Freshman bikes for Rwandan farmers
Mary Davis
Guest Writer

Professional bicyclists from all over the world join every summer in an epic bike race across France. These teams race everywhere from 100 to 2,200 miles. The prize for the winning team of La Tour de France is over $5.5 million. However, Hope College student Luke Tubergen (11) is proud to beat all the odds as he bikes with four of his friends across the United States for nearly two months this summer. His cause? It’s not the million dollar prize.

Tubergen and his friends will bike more than 7,000 miles from Seattle, Wash. to New York, N.Y. to raise awareness for a program called Project Rwanda. Well known in the biking community, Project Rwanda works with Rwandan farmers to provide transportation for their crops to the market of bicycles. Project Rwanda sells farmers bicycles on credit to provide transportation for their crops. Rwanda works with Rwandan farmers to sell bicycles to farmers in order to draft plans for a bike race from Seattle to New York, in hopes of helping to meet their needs. They are also involved in the construction of a house for them. The bikes have been delivered. Some Hope students do not have the luxury of being able to sleep until five minutes before their class starts. They have to get up at seven o’clock to take their clothes to the gym. Tubergen and his friends are looking forward to being able to sleep until five minutes before their class starts.

According to the special edition DVD of “My Left Foot: The Story of Christy Brown,” Daniel Day-Lewis was so committed to assuming the role of his character, a disabled individual, that he bound himself to his wheelchair for months. He felt the only way to truly understand the character was to experience first hand the constant struggles of every day life. April 7 was the start of Disability Awareness Week at Hope. The goal was to show others the difficulties and struggles that are often cast aside and taken for granted in our world and on our campus. Some Hope students do not have the luxury of being able to sleep until five minutes before their class starts. They have to get up at seven o’clock to take their clothes to the gym. Tubergen and his friends are looking forward to being able to sleep until five minutes before their class starts. They have to get up at seven o’clock to take their clothes to the gym. Tubergen and his friends are looking forward to being able to sleep until five minutes before their class starts.

Many people around campus were riding around all week in wheelchairs to simulate the feeling of not being able to move their legs. While this type of exercise can be an eye opener to those who are able to walk unassisted, Hope College went one step further. Students were encouraged to empathize with what it would be like not to be able to see, hear or walk as they usually are able. On Tuesday, Hope offered activities that simulated a variety of impairments, ranging from blindness to not being able to hear.

SEEN AWARENESS, PAGE 6

Cosmopolitan fraternity, Habitat build a bond
Ashley Joseph
Guest Writer

The Phi Kappa Alpha Cosmopolitan Fraternity at Hope College has recently started forming a relationship with the Lakeshore Habitat for Humanity with hopes of helping to meet the needs of the Holland community. According to the national website, more than a billion people around the world live in substandard housing. Millard Fuller founded Habitat for Humanity with the mission of eliminating such housing for the world’s poorest citizens. Lakeshore’s Habitat for Humanity website states that, “As of 2006, LHF has completed 80 homes, bettering the lives of hundreds of children in the area. (The organization) is based on the principle that all God’s people deserve a decent place to live and that our community is a better place when that occurs.”

SEEN AWARENESS, PAGE 6

Students win Goldwater scholarships

(Hope) - Three Hope College juniors have received prestigious Goldwater Scholarships for the 2008-09 academic year out of only 321 awarded nationwide.

The three recipients, all of whom are chemistry majors at the college, are Kristin Dittenhafer (‘09) of Midland; Jonathan McDowell (‘09) of Troy; and Amy Speelman (‘09) of Darien, Ill.

The scholarships were awarded by the Board of Trustees of the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation to undergraduate sophomores and juniors. The Goldwater Scholars were selected on the basis of academic merit from a field of 1,035 mathematics, science and engineering students who were nominated by the faculties of colleges and universities nationwide.

The scholarships are for one or two years, depending on the recipient’s year in school, and cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, and room and board up to a maximum of $7,500 per year.

“Amy, Kristin and Jon are outstanding students who are well deserving of this prestigious recognition,” said Dr. Moses Lee, who is dean for the natural and applied sciences and a professor of chemistry at Hope. “I am especially pleased because Hope College has one of the largest summer research programs among predominantly undergraduate institutions in the nation. These awards are highly competitive, and this level of recognition exemplifies the incredible education that we provide for our students at Hope.”

Several Hope College students have received the prestigious awards or honorable mentions in the program through the years. Keith Mulder (‘08) of Portage holds a Goldwater Scholarship for the current, 2007-08 school year.

Dittenhafer conducts research with Lee and his research team on publicizing the upcoming service opportunity with Habitat by showing a video to be made about Habitat in one of his communication classes to students at Chapel.

The Cosmopolitan Fraternity plans to open the service project up to the Center for Faithsee BOND, PAGE 6

SEEN AWARENESS, PAGE 6
Students win Goldwater scholarships

**SCHOLARSHIPS, from page 1**

associates Drs. Toni Brown and Hilary Mackay. Their research is focused on the development of small molecules capable of recognizing specific DNA sequences in the human genome, with the goal of controlling the expression of deleterious disease-causing genes. She has been conducting research with Lee since the spring of 2007, including during both the school year and summer.

Her plans include pursuing either a doctorate in biochemistry or attending an MD/Ph.D. combined program and conducting medically related research in the future. She is the daughter of Mark and Diane Dittenhafer of Millard and a 2005 graduate of Millard High School.

Moercky and Speelman both work in Dr. Jason Gillmore’s organic chemistry research group, where they are both actively working on the group's primary effort of making and evaluating new organic photochromes for electron transfer applications in materials science.

Speelman also works with Gillmore on using computational modeling to predict the reduction potentials of organic molecules, work recently accepted for publication in the Journal of Physical Chemistry.

Moercky has been conducting research with Gillmore since the summer of 2006, including during both the school year and summer. He plans to pursue a doctorate in chemistry with a probable focus on the marine environment, with the goal of controlling harmful algal blooms and the expression of deleterious disease-causing genes.

Speelman has been conducting research with Gillmore since the spring of her sophomore year, including during the summer.

In Brief

Voting for Student Congress

Beginning Wednesday, you may vote for one nominee for president, one nominee for vice president, and one nominee in class representing you for the 2008-2009 academic year (sophomore, junior, senior). A link will be available via KnowHope on Wednesday.

Study Abroad Photo Contest Display

Stop by the Martha Miller First Floor Hallway to see the photo display of the 2008 Study Abroad Photo Contest. Students who studied overseas in the spring or fall 2007 submitted photos pertaining to the theme of "Global Understanding." The photos are on display 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. from April 14-25.

