Hope to host 32nd Model United Nations conference

Neil Simons

For the thirty-second year in a row, Hope College will sponsor a Model United Nations conference involving more than 45 high schools and 900 students.

This event forces students to find organized solutions to tough world issues using teamwork and cooperation. The students involved build skills that will be essential for those who are seeking careers not only in this field but also in virtually any career aspect.

According to the political science department, “Model United Nations is designed to give high school students an opportunity to take on the roles of professional diplomats with the goal of achieving a particular country’s national objectives, while fostering a desired international consensus for real solutions to questions facing them.”

The issues that will be presented at the conference will reflect some of the most serious issues at hand in the real world, spanning from terrorism to population crises to environmental issues. The conference will be conducted in a format that parallels actual sessions of the United Nations with participating students acting as delegates from representative countries.

The event is split into two General Assembly meetings, seven Security Councils, an International Court of Justice and an Economic and Social Council.

Some of the issues that these panels will discuss include the current situations in Iraq and Liberia as well as the conflict between Israel and Palestine. The Economic and Social Council will be dealing with a hypothetical situation that resembles an environmental crisis between several Eastern European countries.

The political science department also reports that “participating students have been working with their high school advisors for several weeks in preparation for the conference, and have been reading up-to-date on in the enterprise. The students will share knowledge with their peer delegates, striving to attain solutions to their issues.”

More MODEL UN on 2

Dance Marathon helps children at DeVos

Danielle Koski

More than 600 children per month walk through the doors of DeVos Children’s Hospital to undergo cancer treatment. The hospital sees more than 136,000 children each year.

Hope College started Dance Marathon five years ago to help the hospital provide children with the medical care they need.

In the past four years Hope has raised $178,000 for DeVos, and expects to raise $100,000 this year.

“These kids go through so much. They experience more physical pain and emotional heartache than some of us do in a lifetime, but they are strong and always have a smile on their faces,” said Maria Hoogendoorn (’04), head of public relations for Dance Marathon.

According to Scott Hinze (’04), director of communications for the event, DeVos is one of over 170 Children’s Miracle Network hospitals.

In one year, these hospitals provide more than $2.5 billion in charitable care, many times dependent on community support. DeVos is the only hospital on the west side of Michigan that provides these services.

“Children’s Miracle Network hospitals provide care that is not necessarily covered by insurance,” Hinze said.

“DeVos Children’s Hospital is an incredibly unique location of facility in West Michigan. The medical staff that they employ are experts in the pediatric application of their discipline.”

More MARATHON on 2

Dutchmen win conference title

Jordan Wolfson

Senior Writer

For many students, the Van Wylen library is an oasis. For late night or early morning projects, nothing beats running to the library to grab that last minute non-interested source or for last minute cramming in one of the many study rooms and lounges located inside the building.

The Association of College and Research Libraries has recently bestowed upon Van Wylen the “Excellence in Academic Libraries Award.”

The Hope library has been nominated for, but not won, this prestigious national award several times in past years.

The ACRL association honors only one private college library, one community college library and one university library every year.

This prestigious award includes a plaque and a $3,000 gift, to be presented during a ceremony on Thursday, March 4 at 2p.m. in Van Wylen.

The president of the ACRL, Tyrone Cannon, will be present to recognize the library.

“Receiving an Excellence in Academic Libraries Award is a national tribute to a library and its staff for the outstanding services, programs and leadership they provide to their students, administrators, faculty and community,” said Mary Ellen K. Davis, ACRL executive director.

The library contains multiple teaching classrooms, complete with computer workstations. This allows students to follow along with their professors’ teachings on the computers in the room.

The Tech Lab, located on Van Wylen’s second floor, allows students to create presentations in the library, where they have complete access to sources, scanners, and other equipment.

The library staff are not only librarians, but also fellow professors who participate in various administrative activities.

“Collaboration with the facility is key. That’s why I love to work here…the librarians work with the professors to make projects and activities more interesting.”

