2-19-2014

The Anchor, Volume 127.17: February 19, 2014

Hope College

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Recommended Citation

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Sochi 2014 Olympic race stays...cold

The buzz on new events, the fall of heroes and finding love at the Sochi 2014 Winter Games

Claire Johnson
Campus News Co-Editor

Now that the hubbub has finally died down about Bob Costas’ pinkeye and that one stubborn snowflake in the opening ceremonies that just refused to morph into the final Olympic ring (although rumor has it some countries got an edited version of the ceremony in which that little blip didn’t even happen), anxious American sports fans can spend their time doing more productive things, like avoiding the Internet just in case they accidentally see what place Meryl Davis and Charlie White finished in ice dancing before it shows on primetime in America (in case you were wondering, they got a gold medal and a world record on Monday) and ripping their pristine Shaun White posters off the ceiling. He didn’t look like the same loveable teenager with his short hair anyways.

This Olympic season has been one of high drama, from the addition of 12 new events (including men’s and women’s ski halfpipe and women’s ski jumping, to name a few), to concerns over American safety to upsets in the sporting events themselves. Speculation over the safety of the Sochi Games was widespread before the opening ceremonies, and though government officials have stated their confidence in the safety of both the Olympic athletes and also Americans visiting Sochi to watch the games, the fear of attack is still widespread. Recently, airlines with direct flights to Russia, which mainly originated in Asia or Europe, became aware of the possibility of passengers carrying toothpaste bombs to allegedly detonate at the Sochi Games. CNN reported this week that 57 percent of Americans think a terrorist attack is likely at the Sochi Games, an astounding number when considering the amount of security that goes into an event as public as the Olympics.

The drama has been just as heated on the Olympic stage as off of it. Some notable upsets from the games thus far include Shaun White’s fourth-place finish in the men’s halfpipe, Bode Miller’s bronze-medal win in men’s super-G skiing and Shani Davis’ eighth-place finish in speed skating. After day five of USA’s Sochi Olympic venture, the athletes weren’t the only Americans sweating the scores. With America pretty low in the medal count (for America), everyone was wondering if this wasn’t going to be the dream Olympics—for Russia.

Fortunately, in the last few days things have turned around for the American athletes, and not everyone has been quite
In Brief

DANCE 40 APPROACHES

Hope College’s annual major dance concert, Dance 40, will be showing at the Knickerbocker Theatre on Feb. 28, March 1 and March 6-8 at 8 p.m. This year marks the 40th year of the event, which debuted in March 1975, when dance first became an academic minor at Hope. Dance did not become an academic major at Hope until 1984. This year, Dance 40 will artfully blend classic favorites from past programs along with the introduction of new material. In total, 115 dance students will perform over the course of the nine pieces presented. The second concert weekend of Dance 40 will include some alumni events designed to honor Hope’s dance program.

HOPE LIBRARIAN THANKFUL

In a recent interview, Hope College librarian Rachel Bishop reported feeling blessed over her diagnosis in 2011 of a congenital heart defect. An active runner, Bishop has learned much about heart defect. An active runner, Bishop has learned much about heart disease is the No. 1 cause of death in women. Bishop now cherishes her position at Hope.

Winter Olympics: a source of entertainment and procrasti

Never before has your choice of which color M&M to toss back been so eagerly watched.

It will soon be time to take on a unique survey, one that Hope College’s academics have invested in, and the participation of students is crucial to its success.

This spring, beginning in mid-March, the opportunity to participate in a survey will be extended to all first-year students and seniors. Those suddenly disappointed students who lie between these bookends are asked to jealously wait along the sidelines for their opportunity to participate in the coming years. It is the HEDS Research Practices Survey, and its title in no way indicates how long or complicated it intends to be. Offered across the nation among colleges similar to Hope, this quick but productive survey allows colleges to assess several aspects of their first-year academics process.

As described in the name, the survey helps to gauge the information literacy skills and research experiences of a student after one year of college. It then places this information in comparison to an evaluation of information literacy skills and research practices reported by four-year students. Participation in this survey is an opportunity for students to help Van Wylen Library and Hope faculty evaluate the situation of research practices and to assist students in acquiring adequate research skills by the time they enter graduate school or the workplace.

Could you use $100 in cash?

Answer: Yes, Yes, please.

This March, open your e-mail titled “Help Hope College with your feedback.” Take the 10-minute survey and be entered in a drawing to win one of three PRIZES of $100 just for your participation. Help out your school and your wallet in one quick step.

