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SITCOM-THE TIME WARP 2

AIVERY SHUCK '26

Tomorrow at 9 p.m. students, faculty, and staff are invited to join together in the Wesley Chapel for SPOT. Attendees can expect to experience a night of fun, laughter and community.

SPOT is a comedy show that includes skits, musical acts and videos done by Houghton University (HU) community members. It occurs once a semester and has been a tradition at HU for about 50 years.

"SPOT began around the '70s (around the same time as Saturday Night Live (SNL)) and it was a much more 'acoustic, laid back' version put on by the then Student Senate," explained Student Engagement Director Jana Newberry. She added that "It remains a campus staple but has definitely grown in production value!"

Over the years, SPOT has evolved into a much bigger show and is now run primarily by the student



SPOT 2024 Audience

COURTESY OF MARCOMM

body. Each semester, students are encouraged to audition for the role of SPOT hosts. The Campus Activities Board (CAB) oversees the auditions where duos present their ideas for SPOT. A lucky pair is picked as hosts to run the show.

In the spring semester, students are encouraged to participate in the Hall Brawl events (a competi-

tion between all student residences) every day during the week leading up to SPOT. At the end of SPOT, the winner will be announced.

Chesnie Waddingham '26 and Caleb See '25 are this spring semester's co-hosts.

Some of the SPOT hosts' responsibilities include advertisement, auditions, producing sketches,

finding a band, finding a tech team and coming up with a theme. This show's theme is Sitcom - the Time Warp 2.

"It's like the Squeakquel but there was no predecessor," See said. "A set of music from sitcom shows that have been warped into different genres." He described it as "a wild ride" with sitcom inspired mo-

ments. See added that "your favorite people and professors" will be featured.

"And who knows maybe Chesnie and I will shave our heads clean (bald)," he said, and then added, "We won't be shaving our heads."

Waddingham commented that students should expect time travel, great music, funny acts, Matt Webb and Bill Burichter.

See said the audience can expect humor. He encouraged people to "just show up and you will definitely be in for a wild and funny ride."

SPOT is more than just a comedy show, Waddingham said it "contributes to life on campus by providing a Christ-centered and fun atmosphere for students to use their gifts, talents, and humor to bring everyone together for a great time." ★

A Call to Theater

AIDAN FISH '25

From being on the tech team to being a performer, theater has been a part of the lives of many faculty and staff at Houghton University (HU).

Many people on campus know Adam Bennett as a familiar face at the Metz pizza station, but they don't know that he is also the Vice President of Town Theatre of Short Tract. The theatre, located in Northern Allegheny County, was founded by Adam's mother, Dr. Dawn Bennett, as a result of a need for theatre opportunities for people after high school. Ever since he was young, Bennett sat with his mother in the tech booth for the theatre's performances.

"What are your children if they are not free manpower?" he commented.



Prof. Benjamin Lipscomb acting

COURTESY OF JEFF BABBITT

Bennett attended Fillmore Central School in Allegheny County, N.Y. and ran the tech booth. They put on the "Sound of Music" his junior year. It was the first time he ran the lights (with a new system) all by himself.

After graduation, his passion for theater brought him back to Fillmore for his brother's production of "Les Mis-

érables", even while he was still taking classes at the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, N.Y.

He described that to make it back from Rochester, he had to leave class early and sprint to his illegally parked car, in order to barely make the shows on time!

Another hectic story Bennett recalled was

when he was both running the lights for the "Sound of Music" and performing in the Waltz on stage. He always had a lot of quick changes. Whenever his mom needed to fill a male role, she threw him in without hesitation. But Bennett prefers being in the booth to being on stage.

His favorite part of being involved in theater is "the sense of fulfillment

when you get it all to work" after an "exercise in effort." Bennett said that he would be in the tech booth for 40 or more hours outside of rehearsal times.

He described lighting as more than simply being able to see the actors. "The lighting needs to reflect what time of day it is," he said. It needs to convey an emotional tone and direct the audience's attention. He described it as an art where you first need to "solve the puzzle, then use creativity."

