 1st St. Station
Don't Forget: Boss' Day October 16th, Sweetest Day October 18th
Student Special (each month with ID!!!)
October Special: FREE Mylar Balloon when Buying \$15.00 or more of Flowers

Meal Plan Continued

than the full plan, do we have to pay the dinner price- even if we are only eating lunches?

A: The notion is that those who are on the lesser meal plans would be inclined to eat more per visit than those on full plans. The price is adjusted accordingly. In addition to this, the full meal plan is strongly encouraged because it is the most profitable for all involved. Therefore, it would be against Pioneer's best interests to make the smaller meal plans cheaper all around. In addition to this, the fewer meals a person has, the higher his or her percentage of attendance for meals. In other words, a person on the 5 meal plan is more likely to eat closer to 100% of his or her meals, as opposed to the 70% of those on the full plan. This fact also affects pricing.

Since this is Pioneer's first year doing this, it is still in the trial stage. Before they can make a definite assessment of how the system is working, they need more data. It is hoped that when these figures come in, more improvements can be made.

Q: Is Big Al's funded through the kitchen?

A: Yes, it is. Big Al's and Pioneer Caterers are one and the same.

Q: If this is true, why do I have to pay for the food that I get at Big Al's if I eat there instead of in the cafeteria? Am I paying twice for the same meal?

A: Not really. Big Al's is not equipped to serve gads of people. If students could actually trade cafeteria meals for Big Al's, there is no way the facility could handle the increased amount of students that would take that opportunity.

Pioneer's goal is that of customer satisfaction. If you have a concern about the meal plan, or about the way anything is run at Big Al's or in the kitchen, talk to someone who knows more about it.

Q: Does this mean I'm entitled to go to Big Al's house and raid his refrigerator whenever I'm hungry and it's not meal time?

A: By all means; after all, you paid for it.

Parade Story Continued

the senior float appeared. Seniors used the theme "The Greatest Show on Earth." Their float was decorated with elaborate styrofoam animals. The parade wound its way through Houghton and reappeared in front of the judges to perform their skits. The freshmen skit, which won fourth prize, portrayed a chaotic clown fire. The sophomores, who took second place, portrayed what happens when division occurs among circus performers. The juniors used their float to encourage "everything that has breath" to praise God. They received third place for their efforts. For the fourth year in a row, the class of '98 took first prize in the parade. Through reading and movement, their skit depicted the creation of the world, and God as the "Greatest Artist on Earth."

"I left before the senior skit because I couldn't see," said freshman Beth Lemcke, "but the freshmen had a good idea-holding up the signs so I could see what was going on."

"I think that either the freshmen or the junior float was the best," said freshman Jessamine Hyatt.

With the end of the skits came the end of the 1997 Homecoming Parade. Both the participants and the spectators showed a lot of spirit, and everyone seemed to have a good time.

Junior Melanie Stewart summed up the parade well. "It made me laugh," she said.

Spot Continued

single Houghton College professors.

These four wonderful young ladies weren't the only professors horning in on the act, though. Dick Wing's Grandma Gertie character, complete with cornpone wisdom and mild-mannered mockery spoke of the college and some of its people. Dr. Biggs demonstrated his rather unique skills at old-style country, complete with banjo and deep-South twang. Both professors took SPOT in a different direction than normal, into the past. Their performances might not have received as many laughs as some others, but they were memorable.

Liesl Shults also gave us a touching musical interlude, reminding us that water keeps us from feeling thirsty. Many hearts were touched and this reporter experienced a spiritual epiphany. This year also saw the return of several old skits including the Tambouritzans and the Philosophy Professors.

A good time was had by all and the SPOT finished off the official Homecoming events with a real splash.

COMMON SENSE QUOTE

"DON'T SQUAT WHEN YOU'RE WEARING SPURS"

-S.J.K. "Tonto"-

Kathie's Korner Alumnus to Discuss the Christian as Historian, Psychological Warfare

Kathie Brenneman

This week's column is about apples. In New York, crisp, cool, autumn weather and cider and apples go hand in hand. Our favorite place to get apples and cider is Castile at Apple Hill Farms or Barber's Cider Mill. Apple Hill Farms is on 19A and Barbers is in Castile. Turn right off route 39 (Main Street) by the antique store. We prefer Barber's because of crisper apples and free samples of cider. Treat yourself and go there in October. Both Barber's and Apple Hill Farms have pumpkins and gourds, too.

If you want an excellent eating apple that is firm and crisp, try the large green Crispin apple. If you want the best cooking/baking apple, go for MacIntosh.

I am going to share my favorite apple crisp recipe with you this week. This recipe is from my grade school girlfriend's mother, Hazel Black. She was a great 1950's cook.

You'll need:

about 10 MacIntosh apples to make 4 cups (more or less), peeled, cored and thinly sliced

Use butter or margerine to grease a 8" x 8" or 9" x 9" pan - or anything smaller than 13" x 9".

Place apples in casserole.

Pour 1/2 cup water and 1 tsp. cinnamon on apples and stir.

Let apples sit ordo topping before you slice the apples. Mix in a bowl, cutting with a table knife, like pastry: (DON'T CREAM)

1/2 cup butter

1/2 cup flour

1/2 cup (packed) brown

sugar

1/4 cup rolled oats dry (optional)

(can also add pecans, walnuts or raisins)

The finished topping should have the texture of lumpy sand.

Pour topping over apples and stir slightly to destribute evenly. Mix through apples.

Bake 1 hour at 350 degrees.

Serve warm with vanilla ice cream. This dessert is heavenly!

Bonfire continued

Whereas last year various faculty members and even coaches prepared a special cheer for each team as they gathered in front of the stage, this year the only encouragement was the few yells that were mustered as each team was announced. The evening did improve, however, especially for Darryl Robbins and Amy Burd who were crowned this year's Homecoming king and queen. Other members of the court included Julie Levak for the freshman class, Doug Graham and Rachel Johnson for the sophomores and Jason Hollinger and Erin Kidder representing the junior class. The event concluded with a fireworks display over the soccer fields. The fireworks were uniquely, yet unintentionally, choreographed by a car alarm shouting it's various warning calls. All in all the evening provided a means for students and faculty to bond together as members of the Houghton community and to get excited about the events to come throughout the weekend.

