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FAITH MEETS WORLD
Students, faculty share in Calvin’s “International Development” conference

Shannon Craig

‘06 BUDGET THREATENS HOLLAND’S AMTRAK LINE

Robert Michael Lynch of Three Oaks, former security guard and murder suspect of 1979 Hope senior Janet Chandler, remains jailed without bond awaiting a preliminary hearing in Holland District Court on Wednesday, Feb. 22. At that hearing, the court will decide whether enough evidence exists to warrant a trial.

Lynch was arraigned Wednesday, Feb. 8, on three counts of murder.

If Lynch stands trial, a jury could find him guilty of any of the three counts. If convicted, each count carries a mandatory life sentence.

BILL SUGGESTS THAT ENGLISH BE THE OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE

A bill has currently been introduced by Representative Jack Hoogendyk of Kalamazoo in a committee of the state house that would make English the official language of the State of Michigan.

According to Hoogendyk, immigrants who enter this country simply too expensive, costing the state millions of dollars.

SURVEY REPORTS FEMALE GRADS’ SALARIES

A 2003 graduate survey revealed that female Hope grads receive significantly less salary than male counterparts within the same discipline. The survey also discovered that of respondents who said they were dissatisfied with their employment, 50 percent had salaries less than $22,000 per year.

The survey initially started in the early 1960’s. It is a one page survey containing 20 questions that assess recent graduates’ careers and factors that impact their jobs.

CAR CATCHES FIRE ON 14TH STREET

On Feb. 20 a female student’s vehicle caught on fire while driving near the intersection of 14th Street and College Avenue. Holland Fire Department assisted in the accident by blocking College Avenue between 14th and 15th Street.

Nicholas Engel

CO-operation for fraternity Alpha Phi Omega is sponsoring an “ugly” contest starting Tuesday, Feb. 21 and ending the evening of Friday, Mar. 3, in order to raise funds for Dance Marathon.

For two weeks, six faculty members will compete against each other for the privilege of laying claim to the prestigious title “ugliest faculty on Hope’s campus,” as well as an undisclosed prize.

Three jars were given to each of the teachers to help them elicit money from their students in class.

ALPHA PHI OMEGA “UGLY” CONTEST SUPPORTS DANCE MARATHON

Carolyn Nichols
Guest Writer

More than 300 students list a message on their role in social justice at the “Faith and International Development” conference, held from Feb. 9 to Feb. 11. The Gezon Auditorium at Calvin College was filled to capacity.

Thirty-three Hope students and faculty forfeited part of their winter break to go to the conference.

“The conference really demonstrated that it is not merely doctors and pastors who can minister to the world. Rather, political science, business people, engineers and others all have a place in working towards international development,” David Nytray (’07) said.

The conference consisted of six plenary sessions over the three days, smaller breakout sessions and free time to talk to speakers and students. Each plenary and session breakout focused on a different aspect of international development.

“When you work with people in poverty, there’s something about their faith and hope that strengthens you,” said Andy Ryk, representing Christian Reformed World Relief Committee.

Each presenter encouraged the college students to not lose sight of the passion they have for social justice and the “least of these” (Mt 25). They commended the students who birthed the idea for the conference and those who saw it to completion.

Hope students also applauded their efforts.

“I think that perhaps the most amazing thing about the conference was the fact that it was organized by students. Within a period of one year, this small group of Calvin students was able to organize six plenary sessions and 24 different breakout or small group sessions,” Hope student Kathleen Ludewig (’06) said.

The speakers shared an overwhelming message of encouragement. Each organization remarked on the premise of the impact passion-filled youth could make.

“Just don’t give up; we need you out there,” said Myles Fisch, President of International Aid.

The passion for social justice is spreading across Christian campuses. Representatives from Taylor University, Messiah College, and Calvin, among many others gathered in special meetings during the conference to figure out ways to continue meeting.

The conference gave new insight to students seeking a way to share their gifts.

“There is so much work being done at Calvin, page 4

WHO’S UGLIEST—
Professor Pannapacker is one of six faculty competitors in the “ugly” contest. At the end of two weeks, only one professor will lay claim to the title of ugliest faculty on Hope’s campus.

Five other professors and a total of 12 faculty members signed up to participate in the contest.

To vote on the competition, send your vote to the Campus Union Desk. Your vote could determine the winner of the contest.

