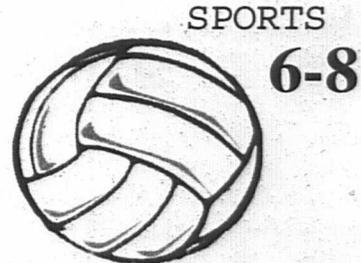


“Rigorously academic, the introduction course challenges students to dig deep into the sources, minds, and commentaries of Muslims, understanding the Qur’an as a Muslim would...”



# THE HOUGHTON STAR

## Serving Overseas Houghton College students serves in Iraq



Braswell on active duty in Iraq, spring 2005.

Jesse Braswell, a junior at Houghton College, appears to be a normal student on a pre-med track, planning to join the mission field after graduation. Jesse's easy smile and comfortable conversation do not reveal that he returned only four months ago from a year of active duty in Iraq as a licensed practical nurse (LPN) in the Army Reserves.

In February of 2005, in the midst of his sophomore year, Jesse was called to active duty. He joined the Reserves in December of 2000 but had not expected to be called to serve so soon. Upon requesting a delay in order to finish the semester, he was refused and told to report for

training three weeks later.

While training for Operation Iraqi Freedom in Ft. McCoy, Wisconsin, Jesse experienced the shock of going from the sheltered Houghton community to the secular Army setting. He carried with him a pocket Bible. “We had a lot of down time,” he says, “waiting in line for immunizations and all that.” Whenever Jesse found a free moment, he pulled out his Bible. He found inspiration in Mark 2:17, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.” This verse strengthened Jesse amidst the crass language and conversation of his peers in the army. “I prayed that God would let me be a witness,” he says, expressing a wish to be

a doctor not only to his patients, but also to his peers. “The other soldiers came to me when they had questions or problems. Several times I was given the chance to pray with them,” he says.

Jesse was later stationed at Camp Bucca, which is the largest internment facility in Iraq and holds 8,500 detainees. Jesse served as a medic on numerous convoys and an LPN in the ICU, ER, and intermediate care ward (ICW). As assistant wardmaster of the ICU and ICW, he was often called upon to run these wards due to manpower shortages. Jesse tended to everything from gunshot wounds and scorpion bites to amputations and paraplegias. “It was the kind

of experience I wouldn't have gotten had I been working in the U.S.,” he explains. “I sutured, I stapled, I intubated. I had a scope of practice that exceeded that of a typical RN. The experience was phenomenal.”

Jesse calls his experience in Iraq a confirmation of his calling to medical missions. “The goal of Camp Bucca's hospital is to provide the best health care possible for both detainees and coalition forces,” he explains. If terrorists attacked coalition forces and both were taken to the hospital, they would be treated side by side. Jesse adopted an attitude of service to treat the detainees. He knew that if he were captured by the insurgency, he would not be given the same treatment. But as a Christian, he made it his goal to love his enemies and be the doctor to the sick of whom Jesus spoke. Jesse joked around with his patients but also made it a point to interact with them as equals, to listen and give them respect. “It was rewarding to develop a friendship with people I was expected to hate, and who were expected to hate me.”

Jesse's peers were not so kind, and gave him trouble for befriendng the detainees. Nevertheless, Jesse is thankful for the experience, which gave him the opportunity to learn lessons he wouldn't have found at Houghton. “I'm wiser in the ways of the world, I guess,” he says. “I have experience. I have book knowledge from my studies at Houghton, but I now have practical knowledge and experience from my service in Iraq.” Now Jesse is focusing on where God will lead him after he graduates. He's looking at overseas medical missions, but for now he'll just wait.

-Chloe Ackerman, staff writer

## Be a good Democrat, go vote!

When I turned 18 and got my national ID card (yes, we have those, and it's exciting to have one), I was thrilled because I was a legal adult and could do all sorts of grown-up things—especially voting. When the next Honduran elections came around, I was here, in Western New York, in the freezing cold: I didn't get to vote. If I had only had \$1000 to spare, I would've bought a plane ticket to go home over the weekend, and I would have voted for a president, a city mayor, and congress representatives. I am very passionate about democracy because it symbolizes granting human beings their utmost position in earthly affairs. In a working democracy, citizens go vote and decide who will govern them for the next couple of years. True, most of the time government officials do not actually reflect the will of the people nor are they primarily interested in the welfare of the general populace. Democracy is usually paradoxical like that. But, considering the alternatives, democracy trumps all.

I am a firm proponent of thinking and voting beyond party lines. (After all, there is only one major party in the U.S. — the Business Party, with two branches). When people call me a Liberal or a Democrat, I just smile since neither of those terms conveys my political outlook. Labeling people's political stances can make life easier, but after a while, it wreaks oversimplification and unfair discrimination — great threats to democracy. If I were a U.S. citizen, I would go vote on November 7th. But before doing that, and assuming I'm already a registered voter, I would research each and every one of the candidates in my state and district running for Congress—especially the ones not part of my usual political party of choice. As the last issue of PoLaRiS showed, most Houghton College students are concerned about the US handling of Iraq, humanitarian crises, foreign aid, government corruption, bans on abortion and same-sex marriage, and the economy. Find political leaders who represent your views as much

as possible. Try looking into the small party candidates; you'd be surprised at how well many of these candidates can represent your views. Don't be stubborn, take your time and fill out an absentee ballot or go home to vote!

