Student bands battle to aid Haiti

Amy Soukup
Campus Co-editor

Nearly two months after the earthquake devastation in Haiti, Hope College students continue to work together to respond to the tragedy. Hope’s latest Haiti benefit, a Battle of the Bands competition, occurred Friday, March 5, and was put together by Student Congress to raise money for the Haiti Foundation Against Poverty. Four artists and bands participated including Justin Makowski, Stationary Travelers, Fallout Shelter and Michael Lesousky. Stationary Travelers won the competition and were given the prize of a $50 gift certificate to the RIT Guitar Shop downtown and some free recording studio time with Josh Banner. Meghan Lechner ’13, one of the organizers of the event, said, “Student Congress really enjoyed putting together such a unique fundraising activity and loved seeing all of the students come out and support this awesome cause. As a freshman, I am constantly discovering all of the things that make Hope College so amazing. And this event totally showed just how generous and creative our student body is.”

Overall, Lechner was happy with the event’s turnout and said Student Congress hopes to make Battle of the Bands an annual event at Hope.

Holland competes to bring Google speed

Emily West
Co-Editor in Chief

On Feb. 25, the Holland Board of Public Works announced that it will be competing in Google’s “Fiber for Communities” initiative.

Google plans to test ultra-high-speed broadband networks in a small number of trial locations in the United States and has issued a call for cities to show their support. Holland officials are optimistic too. Wiers is optimistic too. “Honestly, I can’t think of anybody who would say, ‘You know what? I don’t think I want Internet that’s a lot faster than what I’ve got.’ The biggest problem, I think, is that people just don’t know about it.”

So, to spread the word, the Holland-Google FiberTown Initiative is offering a ‘Food For Thought’ contest. The person who makes and submits the best video promotion will win a $150 gift certificate to a Holland-area restaurant. Video makers can upload their FiberTown video entries to YouTube, copying their URL addresses, their names and their email addresses to fibertown@hollandbpw.com. Those without access to YouTube may email t

"Spera In Deo"
**NEW NOVELISTS— 15 students show off their finished novels at the month deadline making them novelists.**

"I felt this sense that maybe I had a story in me that needed to be born, so I thought I should take the risk and find out."

— **LYNDI WEEVER ('11)**

Also being reviewed are plans to build a new outdoor tennis courts complex on Columbia Avenue across from Kollen Hall that belong to the city of Holland. The 12 outdoor courts would be located just past the Holland Municipal Stadium. The design of the courts is being reviewed, and the college is working on a land swap with the city.

There are other campus projects gathering funding as well. The final design and funding for a new art gallery and museum project to cost $1.4 million are still being worked on.

In the preliminary planning stage is a concert hall and music department facility to replace Nykerk. This project has the highest construction estimate at $18 million. Also being reviewed are plans for a new student center.

**The pride of Hope is that no student tuition has to be used for new building projects.**

— **GREG MAYBURY, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS**

The anchor considers new building projects

**In Brief**

**DANCE MARATHON BENEFITS DEVOS**

This weekend, Hope College students will come together to participate in Hope’s 11th annual Dance Marathon fundraiser event.

The student-organized event raises money on behalf of the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids and will be held in the Dow Center starting at 7 p.m. Friday. The total amount raised will be announced at 5:30 p.m. Saturday. Participating students have been working to raise money for the event in a variety of ways over the past academic year. Over 500 students will participate in the event as either dancers or moralers.

**COLLECTION SUPPORTS OVERSEAS TROOPS**

Hope College students in Kollen Hall are leading “March to Support” throughout the month to raise awareness of the men and women in the U.S. armed forces overseas.

The main focus of “March to Support” is to collect items specifically requested by members of the armed forces who are stationed in Iraq. Items include canned food, non-drowsy cough medicine, chapstick, bug spray, sunscreen and batteries, among other things. Contributions may be delivered to the Student Union Desk or the Student Development Office through March 31.

Hope College’s campus is constantly changing. Several campus projects are currently being considered including outdoor tennis courts and a new art gallery and museum.

These campus projects could bring additional buildings and opportunities to Hope. According to Director of Operations Greg Maybury, the projects would get their funding from friends of the college and alumni.

"The pride of Hope is that no student tuition has to be used for new building projects," Maybury said.

However, buildings that are built do add additional costs for maintaining and operating the facility. These costs are factored into the operating costs, so any campus project still has to have 100 percent of its building costs as well as an additional 25 percent in funding for the operating costs.

"We have to have 125 percent of the funding committed before we can put a single spade in the ground," Maybury said.

The project nearest to having its complete 125 percent funding is the outdoor tennis courts, which will cost $1.5 million to build. Hope currently uses the outdoor tennis courts on Columbia Avenue across from Kollen Hall that belong to the city of Holland. The 12 outdoor courts would be located just past the Holland Municipal Stadium. The design of the courts is being reviewed, and the college is working on a land swap with the city.

There are other campus projects gathering funding as well. The final design and funding for a new art gallery and museum project to cost $1.4 million are still being worked on.

In the preliminary planning stage is a concert hall and music department facility to replace Nykerk. This project has the highest construction estimate at $18 million. Also being reviewed are plans for a new student center.

In 1980 the Van Raalte building that housed many of the administrative offices burned down. The offices were moved to the DeVitt Center, where the student center was located. The offices are still located in DeWitt and have “surpassed some of the student space,” according to Maybury.

The student center, which Maybury said has been considered for a while, and which has a construction cost of $12.14 million, would be built on the site currently held by Nykerk.

Additionally, plans are under way to expand the Knickerbocker Theatre to include two dressing rooms and a warm-up studio at the back of the theatre, and the expansion is expected to cost between $500,000 and $750,000.

**Class writes novels in one month**

Lindsey Bandy

Campus Co-Editor

Many people have “bucket-lists,” a list of things they want to accomplish before they “kick the bucket.” For professor Elizabeth Trembley’s creative writing class, students have accomplished one of the things on their list — writing a novel.

