**October 2004**

**Hope College, Holland, Michigan**
A student-run nonprofit publication
Serving the Hope College Community for 118 years

### Hope Relay a success

**Amanda Zoratti**
Senior Staff Reporter

This past weekend, more than 300 students and community members participated in Hope's second annual Relay for Life. The event raised a grand total of $34,429. Held in the Pine Grove, the relay is both a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society and a celebration of life.

The Relay organization began in 1985. Dr. Gordy Klatt, a colorectal surgeon, began the fundraiser for the American Cancer Society in the Pine Grove, the relay is both a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. One year later, 220 others joined Dr. Klatt and a tradition was born. It is currently the largest fundraiser for ACS. Dr. Klatt and a tradition was born. It is currently the largest fundraiser for ACS.

### Academic buildings join dorm lockdown

**Amanda Zoratti**
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Due to the increased need for security on campus, the college will be restricting the hours of public access in several buildings.

Lubbers Hall, the Science Center, and the VanZoeren complex will be locked at 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 6 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Each of the buildings will reopen at 5 a.m. every day. The policy is set to go into effect on Friday, November 5.

Students and staff will still have full access to these buildings using their access code and ID card as they do to enter the dorms. Any student without a card can get one at the Registrar's Office at any time. The computer labs in these buildings will also be locked but can be accessed in the same fashion.

If there is a specific need for a program to be held in one of these buildings that is expected to include people without ID cards, Campus Safety must be notified at least 24 hours in advance so the building can be unlocked for the duration of the event.

If there are only a few visitors expected, it is recommended that the group set a pre-arranged time and enter with the guests. There are no phones outside of these buildings, so guests must either set up a meeting place with students or carry a cell phone.

All access cards are not working properly; students should call Campus Safety (x7000) and request that an officer be sent to open the building. If a valid ID card is present, students will receive access to the building.

Students are also asked to pay attention to their surroundings and help maintain the level of security on campus. This includes avoiding1500

### Halloween traditions new and old on campus

**Lindsey Manthei**
Features Editor

As the leaves begin to fall and the weather turns cool again, Halloween is just around the corner. This year at Hope, several things besides the leaves are changing. New traditions will replace old around campus.

Dorm decorating contests are taking place in Dykstra, the Student Activities Committee and the Greek Panhellenic Board are hosting a Monster Mash dance, many dorms are being decorated and Voorhees will not be hosting its traditional haunted house.

**SCAC and the Greeks are hosting a Halloween dance called “Monster Mash” in Maas Auditorium from 9 p.m. to midnight on Saturday, Oct. 30. We are asking for a $1 donation at the door to go toward Dance Marathon. Also, we are giving away mega-prizes for best costumes,” said Erica Oosiing (’06), SAC Dance Chair. Cash prizes as well as other prizes will be awarded, “but you have to come to the dance to find out,” Oosiing stated.**

“Planning on going to the dance? It sounds like a lot of fun,” said Katie Irwin (’08). “We have made it [the Halloween dance] kind of an annual Dance Marathon fundraiser,” Oosiing said. This is the second year the dance has been held. The categories for costumes are Best Group, Best Doo, and Best Single. Refreshments will also be provided at the dance.

In the past, Voorhees has hosted a Haunted Hall where students and community members were invited to take a terrifying tour. The haunted house was "not very popular with little kids because it was really scary," according to Will Ponowski (’07), Voorhees Resident Assistant.

“So, we decided to do something different this year,” said Ponowski. “We are asking for a $1 donation at the door to go toward Dance Marathon. Also, we are giving away mega-prizes for best costumes,” said Erica Oosiing (’06), SAC Dance Chair. Cash prizes as well as other prizes will be awarded, “but you have to come to the dance to find out,” Oosiing stated.**

“At the event, we will have a dance in the Maas Conference Room.” Ponowski said. “We are asking for a $1 donation at the door to go toward Dance Marathon. Also, we are giving away mega-prizes for best costumes,” said Erica Oosiing (’06), SAC Dance Chair. Cash prizes as well as other prizes will be awarded, “but you have to come to the dance to find out,” Oosiing stated.

