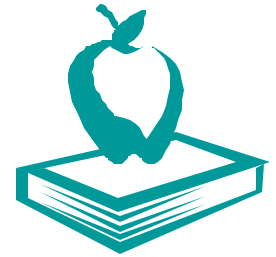


The Occasional Word



A Note From the Editor

September-October 2001

Hello all! I just want to welcome everyone back! I hope your semesters are going great. I also want to extend a warm welcome to all new students. I hope your Honors experience is proving to be all you expected and more!

The first thing I have to write about is, in fact, the OW. I know that a lot of new students feel overwhelmed as a first semester Honors freshman, but if you are interested in putting some extra time into the Program, you should seriously consider writing articles for the OW. It is a great chance to voice your concerns, share your opinions, and relate your stories in relation to the Honors Program. We can always use extra help on our "staff,"

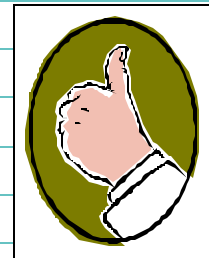
so if you are interested in this opportunity, e-mail me at tpudvah@lhup.edu. Don't forget, writing an article counts as an activity hour!!

The next thing I want to share with all of you is a little bit about my summer experience. The reason I want to tell you about my summer is because I spent it doing an internship, and it was an amazing experience! Almost everyone at LHU will have to do some kind of "external experience" in order to graduate. I strongly encourage you to start looking for such experiences as soon as possible. I started my search for summer internships in November of last year, and although this sounds really early, I was risking missing application dead-

lines. Start working on a resume too. Most companies will request a resume, cover letter, and references. Utilize the Career Services office on campus! They can be an tremendous amount of help.

I made amazing friends and learned more than I ever thought possible this summer, and that is what an "external ex-

perience" is all about. Hopefully, you will all take advantage of such opportunities as well!



Teresa Pudvah

Special points of interest:

- ⌘ On October 16th at 7:00 PM, there will be speaker, Don Asher, in PUB #2 to talk about grad school.
- ⌘ October 20th is a campus visitation day.
- ⌘ The AIDS quilt will be on campus on October 29th and 30th.
- ⌘ There is a Blood Drive on October 31st in the PUB.

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Melissa's Messages

Melissa Davis

Hi everyone. I hope that the semester isn't proving to be too much for anyone. Thus far, it's been a busy one for me. But, that is exactly the

way I like it. Besides, what the heck would I do with free time?

I just want to take a minute to inform everyone about the plethora of opportunities that the Honors Program can hold for someone who wants to get

really involved. I know it's a little early to be thinking about this, but before you know it, the spring semester will be here. So, before too long, I'll be sending an e-mail out asking for activity

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Comments from Kim

Kim Reese

Hello everybody! I hope you are enjoying yourselves so far this semester. Since this is the first issue of the OW this semester, I wanted to recap some of the events that have been going on since our last issue and also preview some events that will be taking place within the next few months. We have been trying to do many new things with the Honors Program, and so far, we have had great results from all the new changes!

During the spring semester last year, we held our first ever Senior Open House. This was to celebrate the graduation of some of our Honors Students. The class of 2001 was one of the biggest graduating Honors classes in the history of the Honors Program! The graduates, their families, and several faculty members were present as we wished the seniors a final farewell. There was food, fun, as well as some parting tears. This Senior Open House was a great success; we are hoping to make this an annual event.

As the summer began,

there was another big change in the Honors Program- Melissa and I. In May, we officially took over the Student Associate Director positions from our former SADs, Matt Meisenhelter and Sara Smith. Melissa and I ran into a few tough times over the summer trying to figure out who does what and when it all has to

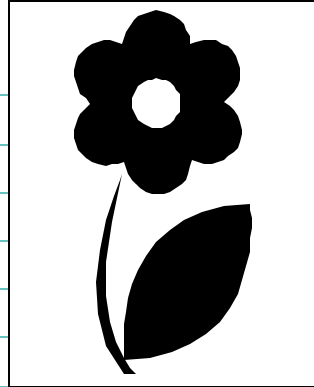
be done, but we eventually got the hang of it. The one thing we both decided is that we need all Honors students help to make the Program run smoothly. The summer was great, but we missed all your help. There was not much activity in the house, and believe me, we were happy to see movement in the house as the semester began!