Congressional elections are more important than you think. In theory, the legislative branch is the most powerful of the branches of US government. (To learn more, take a class with Dr. Benedict or Dr. Meilaender, or peruse through the U.S. Constitution). Beyond the importance of this branch of government lies the overwhelming significance of supporting a democratic process—a gift that not all human beings can partake of. It is your vote that can make a difference on what policies the U.S. government—your government!—implements at home and abroad. If anything, it is a moral calling for you to vote. Support democracy and citizenship. Be a good democrat, go vote!

-Inti Martinez, editorialist

*The Star staff would like to remind readers that Editorials are opinion based and therefore slanted by nature. Opinion also opens itself up for challenge, so write responses! But make sure they question the writer's stance, not our reason for publishing.*

## Lecture Series

### LECTURERS- FALL 2006

- |                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1) BRIAN SAYERS | NOVEMBER 7, 8:00 PM  |
| 2) RICHARD MOUW | NOVEMBER 16, 8:00 PM |
| 3) RICHARD MOUW | NOVEMBER 17, CHAPEL  |

### FILM FORUMS- FALL 2006

- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1) THE BEST OF YOUTH | NOVEMBER 2 AND 3, 7:30 |
|                      | (DATE MAY CHANGE)      |

### LECTURES- SPRING 2007

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1) DONALD MILLER | FEBRUARY 5 CHAPEL   |
|                  | FEBRUARY 5, 8:00 PM |
| 2) DEBBIE BLUE   | MARCH 12, CHAPEL    |
|                  | MARCH 13, 8:00 PM   |
| 3) LAUREN WINNER | MARCH 23            |

### FILM FORUMS- SPRING 2007

- |                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1) WHO KILLED THE ELECTRIC CAR | TBA |
| 2) JUNEBUG                     | TBA |

## Seniors shut out in season finale

The Houghton College

Men's Soccer team completed the home portion of the 2006 season Wednesday night with a 1-0 loss to rival Roberts Wesleyan. Since this was the last home game of the year for players and fans, the five graduating seniors were honored before the game. But, unfortunately that's about all the recognition they were to receive as they had to watch another disappointing game and 3rd straight losing season draw to a conclusion from the sidelines.

With the exception of the co-captain Vince Wagner, who played but did not start, the other four varsity players Chad Wakemen, Pat King, Ben Loos, and Dan Miller did not step onto the field. Not only was this the last home game for their career, it was also the last time their fellow senior classmates would have a chance to cheer for them and extend a final congratulations for their performance.

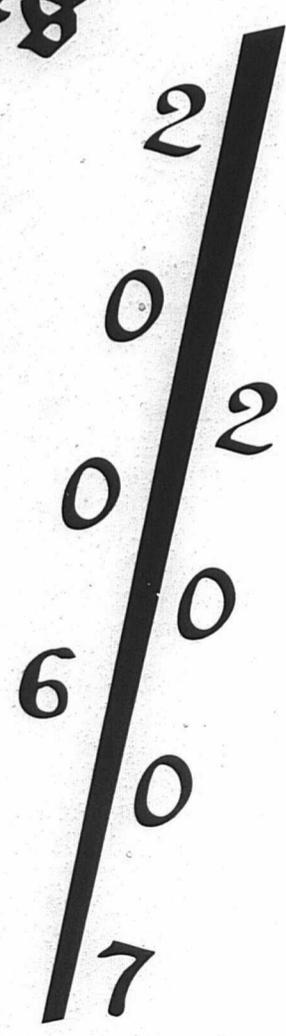
It begs the question, why? Why were these players, to the disappointment of their parents, classmates, and friends benched on senior night? I am not opposed to an answer, hence the reason for a respectful and simple question, why were apparently healthy seniors benched Wednesday night against Roberts on Senior Night?

-Jesse Crikelair, guest editorialist

## WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS!

### Guidelines for letters to the Editor:

Letters to the Editor must be signed, denote which articles they are in response to, and should not exceed 500 words. Send all letters to the Editor-In-Chief, Lindsay Yandon via STAR@houghton.edu. All letters are subject to editing at the discretion of both the Copy Editors and the Editor-In-Chief. Letters are due on Monday at 5pm, one week before the next issue. Anonymous letters will not be printed. Letters that exceed 500 words can be sent in the form of a response column and will be printed as an article but should not exceed 750 words.



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## Writers Wanted

Interested in being a staff writer for *The Star*? Want your voice to be heard on campus? Contact the editor via

[star@houghton.edu](mailto:star@houghton.edu)

## The Woolsey Lecture Series

Guest Lecturer: DR. RICHARD MOUW

"Cultural Discipleship in the Time of God's Patience"

Thurs., November 16, 8:pm

And

"The Cultural Authority of Jesus Christ"  
Fri., November 17, 11:00AM

YOU'VE GOT MAIL



Are you interested in writing letters monthly to an individual at the nursing home? If so, email

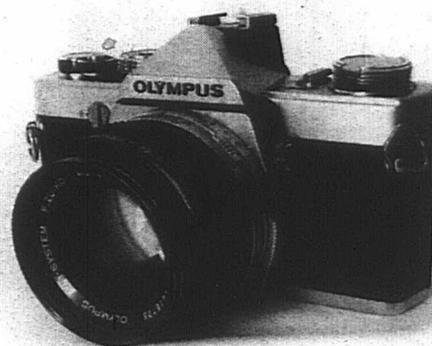
[anniepearseuk@yahoo.com](mailto:anniepearseuk@yahoo.com)

## Event ★★ ★ Advertising

The STAR would like to begin publicizing campus events. Remember we print bi-weekly. Please send any campus event bulletins to the Editor via

★ [STAR@houghton.edu](mailto:STAR@houghton.edu) ★

## CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS



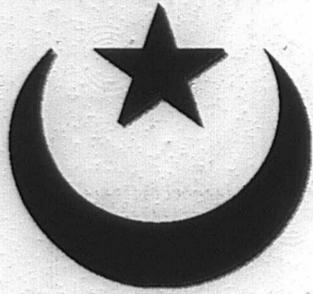
Are you someone who doesn't leave the house without your camera? Do you like to capture unforgettable moments on film (or memory card)?

