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Challenger

Volume 1, Number 1

A Harper College Honor Society Newsletter

February/March

From The Editors

This is your first newsletter of the year and introductions are in order.

Your new editors are Lisa Smith and Mike SeEVERS, and this publication is now the result of an Honors Independent Study "Newsletters" class. There were two important points there.

First of all we are your editors and will do our best to include information you will find interesting or helpful.

Second, we are in a class, which means we have the usual goals for improvement and progress as the result of experience. Our goal is to balance our own desire to make this newsletter look good and read well with Dr. Hull's desire to produce more than one a semester!

Perhaps most important is that, as you can see, the newsletter now has a name. Whatever your inspiration for joining the Honors Society, you have accepted a challenge. We respect you for this, and chose the name "Challenger" both to symbolize this respect, and to remind you of what being you best and "making a difference" is all about. Find and face up to each of your personal challenges and you will both demand and receive respect. You already have it from us.

Just Do It!

It's a different world

By Betty Hull
Professor of English

As I mentioned in my last column of the fall semester, my husband and I spent the holidays in Kenya and the Seychelles. The new editors of the newsletter suggested that I share my experience with the Honors Society. So here it is, the good and the bad. Warning: the following material is uncensored and may be infectious! Read on at your own risk.

Visiting Kenya to view animals fulfilled a long-held dream of mine, from the mid-sixties when I worked as a travel agent, to put myself through Northwestern University. The manager of our office was invited as part of a special agents' indoctrination to East Africa. He came back full of glowing tales of animals running loose, animals in their natural habitats, animals in numbers beyond imagination. I couldn't help catching his enthusiasm.

My boss also warned of the African diseases, so I wasn't surprised that the Center for Disease Control recommended inoculations against cholera and yellow fever, as well as gamma globulin and prophylactics for malaria. And I knew the flights from Chicago to Brussels and Brussels to Nairobi would be exhausting—but no one could have warned us that we would make two unscheduled stops between Brussels and Nairobi in order to pick up political refugees from Kigali, Rwanda, and Bujumbura, Burundi. Seems they were just coincidentally having some revolution and dissidents were being al-

lowed out under martial law if they went before 7 p.m. that day. So instead of arriving at 9 p.m. the day after we left home, we didn't reach our hotel until after 1 a.m. the third day.

After we got some sleep, we met our guide and the other 10 people we would be traveling with, all Americans, as well as 6 others who would rejoin us after an excursion to Tanzania. We were all to have window seats in our modern vans with pop-tops so we could get clear pictures without being within scratching range of the animals. We were tired, but we were running on adrenalin; we were on safari!

What no one had prepared me for was the roads, the incredible roads, whose potholes have potholes, that one has to travel between the animal preserves. And the dust! We arrived at the tail end of the rainy season so we were assured that it was nowhere near as bad as it gets after a long dry period.

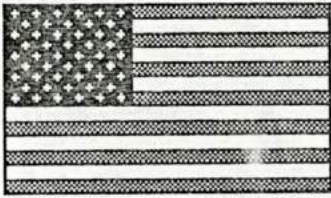
At one point, traveling from Lake Navashu toward the Great Rift, a member of our group pointed out with macabre cheerfulness that we were on one of the main highways! Imagine what the secondary roads were like! This was no place, I soon learned, for someone with chronic respiratory ailments, such as both I and my husband have.

Our first destination out of Nairobi was Amboseli, where my poor husband started hacking. He went with the group on two game runs, then decided to recuperate back in the Hilton in Nairobi while I went on to the Samburu National Reserve, the Mountain Lodge (a treetop hotel on



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Trustee Elections Set For March 19 and 20



Lisa Smith is running for the position of Student Trustee. She is the Life Science Senator, and Treasurer on Student Senate. She is also the Honors Society President.

She has been involved in promoting clubs and activities, and she wants to continue in getting student involvement. She has started the Horticulture Club and initiated the approval of the

Voyagers Club and Vision Club.

In addition, she is organizing a Harper plant sale and at the same time has arranged to have speakers from the Conservation Preserve come and speak about wildlife.

Lisa Smith is also on the Athletic and Curriculum Committees at Harper. In addition, to being on these committees she is an athlete on the swimming and diving team.

