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One Final Injustice

Last Friday, the Board of Trustee's decision to uphold the dismissal of Dr. Brad Beach sent the Houghton community reeling.

The final report, which was made by the Board's Executive committee upon the recommendation of the March 30 visiting committee, details the campus visit and the circumstances of Dr. Beach's dismissal. It also suggests a review of certain academic policies. The report calls the decision to terminate Dr. Beach without the input of his department head "regrettable," but not a "fatal flaw." The report reads, "We regret the disappointment that many will feel in this decision."

Student and faculty reactions to this report have been overwhelmingly negative. Dr. Stephen Woolsey writes, "I can't even begin to

express my disappointment and dismay with this decision...I find it especially troubling that the published report describes the administrative decision about Dr. Beach as 'regrettable,' as though the whole thing were caused by blind fate or an impersonal act of nature." Directed to inform members of the "Save the Beach" campaign of the Board's decision, Will Airhart wrote, "I am not going to claim to be happy or supportive of the decision. It is...a travesty." He closed the letter by quoting Christ: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Save the Beach leader Rosaline Kelada-Sedra agrees that the impact of this decision will have more negative repercussions than Houghton's administrators think. She wrote, "It says that integrity is a catchword among our leaders—a laughable commitment. It says that a liberal arts

education, which teaches us to think, question, and evaluate...is Houghton's marketing product, nothing more."

Indeed, the ethical questions inherent in Dr. Beach's dismissal are wholly neglected in the Board's report. No mention is given of promises to retain Dr. Beach that were made to senior faculty members just one year ago. Neither is there any assurance for junior faculty members who now fear that the term "tenure-track" on their contracts means nothing. Our president and administrators have betrayed the trust of this community without even an apology. Kelada-Sedra continues, "This could have been easily forgiven, but our leadership sacrificed the chance to bring reconciliation."

Is there still a possibility for grace? In the midst of campus-wide dismay, anger, and grief, one example of supernatural grace remains among us: Dr. Brad Beach himself. Despite the public injustice that has been brought upon him, Dr. Beach has continued to serve our campus with tremendous love. Kindness has characterized his life even when he has been shown little mercy. The servanthood that Christ himself demonstrated has been lived out before our eyes. In the words of Dr. Stephen Woolsey, "All of us are the poorer, because in losing Dr. Beach we are losing one of the best among us."

-Elizabeth Overhauser
Guest Writer

Hopping Up and Hobbling Down: A Life At Houghton On Crutches

Have you ever been in an accident that left you in a wheel chair or on crutches while here at Houghton? For your sake, I hope not. I personally had such an experience of my own during the Shen/Roth football game (Shen destroyed Roth by the way for those of you who didn't know). This accident left me with a broken ankle and I will be on crutches for the remainder of the school year. This might not seem all that bad at first, but if you look around the campus you will notice the amount of stairs accompanying almost every building.

I have been on crutches for a week now and I am already overwhelmed by the amount of stairs I have had to climb up and down to get anywhere. For a person who lives on 3rd Floor Shen, hopping up and down the stairs on my one good foot numerous times a day is not a fun activity, but what if I lived in Roth? Then I would have the opportunity of going up and down a hill every day to get anywhere and everywhere I would want to go. What if I was in a wheel chair? Now it's all over! I could not go to school here if I am in a guy in a wheel chair. There is nowhere for me to live! Shen is full of stairs, and if I'm really tough I could wheel myself up and down the hill from Roth every day, but that is highly unlikely.

As I recall last school year, an certain

soccer player had an unmentionable surgery that put him in a wheel chair for 2 weeks. He also lived on 3rd floor Shen, and I remember time and time again having to get two or three guys together to carry him and his wheel chair up and down the stairs. Other 3rd floor Shen men have suffered handicap accessibility problems within the dorms and on campus as well. In the past month there have been four gentlemen from 3rd floor Shen who have been hurt and put on crutches and experienced these same problems.

