Get happy:
Holland ranked second nationially in well-being

Hope PR
The college’s hometown has placed second in the nation for overall well-being in a report released recently by Gallup and Healthways.

The 2009 “Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index” (WBI) ranks Holland-Grand Haven behind only Boulder, Colo., out of some 185 cities nationwide.

The index, released on Feb. 15, is an average of six categories: life evaluation, emotional health, physical health, healthy behavior, work environment and basic access to necessities.

What do you think?

“Michigan is good but Colorado is better.”
— BRYANT ANDERSON ’13

“I think it should have gotten first!”
— LIZ FAST ’12

“Well of course Holland is the happiest place, it has Hope College!”
— COURTNEY KILLEEN ’13

No one asked me if I was happy...
— JACOB TOWNLEY ’12

Smile for the camera— Surveillance cameras have been placed in the Martha Miller Center and the Kollen Hall parking lot

Hope explores possibility of camera surveillance

Chris Russ
Guest Writer

The administration of Hope College is currently working with campus safety to explore the effectiveness of video surveillance on Hope’s campus.

During the week of the Jan. 18, five cameras were installed. Three of them are currently located on the first floor of the Martha Miller Center and one has been placed on the second floor of that building. There is also a camera positioned to monitor the parking lot on the south side of Kollen Hall.

According to Director of Campus Safety Chad Wolters of campus safety, “The administration wanted us to explore this type of security system.” He also added that there are “three or four different types of security cameras” and that the college is currently “evaluating the capabilities of these cameras.”

An e-mail sent by Hope’s Director of Operations Greg Maybury to the faculty and staff of the Martha Miller Center explained that the cameras would not be used to constantly monitor the campus but would instead be used as an investigatory tool.

The e-mail stated, “The cameras and associated software have the ability to record up to 48 hours of activity (motion activated) and will ultimately be used to review events in the case of assault, theft or vandalism.”

As to why the Martha Miller Center was chosen as the primary location to test this surveillance system, Dr. Deirdre Johnston, chair of the communication department, said that the building had experienced some vandalism and that the college wanted to protect the production equipment that is located in the building. She also added that the other faculty in the communication department are “generally supportive” of the new security, and she feels that the cameras are a “very pragmatic solution.”

In the same e-mail message as mentioned above, Maybury stated, “The college will evaluate the results of this test (30-90-day trial period) to see if this is a technology we want to deploy on campus over the next several years.” According to campus safety, the college is still evaluating this system, and what is in place now is nothing more than a demo.

Although select members of the administration and college staff were informed of the plan to install these cameras, there was no announcement informing the student body of this action.

When asked about this, Johnston explained why she thought there was no message sent to the student body: “I imagine it was because they’re just testing the cameras,” but she added that “it makes perfect sense to me, to tell the students.”

Campus safety stated that if the installation of cameras progressed any further that there would be some kind of announcement made.

Although not many students know about these cameras, there has been some reaction from the student body.

Mike Debowski ’12 said about the lack of information given to the student body: “I think cameras should be to prevent stuff from happening, and prevent stuff from happening, not to secretly catch students or something. Also, this makes me wonder what else they’re doing that we don’t know about.”

At this point, the college has no definite plans regarding the future of this video surveillance system, and there are without question a variety of opinions regarding what should or should not be done.

Wolters remarked that regarding these security cameras, “most other schools have had positive experiences.”

On the other side of the debate, Debowski said the addition of these cameras might not be a positive move. He said “this just seems like a shift towards a direction of distrust between the administration and the student body.”
**CAMPUS**

**February 24, 2010**

**This Week at Hope**

**Wednesday**

Feb. 24

Arts & Humanities Colloquium
Graves Hall, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Admission is free.

**Thursday**

Feb. 25

Collegiate Day of Prayer
Community prayer sessions, Schoon Chapel, 11-11:45 a.m. and 10-11 p.m.

**Friday**

Feb. 26

SAC & BSU presents Comedy Lecturer Preacher Moss
Maas Auditorium, 8:30 p.m.

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**AWARD HONORS SERVICE**

This year the Center for Faithful Leadership at Hope College will present the new Student Servant Leadership Award to three students who have demonstrated the values and practices of servant leadership. Candidates are scored on attributes such as being “team-oriented,” “purpose-centered,” “internally motivated,” “others focused” and “open-minded.” Nominations for the award will be accepted until March 3 and forms can be accessed through www.hope.edu/leadership. The award will be presented on March 31.

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**FORMULA SAE CAR TAKES SHAPE**—The Hope Formula SAE team’s goal is to have the race car finished by spring break, and has completed the frame and engine.

**Arryn Uhlenbrauck**

**Staff Writer**

On May 12-15 at the Michigan Speedway, the Hope College engineering department will enter its first ever Formula SAE competition. (SAE was formerly known as the Society of Automotive Engineers.)

The Hope organization began three years ago when Matt Labaza ’10 met with the engineering advisor Dr. John Kruepacz. What started as a look into internships turned into a Hope organization, an engineering extra-curricular that was lacking previously.

Labaza and fellow members Cameron Recknagel ’11 and Ben Barkel ’10 explained that they are building a car to enter in the Formula SAE competition in Michigan because it is the “largest and longest (running)” of the SAE competitions that take place worldwide. The 2009 competition in Michigan involved 120 college and university teams from 31 states and seven foreign countries in Asia, Europe and the Americas.

The competition consists of two parts. The first is the judging of the engineering and design, which must follow the SAE regulation.

“The designs are our own; we don’t get plans and put it together,” said Barkel. “It’s ours from scratch.”

Dynamics are the second part.

This includes a test of the car’s 0-60 time and a braking test, as well as two timed races: autonomous and a test of endurance, during which a car must maintain a given speed for 13 miles.

Though it has taken two years for the Hope Formula SAE members to build their first car, they plan to follow their first car with a second entry next year. Of the current leaders, Recknagel will be present to continue Hope’s entries in the next Formula SAE competition.

According to Recknagel, schools that are larger or have been entering the competition consistently enter a new car every year.

The Hope Formula SAE team’s car is not yet finished, but the design was finalized last year and the building has begun. The team’s goal is to have the final product finished by spring break. Currently, the team has the frame formed and the engine built and is also far along with the mounting and suspension.

