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# the houghton STAR

Houghton College's Student Newspaper Since 1909

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## Students Compete at Annual Penn- York Research Conference

ANNELISE HEIN

Nine students from Houghton, representing a range of disciplines, attended the Penn-York Undergraduate Research Conference at Hilbert College last Saturday, November 3.

The conference is designed to give undergraduate students an opportunity to share their research with fellow undergraduates, gain experience in delivering formal presentations, and learn from peers from various disciplines. It began in 1999 with a focus on the social sciences but has since expanded to include many disciplines.

This year, Houghton junior Abigail Bruxvoort and seniors Katherine Baker, Alice Browning, Sydney Cunningham, Annelise Hein, Esther Lee, Kate Luger, Isabel Sanders, and Rachel Schwingel presented papers and posters from various disciplines, including biology, psychology, literature, and political science.

Baker and Cunningham presented a poster titled "How the Activation of Romantic and Communal Goals Affects Career Choice." Baker explained, "We hypothesize that female participants will be less interested in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields when romantic and communal goals are activated in an experimental setting. Findings from these and similar studies could lead to women being more evenly represented at the highest levels of STEM fields." Baker and Cunningham received a grant from the Katherine Lindley Project Fund for their research, and they will continue their work through the spring semester.

Schwingel also presented psychology research in a poster focused on the effects of religion on moral decisions. She plans to conduct her study at Houghton and will continue her research in the spring semester.

In an oral presentation, Luger discussed her psychological research on trauma, religious coping, and self-forgiveness. She postulated that "those who use positive religious coping are more likely to forgive themselves, while people who use negative religious coping are less likely to forgive themselves."

Browning represented the political science department at the confer-

See PENN-YORK page 3

## GENERATION Y REACTS TO ELECTION AT HOME, NATIONWIDE



LUKE LAUER

On Election Night, students grouped in the Van Dyke Lounge to watch the election results, state by state in an event hosted by SGA, Black Heritage Club, and the Runnymede Society

KATIE ADAMETZ

Both in Houghton and across the nation, teens and twenty-somethings alike are talking about and taking a greater interest in politics. The website PolicyMic reports that voter turnout in the age demographic of 18-30 increased from the 2008 Presidential election, and with people in this age group making up 19% of the electorate, political views and needs among the youth of America cannot be ignored.

The sheer number of Facebook

posts and overheard conversations about President Obama's healthcare plan and Mitt Romney's business-like approach to balancing the budget in the days before the election proved that Houghton's students were not turning a deaf ear to the potential change in our nation's government. And even after President Obama won the election, the conversations have not stopped.

The Presidential Election Screening Party sponsored by the Black Heritage Club, the Student Govern-

See ELECTION page 3

## "True Arminian Theology, As it Really is":

Dr. Roger Olson Featured as 2012 Woolsey  
Lecturer on Theology and Culture

MONICA SANDRECZKI

"Evangelicalism is really influenced by reformed theology now. Not just John Piper, but also Mark Driscoll that's [manifested] in a fear about talking about obedience because once you starting talking about what's required of you, people fear this works salvation," said Dr. Kristina LaCelle-Peterson, chair of Houghton's theology department.

Dr. Roger Olson, an Arminian theologian, Professor of Theology at George Truett Theological Seminary of Baylor University, and the featured speaker of the 2012 Woolsey Lecture Series in Theology and Culture, would be inclined to agree, and point out that much of young Christian evangelicals seem "to think of their humanity as being

somehow bad."

During his talks, Olson will be discussing this balancing of "Calvinism with an emphasis on Christian humanism, [and] focusing on our importance to God." As Olson explained, Christian humanism is this notion that we do "matter to God, that we are noble creatures, that we are capable of cultural creativity, and that we are gifted by God with the ability to great and wonderful things. We're not just pond scum or all of the horrible phrases that people use to demean humans." He begs this question of how should we regard ourselves as these forked beings: sinful, yet blessed?

"I think the reminder that God created us and declared us 'very

See OLSON page 2

## Rudd Resigns as SGA Commissioner of Finance

SARAH JACOBY

Two weeks ago at Student Senate, SGA Commissioner of Finance Austin Rudd announced his resignation from the SGA Cabinet. This decision came as the result of Rudd's many other obligations that have prevented him from being able to fulfill all of the time requirements of the position.

As the Resident Assistant in the Randall Townhouses, Purchasing Manager of the 5 Bites dorm and PE locations, and a full course load of 18 credits, Rudd found it difficult to satisfy the expected time commitment of his SGA position, especially with the requirements of Residence Life. He stated, "With all of my extra commitments, I was above the ten hour benchmark for what RA's are allowed to commit to over and beyond their RA duties." Although Rudd was still able to fully perform of the financial responsibilities of the position, meeting the time commitment of office hours and weekly senate meetings proved to be challenging in light of his many other obligations, with the strain eventually leading to this decision to resign.

While serving as Commissioner of Finance, Rudd has worked hard to streamline processes and encourage students to access the funds available for club activities. Rudd drafted and completed a new accounting and itemization system that improved accuracy and efficiency for record-keeping, a change that is expected to prove helpful for future Commissioners of Finance.

Additionally, this year Rudd focused on making students aware of the CEF type II (a Club Event Fund), which exists to provide money for special club costs and events, and helping them access it, stating that this year the SGA has already allocated \$4,300 to students clubs to purchase anything from climbing shoes for the Climbing Club to a new round pen for the Equestrian Society. Access to these types of funds can prove invaluable to a club's ability to serve its students, and Rudd was thrilled to see that this year the SGA was able to allocate more money than ever before to these types of student endeavors.

Although the SGA is sorry to

See SGA page 5

## POLITICS / The 2012 Presidential Election: What Now?



LUKE LAUER

### BILL CLUNN

By now you know that President Obama is the returning President of the United States of America. Houghton College students, faculty, and staff watched anxiously as the close race revealed results--watching as New England turned blue (no, not from the cold), and the Midwest and South turned mostly red (and by now you might know it was not from the heat). As the night progressed, Romney led with 169 electoral votes to Obama's 157 at 11:00pm. They were both on their way to the 270 electoral votes necessary for a candidate to become President, with over 100 electoral votes up for grabs after polls closed at 11:00pm. At 11:03pm, President Obama moved past Romney, 238 electoral votes to Romney's 191. Shortly afterward, CNN projected

that Democrats would "retain control of the Senate," and also began musing that it would be "likely" Obama would keep the White House; giving rise to ensuing discussion.