### Hope discusses same-sex marriage, Prop. 2

**Campus Briefs**

Tonight at 6 p.m. the women's studies and psychology departments, in partnership with student organizations GLOW and the Sexuality Roundtable, are hosting a debate on same-sex marriage and Proposal 2. The event will take place in Maas Auditorium and will include a video debate examining the different aspects of the issue to be followed by a panel discussion led by professors David Myers and Katrina Jeffrey and students Jon Burnt (’06) and Jessica Johnson (’05).

### Breast cancer rally to be held Thursday

**Amiee Dandavati**
Professor of Political Science

Breast cancer will be the topic of the first annual Relay for Life at Hope. The rally will take place in the Herrick Room. Tickets are $3 and can be purchased in Phelps or the Delta Phi cottage. Tickets also enter attendees in a raffle for prices donated by the community. All proceeds from the rally will go to the American Cancer Society to be used toward research for breast cancer.

### Christian perspective on affirmative action

**Miguel de la Torre**, professor of religion, will lead a dialogue on affirmative action at 4 p.m. Thursday. The dialogue will center on the Supreme Court decision on the University of Michigan policies. De la Torre will also discuss Christian responses to this issue, examine the ethics of making these decisions, and study the impacts of the case both politically and socially. The discussion is part of the Multicultural Enrichment Series and will take place in the Maas Conference Room.
Diversity an issue in faith, history event

Faith is supposed to have tration and change things.

-Campus Beat Editor

Complimentary Contradictions

Lately, I have been wrestling with reconciling the often-conflicting reality of life with my optimism about the inherent goodness of the human spirit. Hard enough it is for me to admit, I’ve accepted the fact that people will always set to protect their own interests. I could attempt to prove this with historical or moral or theological or statistical evidence, if necessary—but I will not, because the simple experience of life is enough to justify this truth. Yet, as I write about my new acceptance of human selfishness, I sit here at the beach and watch a middle-aged woman climb onto a swing. As she glides back and forth in the air, my hopelessness is only encouraged.

This seeming contradiction is inextricably linked to another: should we care about the well-being of the entire global population just because we should, or should we care because it is in our best interests?

I would argue, as a Christian, that we are called to care about all people, that we have a moral responsibility to do so; in other words, that we should care simply because we care. However, the lack of responses I’ve received to this column and the apathetic nature of those responses I have received, on this predominantly Christian campus, discourage me as to the effectiveness of relying on goodwill and morality to affect change.

I then attempted to answer the “Why should we care?” question in a way that addresses the self-interested nature of humanity. Can it be argued that caring about the disadvantaged is in our best interest? The definitive answer, for reasons including security and economic growth, is yes.

Afghanistan provides a perfect example: after the Cold War, Americans and Soviets alike pulled out of the country, thinking it was no longer in their interest to continue spending time and money helping the Afghan citizens.

Hindsight being 2020, we now realize the fallacy of this belief. If we had stayed involved, would al-Qaeda have developed? Would 9/11 have happened?

These are reduced to “What if?” questions now, to be debated in academic halls for eternity. But they are not purely historical: nations with failed governments (such as that which led to the Taliban and the growth of al-Qaeda) still exist today, particularly in Africa. These failed states are breeding grounds for terrorists. It is in our American security interests to help these countries’ citizens develop healthy and stable governments.

It is also in our economic interests to promote global prosperity. According to the dominant theory, if the economic situation can be improved in developing countries, our own economy will improve as well. New markets, new consumers and new products will fuel growth and everyone will benefit from this growing economic tide.

These are only two of the many reasons why it is in our interest to care about the global population. However, this gives rise to the dilemma mentioned above. Is caring because it is in our interest to do so inconsistent with our moral responsibility to care?

The answer here is no. As Joel Toppen, political science professor, pointed out, if a regular church-goer reads a survey that says, “People who go to church more happen to be more relaxed,” and then that person attends church on Sunday, does that make their attendance less valid? Something can be good for more than one reason without causing a moral conflict.

In the same way, these two motives for caring are complementary—not contradictory.

It is OK for a Christian to care about the value of human lives and, at the same time, argue that it is in our interest to help these countries. Moral responsibility and self-interest serve to reinforce each other, and a call to action must employ both motives.

Even hopeless optimists can—must—be realistic. But before I left the beach, I too climbed on a swing and tried my hand at flying.

Think about it?

Should you care?

Educate Yourself?

