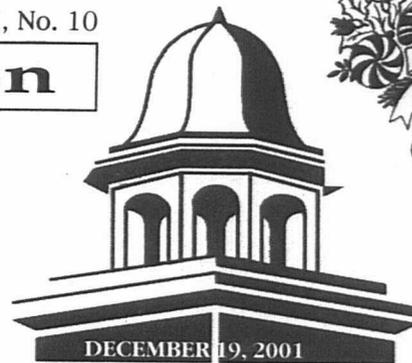


The Houghton STAR



THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF HOUGHTON COLLEGE

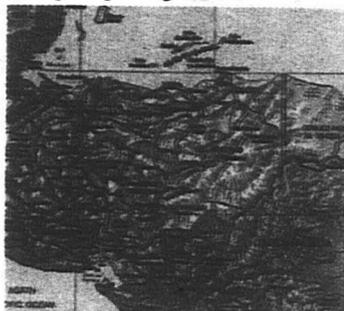
Kettlekamp to lead students to Honduras

by Susanna Rosenbaum
Staff writer

What could be a better way to kick off the New Year than driving a bus to Honduras? While most of us are sleeping in the morning of January 1st after a late night New Year's Eve celebration, 22 Houghton students will be en route back to campus where they will meet up before heading to Central America. The group's destination is the Bay Island of Utila, off the north coast of Honduras, where they will be working with World Hope International to put windows, doors and a roof on a teacher's dormitory for a Christian elementary school. Some students will also be working with local school children to keep them away from the construction site.

While the twelve students in the work group will fly out of Toronto and arrive in Honduras via Miami, another group of ten will be driving a donated school bus down

through the U.S., Mexico, and Guatemala to Honduras where they will give the bus to the Christian Evangelical Two Year College in Tegucigalpa, which just opened this fall. The group anticipates about a week of driving. The group is splitting the costs of the



bus among themselves so that they can give it to the college for free. (The alternative was to send it via ship, which can cost up to \$4,000.)

The bus group estimates a 7-8 day road trip, as they anticipate spending an entire day crossing the Mexican border at Brownsville, TX, and will only be able to drive

during daylight hours thereafter (to avoid animals and potholes). Once they have delivered the bus, they will then join the work group on the Island and all students will return to the U.S. on January 13th. Professor Thom Kettelkamp, who is heading up this expedition, has been going to Honduras every year since he lived there during his three-year term with the Peace Corps in the 1970's. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Honduras where he initiated an exchange program ten years ago. Each Mayterm, Kettelkamp takes a group from Houghton to Honduras and in August, Honduran students come to Houghton. All the slots for the 2002 Honduras Mayterm trip are full, students interested in going to Honduras should consider going on the follow-up missions trip over spring break next semester. For details, email Thom Kettelkamp. And remember to pray that the Houghton students have a safe trip in January!

Lacrosse club disbanded

by Toby Cushing
Guest writer

The Houghton College Lacrosse Club will not be an active club for the 2001-2002 school year. The Lacrosse Club is still an SGA-recognized club, however, they have had their funding and their equipment taken away by the SGA and been told not to play or practice lacrosse as a club by the Committee of Intercollegiate Athletics (CIA). These sanctions have been put upon the Lacrosse Club as a consequence to their actions this semester.

The Lacrosse Club was first formed in the 1999-2000 school year and has been steadily working its way to becoming college sport. This year's hindrance of their progress has been caused by the failure of the Lacrosse Club to meet the requirements given to them by the CIA on October 16th, 2001. On October 30th the CIA sent an email to the Lacrosse Club telling them that to play lacrosse they would need have: an insurance policy, a college approved coach, an acceptable budget and training or medical supervision during practices and games. Other athletic clubs need to have a CIA approved coach and budget. The lacrosse club is unique because it is a contact sport, therefore the CIA required that the club have an insurance policy and some sort of trainer or medical supervision during practices and games. To the knowledge of the CIA the lacrosse team had an insurance policy, but as of the deadline of their requirements, November 13th, they did not meet the other requirements. The CIA was not

Continued on page 8

New face on campus: Toyota Prius

by Gregory On
Staff writer

Houghton College continues to expand its fleet of school vehicles by adding another trendy, eye-catching car. Joining the yellow VW Beetle and the burgundy Chrysler PT Cruiser is a silver Toyota Prius. The Prius is different from any other car in that it is the first fully functional hybrid engine. It combines an efficient gas engine with an advanced electrical motor, giving it enhanced miles per gallon. In fact, it gets 52 mpg in the city, 45 mpg on a highway, and 48 mpg combined. It is also environment-friendly, it runs well over 75 percent cleaner than the standard for normal cars.

Finally, all this comes at a manufacturer's suggested retail price of just \$20,450. This eye-

catching and environment-friendly car is sure to bring even more recognition to Houghton College.

