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**Cinderella Project:**

Volunteer Services, Kappa Beta Phi, SAC donate prom dresses

Paige Calamari  
Staff Writer

Although they may not be wearing typical wands or singing "bibi-bob-bibi-bob," Volunteer Services, Kappa Beta Phi Sorority and the Student Activities Committee are working together to ensure a successful year for the 2008 Cinderella Project.

On Feb. 28 and 29, Volunteer Services representatives and the Kappa Beta Phi Sorority will be collecting new and used formal dresses, gowns and accessories for young women within the community. The Cinderella Project will be held in the lobby of the DeVitt Center from noon to 5 p.m. on both Thursday and Friday.

Dresses are donated for what many young women consider a significant event in their high school career: prom.

According to the Cinderella Project website, "The Prom is not just a dance, it is a milestone."

The non-profit organization is dedicated to promoting the confidence and self esteem of financially challenged young women in the area by providing the means for them to attend formal social events within their schools.

Caitlin Lamade ('09), Volunteer Services Student Coordinator, said that Hope College students donated approximately two dozen dresses in 2007.

Whether this year will be a success "depends on the students and how much they want to get involved. I think it would be a success even if we receive a dozen dresses. That means that a dozen people were willing to give," Lamade said.

For those planning to donate a dress and who attended Winter Fantasia on Feb. 23, be sure to bring your Winter Fantasia ticket stub to receive a $5 reimbursement from SAC. Reimbursements are limited to one per student.

"I think it shows Hope students that there is more than one way to help the community," Lamade said. "It is a good way for students to get involved."

To learn more about the Cinderella Project check our www.cinderellaproject.net or visit the Volunteer Services Office on the first floor of the DeVitt Center.

**Date Auction raises $585**

Christine Hosteller  
Guest Writer

"Going once, going twice sold!"

This proclamation signaled the end of the 2008 Dance Marathon Date Auction as the last group was auctioned off as part of a fundraising effort for Hope College's annual Dance Marathon.

On Feb. 19, 75 Hope students came to Phelps Dining Hall to bid and be auctioned off. The masters of ceremonies were Tommy Gordon ('08) and RJ Casey ('08). Dressed in crazy outfits, the two auctioned 12 groups of volunteers, raising a grand total of $585.

Participants included the Delta Phi sorority and the Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity, who comprised the largest groups to be auctioned, followed by the freshmen girls' volleyball team.

Several groups of Gillmor girls, some Darfue boys and, for the grand finale, the masters of ceremonies themselves.

Everything from a night of "winning and dining" to "Cat's mom's famous chocolate peanut butter cookies" to an autographed photo of Evan Dolard, the new reigning American Gladiator, were offered in exchange for donations to the Children's Miracle Network at the DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids.

"I am just so appreciative of the people that came and participated. It takes a lot to stand up in front of everyone and be bid on!" co-executive director of Dance Marathon Courtney Vredevoogd ('08) said.

Date Auction is one of several fundraisers held for Dance Marathon, which is a 24-hour fundraiser held at Hope College every spring. Dance Marathon raises money for the Children's Miracle Network at the DeVos Children's Hospital. According to the Children's Miracle Network the Network is a non-profit organization dedicated to saving and improving the lives of children by raising funds for children's hospitals across North America, and it provides amenities such as the "Poke Box," a see AUCTION, page 2

**Baha'i Faith heightens diversity on campus**

Brittany Adams  
Guest Writer

Alex Quick  
Staff Writer

"People don't know what it is," said Grace Droney ('10), referring to her Baha'i faith. "If they don't know what it is, they're scared of it."

Although Hope College is a predominantly Christian campus, 36 students profess either a non-Christian faith or no faith at all, in addition to the 561 students whose faith is not declared, according to the fall 2007 registrar's enrollment report. One such faith is the Baha'i Faith.

Like many Hope students, Droney came from a Christian background. However, her individual convictions led her to believe that she did not quite fit in with her family's faith. The Baha'i religion, which focuses on human unity and world peace, was a match for Droney since it expresses what she already believed.

Another Baha'i at Hope is Kim Douglas, adjunct assistant professor in the English department. Douglas has been a Baha'i since she was a student at the University of Tennessee in Tucson. While in school, she found that she enjoyed meeting people of different faiths.

Douglas said that she was originally interested in Baha'i due to a couple she met who were service oriented, genuine and down to earth, but it was the diversity within the followers that she really loved.

**‘Vagina Monologues’ focuses on stories of New Orleans women**

Emily West  
Guest Writer

February 2008 marks the 10th anniversary of V-day, an international movement of a non-profit organization that has generated over $50 million to create and maintain over 5,000 community-based programs that promote anti-violence and safe houses that protect women.

According to V-day.org, the focus of the V-day movement was the women of Congo last year; this year, the spotlight comes to American soil to the women of New Orleans.

This international effort to end violence against women has brought the production of “The Vagina Monologues” to 18 different colleges and universities in Michigan. A version of this play was directed, produced and performed by Hope College students and faculty last year and returns again this year.

The play compiles a series of monologues that will be produced and performed by approximately 55 Hope students. The true accounts of several women’s experiences address relationship, vulnerability and sexual discovery.

“These are the stories that need to be told,” said Executive Producer Trinette Jaros ('09) as she explained the importance of the event.

Jaros believes that Hope students should and do have an interest in addressing the oppression of women through violence.

"The student body wants to talk about this," Jaros said.

