Students, faculty sleep out in Pine Grove

Matt Oosterhouse

According to the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, it is estimated that 3.5 million people will have experienced homelessness in the United States during 2007.

To raise awareness for homelessness, the Hope College chapter of Habitat for Humanity is sponsoring a “Sleep-Out in the Pine Grove” on Thursday, Oct. 11, from 10 p.m. until Friday morning, in which students and participating professors spend the night outside in the Pine Grove in cardboard boxes.

“It is a great way for faculty and students to spend time with one another and support a great cause at the same time,” said George Klapchack (‘08), president of Hope Habitat.

Another goal of the “Sleep-Out” is to raise money to help build homes for local families who are in need of housing.

Professors Steve Booma-Prediger, Mary DeYoung, Charles Green, Claudia Hayes-Hagar, Julie Kipp, Kevin Kraay, Roger Nemeth, Scott VanderStoep and Melissa Villarreal have agreed to participate in the “Sleep-Out.” However, each participating professor will only sleep outside if $50 or more is donated in his/her name. Donations can be given directly to the professor or placed in a collection cup at the Kletz cash register.

All are welcome to “Sleep-Out in the Pine Grove,” and as an added incentive, pizza, hot chocolate, and a sleeping bag will be provided for participants.

Hope ‘Takes Back the Night’

Matt Oosterhouse

On Wednesday, Oct. 3, an estimated 200 people — students, staff and faculty — gathered on Hope College’s campus to participate in the annual sexual assault vigil, entitled Take Back the Night.

Sponsored by the Women’s Issues Organization and Greek Men Take a Stand, a subsidiary of Hope’s Inter-Fraternity Council, the event featured a walking tour of various outdoor locations on campus (many of which were out in the open) where a past sexual assault had taken place. At each location, a Hope faculty or staff member, a student, or a member of the Holland community gave an account or delivered a message about sexual assault.

Julie Kipp, English professor and a member of Women’s Issue Organization, began Wednesday night’s event with a declaration that the purpose of Take Back the Night was to reclaim Hope’s campus from sexual assault and to commemorate and resist such violence.

“We recall those who survived acts of violence on this campus, acknowledging all of those sites that we won’t visit tonight, and ultimately testifying to the fact that we are not helpless, that in marching together we assume the power that is born of consolidation, testimony (and) teaching,” Kipp said.

The event kicked off at 10 p.m. Thursday with a rally in front of Lee Hall. The crowd lawyer and dispersed to various outdoor locations on campus where a sexual assault had occurred in the past. At each stop, a presenter delivered an account or a message.

“Can I Kiss You?” promotes respect between partners

Gabrielle Johnson

“Can I kiss you?” “Should I ask first?” These simple questions were the key issues Mike Domitrz discussed in the “Can I Kiss You?” presentation Monday at the Knickerbocker Theatre. The talk was hosted by the Counseling Center and Student Development.

Domitrz’s presentation focused on communication and respect between partners in a relationship and getting students to think about such critical questions as: Why doesn’t a person ask permission before kissing them? Does asking really ruin the moment or does it show the other person you respect the other person’s boundaries? Why do people view it as strange to ask for a kiss but not to borrow $5?

Domitrz then went on to show how the stigma attached to asking is irrational. Every time he hears men say, “Oh, I don’t need to ask; I can read body language because I’m smooth with the ladies,” he responds with, “If you’re so smooth, then why would it hurt to ask? They’d just say yes anyways.”

Later in his talk, Domitrz revealed one of his driving forces behind his desire to educate college students about this. When he was in college, his sister was raped.

“(At first, I) felt rage and just wanted him dead,” Domitrz said.

He knew, however, that if he acted on his wishes, he’d end up in jail and be no help to his sister.

R-E-S-P-E-C-T— Mike Domitrz, right, demonstrates a concept with an audience member at Monday’s program.

Kevin Steinbach, a Japanese major from Downers Grove, Ill., recently earned second place in the Shizuoka International Translation Competition. The competition is recognized worldwide for its prestigious nature.

Steinbach was one of two participants to receive the “Distinguished Translation Award,” recognizing his superb ability to translate Japanese materials into English.

“This is the most respected Japanese translation competition in the world,” said Assistant Professor of Japanese Andy Nakanishi. “I commend Kevin for his remarkable achievement. He possesses not only a high level of understanding of the Japanese language, but also the aesthetic sense of the English language to make the sentences come alive. Kevin is the youngest translator who has won such a distinguished international award.”

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Nina Variations— Hope students portray three possible endings of Chekov play.

