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Housing crunch? ‘Not so,’ says Residential Life

Kevin Soubly
Senior Staff Writer

With the housing application deadlines approaching, many students around Hope College have become fearful that their housing options will be limited next year. Rumors have been swirling that next year’s seniors want to remain on campus (as opposed to moving into off-campus houses or apartments), which would pose complications to the juniors and underclassmen who also want to remain in on-campus housing.

"The rumors of a housing crunch are "false," Hope College’s Director of Residential Life and Housing John Jobson said.

"Our returning students are always our first priority. We secure their housing first, and then find spots for the incoming students," Jobson said.

In the past, there have been situations when too many students enrolled compared to the number of rooms. When that happens, Jobson said that Residential Life and Housing gets creative. In dorms such as Dykstra, Van Vleck and Kollen, exercise rooms and study lounges have been converted into student housing, when needed.

Although Jobson denied any impending "housing crunch," he made it clear that there is always a good possibility that students may not get their first-choice of housing. He stressed the importance of the second and third choices. Priority is given to those students with the highest number of credits, and men and women go through an entirely separate room-draw. Hope’s housing department tries to keep the male-to-female ratio in each dorm in line with that of the college’s overall student population.

Housing gets creative. In dorms like Kollen, Phelps and Durfee, student life has been made more efficient. Phelps lounges have been converted into study rooms. When that happens, Jobson said that Residential Life and Housing gets creative. In dorms such as Dykstra, Van Vleck and Kollen, exercise rooms and study lounges have been converted into student housing, when needed.

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Hope focuses on global climate change

Sunkyo Hong
Guest Writer

On Thursday, Jan. 31, schools around the nation held discussions, workshops, panels and other events for Focus the Nation’s annual teach-in initiative, which is an effort to educate the nation as a whole on campus (as opposed to the number of rooms. When that happens, Jobson said that Residential Life and Housing gets creative. In dorms such as Dykstra, Van Vleck and Kollen, exercise rooms and study lounges have been converted into student housing, when needed.

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For Hope women, Cook is the most in-demand dorm on campus, whereas for men, Kollen, Phelps and Durfee are most popular.

PANEL— Holland Mayor Al McGeehan ('66) and Holland Board of Public Works Chairwoman Maryam Komejan speak at last week’s Focus the Nation panel discussion, “Reality and Potential in the Holland Area” on Thursday.

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WHAT'S INSIDE

State of the Nation— Economy demands U.S. attention
Come fly away— Hope students study abroad

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In 2005, Hope used about 10 million gallons of water. It cost $13,700 per month.
About 300 pounds of food is wasted for each weekday meal in Phelps.
The average American uses about 575 pounds of paper each year.

Things Hope has recently done to be better earthkeepers:

- Switched to biodegradable cups in the Kletz
- Purchased biodiesel vehicles for grounds work
- Installed low-flow toilets in numerous buildings
- Increased the local food options in Phelps
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Comming up at Hope

Thursday  2/7
Meijer Run
Dorm Run: 8 p.m. – 10 p.m. 
Meijer Runs are sponsored by Student Congress.

Friday  2/8
Chapel
Kathy Sundararajan is giving the message at 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday  2/13
Monday Schedule
Welcome back from Winter Break.
Chapel
Bathe and Paul Oelum will be speaking at 10:30 a.m.

Thursday  2/14
Valentine’s Day Poetry Reading
Come hear Chaucer’s “Parliament of Fowls” at Cus and Chaucer from 11 p.m. – 1:15 a.m.
Note: No Meijer Run
Do not show up at the Dorm Run Flagpole between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Friday  2/15
Chapel
Trygve Johnson and Paul Boersma will be leading today’s chapel at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday  2/17
The Gathering
Trygve Johnson will be speaking on James at 8 p.m.

Monday  2/18
Chapel
Kristen Johnson of the Crossroads Project will be speaking at 10:30 a.m.
Freemasonry Lecture
Find out about the Freemasonry controversy from 4 p.m. until 5:15 p.m. with Harry Boonstra.

In Brief
Winter Break
The Anchor will resume on Feb. 20. Enjoy your break and please drive safely.

V-Day
Feb. 14 is V-Day, and in honor of this occasion, the Park Theatre will be showing Eve Ensler’s “Vagina Monologues.” The play won’t actually take place until Feb. 28 - Mar. 1, but tickets will be available for the first time this year on campus. V-Day was created as a response to women’s abuse.

Valentine’s Day
Hope College is planning some fun ways to celebrate this year’s Valentine’s Day. Ahead of time, students can buy pink roses to send to their friend or significant other. The cost is $5 (or $6 if you want to include a personal note) and the proceeds go to support Dance Marathon.

Also, from Tuesday-Thursday, Student Development is sponsoring a Valentine’s Day Veterans Program. Stop by between 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and make a card for someone serving in the armed forces.