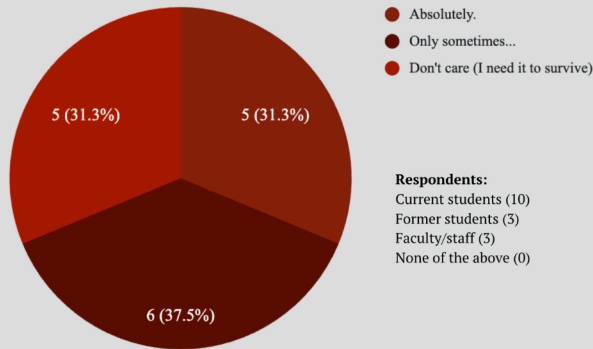
Bennett added that you get to "solve it as a part of a community." During a show, the tech crew becomes an extended family. He said that after the show is over and he is the last one left, "There is a sense of loss," but also, "Oh Gosh I can sleep again!" And back to making the pizzas.

Professor of Philosophy Dr. Benjamin Lip-

Question of the Week

Is it sinful to be addicted to caffeine (coffee, tea, etc.)?

Submitted Question



Weekly questions open to anyone affiliated with Houghton University.

Is acceptance the same as affirmation?



Also on the STAR website & HUB

THEATER *from page #1*

Lipscomb, who performs at the Town Theatre of Short Tract, said that his favorite part of theater is having the opportunity to work on a team.

“Theater enables us to be neighbors,” Lipscomb said.

When expressing his concerns with how society currently isolates itself, he stated “We let ourselves over-fill our days ... don’t leave room for forms of collaborative activity that builds community ... we need to intentionally make time to do things that pour into [our] community.”

He clarified that theater is just one way of doing so. “If theater is not your thing, it’s not your thing,” he said. “I’m not saying that everyone should do this thing but everyone should do this kind of thing ... Like charity, not everyone should be giving to the same one but everyone should be

participating using their gifts.”

When asked what prevents people from doing theater, Lipscomb talked about it being alien and scary. Now this is the case “until you do it with a community that supports you,” he said.

While many know Prof. Amanda Cox as the pianist at Chapel and the HU’s Director of Lyric Theatre, many do not know that Cox has participated in short films such as “Through Eyes of Grace”.

Most of her involvement in theater, when she was younger, was influenced by her parents, Dr. Paul and Debbie Young. As a ninth grader, Cox auditioned for HU’s (formerly known as Houghton College) “The Diary of Anne Frank” production, and was given the role of Anne.

Cox argued that theater forces actors to build empathy.

“We do the hard work of finding ways in which we can identify with a character who sometimes has a very different experience than we do,” she said. “And this requires our actors to practice and employ empathy.”

“And indeed,” she added, “the work of an audience is also an exercise in empathy. We watch these characters whom we have never met, who may have very different life experiences than we do, and we understand them in a new way.”

When asked what prevents people from joining the theater, Cox said a lot of it comes down to awareness.

Theater is just one opportunity available for people to pour into the community as Bennett, Lipscomb and Cox have done. Will you take the leap of faith? ★

Puzzles

All sudokus provided by sudokuoftheday.com.

Difficulty: Medium

		8	1				2
					8		9
4		9				3	7
			7	5	2		6
	8		9	1	6		
7		4				8	1
	6		8				
8					7	5	

Answers for 02/21

7	8	4	5	2	1	3	6	9
6	3	2	4	7	9	5	8	1
9	5	1	8	6	3	7	2	4
2	7	8	6	1	4	9	3	5
3	4	5	2	9	8	1	7	6
1	6	9	3	5	7	8	4	2
5	1	6	7	8	2	4	9	3
4	9	7	1	3	6	2	5	8
8	2	3	9	4	5	6	1	7

Easy

3	7	5	8	1	6	9	2	4
8	1	4	7	9	2	3	5	6
9	2	6	5	4	3	7	8	1
1	8	2	4	7	5	6	3	9
6	4	7	3	8	9	5	1	2
5	9	3	6	2	1	4	7	8
4	5	9	1	3	8	2	6	7
7	6	8	2	5	4	1	9	3
2	3	1	9	6	7	8	4	5

Medium

4	7	9	3	6	5	1	2	8
6	1	3	8	2	4	7	5	9
5	8	2	7	1	9	4	6	3
8	2	4	1	5	6	3	9	7
7	9	6	4	8	3	5	1	2
1	3	5	9	7	2	8	4	6
3	4	8	2	9	1	6	7	5
9	6	1	5	3	7	2	8	4
2	5	7	6	4	8	9	3	1

Diabolical

Consideration For Others



FAITH COOLBETH ('25)

Houghton is known as a friendly and welcoming community and I'd like it to stay that way. Unfortunately, I have seen a trend of Houghton students making campus less comfortable for those around them. There are three main areas I think could see improvement.