Shuttle Van

Campus Safety is currently undergoing talks about possibly discontinuing the Shuttle Van service for next year.

Freshman bikes for Rwandan coffee farmers

**BIKING, from page 1**

They plan to arrive in New York August 5. Tubergen said they will probably have a driver following throughout the trip to carry supplies and increase safety. All the equipment used for the trip has been donated. From personal donations to major company sponsors like The North Face, Tubergen and his friends have been given all they need to make it from one end of the country to the other. All that’s left for them is the training.

With winter weather in Michigan, Tubergen said it’s been hard to practice outdoor biking, something he doesn’t have much experience doing. He’s been doing a lot of running and cross training to prepare.“It’s pretty intense, but I’m not nervous yet, just excited,” he said.

Benefit Concert

This Friday, April 18, Tubergen and few of his classmates will put on a benefit concert to promote and inform students about the purpose of his summer bike trip and the organization he and his friends are supporting. Held at the Leaf and Bean Coffee House at 451 Columbia Ave. in Holland, student groups from Hope and surrounding schools will perform for the cause. The cost is one dollar to get in the door and there will be taking donations and selling t-shirts to raise money as well.

“It’s really a lot about awareness, to encourage people to give to Project Rwanda,” Tubergen said.

Visit their website for more information on their trip, including their route and their blog at www.therideforrwanda.org.
Olympic-sized problems face China

International community experiences protests; Chinese government scrutinized over policies

Laura Stritzke
Source: Washington Post

The Olympics are normally an event to promote international community, but this year they are attracting controversy. The Olympic torch relay around the world began in Mt. Olympia, Greece March 24 and will end in Beijing Aug. 8 during the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games, at every stop the torch has been met by protesters.

The international community is rising due to China's human rights policies regarding Tibet. China took Tibet by force in 1951, and the area has been a source of turmoil ever since. On March 10, Tibetan monks and ethnic Tibetans were protesting for their freedom from China's control when Chinese security forces intervened, and the situation turned violent. A marketplace was burned and, according to the New York Times, 16 people were killed, although there is no official casualty count because the press is not in the country.

Anti-China protesters came out in high numbers on April 6 in London, causing scuffles and several arrests along the torch's pathway. A marketplace was burned and, according to the New York Times, 16 people were killed, although there is no official casualty count because the press is not in the country.

The torch made its appearance in San Francisco on April 9. Protesters had prepared by climbing the Golden Gate Bridge and hanging banners that said "Free Tibet" and "One World, One Dream, Free Tibet." The parade's organizers feared for chaos situations like those in London and Paris and changed the torch's route last minute in order to side-step the protests.

China's Foreign Ministry lashed out against the protests and said, "We express our strong condemnation to the deliberate disruption of the Olympic torch relay by Tibetan separatist forces." World leaders such as Gordon Brown, prime minister of London, and Nicolas Sarkozy, president of France, have expressed their intention to boycott the Olympic opening ceremony to express their disapproval of China's actions. President candidates Sen. Hillary Clinton and Sen. Barack Obama have called on President Bush to boycott the ceremony, while Sen. John McCain says the president should keep his options open. Currently, President Bush does not intend to boycott the ceremony. "I do not view the Olympics as a political event; I see them as a sporting event," Bush said.

Hope College student Esther Dwyer (DS) disagree. "The Olympics are about the global community coming together despite problems." Dwyer said, "No country that hosts the Olympics is going to be perfect; however, China did promise to change certain things to get the bid to host the Olympics and they haven't come through with those promises."

Dwyer believes China's hosting the event could turn out to be a positive thing. "There is an opportunity for China to be forced into making some changes in their human rights policies because it gives the rest of the world a voice to directly question China about their behavior," Dwyer said.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) vice-president Kevin Gosper said that this relay would continue regardless of the protests, but the possibility of future Olympic relays would have to be reviewed.

Zimbabwe election leads to controversy

Christopher Broe
Guest Writer

Political unrest continues to cause tension across the nation of Zimbabwe as opposition leaders plan to challenge a recount, that will challenge the upcoming recount, that will challenge the upcoming recount, that will challenge the upcoming recount, that will challenge the upcoming recount, that will challenge the upcoming recount. The controversy stems from a sustained delay in the nation's government to release the results of the election held two weeks ago. The opposing force, Zimbabwe's Movement for Democratic Change (MDC), claims that the 28-year-reigning president, Robert Mugabe is just buying time in order to rig the results.

Leaders representing surrounding African nations gathered for an emergency conference on Sunday as tensions mounted last week in Zimbabwe. Authorities declared after the night-long meeting that they would recount the votes from nearly two dozen parliamentary races.

The decision fails to satisfy opposition leaders who pushed for the council to pressure Mugabe to resign. The MDC will challenge the upcoming recount, that they claim is intended to help Mugabe switch the election results in his favor.

Following the March 29 election confusion, 11 election officials were arrested and accounts of violence have been reported across the country. Human rights officials agree with the MDC president candidate, Morgan Tsvangirai who claims that those crimes are endorsed by Mugabe's party in an attempt to intimidate those recounting the votes.

Over the past eight years, Mugabe's party, ZANU-PF has destroyed hundreds of thousands of homes belonging to members of the political opposition. Last year, ZANU-PF kidnapped, beat, and arrested numerous opposition authorities, including Tsvangirai. MDC officials state that the violence against their party has worsened since the recent election. Over 200 of its supporters and campaign workers have been seized and beaten since ZANU-PF lost control of the legislature for the first time in 28 years.

Dwight D. Eisenhower once said, "In a free society, it is essential that the people have the right to know the truth about the actions of their government."

Hope professor of political science, Dr. Virginia Beard, relates the current state of Zimbabwe in what Makau Mutua wrote in his recent book, "Kenya's Quest for Democracy: Taming Leviathan," a book about the crises surrounding the African political order.

"Whether it is the repressive nature of the state, its disdain for civil society, its inability to perform the basic functions of statehood, or its proclivity for corruption, the African state stands at the center of the international community's attention," Beard said.

In Brief

AIRCANE CRISIS CAUSES STRESS ACROSS THE COUNTRY; PRESIDENT BUSH TO MONITOR

CRAWFORD, Texas (AP) — President Bush is "keeping a close eye" on airline woes that are hamstringing travel for thousands and hurting an already cash-strapped industry, the White House said Friday.

Since last month's revelation that Southwest Airlines flew planes that had missed inspections — a violation of federal standards — the Federal Aviation Administration has stepped up its scrutiny of aircraft inspections. The result is a misery for the flying public. Thousands of flights have been canceled just this week. The grounding of American Airlines flights because of safety inspections on its MD-80s alone has affected at least 250,000 passengers.