With all the money being spent at Houghton right now on renovations, additions, etc, would an elevator in each dorm be a wasted purchase? It would save a person from having to hop up and down the stairs and risk further injury, just to get to his room. Numerous times I have hopped up the stairs and my leg has given out, nearly causing me to fall down the stairs, but what else can I do? I have no other options. Maybe spending money on an elevator is a very necessary purchase for the college. Maybe they will regret not doing it sooner when somebody falls down the stairs trying to get up or down the stairs on crutches. I hope that Houghton College does the right thing. ♦

-James Appleton
Guest Writer

The Enlightenment Project, Revisited

*The Society of Christian Philosophers,
Eastern Regional Meeting*

May 18-20, 2006
Houghton College, Houghton, NY

Keynote Speakers:
Karl Ameriks (Univ. of Notre Dame)
John Hare (Yale University)

Other speakers include: Andrew Chignell, Chris Firestone, Jeanine Grenberg, Lee Hardy, Desmond Hogan, Gregory Johnson, Patrick Kain, Rae Langton, David Sussman, David White, Eric Watkins, and alumnus Jonathan Wise.

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Chapel Goes Outdoors

Well, we pulled it off. Wednesday was the first outdoor chapel and there wasn't a single disaster. The prelude went off without a hitch, sound wasn't any rockier than usual, and, the most impressive to me, there was a congregation! Walking over from the NAB (I beg your pardon, The Chamberlain Center) I imagined Dr. Brittain up front, speaking animatedly at two or three listeners and a team playing Ultimate Frisbee. But I was impressed. There were at least as many audience members as you would find at a "Who's Who" chapel.

Dr. Brittain gave a characteristically entertaining and thought-provoking sermon only occasionally punctuated by a crash or screech from the library construction across the quad. Considering how ruffled he can get at a cell phone ring, Dr. Brittain remained remarkably composed as a bulldozer's reverse alarm klaxoned. In fact, he seemed particularly light-hearted, even for him. Behind the single mic stand, he could have been mistaken for a sardonic stand-up comic, calmly reporting that he "had always been a disappointment to [his] mother."

Students got comfortable, many bringing picnic blankets out on the grass. Lounging in the sun and a cool breeze, they were the happiest chapel attendees I've seen in all of my time at Houghton. Still, I couldn't help but imagine a week from now when we've all grown accustomed to the summer camp feel and changed our behavior to accommodate. Will picnic baskets follow the blankets? Perhaps we'll break out the bikinis as April heats up. Chapel on the Quad will be the hot spot, hopping with beach balls and hot dog vendors. Bono will probably drop by in an air balloon to see what all the fuss is about.

And then in May it'll all be over. Students will return in the fall to a new and improved chapel, but I, for one, will forever pine for the free spirited pow-wow that was Chapel on the Quad. ♦

-Hillary Young
Staff Writer

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A Meditation On Grace

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

2 Peter 3:9 (New International Version)

When I visited London two summers ago, I spent a month volunteering at All Souls Clubhouse, a local community center of sorts in Fitzrovia. The Clubhouse held its own Sunday service, and Richard Bewes, the presently retired Senior Pastor from All Souls Church, came to speak one particular week. I'll never forget one particular story he told of an elderly woman who was in her nineties. She drifted through much of her life without ever having the opportunity or desire of knowing God, but that changed one day. She began to ask questions, and she became intrigued by the notion of God. She made a visit to the local Vicar's home searching for answers. She invited Jesus into her heart that very day, and she passed away two days later.

God is not only patient, but He is also generous- all fundamental attributes to the divine notion of grace.

For me, grace is the single most fascinating and bewildering quality of God. It underscores one of the most frustrating dilemmas of being human: Salvation is a gift that we, as human beings, simply cannot earn. It goes against the quintessential notion of capitalism: the greater your input, the vaster your rewards. It seems to

work seamlessly with many facets of life; some may even say that it's part of human nature. We become undauntedly attached to this principle and indulge in our daily work, so much as the rewards we reap correspond with the efforts we have invested. But then we look around, and find certain individuals with a less apparent diligence in their work ethic, yet receiving the same rewards. They fast become targets of ridicule and distress.

As the landowner said to his disgruntled worker in Matthew 20: "Friend, I am not being unfair to you. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the man who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous? So the last will be first, and the first will be last." We get so caught up with the fallacy of "fairness" (at least from the human perspective) that we lose sight on God's calling for us to love and serve one another. We become so fixated on the apparent injustice directed toward the older brother that we forget in hindsight, we're all Prodigal sons and daughters, whose love received was undeserved,

but was presented to us regardless.