STUDY HUMAN BEHAVIOR DURING LATE NIGHT HAPPY HOUR

LATE NIGHT HAPPY HOUR SUNDAY - FRIDAY 9 PM - CLOSE

$1 OFF All Tall Drafts

$2 Fireball Cinnamon Whisky Shots & Dekuyper Pucker Shots

$3 Late Night Select Appetizers™

• Chili Con Queso Dip
• Chips & Salsa
• Mini Corn Dogs
• Roasted Garlic Mushrooms
• Regular Onion Rings
• Mozzarella Sticks

$3 Late Night Liquor Specials™

• Pinacolada Imported Vodka and Flavours
• Crown Royal®
• Captain Morgan®
• Jameson® Irish Whiskey
• Southern Comfort®
• Jack Daniel’s®
• Sauza Gold®

For those few Americans who still have Russian fans fuming, it is the shootout win in USA men’s hockey against Russia on Saturday, Feb. 15. The disputed call, which involved a hockey net being off its peg and a winning goal for Russia being nullified, still has people talking.

For those few Americans who have managed to stay away from the buzz over the Sochi 2014 Winter Games, don’t worry, you still can tweet at USA’s bronze slopestyle medalist Nick Goepper for a belated Valentine’s Day call.

There is no need to be jealous of the golds that won the USA’s women’s hockey, so upset about the upsets. In women’s hockey, USA women defeated Sweden on Monday to land a berth in the gold-medal match against Canada on Thursday. Canada has played in every Olympic women’s hockey final and will win the last three gold medals in women’s hockey, so while the USA has a formidable challenge ahead in its quest for the gold, its victories thus far deserve recognition.

Another notable upset (which still has Russian fans fuming) is the shootout win in USA men’s hockey against Russia on Saturday, Feb. 15. The disputed call, which involved a hockey net being off its peg and a winning goal for Russia being nullified, still has people talking.

For those few Americans who have managed to stay away from the buzz over the Sochi 2014 Winter Games, don’t worry, you still can tweet at USA’s bronze slopestyle medalist Nick Goepper for a belated Valentine’s Day call.

When students are seniors,” says Kelly Jacobson, a research librarian at Van Wylen Library, “we often hear them say, ’I wish I had known that [about the library] when I was a freshman.’ We want to fine-tune our research facility to meet the needs of Hope’s students.”

It is crucial that this survey receives as much participation as possible in order for the results to accurately represent Hope’s students.

You there, sitting, reading through this article about a survey. Take courage. There is no grade attached to the results of this survey and there is no academic merit to be gained or lost. Your participation will not reveal to your professors your tendency to push off the research and writing process into an all-night crusade where the two are compressed into one marathon that ends in a groggy congratulatory breakfast at the Windmill.

Surveys are an important part of the college life. If you are amid your first academic year with something to prove or a senior who is quickly falling into academic apathy, Van Wylen and all of Hope academics encourage you to take the HEDS Research Practices Survey.
Will US troops remain in Afghanistan?

A “Bilateral Security Agreement” would see U.S. troops remain in Afghanistan beyond 2014 withdraw

Shubham Sapkota

As the new year began, so did speculation about post-2014 Afghanistan. This is a pivotal point for Afghanistan as the United States forces are scheduled to withdraw at the end of the year. All of the U.S. troops may be removed from Afghanistan unless the Afghan government negotiates the bilateral security agreement.

The Bilateral Security Agreement (BSA) will allow the U.S. to leave troops in Afghanistan even after 2014. Due to the fragile political situation in the surrounding region, the added security of a U.S. presence may be necessary. Afghanistan is going through a political transition; Hamid Karzai, the current president, will be replaced in a few months after the general elections are over. This will be the first time that a democratically elected president will be replaced by a democratically elected president, which shows a tremendous advancement in Afghanistan's political system.

However, the stalling of BSA negotiations has been a talking point in the elections. Karzai has refused to sign the agreement before the end of the year, which frustrated the U.S. administration. It has been speculated that perhaps Karzai is using this elongation of BSA negotiations to somehow influence the elections. The U.S. has made it clear that without an agreement on the BSA, they might completely pull out of Afghanistan. Without the negotiations, it would seem that U.S. troops are violating the sovereignty of Afghanistan. Moreover, without an internationally recognized agreement as such, foreign troops in Afghanistan may not be held accountable for their actions.