The fraternity advises the professors to dress up for class, but it is not required.

Alpha Phi Omega is still accepting participants from any department. Interested faculty must contact Alpha Phi Omega by the end of the week.

The Anchorage

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SPEERA IN DEO

HOPE COLLEGE • HOLLAND, MICHIGAN
The headlines seemed almost too surreal to be true: Dick Cheney, the vice president of the United States of America, had shot someone in the face.

The Feb. 11 incident, noted as the first instance of a sitting vice president shooting another man, has left few smiles in upcoming election years.

The public announcement of the shooting did not take place until the day after the incident, and was left up to the ranch owner, Katherine Armstrong, who informed a local newspaper of the shooting in a telephone call.

Similar incidents, including a collision between the president and a police officer at a 2005 G-8 conference in Gleneagles, Scotland, have been reported punctually by the press secretary. The lack of punctuality in this case has raised questions concerning Cheney’s distance from the press and his unique role in the White House.

The Feb. 13 press conference thus became a perfect storm of outrage and a lack of White House answers. NBC White House correspondent David Gregory accused press secretary Scott McClellan of “ducking and weaving.”

“David, hold on… the cameras aren’t on right now,” McClellan replied, according to a report by Chicago Tribune correspondent Mark Silva. “You can do this later.”

“I can’t accuse me of trying to pose to the cameras,” Gregory replied. “Don’t be a jerk to me personally when I’m asking you a serious question.”

Indeed, it was not until Feb. 15, four days after the shooting, that Cheney finally participated in an interview on Fox News and took responsibility for the shooting, calling it “the worst day of my life.”

The trip was not the first Cheney hunting excursion to draw national attention. The vice president took Supreme Court Associate Justice Antonin Scalia on a private duck-hunting outing in January 2004, shortly after the Supreme Court agreed to consider a case involving the vice-president’s 2001 energy task force. No injuries were reported.

**CHENESY’S ‘WORST DAY’**

The Bush administration released its $2.77 trillion budget proposal for the 2007 fiscal year Feb. 6, hailing it as a “statement of moral choices, working with Congress,” Bush said in his budget introduction, “we have a serious question. ‘Don’t be a jerk to me personally when I’m asking you a serious question. Don’t be a jerk to me personally when I’m asking you a serious question. Don’t be a jerk to me personally when I’m asking you a serious question. Don’t be a jerk to me personally when I’m asking you a serious question.’

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**BUSH’S BUDGET BLUEPRINT**

Kurt Pyle

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**A budget is a statement of moral choices, and this budget makes the wrong choices.**

— John M. Spratt, Jr.

South Carolina State Representative

In addition to seeking restraint in spending programs such as education, transportation and agriculture, this year’s budget also looks to rein in the cost of entitlement programs such as Medicaid.

“Working with Congress,” Bush said in his budget introduction, “we have given our men and women on the front lines in the war on terror the funding they need to defeat the enemy and detect, disrupt, and dismantle terrorist plots and operations.”

“Among the most controversial proposals in the plan are the administration’s tax cuts. Democrats claim these reductions would negate any benefits gained from cuts in other programs that typically target lower-income Americans.

“A budget is a statement of moral choices,” said John M. Spratt, Jr. (D-SC), “and this budget makes the wrong choices.”

The proposed cuts will not come easy, experts say. Republicans in Congress are wary of cutting programs that would leave them open to Democratic attacks in the fall.

 Fiscal constraint has been hard to detect, disrupt, and dismantle terrorist programs. The Bush administration struck a balance among members of the press corps and equally passionate responses among defenders of the administration.

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**Wednesday**  
Feb. 22  
Wind Symphony Concert  
7:30 p.m., DeVos Fieldhouse  
Theatre Production: Perfect Pie  
Feb. 22-25, 8 and 9 p.m.  
Van Andel Arena  
Kurdish with English subtitles. It

**Thursday**  
Feb. 23  
Dramatic Directors  
3:45 p.m., DeVitt Studio Theater. Free.  
Opera Workshop Concert  
6:30 p.m. with Professor Van.  
Great Performance Series  
Imagery: Lessons of the Dimnent Cha- 
pel. $5 for students.  