The 15 students in the class recently became novelists in the one month period that they had to write an original novel.

The assignment was to write a novel with the required word count of 50,000 words by the end of the month of February, and if they did not finish the novel on time, by March 1, they failed the class.

When asked how she became interested in the class, Lyndi Weener ('11) said, “When I originally saw the class list for the spring semester, I had no intention of taking the novel-writing class, but somehow I ended up in it...”

Trembley, and she mentioned that the class was really fun, and I thought maybe this is something I could do. I felt this sense that maybe I had a story in me that needed to be born, so I thought I should take the risk and find out.”

She also said, “I don’t know where my characters came from, but I know now, looking back on my novel, that all of the central themes were themes that I was very present at my life at the time.”

Weener continued to say that she thought the completed novel ended up being highly influenced by the fall semester she spent at the Oregon Extension program. She said, “I guess that makes sense — for the themes of what you create to be in line with the themes you are experiencing in life at the moment. I was very much intimidated at the thought of writing a novel. I was so scared. I’d never even taken a fiction class before, so I wasn’t sure if I was even capable of writing a short story. But I’m so glad I took the risk.”

When asked about her experience with the class, Genevieve Coletta ('11) said, “The class was a fantastic experience because I am an aspiring novelist. I’ve tried writing books before but never completed a rough draft. I was nervous, because I thought I would never be able to write a complete first draft. When I finally finished, it was a relief. I was ecstatic!”

Coletta said she felt an overwhelming sense of accomplishment when she finished her novel's first draft. She said, “If I can finish the rough draft of a book, I know I can accomplish anything I set my mind to.”

David Caplan ('11) said, “The most useful part of writing a novel on a deadline is that it forces you into the daily writing habit. You absolutely have to write around 2,000 words a day just to keep up, and I’ve found that discipline to be very helpful in helping me write better.”

**Photo by Holly Evenhouse**
Iraqis brave insurgent intimidation, cast votes in historic election

Despite early acts of violence, high turnout from women; final results expected in coming months

Glen Shubert
Staff Writer

On Sunday, the Republic of Iraq held elections to determine the composition of its legislative branch or parliament. This landmark in Iraqi history featured high levels of turnout, especially from female voters.

Extra security measures were taken, including a ban on using vehicles during election hours to prevent the possibility of car bombs. However, attacks killed at least 38 people in Baghdad. The most significant was rocket fire that collapsed an apartment building killing 25 people in northeastern Baghdad.

But these efforts at intimidation hardened the resolve of Iraqis determined to cast their vote. This turnout could indicate that the influence of insurgency groups is waning. Many Iraqis viewed the attacks as desperate and cowardly, even as they cast their votes within earshot of explosions.

“We have experienced three wars before,” said Ahmed Ali, a first-time voter, in an interview with The New York Times, “so it was just the play of children that we heard.”

The large crowds had plenty of candidates to choose from for the 325 possible seats in the Iraqi legislative branch. More than 6,100 politicians were in contention, a sign that Iraqis are eager to grow and participate in a democracy.

However, the high turnout and large field of candidates means the results will take months to make out. Of those running for control of the government, there are six main party alliances.

The first of these alliances is that of the “State of Law” group of parties. This alliance consists of current Prime Minister Nuri Kamal Maliki who, according to Marina Ottaway of RealClearWorld.com, is attempting to “recast himself as a secular and nationalist leader.” In times of worry about continuing ethnic and minority conflict between Sunnis, Shites, Kurds and many other groups, Maliki’s image is that of moving past these ethnic struggles.

Another alliance is the Iraqi National Alliance, which has dominated the government since the last elections in December of 2005. This group of parties is a coalition of most of the Shiite parties in Iraq.

The third major coalition is the Iraqi National Movement. This multi-party group includes former Prime Minister Iyad al-Alawi and other parties whose beliefs follow the line of Sunni thinking and who stand for Sunni Muslims in Iraq. The many other parties represent other ethnic and minority groups in Iraq, including the Kurdish people. These parties underscore the division of these different ethnic groups. It has been predicted that most Iraqi voters will vote along ethnic and religious divisions. To many, this is a problem as it threatens to lessen co-operation that will be necessary in the successful formation and stability of an Iraqi democracy.

Some say this Iraqi democracy cannot be successful due to international pressures from nations like the United States and Iran, the fractionalization of ethnic groups within Iraq, regional conflict and religious tensions. Others, such as Tunku Varadarajan, a writer for The Daily Beast and a former assistant managing editor of The Wall Street Journal, say that success is possible, though perhaps on a large timescale.

According to Tunku on thedailybeast.com: “It took the U.S. until 1787 to adopt the Constitution, until 1870 to enfranchise black adult males, until 1920 to enfranchise adult females, and until 1964 to guarantee voting rights to black citizens. Democracies go through a very long process of consolidation.”

Department of Labor monthly employment report shows signs for optimism

Economy loses fewer jobs than expected; unemployment rate stays unchanged at 9.7 percent

Eric Anderson
Co-Anchor, News Editor

Released on March 5, the Department of Labor’s monthly review of the job market showed signs that the economy may be on the road to recovery. The economy lost fewer jobs than expected, and the unemployment rate has seemingly hit a plateau at 9.7 percent.

While these numbers are promising, they are not definite indicators of an economic turnaround. The economy still shed 36,000 jobs, and the number of Americans who have been unemployed for more than 15 weeks is at an all-time high. However, when compared with the 650,000 jobs lost at this time a year ago, the numbers indicate that the worst of the recession is over.

The improvement in the Labor Department’s report comes amid unhelpful circumstances. If not for the recent snowstorm to strike the East Coast, these numbers could have looked even better. In addition, the report showed improvement despite the economic woes of Greece and Europe as a whole.