She is studying to receive an Associates Degree in Science. She feels she is qualified to represent all divisions equally well and is committed to expanding and improving the programs they

offer. Underlying all her decisions is her concern for the students and community that Harper represents. She realizes that all students have different backgrounds and personal goals, which she will do her best to represent.

The Elections for Student Trustee are coming up this March 19 & 20. Voice your opinions by voting at this election. You need to have your student activity card to vote. Locations will be set-up in the following areas: F bldg. at the media circulation desk by the tutoring center; J bldg. by the box office; D bldg. by the computer center; and in A bldg. along the south windows.

Profiles

Whether you are a full or part-time student at Harper, the fact that you do attend this college most likely means you have very little free time.

For the most part, classes represent the largest amount of time previously unacquainted students spend together. Usually, the classroom atmosphere and the five or so free minutes before do not really allow people to take advantage of the interesting and diverse student body that attend a commuter college like Harper.

The following are excerpts from questionnaires randomly distributed to Honors Society students. Throughout the semester these questionnaires will be given to all the Honors Society students I can run down, and selected answers will be printed in this "profile" section.

The point is to remind all of you to take advantage of whatever amount of time you spend at Harper by consciously making an attempt to get to know the people around you; their opinions, thoughts, or whatever else might help you, guide you, or if nothing else, interest you. The Honors Society definitely represents a gold mine of interesting people. They are much more interesting in real life than on paper, so do your best to attend a meeting, an "outing," contribute to the newsletter, or suggest something new.

ALAINA DARL AGE:20
WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO ATTEND HARPER?

"I graduated two years ago from high school and here I am. I need to get back into "school mode" before going on to a high pressure school. Plus, I am unsure of what I would like to do for the rest of my life, so this gives me a chance to dabble into different areas.

LIST AND EXPLAIN SOMETHING YOU HAVE DONE OR A PLACE YOU HAVE BEEN WHICH REALLY STANDS OUT IN YOUR MEMORY:

"I went, last April, overseas to visit a girlfriend in Ireland and we toured the U.K. in ten days. It was incredible.

The land is so steeped with history and the castles, roads, houses, and landmarks are incredibly old! I would really like to go back and take two or three weeks just to tour Ireland itself."

LIST AND EXPLAIN ONE OR TWO GOALS/DREAMS YOU FEEL STRONGLY ABOUT:

"Goals?! You want me to think of goals when I can't decide what to make for my friend's birthday dinner this weekend?!...marriage and kids and a successful career, not necessarily in that order...successful meaning happy, not material rewards."

DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS?

"I have a dog named Duke which

evolved into Dukey which, once we discovered his personality, evolved into Pukey."

GARY BERENGER AGE:52
HOW MANY SEMESTERS HAVE YOU TAKEN AT HARPER?

"Eight."

DO YOU HAVE AN OCCUPATION OTHER THAN STUDENT?

"Yes—Financial Director and sales manager of Tool & Die company."
LIST AND EXPLAIN A FEW THINGS YOU HAVE DONE OR PLACES YOU HAVE BEEN WHICH STAND OUT IN YOUR MEMORY:

"1) Being in Berlin, Germany in August 1961 when the Berlin wall began
2) Getting married in 1967
3) Getting my undergraduate degree."

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN NOT WORKING/STUDYING/GOING TO SCHOOL?

"I'm a husband and a Father and a homeowner which all take time. I travel about once a year to Germany."

WHAT ARE YOUR TASTES IN MUSIC?

"Classical."

GIVE ME ONE RANDOM THOUGHT OR WORDS OF WISDOM...

"Do it now!"

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stilts) and the world-famous, elegant Mt. Kenya Safari Club—we had been advised that they only accommodated members after December 15, but at the last minute they welcomed us. Peacocks strolled the grounds and native dancers entertained those having high tea, while I swam in the heated pool (the only heated one I encountered in Kenya), and we each had a personal fire laid in our rooms while we dined on gourmet food—I had impala: delicious! Colonial decadence, surely, but heady stuff.

But before our group arrived there, I must have been incubating Fred's germs because I fell ill also, at Samburu, and spent a whole day gazing feverishly at the river while our guide Ali (Somali tribe, Islamic religion) returned from game runs with tales of leopards and lions. We did later get to see plenty of lions, but no more leopards.

We seriously discussed sending for the Flying Doctors, but my temperature dropped to normal within 24 hours, and since I had come so far I was determined to see everything I could.