**Friday**  
Feb. 24  
Jazz Ensemble Concert  
7:30 p.m., Dimnent Chapel. Free.  
SAC Movie: "Prime"  
Feb. 24, 29. 7:00, 9:30 p.m., midnight  
Feb. 26: 3 p.m. Graves. $2.  

**Saturday**  
Feb. 25  
Theatrical Short  
9:30 p.m., Dimnent Chapel. $10 for students at the Student Union desk.  

**GPs to Feature Grammy- 
Nominee Series**  
The Hope College Great Per-
formance Series will feature the 2006 Grammy-nominated wind en-
deavor Janis Joplin on Thurs-
day, Feb. 23, at 7:30 p.m. in Dim-
ment Memorial Chapel. Tickets are $5 for students and are avail-
able at the DeVos Ticket Office.  
The group, whose name means "faith" in Swahili, explores the links between European, African and American traditions. Known for engaging their audience in concert, the members of the quintet present an interesting mix of tapestry discs, including "The Classi-
cal Underground," which received the Grammy nomination.

**Needle Art Featured at De Pree Art Center**  
"Needle Art: A Postmodern Sewing Circle," is currently being displayed in the gallery of the De Pree Art Center.  
The display presents 50 objects by artists who use needlework forms or traditional needlework materials, tools, and techniques to create powerful and expressive work.  
The gallery is open Sundays and Mondays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday, Fri-
day and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. The exhibition will continue through Sunday, March 12. Admission is free.

**Spring Film Series**  
The Knickerbocker Theatre continues its spring film lineup with showings of "Turtles Can Fly" on Wednesday-Saturday, Feb. 22-25, at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.  
"Turtles Can Fly" takes place near the Iraqi-Turkish border on the eve of an American invasion, while refugee children gather and await their fate. The film is a spiritual bulletin from the war-
ravaged Middle East, and placed

**Musical Showcase Set for GR DeVos Hall**  
A wide range of musical styles and instruments will bring DeVos Hall alive when Hope College presents its 18th annual Musical Showcase concert on Monday, Feb. 27, at 8 p.m. in Grand Rapids.  
Hope College students take the stage for this fast-paced, musical spectacular, during which audience members hear everything from opera to jazz.  
The hardest part for those seeing the show is containing their enthusiasm, at least at first. In the tradition of the quick-moving musical event, audience members are asked to hold their applause until intermission and the end of the performance.  
The concert unveils the gifts of all Hope College’s major musical groups, along with soloists, chamber groups and small ensembles.  
The evening will open with the "Hoe-Down" from Aaron Copland’s "Rodeo," performed by the Symphonette. Next, organist Sean Dunner (’06) will perform Jean Langlas’ "Te Deum." Soprano Sarah Blakenship (’06) accompanied by pianist Christopher Turbessi (’08) will follow singing Gabriel Faure’s "Discarded Flower." The Percussion Ensemble will perform a piece titled "Aquarius" from Karlheinz Stockhausen’s "Tierkreis," followed by pianist Samuel Adams (’08) performing George Gershwin’s "Rhapsody in Blue."  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s 250th birthday will be recognized when soprano Kelly Sina (’08) and baritone Dane Clark (’08) with pianist accompanist Erica Byker (’06) perform the "Papageno/Papagena Duet" from "The Magic Flute." Violinist Alexandru Hamzea (’09) with pianist Joseph Turbessi (’06) play a selection of pieces that bridge the gap from Baroque to Romantic, with a focus on the sonata form.  
"It’s where the Lord leads me," Linda Graham, Hope dance professor and chair of the department, is aware of such difficulties and is confident that with the changes that have already been made and the changes to come, the dance department will run more efficiently and more effectively. Currently, the dance department makes full use of three studios located in the Dow, as well as a studio in DeVos and a tap studio in the basement of Durfee that is shared with the theater department. However, before DeVos was built, much of the studio space was not devoted solely to dance but shared with the kinesiology department.  
Over Christmas break, the kinesiology offices as well as several closets became the dance department offices, which gave the department more space for storage and administrative work.  
The offices are geographically located in such a way that increases the collegiality of the department," Graham said. "It’s more convenient, and allows for curriculum development to occur more easily. We love it!"  
The students also agree that the extra space is helpful.  
"As a student, it’s nice to have a space to identify with, to be able to say, ‘That’s our department,’” Sharon Havens (’07) said.  
The department also gained a secretary devoted solely to dance, Stephanie Brummell.  
"I just can’t say enough about Stephanie," Graham said. "She’s excellent."  
Next year, the dance department will be going through the National Association of Schools of Dance reaccreditation process, which means the curriculum, faculty, staff, facility, administrative and fiscal support will be documented by the department and then evaluated by outside adjudicators to determine its educational effectiveness.  
Future plans for the department include a new faculty member specializing in the field of dance education, as well as the continuation of a new position for guest artists to visit in the fall semester.

