HOPE RESPONDS TO TRAGEDY

Members of the Hope community gather to honor Virginia Tech shooting victims

LAURISLA MARIANO

April 16, 2007 • SINCE 1887

HOPE COLLEGE • HOLLAND, MICHIGAN

In Brief

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS

Approximately 718 seniors will graduate on May 6. Adjunct associate English professor, Diane Portflell, will speak at this year’s commencement. General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, the Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia of Geneva, Switzerland will deliver the baccalaureate sermon at both commencement. General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, the Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia of Geneva, Switzerland will deliver the baccalaureate sermon at both...
A survey released last month by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse showed that college binge drinking and drug use is on the rise nationally.

Currently, nearly half of America's college students use drugs or engage in binge drinking at least once a month. Binge drinking is defined as having five drinks for males or four drinks for females during one “drinking occasion.”

In 2005, 22.8 percent of students surveyed reported binge drinking three or more times during the previous two weeks compared to 19.7 percent in 1993. However, the number of students who occasionally drink has stayed steady at 70 percent in 1993 and 68 percent in 2005.

Nationally, other drug use is up as well. Marijuana use is up from 27.9 percent in 1993 to 33.3 percent in 2005 while illicit drug use rose from 36.6 percent in 1993 to 36.6 percent in 2005.

Increased stress and work loads may have led to the increased drug and alcohol use. Nearly half of the students surveyed said they drank or used drugs in order to relax, reduce stress or forget about problems.

Although Hope College is a dry campus, some students choose to drink alcohol and use drugs. Predictably, though, Hope students do not abuse drugs and alcohol to the same extent as the national average. Part of this reason may be that religiously involved individuals are consistently less likely to use alcohol and other drugs.

A comparison study conducted in 2001 found that 36.3 percent of Hope students drank beer in the previous year compared to 49.6 percent of students in a comparison group. The same study showed that 45.7 percent of Hope students drank wine or liquor in the previous year compared with 55.8 percent of the comparison group.

The comparison group consisted of colleges like Hope which were highly selective, non-sectarian colleges not owned or supported significantly by a religious organization.

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**IMUS IN THE MORNING’ CANCELLED**

When radio host Don Imus began his radio program, “Imus In The Morning,” on April 4, even he could not have known that his comments would create a national furor.

In a seemingly throwaway conversation, Imus brought up the previous night’s Division Champions Game with the Chicago Bulls and the New York Knicks. Imus said that he could not have known that his “idiot comment” about black basketball player2 was about to be celebrated.

Ironically, all of the events occurred a milestone for equality in the United States has come in breaking down racial barriers throughout society. Now, the country is still discussing them, albeit in a far different context.

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**GLOBAL WARMING CONVERSATION HEATS UP**

Throughout the last couple years, concern over global warming has increased drastically. Now, with ice caps melting at both poles, scientists are beginning to reveal some of the concrete results of human actions.

In Canada, Inuit explorers and scientists are being taught the effects of global warming first hand, reports the Associated Press. New creatures are being observed, such as dolphins, in places that are usually being that far north.

Igloos cannot be built, due to a lack of snow on the ground. Inuit hunters are falling through the thinning ice and dying at remarkable rates.

According to the AP article, explorer Will Steger, “A lot of the elders will no longer go out on the sea ice because their knowledge will not work anymore. What they’ve learned and passed on for 5,000 years is no longer functional.”

All of this is caused by global warming slowly destroying the ecosystem upon which all this knowledge is based.

Meanwhile, climatologists in Washington are explaining the dramatic impact that global warming is predicted to have in the coming years. Locally, here are some of these expected changes, according to the Philadelphia Inquirer:

- Lakes and rivers will grow warmer, which will threaten fish and spread pollution. For example, surface temperatures in Midwestern lakes could potentially reach up to 86 degrees.
- All of these signs point to a future in which our human behavior is necessary. Despite the claims of those uninformed, global warming is a problem that humanity as a whole must tackle immediately.
- Lakes and rivers will grow warmer, which will threaten fish and spread pollution. For example, surface temperatures in Midwestern lakes could potentially reach up to 86 degrees.

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**CLASSIFIEDS**

Live rent free on Holland’s north side in exchange for some babysitting and household chores! Amenities include: private room and board with bathroom, hi-speed internet, swimming pool and hot tub, quiet neighborhood with bike paths just a bike ride from Lake Michigan and 15 mins from Hope. Call Heidi at 786-9406 home or 834-2485 cell. ot4lauren@yahoo.com

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**News article summary:**

- College students are increasingly engaging in binge drinking and drug use, with 45.7% of Hope College students drinking wine or liquor in the previous year.
- A comparison study found that Hope students were less likely to use alcohol and other drugs compared to a national survey.
- Don Imus' comments in his radio show sparked controversy, leading to his cancellation.
- Global warming is discussed, with implications for ice caps, wildlife, and ecosystem changes.
- Classifieds advertise room for rent in Holland, MI, offering room and board in exchange for babysitting.
- Contact information is provided for those interested in the classifieds.
Senior artists create ‘ARTSEE’

The work represented in the Senior Art Show exhibition, titled “ARTSEE” remains open until Sunday, May 6.

The piece “Fire Ants” created by Cullen Kronemeyer (‘07), consists of a similar image displayed in both a steel model and charcoal on paper. He also completed a large scale pencil piece titled “Liverpool.”

One of Jessica Gipson’s (‘07) pieces, “Unfitted,” consists of fabric built dresses on painted canvas. Three other different dimensional dresses line the wall and are made up of army camouflage, brown chiffon and polka dot fabrics.

