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HOPE REACTS TO POPE’S STATEMENTS

Joe Vasko
Starr Wexler

At the University of Regensburg in Germany on Sept. 12, Pope Benedict XVI addressed an audience on the topic of faith and reason.

"Show me just what Muhammad brought that was new, and there you will find nothing but evil and inhumanity such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached," said Benedict during a part of his speech, quoting Emperor Manuel Paleologus II, a 14th century Byzantine ruler.

By quoting Manuel II, the pope stirred angry protest from many Muslims around the world who interpreted it to be a premeditated strategy to discredit the prophet Muhammad.

In the Middle East, some Christian churches were burned or pelted with various objects and many took to the streets with homemade signs, shouting anti-papal and anti-American slogans.

In Pakistan, the parliament voted to "condemn" the pope; and in Austria, an al-Qaeda militant group vowed a war against the "worshippers of the cross."

Quickly, Vatican officials distanced the pope in an attempt to clear the air about the pope’s speech, saying it was misunderstood and aimed to promote inter-faith dialogue.

The protests continued to escalate. In a statement made in response to the protests, Pope Benedict publicly expressed regret for the reaction his comments caused and re-affirmed his position on inter-faith dialogue.

"In no way did I wish to make my own the negative words pronounced by the medieval Pope Leo IX, said that many of his comments "does not express my personal convictions," Benedict said.

In Rome, Rev. Arnold Davidsen, the district superior general of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, said that many Romans, since the protests, have been fearful of retaliatory bombings by Muslim extremists.

He also said he believed that much of the response to the comments were due to a perceived breach of political correctness.

As the spiritual leader of 1.1 billion Roman Catholics, including many leaders of Western countries, the papacy is seen by many as a very influential religious and political responsibility. This is especially true in light of recent events which are being called a "clash of civilizations."

Campus Response

"(Pope Benedict) is a scholarly and intelligent man, but he is also a political figure," said Elliot Dickinson, professor of political science.

Dickinson also said that he thought Benedict’s comments were made without considering the consequences, specifically, the effect of underlying political tensions between the East and the West. He pointed out recent examples of political tension, including the protests over the Danish cartoons, the Western-led wars in the Middle East and even the unassimilated Muslim youth riots in France.

The controversy is also on the minds of Hope students.

The reaction to the Holy Father’s statements is unfortunate and hampers the frank discussion of Islam’s validity," said Clayton Orr ('07), a Union of Catholic Students officer.

Another response came from Maxum Segjienko ('07), who couldn't help but see the protests as doing "more harm representing Islam than anything the Pope could have said."

PM KOIZUMI LEADS JAPAN REFORM

Naoki Miyakawa
Starr Wexler

On Sept. 26, Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi finished a five-year campaign to reform Japan. During his tenure, he had a big impact on Japan, as the privatization of the Japanese post service and a recovery from a 10-year depression.

In 2001, Koizumi won the ruling of the Liberal Democratic Party and became prime minister, promising to make changes in the LDP’s traditional function. Koizumi successfully limited the ability of politicians to be able to make their own factions and determine the policies of the LDP. In doing so, Koizumi increased the power of a previously weak prime minister position.

Prime Minister Koizumi broke down this traditional custom, and changed another. Koizumi went outside his party’s lines and adopted a Keio University professor and several young politicians into his government. He aimed to "change the closed government" to "the open government" for citizens.

To gather the support of the people, Koizumi used slogans such as "No pain, No reform" and "postal privatization." Through his campaign to reform Japan. During his tenure, he had a big impact on Japan, as the privatization of the Japanese post service and a recovery from a 10-year depression.

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BUILDING BRIDGES — Japanese Prime Minister Koizumi, right, stands near Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, during the 2006 G8 economic summit in Gleneagles, Scotland.

One reason for Koizumi’s popular support was the Japanese condition in the 1990s, before his tenure. During that period, Japan experienced long-term depression and the people greatly desired a reform to improve their standard of life.

Koizumi’s attempts to make the

FORD ANNOUNCES BUYOUTS, LAYOFFS

Chris Lewis
World News Editor

Ford Motor Company has announced that it will cut nearly 40,000 jobs this year, according to an industry group representing the company.

Of the nearly 90,000 workers losing jobs, 75,000 are receiving buyouts from Ford, since the employees are union members. The job cuts and layoffs are contributing to the economic slowdown in Michigan. The auto industry especially has experienced a slowdown for the past couple years.

