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MIAA champs, NCAA bound

Barton-DeVries on diversity

Sam Ogles
NATIONAL NEWS EDITOR

During my two years living in Wyckoff Hall I had the opportunity to get to know and speak with Wyckoff's RD, Rosanne Barton-DeVries. In speaking with this semi- nary student and Hope instructor of dance, I had conversations about diversity that I had not encountered in any other setting within this community, neither academic nor social. It was for this reason that I recently sat down with Rosanne to ask questions about diversity and what it means for our community.

Q: What does “diversity” mean to you? How do you envision diversity?

A: Diversity starts with understanding yourself. It starts with knowing what makes you unique. So often we don’t know who we are. We care about cultural definitions of who we are – stereotypes that become definitions once we accept them for ourselves. We haven’t spent enough time with our own stories and therefore we have no experience for engaging other people’s stories.

Q: So what would be a good example of diversity or an interaction of diversity?

A: Every interaction includes elements of diversity. Every interaction is the possibility to encounter someone who’s unique and whose life is so similar to our own and yet so different because they’re unique.

Q: Well, is there any type of diversity that is more important than another or that should be stressed more than another? It seems that with your definition there would be no categories of diversity.

A: If I see you as a sum of stereotypes, then I won’t encounter (the real) you. If I spend time with you then I might encounter you rather than the just the categories. Stereotypes and categories should be peripheral instead of central to the conversation. Diversity is more about learning who the other person is and less of who “I think” the...diversity really is a matter of faith. But we don’t go there.”

– Rosanne Barton-DeVries, Wyckoff RD

Pew lecturer speaks on faith, research

Kevin Hailey
Guest Writer

Although Worthington is familiar with failure before God, he attributes much of his success as a professor to the student, but it isn’t. It goes.

Influence feels like it’s coming just from the professor to the student, but it isn’t. It goes...

Daily Voter – New demographic plays – Young voters...
Diversity on campus: making Hope ‘part of a world community’

+ **WYCKOFF**, from page 1
+ **SURVEY**, from page 1

**Q:** How would one do that?

A: **Relationship.** Diversity is about “sito-ry.” I think we need to learn how to encounter the unique narrative of each person’s life. We need to be willing to slow down and work on relationships with God, with self and with others, and we need to see how these three stories are woven together. And we can do that at Hope. God is clear, and faith traditions and scripture are clear about how we are to engage one another.

Q: Is diversity religious then?

A: Well... diversity really is a matter of faith. But we don’t go there. We go to categories of religion or of ethnicity. We need to understand that our commonness as God’s creation is what’s important. It’s a matter of developing virtue and Christly gestures that practically express the commandment to love one another.

Q: So we shouldn’t recognize categories? You don’t see stereotypes?

A: We can’t say, “I don’t have stereotypes.” Culture teaches us that, but we should set them aside. It takes practice, intentionality, risk, being involved with one’s own self and evaluation of the environments we’ve been raised in. Some things (we’ve learned) we will choose to keep because we find them to be good and right, but others we will set aside.

Q: So what is the obstacle in our community’s way? What do you think holds Hope back from this ideal?

A: Most people are moving from a perspective of “retributive justice,” of justice of the oppressed and the liberated. It’s not that that is inappropriate, because it’s not. But what’s important is using categories of mutuality of reconciliation (with God, self and others). It’s not about equality. That’s not the proper metric. “Relationship as justice” restoring relationship between oppressor and the oppressed is the proper metric.

Q: Why?

A: If you’re in relationship, if you’re re-connecled with God, self and others, then justice isn’t a question because you would immediately respond to any differentials that cause harm to other people.

Q: Does Hope do anything that is counterproductive to diversity?

A: I’m concerned with any approach that centers in conversations related to power differentials – privilege or lack of privilege. These are important to be addressed, but not as a center for the conversation. I think people leading diversity programs understand that. But I’m not sure that the Hope’s stu-

**Study shows Hope’s highs and lows**

**SPRING BREAK UNIVERSITY GUIDE**

**PRICING:**

9 Month lease $400 per month per tenant

12 Month lease $525 per month per tenant

**AVAILABILITY:**

Available starting 2nd semester

**DESCRIPTION:**

1620 Square Feet On 3 Levels, 4 Bedrooms (Maximum 4 tenants per unit), 4 1/2 or 3 1/2 bathrooms per unit, Full kitchen, Dinette, Living room, Full sized washer & dryer, Covered front porch, Garage (1 stall)

**RESERVE A UNIT:**

$500 Non refundable application fee

$400 deposit

Requires 2 with application fee & deposit to hold a unit

Deposit is refunded if denied off campus

**LOCATION:**

Corner of Fairbanks & 15th Street

2 blocks from campus

Across the street from the football stadium

**PHOTO BY KAILE WANGER**

**A “STOEP” IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION— Scott VanderSteep, Psychology chair, presented the information of the Wabash service study.**

Q: How was?

A: I’m concerned that they see the peripheral and not to the heart of what’s going on – fostering understanding of the uniqueness of every human being. In these cases, stu-
dents encounter a mixed message which re-
sults in confusion and suspicion and I think, to some degree, disengagement. And that’s very frightening.

Q: Is Hope making any progress?

A: Absolutely. I’m proud of this college for becoming more diverse, for making initia-
tives toward being welcoming, and I yearn for the day when this campus reflects a sense that we are part of a world community. And I think people here have a heart for that.

Q: So how would Hope go about embrac-
ing this kind of diversity? What would that look like?

A: There is an incredible diversity of gifts in all corners of this institution. I think it would take a concerted effort together. For instance artists using images of shape and form, theologians using language and faith, scientists using the diversity of the created or-
er. (It would take) every area of the institution committing. This is something we do together and individually, and I would say not over and against other institutions. It needs to be our clearly explained ground... and maybe it is.
CHINA INCREASES MILITARY SPENDING; US CRITICIZES

China increased military spending by nearly 18% this year, to $417.8 billion yuan ($59 billion). Just before the announcement, the US released a report criticizing China's military spending.

EU AND SUDANESE FORCES CLASH

Sudan — Sudanese forces have clashed with troops from the European Union Force in Chad after the EU force was strayed into Sudan. A French soldier who was in the vehicle is still missing.

In Brief

**The Academy Awards: Who was Oscar-worthy this year?**

Taylor Hughes, Assistant Arts Editor

More than 17 years ago, Madonna, known for her unusual but effective antics, wrapped herself in an American flag and wriggled around in red panties, bra and combat boots — all for a public-service announcement to jumpstart a young voter's revolution. Scantily clad and rapping out memorable lines such as, "If you don't vote you're going to get a spankie," Madonna captured a new demographic of voters.