In the midst of all this, one might ask why Afghanistan even needs U.S. troops to be present beyond this year or in the foreseeable future. This is a very tricky situation as Afghanistan is going through an economic transition. Social institutions and policies in Afghanistan are not what westerners would actually call adequate, but they are much better than they were five years ago. Development has been made in terms of education, human and women's rights and the rule of law, and the Afghans do not want to jeopardize this. A lot will depend on the outcome of the elections as well. Most of the candidates support the agreement on BSA, but it is still too early to say if the successor of Karzai will go along with it. The elections will be taking place in April. Hopefully by the end of that month, Afghanistan will be able to figure out a sustainable plan for the region, along with the U.S.
Court strikes down gun restrictions

Andrew Gomez-Seoane  
World Co-Editor

In what has been hailed as a major victory for gun rights advocates in the state of California, a federal appeals court last Thursday struck down a series of rules that permitted counties to restrict as they saw fit the right to carry a concealed weapon in public. In a 2-1 ruling, the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals overturned restrictions on carrying these concealed handguns in many of California's major urban centers, including Los Angeles, Orange County, San Diego and San Francisco.

The court's decision was based on the belief that these restrictions violated the Second Amendment's guarantee of the right to bear arms because they denied any citizen who followed the law the constitutional right to carry weapons in public unless they demonstrated the need for protection under specific reasons.

"We are not holding that the Second Amendment requires the states to permit concealed carry," Judge Diarmuid O'Scannlain, a Reagan appointee, wrote for the panel. "But the Second Amendment does require that states permit some form of weapon for self-defense besides the home."

Advocates for gun rights hailed the court's decision, stating that citizens must have the right to protect themselves in public. Meanwhile, proponents of the ruling described it as aberrant and a restriction on the right to bear arms in public.

"The ruling that California's sometimes draconian restrictions on carrying concealed weapons in public violate the Second Amendment was never in doubt," said Eugene Volokh, a UCLA professor of constitutional law.

The ruling, by two of the three judges, has conflicted with the findings of other circuit courts and established rights beyond what the Supreme Court has guaranteed. Experts say that the high court has applied the Second Amendment in the context of possessing guns in the home, not the streets.

"What they really want to do is strike down California's open carry ban," Judge Chapin said. "That's really what this is about."

UCLA professor Adam Winkler, an expert on gun laws, called the ruling "a huge victory for gun owners in California." He said that even though the ban on open carry affected very few individuals (as most gun owners do not want the attention), many more people might want to apply to carry concealed weapons. Chuck Michel, who represented the gun owners in the case, said that the suit targeted the San Diego sheriff because the county has a large base of Second Amendment supporters. The rules set forth by the county discouraged gun owners from even applying for a permit. In this case the ruling affects only California and Hawaii among the 9th Circuit states, due to other states granting permits for carrying guns in public.

According to Eugene Volokh, a professor of constitutional law at UCLA, "California rules are essentially unconstitutional because the rule is, your right to carry a gun is at the mercy of the sheriff."

Today in History

1674—The Netherlands and England signed the Peace of Westminster, by which New Amsterdam passed to the English (and was renamed New York).

1897—Aaron Burr, vice president under Thomas Jefferson, was arrested for treason. He was later acquitted.

1878—Thomas Edison patented the gramophone (phonograph).

1968—The first nation-wide broadcast of Mr. Rogers', a Neighborhood aired on PBS.

2008—Fidel Castro resigned as President of Cuba after 49 years in power. Raúl Castro, Fidel’s brother, succeeded him as president.

Fall 2014 Study Abroad Application Deadline Extended to February 21st

Pick up an application in MMC 109 today!
My Chemical Romance releases final song

Jimmy Champagne
Arts Co-Editor

‘Thirteen years and four studio albums later, My Chemical Romance has officially debuted their last song. Titled “Fake Your Death,” the track will be featured on the band’s upcoming greatest hits album, “May Death Never Stop You.”

The band front-runner Gerard Way released a statement about the song on Jan. 20, giving some backstory for the track, saying, “I consider ‘Fake Your Death’ to be the ‘last MCR song’ and to me, it is absolutely the final fully realized collaboration between the members of the band.”

In the statement, he talks about his feelings toward the band as the band’s parting word.

“What was not so obvious at the time was that the song was, and would serve as, a eulogy for the band, though I should have known it from the lyrics,” Way said. “I think internally I did, as I felt an odd sense of sadness and loss after hearing back the words on top of the music. I also felt a strange sense of pride in how honest it was, and could not remember a band recording a song of this nature, being so self-aware. Ending felt like something honest, and honest always feels like something new.”

The band’s backup guitarist, Frank Iero, shared his thoughts on the new song over Twitter on Feb. 17. The tweet reads, “Tomorrow fake your death will be released. it’s bitter/sweet...i’m happy it will finally reach you all. its one of my favorites we ever did.”

My Chemical Romance officially broke up on March 22, 2013, posting a statement on their website that read, “Being in this band for the past 12 years has been a true blessing. We’ve gotten to go places we never knew we would. We’ve been able to see and experience things we never imagined possible. We’ve shared the stage with people we admire, people we look up to, and best of all, our friends. And now, like all great things, it has come time for it to end. Thanks for all of your support, and for being part of the adventure.”