Fraternity House— Hope College Greek Life inspires collegiate comedy
Divided U.S. Supreme Court begins new term

Kara Shelter

Three of the most high-profile cases concern the trials of terror suspects at Guantanamo Bay, an Indiana voter identification law and the use of lethal injection in death penalty cases.

The nine justices of the U.S. Supreme Court will address many critical and potentially divisive issues during its 2007-2008 term, which opened on Oct. 1 and will continue until summer 2008.

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New play presents lovers’ possible fates

Switchfoot, Relient K performance to benefit Habitat

Julie Kocsis
Guest Writer

“It’s probably the most exciting time we’ve had as a band. There were a lot of opportunities that we had to say ‘no’ to in the past, and I know the freedom we now have has afforded us already to have a better connection with the people,” said Jon Foreman of Switchfoot in a press conference Tuesday.

After being with Columbia Records for several years, the band recently decided to part with the label so that they can have more freedom. Switchfoot will be touring this fall with fellow Christian pop-rock band Relient K on their cleverly titled Appetite for Destruction album. This is their first tour together since 2001.

As a result of Switchfoot’s newfound freedom, the band and Relient K have decided to use this tour as way to promote the organization Habitat for Humanity. One dollar from each ticket sold will be donated to the organization.

When asked during the press conference what this meant to him, Foreman said, “The best part about this tour is that we’re out with people we really believe in and who we have relationships with. It’s more than just selling ticket stubs. Hopefully this is an experience that will get people involved in Habitat in their local community... knowing that we can leave a town and know that something has transpired.”

Although one of Switchfoot’s prime goals with this tour is to promote Habitat for Humanity, the band also really enjoys playing its music and being able to connect with the audience.

“It’s been a real challenge for us to maintain a relationship with people because both bands really thrive off the community that music really creates. There’s a lot of things that both bands do to bridge that gap. We like getting to meet people. That’s something that Relient K does really well and we really try to get into that as well. We try to break down that barricade between the stage and the crowd,” said Foreman.

Both bands seem very happy with how this is going. Foreman added, “Hopefully this is an experience that will get people involved in Habitat in their local community... knowing that we can leave a town and know that something has transpired.”

Tickets for “The Nina Variations” are available in advance at the DeVos ticket office or at the theater lobby ticket office in DeWitt. The production opens Oct. 10 at 8 p.m. in the DeWitt Studio Theatre. The production opened Homecoming weekend with performances on Oct. 5 and 6. Written by Steven Dietz and directed by Hope professor Diana Robins, the play consists of 43 variations on the last scene of Anton Chekhov’s play “The Seagull.”

The play cast includes Katherine Bramley (’08), Naomì Pointer (’09) and Whitney Thomas (’08), all playing the part of Nina. Isaac Bush (’09), Alex Martin (’10) and Jon Sprik (’08) all play the part of Treplev.

The variations portray different possible endings to a scene between the play’s two characters, Nina and Treplev. According to a Theatre Department press release, Treplev, a troubled writer, loves Nina, a young actress. They have known each other since childhood. Their adolescence tempted love, but when Trigorin, a well-known author entered the scene, Nina fell head over heels and ran away from Treplev’s love. The production starts where their separate lives connect after two years have passed. Jaded by her failed relationship with Trigorin and unsuccessful acting career, Nina has returned to Treplev. Both Treplev and Nina try to recapture the love of their youth, but it eludes them both.

Hope students Sarah Ashcroft (’11) and Chelsea Lynch (’11) both attended the opening night of the play.

“At first it was confusing because I didn’t realize that all three women were playing Nina and all the guys were Treplev,” said Ashcroft, “but I really liked it.” Lynch added, commenting that she plans on going to see the play again.

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On Oct. 22, Hope College will host three Japanese musicians specializing in traditional instrumental performance. The performers include Michael Chi- kuzen Gould and Kōdō Iwazaki who play shakuhachi and Chieko Iwazaki who plays koto and shamisen. The event will include a lecture and demonstration entitled “Introduction to Japanese Music: Gender, History, Spirituality and Aesthetics” at 1 p.m. in Wichers Auditorium. The musicians will perform in a concert at 7 p.m. in Wichers that night. The visit is jointly sponsored by the music department, Japan Club, HAPA, Women’s Studies and the Cultural Affairs Committee. Admission is free.