Here at Houghton we react to political discourse differently. The majority of our students come from states and regions that Obama carried in the election this year: New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, and New England. However, it is obvious to most of us who listen to our peers' political convictions that the majority of students at Houghton are Republicans. Try a little social experiment: sit down at a large table at lunch, and after a minute or two say, "I think Obamacare is really going to help everybody get the medical coverage they deserve."

However, the Democrat presence here could be seen at 11:19pm in the Van Dyk Lounge, through the excited reactions from students, faculty, and staff involved in our academic departments throughout the year. Democrats here at Houghton, like Republicans, hail from New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. The faculty resides--you guessed right--here in New York State. Houghton is a unique place because it represents a geographically diverse group of students while emphasizing political schisms along an unusual divide: the young adult student is often Republican while the Ph.D. level scholar is usually a Democrat (not every Ph.D., just usually those here and in academia as a whole).

Yes, I know I have not polled the

student body or the faculty to verify that my assertions are true. In my defense, I have initiated several secret interviews with many members of our community. These interviews, occurring with influential personalities actively moving and working in our little hamlet, consisted of a very specific process which was forced upon me, and not initiated by me. I would sit down to a meal with a book and after reading a portion I would engage in my usual sociological experiment of the day "people watching;" (you've done it too) during which I would evaluate the interactions of friends, couples, loners (like me in this specific setting), and inhabitants of "professor islands" (definition: small square tables where professors eat and try to talk quietly lest a student hear their conversation discovering that they do not assert, despite popular opinion, that every aspect of the Houghton experience is perfect).

As I sat and overheard the recent conversations about the election: Obama, Romney, the appropriate Christian response to the pressing issues of the day; I established two main testable theories. Firstly, people sit in a group at meals with those who verbally assert like-minded opinions, or if they disagree, at least remain silent. Secondly, there are very few overly-vocal people who fairly weigh both sides of a position in order to compare the strongest arguments, therefore yielding an appropriate compromise to their (the student/faculty member's) conflicting beliefs. Simply put, unless a community

members asserts opinions in the world of extremes, call it what you want (far right, far left), he or she feels uncomfortable discussing issues at the table. What does this say about our political discourse?

When the moderate opinion becomes the boring, overly thought-filled (that's a bad thing?), non-politicized argument to the majority of people on campus who discuss modern political issues and make the major decisions in student clubs, government, faculty meetings, councils, and policy that affects real people tomorrow, how can these extreme views be brought together and melded into a compromise?

At 11:18pm, CNN projected that President Barack Obama would be President for another term. A few seconds after the clock hit 11:18, students in the worlds of extremes solidified some of their uneducated opinions as a result of their joy or disappointment over the election results. My question is twofold: Do you want to know the truth about the issues at stake? Do you care enough to release your tight fists and start every discussion under the presumption that the one presenting the opposing opinion may have insight into the issue? Your answers will reflect your thoughtfulness and whether you love truth, and that is more important for the American political system than who won a single presidential election.

### OLSON *from page 1*

good' needs to be said more loudly and clearly," said LaCelle-Peterson. "I don't think Olson would deny human sinfulness for a minute, but I don't think either that affirming God's good creation of humanity is an insult to God; I think it's saying 'thank you.'"

Olson asserts that humans are indeed sinful, but that they are not evil, and God wants to glorify them. "We are noble and made in the image of God. Christianity is not just about God, but also about us," he said.

Olson is a self-proclaimed pietist, but not in the popular pejorative sense of "holier than thou," rather he is interested in a "Christianity that's focused primarily on experience, the heart, a relationship with God rather than primarily the intellectual." John Wesley, too, was a proponent of this gently warmed heart relationship with God, placing the Wesleyan Church, Houghton's supporting denomination, as part of this larger pietist movement, one of the roots of evangelicalism.

"Olson's position represents the theological conviction of the [Wesleyan Church], but Arminianism is the framework from which the denomination was born," said LaCelle-Peterson. "Wesley called his publication, the Arminian Magazine. He was just proud of it."

With an understanding of this sense of piety, Olson will also be

discussing the Christian doctrine of salvation as it relates to Philippians 2: 12-13, "Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure" (ESV). He names two misunderstandings that come from this passage: either the common Arminian conception that God waits patiently for us to call on Him so that He can respond to us; or the extremes of Calvinism that our salvation is entirely up to God and we do nothing for it. Instead, we look to Wesley's assertion that it is by grace and through faith that we are saved.

"[Wesley] harped on the fact of the gift of grace, to avail ourselves of the means of grace. It's archaic language, but getting at the same thing," said LaCelle-Peterson. "That is, we open ourselves to the grace of God. We have to choose to open ourselves to the grace of God."

Olson was raised in a Pentecostal church, attending a college of the same denomination, followed by North American Baptist Seminary. Though he left Pentecostal Church to become Baptist, Olson said that he still kept his evangelical fervor.

"It wasn't a leap for me. I don't see a large difference...but I did change my mind on some Pentecostal doctrines. I don't think you have to speak in tongues to be spirit-filled.

I'm not a very emotional person so I don't raise my hands or jump around during worship, but neither do all Pentecostals. I prefer a kind of quiet, formal worship. But I don't mind going to a revival meeting," said Olson.

Olson earned a Ph.D. from Rice University, during which time he spent a year at the University of Munich, studying with Wolfhart Pannenberg, on whom he wrote his doctoral

dissertation.

Before teaching at Baylor, he taught at Bethel University in St. Paul, Minnesota and Oral Roberts University.