In the time since they parted, Way has revealed that he is working on solo music, and he is also going to return to his comic series “The Umbrella Academy” this year.

Despite their greatest hits album title track’s name, “Fake Your Death,” it doesn’t look like My Chemical Romance will be returning any time soon.

Aquila Theatre—Hope College Great Performance Series will feature two different productions by Aquila Theatre on Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 18-19, at 7:30 p.m. in the Knickerbocker Theatre.

‘Middletown’—Hope College Theatre will present “Middletown” by Will Eno in the DeWitt Center main theatre on Wednesday-Saturday, Feb. 19-22 at 8 p.m.

Exhibition of Photography—The gallery of the DePree Art Center at Hope College is featuring photography by Stephen Milianowski in the exhibition “Portraits of Strangers: Design on the Fly,” from Friday, Feb. 21 through March 21.

Junior Recital—Leah Marie Peterson is a junior instrumental music education student from Holland, Mich. She will be showcasing her flute-playing skills on Feb. 22 at 6 p.m. in Wichers Auditorium.

Spring Presidential Colloquium—The documentary titled “One Day After Peace,” will be shown in Fried-Hemenway Auditorium. It will be followed by a panel discussion with faculty and students who have visited South Africa. One night only, Feb. 26, at 7 p.m.
Hope Jazz Arts Collective: a JAC of all ‘Tranes’

Mallory Lectka
Guest Writer

Feb. 4 was certainly grooving as the Hope Jazz Arts Collective, Mainstream Ensemble and Contemporary Ensemble performed a concert in Dimnent. Directed by Brian Coyle and Robert Hodson, these three ensembles are comprised entirely of Hope students who play jazz tunes by a wide range of jazz composers, from the classics like John Coltrane to modern composers like John Hollenbeck.

But they don’t stop there. The ensembles also often perform originals by Hope students and faculty, and collectively rearrange tunes to add an original spin.

“Playing in JAC offers a collaborative experience in which the students are encouraged to contribute to make the music unique,” Matt Milliken (’15) said. “I enjoy being able to provide input to shape the music that best fits the group.”

For those who haven’t taken Survey of Jazz, a jazz ensemble usually consists of a rhythm section—guitar, bass, drums, piano—and any combination of saxophones, trumpets, trombones, vocalists and even violins.

Hope’s ensembles feature all of these instruments, and many students are proficient in more than one instrument. For example, Meghan Stagl (’14) showed her talents in both piano and singing.

Jazz is unique in that it is characterized by its emphasis on improvisation. Typically, each song will start with a theme, or chorus, then break off into improvised solos.

In the moment, the soloist must create a melody that fits within a specific number of measures and stays in the proper key.

Mainstream Ensemble, Contemporary Ensemble and Jazz Arts Collective all featured solos from most of the musicians.

“Improvisation is the name of the game,” Milliken said. “Brian [Coyle] picks great tunes that allow each player to manage unique changes. Each tune offers a new platform to improvise in which the improviser can construct a brand new melody that fits perfectly with the mood of the composition.”

Hope’s jazz department also places a heavy emphasis on group communication, which was evident during the concert. Watching the musicians revealed little signs of constant communication: eye contact, nods, hand gestures and purposeful movements with the instruments.

Like a well-oiled machine, these students read each other’s minds to create a memorable jazz experience for the audience as well as themselves. And beyond the technical stuff, the music is simply fun. Audience members are encouraged to clap and whoop for solos in the middle of songs, and it’s hard to keep from grooving along to the tunes.

Students, faculty and friends interested in experiencing this tradition of excellent musicianship should keep their eyes on Knowhope for future concerts.

A warning though: Attendees of future concerts may find themselves snapping their fingers on the off-beats in chapel and attempting to scat-sing during instrumental breaks.

IMPROV EVERYWHERE— The Collective works hard getting to know each other in order to send each other off on solos without missing a beat.