**Excitement grows in dance department over new Dow space**  
A great task that lies before him in the music world and is anxious to see where the next few months will bring him.  
"It’s where the Lord leads me," he said.  
My favorite (Bible) verse right now is Hebrews 11:1, ‘Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.’ It’s very much how I’m feeling for the future.”  

**Travis Kingma: Jazz master in the making**  
If you haven’t heard of Travis Kingma (’09) yet, it’s time to take notice. While jazz piano may not be the music choice for most college students, Kingma is breaking out and breaking into the music world right before our eyes, with a popular destiny that’s all his own.  
This is a story of transformation. Kingma’s parents made him take up piano as a child and insisted he practice and stick with it. But when he moved from Michigan to New Jersey, his tastes in music changed with the help of a new piano teacher. It was then he discovered jazz piano.  
That discovery has kept him busy ever since. Here at Hope, he holds one of the competitive Distinguished Artist Awards for his study of jazz piano. He is also pursuing a music minor to complement his goal of an economics major.  
"I’ve moved a lot...it’s a leap of faith that I’m even here," he said.  
Since his New Jersey jazz awakening, Kingma has moved back to Michigan, but has stuck with the jazz undertones. With the fundamentals of chords and theory backing him, he has branched out into a unique style by writing his own music, using chord progressions and patterns.  
"For me, music always comes before lyrics. There’s always a better way to say something.  
Twenty plus songs later, he’s looking for a record label. His demo CD is already popular among Hope students.  
"I’m addicted to it,” Leah Wyatt (’09) said.  
Kingma acknowledges the great task that lies before him in the music world and is anxious to see where the next few months will bring him.  
"It’s where the Lord leads me,” he said.

**THE KING: Travis Kingma (’09)**, practices his guitar. Kingma per-
forms on campus and has made a demo CD of jazz piano and vocals, which he hopes will help him gain attention from record labels.
ENVIROMENTAL JUSTICE—Dr. Robert Bullard will speak on racism.

ADDRESS BEGINS TRAFFICKING AWARENESS WEEK

Amnesty International’s Focus Week tackles problems, solutions

Nicholas Engel
Amtrak Campus News Editor

Professor Eliot Dickinson gave a broad presentation on human trafficking to an audience of about thirty people Monday, Feb. 6, for Amnesty International’s opening Focus Week event.

The Feb. 6 event was the first of a 4-part series sponsored by Amnesty and dedicated to discussing the causes, effects and possible solutions to the problem. Other presentations took place from Monday, Feb. 6 to Thursday, Feb. 9 and covered particular issues within the problem of human trafficking, such as forced prostitution and regional issues.

According to the US State Department, about 50,000 persons are trafficked into the United States a year. The number of trafficked persons in the world falls between 600,000 and 800,000. This includes human smuggling, a form of trafficking which moves victims across national borders, as well as trafficking within a particular country. Some independent agencies estimate the number of migrants at one million a year worldwide.

“The conditions that people are trafficked in, as you can imagine, horrific,” Dickinson said.

Large numbers of migrants are loaded onto vessels lacking sanitation facilities and equipped with insufficient food and water. Sick people are sometimes thrown aboard to free up space for the remaining migrants.

Dickinson noted the “East Sea,” a shipping vessel that crashed on the coast of southern France Feb. 2001. 894 people were found suffocated on board.

In addition to the facts, Dickinson shared some personal stories from his international experience, as well as recommendations for action.

“You get the best bang for your buck through education,” Dickinson said.

He recommended that the audience try to raise awareness and “change make sexual norms” in order to eliminate demand for victims. As for government suggestions, he advocated a stronger criminal justice system, support of and reintegration for victims, and a greater focus on global poverty.

“[Human trafficking] happens more than we think. Since it does happen more often than we think, we should all try to do something about it, which means writing our representatives,” he said.