Laura Van Tassell ('09), director of the 2008 production, and Jaros both want to clear up some common misconceptions about the monologues, such as the V-day movement Cat's mom’s famous chocolate peanut butter cookies an autographed photo of Evan Dolard, the new reigning American Gladiator, were offered in exchange for donations to the Children’s Miracle Network at the DeVos Children’s Hospital. According to the Children’s Miracle Network the Network is a non-profit organization dedicated to saving and improving the lives of children by raising funds for children’s hospitals across North America, and it provides amenities such as the “Poke Box,” a see AUCTION, page 2

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see BAHAI!, page 10

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see V-DAY, page 2

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see V-DAY, page 2
Date auction raises $585 to benefit Dance Marathon

• AUCTION, from page 1

treasure box whose contents are offered as a reward when a child gets a show.

Dance Marathon is held in the Dow Center at Hope College. Members of the Hope community, Holland and the greater Grand Rapids area show their support for the children by dancing or cheering for 24 hours. Dancers sign up to dance for all 24 hours of the Marathon and send out letters to family and friends asking for sponsorship. Key to the event are "moralers," who support the dancers in eight-hour shifts by giving them food, naps, goodies and lots of encouragement.

"The Marathon itself is the culmination of what we've been working towards since August. It's exciting that it will finally be here," co-executive director Malloy Golas (98) said. Special "theme hours" occur throughout the night, with participants involving themselves in activities such as competing in games, dressing up and learning dances. Inflatable moon jumps, football and card tables offer entertainment, as well as local and visiting musicians. Participants are served a donated Papa Johns dinner, fruit and bagel breakfast and chicken and lasagna lunch.

An important aspect of Dance Marathon is the 23 Miracle families, each of whom is paired with a fundraising team. Each family has a child who is or has been a patient at the DeVos Children's Hospital.

The families' participation brings a very personal aspect to the event. Jen Jatzo (98) is in charge of Miracle Family relations. This year, she said, she is most looking forward to dedicating the marathon to Miracle Child Ali Aardema, who passed away in December after a seven-year battle with leukemia.

"Ali and her family have been involved in Dance Marathon for five or six years, so I know this will be a difficult year for many students and Miracle Families as well. Ali was an amazing young woman and we could all learn from her strength and faith," Jatzo said.

Gina VanderVeen (10) is one of the leaders of a fundraising team this year for the Gilmore and Dykstra dorms.

"We are paired with the Hill family. We have been able to meet them and get to see who benefits from the money we raise. When Mrs. Hill told us how much it means to them that we are supporting them, it really hit home and made us want to raise double the money," VanderVeen said.

Hope students are invited to participate in this year's Dance Marathon. They can sign up at the Dance Marathon office, located on the main floor of DeWitt, or online at http://www.hope.edu/student/development/marathon. Dance Marathon takes place on March 7-8, from 7 p.m. Friday to 7 p.m. Saturday.

"Even if you aren't that guy ("the women abuser"), you still have a responsibility to protect," Jatzo said.

She pointed to the Greek Men Take a Stand campaign as a possible example of men confronting the issue.

For those concerned with the Christian responsibility to access the production, Van Tassell said, "We don't separate being a Christian and having a vagina.... You're not afraid of your own body. Why be afraid of another's God-given part of your body?"

"In everything you see (in the monologues), you will not always be comfortable, but that's okay," Jatzo said.

Jatzo led the duty of Christians to end violence and promote a safer world to awareness of the uncomfortable, inconvenient truths the monologues shed light on.

Controversy has surrounded this event from the start. The Hope College Administration disallowed the production to be held on campus last year and made the same decision again this year. Although controversy may sell more tickets and draw attention to the monologues, Jatzo said that the production team is working with the administration on the issue.

The 2008 Vagina Monologues production team includes Jatzo, Van Tassell, Brittany Stock (10), Candice Tindell (10) and Anna Pizzimenti (10). They met with Dean of Students Richard Frost to keep the relationship mutually respectful and adhere to the wishes of the college.

"We don't want to create animosity with Hope College," said Van Tassell, who remains hopeful that someday the monologues will be allowed on campus. "In time, Hope will come around."

For this year, the production will take place at the Park Theatre on River Avenue, just off campus. Van Tassell spoke on behalf of the 2008 Vagina Monologues Production Team when she said, "We are all really excited about the Vagina Monologues this year!"

The show will be performed Feb. 29 and March 1 at 8 p.m. The Park Theatre doors will open at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at 395-7890 and are $8 for Hope students and $10 for the general public in advance. If available, tickets at the door will be $10 for students and $15 for the public. The show will run approximately 90 minutes with no intermission.

In Brief

HOPE COUNSELOR
ASSISTS NIU

Kristen Gray, director of the Counseling Center at Hope and assistant dean of health and counseling, went to Northern Illinois University from Feb. 23 to 26 in response to the shootings that took place on February 14. She took with her a banner of signatures and messages from the Hope student body to give support to those at NIU.

DANCE MARATHON SEeks VOTES

Dance Marathon is participating in a contest run by Dodge called "Go Life Give Life."

The first event to get 20,000 votes gets $20,000. Any undergraduate student (Hope or non-Hope) can vote for the event. Go to www.grablifegive.com to register your e-mail address (Echo only) and create a password.

From there, either search for Hope College, or go to "Top Events" in the "Browse and Vote" section to vote for Hope. Participants can vote once every day.