It was among the first advertising tactics used to become what is known today as the "Rock the Vote" campaign. Other big-name performers of that time signed on, including Ozzy Osbourne, Megadeth, Iggy Pop and others.

The success of the campaign proved to be phenomenal — 10,000 students on five California campuses alone registered to vote just days after the campaign launched. Youth vote jumped 20 percent two years later.

Most remember the 2004 "Vote or Die" campaign. Inspired by Rock the Vote, this new campaign was run by Citizen Change. Founded by entrepreneur and producer Sean John Combs (a.k.a. P. Diddy), this campaign brought a first face to the youth vote of Generation-We. Its slogan, "Vote or Die," inspired by the war in Iraq, alluded to the idea that youth could control whether their peers or they themselves were sent into a war that could be evaded by voting.

Comb and other pop-artists such as Joss Stone, Alicia Keys and 50 Cent succeeded in registering over 12 million voters before the 2004 presidential elections.

Erika Olgesby ('08), remembered the event. "Vote or Die was a definite topic of discussion ... it inspired some of my friends to vote," Olgesby said.

Nearly 20 million under age 29 voted in the 2004 election, an increase of 10 percent from the 2000 election.

President Bush campaigns, advertisers are becoming smarter and more effective. They target specific demographics to bring success to their campaigns. The youth vote has now joined the Latino vote as one of the most sought demographics for presidential hopefuls.

Anyone 29 and younger will be the target of advertisements and will have increased control on campaign issues. Making up 28 percent of America's population, young voters could sway the 2008 election. These are reasons that could explain candidates moving towards more electronic and media-directed campaigns; each has a website, a blog, MySpace and a Facebook page that attract young voters.

Maggie Mohr ('09), a subscribed member of presidential candidate Barack Obama's Facebook group said: "As a way to reach youth ... candidates are making more of an effort in this election."

Even the Rock the Vote website added new features helping youth register to vote.

Many are watching "The Daily Show" with Jon Stewart and "The Colbert Report" to get a comedic twist on their political fix, which makes talking about current issues and politics cool again.

As political interest grows within America's youth, their voting turnout grows as well. The directing of campaigns and media towards potential young voters empowers the youth of America and inspires them to embrace their freedom of speech — giving the power to the people in a newer, younger way.

**Hope Cameroon project recognized**

**HOLLAND - A successful and growing**

Hope College service project focused on water quality and community health in the village of Nkow in Cameroon has been named one of four finalists for Michigan's 2008 Carter Partnership Award.

The Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Partnership Award for Campus-Community Collaboration is given annually by Michigan Campus Compact (MCC) to one partnership involving a Michigan college or university and a community group, with its $10,000 prize divided equally between the campus and community partners for working together in exceptional ways to improve people's lives and enhance learning in the process. The winner from among the four finalists will be announced and the award will be presented during the annual Governor's Service Awards this spring, on a date yet to be determined.

The Hope program, which is partnered with the Life and Water Development Group of Cameroon, began during the 2005-06 school year as a service project for the college's then-new student chapter of Engineers Without Borders-US (EWB-US), with an emphasis on a remote village with purified water.

During the first year the effort expanded to include the college's department of nursing, which surveyed the villagers' health and began working with them to improve hygiene, sanitation and nutrition.

Although the established water filtration and health education projects remain, new projects are being developed for implementation this May. The team is focusing on a piping system to bring water closer to the village from a river that is up to an hour's hike away. The team is also emphasizing providing the training so that the villagers can help themselves and train other remote communities as well. The villagers now build their own filters based on the initial design brought to them by Hope College.

Starting last year, the college's department of education became involved in the project. It provided instructional materials that the people of Nkow can use to teach themselves and others the health and hygiene lessons needed to improve health. The department of communication is becoming part of the project this year, with faculty member Ji Hoon Park and a communication student accompanying the team to film the work and training in action. Ultimately, the health and hygiene training materials and an instructional video will be posted online, available at no cost to anyone worldwide seeking to address similar needs in other villages.

**Youth could sway 2008 elections**

Taylor Hughes, Assistant Arts Editor

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**Future dimensions: 813.4x1236.5, [Image 0x0 to 813x1237]**
Cuban presidency changes hands; a new Cuba?

Fidel Castro gives presidency to brother Raul; Religion Professor Van Til gives insight

**Alex Quick**

**Staff Writer**

After 49 years in power as President of Cuba, Fidel Castro announced that he would not seek another term in that office. Days later on Feb. 24, the National Assembly of Peoples Power, the chief legislative body in Cuba, elected then-First Vice President Raul Castro to the presidency. Despite the fact that Raul Castro has been Fidel Castro’s heir apparent for a long time, some prospects for reform and hope exist on the communist island.

Already, some relatively drastic steps have been taken in a variety of areas, politically, economically and religiously. According to the Times (UK), Raul Castro has already announced his intention to open up minority stakes of state-owned businesses to foreign ownership in hopes of bolstering the economy.

There is also good news for the average Cuban. Professor Kent Van Til is a Hope College professor of religion who specializes in poverty and third-world issues. "The average person in Cuba lives in very very poor conditions. But there is not an upper class that lives far better, perhaps excepting a few party higher ups," Van Til said.

This will possibly change under other plans by Raul Castro. According to the Times, he has already taken steps to decentralize certain aspects of the heavily socialized economy, such as the distribution of milk, which he has a history of doing.

In the mid 1990s, Raul Castro took steps to encourage private enterprise, which in 1996 resulted in an 8 percent GDP growth, according to the Times. However, these reforms began to stagnate, and Fidel Castro abolished them politically, Raul Castro seems much more willing to work with the international community. He has already signed two treaties pertaining to human rights, both of which were opposed by his brother. These two treaties were, as reported by the International Herald Tribune, the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The first requires signatories to ensure basic rights such as freedom of speech, assembly, religion and travel.

The second is focused more on issues relating to wages, education and union relations. According to the Times, people are critical of the nation’s dedication to these rights because Cuba outlawed opposition parties and limits civilian travel. It is also cited as one of the most politically repressive nations on earth, with over 200 political prisoners.

Raul Castro may be open to allowing more freedom to practice religion. "People are not free to worship. Nevertheless the country is culturally Catholic to its bones," Van Til said.