Albums to get you through the mid-term rush

HAIM — “DAYS ARE GONE”

LORD — “PURE HEROINE”

JIM GUTHRIE — “SWORD & SORCERY LP: THE BALLAD OF THE SPACE BABIES”

ANAMANAGUCHI — “ENDLESS FANTASY”

LONDON GRAMMAR — “IF YOU WAIT”

TWENTY ONE PILOTS — “VESSEL”
**WINTER OLYMPIC TRIVIA**

**DO YOU HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE TO GET ON THE PODIUM?**

1. When were the first Winter Olympic Games?
   A) 1900  
   B) 1924  
   C) 1942  
   D) 1952

2. Which of these Winter Olympic events is Canada’s national winter sport?
   A) Curling  
   B) Luge  
   C) Bobsledding  
   D) Ice Hockey

3. Which state was home to the first Winter Olympics held in the United States?
   A) New York  
   B) Vermont  
   C) California  
   D) Alaska

4. The Winter Olympics were cancelled in two different years because of World War II. Which years were they?
   A) 1940 and 1944  
   B) 1938 and 1942  
   C) 1942 and 1946  
   D) 1938 and 1940

5. Which Winter Olympics event counts a broom as part of its equipment?
   A) Ice Hockey  
   B) Snowboard Cross  
   C) Luge  
   D) Curling

6. True or false? Athletes in the Winter Olympics can’t compete in the Summer Olympics.
   A) True  
   B) False

7. Which is not a Winter Olympic sport?
   A) Swimming  
   B) Figure Skating  
   C) Skeleton  
   D) Curling

8. In what year did snowboarding become an Olympic event?
   A) 1990  
   B) 1994  
   C) 1998  
   D) 2002

9. The movie “Cool Runnings” is about a team from which country competing in the 1988 Winter Games?
   A) Mexico  
   B) United States  
   C) Jamaica  
   D) Barbados

10. Which sport received a new scoring system in 2002?
    A) Figure Skating  
    B) Skeleton  
    C) Curling  
    D) Ski Jump

**Answers:**

- 1. B) 1924
- 2. D) Ice Hockey
- 3. A) New York
- 4. A) 1940 and 1944
- 5. D) Curling
- 6. B) False
- 7. A) Swimming
- 8. C) 1998
- 9. C) Jamaica
- 10. A) Figure Skating

Ask and you May be advised
Stop, drop and listen

Lauren May Staff Columnist

I’m sure most of you would consider yourselves busy people. I know I definitely consider myself one! Let’s face it. Between schoolwork, clubs, volunteering, working and more schoolwork, we don’t have a lot of time on the day to just sit back and not do anything. Although it’s probably not a good idea to sit around and do absolutely nothing all day, sometimes it’s good to take a little bit of time every so often to just rest. Even just sitting back for 10 minutes putting our minds at rest and allowing ourselves to take in the moment can be really good.

During this week, try to give yourself a little time to kick back and relax. Also, to go along with this advice, I have a unique weekly challenge.

Weekly challenge #5: Come up with your own weekly challenge by listening.

Alright, so what exactly do I mean by “come up with your own weekly challenge”? I promise it’s not me being lazy and not wanting to create another challenge on my own, but instead it is a way for me to link the above Bible verses with the realization that our days are sometimes just too crazy. I’m sure many of us have heard the saying “God has a plan for you,” but do you actually make time to really think about what that plan might be? God is talking to us each and every day, yet many times God’s voice is drowned out with the busyness of our hectic lives.

This week’s challenge, I thought I would suggest taking some time out of the busy day to listen to what God is saying. When you go to take a break from all of your papers and assignments, try to spend just a couple of minutes in silence, working to hear God. In other words, for this week, be like Samuel. Let God know you are listening to Him and Him let you provide you with your challenge.

But wait! Let us, for the sake of argument, take a moment to think about it. We’ll examine the first point, which states that the guy she’s currently dating is a jerk, by which evidence it should further be postulated that she should not be dating this jerk. This enters into the no-mans-land of “ifs” and “shoulds” and “cans” and “wonts;” yet this argument can proceed more quickly if we simply assume that the guy is a poor match. Fair enough?

Now take a look from this perspective: Even if your friend-girl shouldn’t be dating Mr. Wrong, what have you to say on the matter? Are you the final arbiter of all her romantic decisions? Clearly, you are not. If you were, you would be violating the friend zone complaint to begin with. Therefore, nice guy, it is evident that you will not be able to make any decisions to that plan do not intimately involve you.

The second point enters into similar terrain; you are a good friend zone.

You must believe me when I say that I’ve heard all of his arguments. I’ve even used many of them myself, time after time after time. In the case of men in the friend zone, the first argument is usually that the guy she’s dating is a jerk, followed by how good of a person (we’ll call him the “nice guy”) is. This is less about self-aggrandizement and more about suggesting how nice they’ve been to her and how she should appreciate it more. It makes a lot of sense, actually, when you don’t stop to think about it.

Letters from Nana and Gramps
This one’s to everyone who can listen

James Rogers Co-Editor-in-Chief

I’ve become a big fan of listening lately. I was never the best listener myself, and I still wouldn’t consider myself a tremendous listener. There has been improvement, though. Listening is difficult. It takes focus on a conversation, something you really have to zone in on in one thing and take it in, trying to understand it. I’ve been told to be aware of the difference between hearing and listening. You can hear a person talking, for example, but listening requires you to make sense of what that person is saying.