The project has not been without its challenges, however. The team ran into several problems including forming the club, funding the project and finding locations to build the car. Problems Barkel conveniently summarized as “a lot of difficulties.”

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**Always OK to ask ‘Can I Kiss You?’**

**Cassandra Warner**

**Staff Writer**

In today’s dating culture, these words are scarce. Most people try to bypass an opportunity for rejection or awkwardness and just go for it.

Dating and sexual assault awareness speaker Mike Domitrz seeks to change that. Dimnent Chapel was packed on Feb. 10 as Domitrz spoke in a fun, comedic and interactive way to Hope students about how dating should correctly and morally take place, as well as about how to prevent sexual assault.

Domitrz argues that although many would call asking lame and say that it ruins the moment, it is important to do so and give the other person a choice before initiating physical contact in a romantic relationship. If the contact is unwanted, it could become a horrible moment or even be considered sexual assault.

Domitrz also asked students to really be friends and always make sure at parties, cafes, restaurants or wherever they are that the people around them are safe and not being taken advantage of.

He urged them not to go thinking that it is none of their business if they see someone who might be in trouble. Rather, they should take action to stop any wrongdoing from happening.

In addition, Domitrz gave students tips on how to respond if someone they know is sexually assaulted. The brother of a rape victim himself, he reminded students of the strength of those who continue to live their lives after being raped and urged students not to pity them but to be there for them.

He asked them rather to thank the victim for telling the story and, instead of apologizing and making the relationship awkward, to compliment the victim’s strength and courage and ask for a way to help.

Many students responded to the presentation by making commitments to put in practice the policies Domitrz advocated. They made promises to ask first, to be a friend or to tell their story. Collectively, the students created a slogan that would remind them to follow these ideals. It says, “Hope believes respect is powerful.”

Many were inspired by what they heard and felt that it was refreshing for these issues to be discussed.

After the program, Hope student Jaime Van Heest (’10) said, “I liked the fact that he was able to get us talking about and being honest about issues that we wouldn’t be comfortable with normally.”

It was not the first time Domitrz had spoken at Hope. When asked about his favorite part of speaking at Hope again, he said “The best part about seeing KSB, page 10
On Friday, Feb. 19, the President of Toyota Motor Co., Akio Toyoda, despite originally refusing, agreed to testify before Congress about his company's recalls. Toyoda indicated that Yoshimi Inaba, Toyota's North American chief, will appear on Wednesday, Feb. 24, before the United States House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. He will also appear on Thursday, Feb. 25, in hearings before the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

With 80 percent of all Toyota vehicles sold in the United States over the past 20 years still on the road today, Toyota Motor Co. has always tried to maintain its principle of building the highest quality, safest and most reliable automobiles in the world. "The past few weeks, however, have made clear that Toyota has not lived up to the high standards we set for ourselves," said Toyoda in an article he wrote for the Washington Post about a plan to repair Toyota's public image. "More important, we have not lived up to the high standards you have come to expect from us. I am deeply disappointed by that and apologize. As the president of Toyota, I take personal responsibility. That is why I am personally leading our effort to restore trust in our word and in our products."

On Friday, Feb. 5, Toyota announced two safety recalls that covered some of its vehicle models. Both recall campaigns addressed conditions that were related to the accelerator pedal.

The first recall campaign was for floor mat entrapment in which unsecured or incompatible floor mats could cause an interference with the accelerator pedal. The second recall campaign was for the accelerator pedal itself. Some mechanisms that control the pedal might mechanically stick in a pressed position or might return to a normal position too slowly.

Issues with the accelerator were seen starting in November of 2009 and have resulted in a total of five deaths. With Toyota's resolution to this issue being to shorten the pedal by three-fourths inches, a massive recall is being made. This recall is being made in 4 million Toyota and Lexus vehicles, particularly in 2007-2010 Camry, 36,000 of which sold in 2008.

However, the 2010 Prius Hybrid is being treated as well. Toyota is calling for a total worldwide recall of 8 million 2010 Prius Hybrids that were sold. In the Toyota Corolla, with Toyota selling 1.3 million worldwide last year, problems have been seen in the power steering.


For Toyota Motor Co., the total price tag of the recalls will cost the company $16 million.

With this massive technical change being made, according to Akio Toyoda, all future models of Toyota vehicles will include a brake override system. This system will take over when both the accelerator and the brake pedals are pressed simultaneously.

Despite difficulties, military takes steps to avoid civilian casualties

New strategy includes decreased utilization of air offenses and long-range artillery attacks

Yuri Kuzmin

President Obama's decision to send more troops into Afghanistan signaled the commitment of the United States to the success of the Afghan War. The face of this war has changed through two administrations and eight years of fighting, the most recent development being an order by Gen. Stanley McChrystal, the commander of NATO forces in Afghanistan, to push toward better avoiding civilian casualties. McChrystal was quoted saying that air offensives and long-range artillery fire were to be used only under "very limited and precisely defined conditions." The stated goal of this policy is to better win the trust of the Afghan people, so that they do not side with Taliban and other insurgents.

The difficulty of this effort was heightened Sunday, when a NATO airstrike mistakenly struck a convoy of Afghan civilians, reportedly killing as many as 27 people.

Marine Capt. Ryan Sparks, summarized the policy, stating: "The key to this whole thing is to get the people on our side. To make them understand that it's a safe place. If we secure the people, the Taliban become irrelevant. It is frustrating but it's the right way to do it because it protects the people."

"Frustration," Sparks refers to that of the greater danger that exists for NATO soldiers, as their requested air support and artillery strikes often take place much later than they would wish, exposing those soldiers to danger for longer periods of time than before this new strategy was implemented.

Because of this added danger to NATO soldiers, the directive has been considered controversial by many. The added danger of an offensive without immediate indirect support forces a slower pace of advance which is seen as another problem by many. On this side of the controversy, many are concerned that one of the greatest advantages of western forces in the war, air superiority, has virtually disappeared because of this concern for civilian lives.