Dr. Roger Olson will be speaking at Houghton College on Monday, November 12. All of the events are free and open to the public. ★

## A CHRISTIAN HUMANIST MANIFESTO

### Woolsey Lectures in Theology and Culture

ROGER E. OLSON

professor of theology, George W. Truett Theological Seminary, Baylor University  
contributing editor, Christianity Today

Monday, November 12

See website for event schedule and lodging information:

[www.houghton.edu/woolsey](http://www.houghton.edu/woolsey)

18 H H 03  
HOUGHTON COLLEGE

Free and open to public  
Funded by the Margaret Hayes Randall Endowment

**PENN-YORK** *from page 1*

ence. Her presentation, titled “Slavery: A Supply Chain Hindered by Holistic Development,” combined her cross-cultural experiences in Thailand with formal research that she synthesized for her senior capstone. Her thesis was: Prevention methods are dependent on positive models of development, which holistically address influences that make people vulnerable. The provision of social capital is a resource, which gives vulnerable people the security and access to resources they do not have, but desperately need in order to protect themselves.

From the English department, Bruxvoort, Sanders, and Hein gave oral presentations. Bruxvoort discussed reasons for Anne Radcliffe’s consistent explanation of the supernatural in her novel *The Mysteries of Udolpho*. Sanders explored emotional responses to World War I, based on poetry written by soldier poets Guillaume Apollinaire from France, August Stramm from Germany, and Wilfred Owen from England. Hein’s presentation, titled “Seclusion and Renunciation: Avenues to Ecstasy,” looked at abstinence in Emily Dickinson’s life

and poetry as a way to access transcendent experiences.

Lee gave an oral presentation titled “Understanding Hansen’s Disease: Pathogen and Public Health.” She discussed the structure, spread, prevention, and remedies for Hansen’s disease, also known as leprosy. Esther also humored the audience with interesting tidbits such as the fact that Hansen’s disease has been found in armadillos because of their lower body temperature.

“The annual Penn York conference is a great opportunity to gain experience in presenting research at the undergraduate level,” said Lee. “It’s something you can put on your resume to show that you can think critically and support an original idea. I’d encourage students to consider presenting next year!”

English Professor Laurie Dashnau, who attended the conference as a representative from Houghton, said that it “encourages students to present research concisely and effectively to faculty and staff from a variety of academic disciplines. In doing so, they learn to hone their writing, speaking, and presentation skills. They also are encouraged and challenged by the



LUKE LAUER

*Rachel Schwingel, senior, presents her psychology-oriented research project.*

feedback they receive through praise, questions, constructive criticism, and recommendations for further study.”

The conference was hosted by Hilbert College and was attended by students and professors from six schools: Houghton College, Hilbert College, Alfred University, University

of Pittsburgh at Bradford, University of Pittsburgh at Titusville, and Clarion University. 37 students presented research individually or as panel members, and 13 students presented posters. Houghton plans to host the conference in 2013 or 2014. ★



LUKE LAUER

*Students watching the election results projection.*

**ELECTION** *from page 1*

ment Association, and the Runnymede Pre-Law Society offered Houghton’s students the opportunity to gather and watch the beginning of the next four years in America’s future: a time when many current students will graduate and venture into greater responsibilities and attempt to enter the workforce in a position that offers not only sufficient funds but also fulfillment. The turnout was comfortably large, but not necessarily descriptive of Houghton’s entire population of concerned students; smaller screening parties could be found in dorm lounges and townhouse common rooms.

Both Democrats, Republicans, and everything between and beyond make up the student population at Houghton. But it is interesting to note that students from each end of the spectrum came up with the same topics when asked about the major issues in this year’s presidential election: the economy and abortion.

Admittedly, these common responses are, in fact, common; many people in the United States likely have an opinion on the current state of the economy and a way to fix it, as well as an opinion on the

debate between pro-life and pro-choice supporters. It is also likely that these topics, in the minds of Americans, deal significantly with politics, especially at times of change. But these issues, the fiscal crisis, and the debate over the appropriateness of legalized abortions, might have something deeper to reveal about common apprehensions among students, regardless of their political leanings.

Tyler Smith, a conservative-based junior, is concerned most with the economy and the direction the country is headed. The business-like plans for balancing the budget created by Romney appeal to Smith’s desire to see the government function smoothly but without managing the private lives of citizens. Smith stated his basic view: “I want people to think about expanding government programs and the cost to our freedoms.”

Julian Cook, senior, talked of the fiscal crisis in an extremely relevant manner. “People feel more immediately the threat of not having a job than the threat of foreign terrorist activity.” While he acknowledges the relevancy and importance of awareness concerning conflicts such as the Libyan Civil War and potential terrorist threats both to the U.S.

and other nations, he easily gives words to the closer and more pressing problems that Americans face each day. Cook also mentioned his concerns over student debts upon graduation. Currently, American students as a whole are over 1 trillion dollars in debt. Both Romney and Obama created strategies for solving this issue, but it was not the defining factor in either of their platforms.

Cook also spoke on abortion, and his concern that realistic and open conversations about the controversial issue don’t happen often enough. Myra Mushalla, a freshmen from New York City, expressed the same concern. Though she is not yet old enough to vote, Mushalla said she finds the political changes and decisions of the country extremely relevant to her. Before the election, she was concerned over the issue of women’s rights in this country and how they would be affected under a Romney administration. Abortion was a topic that she also brought into the conversation and also feels students avoid when considering political topics.

These students, coming from different places, backgrounds, and ideologies, form just a small example of Houghton’s population. Many more views and ideologies exist on this campus, and all of them deserve consideration and respect. For common concerns foster common grounds, upon which constructive and respectful solutions are created. ★

**SGA** *from page 1*

lose Rudd’s capabilities in the role of Commissioner of Finance, the decision to resign was made with both Rudd and the SGA in mind, and it is hoped that the change will be nothing but beneficial for both parties.

SGA President Joel Ernst stated, “Austin has done a great job as Commissioner and I have found him to be very reliable in his position and well-qualified in his role, which he approached in a very professional manner.”

In a parting statement, Rudd said, “I’ve enjoyed my position, I’ve enjoyed working with the people on cabinet, and I’ve felt very privileged to serve those on Senate and the student body at large. I’m sorry to have to resign, but all in all it’s a necessary decision for me and, in turn, a good decision for the SGA.”