This better-than-expected report has instigated debate among expert economists over whether this improvement will lead to long-term economic recovery. Some argue that this progress will have a ripple effect throughout the country, spurring consumer confidence and creating jobs.

Others contend that the recovery will be drawn out due to the changing face of the job world. The economy is shifting away from manufacturing and manual labor jobs. Employment opportunities in health care and education now represent areas of growth, whereas an area such as construction lost 64,000 jobs in February.

The number of temporary workers also rose in February. While these opportunities can only contribute to short-term improvements in the job market, the addition of 48,000 temporary positions bodes well for consumer confidence.

Despite the uncertainty, Wall Street responded well to the optimistic job report. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose more than 122 points. Many other stocks grew 1 to 2 percent as well.

President Obama championed the numbers as signs of the success of newly implemented green jobs. While visiting a company in Virginia that designs software to decrease energy use, Obama said, “The country that leads in clean energy and energy efficiency today, I’m absolutely convinced, is going to lead the global economy tomorrow. I want that country to be the United States of America.”
The baseball Hall of Famer stepped up to the plate just as many benefits Congress was set to renew were about to expire. Legislation aimed at maintaining unemployment benefits, Medicare payments to doctors and highway and transit funds expired March 1, threatening the livelihood of many Americans who rely on federal assistance. Running was not against the programs in particular. He was against the $10 billion Congress was going to spend to renew the programs. His concern was the growing American deficit said to be over $1 trillion.

Bunning told The New York Times, “If we can’t find $10 billion somewhere for a bill that everybody in this body supports, we will never pay for anything.”

Bunning has come under a lot of criticism for his ploy, especially from Democrats, who have taken the situation and used it to their advantage. The stalemate affected thousands of Americans who, when the program funding has been reinstated, could not get back the lost money.

“Because of one senator’s irresponsible actions, over 61,000 Michigan workers will begin losing their unemployment benefits on Monday,” said Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., according to Newsday. “These workers and their families cannot afford to wait for help.”

Bunning’s actions even threatened to delay federal funding to highway programs and health insurance benefits on Monday.

If we can’t find $10 billion somewhere for a bill that everybody in this body supports, we will never pay for anything.


Because of the cost cutting being made, protests occurred against the wage freeze and tax increases that the government is putting in place to try to pull the country out of economic crisis.

The financial troubles that are currently facing Greece were supposed to prevent the member governments from incurring a large amount of debt. With reckless spending, the country of Greece has pulled itself into this debt, and, as a result, they have to pay more for their debt.

The role of credit default gives those involved in the trading an incentive to push the countries or companies towards bankruptcy.

As a result, the struggling economy of Greece has drawn the credit default swap traders at the major banks in to make their move upon their highly indebted country. In March, the debt for Greece was at $38 billion but, because of the increase in credit default swap trading, the cost of insuring the debt of Greece increased, resulting in the overall amount of insurance on Greece’s debt reaching $85 billion in February 2010.

The extent of how major banks dictate governmental policy is conveyed through the failure of governments around the world to regulate these financial markets.

Although Greece is in this situation, EU countries are working on a rescue back-up plan to help Greece recover with about 24 billion euros in aid if the need arises. This aid is being collected just in case because Greece’s financial despair threatens Europe’s tentative economic recovery and the strength of the euro.
There is something to say about 'Much Ado About Nothing'

Karen Patterson

A true artist expresses his or her art form in a manner that is accessible. Those viewing as audience members and revelers ought to sit back in awe at how effortlessly the work appears. The dancers and choreographers of Dance 36, the Hope College dance department annual showcase, are a visual delight, allowing the audience to appreciate each dancer's talent.

The opening piece “Maybe This” was choreographed by Guest Artist Tracy Kofford, allows the audience to peek in on the state of relationships.

“I wanted to focus on the deterioration and rebuilding,” Kofford said. “There is old love and new love. The partnering goes back and forth between the lovers.”

In the second act of the piece, Katie Burton (’10) and Alissa Gigler (’10) beautifully portrayed the woman in a relationship and “the other woman.” The difference is obvious, both in dress and movement. However, as the act continues, the movements become unified, signaling the often blurred lines in relationships. The lines become further blurred in the third act as the dance beautifully portrays the ultimate cad, romancing four various women at once. The playful nature of the piece contrasts with the more mature tone of the first two acts and still pays homage to the overall mood.

Choreographers Angie Yetzer-Rocha and Rosanne Mork each approach their respective pieces with a focus on more than just physical movement. In “A Naming,” dancers use sign language to spell out their own names as well as labels that are assigned. Uniformity brings the piece together, but as the music progresses, dancers begin to break out of their shells. A hanging swing adds extra opportunity to allow each dancer to show her individual journey and display the freedom gained after breaking out of the labeled shell.

Amanda Smith. Kelsey Carpenter. (’13) elegantly portrayed a woman whose husband was off to war, symbolized by a hat she interacted with.

“It was hard for me to go to that place, but it was a great experience.” Carpenter said.

Michael Parmalee (’12) and Alissa Gigler (’10) were the driving force of the piece, partnering for a pas de deux that was one part sensual, two parts mischievous. Sarah Stern (’11) was gracefully somber as a widowed flower girl; her solo served as an example of making the best of one’s circumstances. Hillary Brunt (’13), Ashley Burns (’12) and Eric Bristius (’11) rounded out the piece as a trio of young lovers. Vibrant movement coupled with the night’s only Pointe dance gave the dancers a chance to combine jazz and ballet.

“If you don’t give the dancers a challenge, they’ll never improve,” choreographer Smith said. “The work that went into this piece was phenomenal and each one of them was very committed to making it work.”