More LIBRARY on 2

Library excellence awarded

Campus Briefs

Dean of Chapel chosen

The Rev. Trygve D. Johnson has been appointed the Hinge-Boerman Dean of the Chapel at Hope College. Johnson, who is currently completing doctoral studies at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, will assume his duties at Hope in January of 2005. The appointment marks a return to both Holland and Hope for Johnson. He has served as chaplain intern at Hope and as a pastoral intern at Third Reformed Church. Johnson’s main responsibility will include administrating Hope’s thrice-weekly and Sunday evening chapel program.

Professor Cronkite named to church genetic policy committee

Donald Cronkite, professor of biology, has been appointed to a National Council of Churches committee charged with reviewing the ecumenical community’s position on human genetic technology. Their recommendations will influence new NCC policy.

Cronkite is a specialist in the field of genetics, with a strong interest in the theological implications of his field’s work.

There will be no Anchor on March 2, as the staff will be in Minneapolis at a student press convention learning to better serve the campus community.

In the past year, Hope College students have raised more than $100,000 for DeVos Children’s Hospital.

Students will dance 24 hours to raise money for Miracle Network.

Library excellence awarded

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February 2004

english
Representative Hoekstra takes time to visit alma mater

Sean Daenzer

Hoekstra met with students and faculty in Maas conference room last Friday to discuss current issues.

**MARATHON from 1**

But beyond the amazing doctors, the hospital truly does their best to make the experience fun for the kids. Time after time, I hear stories of how despite grim illnesses, kids aren’t afraid of the hospital,” said Megan Niergarth (‘04), an assistant director of Dance Marathon. According to Niergarth, the hospital’s amazing programs and services would not be available without philanthropic organizations like Dance Marathon.

“Many Hope students or their family members have benefited from DeVos services in the past, and the kids receiving treatment typically gain a great deal of comfort from the hospital. Hope students work as a team to raise,” said Molly Halvey (‘04), the campus relations and special promotions director.

Hoekstra’s final message to Hope students was to “keep up the great tradition of Hope College” and to continue to be politically aware and involved.

“The decisions (Washington) makes today decide your future whether you participate or not.”

**MODEL UN from 1**

Involvement in this event is not limited to high school students. In fact, it is entirely run by Hope students and two faculty advisors. Political science students who participate in one of two classes that are devoted to the organization take the semester prepping for the event. They are responsible for recruiting students from high schools and acting as chairpersons during the actual model assembly meetings.

Stephanie Szydlowski (‘05), will be serving as the Secretary General, with Jonathan Hockel (‘05) and Caleb Sheng (‘04) serving as Deputy Secretary Generals. The Model United Nations conference will begin on Thursday, March 4 at 4 p.m. and continue until Friday, March 5 at 3:45 p.m.

For more information, visit the Model United Nations website at http://www.hope.edu/academic/pols/nuim/.

**LIBRARY from 1**

meaningful,” said Priscilla Atkins, associate professor and reference librarian.

Atkins has worked with many professors who teach First Year Seminar classes to make their library activities much more personal with the new students. “Students don’t want to just stand around, so we give them personal tours in small groups and entertain them,” Atkins said. This is one of the many aspects that takes Vin Wylen a step above and beyond the norm. The full-time librarians offer private meetings with students who desire personal assistance with large research projects. Student employees also assist greatly in the day-to-day running of the building.

**Open Mic Poetry Readings**

Lemonjellos

Every Wednesday, 9 p.m.
**New show at DePree**

**“Light Boxes, Dark Rooms” makes debut**

Neil Simons  
*Stark Raven*

The DePree gallery is available. Its walls will conform to the art placed in it; it has known the work of many artists.

"The high quality and beauty ideas are a benefit to art students and theorists, yet anyone will be impressed by the imagery," said John Hanson, DePree Gallery director.

A resolve sense of serenity is juxtaposed with a sense of technology,马拉松 and experience of the world as it is known. Every piece in this show is tied in some fashion to philosophy and originality are defined. Ogawa exemplifies these themes with a video installation that assists in redefining the visual experience of seeing with technology. "Technology has changed our perception of art, and focusing on specific images draws attention to detail," Hanson said.

A dominant theme in Tomomiki Shitara’s paintings is a reflection on life and death, derived from the Tibetan Book of Living and Dying. Shitara’s paintings portray this life journey while evoking a sense of questioning one’s concept of perception and definition of reality. Shitara’s work is painted on the polyester film used to capture the actual image, creating a sense of realism, and as John Hanson described it, "a window into a real world."