Maybe for us, the acceptance of grace is really an exercise of submission, humbly relinquishing control over our lives back to the Father. Perhaps God gave us choice and freedom in hopes that ultimately we'd choose Him over ourselves. After all, we are called to be His Servants; and if grace is something we can earn, then it isn't necessarily grace. As Dr. Lastoria once said to me: "If you're gracious to others but expect graciousness in return, then you're not really being gracious." Perhaps grace is a reminder for us that He is God, we're human, and we haven't shared an equal relationship since the fallen days. However, through the sacrificial death and resurrection of His son Jesus, the chasm between man and the Trinity is bridged; our sins redeemed and our relationship restored.

I'm not sure if I'll ever have all this worked out: Thank God He is patient. ♦

-Matthew Auyang
Guest Writer

The Results Are In....

Sexual Harassment... The Good News And Other News.

Think back to a time several months ago when you received an email requesting your brief response: Does "Three Minute Drill ... Sexual Harassment Survey" ring a bell? Just to refresh your memory, the Committee on Harassment Policy and Prevention (CHPP) sent a survey to the student body, faculty, staff and administration requesting responses to several questions regarding personal and observed experiences of various forms of sexual harassment on campus. Respondents were asked to report (1) on their personal experiences regarding inappropriate sexual innuendos, sexual comments and sexual humor, (2) on the context in which these experiences took place (classroom, workplace, social setting), and (3) those involved in the behaviors (student, faculty, or staff). Respondents were then asked to report on their observation of these behaviors, their context, and again, who was involved. Now that the far reaches of your long term memory have been accessed and you are nodding, that yes, you do remember this fairly significant email that you gladly received and responded without hesitation, I am pleased to announce that the verdict is in! As promised so long ago, you will now have a chance to read about the results and analysis (graciously done by our very own Dr. Paul Young of the Psychology Department) of the Three Minute Drill. On behalf of CHPP,

it gives me great pleasure to present to you: the good news, not so good news, and some other news.

First on the good news list, the survey received 739 total responses, 495 of these from women, and 244 from men. Of the 739 responses received, 568 were student responses, 65 came from faculty, and 106 from staff and administration. For a survey of this nature, email mass mailing, this is a remarkably good response. So ... thanks to all of you who took the time to respond and help us out.

Additional good news is the fact that quid pro quo harassment (directly asking for sexual contact for something in return ... keeping a relationship alive ... or merely for a good time) had never been experienced by 91% of the respondents. Also, a more common form of harassment, hostile environment, where frequent and persistent uses of sexual innuendo or inappropriate sexual humor create an uncomfortable environment had never been experienced by a quarter of the sample. Taking the three behaviors separately: inappropriate sexual humor, comment, or innuendo resulted in 60%, 46%, and 39% of the sample respectively reporting these occurrences a few times or often. Even so, it is important to remember that a few times may not be sufficient to constitute the creation of a hostile environment. This type

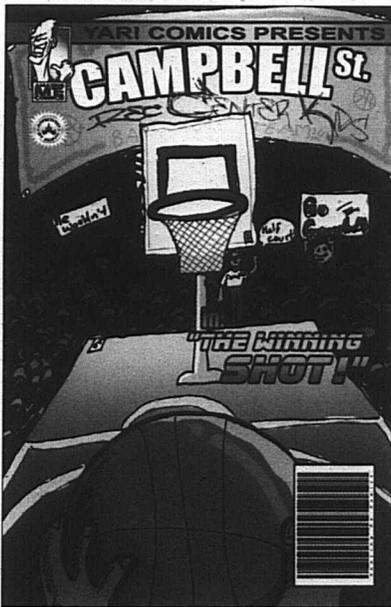
of harassment was reported as occurring most often in a social setting. Students were most commonly identified as both the source (59%) and target (45%) of sexually inappropriate language. Faculty was identified as the source by 9% of respondents and as the target by 6%.