Although the Honors Orientation has been taking place for three years now, there were dramatic changes in the way we held the orientation this year. This year, we incorporated the 40

University Honors students as well as the 50 First Year Excellence students in the orientation. For the most part, move-in procedures and all events worked out as planned. We also spent part of the orientation with the new International students. On Friday, both Honors and international students attended a picnic, played volleyball, participated in icebreakers,

watched movies, and played games together. This year, the students also participated in online discussions about the book *Sophie's World*. Overall, there was a great response to the new orientation, and we plan to improve the event even more for next year.

We also continued the Public Issues Forum entitled, "What Kind of General Education Should All Students Have?" The freshmen participated in this activity and had their first taste of public deliberation. The Honors



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Melissa's Messages

(Continued from page 1)

group proposals for the spring. Anyone can propose a group. This is one way to take on a position of leadership and get involved.

Another way to get involved is to participate in one of the many special teams that help to make up the Honors Program. The different teams are Admissions Team, Public Issues Forums Team, Web Team, and the Program Coordinating Committee. Individuals serving on these teams take on responsibilities that help to maintain the workings of the Honors Pro-

gram and to help it to continually improve.

A final way to get involved is through training to lead a freshmen discussion group. Leading a discussion group is one of the best things that I've ever done. It was so much fun, and I learned so much from my group. Leading a group is a really easy way to connect with people and to make a difference in the Honors Program. So, as you can easily see, there are lots of ways to get involved. The more involved you get, the more you will come to love it. The Hon-

"The more involved you get, the more you will come to love it."

ors Program, and thus your experience in it, is truly what you make of it. For me, it was the chance of a lifetime. I hope the same proves true for you.

Comments from Kim

(Continued from page 2)

Program is also sponsoring a public issue forum about racial and ethnic tensions in November. Right now, the “Racial and Ethnic Tensions” forum is online, and over 300 students from around the country will be participating in this forum. Another online forum that is presently running is entitled “Education Adrift.” If you are interested in participating in this forum, simply go to www.teachingdemocracy.com.

Right now, Dr. Knauer, Melissa, and I are preparing for the National Collegiate Honors Conference in Chicago where we will be helping to run a moderator training session and participating in a forum. We

will let you know what comes of that when we get back!

Finally, one other new event will be taking place this semester. This will be our first Alumni Day. Three to four Honors Alumni will be returning to speak with you about their current professions and their experiences here at LHU. You will be receiving more information about this event through email as soon as final arrangements are made.

I really hope that you plan on participating in some of the events that will be happening over the next few months. The special events calendar on the Honors website should be updated within

the next week or two, so check out the events that will be coming up. In addition, if you have an idea for an event, let us know, and we can see what we can do. The Honors Program is about the students, so let’s see exactly what us students can do to continue to improve the Program!

From the Secretary’s Desk

This being the first newsletter of this semester, let me welcome the new freshmen and the returning students to our beautiful LHU campus and another exciting semester in Honors. I hope you are all settled in, and things are going smoothly for you now as you attend classes and Honors activities. I appreciate all of you who are helping me with the everyday office duties, which include several weekly mailings, errands, maintaining spreadsheets, and yes, every now and then, a little dusting. I could not do it all without you. I have a great group of student workers this year, and you all seem so eager to please me. Thanks again.

On another note, it is with great sadness that I write this article. On September 11, 2001 (9/11), our country was attacked. This date will live in infamy, much as the Pearl Harbor attack did, and your generation will have this monumental account in the history

books of tomorrow. No doubt you will remember the date, time, and where you were when it happened.

I was here working in the office when my daughter emailed me of the first attack. Then I received a phone call from my union president, Cheryl, telling me as she watched the events unfolding on

CNN that the second tower was hit. She called me later to tell me that the Pentagon was also hit, and about the plane crash in Pennsylvania that they thought was also involved in the attack somehow.