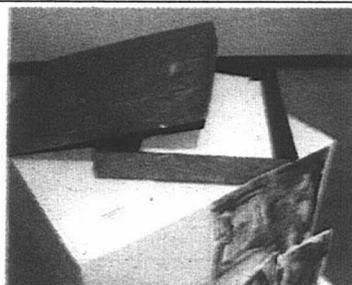


photo by Brian Quinones

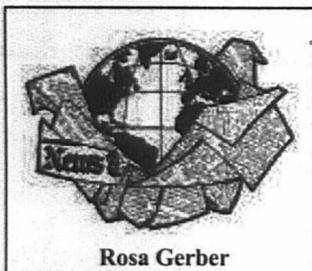


Merry Christmas!
from your Houghton Star

more Christmas messages on pages 4 and 5



Works by Rhett and
Murphy in
the art gallery
page 7



Rosa Gerber

War on terror update

U.S. and Afghan Alliance forces, challenged by cold weather, continued their attack and search for bin Laden over the Tora Bora mountainous area over that past week, while the public offers the U.S. government mixed reviews of the tape released to incriminate Osama bin Laden. The Pentagon estimated the U.S. planes dropped close to 200 or more bombs over the region each day of the last week, intensifying their battle to break al Qaeda fighters. Backed by U.S. units, the Alliance forces issued two ultimatums offering al Qaeda members the chance to surrender without further violence, yet both deadlines passed without much response. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld announced 50 al Qaeda fighters surrendered last weekend, giving an extra boost to Alliance forces. Although officials reported some discussion of surrender among al Qaeda fighters and the possibility of their running low on ammunition, most Chechen fighters vowed their loyalty to Osama bin Laden and continued fighting to the death.

Afghan forces and continually more U.S. military units persisted in their searching of the Tora Bora caves and tunnels. Some reports stated that officials believe the Alliance forces have bin Laden and his al Qaeda members surrounded,

but intelligence statements remained unclear. Gen. Tommy Franks, the U.S. commander of the war, said they did not know bin Laden's location and acknowledged the possibility of bin Laden's escape to another country.

On Thursday, the Pentagon released a videotape as evidence of Osama bin Laden's involvement in



the September 11 attacks on the United States. The tape confirmed bin Laden's prior knowledge of the assault. Bin Laden says in the tape that the destruction reached beyond his hopes and "benefited Islam greatly." After receiving strong reactions and accusations from around the world, the U.S. government denied any tampering or editing of the tape in order to incriminate bin Laden. Many people believed the videotape verified bin Laden's guilt, while others argued the U.S. was merely attempting to provide some sort of evidence for bin Laden's involvement and to justify their war in Afghanistan.

U.S. blocks assets for two Islamic charity groups

The Office of Foreign Asset Control, a division of the U.S. Treasury Department, ordered the assets of two Islamic charity

organizations suspected of helping terrorism to be frozen, leading law enforcement officials to raid the organizations, one in Illinois and one in New Jersey. All records and resources of the Benevolence International Foundation and the Global Relief Foundation have been blocked, as Customs and IRS agents investigate their financial records. In response, the Global Relief Foundation released a statement fervently denying any connection to terrorism and announcing their cooperation with the search.

Israeli crackdown on terrorism

causes more deaths

Palestinians continued to protest the Israeli army's invasion into towns in Gaza and the West Bank as four Palestinians were killed and approximately 50 more wounded in Israel's attempt to end terrorist activities. The troops blocked off parts of towns, searching for evidence and arresting those suspected of involvement in terrorist plots. Israeli warplanes also attacked the area for several nights in retaliation of the suicide bombings two weeks ago and the murder of 10 Orthodox Jews on Wednesday.

Good tidings

by Joshua Ziefle
Columnist

There's nothing like a holidays to bring out the traditionalist in all of us. For the Christian, it is Christmas that displays this tendency in full force—as a 2000 year old remembrance, it has had both the time and importance necessary to germinate into a central part of the Church calendar. In my life, thinking about the holiday brings to mind numerous images close to my heart: going to church with my family on Christmas Eve, waking up early the next morning to descend upon gifts surrounding the Christmas tree, driving to my grandmother's house to open still more presents and engage in a massive Christmas feast, and eventually proceeding back home to spend my time playing with the vast array of toys and gadgets received (except socks...I mean, what kind of a gift are they, anyway?). All of these activities are repeated year after year, but each time they carry with them a newness and excitement that make them unforgettable. And though I've gotten a little older, the toys have grown fewer and more expensive (except the socks), and my enthusiasm for waking up on Christmas morning is markedly diminished, these traditions remain a concrete part of what makes the holiday special for me.

Ultimately, there is one tradition that stands above all others: every Christmas Eve the whole family sat down and my father would read the Christmas story from the second chapter of Luke. Though this type of act might seem the kind with the potential to become rote and devoid of meaning, it is something that has both stayed with me and resonates increasingly the older I grow. The King James was always the preferred text, and despite its sometimes dense language, it rings with a poetry that, for me, makes the Christmas story come to life. "And it came to pass in those days,



that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed..." With this small phrase begins a story that filled my childhood mind with images of angels, shepherds, a roomless inn, and a small child born in a manger. And though nuanced with a combination of life experience and greater theological understanding, these same images occupy my thoughts with wonder today.