Perhaps some not so good news came when asking individuals how often they had experienced certain behaviors on campus or within our community. Receiving sexually obscene messages was reported by 16% a few times and by 5% of the sample often. These are mostly received through email, IM, or less frequently by phone. Having chest, buttocks, or crotch stared at received the same 16% and 5% frequency. Having another describe his or her sexual experience was reported with a 16% and 4% for a few times and often. Being brushed up against was experienced by 14% a few times and by 5% of the sample often. Granted the majority of respondents reported never having experienced these behaviors and that surely is good news. Yet to have 1 in 5 with these experiences on our campus indicates that we need to do better in getting the message out that these behaviors are not acceptable.

Now for the other news ... breaking down the results into groups by gender and class revealed few differences. Any differences in

(cont'd on p. 7...)

Kids Create Graphic Novel On Campus



Houghton alumnus, Adam English, came back to campus recently to unveil the comic book he has helped create with the 21st Century Kids Club, a group of schoolchildren that meet in the Chamberlain Center every evening. English is a professional cartoonist who has devoted time to use his career to help benefit school children by teaching them the value of art. He meets with kids to teach and encourage their creative skills by helping them to write, draw, and color an 8-page comic book as a group, most of the times having themselves as the characters in the story.

When he was only 17 years old, Adam began a career as an illustrator by opening up a caricature concession at Darien Lake Theme Park. He was able to draw customers' exaggerated portraits in minutes. He held that job, and managed the art stands in the park, until 2004, when he left to continue his art career independently. During his time of work at Darien Lake he attended Houghton, where he majored in English Literature.

While at Houghton, he also formed the band Ookla with another student. The science fiction-themed band has sold thousands of CDs, won awards, and written songs for television. Ookla still plays shows around the country, showing up most frequently at science fiction conventions.

The connections that English made while he was at Houghton, as well as the skills he cultivated, have helped him to have a happy and fulfilling career in art and music. He shows that through his career, there are many life lessons that can be picked up along the way, saying: "...our tendency to second-guess ourselves, to distrust our ideas and abilities, places limits on our creativity...When you have to draw a completed cartoon portrait every 90 seconds, you don't have time to worry about so-called "mistakes!"

*-Rachel Varughese
Staff Writer*



Featured Artist:

Rachel Blystone

Silkscreen, by sophomore Rachel Blystone with handmade paper. These images are from the first pages of a book titled *Mirrored Me*, in which Blystone combined printmaking techniques with original poetry. The piece works as a kind of self portrait within the fascinating dichotomy of using created images to consider the theme of body image issues. Blystone describes the first page as a "tree of tears," and the spiraling design is a symbol of being bound within our bodies. A relationship between bodies and plants has a long tradition in art history, and the motif of fruit and flowers has particular yonic significance. Blystone also makes the connection with a metaphor of growth. "When you're changing you're squeezed and then you burst out," she

explains.

The trajectory of the narrative describes the process of "becoming comfortable within your own skin" but it also plays with the ambiguity of how it is possible to be vulnerable and beautiful and convoluted and confused all at the same time. "I realize that there are many aspects of me, and maybe I don't have to have it all figured out," Blystone says. "I guess, in a way, the tears go back into the ground and contribute to the idea of growth." ♦

-Kelsey Harro
Managing Editor



Faculty Book Review: Denise Levertov's *Making Peace* Keep Writing In The Dark

British-born American poet Denise Levertov died in 1997 after spending more than half a century writing poems she thought of as "candles in Babylon," ordered, lovely words meant to push back the darkness of this "Age of Terror." Levertov believed that bluntly-truthful poetry is especially important in times of crisis such as war. In her words, "A poetry articulating the dreads and horrors of our time is necessary in order to make readers understand what is happening, really understand it, not just know about it but feel it..." Her faithful long-time publisher New Directions is evidently committed to keeping her work in print, and in response to the human cost of our ambiguous wars in Iraq and Afghanistan which continue to grind on with no good end in sight, New Directions has issued a slim volume entitled *Making Peace*, edited by Peggy Rosenthal (ND Bibelots series, 2006) and including some of Levertov's best-known poems about war.