Also, Frontier Airlines sought bankruptcy protection Friday, the fourth carrier to do so over the past several weeks as exorbitant fuel prices cut into earnings and a weak U.S. economy keeps more people on the ground.

Polygamist compound raided

SAN ANGELO, Texas (AP) — Police have been searching for a West Texas polygamist retreat and were backed by an armored personnel carrier for a raid on a West Texas polygamist retreat, photos and video released Tuesday shows.

Four still photos and a slice of video were released to The Associated Press by Rod Parker, spokesman for the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, which owns the raided Yearning for Zion Ranch near San Angelo in Eldorado.

Sect members took the photos and video during the first few hours of the five-day raid that involved police agencies from six counties, the Texas Rangers, the state highway patrol and wildlife officers. Authorities were looking for a teenage girl who had reported being abused by her 50-year-old husband.

A sect member whose wife shot the video said sect members got the impression that state officials "were doing something more than they said they were going to do." The man declined to give his name for fear speaking out would cause problems for his children, who are in state custody.

Tela Mange, a state Department of Public Safety spokesperson, said officers were trained to protect themselves.

"Whenever we serve a search warrant, no matter where or when, we are always as prepared as possible so we can ensure the operational safety of the officers serving

BY DYLANA PINTER

AP Photo/Magnus Schutte

DEMANDING REDRESS — Lawyer for the opposition MDC (Movement for Democratic Change) Alec Muchadehama outside the High Court in Harare, where the MDC is seeking to compel the release of election results.

POLICYGAMIST COMPOUND RAIDED
Taylor Hughes
Assistant Arts Editor

It seems like just yesterday when President George W. Bush met with Russia’s president, Vladimir Putin in Slovenia; however, that was seven years ago on June 16, 2001. Their first encounter was considered around the world as warm, friendly and hopeful. Bush was even quoted shortly after the encounter as saying, “I was able to get a sense of his soul.” Bush’s comment about the former KGB agent was criticized by many as naive. However, his words were also seen as a respectable effort and step in a positive direction for the relations that have been historically rocky between the United States and Russia.

A little over a week ago, the two presidents met for what has been said to be their last meeting, a dinner at a Russian Sea shore. Both are trying feverishly to tie up loose ends as their presidential terms are evolving one. The U.S. relationship with Russia is an important and evolving one...the U.S. should stand for its principles and national interests, but at the same time situations should be settled whenever feasible.

Missile defense system fails to launch

“With all the goodbye rhetoric in play, it is not far from the world’s minds that though Bush will step down as president in January of 2009, Putin is hardly going anywhere.”

Although he cannot run for a third consecutive term, Putin will be working as prime minister of Russia under his handpicked and elected successor, Dmitry Medvedev. Putin could be president of Russia once again due to a loophole in the Russian democratic system that allows a former president to run again after a four-year pause. He has claimed that this is exactly his plan, and the Russian people thus far seem to be behind him.

“The incoming American president will have to address the U.S.-Russia relationship on a regular basis,” Holmes said. Bush is planning to meet with Medvedev to create a relationship and set up grounds for a somewhat new start between Russia and the US. He has also been setting forth a suggested plan regarding Russia and nuclear proliferation as well as counter-terrorism for whoever will be voted to take his place come November 2008 as president of the United States.

Zimbabwe’s election results cause tension

**ZIMBABWE, from page 3**

Beard believes that Mugabe plays a crucial role in the current status of Zimbabwe.

Mugabe’s refusal to release his tight grip on power, and his regime’s use of national resources for personal gain, and oppression of real opposition are part of the instability of Zimbabwe as a state,” Beard said.

Economic troubles

Zimbabwe’s economy took a sharp dive in recent weeks. The unemployment rate rose over 80 percent, and basic essentials like soap and bread can no longer be found on market shelves. Millions are fleeing Zimbabwe to neighboring nations like South Africa.

“Add to that the endemic poverty and unverifiable international political and policy climate towards Africa...and the growing HIV/AIDS crises, and such chaotic upheavals are sadly not surprising, but alarmingly likely,” Beard said.
MAGIC WITH COLOR AND LIGHT— Rose, Rachel Wells ('08), meets the Rime Witch, Whitney Thomas ('08).

‘Rose and the Rime’ heads to capital city

HOPE— It has been a year since ‘Rose and the Rime’ originated and played at Hope College. The musical theatre production of ‘Rose and the Rime’ is one of a select group of plays nationwide invited to be presented during the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (ACTF) National Festival in Washington, D.C., in April. ‘Rose and the Rime,’ which was written at the college, is one of only three full-length college/university-staged plays chosen for this year’s national festival from among the best productions highlighted during the eight ACTF regional festivals held around the U.S. in January and February.

"Rose and the Rime" was the only production from the ACTF Great Lakes Region festival in Milwaukee, Wis., to have the honor of performing in the national festival.

During the recent theater department trip to the Region Three Kennedy Center American College, professor Michelle Rembe kept a journal of her experiences. She wrote, “Theater professional, Kate Snodgrass told us that she saw some of the most beautiful images of her career in our production.”

"It felt like we were creating a new kind of theater. It felt like we were creating a new kind of theatre that was representative of the students' generation.”

For the first time the Hope College Theater Department will allow you to follow the happenings through their new blog as they travel to Washington D.C. Look for posts from faculty, cast members and crew members in the coming weeks. To keep up with what they are up to in and leading up to their D.C. trip, log in at www.Roseandtherime.blogspot.com.

Concerts to showcase symphony, symphonette

When and Where

Wednesday April 16

9:15 pm Sophomore Recital - Sally VanderPloeg - piano, Dimnent Chapel, 11:00 a.m.

Where are approximations of size, weight, age, even sometimes gender. Visit: http://www.frogsongers.com

8:00 pm Sophomore Recital - Michelle Pascoe, flute, Wichers Auditorium

Playing the flute: a unique experience that only a flute can provide, even if the flute is your only instrument, even if the flute is your only instrument.

Friday April 18

7:00 pm Junior Recital - Alexandria Romano, violin, Wichers Auditorium

First introduced the violin, and Alexandria arrive.

Saturday April 19

4:00 pm Junior Recital - Jennifer Bockstege - viola, Wichers Auditorium

Jim Hendryx supposedly started his musical career on viola. Jennifer is just as cool and will sign autographs.