"To those concerned, this voluntary concession of an advantage as large as air superiority seems to be illogical and a detriment to our own troops and interests in the Afghan War. Some also argue that this policy is not actually helping to save many more civilians, as it is estimated by the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan that even before this policy, the numbers of civilian deaths attributed to the NATO forces had decreased, while the number of civilian Afghan deaths caused by Taliban or insurgent forces was higher."

While some believe this policy to be unnecessary and dangerous, others believe that it is of great importance not only to defeat the Taliban and insurgent forces fighting in Afghanistan, but also to win over the "hearts and minds" of the Afghan people.

This campaign to win over Afghan civilians is in opposition to the idea of "total war," or winning a war no matter the cost. This new policy is being implemented in a recent offensive in the town of Marja, Afghanistan. Using the new strategy, NATO forces have been taking longer in their forward progression, but have been achieving this progression with fewer civilian casualties.

Although it will be impossible to immediately judge the success or failure of the new policy implemented by McChrystal, time will tell if war can be successfully conducted under these parameters, and if the new strategy will better protect civilians.
This Week In Quotes

“Hey, I was positive that I won...”
— Tiger Woods speaking at his first public appearance since the last fall that Iran has yet to fulfill its promises and... the nine-ball world championship, losing to his wife Elin Nordegren.

“It’s an opportunity to demonstrate the love of God in a practical way.”
— Rev. Richard Chartres, bishop of London, encouraging Christians to limit their carbon consumption for Lent.

“It doesn’t make a damn difference whether you’re a Demo- crat or a Republican, if you’ve forgotten you’re an American.”
— Former Republican Sena- tor Alan Simpson of Wyoming, lamenting Washington’s lack of political will to confront the soaring national debt.

“I’ve had affairs. I cheated. I am the only person to blame.”
— Tiger Woods speaking at his first public appearance since the last fall that Iran has yet to fulfill its promises and... the nine-ball world championship, losing to his wife Elin Nordegren.

“The IAEA has also expressed concern that the United States, United Kingdom, France, Russia, China and Germany have joined with Germany to discuss the possibility of increasing the international pressure on Iran.”
— U.S. government spokesperson.

“Given... availability of the Tennessee research reactor proposal and the international medical isotopes on the international market...”
— U.S. government spokesperson.

Troubling developments arise in Iran’s nuclear program

Eric Anderson
Co-Editor, News Editor

It has been a little over a year since President Barack Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act into law, and its effectiveness is still unclear. This one-year anniversary is serving as an opportunity for Democrats and Republicans to pitch their own assessment of the bill.

Obama spearheaded the effort with a press conference touting the bill’s job creation and tax cuts. Appearing alongside a number of small-business owners, Obama sought to portray the bill as a success, while conceding that there was still plenty of work to be done. “Despite the extraordinary work that has been done through the Recovery Act, millions of Americans are still without jobs,” Obama said during his address. “Millions more are struggling to make ends meet. So it doesn’t feel like much of a recovery yet. I understand that.”

Congressional leaders were also involved in heated debates over the bill’s effects. Republicans utilized many channels to criticize the bill including web videos and interviews.

Rep. John Boehner, R-Ohio, attacked what he saw as wasteful spending by releasing a report detailing some seemingly ridiculous spending projects. Among these projects were: $10,000 to purchase a liquid nitrogen cryogenic freezer to store pallid sturgeon sperm and $1.25 million for a Northwestern University professor to use electric fish from the Amazon to study how animals take in sensory information to move quickly in any direction.

Rep. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., appeared on “Fox News Sunday” to counter Obama’s claims of job creation. McConnell argued that only a small number of thestimulus bill were government jobs. He went on to argue that the increase in national debt outweighed any positives the bill might have created. Democrats did not shy away from defending the merits of the stimulus bill. Many senators and representatives took to the offensive while seeking to portray the stimulus as a success.

“Given these two legitimate options, there is no rationale for Iran to attempt to produce its own fuel,” Crowley said. The U.S. State Department plans to offer Iran a legitimate way of purchasing medical isotopes in order to render the nation’s own nuclear program pointless.

In response to Ahmadinejad’s statements, the five permanent Security Council members (the United States, United Kingdom, France, Russia, China) have joined with Germany to discuss the possibility of increasing the international pressure on Iran. The U.S. government believes that while Iran is indeed planning to build a nuclear weapon, construction on this weapon has not yet actually begun.

According to U.S. policy, such a development would upset the delicate situation in the Middle East. The IAEA has also expressed concern about Iran’s nuclear program. A report released on Feb. 18 stated that the Islamic republic seems to be moving ahead with the development of nuclear bombs.

“Intends to triple production...”
— U.S. government spokesperson.

Conversely, supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei reacted to the report by stating that nuclear weapons would violate the tenets of Islam. “Iran will not get emotional in its response to these nonsensical statements, because we have often said that our religious tenets and beliefs consider these kinds of weapons of mass destruction to be symbols of genocide and are, therefore, forbidden and considered to be haram (religiously banned).”

Iran’s nuclear program has been wrapped up in the country’s troubled history since the 1960s, when the program first began under the government of Mohammad Reza Shah. After achieving little, the program was dropped following the revolution of 1979 that deposed the shah and brought a conservative Islamic government into power. The program resumed during the 1980s and has been viewed with suspicion by the U.S. government ever since.

In 2003, the moderate government of Mohammad Khatami was bending under international pressure, suspended uranium enrichment and permitted IAEA inspections. However, the 2005 election of conservative President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad ended this conciliatory approach, and Iran has been defying the U.S. and U.N. Security Council ever since.

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Ace That Test

February 24, 2010

NATIONAL

After one year, effects of stimulus bill still unclear

Since President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act into law, the state of Michigan has been awarded:

• 510 contracts totaling $387,484,370
• 529 grants totaling $6,765,656,518
• 73 loans totaling $147,616,000
• 1,306,751,745 for the State Department of Transportation
• 294,670,967 for the city of Detroit
• 299.2 million to Johnson Controls Inc. for the production of nickel-cobalt-metal battery cells and packs at plants it attempts to build in Holland, Mich.

Sources: recovery.gov, The Washington Times
A closer look: Yemeni photography on display at Lemonjello’s

Annelise Belmonte

Arts Editor

Sitting in the local coffee shop Lemonjello’s, students may have noticed a new photo display on the walls. The 10 mounted photographs of Yemeni people and topography were taken by Hope College student Ben Sollee and Dan-iel Martin Moore — a project of the Sierra Leone project class, which Moore is teaching this semester.