Lastly, Cup and Chaucer is holding a poetry reading of its namesake’s “Parliament of Fowls” from 11 p.m. – 11:50 p.m.

Hope focuses on global climate change

FOCUS, from page 1

However, when the EIG asked the administration to sign the Presidents’ Climate Commitment to reduce Hope’s carbon emissions and become carbon neutral — produce only as much carbon as gets absorbed — Buhrman did not sign it. Shidemantle said that this has to do with a lack of funds to allocate towards the Commitment. The administration encouraged the EIG to continue raising awareness on campus about students’ ecological footprints, so that they could adopt policies reflective of the student body.

When asked what Hope College students can do at a personal level to help reduce the effects of global warming, Shidemantle replied that students can recycle, walk or ride a bike instead of driving to lunch and unplug their appliances when not in use. “Dr. Bouma-Prediger re-leased the statistic last year dur-
Democracy in Iraq ‘unlikely’

Sam Ogles
National News Editor

More than one year has passed since the announcement of the troop surge in Iraq. The president’s plan involved increasing the number of U.S. personnel in Iraq by 30,000. The troops were also expected to add more than triple that figure of their own troops. All of these troops, combined with increases from coalition forces, were expected to significantly stabilize Baghdad and other regions of Iraq. Now one year later the surge has been largely successful toward that end. But the troop surge had an important reason for being implemented. Its stated purpose was to create a stable atmosphere in which the various ethnic groups could find a political compromise. The goal of the surge was to foster the creation of a power-sharing deal which would be the foundation for an effective and independent Iraq. This has not occurred. To understand why this has not happened, Iraq’s history and ethnic conflict must be examined. Professor Joel Toppen (political science) explains that Great Britain created the borders for modern-day Iraq after defeating the Ottoman Empire in WWI. Within these borders are three main ethnic groups: Shias, Arabs, Sunni Arabs and Kurds. Shias are the largest ethnic group making up roughly 55 percent, Sunni Arabs are roughly 18.5 percent and Kurds are 21 percent. Under the rule of Saddam Hussein, a Sunni, his people enjoyed a disproportionate distribution of wealth and power. Attempts were made to move Sunni populations into non-rich areas or oil rich cities controlled by the Kurds. The Shias’ majority population was left relatively powerless before the fall of Hussein’s government. And the Kurds suffered severe oppression and attacks from Hussein. Because European powers redrew the map for much of the Middle East, the Kurds are now the largest nation on the planet without a state. These instabilities have an important reason for being. The upcoming election will be indicative of US leaders’ lack of understanding of Iraq’s divisions. (This move) is indicative of US leaders’ lack of understanding of Iraq’s divisions, says Toppen. “It may make the situation worse.”

U.S. economic troubles continue

Gordie Fall
Staff Writer

In recent weeks, the subject of the economy is on the mind of virtually everyone. According to the AP, the United States has lost nearly overall jobs for the month of January. This was the first overall monthly job loss since August 2003, with total losses of around 178,000 jobs. This 52-month streak of job increase was stopped due to job losses in prominent industries, such as construction. Many of these losses are due to construction companies cutting jobs, since a lack of home purchases shows that new homes are not needed. This is a sign of dwindling home construction and how the economy is slowing industry. These signs are widely speculated to be barbersons of the economy as a democracy Toppen concludes that it is “unlikely.”

Heath Ledger missed by students

Rachel Syens
Staff Writer

“I couldn’t believe it and I flipped on the news and there he was, plastered on every news station,” Hillary McIntyre (11) said upon hearing that actor Heath Ledger had passed away. Ledger, age 28, was found dead in his apartment on Jan. 22. According to The New York Times, Ledger was found naked in his bed by his housekeeper and a masseuse who came for an appointment. No illegal drugs were found, but police did find a bottle of prescription sleeping pills. In a November 2007 New York Times Interview, Ledger confessed that during the filming of the latest Batman installment, “The Dark Knight,” in which he plays the Joker, he was not getting very much sleep. “Last week I probably slept an average of two hours a night,” Ledger said in the interview. After two pills of Ambien, Ledger was still able to sleep for an hour. Also found near Ledger’s body was a rolled-up $20 bill, which police indicated was folded in a way that could be used for drugs, according to Fox News. However, no visible residue of drugs was found on the bill. There were also six different prescription medications found in Ledger’s apartment, including pills to treat insomnia and anxiety. The New York Times said that police found no evidence of suicide, and Fox News reports that police think Ledger could have died from a drug overdose, see LEDGER, page 4

POPE SPEAKS ON CHARITY; LENTEN SEASON BEGINS

atican City (AP) — Pope Benedict XVI said charity was a “duty of justice” for both Catholic and non-Catholic believers, and they must assume greater responsibility to help the lost fortunate. Focusing on alleviating in his traditional message for Lent - the time the Church sets aside for fasting and prayer in preparation for Easter - the pope warned Tuesday against doing-gooders who are it for personal aggrandizement, saying that true charity goes beyond philanthropy.