The poems of first section, "Life at War," reflect Levertov's outrage and dismay at the terrible toll of our wars in Vietnam, El Salvador, and the Persian Gulf. The title poem of that section reminds readers of the emotionally-disabling effects of cold casualty reports and body counts: "The disasters numb within us/caught in the chest, rolling/in the brain like pebbles." It also evokes war's most appalling mystery, our endless ingenuity when it comes to destroying the bodies of our enemies, fellow human beings "whose flesh/ responds to a caress, whose eyes/ are flowers that perceive the stars, /... whose understanding manifests designs/ fairer than the spider's most intricate web..." The poem "What Were They Like?" begins with a series of questions about the lives and culture of our former Vietnamese enemies. To the question "Had they an epic poem?" the speaker replies with a cool irony that is simultaneously scathing and heart-breaking: "It is not remembered. Remember, / most were peasants; their life/ was in rice and bamboo. / When peaceful clouds were reflected in the paddies/ and the water buffalo stepped surely along terraces, / maybe fathers told their sons old tales. / When bombs smashed those mirrors/ there was time only to scream."

Part Two, entitled "Protestors," collects poems depicting various

forms of collective resistance, from accounts of domestic "witness" by indignant American citizens opposed to wars conducted in their names to stories of non-violent antiwar actions overseas. One of the most memorable is "The Altars in the Street," based on actual events of June 1966, when Vietnamese children stalled traffic by building Buddhist altars in intersections of streets cracked by American tanks. In the words of the speaker, "by noon/ the whole city in all its corruption, / all its shed blood the monsoon cannot wash away, / has become a temple, / fragile, insolent, absolute."

The title of Part Three, "Writing in the Dark," suggests the section's paradoxical overarching theme: the need for courageous, honest words and actions in evil times and deep uncertainty about whether they will make any significant difference. The speaker in the section's title poem admonishes herself and her readers, "Keep writing in the dark:/ a record of the night, or/... words that may have the power/ to make the sun rise again." The poems of Part Four, "Making Peace," express guarded optimism that the wounds inflicted by our wars may eventually heal. Again the section's title poem states the theme most clearly. The poet's vocation is to help readers find renewed hope in the living possibilities of peace: "The poets must give us/ imagination of peace, to oust the intense, familiar/ imagination of disaster. Peace, not only/ the absence of war."

Readers who already know Levertov's work will find much here that is familiar, and a timely theme. For those less familiar with Levertov this little volume might serve as a good introduction to a writer whose poems often remind us of a righteous indignation and sorrow dating from a century earlier when Walt Whitman's speaker in "The Wound Dresser" recalls tending tirelessly to soldiers mutilated in battle in the Civil War, his outward demeanor calm "yet deep in my breast a fire, a burning flame." ♦

-Dr. Stephen A. Woolsey
Professor of English

A Conversation With Josh Ballard

Walking down the sidewalk in Philadelphia I pass tables with meat on my right, a wide array of fruits on my left. Leaning over the stands people are turning brown pears in their hands, filling bags with strawberries, asking about prices. And shouting over the sound of passing cars, the sellers are tossing boxes into burning trash cans while trying to sell their fish or vegetables.

Just past the Italian market, with Dean Martin playing faintly in the background, the sun casts shadows across a tall brick building next to a parking lot. Josh Ballard, a Houghton music composition graduate leads me into Gleaners coffeeshop. The art exhibit in the tiny shop is of transportation, the city. And outside, the city creates an art of its own. Sitting at stools we lean on a ledge in front of a big window overlooking the shadows and the people rushing by. Josh attends SUNY Purchase and is earning his Masters of Music in studio composition. He lives in Yonkers near New York City and we met up in Philadelphia.

"So what exactly do you want to do once you have your masters?" I ask. "I really want to make music for films." Outside there is a huge mural of Frank Rizzo, a past mayor, kids run by the window, the espresso machine hisses behind me. "I am currently working on doing music for a student film."

"How do you get into that? I mean after you

have your degree what do you do to get jobs like that?" Josh is sipping on a coffee. "Well if you were doing music for tv or commercials you would work through ad agencies. But for films the director really just picks someone they know. For instance the guy who does Wes Anderson films is from Divo. It's a lot of luck really. Maybe a director will see a band they like and ask them. Or a lot of times it is just who you know. I really want to work with whoever I can and start establishing connections."

People continually pass the window, walking dogs or hurrying to the market. "The shadows are really beautiful" We both agree. A man with a white dog walks in the door. The dog sniffs at Josh's pant leg. "How do you write music? I know that is a hard, sometimes unanswerable question, but what is your process usually?"

