WIN PROMPTS NCAA TOURNEY

Jenny Cencer
Sports Editor

In an effort to break down po-
larized parties, Hope students and
government officials made the
first step towards proactive dia-
logue Tuesday night.

A leader of the Democratic
Party, Mark Brewer, participat-
ed in an open forum with Hope
Democrat members and advisor
Professor Eliot Dickinson, West-
ern Theological Seminary stu-
dents and representatives from
a political consulting firm. Safe
from circuitous debates both stu-
dents and national officials had
the opportunity to discuss the
proper role of faith, politics, and
the public square.

The Democratic Party guests
began the dialogue by describing
their interactions with the Chris-
tian faith as well as how politi-
cians interacted in the office.

As director of religious out-
reach for the Kerry campaign and
president of Common Good Strat-
tegies, Mara Vanderslice explained
her experiences as a Christian in
a political office.

“It became clearer and clearer
to me how difficult it was to be a
Christian involved in progressive
outreach,” Vanderslice said.

“The Democratic Party has a
problem with people of faith, and
we need to do something about
that,” Brewer said.

Brewer is the chair of Michi-
gan’s Democratic Party, president
of the Association of State Demo-
crat Chairs and Democratic Na-
tional Committee Chair.

They described how the De-
mocratic Party is striving to meet
the imbalance of faith in politics
Students who use Amtrak should not yet start worrying about the large maintenance facility that is supposed to move to Michigan. According to O’Connell, after the appropriations bill reducing the Amtrak subsidy passed, Amtrak told the government that the facility was not sufficient to move the mudslide to Michigan. Amtrak’s subsidy depends upon past performance of the passenger rail carrier to an employee who is less productive, regularly comes in late, and has a declining job performance.

Mudslides devastate Philippine village

On Feb. 17 a mudslide devastated thousands of citizens in the Philippines. A week later, 122 victims were found dead and more than 1,400 were still missing, according to the Daily Tribune. The mudslides were triggered by continuous heavy rains around St. Bernard, a town in the Leyte province of the Philippines. Unfortunately, this is not the first disaster to strike the area in recent years. In 1991 when a typhoon caused flooding, according to NDTV.com. Typhoons strike the St. Bernard area approximately 20 times per year. In 2004, more than 1,800 people were declared dead or missing after a violent series of storms. To further add to the troubles, rescue operations were suspended last Thursday after seven Taiwanese rescuers were trapped in the mud while digging for survivors. The rescuers were recovered safely, but Gov. Rosetta Lerias ordered all rescue workers to leave St. Bernard for the day because the heavy rains could trigger even more mudslides in the area. Yet despite all the danger, rescuers remain hopeful and optimistic that progress will be made and bodies will be found alive.

“Ours are still in search and rescue mode,” Philippine rescue leader Major General Bonifacio Ramos said, according to the Daily Tribune. “From what we see and what we know and from our equipment we still have a possibility (of survivors),” Gov. Lerias said. Meanwhile, others do not seem to feel as optimistic about the situation: “Food supply is falling short and many people are still missing. “Food supply is estimated to last for one week, and medicines are running low,” said Leon Dominador Fajardo, a UNICEF officer from the area on Feb. 23, according to Asia-Pacific News. “Only around 87 children survived the mudslides,” Fajardo said. The village was home to more than 3,000 people. Any of them have one or both parents. Already, we have heard of outsiders allegedly looking for orphans to adopt,” Fajardo said. According to the U.S. and other countries and organizations have supported the country’s rescue efforts. OPEC has donated $150,000 for the supply of more relief items, according to the Daily Tribune. India has given more than 28 tons of various relief materials for the victims. Indonesia has sent a 43-member humanitarian team of doctors, paramedics, engineers and communication specialists to help during the rescue and relief operations that are currently taking place in St. Bernard. U.S. Marines have helped in the relief efforts by finding school children and other citizens amidst the rubble and mud. Local authorities have also begun relocating villages threatened by landslides in southern Leyte. “Aside from coming up with the exact geologic features of these potential relocation sites, equally important is that these sites should be accessible,” Arnaldo Cabantog, a national coordinator for a geohazard-mapping project, said. Even though help is on the way, the rescue work continues in the process if interruptions continue and if the number of rescuers remains the same. “This will take a long time if we can’t get more evacuees out,” said Joe Sun, reflecting on the past week of disaster.
Three-band show draws local crowds

BY SARA QUESADA-LUBBERS

Dance 32 promises ‘exciting surprises’

Sarah Quesada-Lubbers

Now in its 32nd year, the faculty-choreographed dance concert Dance 32 promises some exciting surprises.