He said that helping the poor and abandoned is for Christians a “duty of justice, even prior to being an act of charity.” Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 6.

U.S. ARM VY SUICIDE RATE INCREASES

ashington (AP) — Multiple new efforts aimed at stemming suicides in the Army are falling short of their goal: The service anticipates another jump in the annual number of soldiers who killed themselves or tried to, including in Iraq and Afghanistan war zones.

The total of 121 suicides, if all are confirmed, would be more than double the 52 reported in 2001, before the Sept. 11 attacks. The toll was 87 suicides by 2005, and 102 suicides in 2006.
Drug company fined over Zyprexa

Eli Lilly charged with illegal promotion of anti-psychotic drug

Erin Fortner
Staff Writer

Eli Lilly, a major U.S. pharmaceutical company, may settle with federal prosecutors for over $1 billion in a civil and criminal case for illegally promoting the antipsychotic drug Zyprexa. According to the New York Times, if the case becomes resolved it will be the largest settlement a drug company has ever paid for breaking federal laws concerning the promotion of medicine. Eli Lilly may also end up pleading guilty to a misdemeanor criminal charge.

Zyprexa's side effects include severe weight gain, and it is only approved to treat people with schizophrenia and severe bipolar disorder. The American Diabetes Association found that Zyprexa can cause diabetes in some patients. Eli Lilly has already paid a $1.2 billion fine to settle 30,000 lawsuits where people claimed Zyprexa caused them to develop diabetes and other diseases.

In 2000, Eli Lilly launched a marketing program called Viva Zyprexa. Drug representatives for Eli Lilly were instructed to keep selling Zyprexa to Medicare and Medicaid, the government programs that are the biggest customers of the drug, stated the New York Times.

Recently, there have been inquiries into the ethics of state Medicaid and Medicare programs, whose advisory panels consist mainly of doctors and pharmacists. Ultimately, these panels select the drugs which will be available for mostly vulnerable patients who qualify as poor or disabled.

An MSNBC article reports, "An Associated Press review of records in Minnesota found that a doctor and a pharmacist in the eight-member state panel simultaneously got big checks — more than $350,000 to one — from pharmaceutical companies for speaking about their products... The top drugs for Minnesota Medicaid patients covered by the panel's advice in recent years have been schizophrenia treatments from Eli Lilly Co. & AstraZeneca PLC.

Lilly's Zyprexa from 2000-2004, followed by AstraZeneca's Seroquel in 2005 and Eli Lilly, 2006. About a third of the drugs on the state's preferred drug list are made by companies that paid (physicians and pharmacists)."

In an interview with the Anchor, Holland pharmaceutical Mike Schrock said a main problem in the pharmaceutical field is that professionals are being educated by peers who are sponsored by drug companies. Schrock, who entered the pharmaceutical profession 23 years ago, recognizes that this common practice results in a favorable bias toward certain pharmaceutical companies and their drugs.

"It should be illegal for pharmaceutical companies to compensate the pharmacists and doctors on state Medicare/Medicaid panels. Decisions concerning medication lists in such programs should be made independently and free of connection with any pharmaceutical industry," Schrock said.

The Holland pharmacist said a positive change in the pharmaceutical field is that drug companies are now legally required to print a disclaimer on any information they publish. This practice ensures that readers of pharmaceutical information are aware of a material's source.

Overall, Schrock believes there should be strengthened laws in regards to the accountability of pharmaceutical companies and their executives.

"It's not even about good or evil," said Schrock. "Pharmaceutical companies make business choices based on monetary benefit."

Students lament Ledger death

• LEDGER, from page 3

but "his death appeared to be accidental," an autopsy taken on Wednesday, Jan 23 was "inconclusive," and more testing is currently underway.

Ledger got his start in Hollywood at the age of 19 in the teenage romantic comedy "10 Things I Hate About You." He then took his departure from love stories to more provocative films, acting in "The Patriot" opposite Mel Gibson and the critically acclaimed "Monster's Ball," and earning an Oscar for Ang Lee's controversial film "Brokeback Mountain.

Ledger met Michelle Williams, an actress, on the set of "Brokeback Mountain." The couple had a daughter, Matilda, in fall 2005, and split up in fall 2007. Williams has recently released a statement saying she is "heartbroken" over Ledger's death.

Ledger carried a large fan base across the globe, including many students at Hope's Chapel.

Seth Carlson ('10) said, "I thought (Ledger) played each role he had attained in his own style and contributed much to the acting community."

McIntyre said that the often joked that he was going to marry him. Both Carlson and McIntyre cited "10 Things I Hate About You" as being among their favorite Heath Ledger films.

Before his death, Ledger had just finished filming "The Dark Knight" and was in the middle of filming "The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus." Both films are still scheduled to be released.