My cough became an annoyance more to the others than to me, I think. I was too excited by the scenery and the animals.

Acacia trees everywhere, and zebras, giraffes (both reticulated and Maasai), Grant's and Thompson's gazelles, dik-diks, waterbucks, wildebeests, hartebeests, impalas, cape buffalos, elephants, warthogs, monkeys of several varieties, baboons, cheetahs, genet cats, lions, elands, hippopotamuses by the herd (being watched while they bathed by a Nile crocodile), ostriches, sacred ibises, flamingoes, secretary birds, superb starlings, vultures, golden eagles, hyenas, egrets, and the little furry cousin to the elephant, the hyrax.

Fred flew out to rejoin us at Masai Mara for the last three days of the safari and we were rejoined by those who had been to Tanzania. They assured us that the roads in Kenya were far better, as were the food and the lodge facilities. (After being advised by Ali that the final stretch of road—a five-hour drive—would be the worst of the trip, even worse than any in Tanzania, I joined Fred in flying back to Nairobi, which I came to regard as civilization).

At Masai Mara (that's right,

there's only two a's in the word, in spite of the three in Maasai, the tribe), we took the hot-air balloon one morning at sunrise and looked across the border at Tanzania.

There are, of course, no markings on the ground to show the line between the countries, but we were warned that if we crossed it without proper authorization we could be detained for months, or at least held for a sizable bribe to release us. We heard from the balloonist about the "chai" that must be paid, even in a "reasonable" country like Kenya, in order to do business. His stories made the Keating Five sound like a squeaky-clean government.

Maybe not everything is relative, but one's perspective is improved by seeing how other people handle business. This is one of the ways in which travel is truly educational.

I also changed in other ways. As we traveled, I learned to bargain, which to my surprise, I soon came to enjoy.

I've always hate dickering in Mexico, always felt both guilty and cheated at the end of a deal. But Kenyans love to trade, and they would offer to swap their goods for whatever we were wearing or carrying—so I came home, leaving behind my jeans and radio and every pen I had brought, bringing home ebony and teak carvings, and batiks, and banana skins, and brass and copper jewelry. And I finally understood the attitude that trading is a social event, a chance to get to know and be known by someone from a totally different culture.

I learned that not all Kenyans belong to the same tribe. The prosperous Kikuyus are farmers and businessmen, predominantly Roman Catholic, and dominate all the politics and economic life of this country. In Kikuyu territory, the people are well-fed, well-clothed (in Western style), and seem happy to meet and trade with tourists. Aside from the British accent, they might be hardly distinguishable from African-Americans from Gary, Indiana.

The tall, skinny Maasai seem far more "African," still tending their flocks and measuring their prestige in cattle, keeping their children out of school and marking them with missing teeth and facial scarring. Maasai women are

subservient and tribal leadership depends on physical dominance more than respect for age and wisdom.

The Kikuyu regard the Maasai as a "problem" for which they don't know the answer. Me neither.

One of the troubles with democracy is that when people have the freedom to determine how they want to live, they don't always do what I think would be best for them or fair to all of them. Once again, I learned in a fresh lesson that people have different problems, but they are also very similar. Conflict in values is a universal problem.

We ended our tour with a week in the Seychelles, which I'll save for another column. Anyway, I learned on this trip what Dorothy learned in Oz: there's no place like home, and I'm glad to be here.

Profiles

TIFFANY JAMES AGE:19
IF YOU PLAN ON TRANSFERRING,
WHEN/WHERE/WHY?

"I'll either transfer to Drake University in Des Moines or Northern...whoever will give me the most money."

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN NOT
WORKING/STUDYING/GOING TO
CLASSES?

"What?! Is there time between working/studying/classes??"

I'm vice president/secretary of the Student Senate. I'm a student ambassador and on Phi Theta Kappa. I like to watch movies and lay around the house on Saturdays.

I like to work out and talk to people. Oh, and I sleep."

NAME YOUR ALL-TIME FAVORITE
MOVIE:

"It's a Wonderful Life"
IF YOU COULD DROP EVERYTHING
AND TAKE AN ALL EXPENSES PAID
TRIP TO ANYWHERE, WHERE
WOULD YOU GO/WHAT WOULD
YOU DO?

"I'd take my car and drive through every state. I think you should know about your own country and where you come from before you explore other places."