Every year, all student dancers audition for every member of the dance faculty.

“It’s a real honor if you get selected, because not every one gets the chance to perform,” said Kary Maxwell (’07), who is performing in two dance pieces, one with Amanda Smith in a pointe-show ballet piece and one with Linda Graham in contemporary ballet.

At a recent rehearsal for Professor Steven Lamasone’s Carmina Burana Project: Phase 1, students worked hard to prepare for the upcoming show. The 13th century gothic piece uses lyrics based on ancient texts, according to some of the dancers. The piece contains a full load of embraces, funny faces, adrenaline madness, entertaining noises and swift movements.

The show will feature a variety of pieces from tap, jazz, modern and ballet.

Jacqueline Bird, a guest professor this semester, will present “Cellaphenotypic,” about the influence of cell phones today. People dance and “run around with cell phones,” one student said.

“It’s very dramatic and probably even funny,” Jillian Koestner (’07) said. Jon Lehrer, another guest professor, will be presenting the piece “Oceanic Nymph,” which depicts ocean creatures living at the bottom of the sea. “It creates an image of what the life of sea creatures would be like if it could dance,” Koestner said.

The dancers said that the show was expected to be very different from any other previous faculty-choreographed performances. One piece includes a sculpture, another includes opera singing.

“It’s got something for everyone. It contains showmanship and is visually entertaining,” Koestner said.

Many dancers are excited about the music selections in the concert.

“Music majors will really enjoy the ‘Carmina’ because it uses a combination of famous songs. The show is more intricate than ever before…” we even have moving lights, something we’ve never used before,” Koestner said.

The dancers of Dance 32 are ready to perform.

“I’m really excited. The pieces are great and a lot of them are ready to perform,” describes the film’s

Jordan Wolfson

In March, the Knickerbocker Theatre will host two different types of movies, each promising to reveal a little bit more about the world and those who live within it.

The first movie, “The Grace Lee Project,” showing from Feb. 27 to March 4, is a video essay based on the search for the “typical” Asian American woman, and receives its name from a common Asian American name, Grace Lee.

When she was growing up in Missouri, Korean filmmaker, producer and director Grace Lee was the only person she knew with the name Grace Lee. However, after leaving the Midwest, she discovered that just about everyone she met knew a person with the exact same name.

Everyone filmmaker Lee interviewed described their own Grace Lee as a subservient, piano playing, quiet cheerleader. However Grace Lee quickly discovered that many of the people who she questioned couldn’t remember where or when they had met a Grace Lee, just that they had at some point in their lives.

What Lee wanted to do was to break the mold of this imagined similarity, as well as explore the question as to why this type of girl can be so easily described and labeled, but yet be so easily forgotten. She wanted to truly investigate into all those Grace Lees.

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Hope College is one of only 10 church-related colleges and universities nationwide highlighted in a new book on effective undergraduate education.

The book, “Putting Students First: How Colleges Develop Students Purposefully,” argues “that an effective undergraduate college education is one that centers on holistic student development, including the search for meaning and purpose in life.” Published by Anker Publishing Company Inc. of Boston, Mass., the book was co-authored by Dr. Larry A. Braskamp, Dr. Lois Calian Trautvetter and Dr. Kelly Ward.

“We are honored to be included in this book because it amplifies what we attempt to accomplish every day with our students,” said Dr. James Boelkis, provost of Hope College.

“Hope College has a long history of helping students understand their calling by providing an intellectually rigorous academic program, a comprehensive student development program and the freedom to explore faith in the context of a vibrant Christian community,” Boelkis said. “We accomplish this through a team of outstanding teachers-scholars and staff who are dedicated to our mission.”

The 10 institutions highlighted were chosen, the authors note, “to represent the diverse group of the 500 colleges that were founded by one of ten church denominations,” and were included specifically for being “individually and collectively distinguished and distinctive in fostering holistic student development.”