Dickinson, Amnesty members, and people from the audience concluded the event by writing letters to Debbie Stabenow, senator of Michigan, encouraging her to support legislation opposing human trafficking.

Kathleen Ludewig (’06) is president of the Hope chapter of Amnesty International.

“I thought [the turnout] was great, and I thought it was a great kickoff for the rest of the week,” Ludewig said.

Will Nettleton
Guest Writer

The annual Student Congress Speaker Series will feature Dr. Robert Bullard addressing environmental justice and environmental racism on Wednesday, March 1 at 7:30 p.m. in Dimnent Chapel in his presentation entitled “Environmental Justice For All.”

Dr. Bullard coined the terms environmental justice and environmental racism. He is renowned for his studies on how pollution, environmental degradation and systematic exposure to waste sites overwhelmingly affect the poor and disproportionately affect people of color.

As the leading scholar and activist in the environmental justice movement, Dr. Bullard’s data on the systematic siting of environmental hazards in minority communities has alarmed people across the country.

His initial research began in 1978 in Houston. There he found that all five landfills and six out of eight incinerators constructed since 1920 had been placed in black neighborhoods. Since then similar data has been collected across the county in rural and urban areas.

“It is irrefutable that all communities are not created equal.” — Dr. Robert Bullard

“It’s irrefutable that all communities are not created equal!”

“Human trafficking is a global business,” said Dr. Robert Bullard.

“[Human trafficking] happens more than we think. Since it does happen more often than we think, we should all try to do something about it, which means writing our representatives.”

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Murder case, subject of Hope documentary, cracked 27 years later

Evelyn Daniel
Features Editor

“Sebben crudele, mi fat languir. Sempre fedele, sempre fedele ti voglio amar.”

Cruel one, you make me languish. Forever faithful, I want to love you.

Opening the documentary film “Who Killed Janet Chandler?” Chandler’s resonant voice haunts her listeners more than 25 years later.

Just after 2 a.m., Jan. 31, 1979, Janet Chandler was abducted from Holland’s Blue Mill Inn where she was working as a clerk. The following night, a snowplow driver found Chandler’s body, naked and apparently strangled, lying in the snow off of I-196.

Chandler was a Hope student, a 23-year-old music major who had transferred from Muskegon Community College. She was known to be shy and interacted little with her classmates. Her abduction and murder, however, shook the Hope community to its core.

There were no eyewitnesses to the abduction. An “earwitness,” a security guard with whom Chandler was speaking on the phone, called the police when he heard the sounds of a possible robbery on the other end of the line.

As a result, while leads were followed and potential suspects interrogated, no clear suspect to follow and potential suspects on the other end of the line. The investigation was broken off.

After long days and nights of investigation and murder of Janet Chandler. He was a member of a group of security guards staying at the Blue Mill Inn at the time of the murder, whom officers originally suspected. Lynch is a resident of Three Oaks, a village south of Holland near the Indiana border.

Those who worked on the documentary see this as an answer to their prayers.

“I’m thrilled that they’ve arrested someone, and I’m proud to say that I might have had a small part in accomplishing that,” Ross said. “The Chandler family might be able to heal a little more knowing that this person is finally getting what he deserves.”

For many, though, the hope of justice was present all along.

“If we didn’t believe that it could be solved, we would not have investigated the story,” Schock said.

Lynch is scheduled for a preliminary hearing on Wednesday, Feb. 22. Police are still gathering evidence that might lead to the arrest of additional suspects.

“I’m so thankful and grateful that justice will finally prevail,” Schock said. “And I believe it will prevail.”
Anchors go to Minneapolis

We were seven muckrakers who drove 10 hours to find frostbite, cheese curds and left wing liberal wackos attending the annual “Best of the Midwest Newspaper Conference” in Minneapolis (city of “The Onion” and theme park malls), Minnesota. It all started on I-94. Where the wind-chill registered at –36 degrees, spare tires became far too comfortable as seats, normality was seeing semi trucks of beer turned over on median strips, and we were somewhere in there.

That’s when the frostbite really hit me. We passed the time chiseling ice sculptures among one inch of frost glazing the inside of van windows. It wasn’t until Jackson County, Wisconsin we finally bought an ice scraper for the inside of the van. We were enticed by Winchell’s sign: “Welcome! Fire Danger: Season’s Greetings, Today!” They called Winchell’s a gas station. We called it the hidden gem, complete with beef jerky snack center, Louisiana road map, one shelf of individual dice, disposable cameras and condoms for sale.

