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Hope College
Admissions strives to increase diversity

Arryn Uihlenbrauck
Snr Writer

“In general private colleges have to work harder for diversity on campus,” said Admissions Vice President William Vanderbilt.

Hope College Admissions has increased its efforts and financial resources toward gaining a wider variety of students on campus in ethnic, geographic, socioeconomic, religious and academic diversity. There has been an extra focus in the last 18 months on recruiting international and out-of-state students.

The international effort is headed by three recruiters: Adam Hopkins, Barbara Miller and Gary Camp, who devote a third of their time to international recruiting. Hope College funds $70,000 toward this effort, which includes attending international travel fairs.

Camp is also involved in the “out of region” student recruitment. He lives in Denver and recruits students in the Western United States. He is joined by Jessica Root, who also lives out of state. She resides in Oak Park, Ill., and recruits in and around the Chicago area including Chicago public schools.

Vanderbilt said, “I think we’re seeing more minority students and students with disadvantaged backgrounds.” Minority enrollment at Hope currently accounts for approximately 10 percent of the student body.

With funding from an alumnus, Hope’s Admissions began a fly-in program for East Coast students and with its success expanded the program to fly in students once in the fall and again in the spring. The program funds about half of prospective students’ airfare.

“Students are more like to come to Hope if they visit. They enjoy spending time on campus,” Vanderbilt said.

Unlike the fly-in program, it is too early to tell whether the international and out-of-state efforts have increased diversity on campus. However, the number of international applications increased about 50 percent. Similarly, the number of out-of-state applicants was 35 percent of the applications for the ’08-’09 school year, but rose to 40 percent in ’09-’10.
Graduates seek employment

According to the NACE Web site, this 5.3 percent increase over the 2008-2009 year figure contrasts with the 21.6 percent decrease in spring 2009 compared to 2008. The Web site referred to the figures in NACE’s “Job Outlook 2010 Spring Update” report.

Because of the steep hiring drop in 2009, the economy has further to go in terms of recovery. “I plan on moving back home and job searching,” said Kelsey Pierson (’10), a major in management and economics, when asked about her plans after graduation. “I haven’t had much luck,” Pierson said when asked about her job search. Austin said “things are still challenging in Michigan,” but there is some hiring in banking and manufacturing, particularly by area companies such as Gentex, due to new contracts. Austin also said the health care sector is providing employment, due to the health care reform package.

Asked if there were more graduates this year looking outside of Michigan for work, Austin said, “The general sense that we get is there has been voiced expressed interest in looking outside of Michigan because of the economy. To know for sure, we do a follow-up survey a year after a class graduates, so we’ll know more when we do our survey of our 2010 class.”

According to the graduate survey report for 2009 graduates, 36 percent of employed respondents stayed in West Michigan, and about 66 percent remained in the Midwest.

Graduating seniors looking outside of Michigan have a better job outlook this year compared to last year. In summarizing key trends of its spring report, NACE stated that all regions except the Southeast expect to increase hiring this year.

In terms of in-demand fields, NACE reported in a press release that employers in accounting, engineering, and retail and wholesale trade made the most offers to class of 2010 graduates.

Data on graduates’ specific fields were not available, but the OCS graduate report indicated that 61 percent of 2009 graduates were currently employed, 22 percent were continuing their education through graduate school or professional school, 12 percent were doing both, and 6 percent were doing neither.

**Student honored as ‘Woman of Hope’**

Chantal Pope

Guest Writer

Camille Riddering (’10) has been recognized by her peers and professors as a “Wonderful Woman of Hope” in the women’s studies department.

A West Michigan native, Riddering came to Hope to pursue a pre-med career. A biology and chemistry double major, she has accomplished many things in her four years at Hope.

As a freshman, Riddering joined the JV basketball team where she demonstrated leadership on and off the court. After a few injuries, she decided to retire her basketball career and instead dedicate her efforts to the academic world.

Working alongside Dr. Moses Lee, Riddering helped the organic chemistry research team in the area of anti-cancer pharmaceutical research, creating molecules that could potentially fight, and ultimately affect the expression of the designated genes. The work of Lee’s lab has the potential to be a stepping stone in the fight to find a cure against cancer.