Have your work published. The star is looking for photographers to snap shots of campus events and other news items.

If you're interested, please contact the editor via

[star@houghton.edu](mailto:star@houghton.edu)

## Islamic studies offered at Houghton



When September 11th happened, the world woke up to the prevalence and importance of Islam. The amount of literature produced about Islam and Jihad skyrocketed in response to human interest. Houghton College has contributed to this response and the significant rise in Islamic study by offering a concentration in Islam.

The Islamic concentration is made up of several core courses taught at Houghton and several courses taken abroad in London, Morocco, or the Middle East Studies Program. Dr. Benjamin-Lee Hegeman, the resident professor of Islamic Studies designed the core courses to be taught in a revolutionary way. Students in the Intro to Islam course jump right into the primary sources, reading the entire Qur'an and selections from the Hadiths. The Qur'an is read chronologically as it was revealed to Muhammad, as defined by Muslim scholarly tradition.

Rigorously academic, the introduction course challenges students to dig deep into the sources, minds, and commentaries of Mus-

lims, understanding the Qur'an as a Muslim would. Sura by Sura, Ayat by Ayat, the students answer questions regarding the context of the Sura and what the text means. The former 'enigma' of the Qur'an begins to unravel as the course continues.

In the Contextualization course the students struggle with how to accurately and effectively preach the Gospel of Christ to Muslims. Through the study of historical means of Muslim evangelism and through visits to ministries that are currently reaching Muslims, the course takes students on a journey to view approaches that have worked and those that have not.

Other courses in the concentration focus on folk Islam, the

history of Islamic movements and theology, Islam in North America, war and terrorism in the Middle East, globalization and Islamization, and people and cultures of the Middle East. Both the introduction course and the contextualization course are being offered this spring, along with the war and terrorism in the Middle East course.

The continued connective ness between the 'Muslim world' and 'our world' is a pattern that will grow throughout our lifetime. Islam is and probably will remain for some time, the fastest growing religion in the world. As an institution seeking to adapt to the changing world, Houghton has responded well to the creation of the Islamic

-ISLAMIC, continued on pg 7

### Faculty Book Review

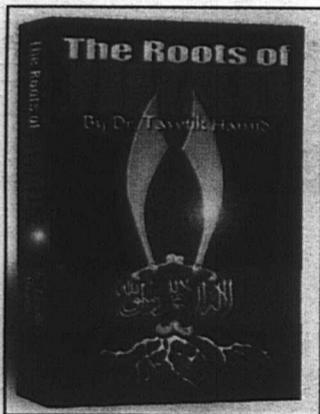
## Dr. Pearse on Tawfik Hamid's *The Roots of Jihad*

Tawfik Hamid's recent lecture in Houghton was extraordinarily well attended, and his book gives us all a chance to consider at leisure what he has to say on the subject of the reform of Islam.

Hamid was raised in Egypt, a society which has a continuing large Christian minority and he was confronted early on in life with the relationship between his own faith, Islam, and Christians. For a brief period in his youth, he was involved with Jamaha Islameia, a terrorist group. He came to his senses and has spent his whole life since that time in repudiating, not just Islamist terrorism itself, but those elements in the portrayal the faith which cause large numbers of Muslims to lend active or tacit support to terror.

For him, that repudiation must rest on something firmly theological — something in the Quran itself. The impulse to terror, he insists, must be answered in its own terms, if it is to succeed. Quranic interpretation must be met with counter-interpretation.

In *The Roots of Jihad*, Ha-



mid certainly does not shrink from attacking 'normal' Muslim practice. Historically, when Muslims "started attacking" non-Muslims to Islamize them, "it is then they are displaying the true doctrine of Islam." The declaration that, "Islam means peace!",

he notes, has been reserved for, "whenever Muslims have been weak."

That's certainly not the whole truth, but it is a large part of it. The fact that millions of Coptic Christians remain in Egypt today, or that non-Muslims made up about 25% of the population of the Middle East in 1900, or that the Ottomans were happy to allow the large majority of their Balkan subjects to remain Christians or Jews over more than five centuries. All of this illustrates that Muslims have not always sought to convert at the point of a sword. Hamid, however, is right to point out that Muslim rule has always humiliated and disadvantaged non-Muslims; not allowing them to carry arms, forcing them to pay a poll tax, accounting their testimony in court

to be of less value than that of a Muslim. It is attrition of this kind, extended over centuries that has caused the populations of territories ruled by Muslims to become largely Muslim themselves.

Controversially, Hamid thinks that Arab and Muslim hatred of the West today is not primarily caused by Western foreign policies, nor by poverty and economic depredation. I agree with him. Indeed, in making this argument he points to some of the same evidence that I adduced in my *Why the Rest Hates the West*. However, where I point to the aggressive export of the West's anti-culture and secularism as the principal culprit for angering non-Westerners (and not just Muslims) everywhere, Hamid points to the nature of the Islamist creed as the foment of violence. In respect of Muslim-Western relations, though, Hamid's argument and my own might be considered two sides of the same coin; the conflict is cultural and religious. Economics and foreign policy are excuses for conflict, not causes. In the same way, the Lewinsky scandal was not the cause of fury among Republicans, nor the financial irregularities around Tom DeLay the 'explanation' for Democrat ire. Each side already detested what the other was; the specifics of what they did merely provided a vent.