It is fitting, but somewhat surprising that the first foreign visitor that Raul Castro received was Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, the Vatican’s secretary of state. According to Reuters, he discussed the fate of political prisoners with Raul Castro, in addition to other human rights. Much of the cardinal’s visit was televised, something that was not previously allowed under the government’s tight control over the Catholic church’s access to broadcasting. Reuters reported that Cuban officials promised the cardinal that the Church would have greater access to written and broadcast media in the future.

Does a Raul Castro presidency mean that in the future Americans may be able to obtain Cuban cigars or eat in the streets of Havana? No one knows for sure. President Bush had said that the embargo will remain intact, but presidential candidates have differing opinions. Both Clinton and McCain are supportive of the embargo until reforms occur, while Obama is in favor of lifting certain restrictions. For now, Americans can only speculate about a future relationship with Cuba.

**Model UN program starts Thursday; Hope students prepare to lead**

(HOPE) — On Thursday and Friday, March 6 and 7, Hope College will sponsor its 36th annual Model United Nations Conference. The event will include a keynote address by Congressman Pete Hoekstra that is open to the general public. Hoekstra, who represents Michigan’s Second Congressional District, will speak during the closing awards ceremony on Friday, March 7, at 3:45 p.m. in Dimnent Memorial Chapel. Admission to the talk is free.

More than 800 students and faculty from approximately 30 high schools will be participating in this year’s Model United Nations. Acting as delegates from the 192 members of the United Nations in two General Assemblies, 10 Security Councils, one International Court of Justice (ICJ), one Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the students will be taking part in simulated exercises focusing on important current international events.

Among the issues to be discussed are the international drug trade, global health, free trade, worldwide education, racism and racial discrimination, abortion, global overpopulation, the legality of uranium enrichment, crisis in Iraq and East Timor, and an Emergency Crisis, as well as historic debates regarding the Falkland Islands and the United States’ Invasion of Iraq.

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 department of political science at Hope College sponsors the event.

Participating students have been working with their high school advisors for several weeks in preparation for the conference, and have been identifying the current issue positions of countries they have chosen to represent. During the conference, they will share knowledge and actively engage with their peer delegates, striving to resolve pressing international problems.

ECOSOC, Security Council, and ICJ members begin their sessions on Thursday evening, continuing all day Friday. General Assembly members arrive on Friday morning, debating throughout the day.

In addition to their sessions, see MODEL UN, page 10.
Showcase highlights
Hope musical talent

Laura Stritzke
Staff Writer

On the evening of March 3, sounds of Hope College students filled DeVos Place in downtown Grand Rapids when Hope's music department hosted its annual Musical Showcase. DeVos Place was full of Hope students, faculty and members of the community who came out to enjoy the concert.

President James Bultman opened the event, expressing his deep pride in the musical gifts of Hope students and in the music department faculty's ability to cultivate those gifts. He also paid tribute to professors Charles Aschbrenner and Roberta Kraft who have been a part of the Showcase since its founding 20 years ago and will be retiring after this year.

The Showcase highlighted a variety of Hope performers, and included an array of music genres including jazz, opera, piano and orchestra.

Catherine Ellis ('10) played in both wind symphony and orchestra performances.

"The Showcase is a lot of fun because you not only get to perform, but you get to see everyone else's performance also." Ellis said. "I am so proud of all the talent we have at Hope...the Showcase is a collage, too, you get to hear everyone's specialties of music. It's also great to show off all of the hard work you've put into your music."
Lemonjellies heats it up with pop, rock and open mic

**Wednesday**

March 5

Kies: Standpoint Performers  
Mary Hendley & Kim Jongla  
9 p.m.  
Robert Flavin  
30 p.m.

**Thursday**

March 6

Guest Musical Artists  
Megan Sharp (soprano) & Jonathan Schaeffer (harpischord)  
Wichers Auditorium  
7:30 p.m.

**Friday**

March 7

John Rush performs  
Dox, Dance Marathon  
9:30 p.m.  
1 p.m. with the Lemonjellies  
Vanderwolf  
7:20 p.m.  
9:30 p.m.  
12 a.m.

**Saturday**

March 8

Downtown Northwestern Junior Recital  
Terl Barry (vocal)  
Joseph Steblina (vocal)  
Wichers Auditorium  
1 p.m.  
1 p.m.  
9:30 p.m.  
12 a.m.

**ATMOSPHERE JUNIORS:**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL PANEL DISCUSSION**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 6**

11:00 - 11:50 A.M.  
MAAS CONFERENCE ROOM

**How to Pick Graduate Programs**

Lemonjellies heats it up with pop, rock and open mic

**IN BRIEF**

JOHN RUSH THE 'HUMAN IPOD' TO PERFORM

John Rush is a virtuoso guitarist with a praised voice. He has been called the “Human iPod” because he plays original music and covers depending upon what the audience requests, letting the audience choose the songs for the show. Rush has won Campus Activities Magazine Entertainer of the Year and Campus Awards Musician of the Year. He has also been showcased at NACNa in 2005. Rush has opened for big-name bands such as Fuel, Eve 6, Vertical Horizon, Edwin McCain and many more. He will be performing at the DeVos Children’s Hospital Dance Marathon fundraiser this Friday at 9:30 p.m. in the Dow. Admission is free.

**DUO TO PERFORM**

**AMOROUS PROGRAM**

Hope College will feature soprano Megan Shan and harpischordist Jonathan Schakel, two guest artists with local connections, on Thursday, March 6, at 7:30 p.m. in Wichers Auditorium. The public is invited. Admission is free.

The performance is titled The Birds and the Bees, and will feature Baroque music concerning all things avian, apian and amorous. The program will consist of music by composers including Henry Purcell, Jean-Philippe Rameau, and Francois Couperin. It will be performed by the DeVos Children’s Hospital Dance Marathon fundraiser this Friday at 9:30 p.m. in the Dow. Admission is free.

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This film challenges you to look at yourself and to embrace the things that make us different from one another.

**Penelope’ a ‘delightful tale of love and self-acceptance**

Abby Devuyst  
Scrib Women

I was planning on writing a review for the movie “Semi-Pro” but after seeing it I realized I had very little to say about it. Don’t go see that movie. It uses inappropriate comedy to try and shock and laughter from the audience, but all it really does is cross the line.

However, the gem I found in the film “Penelope” pleasantly surprised me. It is an unlikably fairy tale of a cursed girl (Christina Ricci) who is born with the face of a pig. The only way for her to break the curse is to marry “one of her own,” and her frantic parents waste no time in parading a multitude of blue-blooded suitors that are drawn to the promised dower. An anxious reporter, who lost an eye trying to get a picture of Penelope, sends an un-lucky gambler (James McAvoy) in to get the job done. What he doesn’t expect is to fall in love with Penelope, but not being of the right up bringing is forced to leave her. Thus is the last straw for the poor girl, and in her sadness, she flees her sheltered style and goes out into the world.