Back in my middle-school days, I remember taking the occasional listening test. These tests would require each class member to listen to an audio recording or the teacher reading from a booklet, and then each student would have to answer questions in relation to what they just listened to. The listening test was my weakest portion of these standardized tests. I would get sidetracked and daydream about getting home after school and playing baseball in my backyard with my dad, and because of that, my listening grades would suffer. Listening takes focus.

As I write this, my eyebrows, I became more aware of the importance of listening. I remember reading an article about listening during my freshman year at Hope, and it inspired me to listen better. It talked about the deep appreciation people have when you simply listen to them. Simply listen is tough to grasp because, as I’ve mentioned, listening requires practice and application.

Ever since reading that article, I’ve noticed my appreciation for those who listen. I guess I’m thinking deeper about this recently because I heard about a month ago in class and has been learning more from listening. Tell someone to try listening more. Listening works wonders.

“Most of the successful people I’ve known are the ones who do more listening than talking.” – Bernard M. Baruch

Ryan Backman Columnist

I start with a question, and it is one that I am certain will displease a very adamant, hard-set group of people similar to a person I once knew: what’s wrong with the guy?

Excuse me as I ramble on
I can’t quiy, baby

Claire Call
Claire Johnson
Jako Mokema

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Voices

February 19, 2014

All the ruckus
How to (still) get your ring by spring: A single girl’s guide

Claire Call
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Lauren Madison
Columnist

Hello, readers, and a happy mid-winter day to you. Ah... February. A terrible, terrible month. Yes, we know, readers. Your classes are in full swing, your roommates are officially bugging the crap out of you, you can’t remember ever seeing a color other than the milk gray that’s swallowed Holland, Mich., with one large, malicious chomp, and you can’t quite the cycle of trying and forgetting to make a Health Center appointment, because there’s no way it’s normal to have a cough for this long, is it? (Very Important Note to Readers: It’s not. It’s not normal.)

Face it: your life is in shambles. You know it. I know it. That one writing professor who gives you all of those sympathetic looks in class here, yeah it’s true: you are an empty, joyless shell of a human, except that one night when Ingrid Michaelson came to town. What a beautiful red-haired angel goddess. You felt really alive that night. (Second Very Important Note to Readers: No, you didn’t. You were drunk.)

We really hope you feel alive more often than this, and if you don’t, we’d recommend a CAPS appointment as well.

But never fear, Hope students, for spring is on its way. And we know what that means—the air will soon warm, the flowers will bloom and we’ll slip away from the hearts of fourth-year men who suddenly recognize, Well, shoot, I’ve yet to find a wife at this wedding of unusually well-dressed, marriageable young ladies. Yes indeed, it’s the final countdown to Hope’s “Ring by Spring” cutoff date, and we’re here to help you snag a partner before time runs out. What follows is a set of guidelines, totally not-in-a-mischaracterization-to-be-writing-this best friends. We hope you enjoy our words of wisdom with open hearts.

(Third Very Important Note: We’d like to assert that, though our words are directed to Hope’s fellow singletons, we don’t mean to snub this one of the many well-dressed, marriageable young ladies. You’re welcome. That’s it. It’s over.)

• It’s time for a change. And if you’re a man looking to marry a woman, go you! Do that! We’d hate to be heteronormative in our perpetuation of 1950s-era marriage customs.

• It’s time for a change. And if you’re a woman looking to marry a woman, go you! Do that! We’d hate to be heteronormative in our perpetuation of 1950s-era marriage customs.

• In order to find your partner, ask yourself (with honesty) if you’re sure to cause a stir in the veneer of these games lies a = tragedy of ignorance, it is necessary to change the world’s perception of the athletes and their emotions about the sports and the political rhetoric, we can see a hidden message being played over and over before our eyes. You see, the West has forgotten that Putin and his regime are not only one of many ongoing reforms in the last 30 years. Under the watchful eye of President Vladimir Putin, the event has transformed itself into a showcase of the “new” Russia under his premier leadership and the country’s glorious future.

Overshadowing this theatrical display is the recent abuse of human rights and strict laws that were passed by the government banning homosexual acts. Many saw this as an opportunity to boycott such an event and send a message to Putin and his government officials that intolerance toward others will not be accepted during these international games.

But it seems that once again, the West misses the actual point in this case. The mere fact that Russia has passed these archaic laws against homosexuals since Putin’s rise to power (once again) is one of many ongoing reforms in the last 30 years. Under the watchful eye of President Vladimir Putin, the event has transformed itself into a showcase of the “new” Russia under his premier leadership and the country’s glorious future.