Alumni, athlete Brady dies

• BRADY, from page 2

His student leadership culminated in an address at Holland's Centennial Part, after the death of Martin Luther King, Jr. In past years, Brady was well-known around Hope's campus, appearing at many recent historical events at Hope, including Hope's last game at Holland Civic Center, and was the keynote speaker at the dedication of the Martha Miller Center.

Over fall break, Brady spoke to the Baker Scholars on how Hope College can affect your life. "Floyd Brady was one energetic 62-year-old man I've ever met. He was very well-spoken and gave a great presentation on the value of an education at Hope college and how it can lead into you becoming a more well-rounded and personable individual," Jon Koopmans ('09) said.
Wildly proportioned and a little titillating
Billy Mayer's sculptures capture attention with gold leaf, ore and bright fuzz

Karle Luldens
Guest Writer

"Wake Up, Thunderbabe" is almost a truly random title for this show," sculpture professor Billy Mayer said, and yet, "serendipitously," it ends up fitting quite nicely.

Mayer was asked to provide a name for the exhibition a year ago, when his spring 2007 sabbatical was just beginning and the direction of his work was not yet clear. During his sabbatical, he worked in a studio in Saginaw, Texas, creating 10 original pieces of sculpture for his upcoming show, as well as the continuation of a large-scale project that began some 15 years ago. He didn't know what the show's title would be, he replied, just something short and sweet. And the "name" naughtily stuck.

Mayer's work does indeed seem short and sweet, at least at first glance. Colorful and bright, with a glossy sheen here and a bit of red fuzz there, the assemblages tend to resemble stacks of toys. This is no coincidence; toys are often the inspiration for his sculptures, and along with a myriad of other items he sees or finds in everyday life. (I am fascinated by the idea of taking things that are throwaway, and suddenly imbuing them with a little more value than you normally would to look at the object a little bit differently," Mayer said.

The materials he uses know no bounds, ranging from clay, terra cotta and porcelain to iron ore, encaustic and rayon fibers. Terra cotta and porcelain to iron and copper to iron, the whimsical and the creepy. He compares his work to the dramatic artwork that adorns the caravans of old-fashioned freak shows, meant to grab the viewer's attention with images that are provocative.

"They're pieces about current issues, they always are, that's what I do. They're three-dimensional political cartoners," Mayer said. One glistening object, complete with pieces of coal and gilded with gold leaf, is a comment on Halliburton; another pushes the viewer to consider humanity's inevitable interference with nature. But the viewer shouldn't feel too bad if the messages sometimes seem difficult to extract.

"I'm not sure what they all mean yet," Mayer said. "I might not know what they meant for a long time."

"Short and Sweet" will be on display in the DeVere Gallery from Feb. 11 to March 7, 2008.

Senior profile: Rachel Wells thinks back, looks forward
Amy Seokup
Guest Writer

Theater major Rachel Wells ('08) is no stranger to the Hope College stage. In her four years at Hope, she has acted in six productions, along with the usual productions that she has gone to see. Wells said her favorite part to play at Hope was the character of Rose in "Rose and the Rice," one of Hope's 2007 spring productions, a play written by guest artist Nathan Allen in collaboration with the cast and crew.

Wells said, "It felt like the character was being born out of my own personality...It was an incredible experience."

Recently, the cast of "Rose and the Rice" took the play to the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival where it placed first out of nine productions in the Great Lakes Region.

Wells said, "I'd never had a chance to recreate a show before and it was cool because we got to make the show tighter, clearer. It was a better show overall."

The cast will find out in March if the show will move on to the national competition.

Wells has also been involved behind the scenes in many ways including stage management, publicity, lighting, and sound design. "It's not an actor, I would be really interested in sound design," Wells said. "I like the musicianship and how you can underscore what the director is trying to do and how that creates a final package for the show."

After graduation, Wells plans to pursue her acting aspirations.

Wells is currently in the process of auditing. If she does not receive a job offer with a theater company, she plans to move to Chicago.

"I'll probably get a job at Starbucks and start auditioning for things. I'm not sure how long I want to pursue the wandering lifestyle, but right now I am young and single, and that's what I want to do," Wells said.

You can see Wells as part of Viola in Hope's production of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" playing April 2-5.

IDT SUCCESSFUL

IDT, Michigan's only professional tap and jazz company, presented its annual concert at Hope College on Jan. 25 and 26.

IDT, formerly InSync Dance Theatre, is an affiliate of the department of dance at Hope. The company is led by artistic directors Rosanne Barton-DeVries and Ray Tudor of the Hope dance faculty. The performance featured a variety of works created by Barton-DeVries, Tudor and other artists.

One of the pieces premiered, "BodyTalk," was created especially for IDT by Japanese choreographer Hiroko Maeda. "BodyTalk" is a testament of the power of movement expression. After a major career threatening injury, Maeda reaffirmed her love for dance by choreographing the piece. The work was made possible (through grants from the college's Patrons for the Arts and Cultural Affairs.

The concert enjoyed a large audience of both Hope students and the Holland community.