At press time, Hope was in third place with 3,998 votes.
STAFF WRITER
Chad after escalating violence
refugees are being
More than 8,000
Darfur region of Sudan continues.
Laura Stratke
FEBRUARY 27, 2008
nese government
lating violence
Escalating violence prevents aid from reaching refugees; countries pledge to stop violence
Jebel Moun region of the coun-
Eyewitnesses
UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-
Kosovo declares independence
Chris Lewis
Senior Staff Writer
On Feb. 17, Kosovo, a republic located in southeastern Europe, declared independence from Serbia. Kosovo's parliament unanimously endorsed the declaration, and the republic has officially renamed itself the Republic of Kosovo, according to the BBC.

Upon the announcement, Kosovo's Prime Minister Hashim Thaci promised to instill a democracy that would recognize the rights of all Serbs. Meanwhile, has disapproved Kosovo's independence, pointing to a 1999 resolution in which 13 member states had linked Kosovo to the United Nations.

On the day of the announcement, thousands of Kosovar citizens joined in the capital city of Pristina and celebrated by lighting fireworks and firecrackers and by shouting songs. An independence movement was instigated during the evening of the announcement, and was signed by Thaci, as well as Kosovo's Prime Minister Fatmir Sjajiqi.

As celebrations occurred in the streets of Pristina, two hand grenades were thrown at international community buildings in the town of Mitrovica. According to the BBC, one of the grenades exploded at a United Nations court building while the other failed to explode when the conflict escalated. This is preventing a lack of progress in peacekeeping and aid efforts.

Many thought the situation in Darfur could not get any worse, but last week two bombs, the international community is demanding a response. Abdullah Alur, main leader of the Sudanese Liberation

But Nader denies being a politician. Nader said Jefferson behaved "like a complete fool." Nader added that it is time for a "Jeffersonian revolution."
Karie Luldens  
Guest Writer 

Recent disputes over strategy in Afghanistan have led to questions about the future of NATO's coalition efforts to secure and reconstruct the war-torn nation. Complaints have been raised in various contexts, including the 44th annual Munich Conference on Security Policy, held the weekend of Feb. 9.

Canada specifically is demanding an additional 1,000 troops in Kandahar, the southern region where its own 2,500 troops are facing ever-increasing violence. If no ally responds to this call, the nation has threatened to withdraw entirely from the mission when its mandate ends next year.

Meanwhile, Australian defense minister Joel Fitzgibbon says that the coalition's overall strategy lacks coherence, and refuses to increase Australian troop levels until greater commitment is seen in "underperforming" NATO countries.

This was for such calls have received little response from the majority of participating countries. The United States, however, has agreed in recent weeks to commit an additional 3,200 troops. French President Nicolas Sarkozy is also currently considering raising its troop levels, but no other substantial new contributions have been made.

A total of 43,000 foreign troops are stationed throughout Afghanistan as part of NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), which is engaged in security, combat operations, and the training of Afghan forces. NATO is looking to increase that number by at least 7,000.

ISAF was established by the United Nations Security Council in December 2001 with the purpose of securing Kabul and surrounding areas after the United States invasion shattered the Taliban government. The mission's responsibilities expanded over the years, and since 2006 ISAF has taken on more intensive combat operations in response to an upwelling of Taliban resistance to the occupation.

The Taliban ruled Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001, though their government only received recognition from three other nations. After the withdrawal of Soviet troops in 1989, the country crumbled into bloody power struggles between local mujahedeen warlords. In response to warlords' corruption and incessant fighting, preexisting Islamic networks evolved into the Taliban, a militant Islamic political force.

The Taliban initially received great support from the Afghan population as a stable alternative for the country, but upon gradually seizing power over the 1990s the Taliban enforced an extremely conservative version of Sharia (Islamic law) that incorporated flagrant human rights abuses, including their infamous oppression of women.

The Taliban was largely ignored by the United States until its post-September 11 War on Terror drew attention to the activities of al-Qaeda and other terrorist organizations in Afghanistan. When the Taliban refused to cooperate with American demands that they turn over Osama bin Laden and other terrorists, the U.S. launched Operation Enduring Freedom, a military invasion of Afghanistan that toppled the government and drove most of the Taliban to seek refuge in neighboring Pakistan.

Since that time, however, much of the Taliban has regrouped and reorganized within Afghanistan. Guerrilla tactics, rocket launches, roadside mines and suicide bombings have been on the rise since 2003, and saw a particularly large spike in 2007. In general Taliban control has increased in recent months, undermining the current Islamic republic, whose constitution was ratified in 2003, and President Hamid Karzai, elected in 2004.

Kosovo's parliament approves independence from Serbia

President Bush has indeed shown his full support of the independence of Kosovo during the past week.

"The independence of Kosovo is an historic step for the Balkans region," Bush said Feb. 19, according to the Associated Press. "It presents an opportunity to move beyond the conflicts of the past and towards a future of freedom, and stability and peace." Just as the European Union and the United Nations are also supporting Kosovo's independence, Bush described the calculated plans involved in Kosovo's independence.

"This strategy was well planned. We had worked out with our European allies the sequencing of it, to make sure that there was a concerted and constant voice supporting this move," Bush said.

Thaci is looking forward to the republic's future, while also remembering a past that was filled with the deaths of men and women who fought for the republic's independence.

"We have waited for this day for a very long time," Thaci said, according to the BBC. "(Kosovo) is proud, independent, women who fought for the republic's independence.

"Given the trends in the region, I think that independence for Kosovo makes good sense," Holmes said. "It is important for the peoples of the area to live in peace with one another.