Riddering also had the opportunity to study abroad for a May term in Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands after her freshman year under the guidance of Dr. Harvey Blanksperger.

During her trip, Riddering and the other students spent the first half in the Cuyabeno Rainforest and the latter part circling and stopping on many of the islands that form the Galapagos.

Riddering also had the opportunity to visit the Mescalero Indian Reservation in New Mexico during a spring break mission trip. She commented that the experience was unforgettable and extremely eye-opening.

Earlier this year, Riddering was accepted to both the University of Michigan Medical School and the Michigan State University of Michigan Medical School. She has chosen to attend University of Michigan in the fall.

Riddering said she feels her time at Hope has prepared her well, but she is excited to see what Ann Arbor has in store for her.

When asked how she saw her gender playing out in her life, in the professional fields, in her faith, and in other areas, Riddering said, “I feel like women’s natural, innate skills and instincts are crucial in any field, particularly in medicine. Women are seen as nurturing and comforting. As a female doctor, I want to show an obvious genuine care that encourages my patients to feel more comfortable talking to me.”

Riddering also said, “I would love to go abroad and do medical mission work. At the same time, I want a family. So, on top of figuring everything else out, I have to keep that under consideration. As a woman, I have to find a balance that is sometimes hard to obtain. I want to do something I love, but I also want to find a specialty that is flexible.”

**Members of Hope faculty retire**

Five Hope College faculty members plan to retire after the end of the academic year. Included in the retiring faculty are Dr. James Bockins, provost and professor of biology; Dr. Donald Crenkite, professor of biology; Dr. Robin Klay, professor of economics and management; Dr. Glenn Van Wieren, professor of kinesiology; and Karla Wolters, professor of kinesiology. Their combined service to Hope totals 138 years.

**Hope holds 145th commencement**

Hope College will hold its 145th Commencement with over 650 graduating seniors on Sunday, May 9, at 3 p.m. at Holland Municipal Stadium. Baccalaureate will be held earlier in the day at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. in Dimnent Chapel.

Rob Pocock, a 1977 Hope graduate and adjunct assistant professor of communication at Hope, will speak at commencement and the baccalaureate sermon will be delivered by Rev. Kate Davelaar. In the event of rain, commencement will be held at the Richard and Helen DeVos Fieldhouse.

**Donut sculpture recovered**

The sculpture “Donut” that was stolen earlier in April from Nykerk, was recently recovered by the Holland Police Department after a woman from Holland read about the theft in the Sentinel. The woman called the number listed in the Sentinel to say that she had found the artwork. It is now back in the school’s possession.
Iceland volcano eruptions: Ash causes major travel delays

April 28, 2010

The Anchor

NATIONAL

Iceland volcano eruptions: Ash causes major travel delays

Amy Alvine
Southeastern Writer

For nearly 40 years, Justice Stephen Breyer has been a leader on the Supreme Court. He is known for his detailed and thoughtful opinions and for his ability to bring people together. In a recent interview, he discussed the challenges he faced during his time on the bench.

The air is a complex mixture of gases and particles, which together form a catastrophic element to aircraft engines. When the ash is sucked into a jet engine, the particles can cause serious damage to the engine. After the Eyjafjallajökull volcano erupted in the southern region of Iceland, as many as 800 people had to be evacuated. But for those who lost their homes, it was a moment to reflect on the power of nature.

The region of Iceland, as many as 800 people had to be evacuated. But for those who lost their homes, it was a moment to reflect on the power of nature.

The eruption of Eyjafjallajökull has triggered flooding in the surrounding area of Iceland. One fifth of the ice in the volcano’s crater has melted, and lava has melted away nearby glaciers.

The president hopes to make a decision by the end of May with approval following shortly.

On top of flooding, this volcanic eruption could spur volcanic eruptions across the world. The Eyjafjallajökull volcano is expelling 3,000 tons of sulfur dioxide. In the atmosphere, the sulfur dioxide becomes sulfuric acid and sulfuric rain. It also prevents some of the sun’s heat from reaching the earth, which cools temperatures.