As Hamid pointed out in his lecture, the Danish cartoons of Mohammed were printed five months before any protests about them began. The evidence seems clear that those protests were orchestrated by Islamist leaders who saw them as an opportunity.

And on this, Hamid's contribution is at its most valuable. As apologies and retractions over the

cartoons proliferated, Muslim fury did not subside; it increased. The same pattern is visible elsewhere. Muslims despise nothing so much as weakness. What Westerners perceive as their own fair-mindedness (or capacity for self-criticism, or willingness to conciliate or compromise) is perceived by Muslims as lack of principle. When Christians exhibit these characteristics, it is taken as evidence that they do not really believe what they say they believe. That is why it was probably a mistake for the pope, not to quote a Byzantine emperor on the subject of Islam, but to appear to have given a half-apology for having done so. Christian meekness in respect of their own persons is commanded by Jesus. But to apologize for being Christian, or for acting Christian-like, is not the same thing at all. And to attempt to appease the unappeasable, in any context at all, is not spiritual; it is stupid.

Hamid has his work cut out — that's for sure. His book virtually concedes that he is arguing against a whole range of normative, hallowed-by-history readings of the faith of Mohammed. His only weapon is an arguable reading of the Quran — though one that is unlikely to persuade many Muslims. The last part of his book, "An Honest View About Israel," did not persuade me and I suspect it has no chance at all of convincing Muslims.

There must be a beginning somewhere. This is the principal reason I feel so much affinity with Tawfik Hamid. Like his culture, mine is on a high road to catastrophe. Yet, neither population seems remotely willing to make the

-HAMID, continued on pg 7

## Why Marc's articles are stupid... Part 1



Jimmy Dutton

Marc's articles are stupid for many different reasons. My articles are obviously superior because they come first. People wouldn't even be able to stand Marc's articles if they didn't have mine to soften them up and make their life better. I bet that if my articles didn't come before Marc's then wherever The Star is printed would have been burnt down by now. So why are Marc's articles so poor? Well, I'll tell you.

Once Marc told me he could fly, and I told him to prove it, and he didn't. That is one good reason why Marc's articles are bad. If he could fly then perhaps he could travel to some place where someone could actually teach him how to write about stuff that people

actually care about. My articles are superior to Marc's because people care about the lies that are being told about the library, people care about what the Philistines were talking about when Goliath was getting owned by David. What people don't care about is Disney movies and Facebook.

Another reason why Marc's articles are terrible is that his name is spelled with a "c." He gets mad at people for spelling it "Mark," but really we should get mad at him for having such a rare and stupidly-spelled name. Marc needs to get his name changed so that we can avoid all this confusion. Mark = right. Marc = wrong. How many people need to be embarrassed until this monster changes his name to the correct way of spelling it? Reading Marc's articles is like drinking lemon juice when you have fifty canker sores in your mouth. Reading Marc's articles is like dating a Lambein girl, trying to have an intelligent conversation with a Gillette girl, and smelling a Shen man. Roth is perfect in every way, so Marc's article is nothing like it.

I hold Marc's articles fully responsible for the escalating war in Iraq. If it wasn't for Marc's articles' crappy war-time policy, we could be out of there by now and Iraq could be just as perfect as America (because America is perfect). Since Marc's articles aren't perfect, they're not American. Do you all honestly want to read something that's anti-American? I know I don't. If I had to compare Marc's articles to any other literary work... I'd compare them to Mein Kampf. Yes, Marc's articles are pro-Nazi. So Marc's articles are responsible for the war in Iraq, they're anti-American, and they're pro-Nazi. I think it's safe to say that Marc hates babies. Marc's articles also hint at pushing old people down hills. What kind of monster does that?!

Do I really have to give any more of an explanation as to why Marc's articles are horrible? The answer is "yes." If you read the title of this article carefully you would've noticed that this is simply the first part of a series explaining why Marc's articles are bad.

Marc's articles are addicted to drugs. What kind of drugs you ask? Well I would have to answer: all of them.

If you're a Democrat, then Marc's articles are conservative-bull-crap! If you're a Republican, then Marc's articles are liberal lies! If you're neither party, then Marc's articles think you're a hippy, and that's just very close-minded of him.

In closing, if you want to be plagued with anti-American, pro-Nazi, baby-hating, old-people-pushing, slanderous propaganda then go ahead and read. If you want to read awesomeness...read my articles. Take love, and peace out.

-Jimmy Dutton, columnist

## FACEBOOK: the gathering



Marc Smithers

Like an unstoppable rebel force, something is taking over the lovely campus we call Houghton College. No, it's not buildings with color or good-tasting water. No, this problem deals with a little thing that I have decided to call "Facebook." Now in case you don't know what I'm taking about when I say "Facebook," then you obviously don't own a computer, which means you don't go to Houghton, which begs me to ask, "Why are you reading the Houghton College newspaper?" But for those of you who know what Facebook is, you know how much of a monstrosity it is. It is like a ravenous beast that devours internet users faster than you can say, "I just got devoured by a ravenous beast."