This Week in ART

Wednesday 2/6
Cool Beans Kletz performers 9-10 p.m. art hosts 10-11 p.m. Stephen Hobson

Thursday 2/7
Concerto/Aria Concert 7:30 p.m. Dimnent Chapel

Wednesday 2/13
Cool Beans Kletz performers 9-11 p.m. national singer/songwriter Justin Bramm opening act Johnny Yitko

Friday 2/15
Opening Reception 5-7 DeVere Gallery. All are invited.

Ongoing
"Short and Sweet" Feb. 11 to March 7, DeVere Gallery. Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

IN BRIEF

THEATER DEPARTMENT PRESENTS 'CRIMES OF THE HEART'

The Hope College theater department will perform "Crimes of the Heart" following winter break. The Pulitzer-prize winning play by Beth Henley is in a dark comedy set in Mississippi. Opening night is Feb. 15 at 8 p.m. in DeVilll Theatre. Tickets are $10 for adults, $5 for students/senior citizens.

ARTS PAGE PUBLISHED REVIEWS

This year the Anchor Arts page will publish reviews of movies, books and CDs. If you are interested in submitting a recent release, contact anchor@hope.edu with "to Arts editor" as the subject. We are interested in reviewing a $4 for students/senior citizens.
THERESA FERNANDEZ
WHERE: PHILADELPHIA
FALL 2007
CURRENT CLASS: SENIOR
MAJOR AT HOPE: STUDIO ART AND COMMUNICATION

What was the highlight of your experience?
My internship; I worked at Banyan Productions. They produce reality television like "Trading Spaces." I did graphics for the development department which was basically made up of interns. You could tell that Banyan really appreciated their interns. They gave us real work to do and made sure that we were getting as much out of the internship as possible.

How would you describe your time abroad?
It's a chance to experience life outside of college. The domestic programs are really just a trial run at the real world. Within the first two weeks of being in Philly, I had already learned to find an apartment and get an internship. I feel completely capable of going into a new city and repeating that process.

What would you say to people who are interested in study abroad?
No matter where you end up studying, you are going to learn something about yourself. And there is no better time to study abroad.

LEAH WYATT
WHERE: QUERETARO, MEXICO
MAY AND JUNE TERM 2006
CURRENT CLASS: JUNIOR
MAJOR AT HOPE: NURSING, SPANISH MINOR

What was the highlight of your experience?
The highlight of my trip was definitely experiencing the culture. I loved the idea of being immersed in another culture and learning a new way of living. The people in Mexico are so friendly and so hospitable. I loved the excursions we took because we got to see awesome Mexican history and authentic culture. My host family was also a huge highlight of my trip because I learned so much from them and got to experience their lifestyle. I still keep in touch with them and am planning on returning to visit them soon!

What would you tell someone who is interested in study abroad?
Don't think twice! Go! (Study abroad) opens your eyes to the big world and to what is going on outside the U.S. You can really learn a lot about yourself and how you adapt when you are outside of your comfort zone.

What did you learn while studying abroad?
I learned to be an advocate and represent my country. I learned that while I myself am small in this world, I know that even the smallest things in life can make a difference.
ERIN RICHARDS
SALAMANCA, SPAIN
FALL 2007
CURRENT CLASS: JUNIOR
MAJOR AT HOPE: EXERCISE SCIENCE

What was the highlight of your experience?

It's really hard to point just one experience that was my favorite. I really liked spending time with the locals and also traveling around Europe.

How would you describe study abroad in general?

I would describe my experience as amazing and life changing, one of the best things to ever happen to me.

What would you say to people who are interested in study abroad?

I would tell people who are interested to go for it. It was really scary and kind of overwhelming at first, but worth it in the end. Do whatever it takes to study abroad; you can really learn a lot.

What did you learn? (In school, spiritually, personally, etc.)

I learned to be a lot more independent. For most of the traveling that we did, we had to arrange everything and it made me feel really sure of myself. I also learned a lot about the culture and just how different people live.

RYAN GARY
WHERE: WOLLONGONG, AUSTRALIA
FROM: JULY-NOVEMBER 2007
CURRENT CLASS: JUNIOR
MAJOR AT HOPE: UNDECLARED

What was the highlight of your experience?

I had a blast there. The highlight was simply experiencing a culture and lifestyle completely different from anything here in the U.S. I did a lot of traveling all around Australia, New Zealand and Fiji, and met people from all places of the world.

What would you tell someone who is considering study abroad?

To anyone who's interested in studying abroad, my only advice is just do it. In my opinion, everyone should experience living in another culture because you won't come back the same person. Whether it's Australia, Chile or China, somewhere that people speak English or eat off the floor and speak in clicks, get out of the U.S. and stretch yourself to be challenged by another lifestyle. The knowledge that you gain isn't something that could ever learn in Holland, Mich.

What did you learn and how will the experience affect the rest of your life?