It is a delight full tale of love and self-acceptance. There are very few down points in the film and even in the dark moments the character of Penelope shines through. It is easy to feel connected to Ricci despite her turned up nose and floppy ears, and James McAvoy puts on a very believable American accent and brooding personality. Witherspoon offers an enjoyable cameo, and a character unlike any I have seen from her yet. She has traded in her pink high heels and BMW and BMW for leather boots and a vespa. Without holding the show, Witherspoon adds even more brightness and comedy to this film. The coloring of the film is a lovely mix of grays and blacks that make Penelope’s bright colorful pop with her vibrant personality. The whole film is a joy to watch as your eyes are constantly greeted with new sights and beautiful set designs.

This film is fit for every person of every age. It not only offers an enjoyable plot line, but also gives a sincere message that is worth hearing. Young girls finally have a role model who takes control of her own life despite her imperfections. This film challenges you to look at yourself in a different light and to embrace the things that make us different from one another. As I said before don’t waste your time with Will Ferrell’s flop of a film “Semi-Pro,” but do take time out to see director Mark Palansky’s wonderful film “Penelope.” I would give it an eight out of 10.
**MARCH 5, 2008**

**FEATURES**

**SPRING INTO VOLUNTEERING**

Community involvement ‘starts with having a servant heart’

Meghan Fore

Assistant Features Editor

Beautiful, colorful tulips will soon appear out of the cold, dark spaces underground, bringing new life to our Holland community in high hopes for spring. Springtime brings new beginnings, giving students the perfect chance to get involved in volunteering.

Brittne Longwell ('09) and Caitlin La-made ('09), co-ordinator of Volunteer Services, are working hard to bring many volunteer opportunities to Hope College students.

“We try to go to as many conferences as we can. We try to go to a lot of the things put on by the community where we can learn more about different programs and bring them to Hope,” Longwell said.

Volunteer Services offers a vast array of volunteering opportunities ranging from one-time events such as the Cinderella Project and youth mentoring programs, to long-term involvement such as AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps is an American network compiled of non-profit organizations that reach out to the community in different ways. Students looking for summer positions or something that offers stipends should contact Volunteer Services for more information.

For something more local students can serve in their communities. Students do not have to travel throughout the country to make a difference in the lives of others; they can just walk down 13th Street to Western Theological Seminary. The Community Kitchen at the seminary feeds around 100 people everyday. Students can volunteer to serve on their own, with friends or even with their church.

“One Tuesday a month they have a larger event where they need more servers,” Longwell said. “It’s a great opportunity for meeting and building relationships with people.”

Students are encouraged to explore the volunteering opportunities that are available to them.

“Holland needs a lot of volunteering and a lot of people who are willing to give of their time and their hearts,” Longwell said.

“It starts with having a servant heart.”

For specific details about volunteer opportunities, visit the Volunteer Services website at www.hope.edu/volunteer.

Each month Volunteer Services showcases one event. Look for details regarding the Moonlight Serenade Mixer on March 28, a party/dance for senior citizens at Evergreens Commons.

Mentor a child, build a house, help the homeless

Teaching and Social Work

**Boys and Girls Club of Greater Holland**
The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Holland works with area youth. Opportunities are available at both the Central Unit on Van Raalte Avenue and the North Side Unit located at Pine Creek Elementary School. You must be 18 years of age and will be subjected to a background check prior to receiving any volunteer responsibilities. Please call Brian Van Kley at (616) 392-4102 or email bvanley@bgch.org for more information.

**Wrap Around Mentoring**

Spend just two hours a week with a youth involved in the mental health, child welfare or juvenile court system. Participate in community activities—fishing, playing sports, going bowling, eating out, miniature golfing, doing crafts, etc. This is a paid opportunity that requires a minimum of a one-year commitment and your own transportation. Please contact Teisha Post at tsp01@gac-ottawa.org for more information!

**The Bridge**
The Bridge is a youth center for middle school kids in Zeeland. The Bridge has several different programs, including a recreational after-school program on Tuesdays and Thursdays (kids come in to play games and bang out), an alternative suspension program and a basketball team. The biggest need for volunteers right now is with the Bridge to Excellence program, which meets Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 2:45 p.m. – 5 p.m. Mentors must commit to at least one day a week to come to the Bridge and tutor students. They build lasting relationships with the students and help them succeed in school. The Bridge is a need in the Explorers’ Club, which is a program for elementary students on Mondays after school. If you are interested in any of these things, please contact Jackie Rutgers at (610)772-5338 or jmar10035@gmail.com.

Health Services

**Holland Rescue Mission**
The Holland Rescue Mission is a non-profit organization committed to serving the homeless and less fortunate in West Michigan. The store serves to make the Mission less dependent on individual donations and more self-supporting. They are looking for anyone who is willing to do every-thing from maintenance to window displays. To learn more, check out the website at www.hollandrescue.org.

**Jordan River Ministries**

Jordan River Ministries is an agency dedicated to helping women who are recently out of jail or drug rehab. They are in need of volunteers to help with special projects. Please contact Patricia at (616) 405-2185 or email papmimoor@yahoo.com.

**Warm Friend**
The Warm Friend, located at 5 East 8th St., is looking for activities assistants who will assist the activity coordinator with various activities (birthday parties, Bingo, outings). Monday, Tuesday and Thursday day times are available.

Youth Ministry

**Golgotha Church: Underprivileged High School Students**

Golgotha Church is looking for college volunteers or interns (unpaid). They are a non-profit youth ministry for underprivileged high school students. Wednesday night meetings consist of hanging out with the teens that attend by playing games, skateboarding and playing pool. They also meet on Saturday and Sunday nights for guys and girls Bible studies. Golgotha’s vision is to create a strong community in which young adults feel consistently accepted and loved. Golgotha is located at 412 W. 24th St. (just west of Holland High School). If interested please contact John Kopens at jkopens@gmail.com or (616) 834-1652.

**Children’s Ministries**

The Children’s Ministries department at Central Wesleyan Church has opportunities to help with special needs children at 9:15 a.m. on Sundays. There are also opportunities to teach Sunday school classes at 9:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Children are great practice for aspiring teachers. If interested, please email Kay at kbschuster@centralwesleyan.org.