"I just start with improvising. It depends on what I am writing for but I will play around until I find something I like. Using synthesized sounds and my computer a lot has changed the way I write. I used to stick to piano or guitar." "What about Houghton?" I ask. "Well Houghton gave me a good classical foundation." Josh replies slowly, his eyes looking from his mug to outside to the dog. "I don't like to have to think about what I'm doing though. And Houghton was very structured. I try to write

using intuition and improvisation rather than thinking too analytically. The jazz band helped a lot with establishing that. It made me more confident in my writing."

"So you do not like quite as much structure. How does the graduate program you are in compare to Houghton's program?"

"Houghton is much more structured than this school. Which is not necessarily a bad thing, it just, at times, became a hindrance to me. The program I am in now is completely unstructured which is a bit extreme. So they are complete opposites. I have learned a lot about world music, technology and popular music from this program. But I learned a lot classically and a lot from the jazz band at Houghton. They take very different approaches."

Returning his mug we step back out into the cool, crisp air and begin to walk back through the busy market and all its smells of fish and fire. Soon he will return to New York and making music for his friend's films. As we part we move away from the Dean Martin and the flaming metal trashcans and I will be stuck with the face of Frank Rizzo in my head, towering over the street, looking down at the shops and us sipping in that coffeeshop. ♦

-Adam Sukhia
Columnist

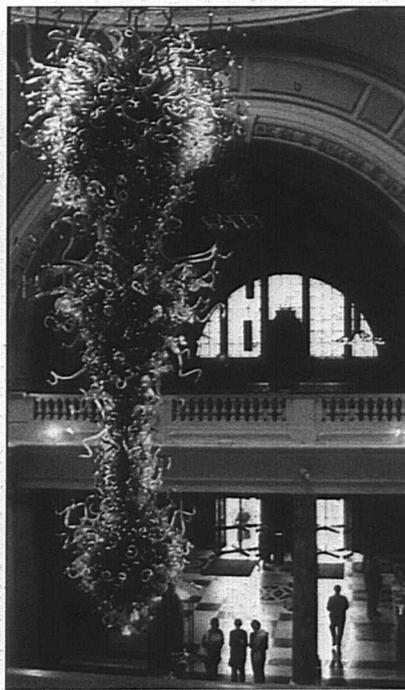


Growing Glass: Dale Chihuly, Pirate of Tacoma

I remember my first experience with a Chihuly piece. It's an experience that you'll never forget, because his works are colossal, and at the same time filled with intricacies, twists and bends that beg you to return to them. I was a lowly freshman honors student, kicking around London from gallery to museum, head stuck in a book. Walking into the atrium of the Victoria & Albert museum, amidst the Grecian columns and austere marble, there dangle this THING from the ceiling that was so huge and organically obscene that I knew it must be the work of an American artist. It resembles a giant phallus dangling from the dome ceiling. Hundreds of individual twisted green glass pieces radiated from the form that was illuminated by the midday sun. Chihuly had left his mark and I would never be the same.

The man is impressive, a real renaissance artist. He wears an eyepatch, has a crazy white-fro, and waddles like Brahms about his enormous studio, shouting directions to the hundred of artists in his guild and smashing unacceptable pieces on the ground. Over break, I was able to visit the museum that the city of Tacoma, Washington has erected in his honor

(cont'd on p.6...)



Invisible Children

Invisible Children - you have seen it on posters and t-shirts, but what and who are the Invisible Children? Invisible Children is an organization that was started by Jason Russell, Bobby Bailey, and Laren Poole. These three college-age filmmakers made a documentary on the war going on in Northern Uganda. The war has been ongoing for about 20 years and is being fought between the Ugandan government and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), a guerilla rebel army. Over the years, the LRA has suffered many casualties and thus are beginning to be crippled by a serious lack of soldiers. In response they have resorted to abducting children to fight the war. The LRA targets children between the ages of five and fourteen, because they are the most impressionable and moldable. When the children are abducted they are taken into the forest, children are killed in front of other children, and some are even forced to kill. Essentially, the LRA "brainwashes" these children into believing that fighting is the right thing to do. Those abducted can not escape because they are told they will be killed.