Maybe it was the lack of circulation in our toes, but after the exciting escape to Winchell’s, the van ride all blurred. Beyond knowing we were in Minneapolis surrounded by pesky middle schoolers on some Christian retreat and college newspapers with front page headlines that read: “The Top 10 Crimes Against Video Game Humanity,” and “Thumbs Up For the New Dorm.” These other school newspapers featured full page spreads of neon green, yellow aquamarine stories on Bolivia and all eight limb parties. They featured polls asking students pertinent questions like: “If you were an underwater animal what would you be?”

After looking at these newspapers, we were empowered. It was then that we, team Ank, experienced spiritual enlightenment in realization of the growth we’ve experienced within the past year as a paper that led us to never stoop so low as these papers ever came to be. We were The Anchor. An instrument of change that published newspaper stuff (along with occasional pirate and decapitated owl sightings). Our staff cried together. Then we celebrated.

Down the road from the Marriott Hotel lies First Avenue — a club of psychedelic mayhem decorated in silver stars, strobe light balconies, mosh pits where joints passed as free game. But today was a special day, a day where techno met jug band. Mandolin, fiddle, banjo, washboard, rocked the roof. It was here that we accidentally skipped the $18 cover charge, slipped in the side door, and entered a world unknown to us all, where everyone head banged, knee slapped and danced in jug band jubilee.

It wasn’t until Jackson County, Wisconsin we finally bought an ice scraper for the inside of van windows. It all started on I-94. Where the wind-chill registered at –36 degrees, spare tires became far too comfortable as seats, normality was seeing semi trucks of beer turned over on median strips, and we were somewhere in there.

The next day we were even more empowered. Learned more about newspapers and more about us as a staff. We celebrated again. Walked downtown writing poetry, taking photos; carefully counted up the cash in the bank, told the bank teller then dialed 911. I think I heard sirens. Cops turned the other way, and so did I.

The evening will end with the Wind Symphony performing Modest Mussorgsky’s “The Great Gate of Kiev” from “Pictures at an Exhibition.”

The Anchor goes to Minneapolis

Our Mission: The Anchor is a product of student effort and is funded through the students of Hope College, funding which comes through the Hope College Student Government Appropriations Committee. Letters to the editor are encouraged, though the editors reserve the right to accept or reject any correspondence.

One Mission: The editors strives to be a neutral, relevant voice in the communication of events of Hope College and in the Holland and world community, as well as a mouthpiece for the of the campus community. We hope to build a greater sense of community by amplifying numerous and promotingphilanthropy.
How long will the "Dutchmen" still fly?

To the Editor:

Hope College is in the process of looking for a new mascot. Some students agree it is about time the school has a mascot to go with the name the Flying Dutchmen. The name the Flying Dutchmen came from a sports reporter who wrote in the Anchor that Hope’s basketball players were flying across the court in one game. Put that together with Dutchman and you have the Flying Dutchman.

Since then, the Flying Dutchman has been the official name of the school’s mascot. The question remains: is it really a mascot that we need, or is it a new name? After doing some research on the name the Flying Dutchmen, upon bearing various rumors surrounding it, I found out that some of these rumors are actually true. After searching various websites and on-line encyclopedias, I learned that all the websites say the same thing.

The Flying Dutchman is not the great man that the school models itself after. So I am here to put an end to all of the gossip, and the wonder and give you, the readers, the real story of the Flying Dutchmen.

Seventeenth century Dutch captain Benard Fokke, also called Vanderdecken (meaning on deck) was the commander of the ship the “Flying Dutchman” which was set to sail around the Cape of Good Hope. The captain vowed that he would make this voyage and nothing or no one could stop him, even God. After a massive storm befell the ship, horrible crimes had taken place on board, and the crew was infected with the plague and not allowed to sail into any port. Many of the crewmembers wanted to turn back but the captain refused. He was said to be drinking and playing cards with the devil at the very moment a shadowy figure appeared on board the ship. The figure told the captain that he was a stubborn man. The captain answered by saying he never asked for a peaceful passage and to clear off before he shot him. When the figure did not move, the captain drew his pistol and tried to fire but the gun exploded in his hand. The figure spoke again, revealing himself as God. He told the captain that he was cursed to sail the Cape of Good Hope until judgment day with a crew of deadly men, bringing death to anyone who looked upon the ship.