As Eyjafjallajökull continues to erupt, new fears are growing about one of the larger nearby volcanoes, Katla. This volcano is 10 times larger than Eyjafjallajökull and can spew much more material. It has erupted with a periodicity of about 100 years; the last time was in 1918.

“The fundamental lesson is that volcanic eruptions will continue to happen in Iceland, and we’ll all have to learn to live with them and handle them better,” Grimsson said. “We should treat the events of the last few days as a dress rehearsal for what needs to be done if and when Katla erupts.”

Supreme Court justice retires

Meghan McNamara
Southeastern Writer

President Barack Obama has now appointed and confirmed Justice Breyer to the Court, making her the first Hispanic judge to sit on the Court. With Stevens’ retirement, Obama will have a second Supreme Court justice appointment to make.

Stevens wrote in a letter to Obama that he had no plans to retire, but that it would be in the best interest of the Court to have my successor appointed and confirmed well in advance of the commencement of the court’s next term. I shall retire from regular active service as an associate justice. He served for 35 years and will be the third-longest serving justice when he retires at the end of the term in June.

Stevens, who will be 90 when he steps down, has earned the respect of many of his colleagues, including Chief Justice John Roberts. Roberts said in a written statement, “Associate Justice John Paul Stevens has always treated the people of the United States of America as he himself would treat them if he were in their position.”

Throughout his career, Stevens was a vocal opponent of discrimination and a leader among his colleagues in the struggle against discrimination and the legal rights of the poor.

In recent years, he had put off retiring out of concern for the direction of the Supreme Court, but now seems to be the right time for Stevens, whose long and distinguished career ended when he took his last case, to retire.

The task of filling Stevens’ seat will be an important one for the president, who is looking at the 2010 midterm elections, a Republican party running to take back Congress, and Democrats looking to do more after passing the health care bill.

So far, the president is considering a list of 10 individuals who have been vetted by Merrick Garland, Washington, an appeals judge; Elena Kagan, the solicitor general; Janet Napolitano, secretary of Homeland Security; Judge Sidney Thomas, former chief justice of the Georgia Supreme Court; and Martha Minо, dean of Harvard Law School.

The president hopes to make a decision by the end of May, with approval following shortly.

Florida Senate race garners national attention

Sam Tzou
Southeastern Writer

Former Vice President Dick Cheney joined a long list of Republican political leaders Thursday to openly endorse Rubio in a telephone campaign press release. “It really doesn’t have any impact at all,” said of the endorsement.

“Charlie Crist has shown time and again that he cannot be trusted in Washington to take care of the Florida agenda because after issue he actually supports that agenda, Cheney said in a Rubio campaign press release. “It’s obvious that Crist cannot be trusted even to stay in the Republican primary or drop out of the race. The only winners from the independent bid by Crist would be Barack Obama and Harry Reid.”

Cheney joins a large number of Republicans who have publicly endorsed Rubio in the past month for the November election.

Florida public school teachers and tied their salaries and job security to student performance.

In the face of increasing popularity among independents and mounting Republican opposition, political analysts discussed having Crist withdraw from the Republican race and running as an independent.

Last week Crist expressed this possibility, but it remains to be seen whether he will withdraw from the primary, which is on Aug. 24. Crist must decide by April 30 whether he will run on the Republican ticket. If he does and loses the primary, he will be unable to run as an independent. If he does not run, Crist told the Associated Press in a telephone interview that he would be “very, very thoughtul and deliberate” toward his decision.

In the meantime, Rubio, the touted Tea Party candidate, continues to garner support.
Elena Rivera
Stro Weiss

The DePree Art Center is a building that keeps to itself. Sur- rounded by a brick patio, the building is removed from the sidewalk and the busy road that divides it from the other side of campus. The DePree Art Center is the location of this year’s senior art show, titled This Is: ______

Featured artists include Kristen Mulder (’10), Claire Weller (’10), Jaclyn Van Groningen (’10), Evan Dawson (’10), Bryanna Warriner (’10), Christine Hostetler (’10) and Ashley Evey (’10). When entering the gallery, the noticeable, stark whiteness of the gallery makes every piece of art seem illuminated. The white walls really draw the viewer’s eye to each individual piece of art.