**Bilingual Tutors**

Holland Public Schools is in need of one or two volunteers that would be willing to work with high school students two to three times a week. They need to be bilingual in Spanish and have an interest in math and sciences. They would be working with two Latino students at the high school from 12:30 to 2 p.m. If interested please contact John Vega at (616) 494-2164.

**Accounting and Management**

**Tax Preparer**

GoodWill Industries of Muskegon is looking for students who wish to aid low income families with filing their taxes. Any interested student should contact volunteer services or GoodWill Industries at (231) 728-7871.

**Lakeshore Habitat for Humanity**

This organization is a partnership, house building and homeownership Christian ministry in the greater Holland area. It is based on the principle that all God’s people deserve a decent place to live and that our community is a better place when that occurs. They are looking for volunteers for the following positions:

- **General Office Administration** - This opportunity has many different aspects ranging from answering phones to data entry. It’s a great way to meet new people and make new contacts for your future, as well as sharpen your typing and basic computer skills.
- **More than Just Houses - Habitat for Humanity** - Habitat for Humanity is looking for volunteers to put on their work boots and help build homes. Lakeshore Habitat for Humanity has built over 80 homes in the Holland area over the last 17 years, all with the help of volunteers.
- **Retail Management and Service** - If you are looking for a good time while helping great people, consider serving at the Lakeshore Habitat for Humanity Restore. You will learn the basic “ins and outs” of what it takes to run a retail store as you volunteer.

If interested in any of these opportunities, contact Shannon Morton: smorton@lakeshorehabitat.org or (616) 393-8001, ext. 103.

SOURCE: WWW.HOPE.EDU/VOLUNTEER, GRAPHICS BY DALYNA PINTER
In pursuit of knowledge

Emily Pappe
I voted for her
My hope is that 10 years from now, after I’ve been across the street at work for even the most civilized human beings

In pursuit of knowledge

Amanda Gernentz
I am a political science minor, and yet I tend to avoid situations which force me to put my two cents in on political matters.

When conversations turn to politics, even the most civilized human beings tend to morph into donkeys and elephants. There are heated remarks and vague viewpoints across the table at one another so fast that even they have difficulty keeping up. These people hope to gain a tiny bit of satisfaction in the other person’s concerning to their side of the issue on the table.

Considering this, it is somewhat difficult for me to write this column, and yet, I feel it necessary to express that I did indeed vote for Hillary Clinton in the Michigan primary election. Before you count me out as a complete nut case and move on to the next column, please read on.

It seems clear that regardless of who is sworn into office in January, our country will still be at war. The national budget will still be deficit, and there will still be discussion on how much money should go to education, healthcare and foreign aid. The debates over abortion and homosexual marriage will still continue.

Furthermore, regardless of how much the candidates try to persuade us now there is certainly a reality check which comes with the final vote count. The proportion of what is actually accomplished once sworn in will be much less than 100 percent of the candidate’s lofty goals and dreams which are currently being played across our TV screens, newspaper pages, radio waves and front lawns.

I know these realities are sometimes difficult for our optimistic American ideals to come to terms with in the midst of pre-election season.

Considering to some extent these factors is true, it is wrong to consider what can possibly be resolved in the upcoming term other than the issues which are currently on the table? Is it crazy to consider what can possibly be accomplished by electing a female or minority member of social policy office? Furthermore, is it crazy to me that in electing a female or minority member of society to the highest and most powerful office in the country that this amazing can possibly be accomplished outside of the Oval Office? I don’t think so; in fact, I predict that if, elected, a female or minority president will bring to the office and influence of students, faculty and staff to experience the diversity that Hope has to offer. Do we as a college want to be an island or do we want to offer. Do we as a college want to be an island or do we want to

Brandon and my friends, strangers. Do something that you never thought you would do.

Who knows, maybe the person you meet at Phillips will become your best friend. Maybe after completing your biology class, you’ll decide to become a surgeon for a new generation organization like Operation Smile. The risk and reward is something now. But just like winter melts in spring, your time here can be worth it if you welcome the risks and make the most of every second.

Is it worth it? What are you doing right now to make all that you’ve invested worthwhile? Are you meeting as many new people and thus be more effective than a male candidate’s lofty goals and dreams which are true, is it wrong to consider what can possibly be fulfilled in the upcoming term other than the issues which are currently on the table? Is it crazy to consider what can possibly be accomplished by electing a female or minority member of social policy office? Furthermore, is it crazy to consider that in electing a female or minority member of society to the highest and most powerful office in the country that this amazing can possibly be accomplished outside of the Oval Office? I don’t think so; in fact, I predict that, if elected, a female or minority president will be more beneficial than a male WASP president would be regardless of the political affiliation of the future president.

The U.S. has had 43 presidents to date. Of those 43 presidents, all have been male. All white. All over the age of 42. All, to some extent, of the Christian faith. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., in his famous “I have a dream” speech stated: “I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.” Since the time that MLK delivered this speech, our country has made many advancements in this area. Equal rights laws, Title IX and other government policies have led us to shaping a country where minorities have equal rights. While we have come along very far since the MLK “I have a dream” speech, we still have a long way to go.

I voted for Hillary Clinton not because I agree with her on every issue but because, in my opinion, the fact that Clinton is female is a deciding issue.

Emily was shocked to discover that, according to the BBC, a 21-year-old British man recently fathered his seventh child, albeit seven were by different women.

In the spring of life and the joy that it brings. She intends to spend all of her time in the Pine Grove as soon as the snow melts.

She intends to spend all of her time in the Pine Grove as soon as the snow melts.

To the Editors:
With the completion of my first semester at Hope College in my back pocket, I have begun to notice some things, some may seem insignificant and noteworthily. Thus, a significant note seemed only fitting to write you.

I currently reside in Scott Hall. To me, this dormitory has been a great blessing as a haven for beginning my studies here at Hope, not only for its warm atmosphere and pleasant living arrangements, but also for my fellow residents of whom I speak with only the highest regard. These individuals have been key in my quest for a greater grasp of what defines a community.

Along with its great people, Scott houses the Philips Scholars Program (PSP), which is a program that encourages diversity by gathering a mixed-race community and requires its members to take their diversity-centered first year seminar together.

As much as I admire these ideas to increase diversity and its awareness, I feel that Hope and, more specifically, the PSP itself should reconsider how it houses its culturally rich members.

If the program’s main goal and purpose is, in fact, diversity, then why would its members be huddled together in one dormitory? Not only does this single out Scott as being the “weird dorm,” but it just does not make much sense to encourage a vast majority Caucasian-American; why should diversity in a corner?