Ko Yamada has arranged three series of ninety-nine photographs on record album covers that, together, create images of faces. Running from red chords to the three images are three turntables containing the voices of the faces and Yamada himself. Even the chords themselves have significance—in Japanese culture they are said to tie souls together. It is this tie that lies at the heart of Yamada’s artistic theory. "I am interested in photographs of people, I am interested in a relationship with those people and photography is a record of that relationship with others," Yamada said. That relationship exists at virtually every level of his photography, as the subjects for his installation were close to him and required close contact both in his life and during the actual shoot. Yamada even delved into the essence of these relationships, hinting that a sense of love is what lies beneath the strongest of these bonds. The individual photographs that make up each face expose very intense detail, yet the overall perception is distorted. Hanson describes the pieces as containing multiple more DEPREE on 5

**One more dance**

Dance Number Series enters 30th year on March 4 in DeVitt

Jenny Cencer  
*Stark Raven*

The Hope Dance Department will be presenting the annual Dance 30 concert at 8 p.m. on Thursday through Saturday, March 4-6 in the DeVitt Center Main theatre. Featured in the program will be choreography by Hope dance faculty as well as guest artist Mark Yonally. All pieces will be performed by Hope students.

Linda Graham is the choreographer of "Unexpecting the Expected," a work which developed a contemporary ballet nuance. "Words such as ‘whimsical’ and ‘sioyosyncratic’ came to mind. I was interested in observing how different children who are bored choose to handle their time," Graham said.

Dancers in the piece are Lindsay Brown, Dawn Flandermeyer, Kate Goezinger, Paula Graham ('06), Lauren Lochner ('06), Dawn Flandermeyer, Kate Goetzinger, Paula Yokas ('05). Twenty pieces, nine college ensembles, eleven small student groups or solosists, one Grand Rapids music hall, one night. This is the recipe for Hope’s annual Musical Showcase. "This year’s performance takes place at 8 p.m. on Monday at DeVitt Music Hall. "Most concerts focus on either one or two ensembles or a group of solosists, but at DeVos, you can get it all in one night," said Lisa Walters (’06). Starting off the evening is a trumpet duet played by Alissa White (’03) and Ryan Winningham (’04). They will be accompanied by Laura Ellis (’05) on piano.

"I decided to add on the Vivaldi Concerto for Two Trumpets and Piano" with Ryan and Laura because I was comfortable with the piece because we had performed the piece in my senior recital last semester and because it is a great piece of music that we thought the audience would enjoy," White said.

Next up is the Women’s Chamber Choir, singing “Overture to Semiramide” by Stephen Hawke, quickly followed by a flute duet by Walters and Erika Byker (’06). "I like the (piece) a lot because it is so unique," Walters said. "It is a Spanish dance, and when the audience hears it, they will have a hard time sitting in their seats!"

The performance will continue with Titas Mantevaram (’04) on viola and Joe Turbessi (’05) on piano playing "Rondo" from Concerto for Viola in D major, Op 1 by Carl Stamitz. Shifting the concert to wind instruments for the remainder of the first half is the Flute Choir with “Simple Gifts,” an Adirondack duct; "Prizes from Konzertak No. 2 in D minor," performed by Laura McLaughlin (’06) and Kate VanVo (’05), will follow. Next Broadway comes to Grand Rapids with baritone Matthew Farmer’s (’04) rendition of "Razzle Dazzle" from the musical "Chicago." He will be accompanied by Emily Parkhurst (’04) on the piano. The Jazz Ensemble I will then take the stage with a performance of "Conference of the Birds" by David Amchot.

The second solo vocal performance of the night will be sung by Sara Luneack, with piano accompaniment by Heidi Dykema (’04). 

"I chose ‘Vado, Ma Dove’ by Mozart because it is an aria that is not so well known, beautiful and perfect for where my voice is at right now," Luneack said. 