6:00 pm Senior Recital - Christopher Turbessi - piano, Dimnent Chapel

The world record time for playing the piano is 7 hours and 56 minutes (courtesy of the best piano players) www.firstcoastnews.com

ARTS

MUSIC

THE ANCHOR

April 16, 2008

APRIL 16, 2008

IN BRIEF

PROFESSOR EXAMINES GENESIS LINGUISTICALLY

Dr. Barry Bandstra of the religion faculty provides a detailed linguistic analysis of the first 11 chapters of Genesis in his new book. Titled "Genesis 1-11: A Handbook on the Hebrew Text," the book is geared toward intermediate and advanced students of biblical Hebrew. It is the second volume in "The Baylor Handbook on the Hebrew Bible" series published by Baylor University Press of Waco, Texas. The 495-page book's emphasis is on enhancing students' understanding of the Hebrew language and the biblical text. It uses an approach to linguistic understanding called "functional grammar," which explains why clauses are worded and used together as they are.

VISITING WRITERS SERIES

The Jack Ralfo! Visiting Writers Series of Hope College will feature fiction writer Karen Joy Fowler on Wednesday, April 16, at 7 p.m. at the Krukacker Theatre. The public is invited and admission free. Karen Joy Fowler is the author of several novels and short story collections, including "The Jane Austen Book Club," a novel widely popular with readers and critics alike. Michael Dirda wrote in "The Washington Post Book World" that "Karen Joy Fowler creates a novel that is so winning, so touching, so delicately, slyly witty that admirers of Persuasion and Emma will simply sigh with happiness." Fowler's book "The Jane Austen Book Club" was recently adapted into a major motion picture starring Lynn Redgrave, Maria Bello and Hugh Dancy.

In Brief

GRANTS TO ARTISTS

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GENESIS LINGUISTICALLY

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ARTS
Images show police well armed for raid on polygamist retreat

**BOND, from page 1**

ful Leadership at Hope, which, according to its website, aims to "enhance campus-wide efforts to educate students for lives of leadership and service in a global society through academic and co-curricular programs."

Shelton said that building a house together is a great team-building activity and that people who decide to participate in this service opportunity will get a lot out of it. "It will be worth it because we will see results and we will be able to build a stronger relationship with the community," he said.

More information about getting involved with Habitat for Humanity is available at the LHFH website at [http://www.lakeshorehabitat.org/about.html](http://www.lakeshorehabitat.org/about.html).

**RAID, from page 3**

the warrant, as well as the safety of those who are on the property in question," Mungo said.

Focus on the children

The 416 children held by Texas authorities had been accompanied by 139 women until Monday, when officials ordered all the women away except for those whose children are under 5.

The mothers have complained the state deceived them, revealing the plan only after they and their children boarded buses from historic Fort Concho, where they had been staying, to the larger San Angelo Coliseum. State officials defended them Monday. They said in interviews that police surrounded and gave them a choice between returning home or relocating to a women's shelter.

"It just feels like someone is trying to hurt us. I do not understand how they can do this when they don't have a sure knowledge that anyone has abused these children."

— Paula, Eldorado resident

Disability Awareness Week highlights challenges

**AWARENESS, from page 1**

from learning disabilities to vision and hearing impairments. The men's basketball team found themselves playing a new type of game on Wednesday, one with wheels. They competed against some of the best players in West Michigan, the Grand Rapids Pacers Wheelchair Basketball team.

Hope College helped remind us of these types of challenges with events like the descriptive video version of the film "Pretty Woman" that was shown in the Klotz on Thursday. The video was actually designed for audiences with vision impairments and included audio description of on-screen action.

By the end of the week, many students and participating faculty developed greater understanding and appreciation for those less fortunate.

"At some point, if I'm lucky, a life will begin to emerge. A sensation first and foremost." Day Lewis said.

**Movie:** Smart People

**Director:** Noam Murro

**Genre:** Comedy/Drama

**Released:** April 11, 2008

Julie Kociski

Smart Writer

"Taking a cue from recent movies like "Little Miss Sunshine" and "The Savages," the new film "Smart People" successfully highlights the family dynamics of the Wetherhoffs.

In the film, Dennis Quaid plays Lawrence Wetherhold, an angry, slumpy and generally unpleasant English professor at Carnegie Mellon University. The anger stems from the death of his wife, his inability to get his book published and a variety of other setbacks.

His daughter, Vanessa, played by Juno's Ellen Page, is quite similar—smart, determined and stubborn, a National Honors Society member and a Young Republican. Vanessa's character is actually quite similar to Juno's. Still prominent are the quirky, witty comments, but this time dressed in a conservative argyle sweater.

After getting a minor concussion, Lawrence ends up in the hospital with Janet (Sarah Jessica Parker) as his doctor. Although I usually love the characters SJP plays, her character in "Smart People" was not terribly memorable. The character of Janet seems to serve as more of an element of contrast used to bring out the characters of Lawrence and Vanessa than an important, independent character.

After meeting, a romance between Janet and Lawrence quickly develops. This romance, however, seems to take a backseat to the other aspects of the movie. The most interesting aspects are the relationships between the family members and the slow revealing of the characters' emotional baggages. The complexities that exist within and among the characters are very realistic and interesting.

Chuck, Lawrence's "adopted" brother (i.e. did not inherit the "smart gene"), also plays an interesting character in the movie. He is the freeloading family loser who does not have a full-time job and who sleeps on Lawrence's couch. With a sarcastic and witty sense of humor, Chuck acts as the movie's much-needed comic relief.

Although there is a definite, strong plot running through this movie, it is the relationships that make this movie worthwhile so as to see. "Smart People" perfectly balances artsy/indy with mainstream, making it unique and realistic. What it also balances well are the dramatic, comical and romantic aspects of this movie to highlight the family dynamics.

(grade: 8.5/10)

Reviews published here are reflections of the opinions of the individual writers and not necessarily of the Anchor staff as a whole.

Did you know?

Van Wylen Library is celebrating its 20th Anniversary!

When: Monday, April 21st from 2pm - 4pm
Where: First floor of Van Wylen
Help us celebrate 20 years of service by joining us for our open house. Refreshments and entertainment will be provided.

Van Wylen Library - reliable - definitive. Check us out!
[www.hope.edu/lib](http://www.hope.edu/lib)
Puerto Escondido, Mexico
Trip Advisor: Dr. Robin Klay
Terms: May and June
Classes and Credits: 10 credits, 2 for prep and it in Mexico. Senior Seminar, internship in ministry, nursing, teaching, physical therapy, science.
Housing: Homestays with Mexican families
Activities: Building a Habitat for Humanity home, visiting the La Reforma Waterfall, exploring Oaxaca City, visiting the Zapotec Ruins.