“While the selected colleges are very supportive of preparing students to be vocationally competitive locally, nationally, and internationally, they argue for an education to be more,” the authors state in their introduction. “We selected colleges that intentionally assist students to ask and ‘struggle’ with the fundamental questions in life while they are in college.”

Of Hope specifically, Braskamp in an interview explained, “We knew of its fine academic reputation and it had a distinct mission regarding faith and religion, and it also represented the Reformed colleges – the Christian Reformed and Reformed.”

Braskamp is a professor emeritus of religion at Loyola University Chicago, where he served as senior vice president for academic affairs, and is a senior fellow at the Association of American Colleges and Universities.

“Faculty are models and mentors whether the students are aware of it or not,” he said.

Braskamp noted that he was struck by how well faculty at the selected colleges interact and support students at the same time - and, for that matter, by their dedication in general. “I was impressed with how hard the faculty work on these campuses and, for that matter, by their dedication in any college setting. Students can feel comfortable exploring, asking the big questions and coming up with answers that they feel are their own as opposed to somebody else’s.”

Faculty, he said, are crucial in the process as role models and students can readily find application at secular institutions.

The climate of the campus is another crucial component.

“These are places that are rigorous intellectually and they try to provide a safe environment,” Braskamp said. “We spend a fair amount of time talking about safe environment, which is an important element in any college setting. Students can feel comfortable exploring, asking the big questions and coming up with answers that they feel are their own as opposed to somebody else’s.”

The book organizes its exploration by theme, of student development - that’s an ideal program,” Braskamp said, that is central to the schools’ success.

“It’s the integration of ministry, of student affairs and academic affairs that is very key to how the students view their life,” he said. “It takes a whole campus with whole people to develop whole students.”

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By Evelyn Daniel

It is unlikely that any thought it would actually happen to them.

For the hundreds of people facing copyright infringement lawsuits, many of them college students, sharing music online has become an expensive hobby. While Hope has yet to see a lawsuit against one of its students, the recording industry is actively monitoring what users are downloading on the Internet. According to Jeff Pestun, assistant director of CIT, Hope receives “cease and desist” letters weekly regarding cases of music, film or software piracy—sometimes receiving as many as a dozen per week.

These letters, composed by attorneys representing the Recording Industry Association of America and the Motion Picture Association of America, list Internet protocol addresses of Hope computers that they have found to be illegally downloading copyrighted material. If the holders of those addresses do not immediately cease and desist—in other words, stop downloading—the letters threaten to subpoena the college for the names of the students and file charges against them.

The threat of subpoena is constant at colleges and universities across the country. In 2004, the RIAA began bringing suit against users at 13 different campuses. Last month, music companies filed lawsuits against students at Michigan State.

“Sweeping the world since they were introduced by Apple in 2001. During their first year on the market, Apple sold 381,000 iPods and sales have rapidly increased every year totaling more than 2.8 million—2.2 million were sold in 2005 alone.

Apple is continually advancing the technology and market of iPods by offering several sizes and with various amounts of memory. Prices range from the smallest $69 iPod shuffle that has 512 MB of memory, limited navigational options and no display screen, while the fifth generation iPod at $399 contains 60 GB of memory and video playing capabilities.

Music for iPods can be downloaded from the iTunes music store. More than 2 million songs are available for 99 cents each. Other media downloads include podcasts, audio books, music videos and television programs.

On Feb. 22, iTunes music store sold its billionth song to grand prize winner, Alex Ostrovsky. From West Bloomfield, Mich., he was awarded a 20-inch iMac, ten 60GB iPods and a $10,000 iTunes Music Card.

Nowadays, iPods appear to be everywhere, especially on college campuses. While walking to class, hanging out at the Kletz, or doing homework in a computer lab it is common to see several people with their headphones on.

Many adults are asking, “What makes iPods so popular?”

“It’s a great way to bring all my favorite music around with me without having to carry a bulky CD player and an entire case of CDs. I appreciate that I can have a variety of different music that I can pick myself and that I know I will like,” Abby DeVuyst (’08) said.

Along with their music, iPods also offer easy portability.