The new Commissioner of Finance will assume the role officially either at the end of the fall semester or the very beginning of the spring semester, after receiving training through the transition process from Rudd. There are currently three applicants for the position of Commissioner, and these candidates will have to be approved by the Financial Officer Review Committee before one of them is voted in by the greater Senate next week. ★

**Message from President Mullen on  
Make a Difference Day  
*Impact Allegany***

“I am grateful to the many students who spent last Saturday in community service, alongside the nation. “What makes me even more pleased is that, for most of these students, service is already becoming a pattern of their lives and not simply a once-a-year event.”

# Great Depression Documented by Photos



LUKE LAUER

Gallery exhibit under construction

MEGAN SPECKSGOOR

“This exhibit differs greatly from the exhibits we’ve seen so far this year,” said Isaac Wingfield, interim assistant professor of photography and digital imaging. The new gallery exhibit is a collection of photographs from the Works Progress Administration and the Farm Security Administration entitled Documenting America, and it will be open for viewing at the Orlip Gallery this Saturday.

The exhibition is on loan from St. Bonaventure and will be in the Orlip Gallery until December 18. The opening reception is Saturday, November 10 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Center for the Arts atrium. Discussion concerning the historical background of the photographs will commence at 7:30, followed by refreshments and live music.

“Most noticeably, these photographs are from a very different era than the contemporary work most recently seen,” said Wingfield. The change, he explained, is specifically evident in “the style, the medium, and the content.” The exhibition is

comprised of forty photographs exclusively in black and white, depicting the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl, including Dorothea Lange’s renowned “Migrant Mother.”

Though bleak and melancholic, the photographs also emit a sense of historic pride. “Focusing on the poor and working class Americans, most often in an agricultural context, the images speak to both the struggles of the Depression era and the resilience of the American people in the face of such difficulties,” said Wingfield.

Though gallery-goers are distanced from the photographs experientially and chronologically, Wingfield stressed that the photographs are relevant to students through the rooting of the artwork in history and in the individual authenticity and intimacy with which the subjects of the photos are portrayed.

“The exhibit provides a valuable look into a distinct time in American history, but it is a deeply personal view,” said Wingfield. “The exhibit includes many iconic images from United States history, which makes it even more important that students allow the subjects of the photographs to maintain their personal identity. Though they represent much more than themselves, the subjects are not merely impersonal symbols, nor representative samples of period styles, but individuals, living out their individual lives.”

Wingfield believes that only this mentality will allow students to fully appreciate and connect with the photographs. “When we allow [the subjects] to keep their individuality,” he said, “they move us to empathy, to inspiration, and to respect.”

Gallery Director Renee Roberts commented on the departure from the last exhibition of technicolor paintings to this collection in the “stark” quality of the artwork. “I love that they are all in black and white,” said Roberts. For her the tonality adds a depth that is simultaneously desolate and redemptive. “It’s hard for us to imagine what it would mean to live through that time period. I see the terrified look in their eyes,” said Roberts. “It’s depressing, but there is something so beautiful about the pain.”

Though the photographs are distinctly American in context, Roberts believes that they are universal in application and emotion. “Anyone can resonate with something in these photographs,”

See GALLERY on page 5

# Unconventional Soccer Chamber Performance

LAUREL WROBLICKY

NATHANIEL KITCHEN

Overheard in the Music building: “What does Gordon Jacob think he is doing? You can’t add trumpet to a woodwind quintet! That would change everything!”

This evening, student performers of the Greatbatch School of Music will be collaborating to show you, the Houghton College student body, exactly what happens when you add a trumpet to a woodwind quintet, and then multiply that by two! Yes, a double woodwind quintet, 10 players, with two trumpets, adding up to an unconventional total of 12 players!

This singular ensemble will serve as the finale to a program that is as varied and unique as a homeschooler’s reading list. Isabel Sanders and Jonathan Hardy will be featured as soloists, and chamber ensembles will include the Harmonie en Bois woodwind quintet, the Camerata Chamber Orchestra, and the Windswept double wind quintet. Even considering the high musical standards of the Greatbatch School, Director of Instrumental Activities Brian Casey said that these ensembles are “some of the best things we do here.”

The program will encompass music by composers from a range of style periods, and many of the pieces that will be played are gems that have been hidden by the obscurity of the composer. It is certainly exciting to play or listen to a work by an unfamiliar composer, but there is also a strong sense of comfort that comes with familiarity. Junior oboist Casey Lockwood said she claims the Brahms work they will be playing as her favorite piece precisely because of her familiarity with the composer.

Lockwood said she feels that having a “bigger composer” like Brahms in the program is a valuable choice when it can be easy to choose material exclusively from composers who very few people will recognize. According to Lockwood, Brahms’ music is “easier to listen to” because, by “passing motives across the orchestra,” he engages the audience’s ears and keeps them attentive to the motion and character of the music.

This concert will be an opportunity to enjoy music in its smaller and more intimate forms. The sense of communication between players is almost palpable in such a small ensemble as the quintet. The five players seek to meld their separate instruments and unique personalities into one musical entity, and it is to these private relationships of sound that the audience is invited to listen in on.

Senior physics and music double major Mark Spencer lauded the quintet form for its ability to create “cleaner music” through the “acute listening and participation” inherent to the smaller size of the group. The double quintet retains this cleanliness of style while adding to it a “fullness of sound, especially in low sections—the horns and the bassoons,” Lockwood said.

Graduate student Ethan Hall will be conducting the Windswept double quintet for the finale of the program, Gordon Jacob’s “Old Wine in New Bottles.” Hall said he is impressed by the opportunity to conduct in a “more ideal setting” that he described as “one in which I can really invite the performers

See CHAMBER on page 5

While conference matches come to an end, post-season begins for the women’s soccer team.

The Highlanders finished their season with a record of 11-6 and a five game winning streak. Due to their strong play during the season, they were ranked first in the NCCAA East Region. In the NCCAA Division I National Polls they are ranked twelfth.