Bruce Campbell

The Houghton College Alumni Lecture Series is sponsoring the late October visit of alumnus historian Dr. Stanley Sandler, class of 1960. Command historian at Fort Bragg, NC, Dr. Sandler has researched and written about many aspects of military history, including the Korean War, segregation and race relations in the military, military governance, and psychological operations. He will be discussing the latter at 7pm on Thursday, October 22, in Schaller Hall. This presentation, called "Cease Resistance, It's Good For You: Battlefield Psywar," will feature samples of leaflets and propoganda used by many armies, including the U.S., Iraq and Vietnam.

On Friday, October 24, Dr. Sandler will be speaking on the topic "The Christian as Historian" during chapel.

Dr. Sandler will also visit several classes during his visit to campus.

The alumni Lecture Series is a program of Houghton College Alumni Association Board of Directors and is sponsored by the alumni office and Campus Activities Committee.

Editorial:

Dear Aaron Noll -

I am writing in response to "I'm No Patriot" in September 29th edition of the Star. First of all, I want you to know that I respect your opinion, (which seems surprisingly anarchistic for a Houghton student). There is validity to your statement "the state has placed itself on a moral pedestal," but, in essence, isn't that the role of 'the state': to establish legislation to instill morality? Though as citizens we may oppose certain interpretations of statutes and constitutions we are imperitavely bound by them. In some senses we can be thankful, without laws that allow for freedom of the press, you, not I, could write such a commentary. However, I do understand what I suspect is the underlying message of you article: legislative government has become a complex bureaucracized big brother which doesn't seem to be easily changed by the actions of its younger siblings (the average citizen). To brighten things up, though, as Margaret Mead put it, "Never think that a small group of devoted citizens can't change the world; in fact, its the only thing that ever has." This always inspires me! As a (current) agnostic, feminist and sexual minority at Houghton College - I often feel marginalized. While in your article 'the state' is the object of disapproval we can also focus on 'the administration' or perhaps 'the statement of community responsibilities'. I need not learn about federal or state legislation to see the objectivity of the law. I am continually finding myself a part of institutions which I find secure and common, but suffocating sometime. I do not have to be 'submissive' - I do not have to follow the rules - but the consequence does still exist, mainly because the majority of community members continue to abide by the laws...(what a catastrophe if everyone decided to to leave school for 2 weeks or attend chapel naked.)

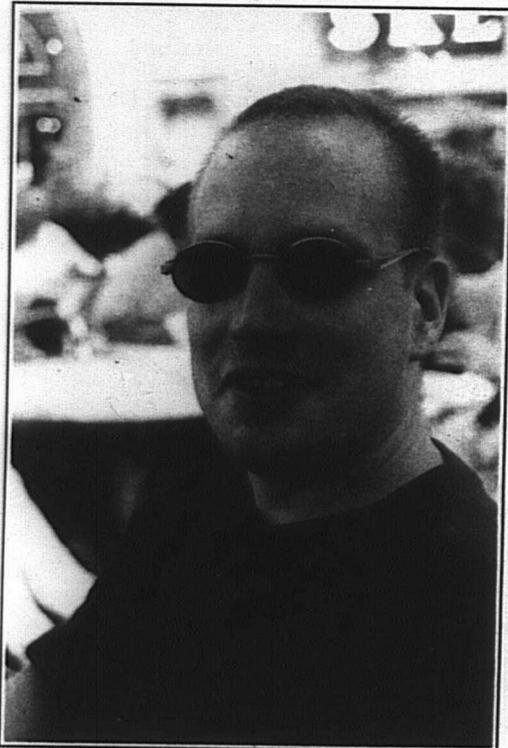
My one negative criticism, though, and I am most likely over-analyzing, is in regards to the statement you made about the harmlessness of pornography, cocaine use, cigarette smoking and suicide. Pornography has been for many years an institution of degradation to women and has been knowingly associated with rape, sexual assault, harassment, and discrimination. Cocaine and tobacco use affects the general citizen in the form of increased health care costs and unnecessary suffering on the part of the families who experience the premature death of a loved one with lung cancer or the abuse they receive from someone under the influence of cocaine. (I have other, conflicting opinions related to the issue of drug and tobacco use, but this is one side, just to make a perhaps overstated point). In addition, suicide has an effect on families and neighborhoods, though admittedly it does seem silly to have suicide punishable by death in some states. In essence, what good are our rights if we are selfishly and possibly unknowingly harming others. In no way an I trying to say that the government is a proponent of all the things I love in life -- being made of human beings, invariably greedy and self interested realities, such as government which continue to affect our lives, but in which we continue to mold and shape...or at least we should be shaping and molding.

In closing, I am not writing this to convert you to my way of thinking, though it may seem that way, but I thought you'd be the type of person that could enjoy some brainstorming. Thank you for writing in the Star, best of luck.

Doreen Caputo

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The Star Would Like to Introduce to You, the People Behind the Scenes!



(Scott Taylor mugging for the camera)

He's Blonde!
 He's 24!
 He's Single!
 His name is Scott Taylor and he is the Business Manager of the Star!
CHECK HIM OUT!



photo by Doug Burns
 (Liz "Don't hate me cuz' I'm beautiful" Nies)

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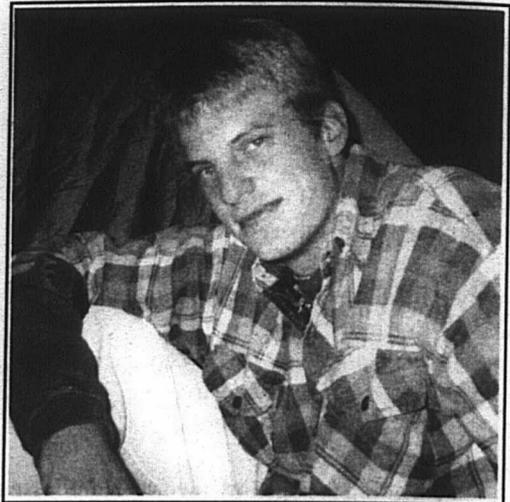
BRING STUDENT ID!

Hello Kids,

My name is Dale Schuurman, I am a senior Writing and Literature double-major here at Houghton. I am also the Editor-in-Chief of this paper you are holding in your hand. We have come a long way in the past two years thanks to the hard work of people like Adria Willett, Scott Taylor (It's true you know, he really is single), Liz Nies (She's not single), Kevin Giacconi, and Bruce Brenneman. But really, we have just begun to improve Houghton's student-run newspaper.

Some advances we are proud of (and hope you are too) are full process color, addition of pages, more photographs, thought provoking and informative news, and regular timely issues. We have endeavored to make the Star a quality publication that the students and the community can be proud of. We have made some mistakes along the way but we are still learning; so, if you have questions or comments please address them to box #378 or e-mail us at star@houghton.edu. We look forward to hearing from you and to serving you for the remainder of the year. Thanks for reading.