As Kosovo has the support of many countries around the world, only time will tell if it will be able to abide by the United Nations plan created by Martti Ahtisaari.
Students to perform bite-sized opera

Katie Bennett

On Feb. 28 in Wichers Auditorium, student vocalists will perform scenes from several operas in this year’s Opera Workshop. The performance, which begins at 7:30 p.m., will feature the work of Gian Carlo Menotti, a 20th century American composer.

The performance, which begins at 7:30 p.m., will feature the work of Gian Carlo Menotti, a 20th century American composer. Dr. Kennedy-Dygas, vocal professor and music department chair, is this director of this year’s unusually American opera workshop.

“It’s cool that the arias are in English,” said Caitlin Lautz ’09, “it’s going to be easy to understand. It’s been fun and challenging pretending to be a little boy.”

Lautz plays the young boy Ahmal in a scene from the opera, “Amahl and the Night Visitors.” In this opera, three kings stop by the house of Ahmal the beggar and his mother on their way to visit the Christ child.

Dance 34 concert ‘takes flight’

Rachel Syens

Dance 34 is an exciting mix of dances choreographed by faculty and guests. It is an annual concert, and according to Linda Graham, head of the dance department, it has been taking place for 34 years.

This year’s Dance 34 will feature guest choreographers Anne-Rene Petrarca and Dorrell Martin, according to a Hope College press release. Petrarca lives in New York where she is an assistant faculty member at The Juilliard School and Martin is a faculty member at The Joffrey Ballet School and has appeared in musicals such as “West Side Story.” Graham says that each choreographer holds their own auditions for Dance 34, and then they get together to “meet and select.” Auditions are held in the fall and in the beginning of the spring term. More than 50 students are involved in Dance 34, and each choreographer has their students meet for rehearsals for about 6-10 hours per week.

The show opens with a piece of Viennas.

Common Shiner: the band that does it all

Rachel Syens

RARELY is a band able to seamlessly flow from social commentaries to love songs throughout the course of their career, let alone on the same album. Common Shiner has achieved this on their newest album, “Viennas,” released in August 2007.

The band began in Grand Rapids with Calvin College students Morgan Foster on lead vocals and acoustic guitar; Michael James Brooks on piano, keyboards, harmonica and backing vocals; Vijay Banga on drums and percussion; Andrew Huyser on electric guitar; and Zach Hache on bass, all of whom recorded Viennas. Currently, Common Shiner has a different bass player, Jake Chandler, and has moved to Chicago.

In choosing the songs for “Viennas,” Brooks said that they wanted the songs to encompass their worldview.

“I wouldn’t say necessarily that we have just one worldview as a band, but certainly there’s this idea of longing for a better world, kind of pining after heaven type (of) thing. You could say it’s a bit CRC influenced,” Brooks said.

This can certainly be seen throughout their music. In the song “The Naturals,” Foster portrays the idea of looking for a better world.

“I still hope and believe that things can and will be better at some point,” Foster said.

That sentiment is shared by all of whom recorded Viennas. For this fast-paced, musical spectacular. Audience members hear the Frog.”

In brief

HOPE SYMPHONETTE TO PERFORM

The Hope College Symphonette performs “Classical Masterworks,” highlighting faculty member Sarah Huisinkoudt in an oboe concerto by Mozart, Friday, Feb. 29 at 7:30 p.m. in Dimnent Memorial Chapel. Admission free and program also includes the “Symphony No. 100” (Military), by Joseph Haydn and “Symphony No. 1” (Eroica), by Beethoven with direction by Hope music faculty member, Gabe Soudard.

MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA GRACES GRAND RAPIDS

A wide range of musical styles and instruments brings DeVos Hall alive when Hope College presents its 20th annual Musical Showcase concert on Monday, March 3, at 8 p.m. in Grand Rapids. Hope College students take the stage for this fast-paced, musical spectacular. Audience members hear everything from open jaz.
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COFFEE FUSION

Ashley DeVecht
FEATURES EDITOR

After a long day of class, a Hope College student saddles up to a table at Cool Beans and begins her physics homework over a cup of coffee. Thousands of miles away, in Guatemala, a coffee farm worker collapses next to his dinner after a long day of sweating in the heat of the sun. These two people have never met, but initiatives like fair trade are making their connection even stronger.

Coffee has a long history, dating back as far as 1000 A.D. Yet, in the last 200 years, the coffee industry has grown in ways that are not necessarily ethical or fair. "Farmers were getting a very small percentage of what was actually being paid for coffee, and they had no recourse to try and get higher prices," David Lee ('08), manager of Cool Beans, said.

In other cases, there was too much coffee being grown and produced. The price of coffee dropped dramatically — so much so that no one in the industry was making a profit.

Fair trade started with alternative trade organizations that would buy crafts and products from indigenous people and sell directly to consumers. By taking out the middle man, the producers of these products were able to receive more of the profit. Fair trade coffee companies help people in the poorest countries provide for themselves. Farmers form co-ops with other small farmers. They negotiate the rate for which they want to sell their coffee and the amount of coffee they will grow. This ensures that they have a stable income and that they have money to put back into building a stronger community.

"(Fair trade) allows us to build back into the community. There are other needs besides just money," Matt Scott, owner of Lemongello's, said. "Equal Exchange has done everything from building a well, to creating local radio shows, to education for women."

Fair trade coffee growers tend to work harder toward growing organically and sustainably.