“I usually listen to my iPod when I am traveling in the car for long periods of time, or when I am waiting for a plane home,” DeVuyst said.

Jenna Mulder (’08) agreed with most students’ opinions.

“I usually use it when I’m studying,” Mulder said.

Other people seem to listen to their iPod all the time, and some believe frequent use may cause serious distractions.

“I have only walked around campus once with my music on and I didn’t really like it.” DeVuyst said. “I found out later that a couple of my friends had tried to get my attention by calling my name a few times and I couldn’t even hear them. When I see other people walking with theirs on, I get the impression that they are not in the mood to talk to anyone that day.”

Although some may feel apprehensive to talk to a headphone-wearing person, listening to an iPod is not necessarily a display of anti-social activity.

“My friends still come up and talk to me if I have my headphones on. If someone comes to talk to me, I just take them off,” Mulder said.

While some may say that iPods are just another indication of our society’s growing dependence on popular culture and the media, most students agree that iPods are just another fad and a fun way to listen to good music.

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THE THOUGHTS THAT LIE UNDER HOPE

Erin L’Hotta

Yesterday, the world ended

Israel should be wiped off the map. At least, this is what Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said. Nuke ‘em. Blow them out of the water. Eliminate the Holy State, face the end of the world.

Shortly after this statement was made at “A World without Zionists” conference, Bush shook his finger, issuing a warning to Iran. He insisted America spend a week in prayer for this terrorist leader. Plea that God pursues democratic justice upon Iran; lift supplication after supplication for the abandonment of nuclear war.

Who knows if prayer can save us. The end of the world has indeed, already begun.

I sat in Senior Sem last week. We talked about change, complexity and Christianity with Professor Poffeet. She stood in front of the class, sighed, and said, “The end of the world is coming.”

Nuclear war will have us at its best. It will throw us out of our homes, out of our minds and into the sewers. Who’s to know when each of us will die? When Grand Rapids will be gone? Can we utter understanding of the existence of peace?

Experts say that twenty years from now, threat of nuclear attack will be a normative every day American fear. America’s policies will be perceived as the underlying cause of overcrowding, unemployment and resource scarcity in Middle Eastern nations.

These nations will harbor anger and we will be target territory.

On Sunday, “The New York Times” revealed that Iran’s nuclear chief established a “joint uranium enrichment venture” with Moscow and Tehran. It is expected that China will join forces as well. “Jane’s Defense Weekly” has recently reported that Iran assists Israel’s arch enemy, Syria, by providing them with chemical weapons. Together, the two nations will undergo a multi-million dollar project, in which Iran and Syria will set up missile-launching sites, to test launch ballistic missiles while acquiring chemical weapons of mustard and nerve gas. And with a blink of the eye, Israel could be gone.

International strategic experts believe Iran’s nuclear weapons are changing society as we see it now. As Iran explores nuclear weapons, they entice other Middle Eastern countries to do the same, moving closer and closer towards nuclear war. The question is, who is going to stop them?

The foreign ministers of France and Spain gave their voices to this story about love and culture into a cinematic poem,” reported hollywoodreporter.com. The movie, playing from March 6-17, is titled “Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress.” Set in the early 1970s China during the last stages of its Cultural Revolution, two teenagers from the city, Luo and Ma, are sent away to a backwards mountainous region of China for Maoist re-education. The boys are forced into manual labor, and watched constantly by the zealous village headman. Since the two boys are educated, they are able to outwit the headman. On an assigned trip to a larger village, they fall in love with the daughter of the most renowned tailor in the region, whom they lovingly call “Ting.”

The two boys then happen upon a suitcase filled with books that had been banned by the new government of China, but instead of throwing them out, they read them to this girl in a secret hiding place that only the three of them knew about. The girl loves the books and she slowly gains the courage to leave the village she grew up in and strike out on her own. A poignant lyricism runs through Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress that transforms this story about love and culture into a cinematic poem,” reported hollywoodreporter.com.

Tickets for films at the Knickerbocker are $6 for regular admission and $5 for senior citizens, and may be purchased at the door.
LETTER GUIDELINES
The Anchor welcomes letters from anyone within the college and related communities. The staff reserves the right to edit due to space constraints or personal attacks. Letters are chosen on a first come, first served basis, or a representative sample will be taken. No anonymous letters will be printed unless discussed with Editor-in-Chief. Please limit letters to 500 words.