“I just tried to capture as much of these things as I could through the camera lens. It was a lot more difficult than I thought it would be. Seeing a truck full of people like that is pretty common, but you see all ages. Very much a sense of piety and a sense of hierarchies like older brother teaches younger brother. 

A big part of the reason Moore brought the photos back to share was to humanize Yemeni people. “The y e r r e Muslims, but they’re not all extremists. It’s like, okay let’s broaden our understanding … We think we have answers or solutions to how they need to solve their problems. Go there, learn the story, and tell it, rather than letting the lens tell the story.”

One aspect of Yemeni life that struck Moore was the amount of faith displayed in everyday life. There’s a call to prayer, which occurs five times a day, but there’s also a sort of pre-pre call to prayer, which occurs around 3:30 a.m. “Things are screaming over the PA system so it’s hard to get sleep … but there’s definitely something to be noted in their devotion,” Moore says. “One may or may not agree with their beliefs, he continues. “I think they suffer just as we suffer and I think it’s important to love people … that’s the first step to loving them, is dignity and respect.”

Hopefully this exhibit will inspire people to learn more about Yemeni people and customs. “In a country that pretty much is three different colors, beige, white, or gray, there was this beautiful reef underwater that had all these colors. There were just so many things that could surprise you.” For more information, visit lemonjellos.com/art or davidclarkmoore.com/yemen2009.

BROOKE WAGGNER — ‘Go Easy Little Devils’

Brooke Waggoner

ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

If you saw her at the Knick last year, you’ll remember Waggoner as quirky and yet meticulously arranged, the product of a music student who’s having as much fun writing her songs as her audience is listening. Her second album is much more swinging and ornate with a lot less vocals and pop hooks, but its quality proves that she can hide her Regina Spektor-like charm and still impress.

Massive Attack — ‘Heligoland’

Ben Soffee and Daniel Martin Moore

‘DEAR COMPANION’

“This folky, twangy album is the result of a collaboration between a more or less unknown singer-songwriters, one acellist and one a guitarist. The duo doesn’t try anything too ambitious together, instead making simplicity a strength. Don’t tell, but Jim James of My Morning Jacket produced it and appears on some tracks.”

Silver Jackson — ‘Thought I Found Gold’

Crisp, folky instruments complement bluesy lyrics and melodies in what’s overall a pretty solid effort for a totally unknown band. A point of interest for followers of the Grand Rapids music scene: a contribution from Andrea Moreno-Beals of Breathe Owl Breathe.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES CLASS CREATES SIERRA LEONE PROJECT WITH HOPE PROFESSORS

Annelise Belmonte

Arts Editor

With tragedies occurring all around the world, questions arise about how things can get so bad. A recently developed course at Hope College called “Lit 2.0: Digital Humanities” is allowing students to explore and address the tragedy of the civil war in Sierra Leone.

English professor Ernest Cole was a refugee in Sierra Leone for seven years, and when he went back into the amputee camps, he recorded footage that eventually was taken and used by students in the course. A trailer for the project can be seen on Hope College’s YouTube channel. To get a sense of how the nation is recovering from civil war, interviewees include members of different levels of society, from government officials to missionaries.

“The trailer was the tip of the iceberg that the New Media Studio has been working on but there’s a lot more to it. It’s a whole portfolio and that’s the face of it right now,” said Professor William Pannapacker, who teaches the course. And the trailer isn’t where it stops just for that story either. There is a 30-minute and 50-minute and 90-minute version of the Sierra Leone project, all with different focuses for different levels of interest.

Pannapacker explained, “It’s a humanitarian intervention as well as a scholarly model. It involves new media, students, faculty and the use of the internet to disseminate information widely with a global context in mind.”

“One of the things I’m always trying to understand,” Cole said, “is the extent of the destruction and the effect on the individual … it’s a question of the pain, the suffering that they endure, the physical challenges. But at the same time, we need to move beyond the sense of helplessness, the sense of being victims. I want them to transcend the sense of being victims … we think we can.”

“HOPE PR—Hope College’s annual faculty choreographed dance concert, Dance 36, will run Friday and Saturday, March 5 and 6, and Thursday through Saturday, March 11-13 at 8 p.m. in the Knickerbocker Theatre. Along with the work of Hope’s dance faculty, the program will include pieces by guest choreographers Tracy Ray Ioffredi, who is a member of Jennifer Muller/ The Works Dance Company, and Dorrell Martin, who is a founder of Dorrell Martin Dance Fusion and the former artistic director of Houston Metropolitan Dance Company. Tickets for Dance 36 are available at the ticket office in the front lobby of the DeVos Fieldhouse and cost $7 for regular admission and $4 for senior citizens, students and members of the Hope College faculty and staff. Tickets will also be available on performance nights at the Knickerbocker Theatre shortly before the curtain rises.”

This Week In Art

Wednesday — Feb. 24

Grammy-Nominated Jazz Pianist Fred Hersch to Perform Wichers Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Free Admission

Thursday — Feb. 25

Hope Jazz Ensembles to Perform with Clay Jenkins

Dorrell Martin Dance Fusion

Dimont Memorial Chapel, 7:30 p.m.

Friday — Feb. 26

Wind Ensemble to Present “Lord of the Rings” Concert

Dimont Memorial Chapel, 7:30 p.m.

Alternative Worship Service

Missa Auditorium, 8 p.m.

Join Sacred Dance Ministry and other campus groups for a time of singing, painting, dancing, praying, and signing.

Hope College Concert Series presents Casitone for the Painfully Alone

Lemonjello’s, 8 p.m.