Ford’s response to the economic crisis is a plan to reconstruct the company and cut costs by up to $5 billion by the end of 2008.

Dave Gossott, a union spokesman for Ford Motors, said "My heart goes out to the autoworkers because I know they have been a very productive and tough union for a number of years. And I know what Ford is going through as it adapts to the changes necessary to keep the remaining jobs in their industry."

Ford is not only ending the jobs of many loyal employees, but also closing two more plants, including one in Canada by the end of 2006.

The company plans to close an

BORADOR DEMANDS RECOUNT

Larissa Mariano
Starr Wexler

On July 2, Mexico elected its next president, Felipe Calderon, to office.

Calderon is a member of the National Action Party, which has ruled Mexico for the past six years. His opponent was Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, a member from the more left-leaning Party of the Democratic Revolution. There have been allegations of vote fraud, leading to massive demonstrations by the people of Mexico.

Mexicans cast 41 million votes on election day, and Calderon won the election with a margin of fewer than 245,000 votes. Most of Calderon’s votes were from upper and middle class voters in the industrial northern part of the country. The poorer southern areas, as well as inner-city communities, tended to vote for Lopez Obrador.

Presidential elections in Mexico are a part of a first-past-the-post system, a voting system where a single winner is chosen in a given constituency by having the most votes, regardless of whether or not they have the majority of votes.

By these rules, Calderon’s victory is legal. But, as the demonstrations in Mexico City continue, it is obvious that the electorate is extremely divided.

On July 9, hundreds of thousands of Lopez Obrador supporters crammed into Zocalo square in Mexico City’s historic central district. Lopez Obrador called for more rallies and called his supporters to demand a recount due to alleged voter fraud.

Analysts say that a full recount is not provided for under Mexican law. Lopez Obrador needs to prove his street power to emphasize his demands for all 41 million votes to be recounted.

The Federal Electoral Tribunal — the country’s top electoral authority — arranged a recount of votes from 9 percent of the country’s 130,500 polling stations, significantly short of the recount that Lopez Obrador called for.

Since late August, political protesters have been setting up camp on Paseo de la Reforma, Reform Avenu. The tent city, filled

see REFORM, PAGE 9

see RECOUNT, PAGE 8

OBRADOR DEMANDS RECOUNT
**WORSHIP WITH ONE VOICE**

Fifteen churches from greater Holland area gather for ‘Every Nation’ concert

Courtenay Roberts

Fifteen choirs from churches of varying denominations in the greater Holland area will come together for an evening of praise and worship on Sunday, Oct. 15 at Christ Memorial Reformed Church.

The concert is titled “Every Nation” and will take place on World Communion Sunday, an annual event where churches around the globe remember the death and resurrection of Christ.

Jeremy Simpson, worship leader at Christ Memorial Reformed Church, is the primary coordinator of the event, for which planning began in April.

“I felt the need to put some kind of collaborative effort together musically in the West Michigan area,” Simpson said.

Denominations that will be represented include the Reformed Church of America, First Assembly of God, Pentecostal, Church of God in Christ, Christian Reformed Church and Wesleyan.

The Hope College Gospel Choir will be participating, along with The Voices of Grand Valley State University.

**Jump Rhythm Jazz**

Wows Hope Audiences

Jonathan Ytterbrock

The lights dimmed and the crowd hushed; everyone was ready for the production to begin with an explosive dance number. Then something unexpected happened. Billy Siegenfeld, artistic director of the Jump Rhythm Jazz Project, walked out, introduced himself and led the audience in a fun rhythm warm-up exercise. Just as the audience was beginning to get into it, the curtain came up, the dancers were in position on stage and the real show began.

On Sept. 22 and 23, Hope College was delighted with the presence and performance of the JRJP put on by the Great Performance Series. It was a night filled with delightful dance numbers that covered not only a broad musical range, but also a broad topological range. JRJP danced and sang the night away with renditions of pieces by artists including Mick Jagger, George Gershwin, Frank Sinatra, Etta Jones and Outkast. Through their dancing, they also covered such topics as love, joy, sadness and war.