This weekend the women will be hosting the regional championships. The first match will be played on Burke Field at 4 p.m. against Geneva College. Roberts Wesleyan College will play Nyack College next at 6:30 p.m. the same evening. The two winners of these games will compete again on Saturday for the East Region Championship. Should the Highlanders win this weekend, they will play yet again in Florida for the national title.

The women’s team is unable to compete in post season play for the Empire 8 conference due to the recent transition to NCAA Division III. This is why they are instead competing in the NCCAA championships.

“It is different each game, so we must play one game at a time. I want them to enjoy the experience, they are very capable of winning it, but I don’t want them to have anxiety about winning,” said head coach David Lewis. “I want them to just relax and play good quality soccer.”

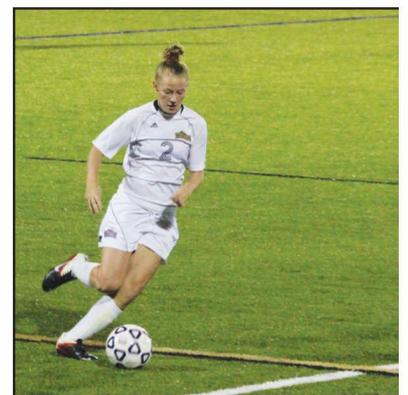
Sophomore Katharine LaBrecque said, “I feel like all the teams [in the tournament this weekend] are really even. I don’t think there is a clear winner because the competition is fairly equal.”

Statistically, a couple of Houghton players have made the boards. Senior Jen Bowman and sophomore Stephany Ellison are tied for second in the conference with twelve goals each. Ellison is ranked first for points, with Bowman following in second place. Freshman Shawna Sprout is ranked third among keepers based on the conference statistics.

Lewis highlighted the consistent play of junior Alyssa Figueroa, and confirmed the solid performance of both Ellison and Bowman. Lewis said that the team has “come along [this season]. We’ve had some rough spots and there was a lot of inconsistency...but they have the capability of playing very good soccer.”

The players are looking optimistically towards the end of their season. While they recognize challenges they faced earlier in the season, they have reflected Lewis’ belief in their capabilities. “This year has been a struggle,” said Bowman, “We have a lot of new people, but we are starting to come together to end our second half of the

See SOCCER on page 5



LUKE LAUER

Sophomore Stephany Ellison

## SPORTS RECAP

### Men’s Soccer

Houghton 1-2 Roberts  
Houghton 2-2 Utica  
Overall 9-6-3

### Volleyball

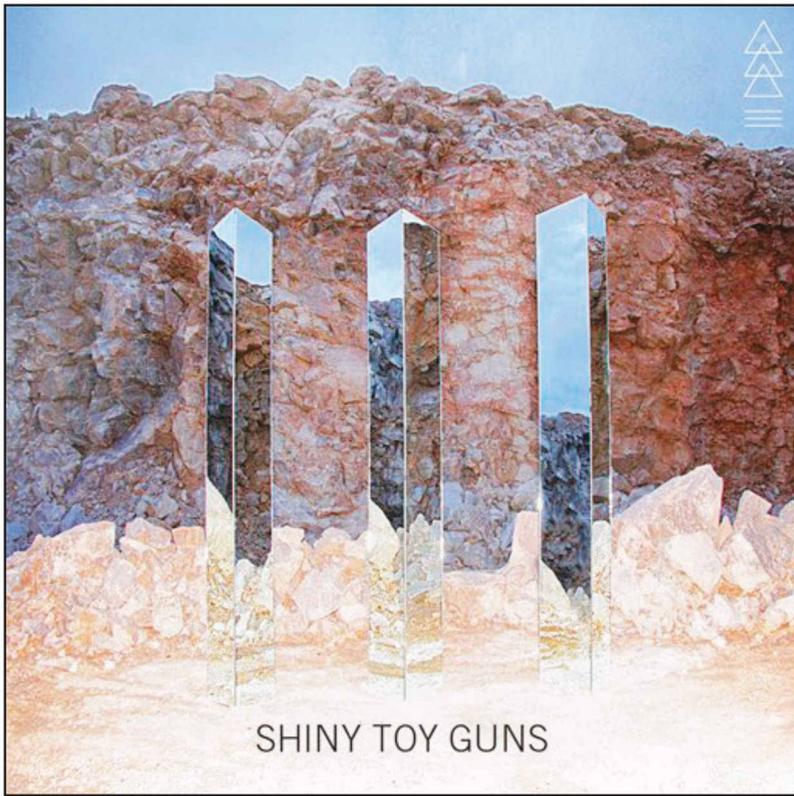
Houghton 0-3 Roberts  
Overall 18-11

### Field Hockey

Houghton 1-2 CNU  
Houghton 1-3 Wilson College  
Overall 9-8

All information from  
<http://athletics.houghton.edu>

# Shiny Toy Guns Don't Disappoint



Shiny Toy Guns' new album artwork

LIZZIE SPAULDING

For longtime fans of the LA based rock band Shiny Toy Guns, their third studio album *III*, released on October 26, proves a raging success. It's an album that gets better with each progressive track, and it seems the same could be said for the band itself.

Originally founded in 2002 by Oklahoman buddies Jeremy Dawson, on bass and keyboard, and Chad Petree, on vocals and guitar, the duo was soon joined by Mikey Martin on drums. Though the lineup of musicians has changed between each of their three albums, their sound never seems to suffer as a result.

It may surprise some to learn that the band, which relies on its flawless combination of alternating male and female lead vocals on nearly every track, has seamlessly transitioned between female lead vocalists for each album. Carah Faye Charnow plays bass guitar and was the original lead female vocalist on Shiny Toy Gun's debut album, *We Are Pilots*. She has returned for the third album, her voice ever shifting between the signature sweetness and harshness that fans so love.

Her talents are demonstrated on the dreamy track "Wait For Me," which begins with over a minute of Charnow's haunting whisper, "I don't like being alone," followed by her muffled vocals fading in and out and an animal scream in the background from Petree before Charnow's angelic voice returns. Her pure sound is supported with an easily oscillating bass, and Chad's entrance later in the song remind listeners why Charnow and Petree were such an electric vocal duo on *We Are Pilots*.