“Every piece of art was distinctly and uniquely different from all the rest, which shows (that) each artist’s work is their own and they’re not trying to be someone else,” attendee Becca Olsen (‘09) said.

Senior Cameron Schuler was pleased with the event. “It’s really a showcase of people’s talents and what they’re able to do,” he said.

The Senior Art Show exhibition will be open from Thursday, April 19, through Sunday, May 6. Admission is free.

CLASS OF 2007 — Range of artistic talent expressed through varying mediums in Depree Art Gallery.

Combined choirs tour New York City

The Hope College Choir, its members boast a wide range of majors. “I’ve only been in a semester, but I love it,” said Ross Knoll (‘09), a chemistry and neuroscience major.

“Chapel Choir concerts are usually acapella and small and intimate. The Combined Choirs concert will be big and festive,” Scheuerman said.

Chris Dekker (‘08), a member of College Chorus, said, “We work the semester on the music for the combined concert. When the choirs are together, the sound is really confident.”

Hope College students will be able to enjoy next Tuesday’s concert in Dimnent Chapel. Admission is free to the public.

‘STORIES FROM THE COLLEGE RULED MARGINS’

Prof. Beth Trembley’s English 358 Intermediate Creative Writing: Memoirs class will see their works come to life in a collaborative effort between creative writing and theatre students.

Fifteen five-minute excerpts from the student’s work will be read by members of the theater department.

The subject matter ranges from faith and sexual orientation to love, self-image and death. The performance will begin at 8 p.m. in the DeWitt Theatre on April 24. Admission is free.

JAPANESE DRUMMING GROUP TO PERFORM

Icko Daiko will perform in the Knickerbocker Theatre Saturday, April 21. The group is sponsored by the Cleveland chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League.

It was named after the gingo trees that line Oberlin’s Main Street. The group builds its own drums. Its mission is to strengthen Japanese-American communities by instilling pride and cultural awareness and to build bridges between the United States and other groups through the dynamic expression of taiko.

HSTR HOLDING AUDITIONS

The Hope Summer Repertory Theater, a professional company based in Holland for 35 years, is seeking one boy/young man for the role of “Art,” in this summer production of “Lost Street.”

Auditions are Saturday, April 19, at 7:30 p.m. in Dimnent Chapel, 10-11 a.m. Sunday, April 20, and 10-11 a.m. Monday, April 21.

Callbacks will take place April 22 after 1 p.m. Questions can be e-mailed to hsrt@hope.edu.

This Week in Art

Wednesday

April 18

Film: “Luis Puenzias’s La Historia” 8 p.m. Wnars Auditorium.

Jazz Ensemble Concert 7:30 p.m. Dimnent Chapel.

Comedian: Steven Horenri 9-10 p.m. Kletz. Sponsored by SAC.

Thursday

April 19

Film: “Last King of Scotland” 7 p.m. Science Center 1000.

Friday

April 20

Film: “Catch And Release”

April 20 & 21, 7:90 p.m.; midnight.

April 22, 2 p.m. Wnars Auditorium.

S.2. Sponsored by SAC.

Wind Symphony Concert 7:30 p.m. Dimnent Chapel.

Saturday

April 21

Concert: Meg Allison

8:30 p.m. Kletz. Admission Free,

“CHORUS TOUR IS PROBABLY MY FAVORITE EVENT THAT WE DO,” KARA SCHEUERMAN (‘08) SAID. “IT’S FUN TO GROW CLOSER AS A GROUP AND WE GET TO HIGHLY REFINE THE SONGS BECAUSE WE PERFORM THEM SO MANY TIMES.”

At night during the tour, the students stay in groups of two and three at the houses of people for whose communities they perform. “Homestays” are a lot of fun — you get to stay with really great people and see how they live,” Matt Minkus (‘09) said.

“I’d never been to New York before this tour. It was pretty awesome.” Although a number of music majors make up the Chapel Choir, its members boast a wide range of majors.

“I’ve only been in a semester, but I love it,” said Ross Knoll (‘09), a chemistry and neuroscience major with a minor in both Japanese and neuroscience. “I was worried coming in. I’d always heard that it was all music majors and they were really good and kind of cut out there, but everyone is really cool. I fit in and I’ve made a lot of good friends.”

On Tuesday, April 24, the Chapel choir will perform for the last time this year with College Chorus in the Combined Choirs Concert.

“Chapel Choir concerts are usually acapella and small and intimate. The Combined Choirs concert will be big and festive,” Scheuerman said.

Chris Dekker (‘08), a member of College Chorus, said, “We work the semester on the music for the combined concert. When the choirs are together, the sound is really confident.”

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Dance students present original choreography in annual Spring Concert

Tara Kuhnlein
Staff Writer

The Hope College 2007 spring Student Dance Concert was performed Monday and Tuesday evening at the Knickerbocker Theatre.

The concert was coordinated by dance professor Steven Iannacone, along with visiting professor Matthew Thornton. A small cast of Hope students consisting of dance majors, minors and non-dance majors alike, conducted and performed the impressive choreography.

“This is one of my favorite Student Dance Concerts I’ve been in and seen. There are a lot of very strong and entertaining pieces,” said Jeanine Schulze (‘07), one of the concert’s performers.

“It’s nice to see and learn from other students’ style. It’s also a great opportunity to choreograph your own dances,” Schulze said.

One of the main goals of the Student Dance Concert is to help students develop strong choreography skills and receive feedback in a safe environment. In addition to the opportunity to present their work, student choreographers receive notes from outside adjudicators, or judges, in order that they might learn from the experience and improve upon it in the future.