The first half of the show concludes with the first large ensemble of the night, the Wind Symphony, performing "March from Symphonic Metamorphosis" by Paul Hindermith. The Chapel Choir will open the second half of the performance with "Ritmo" by Ivan Hrusovsky, then Carol Beth Steiner (’07) and Carol Beth Steiner (’07) will perform a flute duo accompanied by Dykema. Organ music will be presented throughout the evening with Bach’s "Prelude in G major, BWV 541" performed by David Bellows (’05).

Following will be several quick shifts in musical style and genre from the Percussion Ensemble to a scene from the opera to the Jazz Ensemble and the Woodwind Quintet.

The two final solo performances will be by countertenor Daniel Ebeling (’04), singing Handel’s "Ombra mai fu da " in "Xercus," accompanied by Walters, and Carol Guess (’05), performing "Accents-Tribute to Aaron Copland from Twelve American Preludes" by Alberto Ginastera. The concert will end with "Adagio molto-Allegro con brio from Symphony No. 1 in C major" by Beethoven and performed by the Symphonette.

Tickets are $10 and can be ordered through the Public Relations Office, purchased over the counter at the Grand Center Ticket Office or through Ticketmaster by calling (616) 456-7860. 

**Student music showcased**

Alissa White (’03) and Ryan Winningham (’04) rehearse their piece for DeVos.

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In all honesty, the fact that my older brother and sister went here here. "In all honesty, the fact that my older brother and sister went here here. I didn’t realize that it would be a great place for him to be. "I was probably the most vocal member of our family encouraging him to come here, " said Abby. "Now that he’s a student here, I haven’t even once wished he wasn’t. It’s really been great. In fact, I know both of us are trying to subtly encourage our youngest brother to come here too!"

Director of Admissions, Gary Camp, commented on the observation that many students look at Hope due to the positive experience of an older brother or sister. Though it’s not evident if the rate of siblings attending Hope has changed much over the years, Camp said, “the only trend I can see is a continuing one of siblings looking at Hope because of what they hear from older family members.”

One way to get younger siblings on campus to let them see what college life is like. Taking place this coming weekend, the theme of this year’s Siblings Weekend is “Under the Big Top” and will include activities for siblings of many ages. The younger brothers and sisters will enjoy watching “Finding Nemo” while floating on inner tubes in the Dow pool, making crafts and doing chemistry experiments among other things, while the older siblings can participate in bowling, ice skating, or going to the mall.

Since the weekend is sponsored by the Social Activities Committee, all activities are free to students and their siblings and no registration is necessary. Students and siblings are free to decide what, if any, activities they want to attend.

This weekend gives siblings a chance to see where their older brothers or sisters live. They get to see and stay in the dorms, though if they are nine or older they must stay in same-sex accommodations, and the activities take place all throughout campus, allowing them to visit places where their siblings eat, hang out and go to class.

With more than 200 siblings scheduled to come, this year looks like it could be one of the biggest Siblings Weekends ever and there is still time to register through the Social Activities Committee for all the fun if any students haven’t done so yet. Diana Breclaw, Director of Student Activities, wants all students to invite their siblings out for this fun weekend.

“This year we have a lot of new things going on that we’ve never had before,” said Breclaw. “We want it to be as big as possible.”

This coming weekend is sure to be fun for all students and siblings. Younger siblings might like their little taste of Hope College life and someday come back as a student. Sibling students get a chance to share a few years and many experiences together at college which can help to strengthen their relationship.

“I’ve definitely grown closer to my sister since we’ve both been here,” said Abby Bolkema (’07) whose sister, Sara Bolkema, is a senior. “We see each other all the time because we’re both music majors and spend a lot of time in Nykerk. If for nothing else, the two-and-a-half hour car ride to and from home have helped!”

Michelle Konfara (’04) and her sister, Stephanie (’07)
Students complacent in personal security

INFOCUS

Holland's, Hope's, crime rates lower than most, still existent

Erin L'Hotta

The town of Holland prides itself in many things—the rich Dutch culture, the friendly atmosphere and the safe community to send a culture, the friendly atmosphere and the safe community to send a student to. In the past, the crime rates were lower than most of Michigan, and Holland still holds its third lowest crime rate in over two decades. With these statistics in mind, Holland appears to provide a safe haven for Hope College students. But what do these statistics show? Does living in a Holland College hall exempt students from experiencing crime?