As important as my personal remembrances may be, I readily admit we all have our own specific and meaningful traditions. I tend to think that the real force of these Christmas habits is not necessarily in their form, but the ultimate meaning they have for us in light of the Advent of Christ. How they reflect the crux of the Christmas gospel is a thing to be measured in as many ways as there are to measure love. For what better exhibits "peace, goodwill toward men" than friends getting together for Christmas parties, carolers traveling throughout our neighborhoods singing both "Frosty and Snowman" and "O Come All Ye Faithful," and gatherings with family and fellow followers of Christ? So let us rejoice in the fact that Christ has come, breaking the power of sin and ending the alienation between both God and man and man and his neighbor. For it is in this that we can truly see the smallest bit of what Christ has done for us—the same "good tidings of great joy" which were proclaimed unto certain shepherds so long ago.

The Houghton STAR

Bethany Schwartz
- editor in chief -

Rosa Gerber
- managing editor -

Richard Mehring
- design editor -

Beth Freeman
- business editor -

Bruce Brenneman
- advisor -

Contributing Writers:

Ruth Anderson
Jeremy Bell
Toby Cushing
Seth Edwards
Lloyd Fleming
Roger Houck
Justin Howard

Melanie Marciano
Greg On
Dan Reitz
Regina Rinaldo
Susanna Rosenbaum
Stephanie Smith
Joshua Zeifle

Photography:
Brian Quinones

Special Contributors:
Andrew Schrock
Greg Tedesco

The Houghton Star encourages the free interchange of opinions and suggestions in the form of letters, articles, guest editorials, and advertisements. Students are especially urged to participate. We also welcome the viewpoints of faculty, staff, townspeople, alumni, and all others having an interest in the Houghton community. Ideas printed herein do not, however, necessarily reflect the view of the editorial staff, or of Houghton College. The staff reserves the right to omit or reject any contributions for reasons of professional decorum. Letters (signed) should be sent to:

The Star, CPO Box 378
(716) 567-9210
star@houghton.edu

Trends at Houghton: did you get enough sleep last night?

by **Jeremy Bell, Dan Reitz, Lloyd Flemming, and Roger Houck**
Guest writers

It seems that wherever we go on campus someone is complaining, or boasting, of their lack of sleep. "I've slept seven hours in the last 4 days" I heard one student say to a friend. I asked a freshman, who always appeared to be on the verge of sleep, how many hours she usually slept per night. She replied, "Well, I don't really sleep at night. I just take periodic naps when I can." Seniors around campus are almost as likely to complain about lack of sleep, but we hypothesized that after four years as a student, Houghton's seniors would have

more consistent and more reasonable sleeping patterns than freshmen do. We surveyed a group of 30 freshmen and 30 seniors asking about their sleep habits. It turned out that the seniors we questioned tended to go to bed earlier and sleep longer than the freshman. We also wanted to see if gender affected the average hours slept. Among freshman there was no noticeable difference in sleeping patterns. But senior women definitely out-slumbered senior men.

The patterns observed in this survey may be affected by the living options of the students. It is harder to get to bed early on a busy floor in the dorms than it is to fall asleep in a CLO or a townhouse.

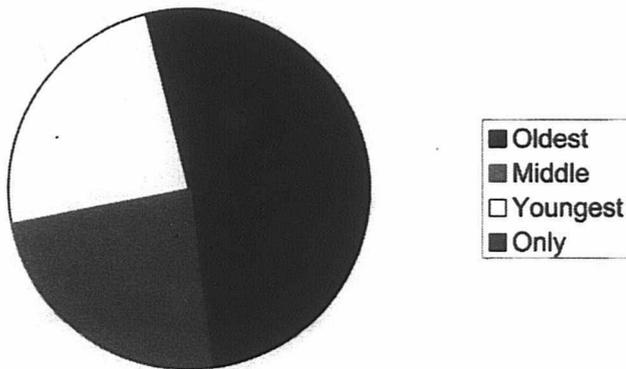
Also many seniors have said that during their first year at Houghton they were overwhelmed by the freedom that they had as opposed to living at home with their parents. Over their four years at Houghton many of these students slowly brought their sleeping schedule back to the way it was when they were going to high school.

It is hard to pinpoint all the reasons why seniors might get more sleep than freshmen, but it is important to know that keeping consistent and reasonable sleeping hours can do a lot of good for the body, mind, and soul. Your immune system is stronger when your body is not exhausted. Your mind operates more clearly after a week of consistent sleeping giving

you an edge on your classes. And the routine of consistent sleep can reduce the level of stress during a semester. These benefits of sleep can't be gained by sleeping 23 hours on Saturday either. Such practices can sometimes exacerbate one's poor sleeping habits. It would be interesting to find out whether or not Houghton student would become happier, stronger, and more scholarly if we all modeled our sleeping habits after our senior women. It was Benjamin Franklin who reminded us in Poor Richard's Almanac that "Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise."