This semester’s adjudicators are Katherine Sullivan, local artist, and Cindy Alberg, Hope dance alumna. The concert consisted of a variety of dance styles ranging from tap, modern jazz, hip-hop, silent interpretive, ballet and lyrical pieces.

“I love how diverse the pieces were! What can be better than one minute, watching students dance in Meijer plastic bags and the next, pink ballet slippers and tu-tus? The entire concert was extremely creative and enjoyable to watch,” an audience member said.

On April 23 at 8 p.m., there will be a smaller Studio Concert featuring dance “pieces-in-progress” in the Dow room 207. There will also be a Senior Dance Concert on April 27 at 8 p.m. at the Knickerbocker.

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Lindsey Manthei  
Features Editor

As Hope College students begin digging their way out of a long winter’s hibernation, a certain group of boot-wearing, gore-tex-sporting, shaggy-looking outdoor enthusiasts shared some of their favorite hiking destinations. Get outside and enjoy the beautiful spring days!

Saugatuck Dunes State Park is about a 20-minute drive from Hope’s campus. With 1,000 acres of land and 2.5 miles of Lake Michigan Shoreline, this park offers 13 miles of trails for day hiking (camping is not permitted) and secluded beaches for picnics or swimming. The trails are sandy and perfect for hiking or swimming. The trails are sandy and perfect for hiking.

Fifteen miles north of Holland, Pigeon Creek County Park encompasses almost 300 acres, with 150 acres of adjacent county open space land. The park, which has 10 miles of trails for hiking and biking along the Pigeon River is open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Camping is also available at this park.

The Outdoor Discovery Center is a 120-acre preserve with about four miles of hiking trails. The trails lead hikers through wetlands, forests, remnant dunes and ponds. Home to an abundance of wildlife, the Outdoor Discovery Center offers opportunities for hikers as well as photographers.

Within bike-able distance of Hope’s campus, DeGraff Nature Center provides boardwalks and trails through marshes and wooded areas on an 18-acre preserve. DeGraff often offers classes and nature programs such as “Wading in a Frog Pond” on April 27 and “Wildflowers of Sanctuary Woods” on April 27. Call 355-1057 for more information.

A local favorite close to campus, Van Raalte Farms is a 155-acre park with hiking trails through forests, wetlands and fields. A wide array of trails through hills, extensive boardwalk system through marshlands. The back trails of Van Raalte Farms are the favorite of many locals. And, if it happens to snow again this spring, Van Raalte features lit sledding hills.

Within walking distance from Van Raalte Farm are the trails of Ridgepoint Community Church. Used as a cross country running course, the trails cross through fields, a small wooded area and a large hill. The trail system is currently undergoing a wetland restoration project and adding and renovating trails.

Features editor Lindsey Manthei

Lindsey Manthei  
Features Editor

Treasure hunting used to mean finding an enchanted map, spending months at sea with smelly pirates and searching for an “X” on a deserted island. Today, with the rise of highly accurate GPS technology, the rapidly growing treasure-hunting hobby, called geocaching, is gaining popularity across the globe. The point of the game is to follow GPS coordinates to a cache hidden by other geocaching enthusiasts who post the coordinates online.

“For me, geocaching is just another reason to get outside,” Seymour said. “I’ve discovered parks I would have never known were there if I hadn’t started geocaching.”

“People who have never heard of geocaching might be—it’s like leaving a candy bar in the woods and it’s gone in a day.”

Hope student Emily Scatterday (’09) also enjoys geocaching in her spare time.

“I became interested in geocaching after my parents got me a personal GPS for Christmas,” Scatterday said. “It’s deceptively easy.”

“Most geocachers use a GPS that is free and available online.”

There are only a few rules for geocaching. First, if you take something from the cache, leave something in the cache. Caches are never buried, and are always on public property. Items found and left can be children’s toys, DVDs, notes, magnets, pictures, jewelry, tools—basically anything.

In late 2000, www.geocaching.com was launched. The website offers a comprehensive list of caches in locations across the globe. There are about a dozen caches within two miles of Hope’s campus at Window on the Waterfront, Holland Municipal Stadium and downtown.

In the dozen or so caches Seymour has found, many have contained trinkets, pencils, buttons, coins or simply a log book. Seymour often leaves a credit card-sized periodic table with a Hope logo in caches he finds.

“A person I know once found 50 bucks in a cache.”

Seymour often goes geocaching with kinesiology professor Richard Ray. When the pair sign the log at caches they find, they sign “pair-a-docs.”

“Gimme a f—ing break.”

— Emily Scatterday (’09)

Free Coffee from Lemonjello’s  
Free Organic Food from Apple Valley  & Nature’s Market

LIVE MUSIC from Girth Jam  
They Were Thieves  
Luminescence  
Rob Kenagy

featuring SPEAKERS  
Bob Hunt  
Dr. Bouma-Prediger

and INFORMATION about  
Global Warming  
Macatawa Greenway

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Since GPS coordinates are accurate within 30 feet or so of where an object is actually hidden, finding geocaches can often be difficult. Seymour said it took him a few outings to develop a sense of where a typical hiding place might be—in the hole of a tree, in a stump, inside a hollowed out fence post or velcroed to the underside of a walkway.

GPS units range anywhere from $100 for a basic model to $1,000 for a more advanced variety.

www.geocaching.com
When did you get married?  
August 5, 2006, right before our senior year.

When and how did you first meet?  
It was an indirect result of Hope’s best dating service: Nykerk.