This website thoroughly addresses the issue of global poverty as a security issue: <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?FuseAction=news.item&news_id=34999>.
**Aerial Dance Theatre features guest artist works**

"Kawabata Suite" and "Esa Sociedad" will be performed for the first time

Andrea Vandenburgh  
May 16-20, 2004

Here at Hope, all of the arts strive to not only bring students a top-of-the-line performance, but to get students to see below the surface. Arts performances often are intended to draw some emotions from students, and this is exactly the purpose of the Aerial Dance Theatre at Hope College. Founded in 1986, Aerial Dance Theatre is a professional touring company that performs regularly at its home theater, the Knickerbocker, throughout Michigan, the Midwest, and beyond. The company has performed and presented choreography in Belgium, Mexico, Croatia, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Puerto Rico, Spain, and Sweden.

Aerial presents a dance in a way that pushes emotions and understanding; bringing innovative and challenging imagery to the performance. The company's purpose is to present diverse, contemporary movement experiences that entertain, educate, and stimulate its audiences.

Aerial Dance Theater will be presenting the premiere of a new work titled "Kawabata Suite" by guest choreographer William Charles Crowley, which premiered at the state fair. The piece is drawn from the novel Palan the Hand Stories by the Nobel Prize winning author Yosunari Kawabata. "Kawabata Suite" is part of "Japanese Culture Comes to Hope College," a series of events being presented on campus in October and November. The program will present two Japanese exchange students, Sayaka Nakatsugi and Kayoko Aoki. Another piece being featured in the program will be "Esa Sociedad" by Jose Luis Hernandez, which was a gift from GrosoMedo of the Universidad Autonoma de Queretaro. Aerial and GrosoMedo have collaborated on several occasions in the last four years in a continuing cultural exchange supported by Hope College, the Universidad Autonoma de Queretaro, and the city of Queretaro.

"Unwritten Letter" is another piece being featured. It is a solo choreographed and performed by Steven Lanecone, artistic director of Aerial Dance Theater, will make its Holland debut on the program. This piece, set to the sound of a resonant tenor vocal, premiered in Queretaro in May this year. The concerts will be Thursday-Saturday, October 28-30, and Thursday-Friday, November 4-5 at 8 p.m. at the Knickerbocker Theatre, located at 66 E. 8th St. in downtown Holland. Tickets will be available at the door, and cost $7 for regular admission and $5 for senior citizens and students. Admission is free for children under 12. There will also be an informal question and answer session following each performance for audience members who wish to participate in discussion with the company members.

**First Hope Orchestra performance of the year**

Performance will feature works by Faure, Respighi and Coleider-Taylor

Amanda Zoratti  
May 21, 2004

This Friday, the Hope Orchestra will be performing in Dimnent Chapel at 7:30 p.m., and all of it's going to cost to see the performance is the gas money it takes to get there. If you walk, it's free.

"It's a fun thing to do with friends, and the music is really good," says cellist Matthew Mayes '08.

The program will consist of only three pieces, the first being "Prelude to Penepeus," which is based on Gabriel Faure's opera. "Suite Rossiniana," by Ottorino Respighi, will follow, which is based on Gioachino Rossini's collection. The second piece that will be performed is an Afro-British composer, Samuel Coleider-Taylor's "Petite Suite de Concerts" which concludes the second movement.

Besides teaching cello, Symphonette, chamber music, orchestration, and conducting, music professor Richard Piippo also leads the orchestra. He finds his position exciting and fulfilling. Piippo is in his 15th year at Hope, but has been directing for "many years."

"I try to cover repertoire that will make the orchestra grow musically," says Piippo. "I think the concert will demonstrate many of the talents of the young people involved." The Rossini and Coleider-Taylor are both suitable, so they have 4 movements in them, Piippo said.

"They start out lively and gradually slow to more melodic movements. They finish with turlcanas, which are intended to get the audience to dance. The Prelude is pretty animated too."

Hope's orchestra consists of 20 students and the following instruments: 2 violinists, 2 violas, 2 cellos, 2 contrabasses, piccolo, flute, bassoon, oboe, clarinet, French horn, trumpet, trombone, and percussion. The combination of instruments makes the sound both interesting and melodic, according to Mayes. "The group's strongest point is that most individuals want to play and perform literature of the symphonic genre," Piippo said. "The best part about conducting them is to see and hear how the pieces start and develop into the work the composer intended."