‘Jumping Over Fire,’ ‘Green Squall’ in the Knickerbocker

Writing Nahid Rachlin and Jay Hopler will visit Hope on Oct. 18 for a question and answer session and a reading of their work. The session will take place in the Orte Room of Phelps Hall from 4 to 5 p.m. The authors will read pieces of their work in the Knickerbocker Theatre at 7 p.m. (jazz band beginning at 6:30) Nahid Rachlin, a fiction and memoir writer, published her novel “Jumping Over Fire” in 2006. Jay Hopler’s book of poetry “Green Squall” also debuted last year.
Steinbach wins second in international Japanese translating competition

Jayni Juedes
Staff Writer

The 25th Critical Issues Symposium was held Oct. 2-3 with the topic of “Immigration: Shaping and Reshaping America.”

“Members of the Hope community offer us many suggestions, and it is very difficult to select the one topic to focus on each year. We chose immigration because we knew it would continue to be an issue of concern. In addition, it provides some substance to an issue that politicians will be speaking about throughout the year,” said CIS Committee Co-Chair Derek Emerson.

“In this country, the topic of immigration is always relevant. Our history has been shaped by immigrants, both willing and unwilling, and will continue to be so,” said Spanish Professor Melissa Mulder. “It is important for us to discuss these issues so that we can draw on our own knowledge of history in an attempt to learn from our mistakes and move forward.”

Several of Mulder’s students were so moved by some of these images and stories that they said they would be doing more research into border politics.

“This represents the ultimate goal of CIS, namely, to be a launch pad for further learning, discussion, and, hopefully, change,” Mulder said.

According to Hope’s CIS website, “The Critical Issues Symposium, first held in March of 1980, was established by Gordon Van Wyle, former president of Hope College, and desire on the part of students to become a modern tradition designed to stimulate serious thinking about current issues, and to provide a forum in which the Holland community, students, and faculty may all engage in discussion with experts.”

“We do not pretend to solve any issues in a day and a half, but we can help the Hope and Holland community create a base from which they can learn more,” Emerson said. “If you could be at several focus sessions at once you would hear the immigration issue explored from different viewpoints. We want to raise questions that let people carry this discussion forward.”

CIS unofficially began with a week-long showing of the film “Crossing Arizona” and with speaker Alejandro Portes on Sept. 25. According to Emerson, it is difficult having set dates to try and get speakers to come which is why Portes, an author of several books on immigration, spoke before CIS’s official day. Keynote speakers for CIS included award-winning writer Bob Urquhart, who spoke the evening before CIS, and Michigan State Professor Stephanie J. Nawyn, who began the Oct. 3 events with her address.

“I asked my students what they would take with them after CIS was over,” Mulder said. “I was overwhelmed by the number of students who spoke of the devastating experiences of the people crossing the US/Mexico border into Arizona. Many of them spoke also of the intriguing narrative of the Tuesday study in Japan and become involved in things such as Hope’s Asian Perspective Association (HAPA). He recently received a translating contract with Professors from Columbia University.

Back at Hope, however, Professor Nakajima is excited for the influence that Steinbach will leave with the Japanese department. “Kevin’s superb accomplishment has not only set high standards to the program but has also encouraged other Japanese majors to follow his footsteps by becoming a cultural and linguistic bridge worker between Japan and the U.S.” Nakajima said.
"I think this film will be really good for Hope's public relations if people take it in stride." — Ken Underwood ('08), Centurian Fraternity President

The fraternity men involved are taking a stand against sexual assault and violence against women. Currently the organization has around 60 members, and this number continues to grow as more men pledge into fraternities.

Greek Men Take a Stand started three years ago as the result of a vision the Interfraternity Council had, led by Christian Renner and Piers ('08). Piers wanted to hold fraternity men accountable to decency and respect while living up to a higher standard.

Greek Men Take a Stand is striving to prevent incidents like this from happening in the future. "Although we know it won’t happen over night, our mission is to create a campus atmosphere where girls no longer feel scared to walk home alone at night," said Ricky Rhodes ('09).

Men Take a Stand Ricky Rhodes ('09) said. Greek Men Take a Stand is extremely concerned with the two sexual assaults that have already occurred on campus this semester.

"This is very disappointing to me and my fellow members of Greek Men Take a Stand. The reason behind forming Greek Men Take a Stand was to stop things like this from happening," Rhodes said.

Greek Men Take a Stand is striving to prevent incidents like this from happening in the future. "Although we know it won’t happen over night, our mission is to create a campus atmosphere where girls no longer feel scared to walk home alone at night," said Ricky Rhodes ('09).

Greek women on campus are also beginning a movement similar to Greek Men Take a Stand known as Making the Ideal Real. Megan Estoechon ('08) is heading the movement which fosters the idea of self-respect and support among sorority women.
In pursuit of knowledge

Emily Pappel

Puddles of wax

There are solidified puddles of wax on the sidewalks across campus.