How did you decide to get married while still in college?  
A lot of people said that we were crazy for getting married without having jobs. Our philosophy was that by getting married before senior year, we’d have a year to enjoy living together and work out some of the difficulties before senior year, we’d have a year to enjoy living together and work out some of the difficulties before we had bills to pay, and jobs and apartments to find.

How did your parents and friends respond when you told them?  
Both of our sets of parents got married young (19-21), so they couldn’t really tell us that it wouldn’t work. Our friends just screamed. Well, mostly the guys.

Is being married similar or different to what you thought it would be?  
We didn’t think both more often and less often than we were expected. Take from that what you will.

What is the best part of being married?  
A marriage is the smallest unit of Christian community. There is nothing in the world like teaming up with someone for a life of Christian service together. In our case, we get to make art together — playing inside of natural revelation. It is the greatest of all human relationships.

When and how did you first get engaged?  
K: Health, Dy, the first couple of days of our freshman year. We didn’t date or even hang out halfway through our sophomore year, though.

N: I found her hanging up side-down over a burning turp in Botswana.

How did you decide to get married while still in college?  
We were pretty convinced that we were going to get married shortly after we began dating. Then, it was just a question of when. After a lot of conversations, though, number crunching and prayer, we felt that last summer.

The most challenging part?  
Well, since we’re in college and pretty passionate about our majors, there are some days that we don’t see each other from 8 to 1:30 p.m.

But dating comes with its blessings and challenges that we anticipated, as well as quite a few that we didn’t. One thing that has surprised us is how we’ve felt even more connected to our friends now than ever before.

More on that later.  
SECTION LIVINGSTON, PAGE 8

photos courtesy of couples

Meghan Follen  
Stosh Winters  
An interview with Mr. and Mrs. Steven (’07) and Joanna (’07) (Leigeb) Rodriguez (above left).  

Going to the chapel

Meghan Follen  
Stosh Winters  
An interview with Mr. and Mrs. Noah (’07) and Kristen (’07) (Post) Livingston (above right).

Senior shares thoughts on being married while attending Hope

Meghan Follen  

The Real  
Ashley DeVoecht

Shoes and a dress. He told her they would be going out to a nice place for dinner and to be ready at 7:30 p.m.

At 7:15, a limousine pulled into Leigeb’s driveway. The driver got out, gave her roses and instructions on what to do next.

The couple met during their freshman year of high school but had been dating only a few months. Leigeb and Gall will probably wed in August of 2008, making their engagement a year and a half long.

Getting engaged at a young age has its pros and cons. Leigeb and Gall’s situation is unique because of Gall’s job.

“He’s in the Army, so you don’t know what going to happen,” Leigeb said.

There are other benefits to being married to a soldier. Married couples are allowed to live together, and married soldiers are paid a higher salary. These are just added bonuses to the sense of commitment Leigeb feels now that she’s engaged.

However, getting engaged at this time in their lives has a few disadvantages for Leigeb and Gall. Planning a wedding while going to school has been no easy task for Leigeb. Plus, Leigeb and Gall to go to separate schools — Gall will begin attending Ferris State in the fall — which means once they’re married each of them will have to commute about a half hour.

Yet the pros far outweigh the cons for Leigeb. She’s known for three years now that Gall was “the one.”

“I wanted to marry him, spend the rest of my life with him,” Leigeb said. “I know that sounds simple. I knew there was someone I wanted to marry him for sure.”

For any Facebook user, being alerted to when people change their relationship statuses is common.

Colleges students are constantly bombarded by images that put pressure on entering relationships for the sake of enjoyment and pleasure. Over the past several years, the idea of courtship has been gaining popularity in Christian circles. Several books have been written on the subject, and Hope students have responded both negatively and positively.

According to Joshua Harris, author of “Boy Meets Girl: Say Hello to Courtship,” courting is “old-fashioned, but it evokes romance and chivalry.” Harris writes that young people should approach courtship not by asking how to do courtship, but by thinking about their motives for being in a relationship.

The book “Boy Meets Girl” focuses on courtship. When young people are willing to take on a long-term committed relationship with someone, they should view dating as having a clearly defined direction and purpose, the book states.

“I stress that the point of courtship is not to get married but to prepare the heck of it,” Julie VanLan (’99) said, having just finished Harris’ book. “It encourages us to get to know each other better with the intent of asking ourselves ‘Can I marry this person?’”

“Courting should focus on our behavior as protecting our future spouse, even if the person you are dating isn’t going to be your spouse,” she said.

Still, some may see courtship as too far in the future for them, or simply not an option.

“I think courting is too old-fashioned and out of date,” Rachele Thomas (’99) said. “It’s unrealistic for today’s dating scene.”

But dating comes with its own set of unwritten rules, which many find difficult to navigate.

The book “Boundaries in Dating,” by Henry Cloud and John Townsend, is aimed to help people think about taking a healthy approach to dating with a Christian perspective.

Brandon Smith (’09) is currently reading “Boundaries in Dating” based on the recommendation of a friend.

“It’s helped me to become selfless in the way I approach dating,” Smith said. His favorite tip from the book is to “fall in love with Jesus and be actively patient with dating.”

To keep dating in a Christian light and resist the seductive temptations of society, “It is essential to seek God’s kingdom together. It’s good to have fun and enjoy God together,” Smith said.
For many Hope College students, this spring marks more than just the end of another academic year. These students must come face to face with the real world.

As the campus’ anticipation grows as the semester draws to close, many graduating students are facing May’s commencement services with the pressure of establishing career plans.