Are you child 1, 2 or 3?

Freshmen Birth Order



by **Ruth Anderson and Tamilee Weston**
Guest writers

How many children are in your family? Are you the oldest, youngest, or middle child? How would you describe your personality? Are you responsible

and ambitious, or do you tend to be lazy and carefree?

Psychologists believe that sibling birth order can affect your character traits, maturity, and the general attitudes you bring to your relationships. Studies by Ansbacher and Ansbacher in 1956 and by Hoopes and Harper in 1987 found common characteristics among the oldest siblings in a family. According to these researchers, eldest children tend to be overachievers, to function within the rules, and be analytical and rational. As a result, they tend to be more productive and earn higher grade-point averages than later-born children.

Knowing this, we pursued the idea that oldest students would be drawn to an institution such as Houghton College, which places an emphasis on academics, learning, productivity, and achievement (the same values typically held by an

oldest child). We hypothesized that a majority of Houghton College students are the oldest siblings in their respective families. To test this idea, we conducted a simple random sample of this year's freshmen class. Of the first year students sampled, 48% were oldest siblings in their families, 24% were middle children, another 24% were the youngest members of their families, and just 4% were only children. Based on statistical analysis, expected values would indicate that 31% would be oldest children, 40% would be middle siblings, 29% would be youngest members of the families, and only 1% would be only children.

So what do you think? Does Houghton, in fact, draw a particular type of student? According to our test results, a correlation between Houghton College students and oldest siblings does indeed exist.

ACO hosts Christmas party

by **Melanie Marciano**
Staff writer

Allegeny County Outreach is a program that encourages students to get involved with the community and mentor children by becoming a big brother or sister. The students get together with the children of the county about twice a month, one of those times being a group activity with a Bible study. Other activities

include games, crafts, or a trip to a bowling alley with all the sisters and brothers.

The Christmas party was

on the 8th of this month. This year there are more students than kids, but the turnout is usually the opposite. Still more kids are joining, however. This is a wonderful opportunity for college students to not only be involved in



photo by Neil Cowley

a child's life, but to share the beauty of God with others. If you want to get involved contact Rochelle Hershey or Megan Mann.

Ice rink approved for quad

by **Joshua Ziefle**
Staff writer

There are sticks on the quad. And I bet you're wondering why. Well, the unofficial rumor from Jeff Spear is that they're staking out a Jiffy Lube, but I'm here to tell you the real story. It all started a long time ago during our SGA Retreat (in August). You see, I had heard that in previous years there was an ice skating rink on the quad during the winter. As such, I decided that I should mention it to the Cabinet. We discussed it briefly and I maintained interest in the idea, but as the events of the semester began to overtake us, the rink seemed to become less and less of a viable option. That was, of course, until a certain Dan Kilpatrick approached me with the very same idea I had in late August. Dan put together a viable package, and it was approved by the Senate for funding. Just this last week, the Student Projects Fund Committee gave final

approval for the rink. So you guessed it ladies and gentlemen-an ice skating rink on the quad!

Hopefully, if we can garner the assistance required from students and the weather cooperates, we'll set up the rink at the beginning of next semester. I would encourage all who are interested in taking part in needed maintenance to talk to Dan Kilpatrick. The Maintenance Department can provide some help during the big snows, but it will take volunteers like you to help make the rink a success. From the triple-lutz to the hat trick, the possibilities are wide open (I've even heard of an American-Canadian hockey game that used to take place during Winter Weekend...hmmm). So during the holidays, keep all of this in mind and don't forget to bring a pair of skates back with you in January. See you on the ice!

Happy Holidays

I wish to thank the unknown individual who has been so generous to me this semester. It was a true blessing to be so encouraged. In Christ, Teresa Nagel

Have a wonderful Christmas in Africa. Laurin! I'll miss you next semester. -Stoos

LLAMA BOMBAS and IST SHEN: (Thanks for your lovin' and all the good times. -Sharon

Hey Porkchop - Hope you have the best x-mas. Much love, Sarah and Matthew

Forth floor Lambein, I love you all!! Have a Merry Christmas and a wonderful time at home!!!! Love- Lydia Trowbridge

"And we thank you, O Lord of Hosts, for this... smorgasbord that You have so aptly laid at our table."

Some holiday advice: Don't sharpen candy canes into a point by sucking on them extensively; that can be dangerous. -Laura

hottie roommate ~ thanks for everything, especially the late night chats and paper writing! i love you! -rosa ps - randall 2 rocks!!

Dearest Peachy, have a lovely Christmas holiday and a much needed break! -Yours until I'm king, Danny

Happy Special Ben day to Special Ben

Kar - my gangsta twin...keepin' it real yoi - V

Mary ~ good luck!! I will miss you sweetie. Love Victoria

Little Niebs - Have the best x-mas ever especially with your man. Love ya, Sarah and Matt

To Sara: a lifetime supply of Almond Sunset - Susanna

Jen Maier smells like pretty, Captain Dominican kicks major booty! Time for a night run?