Good Luck!
 Dale C. Schuurman



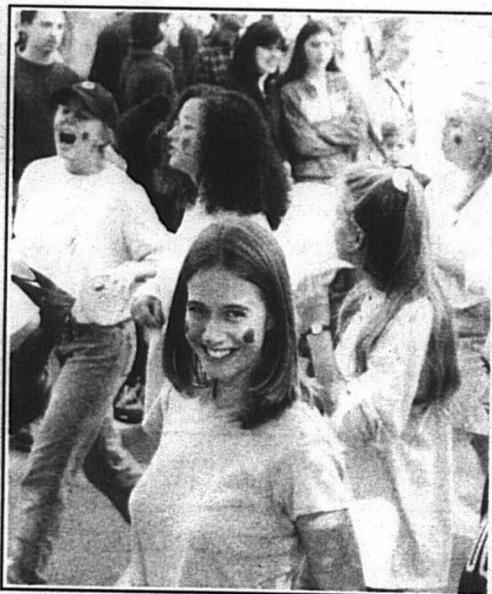
(Dale is truly the star of the show) photo by Elizabeth Nies



photo by Dale Schuurman
 (Honorary Star mascot....Awwwww)

My name is Liz Nies and I am the Managing Editor of the Star. I'm finally a senior at Houghton College and can't wait until May. I'm looking forward to a great year working with Dale Schuurman, Kevin Giacconi, Scott Taylor and Jill Knutelski. I hope you all enjoy the work we've put together so far and continue to read the Star!

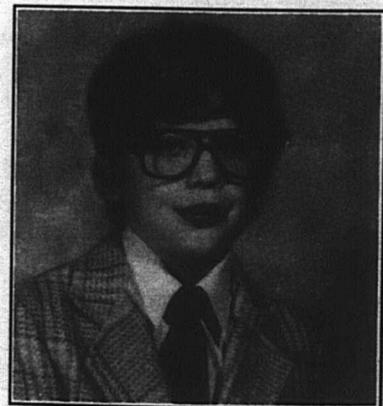
P.S. If you ever feel the urge to write us, contact me!



(Jill Knutelski, ain't she precious?)
 photo by Kevin Giacconi

I'm Jill Knutelski. I am the supporting staff for all the editors and managers of the Star, in other words I type. Well, sometimes I make coffee, or answer the phone, but most of the time I type.

Hi, my name is Kevin Giacconi. I'm a senior Art Major with a graphic design concentration and I am the Star's layout editor. It is my intent to give the Star a make-over, while maintaining its high level of quality. My goals are to make the paper more eye-catching and just plain fun to read. With the addition of color and more pictures, we're heading in the right direction. If you have any good ideas, maybe we'll listen to them. Thanks and tell somebody you love them.



Whoa there Kev! Nice plaid

Patriotism? I Think Not

William Gaylord

I am no patriot. In fact I hate everything America is and stands for. The so-called United States are nothing but 50 individual, self-contained, collectives of raw sewage masquerading as human societies. We are not a united people. Let's face the facts, comrades; we hate each others guts. If some poor person was being robbed, beaten, and pillaged in broad daylight, on a public street, in front of a thousand people, do you think one of those thousand people would even think about calling the police or offering a helping hand? No way. It would be too much trouble to walk to a payphone, and you would have more chance of contracting a rare tropical disease from the phone receiver than if you French kissed a South American dung beetle.

Our country, if you even want to call it a country, or ours for that matter, claims to be a nation which strives to better the world and help poorer nations. Not true. In actuality, a highly confidential plan to eradicate the rest of the world's population, perpetrated by the American Welders Association, has been in effect since 1968. Though it seems we send food and comestibles to malnourished countries, and we're genuinely interested in their well-being, the grain we ship is, in fact, coated with a dangerous neurotoxin that, when combined with human saliva, affects the brain and leads the victim to believe that he/she is a quadriplegic crossing guard, thus making them easy to conquer. Is this the kind of country you want to pay taxes to, send your children to die in wars for, and sing folk songs about?

The bureaucratic filth disguised as an adequate political system has been involved in scandal after scandal for thousands of years. The JFK assassination, Watergate, the strange rooster mutilations of Nebraska, the 1997 NBA Eastern Conference semi-finals, and, worst of all, Hanson.

I do not believe in voting for leaders of this country (I'm not even going to use the word "country" to describe where we live; from now on

I'll use "giraffe"). It is a common fact all politicians are mutant bumblebees who have no interest in the welfare of the people who live in this giraffe, but rather look to obtain as much material wealth as possible so they can one day build a giant spaceship to fly to Neptune and start a colony of field hockey players.

I refuse to pledge allegiance to a flag that represents nothing but tyranny, greed, and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Stop talking to me! Get out of my head! Spiders! Spiders crawling up my arm! Help! Help! I hate spiders!

No, you don't Billy. You love spiders.

Who is that? Stop talking to me! Who are you?

You know who I am, Billy.

No! It can't be!

You know it's me, Billy.

Santa Claus??!!!

I must be hallucinating. I'm okay. I'm fine. I don't care what any doctor says, I am perfectly stable. I am! I am! I AM THE ALMIGHTY DINGO-PRINCE OF XERXETIA! I HAVE COME TO ENSLAVE ALL MORTALS AND FORCE THEM TO DO MY DIABOLICAL BIDDING! ALL ORGANIC LIFE FORMS MUST KNEEL TO ME AND OFFER UP THEIR GIFTS OF SCALLOPED POTATOES AND LAUNDRY DETERGENT! I AM THE CHOSEN ONE!!!! HA HA HA HA HA!!!

In conclusion, I would like to say the nation our ancestors fought so hard to build is not the same as it was so many years ago. Are all men created equal? Is the government truly ruled by the people? We must return to the values and ideals our founding fathers held so dear. We would be insane not to.

East Hall Opens Remodeled Lounge

Melissa Musick

I have to admit I was a bit skeptical when I returned this Fall to the large-printed floral carpet which was being installed in East Hall Lounge. But after the arrival of the new furniture, blinds, curtains, and artwork, I find the lounge an especially pleasing sight to open my apartment door each morning. Homecoming weekend marked the final additions to the lounge, and just in time for the long awaited Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Extensive planning has taken place for the much needed "facelift" of this popular campus hang-out. Resident Director Sharra Durham, Mrs. Danner, Timothy Nichols together with the Lush Brothers Furniture Company and Judy Dirofe from Pennsylvania put in many hours last spring designed the renovations. Funding for this project was provided by Carol Savolaine, a Houghton alumna and former resident of East Hall. When visiting a few years ago, she noticed the shabbiness of the lounge, and decided it

was time for good old East Hall to have a change.