“It’s definitely nerve-racking,” Sara Henry (’07) said. “It’s always hard to know what to expect from the job search and interview process.”

Henry said that she started her job search last fall. After conducting both phone and in-person interviews, Henry received a job offer in the computer-technology field. However, she is currently planning on attending graduate school at the University of Michigan in the fall.

“It really wasn’t as bad as I thought it would be,” Henry said, looking back upon her job search and interview process.

According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers’ “Job Outlook 2007,” many college graduates will face a promising job market this spring. Employers intend to hire 17.4 percent more graduates from the class of 2007 than they did from the class of 2006. Students with degrees in business, engineering and technology are expected to be in especially high demand.

The report also stated that the growing demand for new college graduates is a reflection of expanding corporations and retiring baby boomers. While recent college graduates often lack experience and skill, many employers appreciate their motivation, enthusiasm and innovative ideas.

“It really wasn’t as bad as I thought it would be.” — Sara Henry (’07)

“Even though employers can easily cite the shortcomings of new college graduates, they’re looking for people they can mold into future leaders within their organizations,” the report said.

Many employers have shown interest in Hope’s class of 2007. According to Director of Career Services Dale Austin, many Hope students have been successful in their job searches this spring. Graduating students have received jobs within the accounting, law, educational and financial fields. Austin also said that the national job market is continuing to improve for recent college graduates. Students do need to have initiative in order to be successful in the local job search process.

“Michigan’s economy is not that healthy,” Austin said. “Only Mississippi has a higher unemployment rate.”

Fortunately, Austin has advice to help students successfully receive a job. Graduating students need to have a career focus, or an idea of the type of work that they would like pursue. Next, students need to develop a resume and job search plan. Lastly, students need to prepare for the interview process. Career Services offers assistance with all of these steps.

“We see a lot of students for a variety of issues,” Austin said. “We can help with graduate school preparation, resume preparation, alumni networking and mock interviews.”

Austin strongly recommends that graduating students utilize Career Services and job fairs frequently held in the area.

Austin also said that graduating students currently without career plans should not despair because many students are in the same position. These students should make an appointment with Career Services to develop a plan.

“Take advantage of these opportunities,” Austin said. “Initiative is the key word.”

Constitution Changes

The Student Congress constitution underwent a major facelift under the leadership of Parliamentarian Ryan Lincoln (’07). The changes included combining the bylaws and the constitution, which had previously been two documents. Additionally, the comptroller position is now being referred to as the controller position to more accurately reflect the job description. The secretary position was expanded to include treasurer duties, and several changes were made to procedure to improve the overall effectiveness of Congress. Finally, the cap for ad-hoc requests that can be approved by the Appropriations Committee was doubled from $500 to $1,000.

“From a procedural standpoint, the changes were approved with only one dissention.” — Austin

Election Results

Student Congress held its annual spring election for executive board and class representatives for the 2007-2008 academic year. To receive information about next year’s leadership staff, contact Congress at congress@hope.edu.

Demm reps will be elected in the fall.
Musings of a wandering environmentalist

To: A lackluster audience in the Pine Grove’s vacant auditorium

Stephen Cupery

What is this life if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.

Read it again. Give it some thought.

Written by the Welsh poet W.H. Davies, this succinct yet profound couplet addresses how has the world been subjected to disregard and thus become irrelevant to many of us?

Rodriguez

Continued from page 6

that we have to work out but don’t have the time to talk about it. But then when we’re on break, we find that we can’t even enough of hanging out with each other – even more than when we were dating. And now we can cuddle on the couch in front of our parents and it’s not as awkward (for us anyway).

How has your college life changed?

We get more sleep now because all of our late night talks are in bed, and that’s just so much more ergonomic.

How do you handle your finances?

The hard transition is coming in oh, say, a career in advertising, each career incorporating artistic values learned at Hope.

"The senior art show" is a chance for the seniors to show what they have learned throughout their lives about art, but also a way to express themselves and their personal style in art.” Laura Kimma (’07) said, “The art a person makes displays a lot of the artist and their beliefs so in the end the senior show is kind of like a biography of each of the artists through their work.”

Livingston

Continued from page 6

What is the best part of being married?

It’s an incredibly freeing thing. A lot of people talk about getting “tied down” by marriage, but I’ve found just the opposite. Sure, there are some choices, but there are freedom allowed in chosen restrictions.

What are your plans for after college?

We are going to be living and working in Holland (specifics yet to be established on the job front). What advice would you give to the engaged couples at Hope about marriage?

A friend once reminded me to really think.” —Jennifer Blair (’07)

The Anchor

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

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.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE SENIOR SCRAMBLE?

“I never thought I’d be a part of it, but it turns out that I am getting married right out of college. If people find the right person, it shouldn’t matter if it’s at the very end of college. It doesn’t matter what people think.” —Jennifer Blair (’07)

“I think it’s an unrealistic representation of society outside Hope College. I don’t think most people feel it’s important to get married by 22.”—Graham Carlson (’09)
Rumbleweed
Regarding the poetry blitz chapel incident

Jeremy Benson

It was me. I did it. I was the bandit who plastered the chapel with poetry on the night of April Fools. I climbed up to the stage and taped a copy of Robert Bly’s “Two Ways to Write Poems” on a snare drum. I taped A. Van Jordan’s “inchoate” on the outside of the organ. I did it. It was all me.

But please, I beg you, before you condemn me, listen to my defense:

That night was the first time I stepped into the chapel since Jack Ridl’s poetry reading in September. In other words, I haven’t been to chapel or the Gathering in quite some time. I haven’t been to any church service in Holland since last October. When I’m at home I’ll go to church service in years. I haven’t experienced Him/Her during a church service in years.