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Putin’s return to the presidency has been marked by an overwhelming expansion of the president’s powers and his dedication to the interests of the Russian Federation. Putin has systematically eliminated any opposition and replaced it with the system returning to its old ways of the Soviet empire, perpetuated by his regime. Putin has made it very clear that he is back in charge and no one will be allowed to stand in the way of his dreams.

That is why it is necessary to come back to Sochi. If we take the time to leave behind our emotions about the sports and the political rhetoric, we can see a hidden message being played over and over before our eyes. You see, the West has forgotten that Putin and his regime are not only one of many ongoing reforms in the last 30 years. Under the watchful eye of President Vladimir Putin, the event has transformed itself into a showcase of the “new” Russia under his premier leadership and the country’s glorious future.

Overshadowing this theatrical display is the recent abuse of human rights and strict laws that were passed by the government banning homosexual acts. Many saw this as an opportunity to boycott such an event and send a message to Putin and his government officials that intolerance toward others will not be accepted during these international games.

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There are a few events throughout the world that have the power to unite people of all walks of life in the spirit of camaraderie and competition. If you mentioned the World Winter Games, you’d be correct, but I am talking about another globalized event which has its roots (albeit loosely) in the ancient sports perpetuated by his regime. Putin has many people and rightfully so. The key to remember here is that it was orchestrated by a man who seeks to embody the old ways of the Soviet empire and restore the new modern capitalist system.

Putin and his corrupt oligarchs are now the new rulers of the Russian Federation, and they will use everything at their disposal to change the world’s perception of their regime.

Thus, while we cheer on our athletes and wish them the best in their respective sports, let us remember that beneath the veneer of these games lies a much more sinister goal. To forget this is more than a tragedy of ignorance, it provides legitimacy to the evils that still exist in the world.

Our Mission: The Anchor strives to commuicate campus events throughout Hope College and the Holland community. We hope to amplify awareness and promote dialogue through fair, objective journalism and a vibrant Voices section that promotes equal representation on Hope College and the Holland community. We hope to amplify awareness and promote dialogue through fair, objective journalism and a vibrant Voices section that promotes equal representation on Hope College and the Holland community.

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Note #4: All of the WTHS gentlemen are actually quite alright, we guess, sometimes. It’s whatever.

Column done. Claire and Lauren out.
What really happens when your roommate goes home for the weekend...

I'll be fine!
See you Sunday!

**Wednesday has different meaning to people. To some, Wednesday is the day of nothing but sadness and heartbreak with the weekend seemingly so far away. To others, it’s a chance, a slight sliver of hope that they may come out of the week unscathed for a fulfilling weekend. For me, it means hot dogs. Since the start of the school year, my roommate, Ryan Boxeth, and I have made the weekly Wednesday night pilgrimage to a sacred site of wieners and buns known as Gregordog. I feel it safe to say that these trips have not only filled our stomachs but our souls as well. Any strife between me and Ryan seems to vanish once the clock strikes 11 p.m. on Wednesdays, no matter how large. I have even had the pleasure of taking The Anchor’s Co-Editor-in-Chief James Rogers to this delightful place where we tried the new burrito dog. Even though the name has changed to Holland’s Downtown Dogs, I hope to continue this tradition with my roommate for the rest of my life at college.**

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**Letter to the Editor**

**Kelly Adamson**

Nearly 20 million new sexually transmitted infections (STIs) occur each year in the U.S.—half of those new cases occurring in people age 25 and younger. When not treated, STIs can lead to serious health outcomes, like increased risk of infertility and cervical cancer. Having an STI can also increase your chances of contracting HIV.

Most people who have an STI don’t even realize it, since many STIs cause no immediate symptoms. For example, 75 percent of women and 50 percent of men with chlamydia have no symptoms.

The best way for sexually active people of any age to prevent both STIs and unintended pregnancy is to use condoms correctly and consistently along with another highly effective method of birth control, like the IUD, implant, shot or pill.

Take a moment during National Condom Month in February to discuss with your partner whose responsibility it is to get condoms. Be open and honest about your desire to protect each other’s health.

This is one of the most important conversations you can have. Your health—and your partner’s—depends on it.