The first piece that really jumps out is Mulder’s “Aurelia,” made with dyed coffee filters. They look like jellyfish and are placed on various heights on the wall. Some of them look like they are cascading down, making a pool on the floor below the piece. The piece is noteworthy just because of its height, but the design and feel of an underwater area is the best kind of unsettling. Mulder’s other piece, two hanging lamps made from light switch covers, reflects light beautifully and is worth a second look.

Mulder says of her work, “I usually start the process for my pieces by finding a new mate- rial. These are normally found objects, things that you can find around your house, or that most people use everyday. The idea of taking these overlooked mass-produced objects and chang- ing their characteristics and importance is where I usually start getting my inspiration.”

Weller’s pieces include hand-made bags and purses, with de- signs worthy and reminiscent of an etch-a-sketch. These stitching patterns show up again in a large map detailing with different col-

SEE ME, FEEL ME— Claire Weller with her quilt-like bags and purses. Weller employed the use of textures in her art pieces.

ARTS

WTHSV reviews with Paul Rice, Aaron Martin and Laura Heldrop Various Artists — Stroke: Songs For Chris Knox

Chris Knox, a rock and roll musician from New Zealand, suffered a stroke in the summer of 2009 and was hospitalized. This compilation double album was put together by 33 artists. Their goal was to help Knox pay off his rehabilitation fees. All the artists contributed their time and talent for no cost. Some of the artists featured on “Stroke” are Jeff Mangum, A.C. Newman of the New Pornographers, Genghis Smith, Bonnie ‘Prince’ Billy, Bill Callahan, Yo La Tengo, and many more. Each song’s style is unique to the artist performing it, but the quality is good throughout. Also, the album cover is really colorful, the album would be worthwhile even without his unique voice and affecting songs.

“The Wild Hunt” is spare, but with the way his guitar work fills every song with a unique splash of color, the album evokes both desperation and confidence, and sports a nasty mustache. The instrumentation on "The Wild Hunt" is spare, but with the way his guitar work fills every song with a unique splash of color, the album evokes both desperation and confidence, and sports a nasty mustache. The instrumentation on "The Wild Hunt" is spare, but with the way his guitar work fills every song with a unique splash of color, the album evokes both desperation and confidence, and sports a nasty mustache. The instrumentation on "The Wild Hunt" is spare, but with the way his guitar work fills every song with a unique splash of color, the album evokes both desperation and confidence, and sports a nasty mustache. 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What are your plans for summer? Do you love Hope College enough to stay for the summer? Maybe you want to travel around the world. Or maybe you need more credits that aren’t available to you during the academic year. Hope offers May, June and July terms to students, whether they attend Hope or a different college. These summer programs are available to both college students and high school students (juniors and seniors). International programs, as well as domestic programs, are available for students this summer.

Domestic programs include:
- Michigan (courses taken at Hope College and elsewhere)
- New York
- Colorado
- South Dakota

International programs include:
- Tokyo, Japan
- Yokohama, Japan
- East Africa
- Rwanda, Africa
- Beijing, China
- India
- Querétaro, Mexico
- Vienna, Austria
- Liverpool, England
- Edinburgh, Scotland
- Ireland

Many students return to Hope having loved their summer programs. Two students who will be attending a summer program were asked to comment on their purpose for studying during the summer and what they hope to experience:

“I am going to Querétaro, Mexico, and I am staying with a host family. It’s a May and June term and it’s basically to finish my Spanish minor. There are about 10 other students going, and it will be really interesting to hear each other’s stories with. There is a Spanish 5 offered and a Spanish 6 offered, so for people who are in different levels, they will be able to take whatever they need. This will basically finish it (Spanish minor), and that’s why I decided to do it.”
- Karen Heck, ’12