As for me, I didn't learn much in school, but I did pick up surfing, the lingo and how to get by on less money than I ever thought possible. I don't regret it for a second.
In pursuit of knowledge

Evelyn Daniel

A campus divided

My cluster in Dykstra during freshman year was very quiet on Mondays, mostly to myself. The religious views and practices I found class assignment. I have the utmost respect I didn't care much about missing Chapel chor has printed two letters to the editors even the simplest of tasks. Not only is that into question Campus Safety and decried it Dykema, Jan. 30 issue) that have brought Its outreach and range extends over as an unfit office that is incapable to handle any the following: the safety and well-being of students, faculty and staff; parking en-
forcement; enforcement of campus poli-
tions; security of all of the approximately 150 buildings (Hope Dykema pointed out) that Campus Safety is not meeting expecta-
tions and is not functioning 100 percent as a security organization must be. It is right for us to think such things. However, I think that we must then create dialogue about Campus Safety's purpose. We should be asking, "What are the main priorities that Campus Safety needs to focus on and pour a majority of their efforts into?" As an RA in Kollen Hall, I have interacted with Campus Safety on numerous oc-
casions, some of which occurred because of poor choices that students made. In those interactions, I have never seen a Campus Safety officer not knowing what to do or in some pretty tough situations. They seem to have an answer for all the tough questions that arise in those situations. And in very se-
rious situations, Campus Safety acted with a swiftness that I felt was correct and proper. In addition, when any problems have arisen, the Campus Safety office has been more than helpful in resolving the issue. My point is this: that Campus Safety does so much for Hope College, and we students don't see it. I personally was on a regular basis that Campus Safety suc-
cedes in providing basic security and safe-
ity for students. I think that this should be their primary role and focus, rather than auxiliary functions such as lockouts.

I think it's time to stop complaining and start appreciating and thanking those who are involved with Campus Safety. Next time you see a Campus Safety personnel, thank him or her for keeping you safe and for helping Hope College run smoothly because it wouldn't without them.

Now, because I have placed myself in their shoes, I expect you to do the same. Also, don't sweat the small stuff—the neg-

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Patriarchy, romantic gestures go hand in hand: both good

To the Editors:

In the interest of full disclosure, I will say that I know and highly regard both Nick and Evelyn. Any debate about so-
cial norms is a risky one, and bound to stir up controversy among such socially active people. I enjoy such discussions, even though I am not as socially active. Therefore, I can say that they have both failed to make a respectable case for or against chivalry.

Nick, on the one hand, wants to give chivalry an added element, that it expresses a particular sort of value—the kind we give others in romantic relation-
ships. He writes that such "romantic gestures," as expressions of love, cannot also be "violent expressions" of a patri-
archal society. But Nick has created a false dilemma. The question of what sort of expression can be attributed to opening a lady's door remains un-
asked. Surely it demonstrates something like, "I love you as my own and will take good care of you, as my own." But this is no more impossible in a patriarchal society, than a black overseer in the Old South. They may be simply more benign examples of an ultimately unacceptable institution. So, Nick's objection to Evelyn does not hold. If we reject such a gesture, like we reject slavery, we must reject chivalry.

Evelyn's response, then, is no better off. Instead of coming back and saying that traditional gender roles, and all their trappings, are wrong regardless of the per-
son or relationship, she affirms them, but as an egalitarian. Indeed, I think that this similar problem for them both is ground-
ell in the fact that they are both aiming to agree with the more radical position, "an equal place in society." I would tend to agree with the more radical position, that an egalitarian society cannot reason-
ably have people opening doors for each other as romantic gestures, or any such-like. The question of who opens a door for whom is not one that should be exercised in the void of romantic gestures. Patriarchy, because they are not subjective or cultural (or, perhaps, religious) conditions that ought to predetermine our treatment of one another in a society of equals.

Then again, if we simply cannot stand not to be romantic or cultural, perhaps we also shouldn't try to be egalitarian. Is it so inconceivable that 1. acting either out of love for someone, or as a deferential treatment to women (Is there a dif-
ference?), should reject the constraints of egalitarian society and open a lady's door merely because that is the meaningly thing to do? It seems to me to be a sad state of affairs when I cannot. I suppose I will have to throw away all those country-western, romanti-
comedy, and kick in Shakespeare and the Catholic Church to boot.

—Clayton Orr ('09)
Senior Slainte

Joe Seymour

The enigma of Nickelback

One question has kept me sleepless for months, and I feel that by expressing my concerns I can somehow solve my soul's dire puzzle. Why does everyone hate Chad Kroeger and his band Nickelback? I mean, really, why is there so much vitriol focused toward these lyrical Canadians? My other brother told me that Nickelback is the San Antonio Spurs of rock; no one really likes them, but they still are unstoppable. He has a point.