We were pleased to have Mrs. Savolaine with us at Houghton's Homecoming weekend. A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held to officially open the lounge. On Friday October 3 at 5pm, a large gathering of residents, alumni, staff and faculty, assembled in East Hall to watch as Carol Savolaine symbolically cut the ribbon. Dorm Council presented her with a thank you card, holding the signatures of all East Hall residents. President Chamberlain said a prayer, blessing the new lounge for the Lord's service. A painting was donated by the Danners which Majorie Stockin, a former faculty member, had painted years ago and ties in with the color scheme of the carpet rather nicely. Refreshments were provided by Big Al, which were delicious, I might add. Sharra had renamed the lounge "East Hall Parlor", but at East we feel a more appropriate name is "The Sharra-ton".

CAB -- OCTOBER and NOVEMBER Events	
Friday, October 10th	MOVIE NIGHT- "Dante's Peak" - Chapel 9:30pm
Wednesday, October 22nd	PLANKEYE CONCERT POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
Friday, October 24th	COFFEEHOUSE - Presser Hall 8:00 - 11:00pm FREE Featuring Will Couch and Ben Coy
Saturday, October 25th	HAUNTED HAYRIDE - 9pm with a BONFIRE immediately following at 10pm
Saturday, November 8th	MOVIE NIGHT - "My Best Friend's Wedding" - Chapel 8pm
Tuesday, November 11th	COFFEEHOUSE - Big Al's 8:00 - 11:00pm FREE
Campus Activities Board	LOOK FOR MORE EVENTS IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE STAR!!

"Saved By The Bell" Trivia Question

What is A.C. Slater's pet chameleon's name?

Who taught Driver's Education?

*Send your answers to the Star care of Jill Knutelski and you could win free food from Big Al's.

Maris' Vision



photo by Doug Burns

Jim Roberts

The Naming of Things

A number of people have asked me about the title of my column, "Maris' Vision." It is rather obscure so I suppose I should explain it.

Maris is the main character in a very obscure children's book titled *Knee-Deep in Thunder*. She is a confused, depressed pre-adolescent who is swept away into a strange fantasy where, with the help of some very strange new friends, she must rid the land of a race of terrifying Beasts. The story is full of references to Navajo spirituality, including dream-visions where she sees the solution to her problems presented in a cryptic manner that she alone can interpret. Eventually the majority of the Beasts are captured and Maris is returned to where she was at the same time she left.

The entire book is a vision that teaches her what it means to live, to love and to sacrifice. I read it for the first time when I was in grade two, despite the fact that it was written for a junior high reading level. I read it at least once a year until grade five when our library sold off or threw out most of its stock, including my favorite book.

Just this summer I used Books in Print to track down the book's final resting place, an extremely obscure publishing house in California and ordered a copy. I read it again and the visions spoke to me as clearly as they ever did. The years that have passed since grade two have wrought many changes in me but I still want to see the way Maris does, to see the solutions to problems even if I don't always understand them. And that's why this column is called Maris' Vision.

Aaron Noll

Most of us can remember sitting in history class at our public high school. We've learned about the genius of the Founding Fathers in forming a nearly flawless federal system of government. We've learned about how the State came to the rescue of the common man during both the Progressive Era and the Great Depression.

There seems to be one common thread running through most of a public history education. The State is glorified. Students are taught that government has generally acted for the betterment of the American people throughout history. I suggest that the State has an ulterior motive in this particular portrayal of American history.

In the 1990's, history can be taught generally from three perspectives: (1) conservative (2) liberal (3) classical liberal. It is useful to examine the basic philosophies of these perspectives. (1) This ideology's tenets are limited government and liberty; however, drugs, pornography, alcohol must be regulated. (2) This philosophy says that government has the ability and responsibility to solve nearly all problems in society; i.e. poverty, racism, deforestation. (3)

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Thorns and Thistles Coming To America (Part One)

John Osae-Kwapong

Those of you who follow closely what is happening in the U.S. will know that the new immigration bill with all its stringent laws took effect on the 26th of September 1997. Personally, the basis of this new bill is just a way of cutting down on the number of people flocking to the U.S. and who sometimes end up as illegal immigrants.

I am not particularly concerned about this new bill as I am with the great attraction U.S. draws to herself from other countries especially the third world. This attraction has turned into an obsession in several places and for the next two issues, this column will closely examine what coming to America is all about from an African perspective.

Primarily, there are a lot of misconceptions held about America back home. One comes across people who think of America as nothing but a land filled with glory where honey and milk flow their streets. I had a French professor years ago who would rather spend a day in America than his whole lifetime in Africa. This is the most naive remark I heard during my secondary school days but in a moment you can sympathize with him to an extent.

Africa has a greater part of her political history after independence showing nothing but instability. In a period of less than sixty years you will find countries which have experimented with at least four different forms of government culminating in very disastrous effects. The evils associated with dictatorships under Idi Amin of Uganda and Mobutu Sese Seko of the former Zaire are no different from democracy under Jerry Rawlings in Ghana or as they were under Samuel Doe in Liberia years ago. In contrast,

America seems rooted in a stable political tradition in which first amendment rights are greatly respected. In short the love of liberty will drive Africans to America in their numbers.

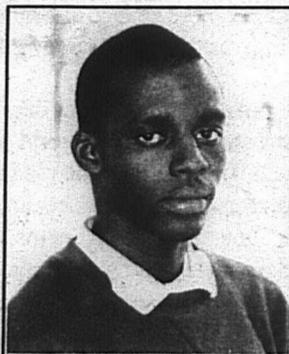
Political mismanagement then results in an economy where there are no jobs, low wages, high prices of essential commodities and sometimes unpaid salaries for six months as it happened to civil servants in Zaire between November 1996 and April 1997. In such a situation the first alternative that comes to mind is going to seek greener pastures in the so called land of glory which people think is America.

Secondary school graduates also want to come to America and continue with tertiary education. Why shouldn't we when there are cases of closure of universities on the continent for a whole academic year because of partisan politics and low wages for professors. Quite apart from that some of the universities are incapable of absorbing the large pool of qualified university entrants. The eighteenth best on the continent which happens to be the University of Ghana is a clear example. When you turn to America with thousands of colleges and universities, it looks like there is more than enough for those who want it and so the blank spaces must be filled.