“I hope to be in the culture over there (Vienna) and see how people live. I am taking the modern Austria history class and it sounds really interesting because I really want to learn more about people there (how they live and their culture), but also experience living somewhere else and having that overseas experience that everyone hopes for. I am going for the experience, but it’s also a great way to get out of the country and also study and be shown the world.”
- Elizabeth Northuis, ’10

The cost of each summer program varies depending on the location of the program. The cost can range from $400 (per credit) to approximately $8,000 (including tuition but not extra excursions or food). The cost of international programs is reasonably higher because of the number of credits enrolled in as well as the traveling and boarding expenses. While the cost of each summer program may be an important deciding factor, each program will be an unforgettable experience!

How to register:

1) Go to KnowHopePlus, http://plus.hope.edu from Internet Explorer. For detailed instructions, click on “Registration Instructions” in the left margin.

2) Enter Secure Login Area, then enter your ID number and PIN.

3) Click “Registrar and Student Accounts,” then “Registration,” then “Register for Classes and Add/Drop Classes.”

4) The system will ask you to submit a term; choose the correct term, then the course.

Special and guest students must first fill out an application form from the Hope Admissions Office, http://hope.edu/admissions/apply/

For more information on May, June or July terms, please visit the Registrar’s Office located in the DeWitt Student Center, or visit www.hope.edu/admin/registrar for more information.
**Messages on mutual misunderstandings**

Karen Patterson and Emily West
Co-Editors-in-Chief

A good ride

In September, we set out to create and publish the best newspaper for the Hope community as possible. Whether or not we succeeded is a matter of opinion. The year brought some of the most interesting and challenging topics this college has dealt with in the past decade. This has been both a blessing and a struggle for The Anchor. Needless to say, we have learned a lot, and we have grown in unexpected ways.

As a news team, we learned how to interact with our personal convictions as well as the convictions of the groups and persons around us. We learned how to meet each other and work together, while celebrating the diversity of our perspectives. Through our learning process, we strove to create a safe environment where members of the campus community could express their own personal opinions. This is no easy task and we are not claiming to have found perfect success.

The events of the year are memorable and we look back with joy, sadness, peace and a little frustration. We lost two treasured members of our community, one of whom was an irreplaceable member of The Anchor staff. In our grief, we discovered a celebration of life. We are thankful for how David and Emma’s smiles brightened our days. We are forever changed by the way their stories interacted with our perspectives. Through our learning and writing and living in community, we succeeded is a matter of opinion. The quality of consistency now that we have given everything to Christ, right?

Karen and Emily would like to thank the students of Hope College for all of their hard work this year and for their ongoing efforts to make Hope a more inclusive community. I am just finishing my 12th year teaching in the English Department and Program of Women’s Studies, and I’ve been following the conversations going efforts to make Hope a more inclusive community. The Anchor staff.  In our grief, we discovered a celebration of life. We are thankful for how David and Emma’s smiles brightened our days. We are forever changed by the way their stories interacted with our perspectives. Through our learning and writing and living in community, we succeeded is a matter of opinion. The quality of consistency now that we have given everything to Christ, right?

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Grace & Peace
Grace Olson
Columnist

Go now in peace
Last fall, I began my column by turning around and reciting on the President's lawn. I had to do a similar thing with updating my resume to apply for: as you fellow seniors know well, every time we send out a resume, we recall our experiences relevant to the position and tweak our ability to file papers into a lucrative professional skill.

But considering only that sort of experience overlooks the unremarkable moments that have framed most of my life at Hope.

What of the day I stopped to break off a sprig of forsythia in a stranger's yard just as a girl came out the front door? What of the man at a writing workshop for adults with cognitive impairments who told me that he wanted to write a story about a family of big cats? Or the way the windows in Dimnent slide from the rose-colored glasses of excitement that he wanted to write a story about a family of big cats? Or the way the windows in Dimnent slide from the rose-colored glasses of excitement to the position and tweak our ability to file papers into a lucrative professional skill.