There is crime at Hope College. During February alone, there were three reported cases of theft. On Feb. 9, an employee's purse was stolen in Graves Hall. On Feb. 11, a floor mat was stolen from Vanderwerf Hall. A thief was caught in the act, on Feb. 11 a non-Hope affiliate was banned from VanWylen Library after reportedly damaging and attempting to steal books.

According to Campus Safety, in 2002 there were seven reported burglaries involving unlawful entry. Within this same year, there were three reported losses. There were seven reported cases in 2001 and 12 in 2000. Compared to University of Michigan, these statistics are low. The Office of Post Secondary Education holds security reports for nationwide colleges. According to their database, U of M reportedly experienced 150 on-campus burglaries in 2002. There were also 17 vehicle thefts and 20 on campus robberies. At Hope, there were zero robberies reported. Compared to Calvin College, Hope's crime rate is high. Calvin College reported zero burglaries in 2002, six in 2001 and five in 2000. In 2002, Calvin reported two vehicle thefts.

Hope is losing this battle of crime against Calvin. Within this semester, one residence hall experienced repeated burglary. Money was stolen from students' dorm rooms. These dorm rooms were all left unlocked. Another residence hall experienced theft by a non-Hope affiliate who broke through a dorm window. This resulted in dorm lockdown.

Five out of 10 Hope students lock their door upon leaving the room

Lynnae Ruberg ('06) uses an automatic lock to open her dorm room in Cook Hall. Students living in Cook and Kollen Hall use automatic locks, not hand-turned keys.

"I knew everyone that lived in my hall. We were all friends so there was no need for a lock.

-Phil Morse ('05)

DANCE 30 from 3

Amanda Smith will be presenting her choreographed pointe piece to the strum of Spanish guitars. Dancers in the work include: Sommer Amundson ('07), Chelsea Brown ('05), Cara Corbett ('07), Paula Cosmo/Wykoff ('06), Deanna Crit ('05), and members of the Hope College faculty and staff. For additional ticket information contact the office at (616) 395-7900.

DEPREE from 3

This is where the psychological significance of Yamada's work begins to emerge, smashing beyond the boundaries of self-concept and interweaving the fallibility of memory and creating life stories.

These are fragmented images reflecting fragmented memories. Memory, recollection—this is a process that takes place only in the present—it is a creation of itself every time, said Yamada. And by photographing this reality, Yamada both captures and distorts the image of being and self. Even the sound plays an integral role in the overall experience. The viewer must rotate the turntable. Consequently the sound, like the image, becomes distorted.

"The sound—like the photograph—is fragmented. Even the images face each other, as in a relationship," Hanson said.

John Hanson expressed his reviopulation with some of the recent trends in contemporary electronic art and new media, yet was stunned with the quality of this exhibition.

"Often it is unimaginative and poorly made, yet these are brilliant."
Choice may require more thought

Yesterday, Hope announced its choice of Reverend Trygve Johnson as the new Dean of Chapel. The one-sided nature of Johnson as an ideal religious leader for Hope has disturbed me. Johnson as the new Dean of Chapel. The one-sided hype of candidates were mentioned. Others have not visited campus, this past year, as the campus as a whole has been left uninformed and if so, why? Johnson has led a chapel, two Gatherings, and has had meetings with administration and open panels with students. Students have been encouraged to offer their opinions on his style and demeanor, but in the end, the decision really came down to the administration.

After Ben Patterson left, a hole was left in the chapel program at Hope until Tim Brown took his place. Since the beginning of this academic year, that hole was reopened by Brown's parting from his position. Do the students really want that hole to remain until Johnson has finished his degree work? This gap can be remedied sooner if there were truly more candidates involved before what is really our decision is taken from us.

The decision has been made, but the community can still challenge the system.

I would like to take a moment to first thank the International Center for bringing students abroad with copies of The Anchor so that we can stay current with Hope events. I am currently studying in Aberdeen, Scotland, and I cannot keep silent about an article I recently read in the February 4 issue of The Anchor outlining new study abroad policies. I was stunned to see that the administration has decided to restrict the deadline and impose a quota on the number of students that may study abroad in the spring. While I appreciate that there are, as of yet, no restrictions on fall study abroad, I find the spring quota disharmonizing. The method for determining which students qualify seems shady at best, and may lead to discrimination of students chosen to study abroad.