Ashley DeVecht
FEATURES EDITOR

It's early Friday morning and Cool Beans is bustling with students — droopy-eyed and armed with travel mugs. The shrill sound of the steamer drowns out the murmur of coffee conversation.

David Lee ('08), one of Cool Beans' managers, speaks up so I don't miss his insightful question. "Have you ever had a bad time when you were sitting at Phelps with a bunch of your friends, and you stay there for hours after you're done eating?" Lee asked.

For some, Phelps is the social center on campus, a place where people gather to avoid homework and enjoy conversation. Students are known for struggling behind, even after the cleaning crew has begun to vacuum and wipe down tables, so as not to miss out on the laughter and juicy conversation.

Lee believes the "Phelps phenomenon" reflects a lack of social outlet in our society and at Hope College. He described a book by Ray Oldenburg, "The Great Good Place," which delves further into the root of the problem.

"America's society has turned into a place where all you have is home and work and nowhere in between. I think that's really the problem here at Hope," Lee said. "Everyone sleeps in their dorms, and they dress themselves there and they dress themselves there (and) store a lot of stuff there. Work for students is both having a job and going to class. I think within all of those everyone has a pre-determined role. There's very little time that you cannot be a title and just be yourself. (Eating) is the only time you have as students to not be doing something."

Lee has been working hard to make Cool Beans into a place where students can gather, socialize, and just be themselves. They want Cool Beans to become that "great good place" that Phelps and the New Holland Brewing Company have been for so long.

"The crowd of people who go to Stein night (at the Brewery) go there because everyone's going to be there. They've accomplished what I want to do with Cool Beans already. The problem is that three quarters of the campus can't go there on Wednesday nights to hang out. Here at Hope we should be able to create a sense of community," Lee said.

Atmosphere was the first thing on their to-do list.

"This summer we painted the entire area, we hung decorations on the walls, and this Monday, we got the two extensions to the bar that make it look like a real coffee shop now," Lee said.

The new coffee bar was built by Henry Bosch, a physical plant staff member. Besides the fact that the new bar makes the opening and closing process much easier, it looks significantly more permanent.

"The coffee bar has always been this thing on wheels that couldn't really go away at any minute. Now it's a little harder to get rid of," Lee said.

There are also other improvements in sight for Cool Beans. Lee has considered incentives to encourage more students to congregate at Cool Beans.

"I've toyed with the idea of having a mug night at Cool Beans where you come and fill up your mug for a dollar. I'm still working on that," Lee said.

"Have you ever had a time when you were sitting at Phelps with a bunch of your friends, and you stay there for hours after you're done eating?" Lee asked.

"Part of (sustainability) is making sure the soil is replenished. Sometimes in rainforest areas they are required to leave other trees (along with coffee plants) to provide habitats for birds," Scott said.

"I think that providing education for coffee fair trade products along with coffee would be something I would like to see more of," Scott said.

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In pursuit of knowledge

Evelyn Daniel

Green: more than a label

In recent weeks, Hope College has demonstrated its eagerness to jump on the "green" bandwagon. Participation in events such as Focus the Nation shows a readiness to take responsibility for our actions and make the world a better place. As college students striving to become more earth-conscious, however, it is easy to become carried away by a whirlwind of politics, products and campaigns all vying for our attention. In the midst of the rhetoric, the message can get lost. Like so many other good things, environmentalism has been taken over by capitalism. Going green is about buying things, whether the products are hybrid cars, organic foods or clothing. The front page of National Geographic’s "Green Guide" encourages green-minded consumers to upgrade their home offices with new green computers and offers links to purchase earth-friendly jewelry, chocolate and wine. With prices as high as two or three times their anti-environment counterparts (or more), green products are luxury goods and status symbols. If concern for the environment is a privilege reserved only to those who can afford it, however, the green movement is doomed to fail. To succeed, the green movement must be something in which all people want to participate, regardless of whether or not they can afford to purchase pricey, earth-friendly products. If the greenest option is also the best deal for consumers, the movement stands a chance of actually improving the earth. Fortunately, this is often the case already, but it makes using the movement to sell products significantly more difficult.

There is an inherent contradiction between consumption and environmentalism. The best deal—and the greenest one—is to consume less stuff. Driving a Prius may be better than driving a Hummer, but the earth would be much better off if we carpooled, used mass transportation, biked or walked. Every new car we buy, no matter how green, pollutes and consumes natural resources. Although this argument will not sell as many Priusies, it will save both the earth and consumers' money. Similar logic applies to other eco-friendly products. Organic foods may be out of reach for most college students, but we can help the earth and save on groceries by purchasing less meat (especially beef), which requires huge amounts of resources to produce. Avoiding food products that use excess packaging such as single-serving microwave dinners or individually wrapped snacks reduces both cost and waste. Although it may not be as glamorous, buying used instead of new can play a major role in reducing our individual environmental footprints. Even Student Congress's organic cotton T-shirts may be missing the point—T-shirt decorating party or clothing swap for donations would have been a better use of resources.

The key to green living should not be more spending or even consuming differently, but rather getting by on less. The rhetoric of eco-lobbyry may serve to bring environmental issues to the public attention, but it will not ultimately be strong enough to preserve the world's resources for future generations.

Evelyn was saddened this week to learn that according to Reuters, "a Buddhist monk from Japan was killed after slipping and falling under the blades of his runaway tractor tactor lawnmower." The monk was mowing the grass around his peace pagoda.