On Wednesday, approximately 200 candles carried by Hope students, staff, faculty and Holland community members illuminated campus in efforts to Take Back the Night. The participants of this event marched in protest against sexual violence against women.

Our newspapers, televisions and radios are littered with headlines revealing the tragedies of sexual violence on women which occurs everyday.

We read of tragedies in our campus safety announcements. “Wednesday college officials were made aware that a female student reported she was the victim of a physical assault by a male in the parking lot of the Martha Miller Center.”

We read of tragedies in our police reports. “The Holland Police Department and Hope Campus Safety are investigating a complaint of a sexual assault on a female Hope student early Sunday at an off-campus party. The alleged assailant was reported to be a Hope student. Both have been interviewed by authorities. The survivor is being provided assistance by the Counseling Center staff.”

This summer I was amazed by a conversation I had with some of my cousins on this issue. We were camping — sitting around bonfire late at night talking. Our campsite was close to the bathroom—less than a hundred yards—and yet I was leery to walk by myself. My two male cousins were rather shocked to learn that I was nervous to walk the seemingly short distance from my own. They were in no way critical or judgmental—simply surprised. They were surprised because, as males, they are not forced to think they same way I as a female must think. I was rather surprised by how surprised they were. To me, it seemed normal to be extra cautious in an especially dark campground, especially late at night.

As I walked from station to station on the candlelit vigil of Take Back the Night, I thought of the purpose of the event. To Take Back the Night — to reclaim a safe environment on campus at all hours.

To bring awareness — to draw the attention of Hope students, staff, faculty and Holland community members to this very important issue.

To recognize the strength of the survivors of sexual violence — to be understanding of the permanent scare that survivors have on their heart.

To remember — to never forget the unfortunate souls who have lost their lives to acts of sexual violence.

To bring awareness — to remind women that it is okay to be nervous, and it is crucial to be aware of our surroundings.

As I walked across campus listening to the speakers, leaving drips of wax on the sidewalk and reflecting on my campfire conversation and awareness of tragic headline, I realized how important it is to be aware of my surroundings but also to be aware awareness to others the significance of this issue.

Emily was amazed to learn this week that scientists are predicting by the year 2100 the world’s population of red heads will be extinct. Currently only 4 percent of the world’s population carries the red hair gene.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Middle East Peace Conference calls for action

To the Editors:

The Middle East Peace Conference is an attempt to solve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. George W. Bush, like his predecessor, is trying to spread peace in the Middle East by tackling the sensitive case within less than a year of his leaving office; this attempt regarded by Americans and Europeans as a powerful potential solution to this conflict, if not the beginning of a new era of democracy and peace in the Middle East. Unfortunately this is not the case for Palestinians or terrorists.

As a Palestinian with no political importance or capability of influencing the outcome of this conference, this is supposed to solve my country’s problems (oh the irony, might I add). Ask the politicians that will gather for this conference, what now? What new conditions and preconditions will the Palestinians have to endure? How much more land will they have to abandon? How much more political inequality will they have to pay for? How much more land will Israel gain, and how much more control will they have over the future Palestinian state? How much more will the world know how to solve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict? How much more will the world know how to involve the Palestinian people and territories? How many more loop holes will be added to the end result that allows the Israeli side to do what they desire?

Almost every single Palestinian is wondering the answer to the same question: what now? They do not want to see their politicians go in and ask for what they were promised for in UN resolutions and other peace accords only to see them come out after being forced to sign a treaty that undermines what they were promised. Palestinians do not want to see their representatives go in and demand what is theirs, and get denied while being given an unjoint alternative.

So what is it for you as an American who wants the conflict resolved? Well I am assuming that you make these peace conferences work and their result realized in reality and not waste the millions if not billions of your tax dollars, you need to make sure that your politicians and the ones to follow will work for a just peace between both nations, without being influenced by external influences.

To do that, first you have to inform yourself of the reality of the situation and secondly you have to use your freedom of Speech.

What now?

George Philip Khoury (’09)

Return of the Kiss

• KISS, from page 1

to set boundaries with their date. Students decided to attend the event for a number of reasons.

“My R.A, Julian, suggested that I go — in reality he gave me no choice,” said Ryan Veneckis (’11). Many students were surprised by how much they gained from the event.

“I never thought about asking. I didn’t think about the respect that should be required,” Laura Fields (’11) said.