Everyone wants to be there," Mayes said. "You can tell, they really want to make the music sound that much better." This Hope Orchestra is one of only 2 performances scheduled for the semester, so be sure to see your orchestra in action while there is still time to do so. The public is also invited to the concert.

**Kawashima Collection highlighted as part of Japanese Culture Week**

The exhibition "New Vessels: Recent Additions from the Maurice Kawashima Collection of Japanese Ceramics" will open at Hope College with a reception in the gallery of the DePree Art Center on Friday, October 29.

The reception will run from 5 P.M. to 7 P.M. The exhibition will continue through Wednesday, Nov. 24.

Kawashima, who will attend the opening, is a fashion designer, professor and art collector. He made his first donation of Japanese ceramics to Hope in 1989, and the college celebrated the works with two previous exhibitions in 1993 and 2002. Hope presented him with an honorary degree, the Doctor of Letters, on Friday, April 23, 2004.

The new exhibition sets out to display a new gift of Japanese ceramics, and celebrates the continuation of the cultural partnership between Kawashima and Hope. The exhibition's curator, Shoji Satake, is currently a visiting professor of ceramics.

I believe Hope College has one of the most talented and experienced collections of contemporary Japanese ceramics in the nation," Satake said.

The DePree Art Center is located on Columbia Avenue at 12th St., Gallery hours are Sunday and Monday from 1-4 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Thursday from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m.

**“And All the Children Cried” Theatre Production**

As the parade board deliberates, the women face each other and the audience with confessions and challenges that confront our attitudes toward crime and punishment.

There will be a short talk back session following each performance. The play contains mature content: subject matter and language. Might not be suitable for children under the age of 14. The DeVitt Center is located on Columbia Avenue at 12th Street.
Overshadowed Third Parties dominate ballot

Michael Peroutka, the U.S. Tax Payers representative, supports conservative bans on abortion and homosexual marriage, but, disagrees with the wars on Iraq and terrorists.

Michael Badnarik, representing the Libertarian Party, supports the elimination of income tax and welfare as well as the legalization of marijuana.

The Green Party candidate, David Cobb, supports affirmative action, a universal healthcare system, as well as a woman's right to choose.

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David Cobb, the Green Party candidate, believes in universal health care systems, strongly supports affirmative action, advocates use of Instant Runoff Voting to eliminate the “spoiler effect” of third parties and supports unequivocally a woman’s right to choose.

Like most third party candidates, he is against the war on Iraq.

The Socialist Party views the capitalist system as inherently oppressive and advocates popular governmental control of the means of production, while ardently defending civil liberties. Walter Brown, their candidate, is listed as the Natural Law candidate on Michigan ballots.

Michael Badnarik is the leader of the Green Party, representing the Libertarian Party, holds a neutral view of capitalist systems and supports governmental control of the economy, in addition to the defense of civil liberties.

He would also propose a dramatic, tax slash. Ralph Nader is the last candidate on Michigan’s ballot for president.

As president, Nader would repeal NAFTA and redirect federal funds from foreign intervention to domestic issues such as education.

Many Democrats believe that Nader could again cost Democrats the election, citing Florida’s contested election in 2000.

However, Nader supporters point out that Nader’s campaign is only targeting the half of Americans who do not vote.

While few people would admit that any third party candidate has the remotest chance of winning the presidency, some Americans will vote for them regardless. Americans can vote their minds or vote their hearts.

For additional information, visit the candidates’ representative websites:

Green Party: www.votebobb.org
Libertarian Party: www.badnarik.org
Independent Party: www.walbtbrownforpresident.org
Socialist Party: www.walbtbrownforpresident.org

One of the most controversial movies of the year.

Fahrenheit 9/11

Showing Thursday, October 28, 2004
8:45 PM
Science Center 1000

Multicultural Life Enrichment Series Presents

Dr. Miguel De La Torre

“The Ethics of Affirmative Action”

Thursday, October 28
4:50 p.m.
Mass Conference Room
It's a Wednesday night. Homework upon homework is piled high. Friends upon friends wait outside the door. The last political debate of the 2004 election is on TV. But the TV set is filled with a black blank glow, as INFOCUS EDITOR don't know. Who cares? They're not sure. Of reading textbooks and talking online. The students sit at their desk, stuck in the routine. They wait outside the door. The last political debate that was considered a loss, is upon campus. According to "American Demographics" magazine, in the last presidential election, only 32 percent of 18- to 24- year olds voted. Forty five percent of college students didn't even bother to register to vote. This is compared to the 70 percent of adults 25 and older who voted in the last election.