The last six years have been good to Nickelback, as they have sold nearly 25 million albums and have received numerous awards and Grammy nominations. Still, a visceral hate for them runs deeper than the Maranans. Could it be due to their Canadian nationality, like a form of xenophobia? Last time I checked, Congress hasn't pushed for a border fence to keep out the likes of Chad Kroeger. Maybe it's the uncomfortable combination of the words Canadian and rock, like sweaty feet or warm mucous. Or could it simply be their success with catchy songs and that style of pop country, including "Rockstar," "Photograph," and "Animals?" No one wants deep verbiage or a sentence for a song title, right?

The hidden, yet massive, fan base that supports Nickelback's quest for global domination is another issue. I have never seen a person buy or own an original Nickelback CD. This leads me to believe that their fans maintain a paradoxical life; they like the band's songs, but cannot fathom what a true Nickelback fan looks like. There are other music fan stereotypes I can easily imagine, such as my country music-loving Tony Mandolin, who falls under the Wilco/Bob Dylan/Sonic Youth crowd. He urges me every time I belt out the lyrics to "Rockstar." Tony says that Nickelback listeners are tone deaf. So by his logic, Helen Keller would have been a die-hard groupie. Perhaps, at some point, it's time to come clean and speak honestly. I feel like I'm standing up at an AA meeting, saying, "My name is Joe, and I listen to Nickelback." That confession earns a condescending laugh from my disinterested all-rock roommate. Sorry if I've surprised anyone. Before the Hope Campus has me tarred and feathered, let me offer a few excuses for my musical addiction.

One reason is that at parties, bowling alleys, and other places where I have been simultaneously playing when I'm having a great time. Consequently, songs like "How You Remind Me" have become an egotistical-conditioned stimulus that triggers feelings of happiness (and I salivate, too). Additionally, I have found retaliation from my Dormian sister, Phil Sag and Cosmos' true brothers.

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Letters to the Editors

Don't stereotype Greeks

To the Editors:

Mr. Ogles’ article contributes to the stereotype of Greek life as incidentally depicted by the media in movies such as “Animal House” or “Van Wilder.” His irresponsible portrayal of Greeks as mindless individuals, enslaved to a “drinking culture,” is one of the most blatantly closed-minded generalizations I have ever encountered in my four years as a sorority woman. As I look forward to beginning medical school in the fall, I would like to state that joining a sorority was one of the best academic and personal sacrifices I have ever made.

I began college devoted to the pursuit of my academic endeavors, quickly desiring guidance from others in the process. My freshman year taught me that the women who follow the same path, and help to create similar, valuable opportunities. Greek life is the only community at Hope College to establish and cultivate a student-to-student mentoring program.

The overwhelming majority of those participating in New Member Education would never claim that the process was easy. They would readily agree, however, that the experience was worth it. The same can be said for the rigorous pre-medical course work. Did I find chemistry particularly “pleasant”? No. Did I make sacrifices to succeed? Yes. This class pushed me to my limits, but completing that course made me a better, more responsible student and person. I will graduate with the skills I developed through this experience.

The backbone of our New Member Education process is rooted in the same philosophy. Not surprisingly, Greek alumni donate the most money back to the college. Their continued donations are a testament to the long lasting personal rewards they have ascertained, due in large part to their involvement in Greek life.

Greek life fills the gaps at Hope College. This includes the enormous amount of money we raise for philanthropic causes such as Dance Marathon and Relay for Life. People become involved with Greek life because they are looking to fulfill a need that cannot be met elsewhere. Perhaps it is to form an “independent” group of fellow students and support the fabric of Hope life.

While I did not agree with all the policies and activities that took place when I was in the fraternity, the positive contributions that these organizations can make and do for both the college and its surrounding community and other charitable organizations are enormous. Of course, any such organizations have the responsibility to “regulate and police themselves” in an effort to prevent abuses and improve the overall system. It is obviously impossible to completely eliminate any abuse from occurring in the future. However, the Hope College administration and the fraternities and sororities are to be commended for having taken steps to prevent that as much as possible, yet at the same time providing for appropriate disciplinary actions and consequences for individuals who choose to abuse the privileges of participating in the Greek system.

In conclusion, I would just add that the Greek system is not for everyone. I will admit that I only participated in a fraternity at Hope for two years before I chose to form an “independent” group of fellow students and support the fabric of Greek life.

—Tod Harburn (78)

The Editor’s Response

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Ultimate Frisbee takes on competition

James Ralston
Sports Editor

Frisbee has often been considered a symbol of college life. The laid back feel of tossing a disc goes hand in hand with the stereotypical mind set of a carefree undergrad. Hope College has embraced this culture fully — from the highly popular Frisbee golf course that runs through campus, to the less well known ultimate Frisbee team.

“The ultimate club has been around for about a couple of decades,” captain Eddie Helderop ('09) said. “The team is really young this year. We are working on recruiting new people all the time and, we are very happy with the amount of freshmen that are coming out.”

Ultimate offers a very different opportunity from most sports at Hope. Not only is it a club sport, it also presents unique opportunities for Hope students to compete against strong opponents.