Hope students and guest artists dance their hearts out at the Knick
Students and faculty react to powerful images in ‘The American Dream’ gallery

Lindsey Wolf
Asst. Arts Editor

‘Smooth Operator’ Rudy Currence inspires Hope students during concert in the Kletz

Rudy Currence

Currence has performed "Songwriter" near the end of the night, a song he wants people to sing when he is gone. Currence explained, "We all want to make an impression. We all want to make a difference. How do you want to make your mark on the world? I want to leave my legacy through song.

Currence’s strong faith was evident during his performance. He sang a variation of "Amazing Grace," and in between verses he proclaimed his faith: "When I think about the good He’s done, my soul cries out.” He asked the audience, “Anybody got a reason to say thank you to the Lord?” Currence’s own lyrics demonstrated his love of Christ, specifically his last song, “Zions,” which was very moving. The song was about his struggles in Rock Hill, S.C., and how he made it with the help of the Lord.

This up-and-coming musician is an established songwriter, as well as vocalist. Currence has written songs for nationally known artists Mya and Ray J. He also had a song featured in the hit movie "The Bourne Identity." Originally from Rock Hill, S.C., the R&B artist currently resides in Charlotte, N.C. Currence’s music career started in church. He sang in a gospel choir before embarking on a solo career. Currence’s Kletz performance included his own songs as well as remixes of popular songs. While Currence sang a variety of popular songs, he kept them original by putting his own spin on each one. Currence moved students to snap and clap in their seats. A few confident, smooth students danced during a soulful “Electric Slide.”

One of the first songs he performed was "Carolina In My Mind" by James Taylor, one of Currence’s major influences. Currence sang variations of Lauryn Hill’s "Killing Me Softly," Bill Withers’ “Lean On Me,” The Jackson 5’s "I’ll Be There" and Ginars Barkley’s "Crazy." The R&B artist performed a handful of songs off his first album, "More Than You Ever Know," as well as his most recent album, "Here With You." Each song had a powerful message that Currence explained to the audience before singing.

You might have heard his song "Have I Told You (That I Love You Lately)" in an Old Navy store or other major retailers across the country. The song’s message is linked to the Latin phrase “carpe diem” which means “seize the day.” Before singing the song, Currence encouraged Hope students to appreciate every day and to say "I love you" to people because tomorrow is not promised.

In this gallery, Paris captures images of immigrant workers in Long Island and South Haven, of N.Y. as well as images of local citizens protesting their pres- ence. Paris has said, "There is always two sides to a story and in my photography I try to be fair to both."

The photographs on display are an example of the genre known as documentary photog- raphy. One of the most notable time periods in documentary photography occurred during the Great Depression.

The famous and still emo- tionally provocative images cap- tured during that time period show the suffering endured by those impacted by the economic crisis. But this type of photog- raphy is more than a depiction of events, it allows the viewer to connect to the humanity of those photographed.

He spoke about photography Professor Steve Nelson explained that with regards to viewing the photographs in person, "I can’t think of a comparison that would substitute for this experience.

When asked about the signif- icance of documentary photog- raphy, Mike Debowi (’12) said, "To me, it’s one of those things that can almost be substituted for personal experience. A lot of times we learn about stuff or hear about stuff..."

See DEEm on, page 10

‘Ali Farka Touré & Toumani Diabaté — ‘Ali and Toumani’

Ali Farka Touré & Toumani Diabaté — ‘Ali and Toumani’

The kora is an African instrument made of 21 strings and a cow hide stretched over a split gourd that is plucked and strummed like an acoustic guitar. Though Malian guitarist Ali Farka Touré did not create blues music or affect it during its formative decades, his fusion of indigenous African music and American blues, which earned him a sort of mysterious-godfather-of-the-blues reputation during his 66 years of life, is like a kora personified. His mostly instru- mental second album with world-renowned kora player Toumani Diabaté was also the last recorded session before Ali’s death, and it depicts a dying man who, having said all that he has to say, let his breathtaking music speak for itself.

The album review are courtesy of WTHS music direc- tors Paul Rice, Aaron Martin and Laura Helderop.
For those who watched ABC News on Feb. 17, you’ve heard this before — Holland was ranked the No. 2 happiest city in the United States. While Holland is full of tulips in the spring and snow in the winter, the happy residents stay all year long. The ranking, by the 2009 Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index surveyed 353,000 Americans in six categories: life evaluation, emotional health, physical health, health behavior, work environment and access to basic needs. On ABC News, Holland residents commented on the churches and the community. To those residents, religion in Holland makes them happiest. Due to the great amount of churches along with the caring church members, people feel welcomed no matter where they go in Holland.

When Hope College students were asked why they believed Holland was ranked the second happiest city in the United States and if the ranking was due to the churches and community, they answered:

“Holland, compared to other cities, is a pretty nice place to live in. What makes it a pretty nice place to live in is its friendly atmosphere. Generally speaking, Holland’s atmosphere is one where you feel secured and respected.” — Juan Lopez (’12)

“I think Holland is the second happiest place in the U.S. because of the emphasis they have on faith and community. The people here enjoy helping other people and show their love of Christ through loving others. I definitely would say churches have an impact on people’s moods here in Holland. The community as a whole values faith and the love of God. I think people are much more content when they know their purpose in life.” — Samantha Lorden (’13)

“Holland is like a family! Especially being a Hope student, I really feel the love of the community. Also, they have the beach, which is absolutely gorgeous and can make anyone happy. There is something in Holland for everyone! I definitely think churches have something to do with my happiness in Holland. I can imagine for someone else it may not, but for me a lot of my involvements is in churches or through churches. The people in the church communities in Holland are very welcoming and treat us Hope students extra special!” — Kimberly Slotman (’11)

“I think that it’s a very friendly place where people get along well. There are a lot of senior citizens and college students, but also everyone in between. Yet, they all work together. Churches initiate these relationships, as does Hope. I don’t doubt that the number of churches has a large effect on the happiness! But rather than the religion, it’s the secondary effect of religion that, I think, makes a difference. Churches provide a way for people to get involved in a variety of ways! These types of service go a long way in transforming oneself and the surrounding community.” — Andrea Toren (’12)