From the inside out

Amanda Gernentz

The science of writing

When people ask me what activities I’m involved in at school, I always say with pride that I am on the staff of the Anchor. The same question almost indefinitely follows: “What’s your major?” And I answer, with the same amount of pride, “Chemistry.” I’ve become accustomed to the look I’m given when I respond. Without saying a word, people ask, “What is a science major doing writing for the newspaper?” At first, it hurt, but now I’m just used to it. I don’t understand why I can’t do both. Just because I want a career in science shouldn’t mean I have to give up my one true love—writing. I understand where the stereotype comes from; science and math people are analytically thinkers. Everything has one solution, and nothing is open-ended. Sometimes—either right or wrong. Trust me, I understand that. I want life decisions to be like that—either black or white, right or wrong. Subjectivity scares me to the very core of my being. I don’t want to be judged. I just want problems in life to be like equations—once you find the right formula, it’s smooth sailing from there. Yeah, right.

When I arrived here in the fall, I thought I had it all figured out. I knew which classes I wanted to take in what semesters. I had already planned my study abroad trips. I even knew where I wanted to go to grad school. My future-oriented mind only knows how to think like that. My life equation was at equilibrium. And at that point, I saw no variables.

Writing is at the other end of the spectrum. It comes from both the mind and the heart. And I don’t mean paper-writing, where you pour out an assignment in a matter of hours and then never want to look at it again. I mean writing that you can feel. Like when the pen touches the paper, the world around you disappears so all you are aware of is your imagination hitting the page. True writing is something you can feel in your heart. And I don’t mean paper-writing, I mean heart. And I don’t mean paper-writing, I mean actual writing. Writing that can move you. I stopped writing sometime in high school. The fire went out. However, when I got here, it was rekindled. I find myself writing in my spare time and in the margins of notebooks in class. It’s just flowing—and who am I to stop it?

I may seem like I’m kidding myself. Why stick with chemistry when English might be my calling? Honestly, I don’t have an answer. All I know is that I was thinking about it all wrong. Life is not supposed to be at equilibrium, and it’s full of variables. That fact is hard for me to wrap my mind around, but I’m working on it. Why can’t I be a chemist who is also a writer? Why do I have to choose? Maybe someday I’ll write a novel about chemistry. Who knows? And really, who wants to have everything all figured out?

As futuristic as I like to be, I’ve come to realize that life is one equation that is not for me to solve. And frankly, I’m ok with that, so why can’t everyone be?

This is the time of your life that you should be pursuing all of your interests. Whether you are a math major who likes art or an English major who wants to join the biology club, do what you like. It will be worth it in the long run.

Amanda plans to use her chemistry major to pursue a career in forensic science. She majors CSI, but she does not find pleasure in looking at dead bodies.

Dance 34 ‘takes flight’

• DANCE, from page 5
called "Naderish," a word literally meaning "wrestler" in Hebrew and choreographed by Roxanne Barton-DeVries. In a Hope College Press Release, she said that "the piece was inspired by the experience of women as they prepare for a wedding celebration." Petrecia's piece is called "Tucking Flight" and is about "a journey and exploration of the ability to be invisibly nourished by hope," while Martin's piece, titled "Electric Counterpart" uses contrast or interplay of elements that is vibrant and explosive in movement," according to Hope College Press Release.

When asked why students should attend, Graham answered that "if you've never seen what your fellow students can do, you really need to. Each piece has been created by a different choreographer, and there is such great range to the style and nature of each dance. From narrative to abstract, intense to delightful, with styles created by a different choreographer, and each one varying from tap to contemporary to jazz, there is such great range to the style and nature of each dance. From narrative to abstract, intense to delightful, with styles created by a different choreographer, and each one varying from tap to contemporary to jazz, there is such great range to the style and nature of each dance. From narrative to abstract, intense to delightful, with styles created by a different choreographer, and each one varying from tap to contemporary to jazz, there is such great range to the style and nature of each dance. From narrative to abstract, intense to delightful, with styles created by a different choreographer, and each one varying from tap to contemporary to jazz, there is such great range to the style and nature of each dance. From narrative to abstract, intense to delightful, with styles created by a different choreographer, and each one varying from tap to contemporary to jazz, there is such great range to the style and nature of each dance. From narrative to abstract, intense to delightful, with styles created by a different choreographer, and each one varying from tap to contemporary to jazz, there is such great range to the style and nature of each dance.

Dance 34 will run Thursday, February 28 to Saturday, March 1, at the Knickerbocker Theatre. Tickets are $7 for regular admission and $5 for senior citizens, students, and members of the Hope faculty and staff and can be purchased at the Ticket Office in the DeVos Fieldhouse.

Students to perform bite-sized opera

• OPERA, from page 5

Opera Workshop will present material from two other operas, "The Midsummer Night's Dream," which follows the story of Madame Flora, a skeletal medium, Monica, her daughter, and Toby, Monica's object of affection, and "The Old Maid and the Thief." "It's a funny little comedy," said Janet Drohie ('08). "I play a drifter who is invited by two desperate women to stay at their house." Drohie's character, Bob, the drifter