There have been several plays and operas written about this story, and even a movie in 1951 where the ship is a yacht. In this story the only way the captain can break the curse if sailing for eternity is if he finds a woman that will truly love.

Whether you want to believe that the story is true, or that it is a myth or a legend, the story still remains the same. The Flying Dutchman is not the type of person that should represent our Christian school. When the time comes to turn in your vote for a new mascot, think of a new name as well.

Lyndsey Brewster (’08)

In the spirit of beating a dead horse...

To the Editor:

In the spirit of beating a dead horse, I would like to briefly highlight the problem we have at Hope with attracting "diverse" students. As much as we may like to believe diversity comes from the color of one’s skin, in the modern day U.S., it’s far more likely to come from one’s socio-economic background. Let’s be serious for a minute: how much variation can come from a group of people who were all born into upper middle class families, no matter what their skin color? Sure, maybe some went to a private school instead of public or maybe some grew up in a blue collar neighborhood, and less on Grand Rapids, Lansing and Chicago. I would guarantee campus would become more diversity in every way. Certainly this isn’t as simple or easy as Hope’s current plan (which is…?) for attracting diversity to campus and the students we attract might be from the upper-middle class, but it’s diversity that can afford to pay 30k a year for attracting diversity to campus and the students.

To the Editor:

So focus more on Asia, Africa, Latin America and on Grand Rapids, Lansing and Chicago. I would guarantee campus would become more diversity in every way. Certainly this isn’t as simple or easy as Hope’s current plan (which is…?) for attracting diversity to campus and the students we attract might be from the upper-middle class, but it’s diversity that can afford to pay 30k a year for diversity in thought, belief, experiences as well as the color of one’s skin. "Diversity, my dear sir, is the only true wealth of a nation."" In the height of her emotions, she asked me to play a tune on the guitar because she had to let her pain out. She warmed up her voice as I tuned my guitar. She free-styled, expressing her innermost feeling of insecurity and frustration. She had the kind of voice that sent chills down my spine and a presence so magnetic that I unconsciously started singing along. The lyrics were so powerful that it was hard to believe that she had just made them up. Surely she has a calling as a musician.

In these few minutes, she had broken a barrier within me that takes most people years to break. Finally, I told her about my concerns too. I told her how most employers prefer not to hire international students because of the extra paperwork and legal issues they have to deal with. I told her that I have been actively searching and interviewing but nothing positive has come up. Furthermore, my brother, who has had me under his wings for a while, is moving out of town in the summer, so I have to be employed by the time he moves out.

My situation made her feel better about herself because at least she has her immediate family around. To encourage ourselves, we reflected on times in our lives when we felt hopeless but somehow things worked out. We concluded that worrying does not solve anything. With time, everything will be all right. The key is pushing on even when it seems hopeless but somehow things worked out.

REFLECTING ON FOUR YEARS

The Uncertainty of Tomorrow

Humans being are mythic creatures. Therefore, periods of transitions in our lives are usually difficult times. The soon coming graduation is a time of excitement for all graduates. However, inside we have different concerns. Graduation is really a time of panic and anxiety for many because most people haven’t heard anything from the grad schools that they applied to. Others haven’t secured jobs that they hope to and others simply don’t have plans.

I was in the pool of panic-stricken people relentlessly looking for employment until a friend of mine recently confided in me. In the process, she opened my eyes to the great future that lies ahead.

She had tears in her eyes, confused and disheartened. She complained that she did not know what to do because her after-graduation life was very uncertain. She asked me what my plans were and I told her what I’ve told many other people, “I’ll work for a while and go back to school.”

She said that I seemed very confident and comfortable. I took the compliment, but the truth was that I was just as worried but I was better at hiding my emotions.

Her interest in academics had faded away, she said, and over time and all she wanted to do was write music, which has always been her greatest passion. Her parents have been pressuring her to focus more on books and less on music. She often falls asleep when she tries to study but frequently stays up all night coming up with new lyrics and songs.

I’m not advocating giving full rides to a bunch homeless people (even though it would bring diversity) but something does need to be done.