Free Admission with a Hope ID., $4 for the general public

In Brief

DANCE 36 TICKETS NOW ON SALE

HOPE PR—Hope College’s annual faculty choreographed dance concert, Dance 36, will run Friday and Saturday, March 5 and 6, and Thursday through Saturday, March 11-13 at 8 p.m. in the Knickerbocker Theatre. Along with the work of Hope’s dance faculty, the program will include pieces by guest choreographers Tracy Ray Ioffredi, who is a member of Jennifer Muller/ The Works Dance Company, and Dorrell Martin, who is a founder of Dorrell Martin Dance Fusion and the former artistic director of Houston Metropolitan Dance Company. Tickets for Dance 36 are available at the ticket office in the front lobby of the DeVos Fieldhouse and cost $7 for regular admission and $4 for senior citizens, students and members of the Hope College faculty and staff. Tickets will also be available on performance nights at the Knickerbocker Theatre shortly before the curtain rises.
Valentine’s Day – it’s not only about the chocolate and candy hearts. Well … maybe it is, but for most people, it’s much more than that. It’s about expressing your feelings for another person and showing him or her how much you care. For others, though, Valentine’s Day brings back bad memories like break-ups or re-gifted presents. Which is it for you? For these people, Valentine’s Day is filled with the good, and the bad …

The Good…

“He was born on Valentine’s Day, 1964. She was born exactly one month later, March 14. She was the first girl he ever fought for – in the second grade, when a fourth grader pinched her. They were heartbroken when his parents moved him away, and they lost touch. He managed to call once, when he was 17, but missed her.

“Then fate stepped in. During graduation night, 1982, they were less than 10 feet apart but never knew it. Later, he was the security supervisor at the Madera Speedway, the only guard wearing matched .45s. She walked by, thinking, ‘Could it be?’ but did not have the courage to ask, while he thought, ‘What a cute little kid,’ as she pushed her daughter by in a stroller. Time went by, he went into the Army; she moved to Castro Valley, California.

“Then, as she was beginning her divorce, she happened to look up his name on classmates.com. There were 19 names matching his, but she tried. She found that, just as she was in the process of divorce, he was correcting his own mistake that caused him years of misery. It was the most exciting time in their lives since they had separated, and as they spoke they discovered that fate, though fickle, had been trying for years to get them back together. Today they have a beautiful baby girl.”

“The best Valentine’s present I ever gave: My now-husband and I had only been dating a short time, and I was short on cash, so I thought of a romantic idea for Valentine’s. I snuck into his place and lined Hershey’s Kisses from the door to the bathtub and put flowers in the tube. Just above the shower handle was a note that said, ‘Now that I have kissed the ground you walk on & showered you with flowers, will you be my Valentine?’ He loved it!”

“On my second Valentine’s Day with my boyfriend, he woke me up in the morning with breakfast in bed. This was a big deal to him since he was not what you would call a morning person or a good cook at that.

“After the breakfast in bed, he told me he would clean up, and that I could come downstairs when I was ready. After I showered and put on my makeup, I decided to go downstairs. I thought breakfast in bed was great and wasn’t expecting anything else, but when I was about to walk down the stairs, I saw it each step on the way down had a rose and a little note attached to it. The notes were each a line to a poem he wrote for me, and as I walked down the stairs, I read each line.

“By the time I got to the bottom I realized I would have to put my makeup on all over again, but I didn’t care, because it was the sweetest thing I’d ever seen!”
...and the Bad.

“In junior high, I bought a box of chocolates to give to a boy I had a crush on but had never approached. I gave him the candy, and he laughed in my face and still took it!”

“My boyfriend wanted to cook me a romantic dinner, so he went to the trouble of finding a recipe, shopping and cooking for me at his apartment. He chose to cook chicken and stuff it with loads of vegetables and cheese. Well, apparently he doesn’t know about salmonella.”

“My worst Valentine’s Day ever was two years ago. I was dating a guy that I’d been off and on with for three years. I bought him an expensive pool stick, a bag to go with it, ordered him a dozen roses and paid to have a poem written for him. I had planned the whole evening out already. He called me that morning and told me that he had too much going on in his life and didn’t have time for a girlfriend, especially a serious one. So I decided that I would go out with a friend to try not to think about it. That night I saw him out with another woman.”

“Today, I got a reply to my Valentine’s Day card that I sent to my girlfriend. I’ll get the address right next time because her neighbor is really creeping me out now.”

These Valentine’s Day stories are filled with numerous memories. While these memories are both good and bad, they will always be remembered.

*All stories are by anonymous authors and located on websites such as theromantic.com, womenshealthmag.com, emitations.com, msnbc.msn.com and fmylife.com.

Graphics by Emily Dammer
God gone wild

The trouble of having a relationship with God is that you can't use the God excuse to get out of it. So we're going to have to figure out another way. Because we have to get out of it, right? Can you imagine actually living how the Bible suggests and giving up control to an unpredictable God? That's just ridiculous.

God is far too wild. We can't control him. I can see why the Israelites were always turning to idols — statues of wood or metal. These graven images would be much easier to control than a living, breathing God who talked through burning bushes (Exodus 3), a God who led His people to the edge of the sea and then used the wind to create a path through the water (Exodus 14), a God who knocked down the walls of a great city through the power of a marching band (Joshua 6), a God who opened the ground and had it swallow men whole (Numbers 16), a God who told one of his prophets to go around naked for three years and another to marry a hooker (Isaiah 21, Hosea 1). Can you imagine being in a relationship with a God like that? Wouldn't you rather have a god who would tell you what's coming next? Or, even better, a god whom you could tell what's coming next, like a puppet god. Oh that would be nice! We try to make him safe through patterns and formulas, through a theology that pretends to be a comprehensive biography of the almighty. We try to corner God long enough to clip his claws, but he just won't sit still.

Our world comes crashing down, and we see that we're in need of a wild God. All the power that we thought we had comes like a fog and we see that we're drowning in death. We're stuck. Now we understand that it's only an outlandish, outrageous, unreasonable God who is wild enough to become a man and enter this mess we're in. Only a God who is entirely untamable is crazy enough to take on flesh and do what God did. Only an Almighty Lord is fierce enough to become vulnerable and exposed on a cross. Only a true Lion of a God would become a lamb for love's sake.

Only a wild God would die for his people. A slightly more pacified deity would have washed his hands of us and started over, but not our God. So think about it, Hope College. Do we really want a relationship with a God like that? A God who might take us where we don't feel like going, a God who just won't conform to our agenda, a God who's not at all the safe and quiet kind of guy your Daddy wants you to date? Just remember: When the world is falling down around you, it's a wild God who has holes in His hands. A God who loves like wild.