Megan, Sweet ('08): "I’m really excited to live with the family and get to know them over a full two months. I feel a little bit like I will become a member of the community. This may be harder than anything I’ve ever done — it’ll be a big stretch, but it will also be an amazing growing experience."

Liverpool-Hope University, UK
Trip Advisor: Professor C. Baars Bultman and Professor Laura Pardo
Classes and Credits: Students receive four credits — elementary education program, students take Literacy II; the secondary education program students take Secondary Principles and Methods.
Housing: Dorms
Ryan Sweet ('08): "Some of the memories I will hold onto forever will be hanging out at the Cavern Club (this is where the Beatles first made their mark on society), researching for my History 495 paper."

Greetings from the Galapagos

Galapagos Islands:
Trip Advisor: Professor Harvey Blankespoor
Terms: May
Classes and Credits: Biology credit; possible Senior Seminar credit if arranged through the Registrar's Office.
Activities: Service and philanthropy projects with local schools and orphanages.
Housing: Roofed huts with bunk beds and mosquito netting for the first week, houseboats.
Josh Warner ('08): "There is nothing else like the Galapagos Islands on this planet; visiting there is like stepping into a nature documentary. It was my first time to a country whose primary language was not English. I am not fluent in Spanish, which made me a bit nervous. I was struck by how friendly and helpful Ecuadorians were."

Activities in Holland during May

Meghan Fore
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

Tulip Time Festival 2008:
Saturday, May 03 - Saturday, May 10
Tulip Time is one of the best small town festivals in the country with three exciting parades, klompen dancing, big name entertainment, free concerts, music and variety shows, a Dutch market, trolley tours, children's events, fireworks and much more.

Tulip Time Runs:
8K, 5K & 1K Kids Fun Run
Saturday, May 03, 8 a.m.
- Christ Memorial Church
599 Graaffschap Rd, Holland, MI 49423
Beginning at Christ Memorial Church, this family fun event will get your heart rate up and please your senses as you wind through the Historic District of downtown Holland, filled with thousands of beautiful blooming tulips and flowering trees.

Tulip Time Art and Craft Fair
Saturday, May 03, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Centennial Park
250 Central Ave, Holland, MI 49423
Over 130 exhibitors, located in the center of town, provide a variety of fine arts and original crafts at the 8th annual Tulip Time Art & Craft Fair.
Admission: Free

Historic Dutch Trade Fair at Windmill Island
Saturday, May 03, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Windmill Island Gardens
7th Street and Lincoln Ave, Holland, MI 49423
You’ll find a historic camp filled with colonial merchants and re-enactors. Learn what Dutch trade items were sought after 200 years ago and shop for your own piece of the past to take home.
Admission: Adults $8, Youth (5-15) $4

Tulip Time Dutch Marktplaats
Tuesday, May 06, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Civic Center
150 West 8th Street, Holland, MI 49423
Enjoy the largest selection of traditional Dutch food in town! The Marktplaats features genuine Dutch arts and crafts, souvenirs, lace, music, klompen dancers and more.
Admission: Free

Other Fun Events in May:
River City Improv
Tuesday, May 06, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- Knickerbocker Theater
River City Improv performs short-form improvisational comedy based on audience suggestions. Their style of clean, wholesome humor and witty improv is similar to that seen on ABC's "Whose Line is it Anyway?" Approximately 60 minutes.
Admission: $18.00

Farmers Market Opens for the Season
Wednesday, May 14, 8:00 a.m.
- Eighth Street Marketplace
150 West 8th Street, Holland, MI 49423
Over 50 vendors participate in this market to provide you with freshly harvested produce, flowers and plants. The majority of products sold at this market are locally grown. Baked goods, cheese, eggs and meats are also available. The Market is full of activities including street performers, cooking demonstrations, things for kids to do and even tips and training from the area's master gardeners.

Information provided by www.holland.org
In pursuit of knowledge

Evelyn Daniel

Dialogue needed

When I first visited Hope College as a high school student, I was struck by the welcoming, friendly community I encountered in my visits. However, on campus, the students were happy and optimistic; the community I found at Hope was exactly what I was looking for. The welcoming, friendly community I found at Hope was exactly what I was looking for.

In the midst of this positive environment, however, there were characteristically dark problems that continued to surface: a sexual assault; an openly gay professor with an opposite label: "For internal use only." Taking a look at my life at Hope and encouraged discussion; students regarding a satirical piece printed at Hope, I was reminded of it last week, happened again. I struggle to reconcile this side of Hope with the people that I have come to know and love.

In case I was tempted to ignore this dark side of Hope, I was reminded of it last week, as the Anchor staff held conversations with students regarding a satirical piece printed in the April 2 issue of The Anchor. Some students expressed their appreciation that the article pointed out important problems at Hope and encouraged discussion; others were profoundly hurt. The article exaggerated stereotypes and painted a distorted picture of the Hope community. This was, perhaps, too close to reality. It uncovered existing fears among the student body that Hope is not the place that we need to be. Furthermore, amidst good intentions on all sides, it led to many instances of miscommunication.

In conclusion, the first step in overcoming these problems. We cannot move forward without confronting the fact that Hope is an imperfection. While there is love, openness and education, there is also hate, prejudice and ignorance. Every week The Anchor seeks to tell the news of Hope as it is, not as Hope pretends to be.

Many times last week, people told me that they were offended by something they read in The Anchor. They wanted to see more coverage of diversity at Hope and acknowledgement of the problems that plague the community here. Most of all, they wanted someone to step up and take action to make Hope a better place.

Because communication is so important to solving problems, I was saddened by the fact that most of the people who told me they were offended never wrote letters to tell The Anchor staff or the student body exactly what offended them. Discussions about crucial issues such as race and diversity were held in closed rooms and spoken with hushed voices. If discussion continued in this fashion, nothing is likely to change.

The Anchor serves as both an objective news source and an open forum for discussion for the Hope community. We cannot begin to take actions until we can freely discuss the problems that we're facing. Does something about Hope or The Anchor bother you? Tell us at anchor@hope.edu — we will do everything in our power to publish your letter.

My progress on this column has been slowed considerably because I keep obsessively checking The Anchor inbox for letters to the editors. With only a few hours left until the letter deadline, my biggest fear is that despite all of my discussions with students last week, these pages will remain blank. I do not want to be wrong about the vision of Hope that I had when I first visited — I want to be a part of a community that confronts the darkness and emerges even stronger for it. Dear Hope, please do not let apathy prevail.

Evelyn was unusual to read the headlines "Fed up with politics, man eats vote" on Reuters this week. The Italian businesswoman ate his ballot in protest of the political system. Although she understood his frustrations, Evelyn did not believe his methods were particularly effective.