Hey Hunn just wanted to wish you a merry Christmas! I'm so grateful to spend it with you. -L Ty - I promise, your present will get done! Have fun in England. I'll miss you.

Randall 5 girls - At least we give the plumbers job security. -Bee

Llama-ladies, You are such amazing blessings. I'm thankful for our family that's formed. Thanks for laughs, confusion, & your love. Love - LLamamama <->

"Hey Ceej - have an AWESOME Christmas!!! I'm sure glad you're my roommate, wouldn't have it any other way pal!!!"

Elizabeth, thank you for being my friend from Fred

5W2B! You guys are the best! I love you!! -Mar

Rinken, I'll never forget how goofy you looked after your haircut.

My wonderful and beautiful girls! I thank God everyday for all of you. You're a treasure in my life. Merry Christmas! - Andrea Hendy

Tricia: thanks for [attempted] star gazing, cookies, walks, fun emails. Merry Christmas! -Susanna

I'll miss you roommate! Merry Christmas, Marc Love, Jamie

Tommy - is it February yet?

To everyone who has been involved in bringing Shakespeare to the Houghton stage: You are awesome! HO, HO, AARRGGH! - JuleAnn Wakeman

Merry Christmas and I love you, my brothers and sisters in Christ. I will miss you all next semester. -Kevin Ellwood

I love you Jaynie, you're the best. - Chris

To the girls of Randall 2 - miss groups for your "dinner theater" parties! Thanks and merry Christmas! -Susanna

I love you my Arizona State Roomie

A Merry Christmas to all the wonderful people who still put up with me! You know who you are... BHR

Jennifer Stanley - one last little message for my beautiful secret sister - MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Roomie - I love you! Merry Christmas - L

To Mel and Steph, the best homies ever! Love you guys. Kooks for Christ 4 eva! Love, Ange

My dearest Jessica - "All I want for Christmas is you!"

Lis and Aaron - Have a great Christmas. We'll be missing you...

VOX voice

expressions of a community of faith



Light of the world

Geese are still flying home for the winter, even though it's December. I know because I saw some yesterday. It's amazing to me that the weather has been so warm that they haven't even gone south yet. It's been so warm that it doesn't even feel like Christmas to me, a Buffalonian who is used to three feet of snow by November. It certainly doesn't feel like finals week...I keep thinking that it should still be October and I should be in the first few weeks of classes. But here we are, and soon we will go. Home. And I'm certainly looking forward to it.

I've been home once or twice this semester, most recently to help my family pick out our Christmas tree. Living only half an hour away, it's pretty easy for my parents to drive down and pick my sister and me up for the afternoon. We've been picking out and cutting down Christmas trees together for as long as I can remember, so I really didn't mind going. It feels like Christmas to me. Even though it usually takes us at least an hour to agree on a tree (and there are only four of us), this year we had one picked out and chopped down before we even had a chance to get cold. Or maybe that was just because it was 58 degrees; I'm not sure. But we picked one out pretty quickly. Driving home, the lovely pine smell wafted throughout the van, making me sort of glad that I had decided to skip the pancake breakfast that I was being treated to and come pick out a tree instead. Sort of.

The ornament-hanging is

Letter to the editor: an inappropriate photograph?

Dear editor,

The December 12 issue of the Star featured an article entitled "The Unfading Beauty: A Message to Women." While I could not have agreed more with the text of the article itself, the decision to include a picture of a scantily clothed woman in a seductive pose was confusing to me. I was not offended by the nature of the picture; I simply do not understand why a picture that glorifies external

usually almost just as good as the cutting-down and fresh pine smell, except when my mom tries to hang the paper wreaths and Santa Claus ornaments that Emily and I made in elementary school. This year my mom found some extra lights for Em and me to use to decorate our townhouse; most of them worked, some didn't. Fortunately Em had a box of brand new light bulbs, but we didn't have enough patience to sit and test out every light on the string to see if it was the burnt out bulb. So we only tried a few. In her effort to fix the strings of lights, Em actually found one of the offending bulbs. She pushed the new bulb into the connection and —WHAM! on they came. It was obvious which was the brand new bulb; it glowed much brighter than any of the others on the string.

It's finals week and I'm feeling pretty frazzled. Right now I feel like one of those half-lit bulbs that has been hanging on the string for years, clinging to life. What I need is a brand new bulb in me that will cause me to burn brightly and joyfully. Hopefully this break will do just that for me and for you, but I believe that God has a part to play as well. He must restore me and shine through me. As I head home for the holidays, I pray that He will rekindle the fire that burns in my soul, making me seek after and long for Him in a new way. A new light is visible a long way off, even as the wise men discovered as they traveled to Bethlehem and Jesus' manger. Let us pray that God will use the light of His Son to shine in us and through us as we go home for Christmas, yet even more so when we come back for a new semester.

appearances would accompany an article that speaks against this very issue. While it may grab the reader's attention, it only serves to perpetuate the very cycle that the author opposes. The issue addressed by the author is one that is worth addressing; I would just like to suggest that there is a more effective way to do so.