David G. Myers, a professor of psychology at Hope College and author of “The Pursuit of Happiness: Discovering the Pathway to Fulfillment, Well-Being and Personal Joy,” was surprised at Holland being ranked the second happiest city in the United States. Myers stated, “First, it oversimplifies a bit to say, ‘Holland is the second happiest city,’ because in the Gallup well-being survey, ‘Holland’ was really the West Michigan area up to Grand Haven, as I understand it, and also because only one of their dozen questions was directly about happiness. Their well-being index covers many topics, including work life, physical well-being, including smoking rates, and emotional well-being. Nevertheless, there are good reasons to expect that Holland, with its faith- and family-supportive culture would enjoy relatively high well-being, given that religious engagement and marriage are happiness predictors. And in the spirit of good fun, I’ve told an acquaintance in Boulder — the so-called happiest city — to watch out. ‘Don’t look back, because we’re gaining on you. Now if we could just get some jobs here in Michigan.’”
Musings on mutual misunderstandings

Karen Patterson
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The Hope College experience

In her letter to the editor last week, Avril Wiers (’10) said that she longs for “an open-minded campus where I am willing to express myself fully, free to ask questions that may or may not have a school-sanctioned answer. I want to connect with my professors and my fellow students, approach things from all sides, appreciating both similarities and differences.”

To Wiers, and anyone else who may feel this way, I pose this question: what is keeping you from fully expressing yourself? Perhaps I am living a clichéd college experience, but I have found that when I put myself out there and open myself up to meeting new people who may or may not think like me, I am usually met with acceptance and thought-provoking conversations.

I have a friend here on campus who is gay and in the weeks that followed her coming out to me, my conversations with her were some the most profound I’ve ever had. She recognized that she could be open and honest with me, trusting that I would not shun her or treat her differently. I would hope that some people might call this open-mindedness.

Wiers also stated “teachers should strive to get to know students on a personal level, deciphering aspirations.” Again, perhaps my friends and I have the perfectly ideal college life, but I see this happening on a daily basis. However, it is not a professor’s responsibility to go out of their way and get to know each and every student. By the time you are 18 years old (or older), it is unreasonable to expect you to make the first step.

Part of being a young adult with responsibilities is taking the initiative to form relationships. As we were all told multiple times our freshman year, this is not high school — there is no handholding or spoon-feeding. Learning is a two-way street, and as students we have to be willing to sometimes make that first move. As you get more and more experience, it may become easier for you to make the first step.

I have to admit, there are times that I get very frustrated with the Hope College environment. I’m not blind or ignorant to think that everything is sunshine and bobbles. But I do not think that we are stuck in the Stone Age of education, either. Wiers stated, “Some students may enjoy playing the role of the sponge, absorbing all the material in an hour-long lecture, but other students prefer to complete laboratory or mind walk experiments.”

I’m so glad this was brought up, because I have seen some incredible opportunities as students. Our dance department is one of the top programs in the country for a school of our size. Hope College students have more undergraduate research opportunities than students at the University of Michigan, a top 10 public university, and the English department is bursting with progressive and innovative thinkers; those are just three examples.

It is often easy to play the comparison game and say, well, the grass is definitely greener over at this school because they get to do this instead of that. I’m pretty sure that most of us have done that at some point in our collegiate careers. But it’s an incredible waste of time.

Maybe we do live in a bubble and maybe we’ve not as “open-minded” and “progressive” as other places in the country, but everybody matures and changes at a different pace. It’s ridiculous to expect every single student to be at the same place, and I truly believe that part of being open-minded is recognizing that we do think differently. Not thinking the same way as you would not make me closed-minded; it simply means that I have a different opinion.

I personally do not believe that a “utopian education” is possible — we think too differently. However, there is nothing wrong with that. Every educational institution is going to have its fair share of negative to balance out the good. Since we have a limited amount of time before we’re kicked out into the real world, it’s important to take advantage of the good, instead of wallowing in the bad.

You have four years to make the most of this experience called college. Wouldn’t it be better to put yourself out there to learn other people’s opinions instead of wishing everybody else would change to fit your own views? After all, college, just like life, is what you make of it.

Karen would be happy to meet for coffee with anyone who thinks she’s a raving fanatic. Of an era? Or one who just wants to shoot the breeze. Send her an e-mail — she’d love to chat!
An invitation

Last September, I was registered for my senior seminar and was all set to “articulate my philosophy for living,” as the course catalog says. I even sat in on the first day. But as we went around the room and introduced ourselves, my breathing quickened. I realized that all the talk of reflection associated with a senior seminar was serious. I would be reflecting like mad for the next four months.

In general, I have no problem with reflection. I'm a natural refector, always considering what I've done and connecting what I read to what I think and trying to make sense of where I'm going in light of where I've been.

I got nervous not because reflecting inherently made me uncomfortable, but rather because I had spent the past year doing just that: reflecting. The fall of my junior year, I studied at the Oregon Extension and read my life through the lens of every book I made me uncomfortable, but rather because I had.

I decided that instead of turning inward for the 13th month in a row, I wanted to look outward. I signed up for a history class in an attempt to expand the frontiers of my interior world. Maybe by spring there'd be something new to see in there.

But this solution wasn’t ultimately satisfying. Regardless of how much new territory my inner life might annex, I’d still be looking in. Or at best, I’d be expanding inward while looking outward. Even then, though, I’d be surveying the world through my particular windows, and those windows are smudged and small. In some sense, I felt that the whole concept of reflection was too anthropocentric; it hinged on me. It tried to illuminate reality rather than letting reality illuminate me.