But I am concerned that this might be changing, and that those who are current-

The outsides of the university buildings are all granite, and the streets through campus are cobbled. Little tiny cars zip by on the wrong side of the road, and city buses somehow manage the cobblestones and roundabouts. That is a miracle in itself. I've seen castles and lochs, kilts and fake Nessies, and it all feels like a dream.

Scotland, in itself, is everything I imagined. Old stone buildings, rolling fields, highland cows, and sheep galore. Aberdeen is a city unlike any that I have been in before, and learning to navigate and know where I am going has been very fulfilling.

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So maybe I was right when I envisioned adventure.

The one thing that has been missing is a feeling of home — because my everyday life is not an adventure, and it's been difficult for me to really feel like I belong here.

This is not to say that I'm not enjoying myself. I may have days where homesickness overwhelms me, but those days are greatly outnumbered by the happy days: days when I am content with myself, exploring...
In Brief

WOMEN’S TENNIS WINS 11TH STRAIGHT

The women’s tennis team won both of its matches over the weekend, extending its win streak to 11 games. The Flying Dutch defeated Coe (Iowa) 5-4, and beat MIAA opponent Olivet 8-1. The Flying Dutch are now 13-7 overall and second in the MIAA with a 6-1 conference record.

BASEBALL SPLITS OVER WEEKEND

The Flying Dutchmen lost the first half of a doubleheader against Adrian 6-4 on Saturday, marking the first pitching loss for senior Robby Poll. The team then bounced back, winning the second game 3-2. Hope is now 21-11 on the season and tied for second place in the MIAA with a 13-7 record.

MEN’S LACROSSE WINS

The men’s lacrosse team won two games by a combined score of 34-8 over the weekend. The team defeated Siena Heights 11-2 on Saturday, then beat Grove City, Pa. 17-6 later in the day. The Flying Dutchmen are now 11-4 on the season and have the CCLA playoffs in their future.

SPORTS

Take a look at this week’s Sports coverage.

Wednesday April 28

Softball at Kalamazoo at 3:30 p.m.

Thursday April 29

Baseball at Kalamazoo at 2 p.m.

Friday April 30

Men’s Tennis MIAA Tournament at Kalamazoo
Women’s Tennis MIAA Tournament at Hope

Saturday May 1

Men’s & Women’s Track Northwood Open at 10 a.m.
Baseball vs Kalamazoo at 3 p.m.
Softball vs Olivet at 1 p.m.
Men’s Tennis MIAA Tournament at Kalamazoo
Women’s Tennis MIAA Tournament at Hope

Men’s long tenure at Hope a ‘special time’ for women’s sports

Bethany Stripp

Sports Editor

For the past 22 years, Karla Wolters has been the face of Hope College’s softball team. In less than a month, that era will come to an end as Wolters retires from her position as head softball coach. With her retirement, her athletic career will have come full circle. As a Hope student, Wolters ’73 participated in four different sports for a total of 13 varsity seasons, something that would be impossible today.

“Back then, the seasons were shorter, only a month or two, so there were actually four sports seasons,” Wolters said. “My two-time Division junior and senior year I played all four seasons.”

In those years, Wolters participated in field hockey, volleyball, basketball and tennis. Absent from that list is the sport she is most known for: softball.

“They didn’t have a softball team yet,” Wolters explained. “The softball team began in ’78, and I graduated in ’79.

Even though Wolters wasn’t able to play softball in college, her broad experience in other sports enabled her to have such an extensive coaching career. She has led 58 different collegiate teams over the course of 36 years, 13 of which were spent at Calvin College. In that time, she has coached volleyball, basketball and softball, winning several titles along with softball. It wasn’t until college sports evolved that Wolters reduced her coaching load to just softball.

“For a number of years I coached both volleyball and softball,” Wolters said. “It working got more and more difficult as recruiting got more and more complicated. And the sports, too, developed into very technical sports where you really need an expertise. By the time we hit the ’90s you really had to know what you were doing to be a coach. It became so busy that that was when I had to choose between volleyball and softball, and I just felt in softball I could get to know the players and teams better because we take spring break together.”

One of Wolters’ favorite aspects about coaching, in fact, is the chance to see her players grow throughout their college careers.