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**Austin’s Thought Process: Gregordog Night**

**Austin Elluru**

**Guest Writer**

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Even though the name has changed to Holland's Downtown Dogs, I hope to continue this tradition with my roommate for the rest of my life at college.
The Flying Dutchmen took on Michigan State University this past Friday in the first round of the Michigan Collegiate Hockey Conference playoffs at Southside Ice Arena. The tournament is a one-round elimination format. The teams were familiar with each other, as Hope College had swept the weekend series earlier this season. Despite its No. 2 seeding and prior history, Hope was reeling from two key losses to assistant captains Drew O'Brien ('15) and Rob Calvert ('15). Last Friday, O'Brien underwent surgery to repair a torn meniscus in his knee, and Calvert suffered an upper-body injury on a dangerous hit he took last weekend against Aquinas.

After two periods of hockey, the score was locked at 1-1. With approximately 15 minutes remaining, and after the puck bounced to the middle, MSU swarmed the net until it was bounced to the middle, MSU...
The Hope College women’s basketball team remained perfect after a commanding 90-40 win over Trine University at home on Saturday, Feb. 15. This win was No. 23 for the Flying Dutch, and it also gave them the outright MIAA conference title. Hope has not won a completely outright conference championship since 2010, thus an incredible feat was achieved.

The Dutch went into the game knowing that one of their preseason goals was just 40 playing minutes away, yet they could not assume that the title was going to be handed to them easily. Instead, Hope needed to play the consistent game that it did all season: a series of brutal offensive attacks, followed by lockdown defense. Fortunately, this did come true and with the offensive heat. Finally, the game started to develop and then a layup.

Both the team and the DeVos faithfulness knew that the Dutch had this game in the bag, and there was still 15 minutes to play. That remaining time would be used to pad the stats and get a variety of players in the game.

For five minutes, Hope denied the Thunder from scoring and kept bringing the offensive heat. Finally, the game ended with a Dutch victory, 90-40, and an outright conference championship. “MIAA championships are special because once they’re in the books, they’re in indelible ink,” said coach Brian Morphew. “It’s not a co-championship, it’s an outright championship and that makes it even more special.”

Hope’s 11th outright MIAA title and 14th league championship overall came in front of a DeVos Fieldhouse crowd of 1,346 loyal fans. Ten of the outright titles and 12 of the overall championships have come since the 1999-00 season.

Traversa scored a career-high 17 points to lead Hope. She sank a career-high five three-pointers and added five assists in the victory.

With the win, Hope is still ranked second overall in the USA Today/ESPN Coaches Poll, a spot that they have held for almost the entire season. Tonight, Hope will take on the Britons of Albion College in an MIAA game, then they will host Rochester College on Saturday at DeVos.

After these matchups, the Dutch will enter the MIAA Tournament as the No. 1 seed, and they hope to take their current momentum into the NCAA Tournament after that.

“Our first goal was to win the conference outright. Now that we’ve achieved this goal, it is on to the next,” Kaufmann said.

Track and field competes at Calvin

Caitlin Rivera
Sports Editor

On Saturday, Feb. 15, Hope’s men’s and women’s track and field teams competed at the Calvin Indoor Invitational at Calvin’s DeVos Fieldhouse track facility. This was the team’s second meet of the season with only a month of training.

The Flying Dutch finished second to Calvin after all the events were completed. The distance medley relay was won by a team of Casey Campbell (’16), Emily Wrozek (’15) and Sheri McCormack (’14) with a time of 12:27. Hope’s B team took third place with a time of 13:16 composed of Miranda Ulmer (’16), Anna Leikert (’14), Katie Afton (’15) and Erin Herrmann (’17).

McCormack took first place in the half-mile run with a time of 2:21.99. Rospi and Herrmann also placed, taking fourth and fifth with times of 2:27.56 and 2:28.08, respectively.

Campbell took a close second in the one-mile run with a time of 4:19.58, just under three-tenths of a second to the first-place Calvin finisher. Teammate Wrozek took fifth with a time of 5:24.97, and Leikert took 12th with a time of 6:02.93.

On the men’s side, Steffon Mayhew (’14) took first place in long jump with a distance of 6.57 meters. Dion Godsal (’14) took third in long jump with a distance of 5.99 meters. Out of only two competitors, David Dolfin (’14) took first place in triple jump with a distance of 12.88 meters.

In men’s high jump, Zach Brandwein (’15) recorded a winning distance of 1.85 meters. Not far behind was teammate Jesse Henkel (’14) in sixth, with a height of 1.70 meters.

The Dutch made 13 three-pointers as a team at 54.2 percent (13-of-24). Hope broke the team record for three-pointers at DeVos of 12 that was set against Trine (then Tri-State) during an 81-52 win on Feb. 26, 2008.

After this win, Hope is still ranked second overall in the USA Today/ESPN Coaches Poll, a spot that they have held for almost the entire season. Tonight, Hope will take on the Britons of Albion College in an MIAA game, then they will host Rochester College on Saturday at DeVos.

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