To avoid abduction, children in northern Uganda walk every night from their villages to the city of Gulu to sleep. They walk to the city because it is more heavily guarded than the villages and therefore the LRA can not penetrate the city as easily. The children sleep on the floors of hospitals, under the verandas of bus stops, or anywhere they can find shelter. Many of the children have nothing more than the clothes on their backs. Some eat only one meal a day. One child told filmmakers that he would rather be killed than continue to live as he does now. Schooling is too expensive for most of the children and many have no families to support them.

When the three filmmakers saw this grave situation they knew they must respond in some way. Thus, the creation of the Invisible

Children organization. The organization's goal is to help the children of northern Uganda obtain a better life, and ultimately end the war. To achieve their goal, Invisible Children is asking for our generations help. They need the youth of America to step up and give support to end this war.

The Invisible Children benefit concert, held at Houghton College on Saturday April 22, was organized to raise awareness and support for Invisible Children. Houghton students volunteered to play at the concert and representatives from the Invisible Children organization presented a video presentation and answered questions about the war and the organization. About 130 students attended the event and an estimated \$175 was raised in donations. The representatives from Invisible Children also sold t-shirts, DVDs, and bracelets to support the peace effort.

You may be asking yourself; "What can I do?", and there are actually a number of options. First, you can donate money to the organization that is being used to support schooling for children. Second, occurring this Saturday all across the world, is the Global Night Commute (GNC). People in many countries are leaving their homes and walking to parks in their cities to spend the night symbolically representing the Ugandan children. This is to raise awareness of the situation in northern Uganda, calling the government's attention to the global demand that this war - and its suffering - come to an end. If you would like donate to the Invisible Children or join the GNC (events are being held in both Rochester and Buffalo) visit www.invisiblechildren.com. We can end this war, but we need your help. ♦

*-Jordan Smith
Guest Writer*

The Enlightenment Project, Revisited

The Enlightenment is frequently depicted as a period of mounting skepticism: toward traditional theological claims, in the first instance, but also toward substantive metaphysical claims of all kinds. Kant is widely regarded as a paradigmatic figure, in both respects: an opponent of substantive metaphysical reflection in general and of theological reflection in particular. A number of scholars, though, have begun to question this depiction of Kant, and of the Enlightenment as a whole.

Interpreters such as Jeremy Waldron and Nicholas Wolterstorff have worked to exhibit the theological sources of John Locke's thought, while Kant scholars such as keynote

speakers Karl Ameriks and John Hare have argued that Kant stands in greater continuity with the Leibnizian tradition of theologically inflected metaphysics, and with the Christian philosophical and theological tradition, than is commonly supposed.

The Society of Christian Philosophers, together with a working group of Kant scholars, have organized a conference on the roots, nature, and legacy of the Enlightenment. The conference will feature a series of papers by members of the working group, but also a diverse array of others on topics in and around the Enlightenment. ♦

*-Dr. Benjamin Lipscomb
Professor of Philosophy*

**To my past, present & future
(Mayterm!) students,**

I have often said that after one communes with and listens to God, one has a responsibility to respond with honesty and integrity. As such, I have felt led to pursue other opportunities elsewhere in Central NY. It has been an absolute privilege to have gotten to know you all and I hope that I have been of service to you during my tenure here at Houghton College. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your lives and forgiving my humor (or lack thereof) and my inadequacies. Thank you for allowing me to learn so much about myself. A favorite blessing of mine that I pray for you is as follows...

*May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His
hand.*

Until we meet again...
Paul "Math On" Watson II

(Growing Glass, cont'd from p.5)

(the Tacoma Museum of Glass also displays a variety of new talent in all mediums of art). The museum is connected by a walking bridge to the historic Union Station, filled with Chihuly's pieces. Tacoma truly is his town, and the best place to go to see his work (and to get a GREAT salmon burrito at Taco Del Mar).

The presence of spring also inspired me to think of Chihuly. He did an installation at the Royal Botanical Gardens in England that is truly amazing. The form of the glass sculptures mimics the organic curves and colors of the plants that surround them. Then there are the pieces that look organic, but resemble something that comes from Wonka-land. Chihuly's imagination is so inventive and playful, it lifts the spirit and makes your heart happy. His work is so indicative of the West Coast: the colors are bright, the forms are organic, and the imagination seemingly bottomless. If you are the kind of person who thinks that contemporary art is depressing, go to www.chihuly.com for a look at an artist who will change your way of seeing. ♦

*-Stephen Sorensen
Columnist*



In Response...