Facebook has brought us a world where immorality is praised, and deceit is met with a smile and a hearty handshake. Since joining Facebook last fall, I've been married three times, been engaged twice, and have had complicated relationships with fourteen different persons. Divorce and heartbreak have been my best friends throughout this past year. What's more, no one seems to care! No one has offered me comforting words after a particularly long engagement suddenly ends. And don't use that same old lame excuse that "you didn't know." I purposely post all news feeds concerned with my Facebook relationships so that everyone will know, hoping that it results in maybe a few wedding gifts after my current spouse and I tie the knot, or at least a pat on the back and a few encouraging words from people after I pop the question to someone who I've been complicated with for a while. How are my Facebook relationships to succeed if I don't have the support of my now 215 Houghton friends and my forty some friends from other colleges?

During a particularly challenging breakup or divorce, I didn't receive one "hang in there" or "someone else will come along soon" from any one of my almost three hundred supposed friends. I can't even express how much that hurts if I tried to write it in a particularly tear-jerking Facebook note.

So what do we do? Shall we continue having these meaningless relationships that contribute nothing to our understanding of love? The immediate answer is, "Of course not." However, I am interested to see what is done to tackle this problem of internexual immorality. Will it just be the creation of another Facebook group for people to join, where nothing is solved, but everyone makes themselves feel better by being able to say they are contributing to a solution? Perhaps it will be called "The Facebook Monastery/Convent: Where Saints Live Free from the Complications of a Facebook Marriage."

I would like to say that I have never confirmed a relationship request on Facebook. I could say they were all rash decisions, and I wasn't ready for the commitment, blah blah blah. You've heard it all before, and frankly, I don't like to live with regrets. Each person I've had a relationship with on Face-

book has been special, and I will never forget the photo albums we created that signified our love and undying devotion to one another. But all I have now are words of caution for those who come after me, who are unsure of whether or not they are ready for the long-term commitments that come with any Facebook relationship. How do you plan on supporting your internet significant other? Can you see yourself starting a family with this person? Will your parents approve?

Do not take Facebook relationships too lightly. They can be the happiest times in your life, or they can be your downfall. And last of all, pray for those Facebook relationships that are on the rocks right now. Most of you have been there. Show your support for your comrades that can't see the light at the end of the tunnel yet.

-Marc Smithers, columnist

## Review of Keane, *Under the Iron Sea*



*Under the Iron Sea* is Keane's sophomore effort. The album's first single, "Is It Any Wonder?" peaked at #78 on Billboard's Hot 100.

The disc offers an equal distribution of both upbeat and morose tunes. The album starts off with the hauntingly beautiful "Atlantic," which is about not wanting to be alone: "I don't wanna be old and sleep alone/ an empty house is not a home/ I don't wanna be old and feel afraid."

The overriding themes that run throughout the album circle around relationships. A few of the songs reflect negative things that sometimes happen in relationships. "Nothing In My Way" is about feeling paralyzed by hopelessness and trying to hide those feelings from others: "It's just another day, nothing in my way/ I don't wanna go, I don't wanna stay." "Leaving So Soon" talks about someone who is fickle and who does not really make an effort in a relationship. This person ends up leaving the relationship for something better that comes along. In "Try Again," the singer is telling a girl that he has changed since they were together, but he's willing to adjust for her sake: "What I was isn't what I am/

I'd change back but I don't know if I can/ Still I'll try, try again, try again."

There are also more positive themes. "Hamburg Song" is a confession that the singer is willing to be selfless for a girl: "I don't wanna be adored/ Don't wanna be first in line/ Or make myself heard/ I'd like to bring a little light/ To shine a light on your life/ To make you feel loved." Resiliency is the encouraging topic of "Put It Behind You." "You'd better put it behind you now/ Too much to hold on, to hold on to/ You'd better do what's best for you." "Crystal Ball" is about being hopeful for the future even though the present is tough. "Oh, crystal ball, crystal ball, save us all, tell me life is beautiful, mirror, mirror on the wall."

Keane's second offering of guitarless, piano/keyboard-driven melodic rock is a strong one. The band has a gift for matching music with the emotions that it is meant to evoke. Fans of Keane's first album and new fans alike will be very pleased with this release.

Grade: A-

-Justin Hackett, staff writer

## News from Outside the 'Houghton Bubble'

-Elyse Drum, staff writer

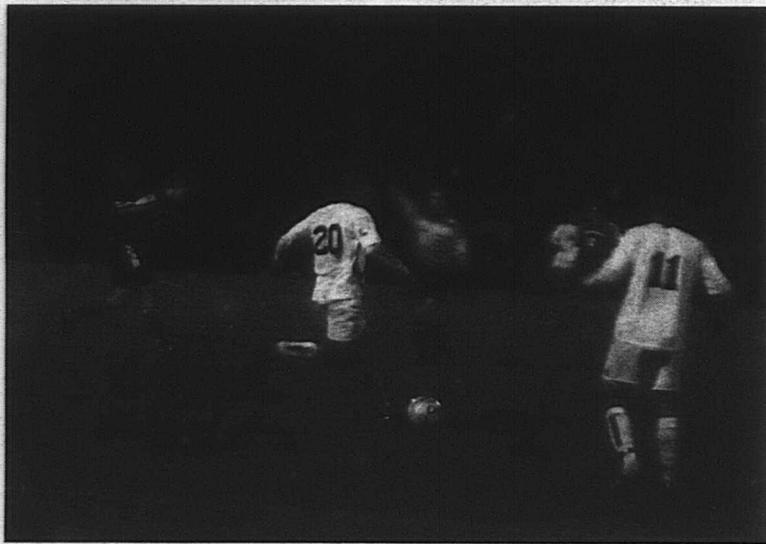
A seemingly normal Wednesday afternoon in New York City was suddenly upset by what some thought to be a terrorist attack. A small plane crashed into a luxury high-rise on Manhattan's Upper East Side on 10/11, one month after the five-year anniversary of 9/11. The plane had apparently been experiencing technical difficulties when the pilot, New York Yankees pitcher Cory Lidle, and his flight instructor slammed into the building. Both men were killed.