JRJP is a non-profit arts company hailing from Chicago, directed by Billy Siegenfeld. Their mission, simply stated, is to share the joy of traditional American jazz dancing, rhythm and music with people of all ages. Their mission was most certainly fulfilled this past weekend. However, Hope had a bit more to be excited about.

SEE JUMP, PAGE 9

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SPOTLIGHT ON VISITING PROFS

Jimmy Leach: Music

Professor Jimmy Leach came to Holland two years ago when his wife, Julia Ransdel, began teaching music history at Hope.

This year he is directing the Wind Symphony and Anchor Band, teaching trumpet and is serving as faculty advisor for MENC, Hope’s chapter of the National Association of Music Educators.

Leach is also a jazz musician, singer, keyboardist, arranger and composer. He has taught in a myriad of public school and university settings including five semesters at Harvard College.

Leach’s goal for students is to “expose them to many kinds of music so they have the vocabulary and experience to correctly interpret music by Bach as well as contemporary composers,” he said.

As a result, his students could encounter scores that involve improvisation, rubbing fingers on water glasses and even whistling.

Jean Reed Bahle: Theater

In 1994, Jean Reed Bahle came to Hope as a visiting assistant professor in the theater department. Now, it is 12 years later and Bahle is still here acting as “visiting” assistant professor.

Bahle has participated in most aspects of the theater world, including teaching, reviewing, acting, directing and working as a playwright, which makes her quite a catch for Hope.

A resident of Grand Rapids, Bahle is known throughout western Michigan for her acting and directing abilities, and has performed in over 40 shows. She has worked with several theaters in Grand Rapids, including the Actre’s Theatre, becoming more heavily involved within the last couple years.

Bahle also performs regularly with Hope Summer Repertory Theater.

Dorrell Martin: Dance

Dorrell Martin is a visiting professor in the dance department. He is teaching jazz and modern for the first half of the fall semester.

A native of Houston, Martin is currently the Director of Contemporary Modern and Ballet at Joffrey Ballet in New York City. He has studied with Paul Taylor, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Broadway Dance, Martha Graham School — and the list goes on, making him a connoisseur of various techniques and dance disciplines.

His work history includes a recent performance on “The Lion King” national tour. He is also the artistic director of Dance Fusion, a company based in Houston that fuses all styles of dance from Latin to classical ballet.

Martin’s goals for his Hope students are to “bring them new and different forms of dance styles and to take them to the next level in their training.” He is also choreographing “Wonderful Town,” this year’s musical, set to open in November.

When asked what advice Martin would give dancers seeking the professional world, Martin said, “Dedication to the art form. Because if there is no dedication, there is no reason to be doing it.”

Teresa VanDenend: Dance

Teresa VanDenend joined the dance department staff this semester teaching jazz and modern. She is also the assistant director of the Hope-affiliated Strike Time Dance Company and assistant coordinator of the Student Dance Concert.

She recently performed at the historic Cain Park Amphitheater in Cleveland as a summer member of Inlet Dance Company and will appear with Aerial Dance Company in October.

VanDenend taught at Beasley Academic Center in Chicago and Reeths Puffer High School in Muskegon. She also toured with PUSH Physical Theater of Rochester, NY, and was the lead in a premier piece, “Bathsheba.”

In addition to her work at Hope, VanDenend is currently choreographing this year’s Unity Christian High School musical, “Pirates of Penzance.”

When asked what advice she would give dancers seeking the professional world VanDenend said, “Be shameless. Be shameless and motivated. Dedication and hard work is key.”

Distinguished Art — Beth Barnady (’10) displays her skills as a violinist. She is one of 11 students awarded a distinguished artist scholarship for music in the freshman class.

All DAA music students are required to perform in the annual concert which was held in Dimnent Memorial Chapel, Sept. 21. DAA scholarships are given to students in theater, dance, music, art and creative writing, providing them with a variety of opportunities designed to increase their creative experience and technical knowledge in each field.

ALCOHOL AWARENESS GROUP

A.A. Support group for Hope College students only!

Starting Tuesday, September 26

Location
Hope College
Dewitt Counseling Center

For more information contact:
Jon Zita at jonathan.zita@hope.edu

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In midterm elections across the country, people are looking for change—with two strong Democratic leaders up for re-election, the best thing for Michigan is keeping Debbie Stabenow in the Senate and Jennifer Granholm in the governor's office.