“Unlike any other sport, ultimate offers us the opportunity to compete against some of the best players in the state,” Sam Baker ('09) pictured. “Because of Hope’s strong history in ultimate we have some incredible alumni who have made a name for themselves in Michigan. These connections help us to go up against some of the best competitors and teams in the state.”

On the official practices and tournaments, the ultimate club also has pickup games as an opportunity for players to hone their skills and learn from others. “We have pickup games in the winter to work on strength, conditioning and skills. They meet every Tuesday and Thursday in the Dow Center at 9:45 p.m.”

James Ralston
Sports Editor

Hockey ranked No. 1 closing in on ACHA tournament

Gordie Fall
Sports Writer

The Hope College hockey team is the number-one-ranked team in DIII American Collegiate Hockey Association, with a record of 17-2-0. Hope’s last game was a win against Dili American Collegiate Hockey Association, with a record of 17-2-0.

For more information about the ultimate Frisbee club, email ultimate@hope.edu. Also pictured, Laura Scherer ('08).

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Track teams open season in Wisconsin

Although Hope College's campus remains snow covered, the men's and women's track teams have begun their indoor seasons. Last weekend, the Dutch kicked off its season at the Tadd Metzger Indoor Invitational in Carthage, Wis. The men's team finished in fifth place and the women in fourth.

Jon Kinsey

On the men's side, the top performers included: Sean Bergsma ('09), second in the high jump; Ryan Jara ('10), third in the 5,000 meters (15:25.77); Aaron Clark ('08), fourth in the 400 meters (51.76); Jeff Minkus ('10), fourth in triple jump (44-1 1/4); Daniel Sultz ('08), fifth in the 5,000 meters (15:53.82); Zach King ('09), seventh in the 3,000 meters (8:54.48) and eighth in mile (4:34.02); Nick Rindi ('11), eighth in 55-meter hurdles (8:03.39); and Naie VandeGuchte ('08), eighth in high jump (5-11 1/4).

The women top finishers included Nora Kuper ('09), eighth in 55 meters (10.82); Emily Kreichelt ('11), eighth in 200 meters (23.42); Susan Savasky ('11), sixth in the mile (5:38.18); Joanne Gabl ('10), sixth in the 3,000 meters (11:08.30); Sarah Malter ('09) and Elle Munno ('11), sixth (20:23.33) and eighth (20:33.68) in the 5,000 meters; Kara VandeGuchte ('11), fourth in 55-meter hurdles (9.93) and third in high jump (5-1 3/4); Christina Lis ('09) and Kylie Topoff ('11), second (5:23.34) and forth (5-1 3/4) in high jump; Emily Vedder-Meer ('09) and Rebekah Woods ('09), second (9:11 3/4) and third (8:6) in pole vault.

In preparation for the invitational, the teams have been training the best they can despite the winter weather. "At this time of year the weather greatly influences what we can do since we are working outdoors," coach Mark Northuis said. "We often times will take the team bus off-campus and have the distance runners run back to campus with the wind or go in search of cleared roads to run on."

Northuis, who primarily works with the distance runners, has concentrated on multiple areas to prepare the runners for the indoor season. "We have been primarily focusing on developing our endurance base and stamina, muscular strength and flexibility," Northuis said. Although neither team finished in the top three at the invitational, both had respectable finishes considering the weather and limited amount of training. Also, the indoor season allows an opportunity for new runners to adjust to college competition before NCAA events.

This weekend is obviously our first meet while our competition at the meet has been competing since early December," Northuis said. "Our goals for this meet are to introduce the new runners to college-level intensity and to get a measure of the meet." Both teams have two more indoor meets until their spring training trip in Georgia. Following the training trip, the teams will begin their outdoor season and MIAA competition.

"We are training through the indoor meet season in preparation for spring break and the outdoor season," Northuis said. "However, we will be working on race tactics that help them later in the season."

Men drop first match to University of Chicago

Women's team aims for title

The Hope College men's tennis team opened its season on Saturday, Feb. 2 with an 8-1 loss to the University of Chicago. "This was a good match," said coach Jon Lautz ('09). "The team is very young, but does not lack in experience or talent. The team unity is really special this year," Garcia said. "We are looking forward to a close knit group of girls. They all are on the same level and relate to each other."

The Dutch are hoping to improve on last year's performance when they went 1-2 against Wheaton, Aquinas and Grand Valley, while their lone win came against Aquinas, winning five matches to Aquinas' four. Danielle Werley ('10) led the team in singles wins last year with a 15-6 record, and Samantha Stille ('09) received first team all-MIAA honors in 2007.

Along with having a strong opening weekend, the Dutch will be looking to improve on their third place finish in the MIAA, when the outdoor season arrives. "We are definitely going for number one in the MIAA this year," Garcia said.

Tennis teams swing into 2008 indoor season

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"We want to win every match and we know that we are good enough to do very well in the conference," -- Jon Lautz ('11)