The U.S. was also recently shaken by North Korea. Analysis of air samples collected detected radioactive debris, confirming that the tiny nation led by Kim Jong-il had conducted a nuclear test. Less than a week later, the UN Security Council voted to impose sanctions on North Korea. This has been an ongoing conflict that does not appear to have a clear end in sight. According to media reports in South Korea and Japan, North Korea will not carry out a second nuclear test unless "harassed" by the U.S.

The United States is not the only nation in the world to have problems with illegal immigration. In fact, just recently a fishing boat crossing the Mediterranean from Libya was detained off the Italian island of Lampedusa for carrying more than 400 suspected illegal immigrants. This tiny island is often used by thousands of African immigrants as a temporary landing point before continuing on to the EU. Italy estimates that more than 10,000 people arrived there in the first six months of this year alone.

British newspapers cannot seem to get enough of the one-named wonder Madonna. This week a 13-month-old Malawian boy named David was flown to Britain to join her family. Drama arose not as a result of the adoption but due to the fact that David still has a living relative—his father. Mr. Banda, 32, could not support his child so he put the infant in an orphanage.

## The Run Down: Sports



Chris Cruikshank sends a pass in the recent Men's soccer game versus Roberts Wesleyan.

The fall Houghton athletic teams have always been strong, this year is no different. With dedicated and able athletes every sport team has put their best on the field and into every game.

The women's soccer team has recorded another undefeated regular season with a record of 16-0-1. On Saturday, October 21st the Lady Highlanders created an exciting 2-1 victory over Mount Vernon Nazarene University in overtime for the dedicated fans who remained around Houghton for October Break. Houghton finished their regular season play on Tuesday, October 24th versus Point Park University. The women crushed their opponent 8-0 and senior Krista Fowlkes had 2 assists for the evening tying recent Houghton graduate Cassandra Mills for the record of

most career assists at 50.

The women's field hockey team is also having a winning season for the year. The Lady Highlanders split their October break games 1-1. On Thursday, October 19th they traveled to Pittsburgh where they defeated St. Vincent University 6-0. Two days later they challenged Ramapo College but fell short in overtime, losing 2-1. The Lady Highlander have had to overcome many obstacles this season including several injuries and game determining calls by referees, but they have remained positive and keep winning.

Despite the men's soccer team's losing record, they are still doing remarkably well in their conference. They suffered a close 2-1

-SPORTS, continued on pg 8

## Houghton Volleyball

### Determined Highlanders return to winning ways

Rebounding from three consecutive losing seasons, the Houghton College women's volleyball team has easily eclipsed its 2005 win total with two contests remaining on the schedule. The Highlanders, despite their strong American Mid-East Conference record, face stiff competition from Geneva College, Roberts Wesleyan, and Notre Dame. Carried by a strong defense, powerful veteran hitters, and an accurate setter, Houghton College promises to be a force when the AMC Playoffs commence in early November.

Offensively, seniors Robin Frost and Audrey Seldomridge lead the team in kills, combining strong fundamentals with excellent court awareness. Senior Hilary Black, a 2005 honorable mention selection for the AMC North Division, has provided the steady leadership and consistency that a playoff-bound team needs. Joining these powerful upperclassmen hitters is emerging freshman Holly Motheral, who possesses intimidating aerial ability and contagious enthusiasm.

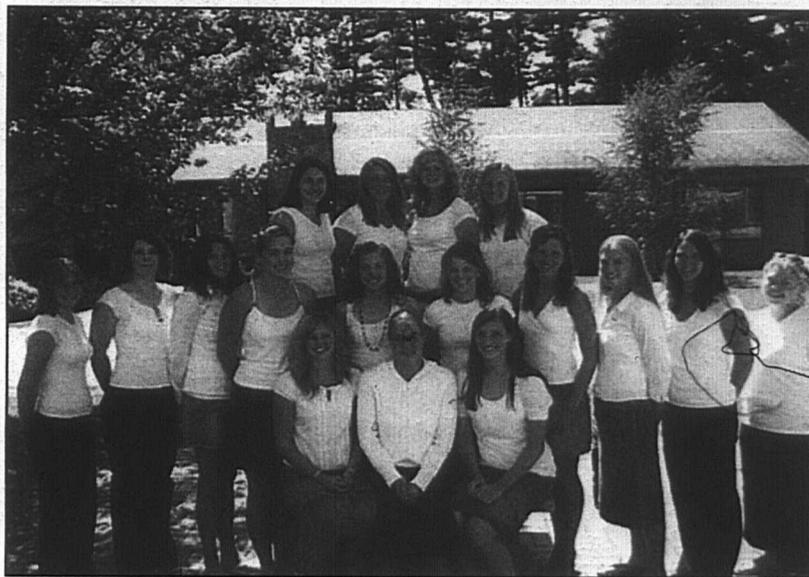
Also contributing to the offense is senior setter Elizabeth Gardner. Highlighted by a 52-assist match against Point Park, Gardner has proven to be an unselfish, accurate distributor, providing

consistent service for the effective outside hitters. Defensively, junior captain Stefanie Swanson has been a warrior, using her athleticism and positioning to lead the team in digs, several of which have shifted the momentum in Houghton's favor.