As a fan of Tolkein's *The Lord of the Rings*, it is my duty to inform the Star of some grave spelling and grammatical errors in the column of the Asteroid on the LOTR Cult. To begin, the language mentioned should be "Elvish" not "Elfish". Tolkein must have been rolling over in his grave when that was printed, as he has made it very clear in various ways that "Elvish" depicts little cute characters and "Elvish" depicts the strong and wise characters Tolkein intended. Next, the "one Ring" mentioned must not be very important unless you meant the "One Ring." Yes, capitalization is that important. There were many rings (the Three, the Five, and the Nine) and all were capitalized. The One Ring is even more important, seeing as it ruled all the others. I'll give you 50% credit on that, tho... you managed to capitalize the word "Ring". Finally, who is "Gandolf the Grey"? It should be "Gandalf". This is just an outright spelling error. If you are going to do an article on LOTR Cults, you had better spell things correctly, or we will hunt you down... mercilessly.

--Aragorn

(*Sexual Harassment, cont'd from p. 3...*)

hearing sexual innuendo, comments, or humor were small, however men were more likely to report said experiences. Students also reported these events more often than faculty or staff and administration. Women reported being stared at inappropriately more often than men, while men reported being exposed to mooning, streaking and sexual displays or pictures more often than did women. Classes and faculty/staff/administrators showed little differences in most behavior measures, although faculty and staff were less likely to report being mooned or stared at. Well there's a relief.

CHPP's goal in sending out this survey was threefold. First, to ascertain the level to which sexual harassment on campus is considered a problem or issue by its members; second to raise awareness of such issues among the campus community; and third, to increase awareness of Houghton College's official policy on sexual harassment. An excerpt from the Houghton College Policy on Sexual Harassment gives the following definition for harassment; "unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or physical contact of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when... such conduct has the purpose or effect

of unreasonably interfering with an individual's employment or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or educational environment." For a complete copy of this policy, see the self-help and resources section of the Counseling Center home page (<http://campus.houghton.edu/orgs/counseling/intex.htm>.) If you have a question or concern involving sexual harassment, contact the Houghton College Sexual harassment Officer, Cindy Lastoria, at extension 5240. For a complete copy of this data email, Dr. Michael Lastoria, Director of Counseling Services and the Chair of CHPP. ♦

-Nickole Crandall
Guest Writer

Houghton Abroad

Latin American Studies Program



Taken by senior Laura Mann, this picture shows a street in the town Chichicastenango, Guatemala. The Latin American Studies Program (LASP), offered by the CCCU, is based in Costa Rica, but students also travel to Nicaragua, Cuba, and Guatemala.

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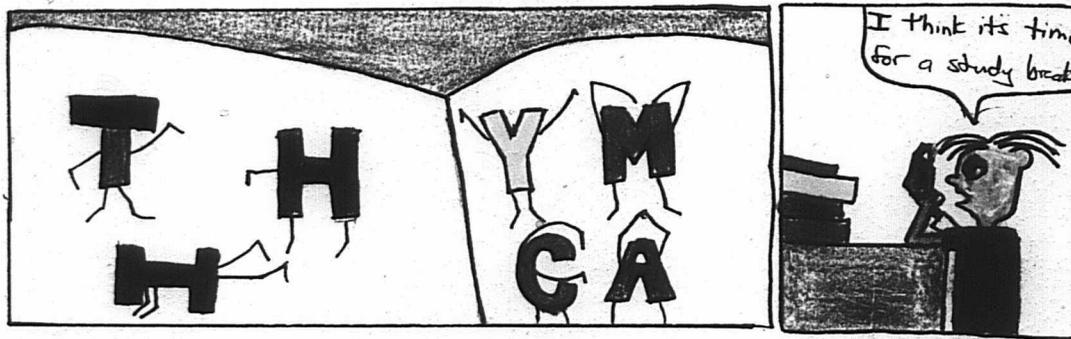
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The Camp Wrath Songbook



Joe and Ducko

by Joseph Freeman



The Life and Times of Fitzgerald and Monalu

by Lizbeth Allen