I know it's tempting to trust the guy whose family helped us build the beautiful new DeVos Fieldhouse, but putting your name on a bunch of buildings is nothing like actually running the state. Granholm has spent her past four years cleaning up the mess she inherited from her Republican predecessor. Voters have a choice between continuity and Michigan. She has a concrete plan to help get Michigan out of its so-called single-state recession: protect workers' benefits and jobs, help businesses stay in the U.S., enforce fair trade practices and promote innovation. The last part is especially significant: Debbie isn't just focused on short-term job creation, but on long-term research and development to give Michigan an edge in the global market.

Stabenow is working innovatively to protect Michigan jobs—the and a bipartisan coalition of senators and representatives are working to establish a chief trade prosecutor to enforce trade laws. We have the laws on the books, and since the executive office won't step up, Stabenow's helping to make sure that trade laws benefiting domestic businesses are enforced.

In the past six years, Stabenow created tax cuts for businesses that keep jobs in Michigan. She has a concrete plan to help get Michigan out of its so-called single-state recession: protect workers' benefits and jobs, help businesses stay in the U.S., enforce fair trade practices and promote innovation. The last part is especially significant: Debbie isn't just focused on short-term job creation, but on long-term research and development to give Michigan an edge in the global market.

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There is at least one trade in Michigan that has a banner year (along with the Keppe House): the Michigan moving van industry. Of the nation's 55 states, Michigan ranks number one in people using the services of moving vans to leave the Michigan ranks number one in people using the services of moving vans to leave the state. As the only state to lose jobs in each of the last three years, Michigan's prospects of reversing this trend appear bleak.

The annual inflationary increases of reversing this trend appear bleak. Under the leadership of Gov. Jennifer Granholm and Sen. Debbie Stabenow, there are five proposals on the November ballot in Michigan that will amend the constitution to public education in Michigan and mandatory funding levels for public education in Michigan and mandatory funding levels for public education in Michigan and mandatory funding levels for public education in Michigan and mandatory funding levels for public education in Michigan and mandatory funding levels for public education in Michigan and mandatory funding levels for public education in Michigan and mandatory funding levels for public education in Michigan and mandatory funding levels for public education in Michigan and mandatory funding levels for public education in Michigan and mandatory funding levels for public education in Michigan and mandatory funding levels for public education in Michigan. They want you to be able to find jobs when you graduate. They want Michigan to be a state with low employment, lower taxes and a promising future. If this is the Michigan that you would like to see, please join us in supporting these candidates. The Hope Republicans will meet Thursday at 10 p.m., and we would love to see you there. If you would like to learn more about the November election, contact us at hopeuniversity.org, or e-mail us at republicans@hope.edu.

Don't mess with a good thing
Confusion and joy were the emotions permeating the north side of the Black River Saturday as the 2009 Pull Team was told they had won after spending only one hour and 35 minutes on the rope—half the time they were expecting.

"We didn't know what was going on... did someone die, get really hurt, did we lose? All I remember saying was, 'They gave up and quit!'" Stephanie Giegler ('09), moraler of Pit 14, said.

Giegler's reaction was not an uncommon one. Others expressed similar reactions of surprise.

"When we were told (to) reel in the rope, I don't think any of us really thought that our coaches were serious. Most of us thought that it was just a strategy to pull harder. Watching footage afterwards, none of us got off the rope right away in celebration. We were all waiting for the next call set," Alison Thompson ('09), moraler of Pit 9, said. "I never would have imagined this outcome in a million years."

The 2006 Pull is the shortest on record since the institution of the 1978 time limit rules. Emotions were mixed about this historic victory. "On one hand, we were elated. We were done, we destroyed them in half the time. On the other hand, we felt slighted we only got half a sophomore Pull day," Zach Hoenschmeyer ('09), puller of Pit 1, said.

The Odd Year loss last year was a major motivator not only in the past three weeks of arduous practice, but also for the past year. "It haunted me for 365 days and wouldn't go away, no matter how prepared I knew we were," Giegler said.

Aside from determination, the Pull Team attributes its win to hard work, constructive attitudes and great coaches.

"We had some amazing coaches that really helped us all to get fired up," Jonathan Koopmans ('09), puller of Pit 8 said.

All members of the team admit to a grueling practice schedule that they were grateful for in the end. "We worked them harder and faster than they've ever worked, but their minds weren't on pain or exhaustion. They were focused on their teammates—the 17 other sets of hands on the rope—and that's why they made history," Christian Piers ('07), Odd Year Pull coach, said.