Sincerely,
Andrew Schrock

Letter to the editor: speaking out about Harry Potter

Dear Editor,

I am writing in regards to the recent article in the Star concerning the new craze over the Harry Potter books and the newly released movie. I must admit that I am both disturbed and appalled over the reactions to the movie given by my Christian brothers and sisters.

It has been made abundantly clear, since the books reached the retail shelves that this series was about "wizardry". There is another name for wizardry. It's called Witchcraft. Oh you say, but it is just entertainment... a good fantasy story for children. Well allow me to recap the story for those who are not completely on the up and up concerning the story line. This story is basically about a cute young boy who goes to witchcraft school to learn how to do witchcraft better. It seems as if there are both good and bad people in this story. So we can logically assume that Harry is a good witch. So if he is a witch and he is good the message is made abundantly clear... that... if you have the GIFT, you can be a good witch and you can get better if you go to witchcraft school.

There is just one little problem. The "Good Book" (the living word of the most high God) states different... There is no such thing as a Good witch. Let the Lord speak for Himself... "When you enter the land the Lord your God is giving you, do not learn to IMITATE the detestable ways of the nations there. Let no one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who practices DIVINATION or SORCERY, interprets omens, engages in WITCHCRAFT or CASTS SPELLS, or who is a medium or a spiritist or who consults the dead. Anyone who does these things is DETESTABLE TO THE LORD, and because of these DESTESTABLE PRACTICES the Lord your God will drive out those nations before you. YOU MUST BE BLAMELESS BEFORE THE LORD YOUR GOD. (Duet. 18:9-

13) This is just my opinion, but it seems as if God has some problems with the practice of witchcraft. So couldn't we logically presume that the Lord wouldn't think it GODLY or HOLY to glorify kids who do just that? Or even support Hollywood or the author of the series who tries to IMITATE witchcraft? I am dumbfounded that some, would see this junk as good literature or even, God help us, "entertaining"?!! What some in the Church would view as "entertaining" is the same satanic garbage that is luring thousands of America's children into the dark abyss of the occult. Shame on those who are in the church and support this filth spawned from Lucifer himself!

Is it really okay for us as believers to be entertained by such IMITATIONS of evil? Does this sound like something we, as followers of Christ should be entertaining ourselves with or even supporting the slightest bit? Could the Lord make it any clearer to us? Witchcraft is detestable in His eyes; in fact it is an abomination.

Allow me to make a suggestion to my brothers and sisters, instead of defiling ourselves by reading and filling our minds with books that glorify abominations, lets instead commune with our loving Heavenly Father and immerse ourselves in the living scriptures. Let us spend more time renewing our minds, not defiling them. "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - His good, pleasing and perfect will." (Romans 12:2) "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent and praiseworthy - think about such things." (Phil. 4:8)

In Christ,
Justin Howard

QUIP OF THE WEEK

"Are you a dependent or an independent Clause?"

—Dr. Charles Bressler, commenting on a student's Santa Claus hal-

send your quotes to star@houghton.edu or CPO box 387

arthouse

A look at the intersection of faith and art

Works by art professors displayed in Ortlip gallery

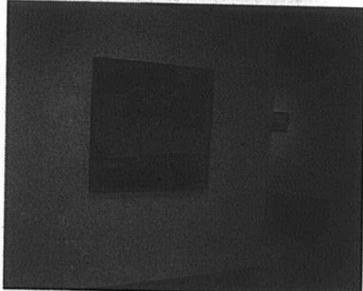


photo by Brian Quinones

by **Stephanie Smith**
and **Regina Rinaldo**
Staff writers

It was a sunny Sunday afternoon, Steph and I were anxious to make our way to the Ortlip Gallery in preparation for this article. It's always exciting to see what is on display at the gallery, and a new exhibit, featuring Houghton's own art faculty, John Rhett and Scot Bennett, was one both Steph and I were interested in seeing. I arrived early and found myself picking up the artist's exhibit explanation packet to give myself some background information before I viewed the art. As I began to read their statements, I realized my inadequacy of art knowledge, and wasn't sure if I would be able to sufficiently interpret their work.

Steph arrived while I was reading Scot Bennett's explanation, which provided me with enriching and thought-provoking information. As I read John Rhett's artist statement, Steph got caught up on Scot Bennett's. After we both finished reading the artist's philosophies behind this exhibit, we made our way to the art itself. Starting with John Rhett's colorful oil landscape paintings, we were fascinated with how photograph-like the paintings appeared. We found ourselves laughing with amazement when we would take a few steps back to view the paintings in this manner. We were both silent except for a few, "Hmm's" and "Wow's." I was trying to keep in mind some of the phrases Rhett wrote in the statement as I walked from painting to painting. His idea of "keeping a simple mind" through the use of paint application short of being "childlike," was apparent. Such paintings as "View from Centerville, Cloudy" and "View from Centerville, Clear"

embodied the concept of simplicity as seen in the reality of nature and the landscape surrounding us. Rhett expressed Franz Kline's idea of "where you see blue put blue, where you see green put green." We moved on to Scot Bennett,

contemplation." His main goal in these pieces is to come "to a place where finite meets the infinite and where the intimate and ineffable interact." He made use of graphite, lithograph, and mixed media, to provoke one's journey. We

encountered another Houghton student viewing Bennett's exhibit, Maglodene Kelada-Sedra, who commented on Bennett's "action-packed" lines which were so "carefully and deliberately placed." We all agreed that his goal of the viewer to take a journey through these abstract pieces was achieved.