How very true that turned out to be. Many heroes were on that flight that went down in Western Pennsylvania. I kind of went numb and just walked around this office telling folks what was happening.

Never in my lifetime did I think we would see an attack on our nation.

That is something that happens in foreign countries. Right? Not any more. One of our former students,

Job Goshi, gave us an account of what he witnessed seeing as how he works in a building very close to the World Trade Center. The Friday after the attack he shared the horror of the



events and shared his faith with us in front of Price Auditorium where we gathered for prayer for our nation and for the massive clean-up efforts that are taking place. As we move on with our lives, and we must, I will never forget the tragic attack in New York City and Washington D.C on September 11, 2001, nor the witnessing of people returning to prayer and to God for healing of our great nation and our souls. GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Sharon

Greetings from Mexico...

Well guys, I hope everyone is doing great and that all the new students are settling into the Haven. I am coming up on half-way through my stay here in Mexico, and I'm having a wonderful time. I can't recommend this experience too highly.

I don't even know where to begin describing the changes I've experienced and the things I have learned. Some of them are funny, like mastering the technique of walking in a moving bus that is driving over speed bumps while weaving through traffic. Other things have been painful. Now I know what it is to wake up one morning and see my country in pain and bleeding and feel so helpless and far away. I know what it is to sink to my knees in a cathedral, look up, and ask, "Why?" accompanied by the shared grief of fellow American students.

I've met people from all over the USA and the world, and it is amazing to hear so many different points of view on life. I never realized how scheduled American life is before coming to Mexico. Here, classes do not start on

time, assignments are occasionally turned in on time, but usually not, and somehow life goes on. I have learned to appreciate "Mexican time" for its tranquility and values of family, friends, and a good meal above all other things. Before I came here, I never would have believed I'd exchange my salad-eating

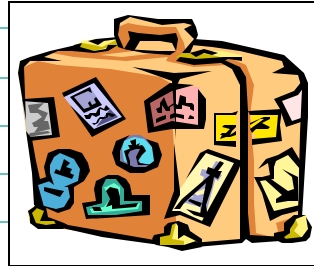
existence for passing three hours sitting around a table eating piles of quesadillas and drinking beer, but I have.

I guess if I had to tell you the most important thing I have discovered, it's that all of us have our cultural differences, but inside we are all the same. No country wants to feel helpless, no one in this world wants their family to be permanently scared by the loss of a husband, brother, son, father, or cousin because the leaders of this world think violence will lead to a peaceful planet. I am here on a campus containing students from many parts of the world, and to me,

the best gift that Mexico has given me is knowing that my friends and family at home are the rocks I will always be able to hold onto when I feel stranded. I also know that my friends here won't always be with me, so instead of studying grammar, killing a night sitting in a cafe watching people go by is a much more fulfilling experience.

I guess that what I'm trying to say is that aside from Spanish, I've learned to prioritize, hold those closest to me in my heart, and know that nothing else matters as long as you are loved. These things do not change, even if you are 3,000 miles away from where you call home. I think about you all every day, and I wish you a great semester.

Love...Olivia Loskoski



Settling In

Megan Gephart

Games called "icebreakers," picnics on Russell's lawn, a brutal game of beach volleyball, and last but not least, speech's from Dr. Knauer...These are the things numerous other Honors freshmen and I will associate with our first day as Honors students at Lock Haven University.

First of all, we were rewarded for being ambitious enough to join the Program with the advantage of moving in a day earlier than the rest of the freshmen. Anyone

who got to their dorm later than their roommate can tell you what a benefit this can be. Who doesn't want first choice of the beds, computer desks, and most importantly, the chance to strategically position themselves near the phone jack? I wouldn't call it selfishness, more like "survival of the fittest."