Over winter break Bryant watched all six "Harry Potter" movies.

**Word on the street**

*An outside perspective*

Sam Tzou
Guest Columnist

Have you heard the word on the street? They say print journalism is disappearing! Forget the rumors that all newspapers will disappear and transition into the digital world. The real information is that news sections are folding up because of a lack of reader interest.

Now, readers who grab a newspaper will skip over sections A and B to look at the feature of the sports pages. It seems as though people would much rather read about LeBron's throwdown last night or the final 12 contestants for American Idol, than learn what is happening outside their geographical bubble. Online users are much more likely to skip over the Google National or global news sections than ever before.

Whenever a link pops up or the news section is on the table, words like "I hate politics" or "I don't care" are common previous statements.

In some senses, these two commonly used phrases aren't incorrect. I mean, seriously, who really cares that much about Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar and his capture and how the Pentagon went ecstatic? Who in the world are we talking about Obama's national health care plan as his super majority disappears? Who is Charlie Crist? Why should I take the time to even read these 600 words? Is my life going to change significantly? Why should I care?

The answer is simple. While some of us can continue to debate on flipboards, fiscal discipline and Jacob Zuma's rise to power in South Africa, the purpose of news and op-ed columnists is the analysis of the changing world.

Take the past four years for an example. When the class of 2010 entered Hope College four years ago, George W. Bush was getting his foot planted into his second term. Names like Obama and Palin were unknown, certain health officials were still panicking away and there was no talk whatsoever about any sort of world economic collapse.

See, **Word on the street page 9**

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**Go world**

I don't think that it will come as a big surprise that I absolutely love the Olympics. I'm not just talking about the kind of love where I enjoy sitting down a few nights a week, passively watching the games on mute while doing other work. I am that person who would drop out of college if the Olympics were any longer; because I am completely unproductive while they are happening.

The combination of being a die-hard sports lover and a total sap makes the Olympics my Mecca. I remember getting a little misty-eyed as an emotional teen while watching those heart-warming segments about the athlete who came from nothing, overcame potential career-ending injuries, parents who died or a sibling with cancer. I'll admit. I still watch some of them, but for the Vancouver Games, it has seemed like almost half the airtime has been dedicated to such segments, and they've lost their impact.

Nonetheless, the Olympics are great if only because they bring out the patriotic side in all of us. I still remember getting chills while watching the 1980 gold medal hockey team light the Olympic torch at the Salt Lake City Games in 2002. Perhaps I'm a tad ridiculous, but I can't help but smile when I watch a medal ceremony and hear "The Star Spangled Banner" play as a proud athlete holds back the tears.

It is good to be an American during the Olympic Games. Even as I write this, the U.S. leads the Vancouver medal count at 24. Germany is a far behind second at 18, and Norway rounds out the top three with 12.

But this success has led to a rather extreme case of ethnocentrism. While watching the men's figure skating finals last week, one of my friends commented that the gold medal would probably go to the "stupid Russian (Evgeni Plushenko) because the U.S. never gets it". American Evan Lysacek skated a beautiful program while Plushenko clearly struggled.

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See, **Word on the street page 9**
Pen pals

I got a letter from my friend Sharon last week. I knew it was hers without even looking at the return address. Her handwriting was small and deliberate but not precise. She had struck a metallic flower sticker next to my name. I turned the envelope over. On the top flap she had stamped her lion seal. When I tore my finger through the top edge and pulled out the card, I knew how it would begin: “Grace— Hello! How are you?” and end, “Love— Sharon.”

We’ve met a few times, but most of our friendship has developed on paper, with pen and ink, with letters and questions and responses and weeks in between. We first met at church during a high school youth group function, when we were invited to fill out cards with our address and other information, so that the church could send us mailings. Neither of us was particularly interested in receiving mailings, so we exchanged ours instead. I admitted to her that I loved filling out surveys. The next week, I received a three-page word-processed questionnaire in the mail. The envelope had two flower stickers on it and a lion stamp over the back flap.

Since then, we’ve exchanged more than 100 letters. I strew my former high school newspaper letters, poems and recommendations for fabulous novels. We’ve watched and cheered as we each decided to become English majors. She has told me about the refugee children she tutors and about growing up as the daughter of missionaries in Venezuela. I’ve confided in her about my writing, confessed that I don’t want to have a “career” in life. She has finally joined me in my trip to New Orleans. We are pen pals. I have met her once. We are likely to meet again.

Word on the street, from page 8

The duty of any news section of a daily paper is to communicate campus events throughout the United States in 2016. The current automobile industry could be competing with electric cars. The war in Iraq will be over by 2014, according to the Times or Jason Fry of the Washington Post. Without the foreign correspondent from professor Slette the many strains and stresses that obesity places on the body. By 2016, nearly everybody has the same mindset as those of the greatest news writers and analysts from page 12. Health and wellness is an important issue for health and wellness. We are all getting fat. The United States, New York Times or Jason Fry of the Washington Post. It's preventable.

From the inside out

voices

Grace Olson
Columnist

We are all getting fat. The United States, New York Times or Jason Fry of the Washington Post. It's preventable. We've all gone to die from cancer or radiation anyways, so we might as well look good and get tan, right? I should have fun and go crazy while I'm young, because I won't be able to do that when I'm older. We wouldn't really live a healthy life to 90 than die early from obesity causes?

The seniors might hear me on this one, but I've been thinking about what I want my life to look like in the future. Do I want kids some day? Do I want to travel? Do I want to work? Do I want to run more marathons? Do I want to perfect Rachel Willis' bread recipe? Well YES. Yes I do.

I don’t want to sacrifice years of my life just to “live it up” now by eating heaps of food and lying around on my comfy, snakeskin couch. If I were to do that, research says that by the time I’m 50, obese, popping blood pressure pills, stabbing myself with insulin and unable to keep up with the 20-year-olds on the sidewalk, I’ll be too late. It’s not that a 50-year-old is unable to lose weight; it’s quite the opposite, in fact. You can always improve your health late into your 80s. Muscles can become stronger, and flexibility can increase, but the time you’re 50, the damage has been done. You can’t reverse the past, and I want Hope to realize that now.