Many believe the team bonded more this year both inside and outside of practice, a major factor of any Pull team's victory.

"We thought of ourselves as one, we trained as one, we executed as one," Hoenschmeyer said.

In the end, the speedy victory still came as a surprise. Odd Year knew Even Year was capable of putting up a strong fight and now the Odd Year team has only words of encouragement to offer. "Persevere," Thompson said. "You still have a second chance. '10 Pull Team. Awesome Pull Team!"

After his team triumphed over three weeks of practice, moved 38 feet of rope in an hour and a half, and swam the Black River in victory, Piers claimed to have never been prouder.

"The bond between these pullers is more important than any number in a record book. There will be more Pulls, and there will be more pullers, but there will never be another '09."
As I made my way through the close quarters of foliage, I began to hear a faint chanting of voices. Finally coming into a clearing, I was greeted by many people, half of them dressed in red, as well as a mass tarp displaying the number 10 and the word "Tenacious."

The sky was overcast, yet everyone was helping to develop a lively atmosphere. Members of the 2010 Pull Team were dashing about and breaking into chants, family members were encouragingly shouting people's names, and the flash of a camera interrupted every few seconds.

After all of the preparations, the pull coach flung his arms down and the tug of war began. Roars of cheers echoed in the pit. As I looked around, I saw a variety of emotions on people's faces: concentration, concern, happiness, determination and incredible strain.

"I was trying to leave everything else behind," Puller Aaron Fore (10) said. "I needed to have my mind completely on the rope."

Periodically, everything would suddenly halt and the pull coach would deliver a short speech to maintain the participants' morale.

At one point, however, two of the Even Year pullers collapsed. Despite the struggle to replace the members and having arguments with a few Odd-Year leaders, the freshmen eventually accepted defeat. Hugging one another, some crying, they gathered together by the water's edge and applauded for their opposition's victory as a cheer rang from across the river.

It began to rain as the event ended. In nearly no time, everyone on the Even Year's side had already left due to the intense weather and medical attention some needed, making the conclusion of The Pull hectic and moody.

The Pull of Sept. 23, 2006 was finished in an hour and 35 minutes. The last time The Pull ended before the three-hour time limit was in 1994.
Antiphon
Ride the Wave
Mackenzie Smith

"You have to ride the wave." A friend gave me this advice recently, when I was feeling overwhelmed by the tasks that seemed to multiply around me.

Having spent my childhood at the beach, this advice resonates with me. Personal experience has taught that if you try to plant your feet in place on the ground, the wave will knock you over.

This is especially true on a really windy day. Once you've knocked off your feet, the undertow pulls you under and threatens to keep you there till all your breath is gone. Your limbs are tired from struggling and the surface is nowhere to be found. The easiest way to get sucked into an undertow is to try to resist it.

Though it seems counterintuitive at first, the best way to escape this force is to relax. Floating with the current, you'll come to its edge and find yourself able to swim,

This advice works at the beach, and I'm finding it to be true in the face of day-to-day tasks and struggles. I think it may also be true of the greater phenomenon of time.

Rethinking Time
Too often, time seems to dictate our lives. But have you noticed how relative it is? One hour in a Monday lecture lasts forever, but sixty minutes drinking coffee with friends is gone in a flash.

To understand this, it's helpful to consider the vocabulary we use to describe time: time can be spent, saved, wasted, invested and used. In short, our culture has economized time. It is something to be measured and dispensed, and we never seem to have enough.

What would happen if we conceptualized time in a new way?

The ancient Greeks used two words for time: chronos and kairos. Chronos describes ordinary time. It is the root of such words as chronic and chronology. Chronos refers to finite time, that which can be measured. Against Chronos, by our (obtuse) watches and clocks, cell phones and computers.

Kairos is a different entity. In Greek, Kairos refers to the "right or proper time." According to the Oxford English Dictionary, it is "fullness of time; the opportune moment for... coming into being of a new state."

Kairos is creative time. We experience it when we enter into something fully and lose track of our "self" (along with the boundaries and worries of our small world) in the process. Children at play are in kairos; so are artists in the act of creation. Athletes know it in the midst of competition or focused practice.