As the playoffs draw close, Motheral describes the attitude of the squad, "As we prepare for the post-season, we plan to leave it all on the floor, to be focused and aggressive during both practices and games. Our expectations are fairly high because we have a very strong, focused team this year."

During their successful season, the Highlanders have displayed a strong commitment to serving Christ through athletics. Entering the season, Coach Cole emphasized three character traits to her players; unity, focus, and joy. "We have worked really hard in these areas," the coach states, "and though we don't always attain them, our effort has been admirable."

Like the women's soccer team, the volleyball squad sings worship songs following each contest, sometimes with the opposing team as well. In addition, Motheral embraces the team's spiritual mission when she states, "We are currently working on a fantastic



The 2006 Houghton College Women's Volleyball Team

team devotional this season, and it is really strengthening our relationships with others." To encourage a Christ-centered atmosphere, the players have selected Colossians 3:23, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart as working for the lord and not for man," as the team verse. Through devotions at practice and post-game worship, Coach Cole has instilled in her players a desire to glorify God with their talent.

Houghton looks to avenge

a tough early-season loss to Notre Dame College on Saturday, November 4th. The squad also faces Ursuline College in the nightcap. In light of these upcoming matches, Coach Cole states, "Notre Dame is the stronger team; if we beat them it will raise our confidence level heading into the first round of the playoffs."

-Ben Tsujimoto, sports writer

## Sooj's Random Sports Takes

The Sabres' record-setting start to the season is a breath of fresh air for Buffalo fans. In the midst of the Bills' frustrating rebuilding season, chants of 'Let's Go Sabres' have echoed throughout Ralph Wilson Stadium. With three potent scoring lines, capable defensive pairings, and a premier young goaltender, the Sabres look to become a fixture atop the National Hockey League's Eastern Conference. I look forward to watching the development of Derek Roy, Thomas Vanek, and Toni Lydman this season.



Barry Bonds, Mark McGwire, Marion Jones, Justin Gatlin, Shawne Merriman, Jason Grimsley, Jason Giambi, Lance Armstrong, Floyd Landis, David Boston. What do all these athletes have in common? All have used (or have been accused of using) steroids. It's amazing the risks that athletes will take for a competitive edge, that extra strength that, they hope,

will propel them from an 'above-average professional athlete' to 'the greatest of all-time.' Clearly, temporary fame and athletic success outweigh the humiliating accusations and health risks for these 'professionals.' Fortunately, the exposure of the steroid issue allows fans to appreciate the abilities of dedicated athletes that rely on grueling training in place of supplements, such as Albert Pujols, LeBron James, Peyton Manning, Ryan Howard, Donovan McNabb, and Tim Duncan.

To a lesser degree, the appearance of the 'war metaphor' in sports is unnecessary. For instance, Eddie Johnson, the 22-year-old striker for the United States men's national soccer team, exemplifies a naïve, immature athlete. In relaying his feelings before a World Cup match, Johnson compared his situation with the American soldiers in Iraq. "It's like us in the World Cup. We're here for a war," Johnson said. "We came here to battle, we came here to represent our country." To draw a parallel between a fairly intense

soccer match and the life-threatening situations that American soldiers endure is ridiculous. Not surprisingly, Coach Bruce Arena dismissed Johnson's war analogy, referring to it as a 'stupid use of the word.'

Here are some memorable sports quotes that will cause you to admire professional athletes even more; their wit, intelligence, and common sense are second-to-none.

Retired NBA forward-center, Charles Shaquilleford: "Left hand, right hand, it doesn't matter. I'm amphibious."

Current NBA center for Miami Heat, Shaquille O'Neal, on whether he had visited the Parthenon during his visit to Greece: "I can't really remember the names of the clubs that we went to."

NBA guard/forward, Latrell Sprewell, commenting on his seeking an extension on a contract that will pay him \$14.8 million this year: "I've got a family to feed."

-Ben Tsujimoto, sports writer

*-ISLAMIC, continued from pg 4* concentration. 'Let there be no compulsion' in course selection, but students wishing to broaden their understanding of this world wide religion often shrouded in misunderstanding and controversy should absolutely take some Islam courses.

-Ryan Lavin, staff writer

*-HAMID, continued from pg 4* fundamental changes that might avoid disaster. However long the apparent odds against change, if the stakes are high enough, one cannot keep silent. We had all better pray that Hamid, and others of the same sort, encounter far more success than seems altogether likely at the moment.

-Dr. Meic Pearse, faculty writer

*-SPORTS, continued from pg 6*  
loss to Walsh University on Saturday, October 21st. On Wednesday, October 25th they played arch rival Roberts Wesleyan College and despite dominating the game lost 1-0. This loss to Roberts was their only loss in their conference, thus far. The Highlander rallied on the road and beat Notre Dame 1-0 on Saturday. They are currently 3-1-1 in the AMC North Division and will make for a tough opponent in post season.

Houghton's women's volleyball team is having another suc-

cessful year. They have a winning record for both regular season and in the AMC North Division. Over October break the Lady Highlanders slammed Baptist Bible College 3-0 on Friday, October 20th for their loyal fans. The Lady Highlanders suffered a tough 3-0 loss to Daemen College on Tuesday, October 24th. Despite this loss their chances of proceeding to post season are more than great. They play Ursuline and Notre Dame this Saturday in a tri-match at Houghton College.