“I always feel like we get you where you’re at the brink of adulthood and when you leave Hope or any college you’re at the edge of the rest of your life,” she said. “We get to see tremendously growth in a person, and that’s what’s fun: getting to know people and watching them become the people God wants them to be.”

Her collegiate coaching career has been full of many memorable moments. One of the most recent highlights included her team’s last month during the season’s spring break trip. In Florida, the team participated in the National Training Center Games, which is a softball tournament run by former U.S. Olympian Dot Richardson.

“The last game of the tournament, Wolters reached her 500th softball win at Hope. To commemorate the event, former Hope softball player and U.S. Olympian Dot Richardson came to Hope,” Wolters said.

“As a coach, I always feel like we get you where you’re at the brink of adulthood and when you leave Hope or any college you’re at the edge of the rest of your life,” Wolters said. “We get to see tremendous growth in a person, and that’s what’s fun: getting to know people and watching them become the people God wants them to be.”

As her career ends at Hope, Wolters will have fulfilled the dream she had since she was a student.

“When I was a sophomore at Hope, I knew that someday I wanted to teach and coach here, but you never know either which way the Lord’s going to lead you,” Wolters said. “I would’ve been pleased to go Calvin first — who would’ve thunk that? That’s about the last place I thought He’d ever take me. But then for Him to lead me back here, it was just a really special time to come back and watch women’s athletics grow.”

Hope bids farewell to longtime coaches

Van Wieren: Coaching about so much more than wins and losses

Bethany Stripp

Sports Editor

In 33 years as head coach of the men’s basketball team, Glenn Van Wieren has compiled a long list of athletic achievements: 31 consecutive winning seasons; 21 NCAA tournament appearances; a 660-219 record; a .751 winning percentage; two-time Division III national coach of the year.

But for Van Wieren, the dash that falls between 1966, when his career at Hope began, and 2010, when his career will conclude, is about so much more than numbers.

“Coaching for me isn’t about the scoreboard,” Van Wieren said. “It’s about the lives God has put in my path to attempt to have a positive influence on.”

It would be difficult to count the number of lives Van Wieren has influenced. Throughout his 44 years as a member of Hope’s faculty, Van Wieren has coached the men’s basketball, cross-country, soccer and baseball teams and has taught a variety of classes in the kinesiology department, something he considers to be an “incredible privilege.”

“What’s been interesting to me is that when I retire, not many people know long long I’ve been at Hope,” Van Wieren said. “They all know how long I’ve been basketball coach. When I was teaching classes here, walking downtown, not many people would ask me, ‘How’s your exercise science class going?’ Part of that is they just didn’t understand me and how much say I had in teaching.”

One of the most recent classes Van Wieren taught was health dynamics. Teaching this class has allowed him to meet a large number of students, which is something he has greatly enjoyed.

“Most recently, health dynamics is something I’ve found great joy and challenge and fun in teaching,” Van Wieren said.

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This has been such a great finish for me to my career because my best friends have been my bosses,” Van Wieren said.

“(President) Jim Bultman and I played baseball together at Hope for three years. And you get to know a lot quickly to learn everyone’s name. And I’m energized by that, and I love that part of my life.”

That Van Wieren feels this is the chance to see her players grow throughout their college careers.

“I always feel like we get you where you’re at the brink of adulthood and when you leave Hope or any college you’re at the edge of the rest of your life,” she said. “We get to see tremendous growth in a person, and that’s what’s fun: getting to know people and watching them become the people God wants them to be.”

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Ray Smith for all these years. The basis of our friendship has been faith. It’s really the faith dimension of Hope that I think really attracted me to continue here.”

The combination of all of these things — faith, friendships and education — have made the dash between 1966 and 2010 so fulfilling for Van Wieren.

“You put all those things together and that dash has really been a pretty good life,” he said. “It’s about as good as it gets for Glenn Van Wieren.”

Van Wieren’s relationships at Hope stretch beyond just his players and students. Van Wieren (64) was once a Hope student, and one of the most significant things about his student days was the friendships he created that continue to this day.

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