Beautiful feet

Bryant Russ

The family name

My shampoo container instructs: "For external use only." Taking a look at my life and the life of other Christians I sometimes wonder if the Holy Spirit comes as the Anchor article

Dear [Name], has managed to offend many people article, although written in a satirical manner.

Many lines in the article stepped beyond the bounds of satire, highlighting a viewpoint that is detrimental to the development of a healthy community. The author's tone is harsh and seems designed to promote conflict rather than generate true discussion. The stereotype of a community that confronts the darkness and aims to spark increased dialogue on the issue continues to successfully promote and develop new culture, religion, or racial identity and acceptance of diversity on campus. No longer can we merely acknowledge our own identity as members of God's family, not only of faith, but also of action. Our love can be more than just in our hearts and minds, but must be experienced in our feet, hands, words, and actions.

One of my favorite metaphors in the Bible is when God and his people are described as a husband and wife. We are to live with God everywhere out of a lifelong devotion to love; just like marriage. God is not interested in "hooking up." By only acknowledging our Lord a few minutes out of the week, we are missing the greatest opportunity that life has to offer. Living in love with God and acting in faith is the only way to live.

Let us embrace our true identity as members of God's family, not only of faith, but also of action. Our love can't just stay in our hearts and minds, but must be experienced in our feet, hands, words, and actions.

We are sons of God. A life of adventure and love is in store for those who give themselves to Christ in the knowledge that the Holy Spirit is not for external use only.

Letters to the Editors

Rancher article harsh, offensive

To the Editors:

This letter represents the collaborative efforts of several students and is a response to an article published in the April 2 edition of the Rancher entitled "New Diversity Campaign Draws Public Attention." The article, although written in a satirical manner, has managed to offend many people on campus. We as engaged Hope students would like to set aside these differences and come together to embrace the true meaning of diversity, while putting an end to the negative stereotypes perpetuated by the Rancher article.

Many lines in the article stepped beyond the bounds of satire, highlighting a viewpoint that is detrimental to the development of a healthy community. The author's tone is harsh and seems designed to promote conflict rather than generate true discussion. The stereotype of a community that confronts the darkness and aims to spark increased dialogue on the issue continues to successfully promote and develop new culture, religion, or racial identity and acceptance of diversity on campus. No longer can we merely acknowledge our own identity as members of God's family, not only of faith, but also of action. Our love can't just stay in our hearts and minds, but must be experienced in our feet, hands, words, and actions.

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— David A. Paul ('10)
Ami. 16. 2008

column, I think about what’s been happening in the world and what I’ve been thinking on campus, what’s been happening to all the surfing I’ve done recently: this er, my mind is blank. This might be due against the White Sox, while in Rohan, Rumbleweeds

Jeremy Benson

Usually, when I sit down to write this column, I think about what’s been happening on campus, what’s been happening in the world and what I’ve been thinking about. I settle on something, sort of make of it entertaining and send it off to my editors.

But this time, as I boot up my computer, my mind is blank. This might be due to the White Sox, while in Rohan, Rumbleweeds

From the inside out

Gina Holder

Hard to say goodbye

I really hate goodbyes. I’ve never been very good at them; the idea of leaving people or having people leave me just freaks me out. But as the year winds down, I find myself having to say goodbye to so many things that I’ve become accustomed to; friends, classes and my two roommates who I have grown to love so much. And while most of these goodbyes are only temporary, a goodbye to one of my roommates is tearing me apart. Not next year.

I remember the exact day we got our roommate cards in the mail. I was panicking about getting some psycho, trashy, freaky chick who I had nothing in common with and who would drive me to the brink of insanity. So, I opened that letter, prepared for the worst. And to my absolute horror, there were two cards. I was living in a triple. I actually cried I was so upset. I was totally convinced that at least one, if not both of them, would be terrible people, and I was going to have the worst year ever.

I went straight to my computer to Facebook stalk them, and to my relief they profile contained no pictures where they were partying, no in-depth bio about their significant other and no obsession with anime. So, I took a deep breath and told myself that I could handle this. And the more we talked, the more I thought things were going to be fine and I began to look forward to my freshman year.

It took about a week before I felt like I had known these girls my entire life, and now I can’t even remember how I managed without them. We’ve laughed, cried, had a 4 a.m. dance off and intense pillow talks, and made videos that will surely embarrass us in the long run. We’ve taken road trips, gone to concerts, had extreme late night food runs and been there for each other through new boys, boyfriends and breakups. An unspoken, unbreakable bond exists between the three of us that will remain forever. However, an evil force has come in and broken us up, geographically wise, in the form of the Hope College Nursing Program.

I would like to say for the record that I think it’s absolutely absurd that the nursing program here doesn’t have an interview process. Sure the applicants have to write an essay, but you can pretend to be anyone you want to be on paper. It’s much harder to pretend to be someone you’re not when you’re face to face in a one-on-one interview. And if this was the case, I’m sure that my roommate would have gotten into the program here at Hope, she’s decided to go to Valparaiso University next year in order to pursue her dreams.

And while I want nothing more than for her to succeed and reach her full potential, part of me (maybe a bigger part than I’d like to admit) is very selfish and wants her to stay. But I know God has a plan for her, and in the end her leaving won’t end our friendship that has grown so strong throughout the year.

Lately, I have been doing Facebook stalk and to my relief I didn’t find any psycho, trashy, freaky chicks. Instead I found Gaza Jolie, a very good friend of mine.

Roads may separate us, but they’ll never be able to break the silence of our hearts, and I always want to whip up some ‘sammies’ for game night. I would be very excited to room with her next year, and I wish you all the happiness in the world!

Gina Holder wants her other roommate Shannen to know that she’ll super excited to room with her next year, and knows that the two of them will have an amazing semester.

The idiotbox

Jeremy Benson

You probably know me as the guy making goofy, occasionally thoughtful columns for the Anchor. I maintain that all the currentColumns have been a succes term, and that I will always be here for you, no matter what, and if you ever get lonely, there will always be room for you in Gilmure room 110. You’re thoughtful, smart, beautiful and one of the best friends I’ve had in my entire life. I’ll miss you more than you could ever know, and there will always be a special place in my heart for you. So, leave us, know that I will always be here for you, no matter what, and if you ever get lonely, there will always be room for you in Gilmure room 110. I wish you all the happiness in the world!”

P.S. Gina Holder wants her other roommate Shannen to know that she’ll super excited to room with her next year, and knows that the two of them will have an amazing semester.