I create a drawing or construct a platform and life as one in the same. But it’s also manifestation of the acceptance of death and life as one in the same. But it’s also

Ironic, I haven’t experienced Him/Her during a church service in years. I haven’t experienced Him/Her during a church service in years.

Not at all. I feel closer to him than I ever did during my 20 years of churchiness. I know God on a deeper, more personal level, finding Him/Her in places other than an ultra-neo-orthodox building:

“In tears, in breaks and breaks in, in cancer cells and funerals. Ironic, I know—g I guess my way of coping with all the nasty crap that good people inevitably go through.

“In the obstetrics floor of the hospital, in the feet of children playing tag at CASA, in mud and twigs and mountains and poison ivy.

“In art. When I look at a Klimt or a Picasso or a Jimbo Johnson from the Kentucky woods, I feel close to Her. When I create a drawing or construct a platform for the next theater production, I feel close to Him.

“In poetry. For me, poetry is the manifestation of the acceptance of death and life as one in the same. But it’s also the trust in something more. When I write poetry, no matter the topic or structure or sound, I feel like I am worshiping God.

And I’m not the only one. Whoever wrote the Old Testament loved to break out into verse: Psalms is one giant book of poetry smack-dab in the middle of the Bible, and who knows what to do with Song of Solomon, it’s so full of poetic beauty.

If you’re angry about the poems in the chapel because I could’ve hurt the instruments, I’m sorry, and I’ll pay for any damage. If I prevented anyone from worshipping on that Monday morning, I am painfully sorry. But if you think poems in the chapel are disrespectful to God, I ask that you think about it from my point of view, and more importantly, from His/Her point of view.

During her reading last Wednesday, writer Joan Silber said, “There are all sorts of ways to be human.” Likewise, there are many ways to worship the Lord, many ways to obey, many ways to experience Him/Her.

Jeremy Benson, a junior, once worshipped God every Sunday with a rattling eggplant. Questions/concerns about Jeremy’s spiritual health? Write to anchor@hope.edu or jeremy.benson@hope.edu.

Response

Continued from page 1

there; thankfully, she was not on campus (on Monday).”

Emily McConnelly ’09, a resident of Arlington, Va., had at one point applied to attend Virginia Tech, before deciding upon attending Hope. She recognizes that, had she not come to Hope, she could’ve been amongst those who were victims.

“One of the boys injured was a sophomore bio-major, which is the same as me. That really hit home with my dad,” McConnelly said. “I have a lot of classmates down there. Most of them are O.K., but there is one who I still haven’t been able to contact.”

Jennifer Young, an English professor, knows several people at Virginia Tech, including many English professors and administrators.

“I am saddened that it happened anywhere, especially at an institute of higher learning,” Young said. “I appreciate Hope being a peaceful environment and having the counseling center where students can go to for support.”

On Tuesday, Hope held a special vigil to remember and pray for those affected by the Virginia Tech shootings. The vigil was led by Dean of the Chapel Trygve Johnson, and it focused on personal reflection and an invocation for God to bestow his blessings and peace upon Virginia Tech and those who are praying for that community.

“Blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted”

— Matthew 5:4

Johnson provided some words of hope that may be of comfort to some people.

"Blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted," Johnson said, quoting a passage from Matthew 5.

In his own words, Johnson added, “We need to feel the sorrow and hold our words to not judge them to quickly. Hope College President James Bultman expressed a deep sympathy for the Virginia Tech and Blacksburg community. It’s an unspeakable tragedy for the families, for Hope’s campus, and for that small community, but I think that all of us feel it.”

Bultman said, “So we uplift the families and campus community in our prayers and pray that somehow God will bring peace and comfort.”

In an irony of sorts, Hope students in Professor Patricia Roehling’s behavior disorders class are currently studying and discussing a book, “Devil in the White City.” The book is about a 19th century murderer, H.H. Holmes, who is considered to be America’s worst serial offender. The discussion in Tuesday’s class focused on personality traits that the Virginia Tech gunman may have possessed.

“It’s hard to do (however), because we don’t know much about this man yet,” Roehling said.

With students interacting with and thinking about the Virginia Tech events, concerns about student mental health arise. Kristen Gray, director of the Counseling Center, has noticed that the tragedy is “definitely on the minds of students.”

Gray would like to remind students that the counseling center has six counselors on staff and that the chaplain staff at the Keppel House is another great resource to which students can turn.

“I also want to remind students that R.A.’s, RD’s, and faculty are all excellent resources,” Gray said.

Gray also added that she has heard about Hope students praying with friends and contacting parents and families. She also urges students to not focus on the news of the tragedy.

“It is better to focus on praying with one another and spending time with one another,” Gray said, “than to focus on the images of these events.”
A senior reflects on Hope and religion

Joe Vasko

During my sophomore year at Hope College, as I sat in Cultural Heritage class on the second floor of the Anderson-Werkman Financial building gazing out the window, admiring the natural beauty of a tree (of all things), I became atheist.

People tell me its strange that I remember an exact moment when I came to a conclusion that there was no God, but its true that in a moment, I fell into the disbelief that I had ever conformed to the deception of the priests and preachers.

As I look back now, I can tell you with confidence that it had nothing to do with a lack of evidence for God, it was just apathy. I didn’t need a God. I had a life that was going pretty good, and I didn’t mind being distracted with worldly things. Whether we are happy in this life has absolutely no bearing on what is true or not.