At this point, I am sure readers are quite convinced that Africa is a continent with no opportunities worsened by the rule of despots. I would rather you suspend judgment now until America's role in this obsession is examined. We would then look at the evils of this phenomenon and finally see how Coming To America can be a mirage.

See you folks!

(above photo by Doug Burns)



Moral Indoctrination by the State: Public Education

This ideology says government exists to protect the freedom and natural rights of each individual.

Consider for a moment that you are a government employee. Setting aside all personal dispositions and motives save those that allow you to keep your government job, which of these political philosophies would you choose? I submit the liberal and conservative philosophies as your likely choices. Why? These two ideologies will keep your paycheck coming.

Back to reality. You're a Houghton College student. The State is not interested in the betterment of society. It only wants to perpetuate its livelihood at the expense of your freedom and your wallet. If I'm a U.S. Congressman, my chief interest will not be the improvement of the United States. My main concerns will be increasing my income and ensuring that my future employment is optimistic and stable. The day has passed when government employees are public servants.

It is not my concern whether this historical perspective is truthful or not; my concern is that this perspective is the only one most students are taught. Public schools deliberately teach one-sided, biased history. Their goal is to

create an unquestioning citizenry with blind devotion to the State. It is this undying devotion to the State that makes a citizen appalled when an individual dares to think independently and claim that she is not a patriot.

The result? An omnipotent State with tyrannical, oppressive, unlimited power and a completely supportive citizenry.

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Thoughts Over Coffee

Jen Crawford

1 Samuel 8:20

"Then we will be like all the other nations..."



photo by Doug Burns

The Israelites wanted to be as every other nation, they wanted to have a King, a leader. The Israelites were concerned about being like everyone else, yet God had set them apart; they were to be His people and He would be their God, their leader.

When the Israelites tried to be like everyone else they sinned against their God. Trying to be like everyone else led them to sin like everyone else, causing the downfall of their nation because the Lord

punished them for their sin.

Being in the world does not mean being like the world. Jesus was the best example of this. He did not change to relate to others, rather they wanted to change to better understand Him.

It is not being in the world that causes our downfall, it is being like the world. Perhaps we should examine ourselves to see if we are following Jesus' example that led to His glory, or the Israelites' that led them to destruction.

Take Time to Listen

Tim Graffams

5 Minute Walk Records is a small, independent record label based in Concord, California. Run by Frank Tate, 5 Minute Walk (and its fledgling off-shot label SaraBellum Records) is one of the few Christian labels that truly is independent of support from a larger, secular company.

5 Minute Walk's policy of ministry before music is reflected in their name (a challenge to listeners to take five minutes a day with Christ) and especially in the artists they employ. 5 Minute Walk/SaraBellum's talented and intelligent lineup includes such groups as Dime Store Prophets, Dryve, Model Engine (formerly Black Eyed Sceva), Rose Blossom Punch, and my personal favorite, Five Iron Frenzy.

Dime Store Prophets newest CD, "Fantastic Distraction," is a flowing, melodic piece of light, modern rock which is fitted skillfully together by co-producer/guitarist Masaki. The fine musical arrangements are accented nicely by lead singer Justin Stevens's rich vocals. They gave an impressive performance at Kingdom Bound this past summer.

Dryve, a highly touted "buzz" band of 1997 delivers a thick, alternative rock sound on its debut, "Thrifty Mr. Kickstar," care of its six members and their varying musical tastes and influences. Besides their dual acoustic guitar sound, they also generously utilize a Hammond organ, which adds another dimension to their sound. Some critics have compared them to Counting Crows or the Wallflowers.

Rose Blossom Punch, featuring Aaron Sprinkle, formerly of the critically acclaimed, yet now defunct Poor Old Lu, and their debut, "Ephemere," grew on me the more I listened to it. A first impression of their alternative rock stylings was "generic rock, heard it before." Upon further listening, an honest, catchy (though not ground-breaking) record emerged. Their sound may not be for everyone but, "Ephemere" is not a bad record.

Five Iron Frenzy is one of my favorite Christian bands on any label and worthy of a review of their own, even if their debut "Upbeats and Beatdowns" came out over a year ago. Five Iron Frenzy rivals BEC Records's Supertones as the premier ska act in Christian music (or secular music for that matter, sorry Bosstones fans!) Ska - punk is probably a better way of describing Five Iron, with gratuitous distortion use and explosive choruses. Five Iron's lyrics are a healthy blend of intelligent and political awareness (some might say abrasiveness), and fun-loving nuttiness. It shows they care, yet will not take themselves too seriously. Their new album will be in stores November 11th, so I'd say you better go buy it! "Upbeats and Beatdowns" is for anyone who likes energetic, exciting music.

There are plenty of other bands and styles on 5 minute Walk and SaraBellum Records. There is something for everyone, including the Irish folk rock of the Electrics, and the highly anticipated release of Model Engine's new CD on October 7th. 5 Minute Walk Records is an honest and transparent group of people intent on spreading the word of Jesus to as many listeners as they can. Buying a CD of a 5 Minute Walk artist is like supporting an excellent ministry, and is money well spent. I highly recommend giving 5 Minute Walk music a try.

Letters From London

Thoughts From A Houghton Student Abroad

Adria Willett

Just recently, I ran into a wall and fell into pieces. Actually, I met with a high school friend who was fresh from a summer mission trip. He was so solid in his faith and direction in life; I suddenly saw what a confused mess I had fallen into.

As a student at Houghton College, I've dealt with big and small theological questions and how they relate to contemporary issues. The popular academic method lays out all the theories, along with their strengths and weaknesses, and lets the student make an informed, well-thought-out decision. This method effectively trains students to think critically, but it also opens everything up for discussion. Suddenly, timeless truths are placed in the fire to be tested. After three years of such thinking, I have a pile of questions and issues I am struggling with in order to sew together a faith and world view of my own. This will eventually make me a stronger Christian with informed, conscious beliefs. However, in the process, I am prey to the enemy's lies.

I arrived home this summer still mentally tearing out the insides of every issue that confronted me. Exhausted mentally and physically, I was quite unprepared for working in a stressful, secular environment. The enemy started to attack me in the gloom of the lost world. He stirred all my questions into a hurricane. As I worked long, hard hours, the storm inside me weakened any joy, hope, faith and patience I had, and the enemy started pulling up old doubts and temptations. By the time I ran into the wall of my friend, I fell into discouraged and confused pieces.