On Saturday, October 21st

Houghton held their annual Highlander Fall Classic for the cross country team. Both the men's and the women's team finished well at this event. The men had 3 runners finish in the top 5 and 5 runners finish in the top 10 with Dan Ballard finishing 1st, Chad Stauring finishing 2nd, Jacob Conner finishing 5th, Landry Jarvis finishing 7th, and Michael Platt finishing 8th. On the women's side 2 runners finished in the top 5 while 5 finished in the top 10 with Mary Gibson finishing 1st, Kaitlin Fadden finishing 3rd, Rachel Rhodes finishing 7th,

Heather Hutton finishing 8th, and Lydia Thornblade finishing 9th. Cross country AMC championships are scheduled for this Saturday.

Five Houghton equestrians traveled with professor and coach, Joanne Young to a Jumper Competition on Saturday. Bethany Hyde produced a clear round in the 18" crossrail division. Riding at 2'3", Lindsay Morrett, Melissa Garver, and Lindsay Yandon all went clear in the preliminary round and Morrett brought home the win with a time of 22.97 seconds in the jump off. Garver and Yandon followed in second and third. Yandon was one of two riders to proceed to the jump-off in the 2'6" division, placing second with a time of 35.15. Garver followed in 3rd, Heidi Chapman 5th, and Morett 6th. Chapman won at 2'9" with a clear preliminary round and a time of 35.5 in the jump-off. On November 4th, Houghton travels to Alfred to ride against Alfred University.

With fall seasons coming to a close, look for all Houghton teams to make a splash in post season play.

-Erin Frederick, sports writer

## THE HOUGHTON ENQUIRER

### Kisses may win the war against terror

EARTH, yesterday.

It seems that the way we've dealt with things just isn't cutting it anymore for the UN. Just yesterday, they decided that we've been going on with this War Against Terror all wrong and that guns, violence, and treaties aren't the solution, but rather kisses and hugs are.

"The reason is simple," says one Houghton College professor who refuses to be named, "when you got hurt as a kid, a mother's kiss could cure everything. Well, this war is just a big boo-boo on the earth's knee. I mean, the Beatles were right, all we need really is love."

Starting immediately, the American government plans to construct a big pair of lips that will be as large as Texas and as luscious as Ireland. They will launch this impressive pair of pink puckered pulse-raisers into space where it will then circle around earth and land, lips down, on the Middle East. It will then re-launch into space after a healthy, Christian 1.3-second kiss. If the kiss lasts too long, the Middle East may get the wrong idea and want to be more than friends to the USA. The USA has made the statement though, that they just want the war to be over and to be friends.

Some (actually, most [actually, all, including this author]) have stated their hatred for this plan, claiming that the lips will cost more money to construct than if we decided to give each member of Al Qaeda a million dollars. Regardless, the UN's magic eight ball told them time and again to either "yes, do it" or "check back later" (to which it then said "I've thought about it, and go for it, baby"). Some claim that the eight ball is rigged while others say it was paid off. When asked to comment, the magic eight ball said only "Maybe..." More as this story develops.

## Houghton College buys Facebook for \$57.2 million

After rejecting billionaire offers from Yahoo!, Google, Kim Jong-il, and the National Security Agency (NSA), Mark Zuckerberg decided to sell Facebook to Houghton College for \$57.2 million. Mr. Zuckerberg explained that he was tired of large corporations and Big Brothers offering him sick amounts of money to ruin the lives of people with nasty advertisements, commercial scams, sexually explicit material, and—especially—the invasion of privacy and the violation of civil liberties. Denise Bakerink, interim dean of Student Life, Greg Bish, director of Student Programs, and the long list of VPs and Deans of Houghton College (Dr. Mullen was in a party at the China Star at the time of the interview), all expressed great enthusiasm for this new acquisition. They were very surprised that Mr. Zuckerberg had accepted their offer. Facebook officials expressed their interest in selling the company to a nice

Christian college that cares about the spiritual, moral, and intellectual development of America's youth. Houghton was the perfect match.

Houghton College has been working on a seven-year fundraising campaign. However, after taking into consideration the importance of Facebook as a tool for identifying brothers and sisters in our community who have gone astray and a medium for raising student enrollment to 14,000, the college administration decided to flush down the original plan and go for Facebook. Instead of being used by the NSA for targeting al-Qaeda types and Liberals, Facebook will now be used for holier purposes. Dean Oakerson pointed out that the headquarters for Facebook will be the Science Building's new wing (it's not an addition or an expansion, Oakerson insists, just a new wing...apparently there's a difference). Former Houghton College President Danny Chamberlain

flew in from Florida where he now resides to celebrate with Houghton College. He was grateful to inform us that the dozen jobs that were cut at the end of his tenure will be reinstated as Facebook employees, and they will be headed by their new CEO: Bradley Beach. Dr. Beach confirmed that the new Facebook will not include video upload capabilities in order to prevent corny stories, like YouTube's lonelygirl15's, from developing.

As a community of believers, we should celebrate our latest and greatest purchase. With Facebook, the Student Life Office will now be able to know in detail what's going on in the lives of the sketchiest members of our community: jocks, business majors, Phys. Ed. majors, Cheech and the Chimichangas, and Koinonia worship leaders. Thanks to Facebook, a dramatic increase in enrollment should be expected by next fall.

\*This is satire... sarcasm... not true... it's ok to laugh!

Find this funny? Want to write it?  
If you are interested in writing these satire pieces, please contact the Editor via

STAR@houghton.edu

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