Senior seminars, I’ve learned, are unavoidable, and six months after I dropped my first, I’m sitting in another. Even this far into the semester, I’m wondering how far reflection can carry me. Can I sort out my life by looking at myself? Will I flounder without the tethers of trustworthy knowledge? Or is there some other combination of subjectivity and objectivity that recognizes that I am limited by my intellectual capacity and the bounds of my experience, but that also submits to being taught, broken open, ruined even, by an understanding beyond mine? As one professor articulated it to me: “What are the limits of subjectivity?” I’ve made answering this question my task for the semester, but honestly, I could use some help. So I'm posing the question to you. What are these limits? Have we ourselves be illuminated by another source long enough to justify the time we spend staring inward? Am I warranted in sensing that our culture, which posits the self as the primary unit of experience and understanding, might be looking through the wrong end of the telescope? Teach me something.

Grace realizes that this might be another instance of the Olson Deflection. In that case, she apologizes but nevertheless leaves her question on the table.

Voices of Hope College

Girl 1: “Don’t get eaten by the math vampire.”

Girl 2: “I’m not afraid of him. I’m armed with Fibonacci.”

Guy 1: “You look nice today. What for?”

Guy 2: “Laundry day...”

Guy 1: “Oh ...”

Guy 2: “… Which was supposed to be yesterday. Which explains why I’m still wearing the same underwear.”

Girl 1: “Is your hair lighter today?”

Girl 2: (excited) “I showered!”

Professor talking about Hope being healthy: “I haven’t had one overweight student in my class in five years!”

A group of guys in the Dow:

Guy 1: “We can’t put together a frisbee golf IM team; we don’t know any girls who can throw a frisbee.”

Guy 2: “We don’t know any girls, period!”

Guy 3: “No, my roommate knows a girl, he eats lunch with her.”

Guy 2: “Does he know her name?”

Guy 1: “More importantly, can she throw a frisbee?”

Girl 1: “I loved the Disney Channel movie about the drag racing.”

Girl 2: “Can Disney Channel show a movie about drag racing?”

Girl 1: “Drag racing, not drag queens.”
PARIS' EXHIBIT DISPLAYS 'AMERICAN DREAM'

PHOTO BY MARION BALDWIN

• DREAM ON, from page 6

... on a very general or theoretical level, and how photos can help us to understand things on a more personal level.”

The “American Dream” display presents images that seek to be fair by depicting both the migrant workers and those who protest their presence and their actions.

However some students re-
acted to the gallery by saying that his perceptions were not balanced. Anneliese Goetz (’12) said, “I think he was a little biased toward the immigrants, not necessarily that I disagree with his viewpoint. He’s trying to show both sides of the issue, which is important at the same time giving the immigrants a human face.”

The Hope students who viewed this gallery reacted posi-
tively to the quality of the pic-
tures and were struck by the powerful emotions that could be found in the photographs on display. One photograph that was mentioned by multiple students as being memorable was one of a Hispanic man kneeling on the floor of his bedroom in prayer. Goetz described the image in the following way: “In a space that anyone else would think is too small, the man seemed hopeful.”

Describing the overall themes depicted in the collection, Amy Carmichael (’12) said, “It showed you the emotion of what’s going on and you showed what the people are going through.”

Similarly, Hope art major Rebeccah Berthod (’11) summarized her opinion of the primary message of the exhibition regarding the workers. “They’re not just a statistic, they’re not pests, they’re real people with real lives.”

DANCE MARATHON TO BRING 700 COMPETITORS TO CAMPUS

Hope College PR - On Thursday and Friday, March 11 and 12, Hope College will host its 38th annual Model United Nations conference for high school students.

More than 700 students and faculty from the greater Midwest will compete in the various simulations, making the event the largest Model United Nations conference in Michigan. Acting as delegates from the 191 member nations of the United Nations in two General Assemblies, seven Security Councils, and five International Criminal Court (ICC) and one Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the students will be faced with issues pertaining to the current international affairs.

Issues that will be included in this year’s conference include the global energy crisis, natural disaster response, child soldiers and child labor, ethnic minorities, and international disputes.

The purpose of Model United Nations is to give high school students an idea of what it is like to work on the roles of professional diplomats with the goal of achieving a particular country’s national objectives, but also fostering a desired international consensus for real solutions to the problems facing them. Hope College’s department of political science sponsors the event.

Participating students, with the help of faculty advisors, have been preparing for weeks for the conference by working to identify the current issue positions of countries they have selected to represent. Throughout the event, they will discuss with their peer delegates in order to attain solutions that they feel best resolve various international problems.

E C O S O C, Security Council and ICC members begin their sessions Thursday evening and continue throughout the day Friday. General Assembly members arrive Friday morning and will debate during the day.

In addition to the various sessions, participating students in ECOSOC, Security Council and ICC will attend an opening banquet Thursday. This year’s keynote speakers will be Hope seniors Trena Thomas of Manassas, Va., and Selase Asamoa-Tutu of Accra, Ghana, who will speak about their international experiences.

The Model United Nations will conclude with an awards ceremony on Friday, March 12, in Dimnent Memorial Chapel. The featured speaker will be west Ottawa High School teacher Mike Jaeger, who runs Cultural Education Programs. The program will be followed by a celebration that will begin at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 13, and the Marcadot will be held at 7 p.m. conclusion approaches.

Members of the public are invited to observe at any point during the marathon.

Activities on behalf of the marathon began shortly after the beginning of the fall semester and have involved more than 30 student organizations. More than 500 Hope students will be participating in the Model United Nations conference this year.

The Hope participants will go directly towards the funding of special programs that are designed to make the young patients’ visits to the hospital more bearable while also helping the families of the children to deal with their illnesses.

Children’s Miracle Network is an international non-profit organization dedicated to helping children by raising funds and awareness for more than 170 children’s hospitals throughout North America. Each year, these children’s hospitals treat 17 million children with diseases, injuries and birth defects of every kind.