"—Trevor Cooling (11)

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"—Trevor Cooling (11)
Voices

Beautiful feet

Bryant Ross

Winter blues

Winter is kicking my butt. How about you? I've met dozens of people who are sick of the ice and snow, but to mention all the crud that goes along with it. These weary months can leave us feeling isolated, low on energy and far from God. And on top of it all, there's all that Spanish test you have to study for (can I get an “amen”?). Winter can be a pain.

I've heard of God's love being compared to the sun—giving us energy and hope throughout the day. Then again, March is looking pretty cloudy. What is God thinking on days like today?

Rumbleweeds

Jeremy Benson

The simple life

I think there are three primary traits that make college lacrosse a unique experience. First, it involves playing high-quality liberal arts educating with Dutch-Reform religious traditions; two, all the students, faculty and staff who aren't exactly purveyors of those religious traditions (just don't tell the donors!); and three, Elvis, the calculus dog.

We've all seen Elvis running across campus, sniffing out students who haven't done laundry since their last trip home; I think there are three primary traits that College Athletic Director, Mr. Ray Smith, the college administration including President Dr. James Hultman, Director of Public Relations Mr. Wes Wrenner and his staff, and The Anchor and Co-Editors Ms. Emily Papple and Ms. Evelyn Pennings' theory is that nature, including dogs and other animals, automatically figures out the easiest, quickest path — like water running down a hillside or lightning striking.

Certainly, that makes sense — for dogs and lightning. But, when compared to my own experience, it just doesn't add up (or FOIL, out). I complicate everything.

Take an average afternoon of running errands — go to the bank, buy milk, cheese and lightning. But, when compared to my other animal seems to have — what is the meaning of our lives? — and it seems to confuse even our own experience. I wonder if Elvis worry about whether he is catching Frisbees the easiest way possible? Does he worry if fetching tennis balls means anything? I kind of think that he just likes to play fetch.

In other words, why do we worry about what our lives mean or if we are doing things efficiently? Why do we worry about our lives and die. NEVER! In fact, I've designed that in fact, you probably imagine he would say something like this: "Dear child, think of the passion I had for my wife shows to her child or a good husband." When I say, "I love you, I mean YOU. Not 'you' version two, or the 'you' used to be, or the 'you' may be something, but you, sitting on your bed crying, stressed out with school and money and love and life. I love you."

The world might flip upside down with joy, but not, losing in love, heartbreaks — the local scenic route. So, I take it all back. Hey—anyone want to play some Frisbee? "Though the mountains be shaken and the earth removed,' says the Lord, who has brought him back to life. Like a husband hope is buried in snow, remember this, I love you. You will think, "yes, but not the ‘you’ version two right now.” Then I will say, “No! When I say, ‘I love you,’ I mean YOU. Not ‘you’ version two, or the ‘you’ used to be, or the ‘you’ may be something, but you, sitting on your bed crying, stressed out with school and money and love and life. I love you."

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Letters to the Editors

To the Editors:

On behalf of the 2008 Hope College Men's Lacrosse Team and staff, we would like to thank the Hope students, Hope College Athletic Director, Mr. Ray Smith, the college administration including President Dr. James Hultman, Director of Public Relations Mr. Wes Wrenner and his staff, and The Anchor and Co-Editors Ms. Emily Papple and Ms. Evelyn Pennings for all the support you have given our team during the past year and the present. It is greatly appreciated. We would also like to extend an invitation to all the College students, faculty and administration to come out and attend our games this season.

Ferris State University at Holton is a local and national level at 7 p.m. Thank you again and we look forward to seeing you.

The Members of the 2008 Men’s Hope College Lacrosse Team, Head Coach Mike Scharbachs, Assistant Coaches Tom Thiele, Andy Shults, Tyler Osburn and Team Physician Dr. Todd Harburn

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

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

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Pew Society brings lecturer

Worthington has influenced many people, from the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission to the president of the John Templeton Foundation, to focus on forgiveness in many all aspects of life.

In his lecture, Worthington focused on his personal experiences with God that came out of his research. He emphasized the occasions in his life when he fought with God.

"I defeated God," Worthington said numerous times during his lecture.

However, every time he thought he defeated God, Worthington proved himself wrong. By following God instead of his own wishes, Worthington has influenced many people, from the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission to the president of the John Templeton Foundation, to focus on forgiveness in many all aspects of life.

Model UN to come to Hope

ECOSOC, Security Council and IJC members also attend an opening banquet on Thursday.

The Hope College Model United Nations is organized by students in two political science courses aimed at developing an understanding of international politics and the United Nations' role in international disputes. The Hope students serve as session chairpersons and perform other administrative tasks throughout the planning and execution of the event.

The secretary generals for this year's conference are sophomores Ethan B. Morrical, a political science major with a pre-med focus from Yorktown, Ind., and Nate Clements, an international studies and Japanese double major from Lowell. The high school coordinator is Kendall Ramsden, a recent Hope graduate from Grand Haven. Senior Stelios Alveraz, a French, Spanish and international studies major from Paris, France is serving as media coordinator.

Sophomore Alison Benoit of Muskegon is director of the Introductory General Assembly, while senior Stephanie Kirkham of Springfield, Ill., and sophomore Ally Velderman of Holland are directors of the Advanced General Assembly.

Seniors Luke Heerema of Oak Park, Ill., and Colin Lawrence of Sterling, Ill., as well as sophomore Jordan Fuller of Leesburg, Ind., are the Security Council directors. Sophomore Megan Sweet of Salida, Calif., and junior Jeff Ichesco of Saline are directing the Economic/Social Council. Sophomore Stephanie Bogema of Kalamazoo is serving as the director of the International Court of Justice.

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www.hope.edu/lib
Athlete profile: Track sophomore Joanne Gabl

Former U of M track and cross country runner excels on Hope College teams

Chris Lewis
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

READY TO RUN—Joanne Gabl ('10) stands outside the Dow Center getting ready for another track practice in preparation for the 2008 season.

Joanne Gabl's story is different compared to most of her fellow teammates on Hope College's track team. Gabl (10) began her college education at the University of Michigan and ran cross country and track for the Wolverines. However, she decided to leave one of the most well-known colleges in the nation to attend Hope.

Gabl did not feel comfortable as a member of the University of Michigan's cross country and track teams. She also did not view herself as fitting in at the large campus.

"At U of M, I felt like I had made the wrong decision. I just had this feeling that I was not where I was supposed to be," Gabl said.