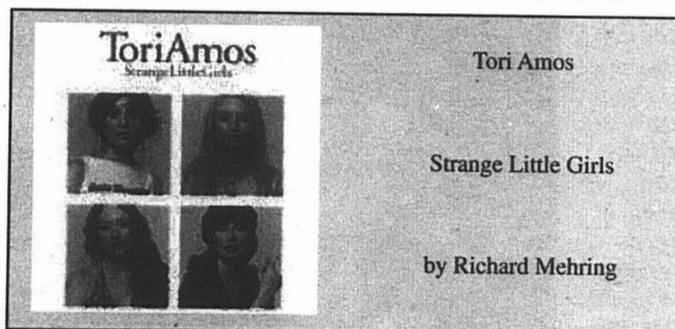
The Ortlip Gallery will be displaying John Rhett and Scot Bennett's work through the end of the semester. We were moved by these pieces as they challenged us to understand where the artist was coming from. So, we encourage you as students to view the work of two gifted Houghton Art faculty.



photo by Brian Quinones

John Rhett and his painting. Rhett's works are currently on display in the Ortlip Gallery.

who's art seemed almost the opposite of his colleague's. Bennett decided to focus on a visual journey or pilgrimage through his art. Bennett's art gave the "viewer a space to travel," provoking him or her to "thought," "personal journey," and "moments of quiet



Pianist, feminist and general eccentric Tori Amos's recent release "Strange Little Girls" is a collection of songs about women written originally by male artists. Her first work in two years, - the last was "To Venus and Back" - word of a cover record raised much anticipation in the singer's fan base. When it first appeared, the album received mixed reviews; some critics claimed it to be her best work since her debut "Little Earthquakes" while others found its soft-pedaled treatment of the original songs to be, by turns, trying and disgusting. The material - consisting of work by widely divergent artists, past and present - is swirled together in a melange of the moribund and given an urbane twist by Tori's siren-like voice and uncharacteristically muted piano. True to her enigmatic image, the 38

year-old singer/songwriter approaches her material on this album, well... differently. After a tripped-out rendition of Lou Reed's "New Age," comes Eminem's, "'97 Bonnie and Clyde," a narrated account of a woman's murder. Lyrically, it's indulgently explicit, - probably the most so since Amos's, "Me and a Gun" - but the whispered vocal track and spare string accompaniment make it almost as menacing acoustically as the shower scene in Hitchcock's "Psycho" was visually. You feel as if you're being hacked at. It's a troubling song and somewhat of an anomaly, a horror segment in an otherwise subtly arranged whole. Her cover of Depeche Mode's, "Enjoy the Silence" brings the album onto track as the melancholy creation she clearly meant it to be. Instead of imitating the

synthesized, percussion-driven original, she undoes the intensity and lets the notes drift with the words to find a signature of their own. It's a beautiful piece, though never sweetened. Amos preserves the halting rhythm of the original by inserting a few, synthesized embellishments. These are discrete, however, and fit with the melodies almost organically. Lloyd Cole's, "Rattlesnakes" and Tom Waits's, "Time" are the album's high points (she played the latter on "The Late Show" with David Letterman following the Sept. 11th. attacks) and are, ironically, the most radio-friendly. In the past, Amos's most remarkable work ("Crucify," "Spark,") lacked the predictable shape expected by the average listener and so fared poorly on the charts. Though neither of these songs is likely to break her onto the mainstream scene, they show a maturity of songwriting that's, at least, robust enough for the vulgar.

Tori's work on the remainder of the album is the most eclectic. Her version of Neil Young's, "Heart of Gold" is the hardest, loudest thing she's ever done, but a few tracks later she's singing the words of Slayer, "...raining blood

from a lacerated sky," in long, falsetto strains to slow and sustained plinking. Though the Slayer song is simply tedious, it works considerably better than her version of the Beatles', "Happiness is a Warm Gun," a song that's little more than an anti-gun public service announcement. It's complete with samples from National Rifle Association summits.

"Strange Little Girls" is an ostensibly strange album. The undercurrents are difficult (it's never clear whether Amos is indicting all men or just the murderers, sexists, and homophobes?) and the style, hard to classify. The tone is playfully dark; there's a lot of macabre humor (especially in the title track) and bittersweet emotion, just this side of nostalgia ("Rattlesnakes"). It's not a bad album, just aesthetically murky. If nothing else, "Strange Little Girls" is a fine companion piece to an already rich body of work.