Additional information about Dance Marathon and the Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital can be found on the Dance Marathon’s website, reachable through the college’s website at: http://www. helendevos.org/DM. The DowCenter is located at 168 E. 13th St., on 13th Street at Columbia Avenue.

LIVING THE AMERICAN DREAM— Mark Paris’ exhibit in De Pree documents immigrants working in America.

PHOTO BY MARION BALDWIN

Dance Marathon begins Friday

Hope College PR - For an 11th consecutive year, Hope College students are putting their time and talents into the campus-wide Dance Marathon fundrais-

PHOTO BY MARION BALDWIN

er “for the kids.”

Organized by Hope students, the marathon is being conducted on behalf of Helen DeVos Chi-

PHOTO BY MARION BALDWIN

lendar and raising人民币 60,715.25 last year. In re-
cognition of the program’s success, the Dance Mar-

PHOTO BY MARION BALDWIN

athon was part of the Youth in Philanthropy Award from the West Michigan Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals in the fall of 2009.

Helen DeVos Children’s Hospi-
tal is West Michigan’s largest children’s hospital, serving chil-

PHOTO BY MARION BALDWIN

DANCING ALL NIGHT ‘FOR THE KIDS’— Students share char-

PHOTO BY MARION BALDWIN

danced dance at last year’s dance marathon.

The Dow Center is located at 168 E. 13th St., on 13th Street at Columbia Avenue.
The NCAA tournament was short-lived once again for the Flying Dutchmen. The Dutchmen started and ended their run towards Salem, Virginia, home to the NCAA Men’s Division III Championship, with a loss to St. Norbert College of De Pere, Wis., at UW-Stevens Point Friday night. The Dutchmen were looking to avenge last year’s loss in the first round.

“Last year we were really happy to be there,” David Krombeen (’12) said. “We were inexperienced due to losing a lot of starters from the Final Four team.”

Hope started off slow and shaky with three turnovers, as the Green Knights of St. Norbert took an early 8-0 lead. After a timeout, Hope answered back with a 15-8 run of their own. Hope battled back to 17-19 halfway through the first half. The next five minutes would be all Hope College as they went on a 13-0 run sparked by a couple three-pointers by Will Bowser (‘11) and Ty Tanis. (‘11).

The game of runs continued as St. Norbert responded with an 8-2 run to end the half. Hope took a 32-27 lead into the locker room.

Hope began the second half playing well and pushed their lead to eight with just over 10 minutes left.

Hope led 52-48 with eight left after Peter Bunn hit a couple free throws. St. Norbert came down and a foul was called on Andy Venema (‘11). Venema got tangled up with St. Norbert’s Chris Peterson and a technical foul was called.

This turned the tide as four free throws tied the game for the first time since the eight-minute mark of the first half.

The game went back and forth until the one-minute mark when St. Norbert’s Dave Wipperfurth hit a 3-ball to put St. Norbert’s up by five.

From there it was all St. Norbert as most of the final minute was spent at the free throw line for the Knights.

The final score was 72-65, and the Dutchmen ended with an overall record of 21-8. Finishing their careers for the Flying Dutchmen were Scott Jungling (’10) and Chris Nelis (’10).

Nelis finished with a game-high 15 points in 29 minutes as action fouled him out of the game.

The end of the season came a bit too early for the Dutchmen this year.

“Our goal is ultimately the national championship no doubt,” Krombeen said. “I feel like with the number of guys we will have returning next year that gaining NCAA tournament experience will benefit the team next year greatly.”

Next year’s team should bring back four out of five starters and a young bench that continued to get better as the year progressed.

The Dutchmen are eager to get back on the floor next year and make a run at the conference championship, an NCAA berth, and ultimately a national championship.

**By the Numbers**

| Number of 3-point baskets by Chris Nelis (’10). |
| Number of offensive rebounds made by Hope. |
| Hope’s largest lead, reached with 3:22 left in the first half. |
| Assists made by David Nowicki (’10), bringing his season total to 110. |

**Hockey team headed to national tournament**

James Nichols

**ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR**

Hope College may want to consider adding a 19th sport to its list of sponsored, intercollegiate varsity sports.

Founded in 1996 as a club sport, the men’s hockey team is headed to its ninth straight varsity season. The match will start at 7 p.m.

The first match-up for Hope will be held later that day (4:30 p.m.) March 13. The championship game will be on Wednesday, March 10, at 7 p.m. against the Fredonia State Blue Devils.

The men’s team will take to the courts again on Friday when Grand Rapids Community College and Davenport come to the DeVitt Tennis Center. Matches begin at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., respectively.

**Men’s Lacrosse Falls Twice in One Week**

The men’s lacrosse team suffered two defeats last week, bowing first to No. 2 Davenport by a score of 22-11 on Thursday and Indiana University by a score of 16-7 on Saturday. The two losses put the Flying Dutchmen at 1-3 on the season. Hope will travel to the MVP Spotlight in Grand Rapids March 10 to face rival Calvin College. The Flying Dutchmen defeated the Knights both times they met last season. The match will start at 4:30 p.m.

**In Brief**

**Men’s Tennis Victorious in Ohio**

The men’s tennis team traveled to Oberlin College in Ohio on Saturday where they defeated both host Oberlin and Grove City College in the same day. Hope played Oberlin first and triumphed, 8-1. All of Hope’s winners in the match defeated their opponents in two sets or less. Later, the Flying Dutchmen took on the Wolverines of Grove City and came out on top in that match as well, 7-2. The Dutchmen will take to the courts again on Friday when Grand Rapids Community College and Davenport come to the DeVitt Tennis Center. Matches begin at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., respectively.