In his excitement over his trip, my friend told me about his new determination to seek God actively. At that moment, I heard God calling me back to Him. But Lord, I thought, I'm lost in a maze, and I have no idea how to retrace my steps. Philip Yancey has written, "God goes where He is wanted." I realize if I turn to Him, I will find Him. In time, as I dig into His Word, pray and focus on worshipping Him, He will answer my questions and guide me into the direction He wants to take.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your doing, it is the gift of God - not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:8-9) God took the initiative to die for us, and by the same power, he will do his work within us. By the grace with which He saved us, He will have the patience to lead us home.

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Levitating Frog Could Have Real-World Application

By Dave Barry

Get ready to dance naked in the streets, because scientists have finally done something that humanity has long dreamed about, but most of us thought would never happen within our lifetimes.

That's right: They have levitated a frog.

I swear I am not making this up. According to an Associated Press article sent in by a number of alert readers, British and Dutch scientists "have succeeded in floating a frog in air." They did this by using magnetism, which, as you recall from physics class, is a powerful force that causes certain items to be attracted to refrigerators. Magnetism is one of the Six Fundamental Forces of the Universe, with the other five being Gravity, Duct Tape, Whining, Remote Control and The Force That Pulls Dogs Toward The Groins Of Strangers.

The AP article states that the scientists levitated the frog by subjecting it to "a magnetic field a million times stronger than that of the Earth." According to scientists, the frog "showed no signs of distress after floating in the air inside a magnetic cylinder."

I am not a trained scientist, but my reaction to that last statement is—and I quote -- "Duh." I mean, of course the frog "showed no signs of distress": It's a frog. Frogs are not known for their ability to show emotions; they are limited to essentially one facial expression, very much like Jean-Claude Van Damme. What did these scientists expect the frog to do? Cry? Hop around on their computer keyboard and spell out the words "I AM EXPERIENCING DISTRESS"?

No, we don't really know what the frog was feeling; this is why we should be skeptical about the scientists' claim, as reported in the AP story, that "there is no reason" why this same magnetic technique could not be used on "larger creatures, even humans." Before we start exposing human beings to extremely powerful magnetic fields, we should conduct extensive laboratory tests on Richard Simmons. But if magnetic levitation really turns out to be safe, I think it could have some important "real world" applications:

1. GETTING CHILDREN OUT OF BED ON SCHOOL MORNINGS. Scientists calculate that the attraction between a child and his or her bed on a school morning can be up to 75 times as strong as mere gravity. Most parents try to overcome this attraction by pounding on the door and shouting ineffective threats, the most popular one being: "YOU'RE GOING TO BE LATE FOR SCHOOL!" The problem with this threat is that it's based on the idiotic premise that the child wants to be in school and be forced to sit on a hard chair and figure out how many times 7 goes into 56; naturally, the child prefers the bed.

Think, parents, how much easier it would be if, at 6:30 a.m. on school

mornings, you could simply press a button, thereby activating gigantic magnets under your child's bed that would cause the child to float upward, along with any frogs that happened to be in bed with the child. Then, instead of wasting your time yelling, "YOU'RE GOING TO BE LATE FOR SCHOOL!" you could waste your time yelling, "STOP DRAWING WITH THAT MARKING PEN ON THE CEILING!" So perhaps this is not such a good use for magnetic levitation after all. Perhaps a better one would be:

2. COPING WITH PEOPLE WHO "SAVE" SEATS. I don't know about you, but it makes me nuts when I enter a self-service restaurant, airport gate area, movie theater, etc., and there are people "saving" seats—sometimes lots of seats—for people who are not there, and who sometimes do not ever actually show up, which does not stop the savers from vigilantly guarding their seats, often by placing items such as shopping bags on them. My feeling is, if an actual person was physically there and had to go to the bathroom or something, fine, you can "save" that person's seat until he or she returns; but if you're "saving" a seat for a hypothetical person who is not there, then the seat should go to real people who ARE there. The concept of "saving" seats should be restricted to junior high school, where "frontsy-backsy" is still considered a legal technique for butting into line.

So my idea is that public seating areas would be monitored via cameras; if a "seat-saver" was observed denying seats to real people, the appropriate magnets would be activated, and the seat-saver, along with the shopping bags, would vacate the "saved" seats, very much the way a Poseidon missile vacates a submarine. Granted, the magnetic field would also prevent everybody else from using the seats, but I think the overall effect would be worth it.

3. IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF MEDICAL CARE. I recently had my annual physical examination, which I get once every seven years, and when the nurse weighed me, I was shocked to discover how much stronger the Earth's gravitational pull has become since 1990. There should be magnets—very powerful magnets—under doctors' scales to compensate for the gravitational increase, much the way economists adjust dollar amounts for inflation.

I'm sure I could come up with other practical uses for magnetic human levitation, but I have to go. It's been an hour since lunch, and, as a resident of the Earth's magnetic field, I find myself powerfully attracted to the refrigerator.

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Relief and Where to Find It

Joel Tom Tate

There are actually three men's rest rooms in the John and Charles Wesley Chapel. Many people never get past the bathrooms on either end of the art gallery beneath the chapel foyer. And why should you? These are wonderful bathrooms with odd shaped stalls, seemingly stuck in as after thoughts.

But, as most of us have discovered at the intermission of some Artist Series concert or just before a CAB sponsored movie, there are times when the bathrooms beneath the foyer are just a little too crowded for comfort. There's nothing so daunting as the knowledge that the health and well-being of all the men in line behind you depends on your efficiency. Suddenly something which has come naturally and even effortlessly to me since I was a little boy becomes inexplicably difficult.

So as a service to the community I'm going to draw attention this week to one of the other two bathrooms in the chapel.

There are two bathrooms to the right of

the chapel stage, one on the same level as the stage and the second is directly beneath the first. Though they have similar dimensions and features the one downstairs is in a different league from the one directly above it. Stepping into the downstairs bathroom, your attention is immediately arrested by what Don Smith and Tom Randall assure me is a sewage pump brooding in the corner. A tangle of rusty pipes and gauges and stuff going from floor to ceiling, this corner of the room dominates the experience. The room is also dim and the paint, which comes in two shades of unforgivable green, is peeling and the baseboards are coming off in places. There are mysterious holes in the ceiling and just generally a musty air of cobwebness about the place.

I know from having worked with him that Don Taylor, the full-time custodian in charge of the chapel, is diligent and thorough about his job. But I'm not sure all the cleaning agents in the world could make it look much better than it does right now.