Ultimately the compatibility of faith and human reason is a lot of prayer is what led to my reversion. Reason was key. I fail to understand how reason, if it is not manipulated in some way, can contradict God which is the arbiter and creator of all existence. However, after reason, you still need faith, this is undeniable. I found there to be a lot of misconception about faith in God even at a Christian institution like Hope; people claim faith is irrational and superstitious which just isn’t true. That kind of thinking is blindness, a result of not seeking out answers but merely assuming that there are none.

Even at Hope the Christian message of salvation, the salvation of a human soul and the love of God has been buried under piles of that contemporary vanity that the media produces. Fellow Hope Students: we live in a post-modernist society where rules are questioned—the search for Christ has suffered because of it, a symptom of human arrogance—do not be afraid to learn more and take more inspiration from the early martyrs who suffered cruel deaths for Christ. Were they delusional? No, they were inspired by God himself. Something the more recent generation has lost.

It’s two years later. I’m a much more spiritual person. Hope College has no doubt been a big part of that. I’m not a typical Hope student. Instead I’m a non-reformed Latin Rite Catholic, but through the campus organization called Union of Catholic Students, I was able to meet not just other Catholics but other Traditional Catholics with whom I developed very close friendships. I commend the College for its support of that organization, and

As a senior I’ll be graduating in mere weeks and my voice will no longer be heard on campus, however I hope that by some small chance you’ll take into consideration these words and next time be more sensitive to your audience and give my fellow classmates the benefit of the doubt that, though we may occasionally slip, we still have the love of God in our hearts. I hope that in the future students on this campus will actually practice living and loving like Christ, despite the state of our virginity.

Sincerely,
Briana Galbreath (’07)
ATHLETE PROFILE: KYLEE BROUWER
Junior All-American plays softball for the love of the game

R.J. Thebo
Staff Writer

Many of us remember our first little League games as a kid: hitting the ball and accidentally running to third, getting on the same team as all of our friends, picking our favorite numbers for our jerseys, and dancing circles in the last inning at the thought of ice cream after the game. Little League in Georgetown (Jenison area) was no different for Kylee Brouwer. With her black and red glove, Kylee took to the field, tripping over her shoelaces as she sprinted to the mound. She was dreaming of playing in the big leagues, just like every other Little Leaguer does.

“When I was 10, I knew I wanted to be a pitcher,” Brouwer (’08) said. “But after I broke my catcher’s nose and knocked my dad out during another episode, I just started to catch.” That was not a bad idea as it turns out. After batting .448, earning All-MIAA and All-American honors, and placing fourth all-time at Hope College in batting average for a season as a sophomore, Brouwer and the team have high expectations for the season. As captains, Brouwer and Laura Tanovey (’09) lead the team, which has no seniors.

“She is interested in getting to know all the new freshmen,” Brouwer’s (’10) said. “But she always is positive and friendly to everyone.”

Although Brouwer’s bat has proven to be a huge asset to the Dutch lineup, but her leadership has proven equally valuable. “She’s also become more vocal as a leader. When I first met her, (I thought) she was kind of quiet, but now she’s very vocal both on and off the field,” first baseman Kelli Daimstra (’09) said.

Brouwer has proven to be a leader, through and through. Aside from Brouwer, her big bat and big numbers, her leadership is reflected with her commitment to the team on and off the field. She is there for summer ball, fall ball and leading the conditioning before the season starts,” Hamming added.

“Both my brothers taught me to catch,” Brouwer said. However, working hard isn’t the only thing you’ll find Brouwer doing. Winter backpacking, collecting Coca-Cola memorabilia, enjoying God’s beauty outdoors and eating, some occasional chocolate highlight some of Brouwer’s interests. It is clear, though, that softball is her love. “I love softball. My grandpa is 75, and he still runs in a slow-pitch league,” Brouwer said. With such a commitment to the game and her team, Kylee will, like her grandpa, surely be on the field for years to come, whether as an All-American or just a lover of the game.

Nick Hinkle
Go Ears

Want to find a fun way to stay in shape? The Drumstick Dash, the Bix 7 or the Pigeon Creek Trail Run might be the answer. These are just a few favorite road races among some Hope College students.

Although Hope has plenty of athletes who participate in the MIAA, many students decide to participate in some of these road race events. Meghan Fore (’10), Kate Freshour (’09) and Jon Koopmans (’09) are Hope students who enjoy running road races ranging from 5ks to marathons. They regularly run races anywhere from Holland to Chicago.

Fore competed on her high school’s cross country team but really enjoys the competitive atmosphere. When describing the competitive experience in high school, Fore said, “The pressure is on to do well. When I am not competing, I enjoy it.”

The relaxed training for road races also offers Fore an opportunity to recover when and how she wants. “I wanted to do my own thing,” Fore said. “I try and run the most I can depending on my schedule.”

Koopmans also enjoys the relaxation and freedom running provides, while listening to the Gris on his iPod. “It’s almost like meditation,” Koopmans said. “I guess it’s a way to chill out. I just put on my music and go.”

On average Fore tries to run at least three miles every day, while Koopmans runs seven to eight miles every other day. Fore’s favorite race is the four-mile Drumstick Dash in Indianapolis, Ind.; however, this summer Fore’s training will increase as she prepares for the Chicago Marathon on Oct. 7.

Instead of using competition for motivation, Fore uses preparation for events such as Chicago to stay motivated.

“Having an upcoming race drives me,” Fore said. “I need to workout so I can be ready for the next race.”