Sherry Jaryartne (’11) said, “Actually, I expected boring and I didn’t think about the respect or capability of influencing the outcome of this conference, which is supposed to solve my country’s problems (oh the irony, might I add). I ask the politicians that will gather for this conference, what now? What new conditions and preconditions will the Palestinians have to endure? How much more land will they have to abandon? How much more political inequality will they have to pay for? How much more land will Israel gain, and how much more control will they have over the future Palestinian state? How much more will the world know how to solve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict? How much more will the world know how to involve the Palestinian people and territories? How many more loop holes will be added to the end result that allows the Israeli side to do what they desire?

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Sudoku

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Stay tuned next week for the solution!
That is, of course, until I realized someone had to pay for these TVs and that it was most likely me, as part of my tuition fee. So I asked him to pay an extra $10 this semester for two gigantic televisions. That’s how I’ve learned to appreciate the Vision Statement, to see if frivolous TV sets were included. I think it’s important, as a citizen of Hope, to know exactly where my money is going.

It turns out large TVs are not explicitly mentioned in the Mission or Vision Statements (although I’m sure they’re budgeted under campus improvements or activity fees), but I did happen upon some other peculiar assertions.

Take the fourth paragraph: “The Hope experience will sometimes seem to the student to be characterized by the cultural diversity that is characteristic of our nation and world. Hope will increasingly reflect the presence and influence of students, faculty and staff from diverse racial and cultural backgrounds. Hope will also provide ample opportunities for study in off-campus settings where racial and cultural diversity will be encountered.”

It sounds really nice to read, doesn’t it? (Except for that outstanding grammar error “will sometimes seem character...” and only paragraphs after proclaiming Hope’s committal to academic excellence!) Now only if that was how Hope really was.

I would love to see some cultural diversity that reflects the population-at-large. I don’t think the world’s ratio of males to females is 2.3. Nor do I think that the world’s population is 95 percent white, or 85 percent Christian (a generous estimate).

And diverse faculty and staff? Last I heard, Hope doesn’t exactly appreciate professors who come from a religious background that is outside of the Protestant or Catholic tradition. Nor do I think that the administration has issued a policy limiting study abroad financial aid to one semester. Now, students studying a language must be able to afford an entire year abroad, which is the length of stay recommended by most programs and professors. “Ample” suddenly means “insufficient.”

“Hope College will have a strong financial base and will make effective provision for maintaining it.” This sentence from paragraph seven means that Hope College will do anything to please its donors, even if that means decreasing educational opportunities in diverse environments, with diverse people.

I’m here on a lot of scholarships, and I thank those donors for this chance. But I came to Hope to prepare myself for a world full of people different than me, and I don’t believe that’s what I’m getting.

Mr. President, instead of a mere “vision,” I challenge you to turn those statements into observations.

Jeremy Benson, a senior, asks that you try to see it his way — only time will tell if he’s right or if he’s wrong. We can work it out; just shoot an email to anchor@hope.edu or jeremy.benson@hope.edu.

Corrections

The Oct. 3 issue of The Anchor improperly cited the front page photo. Kevin Soulyb, not David Moore, took the photo.

The Anchor welcomes comments and suggestions, or complaints about errors that may warrant correction. Contact us at anchor@hope.edu.

Letter Guidelines: The Anchor welcomes letters from anyone within the college and related communities. The staff reserves the right to edit due to space constraints, personal attacks or other editorial considerations. A representative sample will be taken from anonymous letters to be printed unless otherwise noted. Please limit letters to 500 words.

Mail letters to The Anchor c/o Hope College, drop them off at the Anchor office (located in the Martha Miller Center) or e-mail us at anchor@hope.edu.

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Men's golf team wins conference title

Jon Kinsey

The Hope College men’s and women’s golf teams concluded their seasons Saturday with their final conference tournaments. Both teams accomplished their preseason goals.

On the men’s side, the team won the conference championship for the eighth time in nine years. Led by seniors Matt Lapham and Tommy Yamaoka, Hope finished with an average team tournament score of 298.8 highlighted byYamaoka and Lapham were three of them.

Throughout the season, the men faced stiff competition but continually rose to the occasion.

“I was a little surprised by the way that Olivet, who finished 2nd in the conference, came out strong and didn’t relent much throughout the season,” Yamaoka said. “It was a challenge we hadn’t faced all year and had the lowest score in the top four of a team. The women’s goal is to be devoted to taking care of their bodies by getting enough sleep and eating right,” Hoekstra said.

The men’s team hopes to place in the top five teams. If the team places in the top two, they can continue to nationals as a team. The women’s goal is to win conference.