Shiny Toy Guns is probably the only band that can pull off this particular brand of electronic rock mixed with lyrical genius. There is a touch of punk fury simultaneously combined with an entrancing trippiness highlighted by the magical way they balance the challenge of both male and female lead vocals. *III* showcases these talents even further. Every track delivers something new and fresh, and something listeners haven't heard before, and yet is still laced with the same unique qualities that make Shiny Toy Guns so beloved.

Alex Davis of designermagazine.tripod.com sums up their live performances by writing, "Often bands utilizing a predominantly electronica sound can appear cold and almost clinical onstage, but the band inject such intense passion into their live set, it really is a sight to behold."

The statement seems to explain Shiny Toy Guns' musical style in general; they are a combination of mystique, of electronic, sometimes of the harsh and cold, but always balanced heavily with an intense passion.

The album begins with a song typical to the Guns' general style; "Somewhere To Hide" starts off catchy and fast, yet tinged still with softness. It's not long, however, before they reach the chorus and Charnow's voice is soaring with promises of "find[ing] somewhere to hide/till we know everything's alright."

"Speaking Japanese" is probably most comparable to the band's hit 2006 single, *Le Disko*, with Carah's edgy vocals pushing the song towards the punk rock electro fury that is so infectious.

Although "Waiting Alone" has a predominantly dancey feel to it, a deeper meaning is revealed through the sad lyrics, "Do you really never see me when you come home late at night/I am always waiting alone for you." Another track, "If I Lost You," takes a similar theme, with lyrics full of sorrow and uncertain, love-inspired pleas, speaking also of cold and lonely nights.

But Shiny Toy Guns never stays sad for long. Instead, they get angry. In the following track, "Carrie", both Charnow and Petree jump in almost immediately with bitter lyrics that seem almost to present a challenge to those listening.

Meanwhile, "Fading Listening" seems to imitate its title: Petree's vocals intertwine with Charnow's while the sound fades in and out. The energy also returns in "The Sun", which still talks of broken hearts but with a more upbeat spin to it, promising better days to come.

An anthem-like feel greets listeners in the track titled "e v a y." The vocals build but never quite explode; they can only be described as somewhat mystical and tribal. The final few minutes of the tune are heavily instrumental, underscored by

softly repeated lyrics as the music fades out slowly.

"Mercy" starts off with mourning and a soberness that is then underscored with Petree's cries. The song picks up quickly, Petree's voice ever switching between one of bleeding angst and a higher pitched gentle tone. All of this is accented with Charnow simply harmonizing overhead, and indeed, at times one can literally imagine her floating above Petree as she croons her angelic tones over his lament.

Finally, the album's final track "Take Me Back to Where I Was", begins with some uncharacteristic, simple, melodic piano. Petree's voice is mellower, less urgent than usual. He pleads throughout the chorus and then begs, "Erase this

state of mind/Help me get back what's mine." The song is about second chances and a sense of rebirth. The tone of the song, a much gentler one with no electronic influence at all, seems an odd one on which to end the album, but the theme certainly fits.

As the last track suggests, Shiny Toy Guns seem to have attempted to remake themselves somewhat. They have kept a similar sound, but perhaps one that is also more cohesive and meaningful as a whole. *III* reveals that their attempt was a resounding success.

## SOCCER *from page 4*

season and turn it around."

The women identified the large size of the team as a challenge, but their bonding and devotional time has been significant in helping them learn who their teammates are. Each member of the team is paired with another player for whom she is to be available to encourage and pray for.

"We have a bunch of girls who hold us accountable. A lot of people may think we are together all the time, but we are really there for each other," said LaBrecque. ★

## CHAMBER *from page 4*

in to work musically." Compositionally, Hall said that Jacob's work "is a really good orchestration; the trumpets add great color to the music!"

Tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Recital Hall of the CFA, all who come will be treated to a range of musical styles and a gamut of instrumental combinations.

## GALLERY *from page 4*

said Roberts. "Even if they didn't have a grandparent who lived through the Depression, they can experience the photographs as a whole and find beauty and meaning." Roberts advises students to enter the exhibit with "an open mind," "no presumptions," and the willingness

to just "enjoy the experience."

Liz Chevalier, senior, is anticipating the tangible manifestation of some of the artistic styles she has been learning about in Wingfield's class. "In Intro to Photography we've been studying black and white photographers and it will be both interesting and exciting to actually see these photographs on campus," said Chevalier.

# Things to Do

KATHERINE BAKER

As the weather grows chillier and we all begin to wonder why we didn't choose a school somewhere in Florida, we spend less time taking long walks through the park and more time curled up inside with a mug of hot chocolate. But what if you could have that hot chocolate after a couple hours of ice-skating at the Olean rink?

Quite the seasonably appropriate activity, skating is also fairly cheap and not too far away (by Houghton standards, of course). Student tickets for the public skate sessions are only \$3, and rentals are \$2. On Friday, Saturday and Sunday the hours are 6 to 8 p.m., so you and your friends can make a night of it and go see a movie at the nearby theater or stop by Tim Hortons and the Cold Stone Creamery while in Olean.

Whether you are new to ice-skating and stick close to the boards, or if you grew up playing hockey, a trip to the Olean rink is a great way to get some exercise in even the winter months. For those who enjoy some stick time, there is an adult skate and shoot session on Saturdays for \$7.50 after the public skating ends.

As an extra Christmas treat, starting the Tuesday of finals week, there is free admission to public skating sessions from 6 to 8 p.m. each night until the end of December. So relieve some of that end-of-semester stress and strap on a pair of skates for only the price of rentals!

Next weekend when you and your friends are wondering what to do, skip out on movie night and try something active instead. You will be glad for the conversation and the change of pace.



Erin Deeks, Alex Hood, and Jenn Mechler skating in Olean

LUKE LAUER

## A Reflection On Being One's Self At Houghton College



LUKE LAUER

ABIGAIL BRUXVOORT

Imagine with me this scenario: two Houghton students, chatting. One says, "I just love Houghton. I can finally be myself!"; the other replies, "I just can't stand it here. I can't be myself!" I assume we've all overhead such remarks, at Houghton and elsewhere. We've also probably made these kinds of remarks ourselves. Sometimes such statements about "being oneself" come tinged by guilt, a sense that we're dishonest to certain people because we're not our true selves around them.