Write Letters to the Editors

If you are passionate about an issue, concerned about a problem, or fed up with something, e-mail your letter to anchor@hope.edu

Our Mission: The Anchor strives to communicate campus events throughout Hope College and the Holland community. We hope to encourage and promote change through fact, objective journalism and a vibrant Voices section.

Disclaimer: The Anchor is a product of student effort and is funded through the Hope College Student Activities Fund. The opinions expressed in the Voices page are solely those of the editor and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Anchor. Our yearbook name is The Anchor. The Anchor is available for $6. The Anchor reserves the right to accept or reject any advertising.

Letter Guidelines: The Anchor welcomes all letters. The staff reserves the right to edit due to space constraints, personal attacks or other editorial considerations. A representative sample will be taken. No anonymous letters will be printed unless discussed with editor-in-chief. Please limit letters to 500 words.

Letter Advertisements: All ad and classified requests must be submitted to The Anchor. Contributions are due on the last day of classes.

Contact Information: To submit an ad or classified, or to request a brochure or other information, contact our Ads Representative at anchorads@hope.edu. To contact our staff, call our office at (616) 395-7877.
To the Editors:

In the past four years here at Hope College, many things have stirred my emotions. If you know me then you are aware that I have a tendency to constantly demand change and progress. Often times my frustrations have been directed towards people in positions of authority, however, something has occurred to me in the past few months that has finally pushed me to speak out and address the entire campus because we are the ones to blame.

I didn't even know these guys. What did they have against me? Now you see, you may not realize it yet, but I've just shown you the extreme issue that has been bothering me. I thought about it, I realized what a common thing this is on campus. People are mean to each other for no apparent reason at all. As a sort of joke, I like to call it a "random act of unkindness." As we know, in all jest, there is some truth. This, however, is the lesser of the issues at hand. The second, and more important issue in the one that has been directed towards me. As I've thought about it, I've realized what a common thing this episode relates to the general cruelty and lack of respect that these individuals directed towards me. As I've thought about it, I've realized what a common thing this is on campus. People are mean to each other for no apparent reason at all. As a sort of joke, I like to call it a "random act of unkindness." As we know, in all jest, there is some truth. This, however, is the lesser of the issues at hand. The second, and more important issue in the one that has been directed towards me. As I've thought about it, I've realized what a common thing this episode relates to the general cruelty and lack of respect that these individuals directed towards me.

The mistake that I made was in my reaction. Why did I feel the need to convince people that I was "not gay"? Did I think I was saving my reputation in some way? Or was it the difference does it make if I am "gay"? It doesn't make any difference in who I am or how much respect I deserve. In the past century we have come to better understand the power of words. In the past year, the NAACP retired the N-word and even gave it a funeral. We finally understand that being of African descent cannot be used as something bad. So what will we understand that being a homosexual should not either?

The question is: how does one retire the G-word? It can't be done because it means being happy or joyful even though in our colloquial language it hasn't been used in that way for a long time. Homosexual, heterosexual, black, white, brown, yellow, red, male, female, Christian, Jew, Muslim or whatever else with which we associate ourselves, we are all people who love, breathe, and live together. It is the responsibility of all of us to stop this discrimination that is so hurtful. So again, what is to be done about this "gay" issue?

What needs to be done is to resculpt and, in a way, reinvent the perception of this word in our own heads. I know of an experiment that is going on in specific pockets of our country that involves this very idea. Although it's not so common any more, we have gotten very used to hearing the phrase "that is so gay" all the time. In this sense, the word gay has been used to replace any word that means bad or undesirable. What I propose, and what has been done on other college campuses, is that we reinvent this phrase. Instead of using it as a bad thing, use it when you're trying to say something good; and, perhaps, accompany it with a high-five. Okay, maybe not so much on the high-five. Use the words in their proper sense and make people think about them without the sense of something bad. That way the stigma surrounding the words might just dissipate.

My hope, then, is that the stigma around being gay might just dissipate as well. It's no secret that this campus isn't exactly friendly to gay culture. Just think about it. If we were able to help make this campus a friendlier place, in any way, that would be so gay!

—Ryan DeVitt ('11)
Lacrosse clubs aim high in spring season

James Ralston
Sports Editor

The Hope College lacrosse clubs are coming to the conclusion of what has been a season affected heavily by the weather. Despite Mother Nature’s attempts, each team has participated in strong contests.

The women’s program finished their season April 5, as their remaining two games were cancelled. Despite the setbacks, the team has had many successes.

“Although our season was very short, we showed a lot of dedication and promise as a team” Ashley Timpner (’10) said. “I’m just sorry we were not able to play as many games due to cancellations beyond our control.”

The season was shortened to eight total games due to weather, and the young team was able to improve throughout the season and finish with some close games.

“Our greatest game had to be against North Western Illinois. We just played smart lacrosse,” Timpner said. “We were aggressive, but very clean. We played hard and did a really good job of communicating as a team.”

On top of the competitive aspect of the team, Caitlin Lamade (’09) pointed out a unique quality of the women’s lacrosse team.

“I feel as though the women’s lacrosse team is one of the few sport teams at Hope that you can join without any experience and just come out and learn,” Lamade said. “There girls who have experience are more than willing to take you under their wing and help you learn.”

The men’s team has had more success with the weather and has been able to get more games in. They also have a few weeks of play remaining. The team currently holds a 3-4 record despite injury problems.

“We’ve been plagued by injuries which has been tough,” coach Keith Torniak (’08) said. “But people have really stepped up to fill in the positions that are needed. We’ve had some new good newcomers improving a lot and taking on key roles.”

The team hopes to continue to build on what they have achieved so far.

Following the game against rival Calvin College on April 19 at Holland Christian High School.

“Calvin is a very tough competition. They are a consistently strong team with a lot of numbers,” Torniak said. “It should be an excellent match up. We’re going in very confident. We just hope to go into the game and not hold anything back and see how we come out on top.”

The men’s team will head into the end of the season with both conference and regional tournaments.

“Our goals in the tournaments at the end of the season are just like any other game we go into. Torniak said. “We want to play like it is our last game, with heart and desire. It will come down to whether we can execute on the field as we have prepared in practice.”

Hope golf teams play through schedule and weather

In Brief

FOOTBALL PLAYERS NAMED MIAA PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
First baseman Edl Diulmstr (’09) and pitcher Losh Van Enk (’10) were both named MIAA players of the week.

Diulmstr batted .481 (33 for 67) over eight games, which helped the Dutch improve their record to 6-2 for the week. Van Enk won all three of her starts last week. In her previous 20 innings, Van Enk only walked one batter and struck out 11. She also helped the team in offense by batting .375 (3 for 8).