I am in kairos sometimes while I read, when I'm deep in discussion or when I lie in the beach. Kairos can be calm and reflective—but it is never passive. Chronos can pass us by and leave us wondering, "Where has the time gone?"—but kairos requires our participation.

It's like the wave. Standing in stubborn opposition to crashing waves is about as fruitless as trying to control time (chronos). "If it'll knock us off our feet and drag us under, leave us exhausted and a bit essential."

Instead, "you have to ride the wave." We need to relax and live into time (kairos). Let it move us. "We'll end up a little further away, with a little more wind in our sails." And who knows where that momentum might lead us?

So, don't waste your time. Don't save your time. Don't even "spend" your time.

Instead, live it. Act, engage, create, love, think and lose your self by living in kairos—and see where the current takes you.

Mackenzie Smith, favorite class in high school was international studies. In college, she plans to major without a watch, which may be why she is frequently late to work—sorry Carla!
RA observes Pull’s physical, social effects on residents

As a resident assistant, I’ve had a chance to observe Pull and moraler events in a residential setting. This has allowed me to observe the effects of the Pull on a pulling, education and social life. Needless to say, the effects that I noted were quite negative, especially for freshmen participants. First, I noticed that Pullers and moralers seemed to struggle with the enormous amount of time that both Pull teams require. I found out, on average, each Pull team consumed six hours out of a participant’s day—three hours for a grueling practice, one hour for a team dinner at Philips, one hour for necessary shower/relaxation time and one hour (or so) for a team meeting.

Second, I observed the physical punishment inflicted by the intense practice and the Pull event itself. Many Pullers returned from the intense practices sporting an obvious limp, as well as blisters from the hands caused by rope. And what about the three freshman pullers on the Even Year side who reportedly “passed out” during the Pull, causing the event to come to a premature finish? Where are the safeguards for protecting the health of students?

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It seems to me that the Pull teams’ excessive focus might not grant Pullers and moralers a fair chance to meet people and socialize outside their Pull team, due to the large amounts of time taken by Pull preparation events. One of the best times for meeting people and integrating socially is in the first six weeks of school. It seems ridiculous to me that the Pull teams are so focused on their respective teams that its participants miss half of that integration period and thus have difficulty being fully functional students and participating in student life until the completion of the Pull.

I hope that my views are not misunderstood. I merely question the cost, both morally and physically, of an event that really only lasts for a couple of weeks.

Matt Osterhouse ‘09

Jump

Along with JRJP came Alumna Jodi Kurtze (’01). While at Hope, Kurtze was very involved with Aerial Dance Theatre. "Jodi is great and we are thrilled to have her back on campus," said Dance Department Chair Linda Graham prior to the JRJP performance. Graham was also one of Kurtze’s former teachers and choreographers.

After graduating from Hope with a degree in dance performance, choreography and communication, Kurtze moved to Chicago where she became affiliated with the Chicago Human Rhythm Project and studied at the Giordano Dance Center. In 2002, Kurtze joined JRJP and has been volunteering, teaching and performing all across the country ever since.

Reform

Japanese economy efficient through initiatives, such as privatizing the postal system, decreasing the number of politicians and integrating some government ministries, left many people unemployed.

Koizumi’s political policy

As popular as Koizumi was, many people disagreed with his political policy. This is especially true for people who care for relations with Asian neighbors like China or Korea.

Koizumi’s philosophy was to build a good relationship with the United States, thus making it easier to establish a better relationship with Asian countries, such as China. However, the real issue between Japan and China is the Yasukuni Shrine.

During WWII, Japanese war criminals persecuted many innocent Chinese people. When they were tried by the International Military Court after WWII, some of the war criminals were sentenced to execution and emarginated in Yasukuni.

On Aug. 15, 2004, Koizumi visited the Yasukuni Shrine. His visit reminded many Chinese people of the past cruel memories, and many Chinese were angered. “Not just Chinese government, but also ordinary Chinese people feel bad about his action,” said Zhang Rongnan, an exchange student at Hope College from China. “And they also believe it’s not a private action, but represents the attitude of Japanese government.”

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The Anchor

To the Editor:

On Saturday, Sept. 23, as I stood watching the Pull participants grunt and groan in their mud pits, mixing blood, sweat and tears, I admired several aspects of the event.