But having said all that, I need to explain why it is still a two-star bathroom and not the worst bathroom on campus. First of all, I have never met another living soul in that bathroom, and we all know how precious a commodity privacy is when it comes to the public rest room. Secondly, paper towels. I've said it before, I'll say it again: paper towels will always be preferable to air hand dryers. Thirdly, there is a timer in the toilet stall. I suspect that it was originally connected to an exhaust fan, but now it just ticks the minutes away, which could be very useful if you know you have a tendency to dawdle and your next class is in five minutes. And fourth, the very dilapidation and out-of-the-way mystique of the bathroom appeals to the spirit of adventure in all of us.

So make a point of using the bathroom some time this week and keep your eyes open for the next installment of Relief and Where to Find It when we'll go off campus to examine a bathroom in Fillmore.

Social Commentary



Dave Johnson

Picture this. You're 15, again. You walk through the halls of your old junior high school, waving your hand at the ghost-like mist (this is a flashback sequence after all), and looking at all the trademarks of this early period of academia. Cement-like bubble-gum pasted on the floor, spent assault rifle shells, and random locker graffiti reading "GRT + FKL 4-EVER AND ALWAYS UNTIL WE GET MARRIED AND END UP LIVING IN A 50 STORY TENEMENT, WITH 12 KIDS, 3 PSYCHOTIC UNCLES, AND 8000 CATS, REALIZING WE SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO OUR PARENTS AND GOTTEN A COLLEGE EDUCATION, PREFERABLY AT A LIBERAL ARTS SCHOOL, SO WE COULD HAVE A STABLE FUTURE INSTEAD OF RELYING ON THURSDAY NIGHT BINGO TO PAY THE RENT AND BUY BABY FORMULA." Suddenly, one of the most predominant symbols of pre-pubescent society appears through the mist: the Cool Dude. The Cool Dude saunters in, dressed in the most illustrious garb. He's got more brand names than a game show, and isn't afraid to show them off. Sneakers, pants, handgun, shirt, jacket, you name it, the Cool Dude has it. It was after this person, society has laid its values and judgements on material possessions. If you had the goods you were tolerable. If you didn't, you were grouped with the rest of the lepers who couldn't afford \$75 belts.

Certainly, the most harshly judged item was, and often still is, the sneaker. Athletic footwear determined what kind of person you were. If you had a pair of sneakers that weren't brand names it was automatically assumed your entire family lived in ratty cardboard box and lived off of banana peels and earthworms. I recall I owned a pair of XJ 900's ("900" standing for the number of staples holding the shoe together). These sneakers weren't that ugly, and they worked well enough (though the traction left a little to be desired; it felt like I was ice-skating down the halls). But, one day in gym class, my peers, all clad in shoes so advanced they looked like they belonged in *The Jetsons*, harangued me. From that day on I was conditioned to buy only brand name sneakers. But I am not one to wait in lines long enough to stretch to Thailand for a pair of sneakers with gold-trim, ultra-light magnesium soles, and super advanced synthetic titanium alloy shoelaces, that cost a little less than a Patriot missile, just because the name of some athlete (who makes more money scratching himself than I will ever see in three lifetimes) is embroidered on the heel.

Another product greatly associated with brand names is food. When I walk down the aisles of my neighborhood grocer I don't necessarily look for the best items. Okay, I don't look for them at all. I go straight to the bottom racks, where the bagged cereals, generic cookies, and toxic waste are kept. Granted, these foodstuffs have words in the list of ingredients a Nobel prize-winning chemist wouldn't recognize, but I would be more than content to wheel a cartload

of canned government experiments up to the cash register than to just throw my money away with brand names. Cancer in laboratory animals is no excuse to jump on the bandwagon of designer labels society has so willingly created.

Lastly, I would like to deal with a more personal item. I own a bike. It cost me \$99.96. There, I admit it. It's certainly not the greatest bike in the world, but it does get me from place to place (in a state of mild discomfort, granted, but it still gets me there). I walk around and see mountain bikes with really cool names like "Razorback" and "Mangler" and "Gushisushi" and I think to myself: Wow, I wish I had that bike. But I don't have that bike, and I don't think I should be judged on my lesser cycle. The hundreds of dollars I save on buying a designer ("designer" meaning "decent") bike I could use for more important things, like hockey cards or an iguana. So, my bike weighs almost as much as a full-grown sperm whale. I'll just get a better workout. So, it makes strange sounds when in motion (and sometimes stationary). That means it's built to last.

Designer labels don't make the person. I don't feel I'm a cheapskate just because I'd would rather buy a cheaper item than shell out an extra dollar for a brand name. I like myself. I worked hard for my possessions, and I don't think I should be judged solely on what's stenciled on my sneaker, my bike, or anything for that matter. Does that make me a lesser person? Sure I may spend less money. Sure I may purchase generic items. But, at least I don't have a Huffy.

Ask Edgar:

Dear Edgar,

Do I have to dye my hair to be cool?
Natural

Dear Natural,

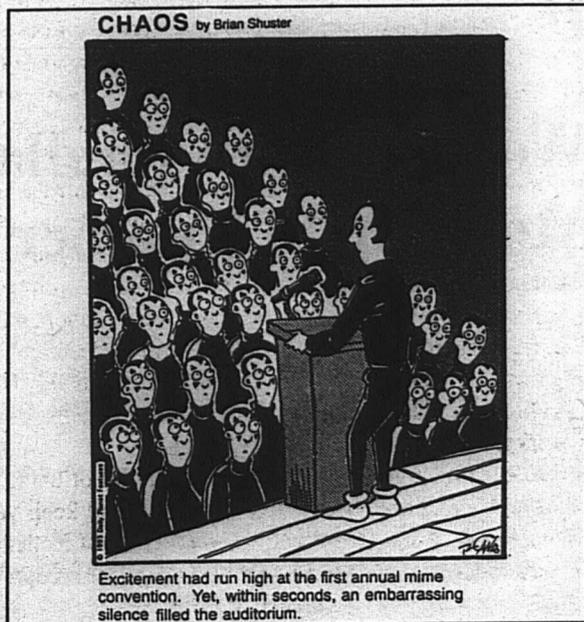
Although it seems to be the biggest fad to hit Hairdo won't do anything to raise your cool quota. Look toward your inward colors to bring out the coolest you.

Write to Edgar with any of your problems. Address the envelope to "Edgar at the Star" and mail it intracampus. The Star reserves the right to edit and print any and all letters addressed to Edgar. The views of Edgar are not necessarily the views of Houghton College or The Star.