Mail letters to the Anchor o/o Hope College, drop them off at the Anchor office (located in the Martha Miller Center), or e-mail Anchor@hope.edu

SIDEWALK ETIQUETTE

Knowing Nothing, Finally

At the start of 2nd hour, one of my more verbose students aired a wise-crack at me. “Are you teaching today?” she asked. I replied to the contrary, inwardly pleased that I would be spending the hour at the back of the room with my nose buried in Shakespeare. “Good,” she quipped immediately, “because I don’t know anything.” Her joke reminded me of my disclaimer to the 2nd hour Advanced Placement students a week before, in regard to my grading of their timed writings. “I’m figuring this all out, too,” I confessed as we sat in a circle. “I don’t know everything.”

High school is full of people who know everything. Just ask my 2nd hour, and they’ll tell you how stupid God is. College is also stuffed with people who know everything, but in higher education we use different words to describe everything we know. “Political Science isn’t real science.” Oh, wow, I didn’t know that. “Of course you didn’t. You’re not a real scientist.”

Society and history is full of “knowledge” that went Boom! “Weapons of Mass Destruction” and “War on Terror” are some big winners if you’re playing Political Fluff-up Scrabble. Triple-word-score if you can win an election by compartmentalizing entire regions, cultures, and religious sects into an “axis of evil!” But I digress.

I can’t go on what I know. I go on what they know. What everyone else tells me is true. I only dare tell them what I feel, what I think, what I’m inclined to believe; but often the persuasion stops there. I don’t know the correct answer to the abortion equation, the homosexuality reality. I don’t know if heaven exists; big surprise, but none of us have ever been there. Dealing with this lack of knowledge isn’t that hard for me; putting up with society’s fairy-tale of complete awareness, however, is.

Faith must have been easy for our Biblical characters. Joshua didn’t have to bargain with a conservative administration’s foreign policy when he invaded his enemies’ land. Elijah wasn’t up against the curriculum of a world religions class when he called fire down on his enemies’ land. Elijah wasn’t up against the curriculum of a world religions class when he called fire down on his enemies’ land. Elijah wasn’t up against the curriculum of a world religions class when he called fire down on his enemies’ land. Elijah wasn’t up against the curriculum of a world religions class when he called fire down on his enemies’ land.

The idea of faith has been lost in the commercial ego of global media. I know nothing of life’s questions and their infinitely elusive answers. A humorous jibe at this search for finally, found in The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy sums it all up in the magic number “42.” Right now, as I finish surfing through the choppy waters of this liberal arts education, such an answer would be a breath of fresh air. But it would be a dangerous out, a cheap escape, from the noble calling of a life-long human journey. To know heaven, not as a place, but as a reality, would require ceasing to be human. To know the answer, a binding, uniting thread that runs through suffering and death and loneliness and ethical dilemma, would be like a piece of a puzzle trying to become the whole puzzle. To be human is to be in the dark. It’s been that way since the beginning.

CLASSIFIEDS
Will you be the next “ORIENTATION IDOL?” We want YOU to come audition to be a part of this year’s Orientation Staff! Applications for Orientation Assistant positions are due March 15th and are available in Student Development. Pick one up today!
UPCOMING HOME GAMES

March 3 Men’s Basketball v. Wisconsin-Lu- ther 8 p.m. at the DeVos Fieldhouse, 9th and Lincoln

March 11 Women’s Tennis v. Adrian 1 p.m. at the DeVitt Tennis Center, 12th and Fairbanks

March 14 Men’s Tennis v. Grand Valley 4 p.m. at the DeVitt Tennis Center, 12th and Fairbanks

TRACK WARMS UP TO SEASON MEETS

Greg Reznich Staff Writer

February’s weather has been anything but predictable. Luckily, Hope men’s and women’s track teams have remained indoors. This past weekend both teams completed their final indoor meet.

Hope’s indoor season began in February and included the Wisconsin Invitational, the Grand Valley Invitational, the Grand Rapids Championships and the Illinois Invitational. The indoor season gave teams a chance to compete after the long winter off-season.