Other times they're euphoric, joyously outpouring the self within, or bitter, cramped and discontent.

These comments can also be sort of silly-sounding. If we're be-

ing snarky, we can reply, "Oh, and who were you before you were yourself?" or "And who are you now that you're not yourself?" This is probably unfair, since I doubt that anyone would say, "I was not me before I came to Houghton" or "I am not me while I am at Houghton." When we speak about our identity like this, we're perfectly aware that our self has been around the whole time. So, if we shouldn't take these remarks literally, what do we mean by them? Surely there's something meaningful about them – perhaps something like "more oneself" or "less oneself."

Say we have certain traits and characteristics that are important to our identity, things central to who we are. Certain contexts and scenarios highlight and reveal these traits, others muffle and disguise them. Since we clutch these characteristics tightly, perhaps grounding our identities in them, it's exciting or worrisome when they're emphasized or concealed. Depending

on the contexts and situations we find ourselves in, we relax our identities, thinking "I can finally be myself; this place shows off my most important traits!" or panic, "This situation pinches the characteristics most essential to me!"

But, here's the problem. Even with this modified account, even if we're celebrating being more oneself and

fussing about being less oneself, we're still engaging in some unfortunate boxing-in of ourselves when we say these things. When I extol a context as conducive to me being myself, I'm also excluding unpalatable contexts. Situations that deaden my central characteristics become distasteful: "I mean, if being there means setting aside my favorite traits for a moment... I don't want to be there." However, avoiding these distasteful, uncomfortable situations will inevitably be a mistake. Sooner or later we're bound to start missing out on chances to experience new things, to exercise our key traits in new ways, to develop these traits further, or to gain new key traits.

Moreover, what happens to our key traits, when we find ourselves in uncomfortable situations? Do we stop having them? I don't think so. When I play football with my brother, I'm not ceasing to be a student (assuming that student-ness is one of my key traits). While playing football student-ness might be of lesser importance, it might be unnoticeable, or, more likely, I will express student-ness in a new, different way. For instance, student-ness might figure into this uncomfortable situation by my being willing to listen when my brother

explains that there are no bases in the game of football. This isn't how the trait of student-ness usually expresses itself, but it's an outpouring of the characteristic nonetheless. So, we really are always ourselves, regardless of the context. We express the same traits, to greater or lesser degrees, in similar or different ways.

In the end, I think questions about being oneself largely reduce

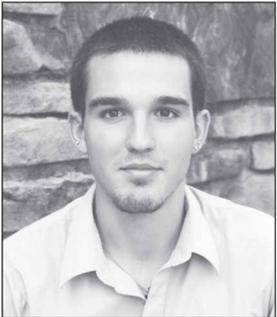
**In the end, I think questions about being oneself largely reduce to this issue: translating oneself and one's characteristics into a given context.**

to this issue: translating oneself and one's characteristics into a given context – figuring out how Abigail and Abigail's student-ness are going to respond to the uncomfortable prospect of a football game.

Figuring out how the outgoing extrovert is going to act apart from his friends while at home over break. Figuring out how the discontented Christian is going to live her life on a generally cheery Christian college campus. This work, of course, will be messy and difficult. But I have a tip: just be yourself. Who else would you be? ★

*Abigail is a junior philosophy major*

## Ex Mea Sententia / Not a Condemnation, Just an Observation



LUKE LAUER

ANDRE NELSON

In the late part of the 19th century, both Mark Twain and Arthur Conan Doyle allegedly sent similar telegrams to a handful of prominent men. According to an article in *The New York Times* on the most famous telegrams in history, it read something along the lines of, "flee at once—all is discovered." Upon receiving the telegrams, a half a dozen of these men packed up and fled town. No one knew exactly why they left, but they obviously thought their skeletons had been exposed.

I have always been intrigued by what weighs on people's consciences. I should preface what I am about to discuss by saying that it is purely observational. I have no interest in pontificating on anyone's lack of integrity, and I will certainly not claim any moral high ground on the matter, however, I am interested in discussing a particular phenomenon

that is anything but new in the course of history but that has been particularly relevant to Houghton's campus this last week.

We all have skeletons in our closet. This sounds cliché but could not be more true. You hear sirens while you're driving and immediately slow down and check your speedometer. Someone texts you asking if you can talk and your stomach drops wondering what you might have done. A professor emails you about your homework and you freak out.

If none of these examples apply to you, you nevertheless get the gist. This is not to say that we are all terrible people, but we are certainly not perfect, and the constant fear that our imperfections will be discovered, that our failures will be discovered, and that our shortcomings will catch up with us looms over us like a dark cloud.

I was amused in particular this week by a rumor started Monday by the @HoughtonProbs Twitter account. This account is a satirical Twitter account, managed by a couple of Houghton students whose goal is to poke fun at Houghton problems and quirks.

Frequent tweets joke about the remoteness of this community, the awkward couples living in the campus center, and funny stories circulating around campus. The rumor began with a simple tweet Monday morning reading, "Anyone planning on scanning and scrambling today, they're now cross referencing chapel scans with lunch scans. #becareful #houghtonprobs."

I was not attending chapel Monday, and a few concerned friends stopped me before I was able to make my way up to the cafeteria warning me not to scan in, had I already scanned for chapel. They proceeded to warn others of their friends who were around.

As I was eating lunch, I couldn't help but wonder if it were true or not, and I certainly couldn't help being amused at the amount of people that had most likely skipped lunch for fear of being caught. After lunch, I walked over to the Office of Student Life to verify whether or not my source was correct. Dennis Stack, the Interim Vice President of Student Life, informed me that this source was mistaken and that there was no such initiative on behalf of the school. Not only is the program

used by the school different from the program used by Sodexo for scanning, which would make cross-referencing a hassle, but the institution just isn't all that interested in going out of their way to stop students. Stack stated, "it's more of an integrity issue; the only people being hurt by scanning and scrambling are the students themselves."