Students to perform bite-sized opera
As I have written many times before, my mind and body are at continual odds like suddenly becoming a different breed. The beginning of the semester looked promising. I was excited to have a specific time set aside for being active and thought this could help me jumpstart my normalcy. However, the dreary months of winter. In the first few weeks we were asked to look at our lifestyle and find something we could change in our quest for healthier living. As a Literature, Writing, and French classes events around campus. My dad told me I've received snowfall like this in years past. Drivings nowadays it's hard to find cars with actual protruding antennas, so I just throw a ten-dollar dome consisting of Republican money that each column, row, and three-by-three grid includes the numbers one through nine. Each week, space permitting, a new puzzle will make continuous efforts to avoid wrong Insertions, omissions and typographical errors. However, if such mistakes occur, this newspaper and typographical errors. However, if such mistakes occur, this newspaper and typographical errors. However, if such mistakes occur, this newspaper and typographical errors. However, if such mistakes occur, this newspaper and typographical errors. However, if such mistakes occur, this newspaper and typographical errors. However, if such mistakes occur, this newspaper and typographical errors. However, if such mistakes occur, this newspaper and typographical errors. However, if such mistakes occur, this newspaper and typographical errors. However, if such mistakes occur, this newspaper and typographical errors. However, if such mistakes occur, this newspaper and typographical errors. However, if such mistakes occur, this newspaper and typographical errors. However, if such mistakes occur, this newspaper and typographical errors. However, if such mistakes occur, this newspaper and typographical errors. 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Baha'i Faith heightens diversity on campus

"(At a meeting) were Mexican Americans, African Americans, Tohono O'odham Indians, Yaquis, Moroccans, Persians, people from everywhere; and over five languages were being spoken. I had never experienced that kind of diversity anywhere," Douglas said.

Douglas came to Hope enthusiastic of its Christian affiliation.

"I love the Lord," Douglas said.

Douglas said that it was important to be in a place that was not just about the head, but was honoring the soul.

In her Encounters with Cultures classes, which teach about diversity, she informs her students of her faith while encouraging them in their own. One book that she uses in her classes, along with other professors of Encounters with Cultures, is published by a Baha'i press. However, "Marriage beyond Black and White" only mentions her husband's experience with the faith and is largely about embracing diversity, specifically in the unity of two members of separate races.

Douglas explained that unity and diversity are two major pieces of the Baha'i Faith.

"The several million Baha'is throughout the world strive to eliminate the prejudices they have learned from their communities, families and social order and to exemplify in every area of their lives their dedication to unity," Douglas said. "All of the Baha'is teachings revolve around the pivotal message of unity."

Denny said that Baha'i unites not only science and religion, but also other religions with each other. Baha'is believe that all religions are brought through the major world prophets such as Abraham, Moses, Buddha, Krishna, Mohammad and Christ; and that all carry a common message of peace and mercy. Baha'is see them all as part of one religion rather than many.

"Abraham and Moses (also) came from God, but (Jesus) just had more to say," Denny said.

According to the website, the Baha'i Faith was founded by two prophets, the first being the Bab (1819-1850), who spread a message of a new spirituality throughout Iran. He was later executed by Islamic officials who felt that his messages posed a threat to the social order. The second prophet was Baha'u'llah (1817-1892), another Iranian who said that since humans are all children of the same god, they need to break down the barriers of racism, classicism, religious and political divides and strive for a peaceful, universal civilization.

"(Baha'u'llah was) continually exiled, imprisoned and subject to a life of great sufferings. Nonetheless, his teachings ... spread," Douglas said.

The Baha'i spiritual life consists of morning and evening prayer, study and discussion groups, worship services and fasting. Many Baha'is will go on an annual spiritual pilgrimage to the holy lands to various Baha'i shrines, to the faith's international headquarters and to pay homage at the holy sites of Judaism, Islam and Christianity.

Baha'is has no formal clergy, and communities guide each other in spiritual growth; individual congregations elect administrative bodies to handle the practical affairs of their communities. Denny said that many groups will meet together in homes, or, if the community takes place in a larger city, there may be a Baha' center.

Among the other tenants of the Baha'i Faith, Denny said, are equality of the sexes, education for everyone, eradication of discrimination and independent investigation of truth. This means, as Douglas also said, that Baha'is are forbidden to proselytize.

The Baha'i Faith is based on the idea of unity and, in the words of professor Douglas, the celebration of diversity.

"Each person has something different to contribute," Denny said.

**Symbols of Faith**

From top to bottom, the three most important symbols in the Baha'i Faith: the nine-pointed star which symbolizes completion; the "symbol of the Greatest Name," which means "Ya Baha'u-l-Abha" or "Glory of Glories"; and the ringstone symbol which is worn on the rings and jewelry of many believers.
Women's basketball 24-0, jumps into history

Nick Hinkle
Sports Editor

Slowly but surely, the Hope College women's basketball team continues to make its presence known in the record books.

For the second time in school history, the Dutch have completed a regular season undefeated. Hope defeated Alma College 69-40 on Feb. 23 to complete its perfect regular season. The team's 24-0 season record does not put added pressure on the Dutch, but team members have not let it go unnoticed.

"It's quite an accomplishment, and it's almost scary being 24 and zero," captain Jordyn Boles ('08) said. "But I think the biggest thing this season is that we have one game at a time."

In competing in the MIAA tournament and preparing for the NCAA tournament, Boles said the team will be concentrating on defense, rebounding and free throws. During this season, each team member has pushed each other to get better as well.

"We try to get better each and every day," Boles said. "People have improved immensely this season, including our freshman right off the bat."

With the continual hard work, individual players, such as Boles, have managed to make their way into the record books. Earlier this season, Boles broke the career three-point record and, in Saturday's game, captain Julie Henderson ('08) had two steals which tied her with the school record for career steals. However, Boles noted that these record-setting performances are the result of a team effort.