Both Hope teams have shown strong performances in the track and field events. On the men’s side, Scott Langille (’07) won the pole vault with 14-6, while nine other Dutchmen placed in the top eight in their respective events at the Grand Rapids Championship.

The Hope women also showed strong individual performances at the indoor event. Once again the pole vault ended with Maureen Warfield (’06) tying for first place at 11-0. Other top finishes included Nora Kuiper (’09), fourth in 55-meter dash (6.75); Mishelle Scott (’07), fifth in 55-meter dash (7.01).

Both teams will now travel south for their spring trip which will include the South Carolina Invitational and the Georgia Invitational. The Dutchmen compete in their first outdoor home meet on Wednesday, April 12 at 2 p.m.

TRIATHLON CLUB: RUN, BIKE, SWIM

Try what?

Nick Hinkle Staff Writer

Triathlon is one of the fastest growing sports in the world and is now one of the fastest growing sports on Hope’s campus. During the past two months, the Dutchman Triathlon Club has begun to form and grow.

Hope student Greg Reznich (’08) is the guy behind the scenes and has gotten the club pointed in the right direction. The first meeting was held a month ago to determine students’ interest level on campus. The turn out was incredible.

“I didn’t know what to expect, and over 40 showed. I am stoked about where the club could end up,” Reznich said.

It passed its first hurdle of becoming an official club when the idea was approved by the Extra-Curricular Activities Committee. After the meeting, the club’s popularity became obvious when two student members of the ECAC joined the club.

During the meeting, the club’s main purpose and objectives were written into its constitutions:

- The triathlon club provides students with an opportunity to meet new people, make new friends and stay in shape.
- “The triathlon club is great. It’s been an awesome meeting new people who are interested in triathlons,” Hope student Meghan DeWeen (’09) said. “It’s also been really helpful to have a solid group, all of whom are all working toward the same goal keep you accountable for working out and training.”
- Also, everyone and anyone is encouraged to join. The ability and training level of participants ranges from triathlon veterans to student athletes to beginners.
- This diverse group of participants has already begun training together and is on their way to their first competition.
- One participant, Erin Mitteer (’07) is ready for her first triathlon.
- “I am excited and glad that I can be with a great group of people as I prepare for it and even though it will be my first triathlon, I think it will be amazing no matter the end results,” Mitteer said.
- “I’m having a great time with the people who have showed already and the more the better,” Reznich said. “If you like to work out, and need people to do it with, what are you waiting for?”

NCAA, FROM PAGE 1

The winners of Friday night’s triathlon will move on to a match-up on Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

HOPE TO DOMINATE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

On the court and the ice, Hope Athletes strive to command division III

TAKING THE MIAA TROPHY HOME — Hope Dutchmen huddle victorious after defeating Calvin 63-44 on Saturday.

HISTORY IS OUR HOUSE — The Dutchmen pose proudly behind their MIAA trophy after winning 68-55 against Calvin last Saturday.

This is our house — The Dutchmen pose proudly behind their MIAA trophy after winning 68-55 against the Calvin Knights on Saturday. Both men and women’s teams will be defending their third place rank at the NCAA championships beginning Friday.

PHOTO COURTESY JAMES RALSTON

TAKING THE MIAA TROPHY HOME — Hope Dutchmen huddle victorious after defeating Calvin 63-44 on Saturday.

PHOTO COURTESY HOPE ATHLETICS

PHOTO COURTESY JAMES RALSTON

TRI-CLUB COORDINATOR PREPARES FOR THE RACE — To join, or gain information on the Dutchman Triathlon Club email Greg Reznich at: gregory.reznich@hope.edu.

PHOTO COURTESY JAMES RALSTON

PHOTO COURTESY JAMES RALSTON

TRI-CLUB COORDINATOR PREPARES FOR THE RACE — To join, or gain information on the Dutchman Triathlon Club email Greg Reznich at: gregory.reznich@hope.edu.

PHOTO COURTESY JAMES RALSTON

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TRI-CLUB COORDINATOR PREPARES FOR THE RACE — To join, or gain information on the Dutchman Triathlon Club email Greg Reznich at: gregory.reznich@hope.edu.

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