First, in the dining hall. A few weeks ago, I was standing in line for strawberries and making friendly conversation with the girl behind me. The person ahead of us took enough of the strawberries to leave just about one serving, which a Metz employee told me was the last of the stock. The girl behind me was surprised

when I offered to split what was left with her even though I saw this as the best solution. This reaction is one of many signs that courtesy is lacking in our dining hall. So, the next time you go to lunch or dinner, consider what could be happening in the lives of others. Is the person behind you rushing to class? Consider taking less food than usual so there is enough for them and plan to come back for seconds. Could someone be planning to eat pizza or from the vegetarian section because they have an allergy to a food in another section? Consider starting with a clean plate or being careful not to touch serving spoons

"So, the next time you go to lunch or dinner, consider what could be happening in the lives of others."

has led me to trip on the path of Roth hill when two people walked so closely behind me that maintaining my place would have led to my shoulder being hit. When walking to and from classes, consider how the people around you are moving.

Can you move to the

havior I have witnessed lately is drivers not watching for pedestrians. I use the crosswalk by the townhouses multiple times every day, and I only experienced a few cars ignoring the crosswalk sign my junior year. It was common enough for me to be careful before stepping onto the road, but it wasn't scary. Last semester though, I

was nearly in an accident five times. And all from cars that came into view after I had started crossing. I've stopped in the middle of the road because a car wasn't slowing down. I've felt a

car driving behind me close enough to feel the breeze moving my clothes. This is genuinely dangerous! Just this semester, it's happened three times! So, if you have a vehicle on campus, consider what you can do to make our roads safer. There are four main crosswalks: leading from the Firehall parking lot, by the entrance leading to the townhouses, at the top of Roth hill, and between the CFA and art studio. Do you think about the upcoming crosswalks when you drive?

Consider slowing down when you approach them and check twice for possi-

ble pedestrians. Also consider if you are someone who tends to use your phone while driving. We're all guilty of it even though we know it can be incredibly dangerous. If this is something you struggle with: remind yourself to check your phone prior to getting in your car and place it somewhere you won't be tempted to grab it.

If we all make a conscious effort to think about those around us and make small changes to help others, our campus can once again be a friendly and welcoming place. If we are to be a community modeled after Christ, we should show love for others in everything that we do. I have a challenge for everyone reading. Choose one day next week to be completely selfless and see how that changes your little portion of the world. I think you'll be surprised how well it goes. ★

Faith Coolbeth ('25) is a senior chemistry major graduating in May. When not working one of many jobs on campus, she loves reading, hanging out with her friends and fiancé, and playing with her sixth month old kitten.

Have an opinion you want to share?

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SPEAK OUT!

Letters to the editor should be less than 600 words

SUBMIT TO
star@houghton.edu



The mission of the Houghton STAR is to preserve and promote the values of dialogue, transparency and integrity that have been the ideals of Houghton University since its inception. This is done by serving as a medium for the expression of student thought and as a quality publication of significant campus news, Houghton area news, and events.

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Review

Apocalypse Now (1979)

Caleb Tiedemann '25

Apocalypse Now is one of those movies that I've been meaning to watch for a while but haven't gotten around to. I finally did and I have no reason to regret it. Apocalypse Now is a deep thought-provoking exploration of the philosophy of war and morality. It balances multiple meta textual themes and implements them excellently. Through its portrayal of demented anarchy, one can witness (somewhat) firsthand the decay of the human mind through the horrors of war. The cast is incredibly stacked- Martin Sheen, Marlon Brando, Robert Duvall- all of them drive this movie and elevate it with their nuanced performances. The cinematography and score are also incredibly helpful. The movie is filled with potent and unforgettable images that fill the mind and chill the soul. The score, a combination of vintage rock songs and eerie electronic music, creates an unforgettable experience. In the end, I really enjoyed it, but I didn't love it. A three-and-a-half-hour cut is no easy thing to sit through, and I got kind of muddled by its philosophy. Don't get me wrong though, this is a phenomenal film. ★



“My name is Britton Mattison, I am a sophomore with a Studio Art major and an Art Business minor. My favorite mediums are watercolor, oil paint, pastel, and graphite and I enjoy making small scale pieces of nature and people. I usually keep my work representational and love paying close attention to small details, but also sometimes enjoy branching out and being more expressive.”

Artist of the Week

Britton Mattison '28