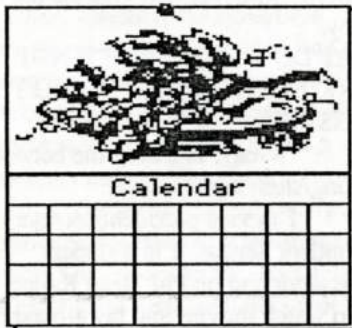
Miscellaneous

London Calling



Interested in studying abroad this summer? Bentley College, in Waltham, Massachusetts, is offering a summer school program at the London School of Economics July 8 through August 16. Students may choose from the following courses taught by University of London faculty: International Economics (EC 311), New Europe in the World Economy (EC 299), International Business (MG 331), and Organizational Theory (MG 345). The cost is \$3500, which includes tuition for two courses, housing in London during the dates indicated, roundtrip airfare from Boston to London, London School of Economics course guides, and an orientation program in London. The application deadline is April 15. For more information, contact Betty Hull.

Calendar



Honors Society's next meetings are scheduled on Wednesday's at 4:00 p.m. in A 351 conference room. The dates are as follows:

March 6th - Discussion: Self-Confidence
 March 13th - Business Meeting
 March 20th - Discussion: Cultural Awareness w/ guest speaker Mr. Hoppenrath Motorola International Projects Manager
 March 27th - Business Meeting

March 14th - Ris Que Business
 March 19/20th - Trustee Election
 April 5th - Akzo Chemical Company trip
 For more info contact
 Marge Hoppenrath

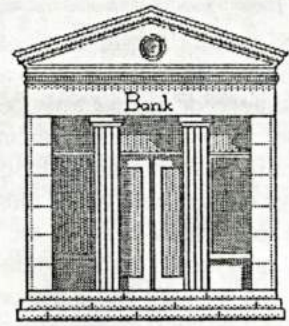
FOR SALE

1981 Toyota Tercel 5-spd Hatchback. The car has been well maintained and is ready to drive. The car is very economical. It gets around 28 miles to the gallon. It also has a new Alpine pullout cassette deck stereo system and speakers. Save on gas now!! \$2300 or best offer. (708) 934-4261. Ask for Dan.

1989 Chevy cargo van. Midnight blue, 350 engine with overdrive. Approximately 21,000 miles mostly on the highway. The van gets about 18-19 miles to the gallon on the highway. It is insulated and partially panelled. It has an Alpine pullout cassette deck stereo and speakers. Must sell \$10,000 or best offer. (708) 934-4262. Ask for Dan.

Meals On Wheels

Whether you have one hour a week or one hour a month to spare, the Palatine Township Senior Citizens Council at 721 South Quentin Road in Palatine is looking for volunteers in various areas. Probably the most convenient for students is the meals on wheels program. The meals are prepared and picked up from the center, across from Fremd high school, and delivered by car to homebound elderly in the nearby area. The average route takes about an hour from meal pickup to finish, and drivers are reimbursed for gas. It's a great way to contribute to the community, and the Council staff and their elderly clients are extremely appreciative. Volunteering even once a month would help them greatly. For more information contact Judy Milner at 991-1112.



Scholarships

TRUSTEE SCHOLARSHIP: For students who live in district 512 and are not recent high school graduates. Provides for one semester's tuition and is renewable if a 2.5 G.P.A. is maintained. Limited to four academic years or maximum amount of credits to fulfill the degree requirements of the students enrolled program.

THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP: It is awarded to second-year students. Has maximum value of \$1500. a student must have a minimum G.P.A. of 3.5, have completed at least 24 credit hours, submit three letters of recommendation, and plan to enroll full time and graduate in the spring semester of the academic year in which the award is given.

FACULTY SENATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP: Awarded to students who have completed 15 credit hours, have a minimum G.P.A. of 3.5 and demonstrate financial need. A goal statement and two faculty senate recommendations are required.

TRANSFER HONORS SCHOLARSHIP AT WESTERN: \$600 is available to transfer students. Must have completed 15 credit hours, have a G.P.A. of at least 3.4, completed at least one honors course if transferring 30 hours or less, or two honors courses if transferring 54 or more hours. Also, required to participate in the honors program and maintain honors status from enrollment to graduation at W.I.U.

For further information contact the Financial Aid Office located at A 364 or see Betty Hull.