And if we want more than another random complaint about how the system isn’t working then I’ll offer my advice, too: look abroad.

It’s less ridiculous than it might seem. It might appear counter-intuitive based on current political issues, but there are many students in foreign countries who would love to be educated in the U.S., and some countries even pay their students to go abroad.

So focus more in Asia, Africa, Latin America and on Grand Rapids, Lansing and Chicago. I would guarantee campus would become more diversity in every way. Certainly this isn’t as simple or easy as Hope’s current plan (which is…?) for attracting diversity to campus and the students we attract might be from the upper-middle class, but it’s diversity that can afford to pay 30k a year and still offer a completely different perspective on our world.

Brian Miller (’07)
The International Basketball League, during its 2005 inaugural season, embarked with 17 teams, with home courts ranging from Akron, Ohio to Vancouver, Washington. The IBL is expecting to expand that number to 24 teams for the 2006 season, with Holland becoming one of the new expansion teams.

The club will be called the Holland Blast; the team logo, name, and mascot was determined by fan response during a poll held earlier in the year. Suggestions such as “the Heinz Pickles,” “Holland Windmills,” or “Holland Klompers” were voted down to make way for the new IBL Holland Blast. Holland resident Tommy Wolf received free season tickets for submitting the winning name. “We kept coming back to the word blast; it’s an action oriented word, and the versatility of the word means we can do a lot with the name,” said Tom Moore, general manager. The logo, of a rocket, was designed by Wes Wosley of W-Squared Design.

The community will also be included in free agent try-out sessions for both athletes and dancers before the first game of the season. The current Blast team, as well as the Grand Rapids Flight, will be hosting open auditions for dancers on Feb. 25 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Holland Civic Center on River Ave.; try-outs for players March 4-5 from 3 p.m. at the Grand Rapids Youth Commonwealth-Seldman Center, located at 139 Crofton.

For $75, prospective pro ballers will receive a t-shirt, an evaluation, and recruitment possibilities from the two West-Michigan teams. Four to eight players are guaranteed the chance to receive an invitation to a team’s pre-season camp and a chance to gain recognition from NBA scouts.

Following try-outs, the selected athletes will join their new teammates to be introduced to the coaching staff. The current roster of the Holland Blast includes two Hope alumni, Chad Carlson (’03) and Duane Bosma (’06); as well as Anthony Parker, Dominick Melton, Corey Epps, Calvin Epps, Jonathan Stevens, and Kendrick Cornelius. The team will be initiated into the league on March 31 at 7:15 p.m. during their first game against the Lansing Capsitals, on their home court at the Holland Civic Center.

The Blast’s head coach, former assistant of the Grand Rapids Flight, Mike Ahrens, claimed third for 14-16 in the Eastern Division by going 14-6 in the first season. “I am looking forward to building a solid foundation for the first year Holland team,” Head Coach Ahrens said.

“We’re very excited to bring Coach Ahrens on board as head coach,” Moore said, “I have worked with him in the past. He brings excellent coaching and basketball skills to the team as well as solid personal values.”

The franchise hired Terry Smith the former head coach at Grand Valley State University and Lake Superior State University as assistant coach. Smith has also coached at Hart High School and also assisted at Ferris State University.

“I’m just excited about the opportunity and the opportunity to help out Mike. I have been to a few [IBL] games, and I have had some former players who played in the league, and I went to some of their games. I’m excited about where the league is headed,” said Smith.

“Terry’s an excellent coach who has some great credentials,” said Moore. “It’s a great coaching staff. Without a doubt, Terry brings a depth of experience, at all levels.”

The Blast will be representing West Michigan in their opening season along with the Grand Rapids Flight. The close proximity of the teams will introduce competition for young talent from the region, limiting recruits from colleges such as Hope, Calvin, Grand Valley, Aquinas, and Cornerstone.

Owners of both the Flight and the Blast, Fred VanderPloeg and Tyler Whitcomb, believe that they can combine stock car marketing strategies to increase the advantages of operating teams so close in locality. The teams will be attracting the same fan base, but the owners are confident that by collaborating resources, their teams will increase in success.

“We have seen in NASCAR how a car owner can put everyone together and they share information and make it work. Imagine both teams getting together for a practice, and then afterwards, the coaches can sit down and break things down,” VanderPloeg said.