Gabl is a nursing major, as well as a cross country and track runner where she specializes in the 3,000-meter run. At Michigan, she felt she had to be either a student or an athlete. Academics were not as much of a factor at Michigan as they are at Hope.

"My former coach at Michigan wanted me to choose between being either a nursing major or a runner," Gabl said.

Gabl is impressed by Hope's nursing program, which she feels is much stronger than Michigan's. Gabl also likes the focus Hope students have on their classes, a trait that is not shared by many athletes at the University of Michigan.

"I can really be a student-athlete at Hope. I do not have to compromise academics here," Gabl said.

The community that Hope students and faculty have has certainly helped Gabl feel more at ease about her decision to transfer.

"I love the small college atmosphere here. When I walk across campus, people actually smile and say 'hi,' even if I do not know them," Gabl said. "At Michigan, everyone is listening to their iPods. Everyone and everything is anonymous."

Gabl has also been impressed by the outlook of the cross country and track teams at Hope. Team members are not only focused on themselves but have pride in representing their college and their fellow classmates during their meets.

"At Michigan, athletics are all about personal achievements without any focus on the team," Gabl said. "At Hope, I feel like I am more a part of the team, and I am more involved in the team's success."

Gabl also felt that when she was a member of Michigan's cross country and track teams, running consumed her entire life.

"While I ran for Michigan, I not only felt like I was running for myself on a team that did not have any real team atmosphere, I also felt like running was my entire life and that everything I did was focused on running," Gabl said.

However, transitioning to Hope was not a completely easy decision for Gabl.

"I was flip-flopping on whether or not to transfer last spring. Then I went to my twin sister's Hope College meet and saw her team there," Gabl said. "When I saw the chemistry that her team had, I thought maybe Hope College, I knew I had to transfer."

Gabl has enjoyed running for Hope College so far and feels comfortable when she is with her teammates.

"I have felt so welcomed by the team," Gabl said. "My love for running has come back again."

Nick Hinkle
SPORTS EDITOR

Softball opens season with three wins at indoor tourney

A new snow-covered stadium did not stop the Hope College women's softball team from accumulating its first few wins of the season.

On Feb. 29 and March 1, the Flying Dutch traveled to Mar- quette to play in the Finlandia tournament held in an indoor dome. Hope won three out of its four games with the team's only loss coming to UW-Oshkosh 1-4, four games with the team's only loss coming to UW-Oshkosh 1-4, four games with the team's only loss coming to UW-Oshkosh 1-4, four games with the team's only loss coming to UW-Oshkosh 1-4, four games with the team's only loss coming to UW-Oshkosh 1-4.

The event was the first time the team has played in an indoor tournament. The indoor dome was different compared to the outdoor experience the team had experienced in past years, especially the difference between the turf and dirt surfaces.

"It was really cool," coach Karla Wolters said. "We have never played in a dome before. We had a lot of questions going in but it was a neat experience."

In the tournament, the team provided Wolters and the team with an idea of where the team is right now physically and mentally.

"This was my first time starting (the season) before Florida," Wolters said. "It was a good measuring stick. Also, it was a good bonding experience, with 18 plus hours you can't help it."

After the tournament, Wolters was pleased with the team's effort.

"Our defense played solid," Wolters said.

Wolters said. "We only had a couple of errors in four games. We had very few mental mistakes not giving away easy outs."

However, the team still has areas for improvement. Especially during the Florida game, the team faced good pitching, which revealed some of Hope's current weaknesses.

"We still need to work on our plays and get more aggressive at the plate against good pitching," Wolters said.

In closing out its indoor play, the Dutch look ahead to the spring trip and MIAA competition. Hope's first MIAA game is April 2 against Albion College. The Dutch defeated Albion last season 5-4. Last year, Hope finished 25-13 overall and 12-4 in the MIAA, which earned them a third place finish in the conference.

Despite having to wait for MIAA competition, Hope has already set some preseason goals.

"Certainly, we want to win the conference and go on to the national tournament," Wolters said. "We have a seasoned team with a lot of third and fourth years."

The Albion game will also be the first time Hope steps out onto its new field, Wolters Stadium. The stadium is named in honor of Wolters and her husband Tom. Both are graduates of the Hope class of 1973.

"It is a tremendous facility," Wolters said. "We want more great girls. The girls are so eager."

Wolters is excited to see how the new stadium will impact home games and offer fans high-profit players and better facilities.

"When the new stadium, we will draw larger crowds," Wolters said. "We have always had a fan base, but with more seating more people will enjoy it younger and older."

Wolters Stadium features permanent stands for fans, a press box, spacious dugouts and public restrooms. Fans will have a clear view of the new playing field, along with seating for approximately 250 fans. Also, the area has a patio suitable for tail-gating.

For now, the Hope softball team will have to wait and prepare for their upcoming season, but they are looking forward to making their 2008 debut in the MIAA.

"We want to play well everyday," Wolters said. "We have a hungry bunch, and they are hungry to do well."

SPORTS
THE WEEK IN SPORTS
Friday, March 7
Women's Basketball
NCAA tournament first round vs. TBA at DeKalb Fairmont at 7 p.m.
Men's Tennis
Away vs. John Carroll in Oberlin, Ohio at 6 a.m.

HOPE BASEBALL PLAYERS RECEIVE CONFERENCE HONORS

Hitters:
- All-MIAA first team: Tyler Wolfe

Wolters, the Anchor Senior editor

Women's honors
Defensive Player of the Year: Julie Henderson
Senior guard

Four Hope College women swimmers received an invitation to the 2008 NCAA swimming and diving championships on March 13-15 at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Hope's 400-yard medley relay qualified seventh with a time of 3:56.23. The four swimmers included Laura Amisio (19), Angela Griffoff (11), Britney Rees (19) and Kate Williams (11). The team's invitation also makes them eligible to swim in the 400-yard freestyle relay, 800-yard freestyle relay, 200-yard freestyle relay and 200-medley relay. Rees, seeded fifth, also qualified individually in the 100-yard backstroke.

HOCKEY TOURNEY

The Hope hockey team will face Fairfield University March 12 at 7 p.m. in the first round of the ACHA national hockey tournament. The game will take place at the Rochester Rec Center in Rochester, Minn.
MIAA CHAMPIONS— Derek Van Solkema ('08), left, passes the ball down the court in the MIAA championship game. Women’s head coach Brian Morehouse, below, prays with the team after their tournament victory. Three Men, Ben Thomas ('11), right, crowd surfs during the Calvin game to pump up the fans. Both teams captured the MIAA tournament and automatic NCAA bids.