I have been in Scotland for just under a month, but already I have learned much that I never would have learned if I were not encouraged to study abroad. Under the new plan, I would not even be able to be here, as I did not decide to study abroad until last summer. It pains me to see Jon Huisken saying, "It is possible some students will not be able to go." I believe that all students should study abroad at some point in their college career if possible. My friends at Kalamazoo College have told me that their colleges encourage over 80 percent of Kalamazoo students to go abroad, while our college is now restricting spring enrollment to less than three percent of the student body. Perhaps this mentality is what leads Hope to consistently be ranked under Kalamazoo College in various educational publications.

I was even more frustrated to see the quotations from several administrators in recent Anchor articles emphasizing Hope's need to achieve diversity. If that is truly the administration's goal, then they should be encouraging study abroad rather than discouraging it. I am a Phelps Scholar, I have learned more about diversity and acceptance in the short time I have been overseas than in all my previous years at Hope College. Nothing encourages the understanding of diversity like being immersed in another culture. It seems the administration would rather strengthen the Hope bubble.

More frustrating of all was the response for the policy change. I understand the current budget crisis and the desire to balance fall and spring enrollment, but I believe these are worth- ly sacrifices in order to give students the opportunity to succeed. Even from a purely financial point of view, successful alumni will provide for future endowments. Hope is a wonderful institution, with a number of talented faculty and gifted students. But as long as money rather than learning dictates college policy, Hope will never be able to reach its full potential. I urge any student who can manage to afford to go abroad -- to try -- there are some types of learning that you cannot get from lectures or textbooks.

Joshua Morse (05)

Split-gender sex chapel is ridiculous at college level

To the editor:

In reference to the email sent to the student body about the splitting of Chapel on Friday, maybe when talking about sex at a collegiate level students should be referred to as men and women rather than guys and girls. I am also glad that they are splitting up this sex conversation, my mom would not want me talking about my teens with any birds around.

— Micah Moatman (04)

According to the Bible, homosexuality is not wrong

To the editor:

I would like to speak to the suggestion that homosexuality is biblically wrong. I disagree on these grounds:

One, most of the so-called anti-homosexual passages come from the standpoint that they do not want people to do unnatural things. I agree with that. Homosexuals should not act like heterosexuals and heterosexuals should not act like homosexuals. People should act like themselves.

Two, a lot of those purity laws back in the Old Testament were about things that are more weird than wrong. All right, they did not understand how creatures in shells could move around, so they didn't eat them. I understand how they move around, but I do not think that changes my qualification for eating them.

This is the same thing that they unless they make you sick. I understand how homosexuals have sex. Does that mean that it is all right or not all right to be homosexual? I gain, I think that this has little bearing. What mattered was that the people wanted to please God.

Some people try to mix Sodom and Gomorrah as being about God's great wrath against homosexuality. It wasn't. The way God tested the community was by seeing how the hospitality of the place was. Hospitality used to be a core value of God's people. Let's hospitality was great, he protected and blessed that town. The rest of the town wanted to gang-rape the outsiders, so that they could try out new sex partners. You may be thinking there was more to Sodom and Gomorrah than inhospitality. There was, but not inhospitality.

Four, sometimes the Bible speaks out against ped- estry. Your average person, whether homosexual or heterosexual, will agree that sex with children is wrong. This does not change whether homosexuality is wrong or not.

— Joseph Tolton (05)

Campus Safety playing favorites with parking violators

To the editor:

I woke up on Thursday to look out my window and see a student campus safety employee putting one of those infamous orange "Motor Ve- hicile Violation" tickets under the windshield wipers of an unsus- pection student's car. There is no fact that the student probably deserved this ticket, because of no registration, does not excuse the campus safety employee's action completely. When he got back in his car, he con- tinued looking for illegally parked cars, he saw none and left immedi- ately. The disturbing thing here is that I could plainly see FIVE from my window! There were five cars parked in Snow Removal Zones. Being curious, I walked around the rest of the parking lot and found two more illegally parked cars. EK07 illegally parked cars, and UT00 illegally parked cars. There was a freshperm permit in the upperclass- man lot, another freshperm permit in a snow removal zone, a non-reg- istered car, another non-registered car in a snow removal zone, and three other cars in snow removal zones. Maybe there was something in this employee's eye that caused him to only see the one car that got the ticket. Maybe the ticket was out of the running. I was even more frustrated, later in the day, I saw one of the campus safety officers ticketing in the same parking lot that none of the previously un-ticketed cars were still parked, and still none of them received a ticket. Maybe he was putting out so many on students' cars in the faculty lots, who knows?

— Ryan Jackson (06)
Injustice of justifications: examining the war on Iraq
To the editor:

The apprehension of Saddam Hussein benefits the whole world. A tyrannical, murderous dictator no longer threatens mankind. This obvious statement is what the Bush Administration now toots as evidence of the Iraq war’s successfulness and necessity. Of course the apprehension of Saddam is beneficial, but was he as big a threat to the world as the Bush administration pretended before the war?

President Bush finally publicly acknowledged, or rather admitted, on Sept. 17, 2003 that there is no connection between the Sept. 11 attacks and Saddam Hussein. On Jan. 8, Secretary of State Colin Powell also said he has seen no “smoking gun [or] concrete evidence” of Saddam Hussein connections to al-Qaeda. Yet both of these men constantly reiterated before and during the war that there were connections that justified action against Iraq.

Thus, the majority of Americans always believed and still believes there is a connection. That’s no problem for Bush; he uses that knowledge to appeal to America’s emotions and subsequent votes that the war on terrorism involves Iraq. The reason America bought the case for war against Iraq was the Bush administration’s claim that massive stockpiles of WMD threatened the immediate security of the United States. Bush did not say that just because Saddam is a bad guy we should get rid of him. Nor did he solely say that because of the plight of the Iraqi people we must invade. We invaded for our interests, whether it was for security, integration of democracy in the Middle East, or oil.

So where are the catastrophic weapons that would have doomed the U.S.? David Kay, the former chief U.S. weapons inspector in Iraq, has found no evidence of an advanced WMD program or the supposed massive stockpiles of chemical and biological weapons. “We were almost all wrong,” said Kay, as he testified to a Senate panel about the U.S.’s “fundamental false analysis” of Iraq’s alleged WMD on Jan. 28.

The two main justifications the Bush Administration forcefully exclaimed as critical reasons for going to war with Iraq are unequivocally false. Did Bush lie to the American people or did he base a huge destructive endeavor on faulty intelligence?

If there are no WMD and/or al-Qaeda connections, Bush misled the American people. Bush either lied to the American public and gambled WMD would show up, or recklessly asserted massive stockpiles existed when they did not. Likewise, Bush either lied about an al-Qaeda connection and/or misconstructed information based on faulty intelligence.

Therefore, America must keep in mind that the capture of Saddam Hussein should not necessarily justify the war in Iraq. The combination of Iraq’s defiance and the Bush Administration’s ignorant jingoism divided the nation, strained international relations, inflamed the Middle East, disappointed American tax dollars, disrupted the lives of millions, and destroyed the lives of thousands.

—Brian Barry ('06)
Flying Dutchmen capture MIAA title

Win over Alma claims number one seed in MIAA tournament

Brad Vanderberg
Sport Editor

This time, the Dutchmen made sure that no other Briton got in their way to an MIAA conference championship. Ten days and an outright conference title began on Wednesday night at Calvin. The Dutchmen performed another beating of the Knights and pounded out the 75-64 victory behind five starters. The Scots came to life during the early going, taking an early 11-2 lead. A span of five to six minutes, Hope was forced into taking numerous bad shots, helping the Scots maintain the small lead. Then the Dutchmen came on a stormed back. A couple of Daane Griffith ('05) three-pointers helped the Dutchmen get back in the lead and a steal, completed by Kyle Kleersnyder ('05), gave Hope the lead with 42-27 at halftime. Early in the second half, the scoreboard once again tightened up as Anthony Jones again led the Scots charge back into the ballgame as he knocked down a pair from beyond the arc cutting the Dutchmen's lead to a mere eight points. A loose ball picked up by Kleersnyder, however, quickly shifted down the Alma attack as he slum dunked the ball. Alma guard Jayme Fazi quickly answered back with a 3-pointer but probably the prettiest play of the afternoon came soon after. On a fast break, Greg Immink ('05) dished a pass under his leg to Kleersnyder as he drained the three to put the game out of reach.