“Both Fore and Koopmans are great students who enjoy running various road races. She became interested in road races during high school in order to accumulate points to make the varsity cross country team. Although Freshour competes on Hope’s cross country and track teams, she notices the relaxed atmosphere at road races gives her an opportunity to make new friends.

“You get to meet a lot of different people because of the age range,” Freshour said. “Everyone is friendly to everyone else even if they do not know each other.”

In preparing for races, Freshour likes to cross train by swimming and biking. She also recommends checking online and downtown Holland for information about what races are coming up.

Both Fore and Freshour also enjoy running with family. Fore runs with her twin sister and father, while Freshour enjoys running with her brother. Whether it is the Chicago Marathon, Drumstick Dash or the Bix 7, road races provide students a fun way to stay in shape.

“It is different than track season. The people who come are so dedicated. It is amazing just to watch,” Freshour said in describing the Bix 7 race atmosphere.
**SPORTS**

**April 18, 2007**

**TELEVISION STARTS STRONG**

Gordie Fall

**SPORTS EDITOR**

This year, both Hope College tennis teams have started the season off very strong, and both are contending for MIAA titles.

The men’s team currently has a 3-1 record in the MIAA and are 8-9 overall. Led by captain Steve Malvitz (‘08), the Dutchmen are ranked third in the MIAA.

Hope’s women’s team is also having a good year, with a 5-1 conference record and a 12-7 overall record. The team recently defeated Olivet College 5-4 to move up to second place overall in the conference.

One factor that some team members have attributed to their winning play is the annual trip to Hilton Head, S.C. taken each March. The trip helped to bring team members together while allowing them to play other teams that would not normally appear on the schedule.

“We have a very young team this year, with seven freshmen out of our ten members. This season, we began the season as mostly acquaintances, but over the course of the season, we have become a very close team,” Alison Roth (‘10) said. “I have never been on a tennis team that was as social as ours.”

These two close teams will continue play until the end of the month, when conference tournaments will begin.

**SWINGING FOR FIRST IN MIAA**

**JENNY CENCER**

The Hope College baseball team split an MIAA home doubleheader with Albion on Monday. Hope lost the opener 3-5. Although the Dutchmen stranded 10 base runners from home over the seven-inning game, Scott Sommavilla (‘08) collected a pair of hits.

Hope rallied to capture the nightcap 10-5, with the entire starting lineup collecting a hit. Led by the 3-for-3 effort by Matt Vandervek (‘07), while Mike VanderVelden (‘08) connected twice. Pitcher Shawn Grose (‘10) improved his season record to 3-0 with relief help from Matt Richardson (‘09) and Kurt DeHorn (‘07). In MIAA standings, second place Hope (9-5) chases Adrian, yet a Dutchman was named MIAA pitcher of the week. Mike Rodgers (‘07) pitched a pair of three-hit victories against league opponents. He pitched a 2-0 shutout against Albion and followed with a 6-2 triumph over Kalamazoo on Saturday. Over 14 innings he allowed one earned run, struck out 14 batters and walked five.

Hope will host Tri-State for a doubleheader at 2 p.m. today.

**UPCOMING HOME EVENTS**

**PERFECT LEAGUE START**

**SOFTBALL** openes season with 6-0 MIAA record

**JENNY CENCER**

On Tuesday, the Flying Dutch played a doubleheader against the University of Chicago. Losing by three runs in the first match-up, Hope came back to win the final game 3-2.

At the Illinois Wesleyan tournament last week, the team won four of five games. On Friday, the Dutch posted a dramatic 3-2 victory over the Wesleyan Titans. The nationally ranked host’s shutout bid ended when Maddie Garcia (‘09) hit a leadoff homerun. The tying and winning runs came with two outs behind an RBI double by Jessica Regnerus (‘08) and the game-winning RBI single by Tara Hamming (‘10). Deidra Enoch (‘10) pitched the victory allowing eight hits while striking out four and walking three. The Dutch then defeated Maryville, Mo. 6-4, 0-6, 11-9. The men’s tennis team is ranked third in the MIAA with a 3-0 record. They have two MIAA matches remaining, including a matchup against MIAA leading Kal- amazoo.

**THE WEEK IN SPORTS**

**THE WEEK IN SPORTS**

**Track**

The men’s and women’s track teams will have their first MIAA meets April 21. The MIAA season has been condensed into a two week span because of cancellations due to weather. The teams face Olivet and defending MIAA champions Calvin, who won the title for both men and women in 2006.

**Women’s Golf**

The women’s golf team had two tournaments either canceled or postponed due to weather. They will open the spring season with the Olivet Invitational on April 20-21. They will then compete in the Tri-State Tournament on April 24 which was rescheduled from the original April 12 date.

**Men’s Golf**

The men’s golf team placed third out of nine teams at the Bill Gettig Invitational hosted by Tri-State. The team was led by Don Krings (‘10) 76-73-179. They have two tournaments remaining to prepare for the NCAA championships, which they qualified for in the fall.

**HOPE’S MIAA STANDINGS**

**Baseball**

Overall Record: 14-9
MIAA Record: 9-5
MIAA Standing: 2nd

**Softball**

Overall Record: 18-7
MIAA Record: 6-0
MIAA Standing: 2nd

**Men’s Tennis**

Overall Record: 8-9
MIAA Record: 3-1
MIAA Standing: 3rd

**Women’s Tennis**

Overall Record: 12-7
MIAA Record: 5-1
MIAA Standing: 2nd

**Women’s Golf (Tri-State)**

April 21
2 p.m. (DH) Buys Athletic Complex

**Softball**

April 23
3:30 p.m. (DH) Buys Athletic Complex

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