I enjoyed seeing the team members, in unison, shouting directions and chants and cheering for one another. I enjoyed seeing the camaraderie of the event. I enjoyed seeing the outstanding support that the pullers and moralers received from spectators.

However, even as I watched the Pull, I was reminded of observations that I made throughout the past few weeks regarding the Pull. Observations that caused me to be concerned about how Pull preparation affects Hope College students, particularly first-year students.

Continued from page 2

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A conference called, “Healthy Church, Healthy Communities” was held on Tuesday at the Haworth Inn. The conference invited representatives from local churches and Holland Hospital to discuss the role that churches play in community health. Deborah Sturtevant, a Hope professor of sociology and social work, organized the event, which is the last part of a three-year project.

Sturtevant and several other Hope faculty members have been conducting research with a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The grant is for the Holland Hospital Foundation and the college. During earlier research, they pin-pointed several populations which need improved access to healthcare and related information; children with low physical activity, elder community members’ access to health information and healthcare providers, diabetes awareness in a diverse community and spiritual access to health through the health ministries of churches in the community.

The program promotes awareness and action for all four of these sections. For example, Fonda Green, the CASA coordinator, worked with Mark Northuis, professor of kinesiology, to promote exercise for children in the after-school tutoring program. The Holland Hospital Foundation’s community outreach program has also been involved throughout the project.

Several Hope students have had a hand in the research process as well. Sturtevant and Northuis have both worked with student researchers over the past two years. Monique Hoyle (’07), a social work major, is Sturtevant’s current research assistant. She will be presenting the results of surveys and research at the conference on Tuesday.

“Hopefully this conference will provide churches with the information needed to jump-start health ministries in Holland and surrounding areas,” Hoyle said. “The research will show what some churches in the area are already doing to establish health ministries, and hopefully this will inspire others to do the same.”

Hoyle added that health ministries in Michigan are important to such a traditionally religious population.

“If the church can help to promote health care to their congregation, then I think that is a wonderful way to get the message of health out to the community,” she said.

The project will conclude in December and the project heads will hold a follow-up meeting to discuss the future of the community health issue.

“We’re hoping to include more students and faculty in healthcare opportunities in the future,” Sturtevant said.
CATCHING WAVES ON THE GREATS

Emily Westrate  
Staff Writer

It’s September. The temperature is dropping, the days are getting shorter and it rains constantly. While many people are curling up with blankets and hot chocolate, others are hitting the beach and the waves. The surf season is in full swing.

Since the 1960s, people have been surfing the Great Lakes. Only in recent years, however, has it gained popular attention. “People who live on Lake Michigan might not even know you can surf the Great Lakes,” veteran surfer Mike Sipsera said.

A local teacher, Sipsera has been surfing the Great Lakes since 1995. With expanding media exposure, freshwater surfing is becoming more popular. It occurs on every Great Lake, with participants of all ages and varying occupations. Surfing clubs have formed throughout the region. The Southbend Surf Club in Michigan City is the closest club to the Holland area.

Though rare, surfing is possible during the summer months. “Summer has an east wind, so there are less waves,” Brian Emling (’07) said. “You’re lucky to get out there once a month in the summer.”

Hope’s proximity to Lake Michigan was a big part of Emling’s decision to transfer to Hope as a sophomore. The optimum surf begins in September and continues through November. According to Sipsera, winter surfing is optional but dangerous because of the extremely low temperature the water reaches. Very specialized equipment is needed.

The best surfing conditions occur during weather systems. Changing barometric pressure and high winds produce the biggest waves. This dependence on weather makes the waves hard to predict. “It’s Michigan weather, so you don’t really know what the waves are going to be like until you get out there,” Emling said.

Surfing Lake Michigan can be quite dangerous. A good knowledge of the lake is required. Hypothermia is possible because of the frigid water temperatures. To protect themselves, surfers wear wetsuits while in the water. There are varying thicknesses, and as the temperature cools, surfers switch to different wetsuits.

“Surfing the lake is a lot different than surfing the ocean,” Emling said. The waves have different characteristics because they are formed differently. In the Great Lakes, waves are generated on a local scale and are much closer together. The salt water of the ocean makes it easier to float. Therefore, a longer board is needed for freshwater surfing.

“Surfing is a lifestyle. (A surfer’s) main passion in life is to surf,” Sipsera said. “The bottom line is that there are waves, and where there are waves, there will be surfers.”