In addition to these two honorees, Jessica Regnerus (’08) broke Hope’s all-time stolen base record. Regnerus had four stolen bases in the Illinois Wesleyan University Tournament on April 11 and 12, which improved her career total to 66 surpassing the old record of 62. Her performance improves her record to 13-for-15 stolen bases this year and is 66-for-76 over her career.

HOLLAND POLICE PLAY FRATERNITY TO BENEFIT CHILDREN
Hope College’s Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity will team up with the Holland Police Department for a charity basketball game to benefit the children of Lori and Ken DeKleene. Funds raised will be directed towards supporting the children, whose mother was recently killed.

The game will take place on Tuesday April 22 at 7 p.m. at DeVos Fieldhouse. Tickets will be sold for three dollars each and are available at the DeVos ticket office.

Lacrosse clubs aim high in spring season

The men, led by four seniors Ryan Sheets, Tommy Yamaoka, Matt Lapham and Steve Martin, already won the Manchester College tournament by winning the MIAA title in the fall season, while the women are trying to improve on their fall performances.

“We were consistent with how we finished up last fall by finishing fourth,” Folkert said. “We played pretty good with only four or five days of practice. I was actually pretty heartened by that (355 team total).”

Similar to the women, the men’s team has had more success with the weather and has been able to get more games in. They also have a few weeks of play remaining. Despite already having an invitation to the national tournament, the team is still focused on competing well leading up to nationals.

“This spring we are down to business to win the tournament and the competition has been different than the fall,” captain Yamaoka said. “We are here to prove we are the top team in our region.”

In trying to stay competitive this spring, the men’s and women’s teams have struggled with adverse weather conditions and getting opportunities to practice outdoors on the course.

On the women’s side, coach Eva Folkert uses the Dow Center’s racquetball courts.

“We’re only able to get in some practice there,” Folkert said. “We have only one hitting pad and have to share it with the bigger gym at the Dow Center with other teams.”

While only having limited space and practice time, Folkert was pleased with the women’s fourth place finish at an MIAA tournament at Zollner Golf Course.

“We stayed consistent with the top teams throughout the season,” Folkert said. “We have been consistent with weather and have placed third or better in every tournament this spring. It has been a tough spring for us with the weather not cooperating.”

Yamaoka said, “We have practiced in doors and outdoors to get ready, but tournaments are the best way to get ready for nationals.”

Although the men have experienced poor weather like the women’s team, they were able to play over the team’s spring break.

“Spring break was a good opportunity to play golf outside and we had great weather,” Yamaoka said. “We were able to build team camaraderie.”

Don Kring (’09) was one of nine members on the team who went to Florida.

“Actually, we played the national tournament course on our way down, and we got to see what it was like,” Kring said.

As both teams progress through their spring schedules, the NCAA tournament is the ultimate goal. The women’s team will head to the Medallist Golf Club for their final 36-hole NCAA tournament.

“The Medalist is probably one of the top three most difficult courses in the league,” Folkert said. “It is tight and has a number of places with carry over water.”

Folkert is hoping the upperclassmen will be able to rely on past experiences at the Medalist to help them around the tough course.

“They (upperclassmen) have their scouting report on that course and they bring in journals with notes,” Folkert said. “It is always a big help to the upperclassmen to educate (the underclassmen).”

Even if the team does not qualify for the NCAA tournament, captain Julie Hoogerhyde (’08) has a shot to qualify individually. Hoogerhyde had led the team in scoring averaging 83 strokes overall.

Folkert has enjoyed coaching Hoogerhyde this year, with that effort coming after that team member had surgery last fall.

“She didn’t play in the fall of her freshman and junior years, but she has a student with a lot of interest, which is great,” Folkert said. “She has been a fantastic leader this year and done well with that.”

On the men’s side, the NCAA tournament on May 13-16 is already in their future. It is not only a matter of stepping up and performing at this point.

“As a team, we want to play like any other tournament and try to win,” Yamaoka said. “We have the talent to do it, and we will take it one round at a time.”

SOUTH BEND, Ind. -}

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SOUTH BEND, Ind. - External Identifier 13184526

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Nick Hinkle
Sports Editor

From playing in 30 degree weather to hitting golf balls off pads in the Dow Center, the Hope College men’s and women’s golf teams are doing all they can to play their best golf for the spring season. The men’s team has already qualified for the national tournament by winning the MIAA title in the fall season, while the women are trying to improve on their fall performances.

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SOUTH BEND, Ind. -
Athlete profile: tennis player John Pelton

Nick Hinkle
SPORTS EDITOR

This season, the Hope College men’s tennis team has remained undefeated in the MIAA. In addition to the team, John Pelton ’09 has also managed to keep a perfect record in conference play. In the number one singles position, Pelton has only lost three matches all year.

Last year, Pelton’s circumstances were much different, since he was playing as number five singles and had a perfect record in conference play. In the number one singles team, John Pelton ’09 has also managed to keep a perfect record in conference play.

In adjusting to Hope College and the tennis team, Pelton was well received and has enjoyed his experience thus far.

“It’s actually been pretty easy,” Pelton said. “Everyone has been super nice, and the team is a bunch of great guys.”

Captain John Schlotz ’09 has also noticed Pelton’s adjustment to Hope College and tennis. Pelton was well received and has enjoyed his experience thus far. Captain John Schlotz ’09 has also noticed Pelton’s adjustment to Hope College and tennis.

Pelton gets along great with the team,” Schlotz said. “He fits right in with the family that is Hope College. His primary reason for transferring was academics. Schlotz has been noticeable by Pelton. Everything from the play was great.”

Fellow teammates have also noticed the intense attitude Pelton has brought him from training with a Division I program. If anything, this is helping the Dutchmen’s training habits.

“Pelton has brought a new definition of work ethic to this team in more ways than one,” Schlotz said. “Playing against people better than yourself is the best way to improve your game, and, therefore, the whole team has benefited skill-wise with him being on the team.”

Along with switching programs, Pelton has adjusted his personal goals. Admittedly, Pelton was not sure about how he would perform individually at the Division III level.

“To be honest, I did not know what to expect and what the level of competition would be,” Pelton said. “I definitely wanted to beat the players in the conference. I want to go to nationals but don’t know if that’s a realistic goal.”

Currently, Hope is second in the conference rankings at 3-6 and 12-6 overall. Kalamazoo College is leading the MIAA standings at 4-0. Hope will face Kalamazoo at home on April 22 at 4 p.m. The conference season will conclude with the MIAA tournament at Kalamazoo April 25-27. Last year, Kalamazoo defeated Calvin College 7-2 for the title.