From the Outside In
Regional coaches weigh in on Hope’s teams

Men

Capital University
Coach Damon Goodwin

“Every year Hope has been a very strong team, they always have excellent athletes. This year is obviously no exception; they have shown that they are one of the best teams in the nation.”

Wheaton College
Coach Bill Harris

“When we played Hope early in the year I thought that they were one of the best teams in the nation and they obviously have proven that.”

Women

Howard Payne University
Coach Chris Kielsmeier

“From what I know, Hope has great depth, a talented roster of players throughout their lineup. All of the members of the team play a lot of minutes and there are bench players who could easily be starters on other teams, without a doubt.”

Juniata College
Coach Danny Young

“We are expecting a physical game. We know that Hope will come out with everything that they have. So we need to match them with our physicalness and aggressiveness.”

SPORTS
March 5, 2008

DOUBLE DUTCH:

Teams win MIAA; enter NCAA tournament ranked number one

Gordie Fall
SPORTS WRITER

On March 1, both men’s and women’s basketball teams walked off the court as MIAA champions. The men defeated rival Calvin College 88-72, while the women defeated Albion College 70-59.

The men’s team was presented with both MIAA conference trophies, one for the season title and one for the tournament title. In the 2007-08 season, Hope won their 34 MIAA title and their seventh MIAA tournament.

Hope’s win on Saturday night won the MIAA tournament title and clinched an automatic bid in the NCAA tournament. Along with beating Calvin, Hope defeated Adrian 83-64 and Alma 75-51 during the week.

In Friday’s semifinal, guard Derek Van Solkema’s (’08) half court buzzer-beater proved to be the difference, as Hope used that momentum to build a 22-point second half lead. Along with Van Solkema’s 13 points, Hope’s scoring attack featured forward Marcus Vanderheide’s 24 points and Tyler Wolfe’s (’08) 18 points.

“We’ve got a lot of guys playing well and playing well together, especially since it’s the most crucial time of the season,” Van Solkema said.

After this tournament, Hope was undefeated against rival Calvin this season going 3-0. (The victory over Calvin) was one of our goals at the start of the season, and it was a really good feeling to do,” Van Solkema said. “We executed well and ended their run. It really shows our character.”

Hope begins the NCAA tournament by hosting a second round tournament game. The Dutchmen earned a first round bye and will play the winner of the Capital/Bethany game on March 8 at 7 p.m. in DeVos Fieldhouse.

The women’s team experienced equal success in defeating Albion. With the victory, Hope captured the tournament championship, completed its undefeated regular season (27-0) and received an automatic bid into the NCAA tournament.

“Obviously, one of our goals was to win the last three games to go undefeated, but receiving an automatic bid was huge,” guard Jordyn Boles (’08) said.

In Saturday’s game, Hope had many standout performances including Lindsay Lange (’08) who finished with 13 points, three blocks and six rebounds. Carrie Snikkers (’11) also had a solid performance with 10 points and seven rebounds, while Philana Greene (’10) tied Lange for high point with 13 and had five assists and four steals.

“Saturday was one of our best games,” Boles said. “We got excited about the little things.”

In addition to a team effort, Hope had stellar defense, which included excellent rebounding. Hope had 14 more rebounds and six more steals than Albion. “We played really good defense,” center and forward Courtney Knox (’09) said. “If we out rebounded them, then we knew we would most likely win.”

This tournament title marks Hope’s seventh in the past nine years. However, this year’s championship was a bit different. In commenting on this year’s championship, Knox, who won the title freshman year, said, “It was kind of different being undefeated and being more experienced. It was awesome to do it again.”

Now, the team looks ahead to the NCAA tournament. Hope will face Juniata (18-9) in the first round in Berea, Ohio on March 7 at 5 p.m.

“We are expecting our best game,” Knox said. “We will take one game at a time.”

Also, the Dutch are rethinking how they look at the NCAA bracket. Hope’s immediate four-team bracket includes D’Youville (22-5), Juniata, Baldwin-Wallace (26-2) and Hope.

“Most teams look at it as a 64-team bracket,” Boles said. “We are focused on this weekend as a four-team bracket. Anything can happen and we will leave it all out there.”

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DOUBLE DUTCH:

Teams win MIAA; enter NCAA tournament ranked number one

Gordie Fall
SPORTS WRITER

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After this tournament, Hope was undefeated against rival Calvin this season going 3-0. (The victory over Calvin) was one of our goals at the start of the season, and it was a really good feeling to do,” Van Solkema said. “We executed well and ended their run. It really shows our character.”

Hope begins the NCAA tournament by hosting a second round tournament game. The Dutchmen earned a first round bye and will play the winner of the Capital/Bethany game on March 8 at 7 p.m. in DeVos Fieldhouse.

The women’s team experienced equal success in defeating Albion. With the victory, Hope captured the tournament championship, completed its undefeated regular season (27-0) and received an automatic bid into the NCAA tournament.

“Obviously, one of our goals was to win the last three games to go undefeated, but receiving an automatic bid was huge,” guard Jordyn Boles (’08) said.

In Saturday’s game, Hope had many standout performances including Lindsay Lange (’08) who finished with 13 points, three blocks and six rebounds. Carrie Snikkers (’11) also had a solid performance with 10 points and seven rebounds, while Philana Greene (’10) tied Lange for high point with 13 and had five assists and four steals.

“Saturday was one of our best games,” Boles said. “We got excited about the little things.”

In addition to a team effort, Hope had stellar defense, which included excellent rebounding. Hope had 14 more rebounds and six more steals than Albion. “We played really good defense,” center and forward Courtney Knox (’09) said. “If we out rebounded them, then we knew we would most likely win.”

This tournament title marks Hope’s seventh in the past nine years. However, this year’s championship was a bit different. In commenting on this year’s championship, Knox, who won the title freshman year, said, “It was kind of different being undefeated and being more experienced. It was awesome to do it again.”

Now, the team looks ahead to the NCAA tournament. Hope will face Juniata (18-9) in the first round in Berea, Ohio on March 7 at 5 p.m.

“We are expecting our best game,” Knox said. “We will take one game at a time.”

Also, the Dutch are rethinking how they look at the NCAA bracket. Hope’s immediate four-team bracket includes D’Youville (22-5), Juniata, Baldwin-Wallace (26-2) and Hope.

“Most teams look at it as a 64-team bracket,” Boles said. “We are focused on this weekend as a four-team bracket. Anything can happen and we will leave it all out there.”