This is my last column as an Anchorette, and it has given me a chance to preach my case for health and wellness. I’m challenging you to start living a well-balanced life. Take advice from Mr. Green; he’s a smart guy. He tells me “Everything in moderation.”

For those taking the time to read the Voices section despite the scary amount of words on these pages. A lot of work goes into this paper every week, and I have great respect for this staff and our advisor. Thanks for your support, Hope.

And while Hope may not have a journalism major, the world here have the same mindset as those of the greatest news writers and analysts such as Frank Rich of the New York Times or Jason Fry of the Washington Post. Sometimes because the beauty of news writing is that all we can do is find facts now and speculate with the readers. No matter what Holland, the U.S. or the world is like in 2014, we’re going to need op-ed writing and news journalism to carry us there.

Grace & Peace
Grace Olson
Columnist

Am I out of my mind?

I think it’s a bad idea that news writers really do speculate. Whether it’s the Washington Post senior staff writer, the Daily Northwestern op-ed editor or the guest writer on Anchor, nearly everybody has the same mindset as those of the greatest news writers and analysts. The Watergate scandal probably would never have been exposed. Without the foreign correspondent still to be named in Rwanda, no one would have the compassion towards Africa as all the different charity organizations do. Without Samuel Adams’ writing after the Boston Massacre, the Revolutionary War might have never happened. Without news journalists, well, you get the picture.

But, as pen pals know, fewer letters don’t mean waning friendship. In one of her early letters to me, Sharon wrote: "Don’t worry about writing back on ‘time’—part of the fun of letters is that it is over time and not rushed!”

We first met at church during a high school youth group function, when we were invited to fill out cards with our address and other information, so that the church could send us mailings. Neither of us was particularly interested in receiving mailings, so we exchanged ours instead. I admitted to her that I loved filling out surveys. The next week, I received a three-page word-processed questionnaire in the mail. The envelope had two flower stickers on it and a lion stamp over the back flap.

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Despite her gratitude for slow correspondence, Grace wishes she had caught up on a few more letters over winter break. She apologizes to those whose mailboxes are still bare. So we keep writing. We lick the stamp and send it out and check the mail every day, just in case.

Sharon and I are pen pals. We’ve been friends since then, we’ve exchanged more than 100 letters. I’ve sent poems and recommendations for fabulous novels. We’ve watched and cheered as we each decided to become English majors. She has told me about the refugee children she tutors and about growing up as the daughter of missionaries in Venezuela. I’ve confided in her about my writing, confessed that I don’t want to have a “career” in life. She has finally joined me in my trip to New Orleans. We are pen pals. I have met her once. We are likely to meet again.

The truth is all that news writers really do is speculate. Whether it’s the Washington Post senior staff writer, the Daily Northwestern op-ed editor or the guest writer on Anchor, nearly everybody has the same mindset as those of the greatest news writers and analysts. The Watergate scandal probably would never have been exposed. Without the foreign correspondent still to be named in Rwanda, no one would have the compassion towards Africa as all the different charity organizations do. Without Samuel Adams’ writing after the Boston Massacre, the Revolutionary War might have never happened. Without news journalists, well, you get the picture.

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It doesn’t matter which one you get or how you get it. I just don’t think anyone wants a disease of the heart. And much of the time it’s preventable.

But what about factors other than obesity that have been promised to kill me? We’ve all gone to die from cancer or radiation anyways, so we might as well look good and get tan, right? I should have fun and go crazy while I’m young, because I won’t be able to do that when I’m older. We wouldn’t really live a healthy life to 90 than die early from obesity causes?

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Ann would like to thank Shaun White for being a great inspirer of ours for covering him so well. If it weren’t for NBC, she’d be all over him. Must be the red hair.

Our Mission: The Anchor strives to communicate campus events throughout Hope College and the Holland community. We hope to amplify awareness and promote dialogue through fact, objective journalism and a vibrant Voices section.

Disclaimer: The Anchor is a product of student effort and is funded via student activity fees through the Hope College Student Activities Fund. The opinions expressed on the Anchor pages are solely those of the author and do not represent the views of The Anchor. One-year subscriptions to The Anchor are available for $40. The Anchor reserves the right to accept or reject any advertising.

Letter Guidelines: The Anchor welcomes all letters. The staff reserves the right to edit due to space constraints, personal attacks or otherwise editorial considerations. A representative sample will be taken. No anonymous letters will be published unless discussed with Editor-in-Chief. Mail letters to The Anchor c/o Hope College, drop them off at the Anchor office (located in the Martin Miller Center 152), or e-mail them to anchor@hope.edu by Monday at 5 p.m. to appear in Wednesday’s issue.

Advertising Policies: All advertising is subject to the rules, conditions, standards, terms and policies stated in The Anchor’s advertisement brochure. The Anchor will make no representation of the accuracy, veracity, composition, contents or typographical errors. However, if such mistakes occur, this newspaper may cancel its charges for the portion of the ad if, in the publisher’s reasonable judgment, the ad has been rendered valueless by the mistake.

Advertising Deadlines: All ad and classified requests must be submitted by 5 p.m. Monday, prior to Wednesday distribution.

Contact Information: To submit an ad or a classified, or to request a brochure or other information, contact our Anchorette Representative at anchor@hope.edu. To contact our office, call our office at (616) 395-7877.
Space Still Available!!!!

The Very Last, Best
May Term in Ireland
“Irish Culture and Celtic Wisdom”
(IDS 495: Senior Seminar)

Contact: Prof. John Tammi
	tammi@hope.edu

Can I Kiss You?  •  KISS, from page 2

being back at Hope is seeing the students make a commitment to creating positive change with asking first, being a friend and opening a door. “Through his program, Domitrz has created change across the country and around the world. He seeks to create more change by alerting people to these issues and causing them to implement these ideals in their own lives so that one day people will not have to deal with the pain of sexual assault. Students can either choose their own project or have one recommended to them. In the case of the Sierra Leone project, the student-faculty collaboration seems to be beneficial to those involved. “I thank God for Hope College,” Cole said. “I thank God for the support I’m having. We are one, and we are all connected on the basis of our humanity. How can we influence the salvations of others? Regardless of talent, we must use our resources for the improvement of our kind. I am pleased, I am thankful. I will never rest. I will do whatever it takes.”