"We are trusting each other," Boles said. "Our individual accomplishments are because of a team effort."

As Hope continues the season into the MIAA and NCAA tournaments, the team will rely on its trust, which has given the Dutch a strong bench and depth.

"Anytime we have people coming in or going out onto the floor, we are confident in each other," Boles said.

The Hope College men's and women's track teams competed in the Margaret Bradley Indoor Invitational on Feb. 23. In the 10-team field, the men finished second, while the women were third.

On the men's side, Hope won three individual events. Erik George ('08) won the 55-meter dash (6.06), Aaron Clark ('08) in the 400-meter dash (51.45) and Sean Bergsma ('09) in the high jump (1.97 meters).

The women had two event winners. Kate Freshour ('09) won the 800-meter run (2:23.45) and Christina Lis ('09) in the high jump (1.7 meters).

HOPE SWIMMERS RECEIVE ALL-MIAA HONORS

Twelve Hope College swimmers received all-MIAA honors.

For the men, Ryan Nels (10), Phil Heyboer (10), Matt Rose (10), Mitch Ruch (10), junior Ryan Vogelzang and senior Chad Vanderbrook were selected.

On the women's side, Laura Arnalio ('09), Brittany Reest ('09), Ashley Jaspers ('11), Claire Piester ('10), Alicia Tsuk ('11), Katie Williams ('10) were recognized. Nels and Reest were also named the MIAA MVPs.

MEY'S TENNIS DEFENDS GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The Dutchmen tennis team improved its season record to 1-1 by defeating Grand Rapids Community College 9-0 on Feb. 25. All of Hope's singles players won in straight sets.
Hockey wins MCHC conference; next goal is national tournament

After making goals to win the conference title and eventually nationals, the Hope College men’s hockey team accomplished one of those preseason objectives this weekend.

On Feb. 23, Hope defeated Northwood University in double overtime—4-3—in the Michigan Collegiate Hockey Conference.

The win improved Hope’s record to 20-13-2-2.

Heading into the national tournament, the team looks to repeat the recent stellar play in close games against Saginaw Valley State (2-1) and Northwood in the conference tournament.

In commenting on this weekend’s close games performances, center Anders delong (’09) said, “Our team never gave up. (The) past couple years, we failed in close games, but we continued to fight hard and play well.”

Forward Gunnar Martin (’08) agrees Hope has improved its performance in close games from past years.

“We have shown we can play in close games and perform,” Martin said. “I’ve been impressed with how consistently we have stepped up.”

Martin believes Hope’s consistent defense and goal-tending have been huge factors for the Dutch. Goaltenders Nick Hinkle (’08) and Mike Headley (’09) and Steve Pels (’08) had excellent performances this weekend in the Northwood and Saginaw games.

Headley stopped 30 of 33 shots against Northwood and Pels stopped 14 of 15 against Saginaw.

Delong was impressed with Headley and Pels’ performances this weekend, along with the team’s penalty kill.

“Our goaltending was very good this weekend,” delong said. “Both of them were key factors in those games.”

Another notable performance included left wing Austin Sonneveldt (‘10), who scored both game-winning goals against Saginaw and Northwood this weekend.

Looking forward to nationals, both Delong and Martin believe the team’s toughest competition will come from University of North Carolina, Albany and California University of Pennsylvania.

Hope will try to continue its clutch play and fine tune certain aspects of their game in practice.

“We will work on our power play in the next two weeks,” delong said. “And (we will be) staying in shape with a lot of skating (because) playing up to four games in a weekend is a lot.”

Along with the physical aspects of the game, the team enters this year’s national tournament with a different approach.

“I think last year we were almost the favorites,” Martin said. “If we win this thing this year, we will have to fight for every inch. I think it’s better mentally.”

Student Profile: Senior captain Marcus Vanderheide

Marcus Vanderheide
Senior captain

Vanderheide has played exceptionally well for Hope in his three seasons here, with the team winning conference titles in each of the last two seasons, having an 8-3 record over Calvin and having a 5-2 record in NCAA tournament play. On an individual level, Vanderheide received MIAA Second Team honors and was named MIAA player of the week on three occasions this season, including one last week.

Along with five other seniors, Hope has produced an excellent season, with a 21-1 overall record, 13-1 in the MIAA and a number three national ranking by d3hoops.com that came before last week’s two wins. This marks Hope’s second consecutive outright MIAA title and the third in five years.

“The season we are having is going pretty much as I had imagined. I knew that we would have a good team and have a good record, but I didn’t picture us losing to Aquinas or Albion,” Vanderheide said. “I think our seniors are really enjoying the year that we are having. Our chemistry is great and we are having fun!”

Recently, Hope has posted a six-game winning streak, with each win a resounding one. Most notably, Hope defeated archrival Calvin by a score of 75-59 last week on Friday night against the win- ner of the Adrian vs. Tri-State game. An eventual final game is scheduled for Saturday.

This week, Hope will be playing in the MIAA conference tournament with the first game on Wednesday against Alma. With a victory, Hope will play on Friday night against the winner of the Adrian vs. Tri-State game. An eventual final game is scheduled for Saturday.

Thanks to Hope’s conference victory, all games will be at DeVos Fieldhouse.

Senior forward Gunnar Martin was named MVP of the Michigan Collegiate Hockey Conference. Ultimately, he attributes the award to his teammates.

“I was given the award for leading in assists,” Martin said. “I have to give my linemates credit for that one.”

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