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Highlander SPORTS

December 18 - 21



For complete game scores and statistics, visit www.houghton.edu/news/athletics

Sports Scores:

Men's Basketball

December 11--
Houghton 53
Five Towns College 68

December 15--
Houghton 101
Notre Dame College of Ohio 69

Women's Basketball

December 11--
Houghton 43
Central State 100

December 15--
Houghton 67
Seton Hill College 51

Records

Varsity men: 3 - 5
Varsity women: 5 - 3

Men take home 3rd win

Staff reports

Six players reached double figures as the Highlanders cruised to its first AMC victory, 101-69, over visiting Notre Dame College. The Highlanders, who arguably put on their best performance of the season on both ends of the court, played well from the start, but it took most of the first half before they had the game well in hand.

Sophomore Joel Hamilton was a presence on the inside early on, scoring nine points in the game's first six minutes to stake the Highlanders to a 16-9 lead. The visiting Blue Falcons were able to trim the lead to one (18-17), but a 24-4 run over the next nine minutes

gave the Highlanders a commanding 42-21 lead with three minutes left in the half. Houghton led 51-30 at the half.

Hamilton and Justin Pauley led



photo by Brian Quinones

all scorers with 10 points each at the break.

The second half was more of the same as the Highlanders continued the defensive pressure and worked for good shots offensively. By the time Hamilton hit two free throws at the 11:52

mark, Houghton had its biggest lead of the game (76-43).

The play of subs Jeremy Gorham (13 points) and Jeremy Thomas (11 points) made sure the Blue Falcons would get no closer than 28 the rest of the way. Gorham scored all of his points in the final nine minutes and Thomas added seven points during that stretch, including a dunk that got his teammates and the fans on their feet.

Hamilton had game highs in points (16) and rebounds (8). Pauley added 14 points and seven rebounds, Seth Raper scored 13 points, dished out five assists, and hit 3-of-5 three pointers. Jason Lee and Ryan Pauling chipped in with 10 points and eight points, respectively, off the bench. Seth Edwards added five points, five rebounds, and four assists.

Women jump to 5 - 3

Staff reports

Angela Layne scored 20 points to lead the Highlanders to a 67-51 win over Seton Hill College in AMC action on Saturday.

Though the Spirit came into the contest with just one win, they boast a strong lineup, including last year's AMC Player of the Year Kameico Robison. And for much of the first half it looked as if that lineup was going to give the Highlanders a run for their money, especially with the Highlanders connecting on just one of their first nine shots from the field.

Seton Hill jumped out to a 5-0

lead and were still up by five (12-17) with 9:19 left when the Highlanders' shots finally began to fall. JoAnna Beardsley and Amanda Sweeney hit back-to-back buckets to cut the margin to one,



photo by Brian Quinones

and after a Spirit field goal, Sweeney nailed a three to tie the score at 19. The teams exchanged buckets on ensuing possessions, but Beardsley hit a three to put the Highlanders up by three (24-21) with 6:32 left.

Lacrosse, continued from page 1

sure of the state of the requirements directly because the club did not come to the meeting at which a representative was to present the progress of the club.

The CIA, based upon the absence of a lacrosse Club representative and no other report of the status of the club's efforts to meet requirements, recommended to the SGA that the lacrosse team have its funding taken back to be used by other club sports and that the team's equipment, which was purchased with SGA allocated money, be stored by the Houghton College Athletic Department. The CIA recommended that the SGA ask that the players themselves not keep the equipment partly because the lacrosse team had participated in practices and intercollegiate games when expressly told by the CIA that they were not permitted.

In the eyes of the CIA, participating in a contact sport without proper medical supervision or an insurance policy put both lacrosse players and the student body of Houghton College at

physical and financial risk. The SGA took the recommendation of the CIA and took back the funding allocated to the lacrosse club by the SGA from 2000-2001 Club Sports Fund. The money will be used by other active clubs. They SGA also asked the lacrosse club to hand in their equipment to the athletic department in order to ensure the safety of the students and to assure that the equipment would be available in the future, if the club were to become active again. The SGA made this decision on November 14th with information presented to the senate from a CIA representative. A lacrosse club representative was invited but did not attend this meeting.

The lacrosse club, because of actions failure to meet certain requirements, will not be an active club this year. The lacrosse club itself has not been disbanded, and many people in the CIA, the SGA, and the lacrosse club would like to see an active lacrosse club in the future.

Highlander SportsWeek

Men's varsity basketball

Friday, January 4 - 6 pm
Mt. Vernon Nazarene - Home

Saturday, January 5 - 8 pm
Ohio Dominican - Home

Men's JV basketball

Wednesday, January 16 - 8 pm
Genesee Community College
Away

Women's varsity basketball

Wednesday, January 2 - 3 pm
Husson College - Home

Friday, January 4 - 8 pm
Mt. Vernon Nazarene - Home

Saturday, January 5 - 6 pm
Ohio Dominican - Home

Women's JV basketball

Wednesday, January 16 - 6 pm
Genesee Community College
Away