**Women’s Basketball**

**vs. Davenport at 6 p.m.**

**vs. Grand Rapids at 4:30 p.m.**

**vs. Grand Rapids at 3 p.m.**

**Wednesday, March 10**

**at the MVP Sportsplex in Grand Rapids**

**Center. Matches begin at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., respectively.**

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Women’s basketball advances to NCAA Sweet 16

Bethany Stripp
Sports Editor

The last time the Hope College women’s basketball team played Denison University in 2007, the Big Red jumped out with an early lead to cut short the Flying Dutch’s chances at repeating as national champions in the first game of the NCAA Division III women’s basketball championship.

On Friday, Hope and Denison faced each other for the first time in three years. Their matchup was once again in the first round of NCAA championship play, but the 2010 game proved to be much different from 2007.

“We got back on our heels from a minute one in 2007, but we came out from the start (this year),” women’s basketball head coach Brian Morehouse said. “We came out aggressive.”

Carrie Snikkers (’11) netted two of her game-high 21 points just 13 seconds into the game to set the tone early in the game. Though Denison soon responded with a basket of their own, Hope was able to keep Denison from adding anything else to the scoreboard for six full minutes while they went on an 8-0 run.

Though the Big Red did pull within three twice in the first half, they never lost their lead and prevented another first round upset, winning the game 68-40.

One of the keys to Hope’s victory came from their bench. Hope’s bench contributed 35 points on Friday night compared to Denison’s, which only had six.

“When our bench is able to go out there and not have a drop-off, also a lot of times lift us up, I don’t think there are many teams that can do that,” Phalana Greene (’10) said.

Meredith Kussmaul (’13) provided a particular spark for the bench, making every field goal she took on the evening and netting four additional free throws to supply 12 points to Hope’s total.

The win on Friday sent the Flying Dutch to the second round of NCAA play where they met the Tigers of DePauw. Though the two teams had not met in the national tournament since Hope’s national title run in 2006, Morehouse knew the Tigers would be a tough team.

“It’s an Elite Eight type of matchup,” Morehouse said. “Their team is that good.”

Snikkers was the first on the scoreboard once again Saturday night, though the Tigers stuck with the Dutch for the early portion of the first half, not allowing Hope to pull ahead by more than five until seven minutes remained. Hope led by nine at halftime, 32-23, but fell 9-0 run by the Tigers to begin the second half tied the game at 32 just four minutes after play resumed.

The Flying Dutch fought back, triggered in part by two 3-pointers within a minute and a half by Miranda DeKuiper (’11). DeKuiper finished with 9 points on the night, all of which came from 3-pointers.

“It was just good ball movement on our string’s part,” DeKuiper said of her points.

DePauw scored soon after DeKuiper’s second three, but after that Hope was able to regain control of the game and maintain it to the end. The Flying Dutch triumphed, 68-54, to continue on to NCAA sectionals for the third time in as many years.

“This is do or die so we just came out and played tough,” Snikkers said. Snikkers led the Flying Dutch for the second night in a row, putting 18 points up on the scoreboard, 11 in the first half and grabbing 9 boards. Greene also came through in a big way for the Dutch, adding 10 points to the total and pulling down 8 rebounds against a team that led the nation in rebounding, averaging a whopping 17 rebounds on the season compared to Hope’s 5.6.

The Flying Dutch will meet Marymount University from Virginia at Illinois Wesleyan in Bloomington, Ill., at 5 p.m. CST on Friday in the first game of a sectional that Morehouse anticipates will be filled with tough competition.

Seven Hope swimmers qualify for national championships

James Nichols
Assistant Sports Editor

The seven swimmers that qualified from the men’s and women’s swim teams will head to the University of Minnesota on March 17 for the NCAA Division III swimming and diving national championships.

Four Flying Dutchmen (Ruch, King, Nelis and Welsch) will compete in the 200 and 400 medley relay as well as the 400 and 800 freestyle relay.

Two swimmers were able to qualify for nationals in their first year. The other five are seniors.

Competition begins at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 17, and concludes at 6 p.m. on March 20.

Libby Weststrate (’13)

Weststrate will compete in the 50, 100 and 200 freestyle events. “It’s kind of weird being the only girl,” Weststrate said. “I think I will do pretty well. I’ve been working hard.”

Welsch will compete in the 50, 100 and 100 freestyle along with four relays as the anchor.

“If he can swim as fast as last year, he will score,” coach John Patnott said.

Ruch will compete in the 100 and 200 backstroke as well as lead off the four relays.

“If he can get last year’s form back,” Patnott said, “he should do well in the 200 backstroke.”

Brandon King (’10)

King will swim the 100 breaststroke and four relays.

“You never know what’s going to happen at nationals,” King said.

Heyboer will swim the 200 and 400 individual medley and the 200 backstroke.

“As a senior it’s nice to go out with a bang,” Heyboer said.

Phil Heyboer (’10)

Grabijas will compete in the 200, 500 and 1650 freestyle for the Flying Dutchmen.

“I can’t get it out of my mind; I want to do well,” Grabijas said.

Josh Grabijas (’12)

Ryan Nelis (’10)

Co-captain Jenny Cowen (’10) had five swimmers from the bench, making every field goal on the string’s part, “Morehouse said.

Meredith Kussmaul (’13)

Meredith Kussmaul (’13) provided a particular spark for the bench, making every field goal she took on the evening and netting four additional free throws to supply 12 points to Hope’s total.

Wes Welsch (’10)

Wes Welsch will compete in the 50, 100 and 200 freestyle events. “It’s kind of weird being the only girl,” Weststrate said. “I think I will do pretty well. I’ve been working hard.”

The Flying Dutchmen will compete in the 200, 500 and 1650 freestyle as well as lead off the four relays.

“If he does well in the relays before the 100 butterfly he will be fine,” Patnott said.

Mitch Ruch (’10)

Mitch Ruch will compete in the 100 and 200 backstroke as well as lead off the four relays.

“If he can get last year’s form back,” Patnott said, “he should do well in the 200 backstroke.”

“...”

Ryan Nelis (’10)