SAILING CLUB HARNESSES THE WIND

James Ralston  
Sports Writer

Charlie Sierzant puts the finishing touches on his physical chemistry exam, exits the classroom and enters a different world. It’s 3:30 p.m., and Charlie is no longer any old student, now he’s Commodore Charlie Sierzant, leader of Hope’s sailing club.

The 15 or so members of the sailing club encircle a most fitting landmark to start their daily sailing regimen: the anchor atop an overturned sailboat on Lake Macatawa.

“The goal of the sailing club is to get people interested in sailing. It’s so much fun and a great way to spend an afternoon after classes,” Sierzant said. “By combining the rush of speed with the peacefulness and connection to nature that sailing offers, you really get a unique experience. Unlike other boating activities, there isn’t the sound of an engine; it’s just you, the water and the wind.”

We also hope to get people interested in dinghy racing; racing dinghies are a great way to get into the sport of sailing.”

Once on site, the sailors prepare for an afternoon on the water. Experienced sailors help the newcomers in the process of rigging the sailboats as Sierzant sets up a quick lesson on sailboat racing. The experience of the members of the sailing club varies greatly. “My parents have owned a sailboat all my life,” Kathleen Mozjak (’09) said. “I started taking sailing lessons when I was 8 and continued sailing in many different forms throughout high school and now at Hope.”

For others, sailing has never been on their radar before coming to Hope. For Katie Coulter (’07) it wasn’t until her final year at Hope that she jumped on board. “I had never sailed before this year, so it has really been an interesting experience for me,” Coulter said. “Three of my roommates sail, and they were a large part in my decision to give it a try. Also, I had an aunt who was passionate about sailing who recently passed away, so for me it’s a great way to pay homage to her.”

The experience of sailing takes on many different personalities, yet it seems to fill the needs of each sailor. “Some aspects of sailing can be tiring and stressful, but the overall atmosphere is very subdued and peaceful,” Coulter said. “It’s a great way to spend an afternoon after a long day of classes.”

Other times, subdued and peaceful do not fit the description of sailing. Although the sailboats used by Hope’s sailing club cannot sink, they do have the tendency to tip, or even flip. “We flipped the boat three times in one day,” Tracy Petersen (’09) said. “Most of the time you can tell when the boat is going to flip, but when you don’t, it takes you by surprise and you have to react quickly to make sure it doesn’t tip all the way over.”

The club does not just sail for the fun of it. They also prepare for races, known as regattas, which they travel to almost every weekend.

Hope sailing club will host a regatta Nov. 4 on Lake Macatawa against schools such as University of Michigan, Michigan State, Western Michigan, University of Ohio, Purdue, Notre Dame and Ohio State.

Anyone interested in joining the sailing club may contact the club at sailing@hope.edu or simply meet at the anchor Wednesday through Thursday at 3:30 p.m.
Running back overcomes obstacle to return to Hope's student body, spirituality and the game he loves

David Booko (‘08) came to Hope's football team with high hopes in 2004 and has become one of the team's most valuable offensive players. This season, the running back has set higher goals and expectations.

“I have very high expectations for this year. I personally would like to achieve first team all-MIAA honors,” Booko said. “As a team, we would love to win conference and make a good run in the playoffs.”

In trying to reach these goals, Hope football players went through a grueling preseason training camp. Booko believes the training will help the team’s cohesiveness and focus for the rest of the season.

“In training camp went great. I feel everybody pushed themselves to the max this year and really took it serious,” Booko said. “During camp, the whole team develops a really good relationship. Going through what we do together makes a really good connection between the players.”

Individually, Booko wants to keep learning every practice and improving his skills. With little running back experience from high school, Booko realizes he still makes mistakes.

“I go out there and just try to do my best and learn from my mistakes and try to get better every day. I'm actually pretty new at the running back position,” Booko said. “I'm really excited to see what happens in the future.”

Booko also enjoys life outside of football. Off the field, Booko fills his summers with wakeboarding and working as a general contractor.

After enjoying the summer and returning to Hope, Booko savors every day spent here. When Booko transferred to KVCC, he was not expecting to return to Hope. Now, his appreciation for the school has never been higher.

“I really didn't think I was going to be playing football ever again. Now that I'm back and playing again, I really appreciate every day of football.” - David Booko (‘08)

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