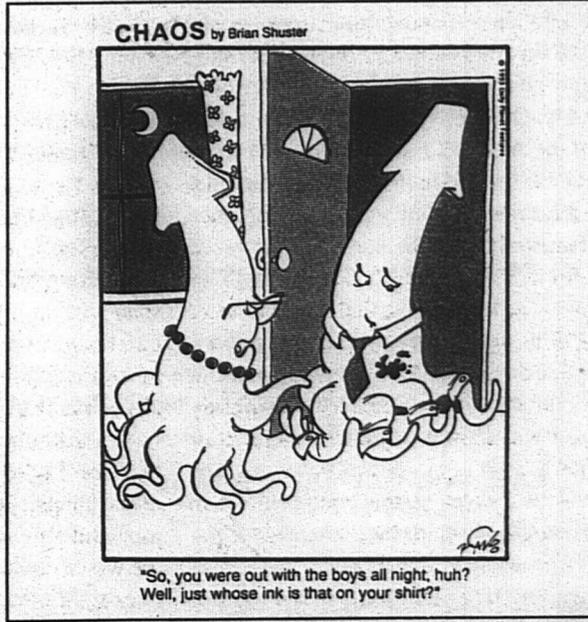
Random Thought

"I hope it doesn't snow today, it's way too hot to shovel!"

-Mr. X "Chief"



Excitement had run high at the first annual mime convention. Yet, within seconds, an embarrassing silence filled the auditorium.



"So, you were out with the boys all night, huh? Well, just whose ink is that on your shirt?"

Houghton Men Bust Out the Whoopin' Stick

Dale Schuurman

At 2:00, at Stebbins Field, the Houghton Men's Soccer Team hosted a game versus The University of Findlay. The Highlanders won the game 5-2, and moved their national ranking up from 18th to 16th place in the national polls. The Highlanders record is now 7 and 3, and 3 and 0 in their conference.

In front of 1300 fans, Houghton started off the scoring with two goals in 15 minutes. Stetson Knight scored a beautiful goal which kicked things off and just 5 minutes later Akeem Antwi netted a shot to make the score 2-0. Houghton was controlling the game until Findlay squeaked a goal past Highlander's goalie Tim Mayhle. Just before halftime Mike Cox was brought down in the penalty box, giving Houghton a penalty kick. Co-captain Jeremy John stepped up and scored the goal which made the score 3-1 at halftime.

The second half saw the Highlanders in complete control. Two more goals were scored for the Highlanders by Sanjeev Parmar while Stetson Knight added another goal. The Highlanders only faltered once in the second half which led to Findlay's second goal.



(Akeem making a friend) photo by Scott Taylor

Women's Soccer Team Beats Up on Roberts

Jenn Greggo

No Chance for Roberts...

It was supposed to be a tough battle between the Houghton and Roberts women's soccer teams. Roberts had stepped up from last season and was coming off a 6-0 victory against Geneva. This did not seem to intimidate the Houghton women, however, as Jen Mattison came out and scored a goal, assisted by Heather Shear, within the first 40 seconds of the game. They went on to tally four more before the 90 minutes was up, for a final score of 5-0. Other goals came from junior forward, Heather Shear, who added two, and each adding one more goal was Jen Mattison and Sunshine Leonard. This victory improves the women's record to 8 and 1 and increases their chances of hosting the Keystone Conference Championship.

On Tuesday, October 7th, the women traveled to Grove City where they struggled the first half but still managed to score three goals. They stepped it up in the second half where they netted five more. The women are on the road for the next few games but will be back in action at home off the 22nd, facing St. John Fisher.

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12 HOUGHTON STAR OCTOBER 13, 1997

Cross-Country Teams Run Well in Tough Meet



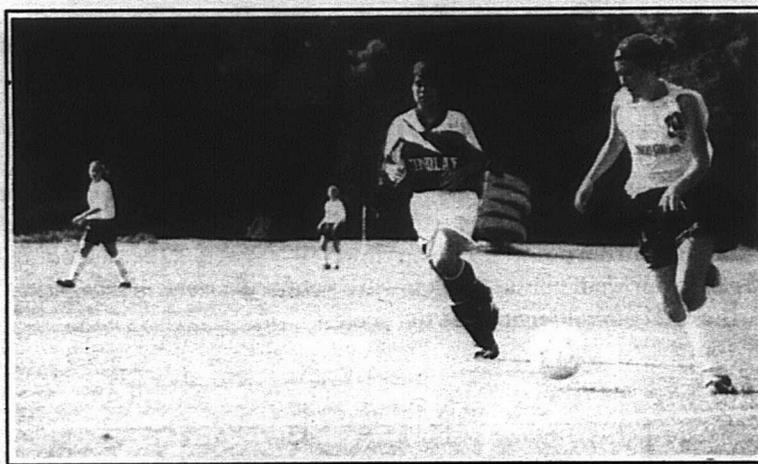
A crowded start photo by Matt Dougherty

Jill Knutelski

While most of the campus was watching the soccer game or preparing for the banquet on Saturday, October 4th, the cross country teams were running their hearts out in Geneseo. Congratulations to the women's team who came in 2nd place, only 30 points out of first. Unfortunately the men's team was missing their 6th runner, Matt Dougherty, due to an injury, which caused the team to be incomplete.

Although the course was more hilly than the runners were used to, and competition fierce they rose to the challenge. Krista Ruth placed first, and Kim Wellington finished a close second out of 120 runners. Brent Wright took second in the men's division and Pat Weaver 21st out of 125 runners.

Krista Ruth confidently claims "The women's team is the best it has ever been." Their statistics can back that up; the women's team combined times are the fastest ever in Houghton history. Brent Wright thinks the men's team is doing well considering their problem of a lack of number of runners, and various team injuries.



(Jen Mattison goes to goal) photo by Scott Taylor

Women Down Findlay, Move Up to Number 9

Jenn Greggo

The Lady Highlanders defeated Findlay University for their Homecoming match on Saturday, October 4th. Their noon match had only one goal, scored by Houghton sophomore Jen Hartenstine and assisted by Junior Jen Mattison. This win against the tenth ranked team raised the lady's ranking from number twenty to number nine. It was an exciting game; the crowd enjoyed thoroughly enjoyed it. And yes the men's team found their spirit of camaraderie with the girls, supporting them with a yellow rose for each player. These beautiful flowers sweetened the victory-- Thanks guys!