Scanning and scrambling is an increasing issue, which is part of the reason for the huge success of this rumor. "Scanning and scrambling is the worst it's been since I can remember," stated senior Dwayne Moore, "If it [the rumor] was true, it would have been a good idea, and it's pretty funny if it wasn't true."

As stated in the beginning, my intent is not to berate those that scan and scam. I do not personally believe that revival at Houghton College is contingent upon students participating in chapel. However, this is visibly a Houghton problem, one we can moralize if we so choose, or one we can simply chuckle at if we were a part of the scare. These reactions are an interesting phenomenon to observe. How did you react to this rumor? What skeletons are you afraid of exposing? ★

*Andre is a senior communication major*

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK / Redefining College Life in a Changing World



LUKE LAUER

EMMA HUGHES

Houghton's recent announcements on its pursuing the development of a two-year degree starting in Buffalo, Fall 2014, as well as on its decreasing the cost of online course tuition, have indicated a possible move by the College toward a reconsideration of the traditional "college experience." To those interested in the moving and rumblings in the area of higher education, Houghton would appear to be quite caught in the changes now addressing today's world of 4-year institutions, facing the ever-increasingly apparent question of a college's role and place in the 21st century.

That the question of a college's place in an unfamiliar environment where the traditional idea of a college education is being rethought is unsurprising, especially in the current atmosphere where such discussions—discussions to do with the reality of students able to afford a traditional 4-year education, and of

how new technology should integrate with the world of education—are being approached. It could be accurately said for Houghton's looking to the future, in its examining the possibility of not only the already officially-approved Buffalo Associate of Arts program, but also of its research into building a similar program in New York City in partnership with Eastern Nazarene College, that it is only another school facing the same questions now being asked by those throughout the world of higher education.

In an op-ed written for the New York Times in June of this year, Jeff Selingo, editorial director at The Chronicle of Higher Education, wrote a pointed essay on the matter of colleges today and the possible ways to "fix" them. For him, the heart of the issue lies with colleges learning to "transform how [they] do business." The world of university left behind a legacy of a so-called, "lost decade," from 1999-2009" where university tuition and student debt both blossomed exponentially. Selingo reminded his readers that while more than 200 schools in the U.S. now place tuition at levels greater than \$40,000, prior to 2003, only a pair of colleges

charged that amount. And as was tossed around during election season discussions this year, outstanding student loan debt is now at the grand total amount of over \$1 trillion. Universities themselves haven't escaped the debt load either, though—as the financial straits currently facing the University of California system can testify.

Looking at these numbers, the terrifying reality of extraordinary expense and extraordinary debt is clear, and quickly weighs on any observer. For the average college student, the prospect here is of taking out hefty loans that he or she may take years to pay back afterwards, and for which purposes of repayment is forced even more desperately (than if the facts were otherwise, and debts weren't dragging them downward) to find a job in an already desperately trying economy. From any standpoint, the cycle is a grinding one. The problems are clear; the answers are more complex.

As a result of burgeoning costs and the personal economic difficulties coming from the hard financial times brought by our Great Recession, the idea of four-year, residential colleges as "the experience" of college life are

starting to disintegrate. With more students turning to earn a two-year degree at a cheaper cost, and then transferring to a four-year afterward, to earn a bachelor's diploma without the same heavy loads of debt, the once strongly held idea of a cohesive group of students spending four formative years of their lives together is starting to face serious challenges. And with the advent of online education—whether as integrated into traditional, face-to-face courses, or offered independently—the directions in which higher education may take off are numerous, and have the probability of being nothing like the old system.

As one of those two-year degree transfer students myself, and thus one of those new members of what is perhaps the "new" college experience, I see these latest Houghton developments as particularly reflective of the times we find ourselves in—as with any other entity, education must be willing to change if it wishes to survive into future manifestations. But the coming of change does not necessarily signal the end of what it is that is changing—we are redefining what it means to be a college student and a college in an unmistakably changing world. ★

*Emma is a senior history major*

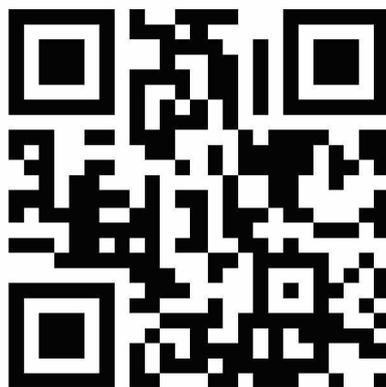
But the coming of change does not necessarily signal the end of what it is that is changing—we are redefining what it means to be a college student and a college in an unmistakably changing world.

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# ARTIST OF THE WEEK



LUKE LAUER

## KATHRYN HORNIBROOK

For a long time, I thought my love of photography would be something that wouldn't amount to more than a hobby. It wasn't until recently that I realized that I have the ability to harness the passion I feel for people and relationships and combine it with the love I have for taking photos, particularly portraits. The thing that is the most awesome about taking photographs is that it gives the artist an opportunity to expose everyday interactions or even objects that are often overlooked in a really spectacular way. I believe that there is beauty in absolutely everything and see it as a personal mission to expose that beauty through a really compelling snapshot that actually means something to the viewer. I'd like to think that the mundane takes on a whole new meaning through photography.

*Kathryn is a sophomore pursuing a BFA in applied design communications.*



Under, Black and White Film Photograph



Hannah, Black and White Film Photograph



Manhattan Exposed, Digital Photograph



Brooklyn, Digital Photograph

## SUDOKU

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Grace, Digital Photograph

To enter a drawing for a free Java drink, bring your finished puzzle, clearly marked with your full name and CPO, to the Star office in the basement of the Campus Center by 6PM on WED 11/14.

Last week's winner was ANEKA ZIMMERMAN! Your Java card will be sent to you through campus mail.

Crossword Solution from 11/2

I	B	E	A	M	E	L	K	B	U	R	P
T	R	A	L	A	L	E	A	S	A	R	E
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M	O	O	D	P	T	A	S	L	O	S	H