Honestly, I would be lying if I didn't admit to being a little intimidated at first at the prospect of being an Honors student. It's not like freshmen don't have enough apprehension about adjusting to college life without the

added worry of the extra workload that accompanies Honors course. Who wasn't warned about the infa-

"...I would be lying if I didn't admit to being a little intimidated at first..."

mous Dr. Lebin? Furthermore, Dr. Knauer's speech about the crazy number of hours he estimated we would have to study a week was

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Nostalgic Reflections

Nicole Verardi

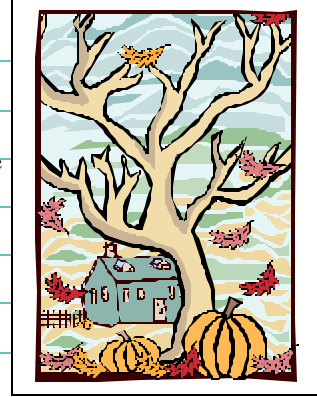
Vibrant green leaves once again transform into golden delights and dance across Ivy Lane. As a junior, I'm already nostalgic about missing the change of seasons in Lock Haven. I can't emphasize how quickly the time seems to run away. Where did September go?

When I think back on how my Lock Haven life has evolved, inevitably, I think of the Honors Program. As a freshman, the Program was full of people that I didn't know, intimidating topics like augmentations and senior projects, and time spent talking about adapting to

college in discussion groups. Now, I look around and see good friends. Those scary things like augmentations are familiar, not intimidating. Even the dreaded senior project does not feel impossible. My hours spent at the "House" may be less, but the impact of the Program has deepened.

What I'm really trying to communicate is the idea of appreciating your time here at Lock Haven and in the Honors Program. Carpe diem. Enjoy the rustle

of leaves on the way to class with a deep breath and a feeling of complete contentedness. Experience a wide palate of activities within the Program. We are in an exciting place in our lives. Never again will there be such a plethora of choices and a large group of people our age. So next time it rains (as it does often here), laugh on the way to class. Maybe even fold up the umbrella. It could be fun.



A Little Extra

We will now be featuring a new section in the OW. It will be a compilation of "odds-and-ends" that we think will be useful, fun, and enriching. Hope you enjoy this new section!

Delineate—1. to draw or trace the outline of; sketch out. 2. To depict in words or gestures; portray.

I am as thin as a knife.
I have a wife.
Who am I?

Did you know...

October is... Adopt-A-Pet Month, Domestic Violence Month, Fire Prevention Month, and Family History Month.

Riddles!

1. The more you take of me, the more of me you leave behind. What am I?
2. What gets wetter, the more it dries?
3. I am the ruler of shovels I have a double.

Answers:
1. Footprints; 2. Towel; 3. King of Spades

Vocabulary Corner:

Vacillate—to swing indecisively from one course of action or opinion to another; be irresolute; waver.

Perturb—to disturb greatly; make uneasy or anxious; upset.

Settling In

(Continued from page 4) enough to scare any incoming freshmen. Added to my growing anxiety about classes were the extra hours I would have to spend each week in discussion groups, something I knew absolutely nothing about. Fortunately, there were many honors upperclassmen will-



ing to answer my questions and share any helpful advice they could offer, including relaying their own experiences as Honors freshmen.

In the end, I made it through orientation better informed and slightly more comfortable about my status. After the first couple of weeks, I

am happy to report that I am doing just fine and adjusting quite well. I'm confident that I made the right decision as far as the Honors Program is concerned, and hopefully many of my fellow classmates can say the same for themselves.

Lock Haven University

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We're on the
Web: WWW.
LHUP.EDU/
HONORS

Interested in giving campus tours? Want to interview perspective Honors students? Would you like to talk to our alumni? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then you should join the Admissions Team. We would love to see you Wednesdays from 1-2!

"I regret that I have but one life to give for my country."

—Nathan Hale

"There is nothing wrong with America that cannot be cured with what is right in America."

—William J. Clinton, former President of the United States of America

"Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country."

—John Fitzgerald Kennedy, former President of the United States of America

"It is not for him to pride himself who loveth his own country, but rather for him who loveth the whole world. The earth is but one country and mankind its citizens."

—Baha'u'llah

"Enjoyed the peace your valor won. Let independence be our boast, Ever mindful what it cost; Ever grateful for the prize, Let its altar reach the skies!"

—Joseph Hopkinson. 1770-1842

"A man's feet must be planted in his country, but his eyes should survey the world."

—George Santayana

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