The class is offered in the second half of the semester. Those interested in the Sierra Leone project are encouraged to contact Cole.
The Howard's basketball team ended its regular season with a perfect 16-0 MIAA record, though not without some late season drama. Saturday's game against Adrian was tied at halftime, and a late surge in the second half tied the game with 53 seconds left. Carrie Snikkers ('11) and Liz Ellis ('13) both made important free throws in the final 21 seconds to give the Dutch the win, 56-56. MIAA Tournament play began yesterday against Alma.

MEN'S BASKETBALL SPLIT'S WEEK

The men's basketball team finished its regular season last week. On Wednesday, the team traveled to Adrian, and fell to the Bulldogs, 68-73. With the loss the Flying Dutchmen moved to second place in the MIAA, giving Calvin sole possession of the conference. On Saturday, the team concluded its regular season against Trine. The Thunder pulled within three with 41 seconds left in the game, but two clutch free throws by Logan Neal ('12) with five seconds remaining sealed the win for the Dutchmen. Trine and Hope will meet again tonight in the first game of the MIAA Tournament.

****

Tennis teams enter season with optimism
Karen Patterson
Sports Editor

Though the weather outside may still be frigid, the Hope College men’s and women’s tennis teams are working hard in preparation for the 2010 season. The Flying Dutchmen return only one man and three women from the 2009 team that finished second in the MIAA Conference. With one of the youngest teams in recent history, the freshman/sophomores, two juniors and two — the preseason work-out was the most rigorous that co-captain Kaylynn Garland ('11) could remember.

“At the start of pre-season we had about nine freshmen coming out, so I knew that we would have to put in some real work in order to be where we wanted to be come season,” Garland said. “I wouldn’t say that I felt like we were in a hurry, but we knew that it was necessary to catch the younger guys up to speed.”

While the true test will come during the team’s spring break trip to Florida, for the oversized group of the hard work paying off at the opening UW-Whitewater Invitational held on Feb. 12-13. Though the team was unable to top host Whitewater and UW-Oshkosh, a solid win against Wheaton College proved that the Dutchmen are ready to take on older, more-experienced squads.

The team will journey next to Hilton Head, S.C., for their annual spring break trip. While the matches played throughout the week will count toward the overall record, co-captains Amanda Sifnotis ('10) and John Gardner ('10) are hoping the team walks away with more than just a few wins.

“Spring break is always a great trip for us,” Gardner said. “This trip, we’re hoping to just spend a bunch of time together and get really close. We’re going to work hard, that’s for sure, but team unity is something we hope to accomplish this break.”

For the Flying Dutchmen, conference play is over a month away, and Garland is confident that the young, new players will be ready.

“Even though we lost a lot of great guys from last year, I am sure that the freshmen will step up during conference play,” Gardner said. “It’s so hard to say what will happen, but being so early in the season, but I hope to be playing right along with the other teams vying for the MIAA crown.”

For the Flying Dutch, the 2010 season comes on a bittersweet note. The team was as perfect in conference and won the MIAA for the first time in 10 years, but the success came shortly before the passing of longtime head coach Beth Olson (‘00). The team seeks a second consecutive MIAA title.

Though the balance of freshmen and returning upperclassmen is stronger than for the men, Olson still expects the new class to have a big impact on the team.

“Everyone fits in well and contributes, including the freshmen,” Olson said. “All of the freshmen are very close, talent-wise with the rest of the team, so that’s a great thing.”

Olson expects that a few may even end up in the team’s line-up, pushing the upperclassmen to work ever harder.

Similarly to the Dutchmen, the Flying Dutch will travel to Hilton Head for spring break. This year the team will use a competitive schedule as a tool to better prepare for the MIAA conference play in April.

“Break is a great time for us to play a lot of competitive teams and learn from that competition to prepare for conference,” Olson said. “We’re in a really good position heading into conference, but it’s important to be competitive with schools that are playing outside of our conference.”

In addition to the spring break trip, the Flying Dutch will meet opponents Inez State, Grand Valley State University and Wheaton before MIAA play begins in late March.

While the losses of Coach Page and All-MIAA player Samantha Stille ('09) have changed team dynamics, the Flying Dutch are confident that their depth and experience combined with hard work can bring them a second straight MIAA title.
Men's swim team claims third straight MIAA title

Flying Dutch swim team finishes second in MIAA

For the Dutch to have a successful meet, captain Claire Pieter ('10) explained that a lot of young swimmers needed to step up. "It is always interesting to see what the freshmen can do for the team, and they really stepped up," Pieter said.

Libby Westrate ('13) did her part in contributing to the team's success at the conference championships. Westrate took home the gold in the 100-yard and 200-yard freestyle events, each of them fast enough for NCAA championship consideration. She was also part of the winning team in the 800-yard freestyle relay.

Winning the relay was one of Westrate's favorite moments of the meet. "After being second to Calvin in the previous relays, it was a moment of blue overload," Westrate said.

Sarah Sohn ('12), who added that this was a very exciting win for the team.

"It was a great feeling to win after losing to Calvin in that relay last year," Sohn said. The 7:47.40 time the Dutchmen posted was good enough for NCAA championship consideration. They will have to wait to see if they will get to compete at nationals. Sohn also posted her season-best time in the 500-yard freestyle event. With a time of 5.07.20, she is also up for national consideration.

Even with these gold medal victories, it wasn't enough to knock off the Knights of Calvin. Calvin finished with 939 points, while Hope College was third with 878 points, Kalamazoo was second with 853, third was Olivet with 493, rival Calvin finished fourth with 428, Alma finished fifth with 277 and Albion came in last with 195 points.

More good news in the form of All-MIAA players came for the Flying Dutchmen last week. Eight Flying Dutchmen were named to the all-conference team.

First time all-conference team members Grabijas, Huisingen and King joined four-time winners Heyboer and Nelis. Also on the roster are Ruch for the third time and Shade and Welsh for the second time.

The NCAA national championships still away the Flying Dutchmen. Hopefuls such as Nelis, Ruch, Welsh and Nick Hazekamp ('13) will have to wait until March 5 to find out if they made it.