As part of a desperation attempt, Alma's Sam Sataynez (cancelled)ainmented another beat and kept hard pressure on them in the final minutes. Hope will now look to the big stage after having it taken away in 2002.

Rough waters no challenge for swimmers

Men and women take MIAA swimming championships in Grand Rapids

Justin Sobania

Men's and women's swimming and diving teams have managed to win 21 conference championships; seven of which have been both the men and women at the same time. This year, the teams have done it yet again, with both the men and the women winning their respective conferences. The men ended up snapping Kalamazoo's eight-year winning streak in the process.

The Flying Dutch walked away from the completion in East Grand Rapids with a first place finish of 587, well over one hundred points above their second closest competitor, Calvin, who scored a well-deserved 422 points. Audrey Arnold ('04) captured victories in the 100 and 200 backstroke, and the 200 individual medley. The freshman star for the Flying Dutch was Lisa Smith ('03), who took first place in both the 100 and 200 butterfly competitions.

The Flying Dutchmen beat out its closest competitor, Kalamazoo, by a much closer score of 581 to 239.

"It feels great to win and great to beat Kalamazoo. I'm sure it means more to the up-classmen since they have to deal with losing to them. Congrats guys," Ron Lindow said ('07), after the victory.

Hope's Kyle Kleersnyder was named MIAA player of the week.

Hockey hands Calvin first loss of season; off to Arizona

Andy Borozan

Hockey hand捎 a settled a long overdue score with Calvin last Saturday when they stole their undefeated mark and the MCHC championship along with it in a 6-2 triumph.

Hope prevailed over Jackson on Friday and took on the host Jackson Golden Jets in the first round of the tournament. A slow start found Hope down 2-0 halfway through the third period. A quick and decisive recovery at the end found Hope pulling out of the game with a 3-2 win.

"Jackson always plays a rough game. We just had to bear down and take care of business in order to get to the championship," said forward Kye Samuelson ('06).

Saturday saw a bitter rivalry in the final game of the tournament. With Calvin grabbing three wins in three attempts earlier in the year against the Dutchmen, Hope looked to turn things around. The Dutchmen came out strong and stroked quickly with a goal in the first. Constant offensive pressure saw Hope dominating all game except for a goal from Calvin on a five-on-three advantage and a minute later a five-on-four advantage at the beginning of the game. Captain Jon Sedon ('04) led his team to victory lane with two goals and Jeff Guy ('07) added a couple goals to the effort as well.

The team took a big step against Calvin. We've had trouble putting together three solid periods all year. Everyone came ready do give Calvin their first loss of the year, and we got the job done. Goals come when you're working hard, they weren't all pretty. We kept our feet moving, played strong defense, and kept hard pressure on them in those zones," said Samuelson, after the big win over Calvin.

Some bad news did come as a result of the tournament. Hope will be without forward Andrew Radler ('07) in Arizona, as he dislocated his shoulder in the first period of the Calvin game. Hope now looks to the big stage as they travel to Arizona next week to play in the National Tournament at Arizona State University. After knocking off the number one seed this past week in Calvin, Hope will be looking to come out in the tournament as a possible favorite to win the tournament.

Defending champs, Muskegon CC, who received an automatic bid, will not compete in Arizona.

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Hockey Hands

Hockey Hands

Sports Wrap-up

MIAA Tournament
Tonight's men's matchups:
Alma @ Albion
Kalamazoo @ Calvin
Olive @ Adrian

Hope will host winner of the Olivet-Adrian game Feb. 28 at 8 p.m.

Hope's Kyle Kleersnyder was named MIAA player of the week.

Tuesday's women's results:
Calvin won MIAA outright

Hockey Hands

Hockey Hands

Track and Field

Upcoming Meet:
Feb. 28 @ University of Chicago, Ill.