Eighteen year-olds first received the right to vote in 1972. That year, 50 percent of 18- to 24- year olds voted. Is this decline in young voter turnout a growing problem in America? If this is a problem, what does America do to try and solve political apathy among the college generation? MTV, a TV station geared towards teens and young adults, decided to use its power to endorse politics. They aired a political-TV show called "Choose or Lose," which presents political information to the evangelical college student on issues that concern them such as: jobs, gay marriage, war, and religious expression.

"All the issues that we (evangelical Christians) are concerned about seem like it has all become the privacy of the courts. And so we say, why bother voting? That's one big issue."

The other issue is that a lot of Christians have bought into the lie of separation of church and state. That, if you are a Christian and you love the Lord and you attend church, it has to stay just within the church walls. You have no right to express yourself in the political process. That is the furthest thing from the truth. Paul went to Rome to speak to Caesar and what a great example. And because of that, he spread the Gospel throughout the world," said Brinson.

Brinson explained how important it is for evangelical Christians to exercise their right to vote. He said that during the 2000 election, 40 percent of Bush's votes were from evangelical Christians. Despite this number, four to six million evangelical Christians didn't even show up on Election Day. Eighteen percent of Gore's votes were from young voters who registered through "Rock the Vote."

Brinson has 70,000 people registered to vote through "Redeem the Vote." They've encouraged voters through a similar system as "Rock the Vote," by having Christian bands ask young adults to vote based on their Christian principles. Steven Curtis Chapman, Rebecca St. James, Building 429, Point of Grace, and Jeremy Camp are all Christian artists who endorse "Redeem the Vote." Each artist has held events where they've prayed, performed music, and spoke about the need for Christian voters.

Through the use of these Christian artists, Brinson hoped to combine MTV's hip idea with Christian morals. He understood how easy it is for college students to get caught up in their studies and friends. He understood the apathy that has infected the generation of young voters. At the same time he understood the frustration with the disruptive secular culture that young evangelical Christians may be experiencing isolation from. Brinson left them with this final word: "This year resolve in your own heart, your own mind, that you are going to register, you are going to participate. If you like, me, are concerned about the decline of our culture. If you haven't voted, blame yourself. Don't blame the liberals. Blame yourself and say in my responsibility, it's my country. We the people of the United States of America get to decide what culture we live in, and our primary weapon is to vote."

Erin L'Hotta INF/OUS EDITOR

"Choose or Lose," which presents political information to the evangelical college student on issues that concern them such as: jobs, gay marriage, war, and religious expression.

Tony Morra and Shelley Phillips of Point of Grace are among many Christian artists who support the cause of "Redeem the Vote."

Political apathy is present among young voters

'Redeem the Vote' strives to encourage college students to vote based on their Christian morals

Political apathy has hit this generation of college students. It's a disease, plaguing campuses upon campus. According to "American Demographics" magazine, in the last presidential election, only 32 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds voted. Forty-five percent of college students didn't even bother to register to vote. This is compared to the 70 percent of adults 25 and older who voted in the last election.

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Focusing on others could make a world of difference

To the Editor:

I think you are so incredibly right about this habit we all tend to have (Editor's Voice, Oct. 17). And it's not just us as young adults who do it; everyone. I recently wrote several short pieces online about this very thing. It's amazing how we can become so wrapped up in our own lives that we can't see anything else in the world. It's pretty upsetting to me that this is happening so many other places. I'm interested in figuring out how we can become so wrapped up in our own lives that we don't have room to think about anyone else. And I'm not saying it's easy, because if anything it's given me more to worry about, but by focusing on others, I can sometimes help them through tough times. It's hard, but when I think about all the times I went through when things seemed to be falling apart, and how I wished so badly for someone to help me, it makes it all worth it.

You're making something of your life, even if the only people who knew it were you and the people you focus on, it's still just as important. I hope you continue to make a difference in the lives of thousands of people at once. I once had a friend tell me that even if I were the only person on the earth, God would have still put me in the world for a purpose just for my sins. If we all focused on others instead of ourselves, the world would be a miraculously different place. I've made it my goal to always live my life with my focus on others, will you do the same?

Bonnie Thompson '07

Dedication had room for more student involvement

To the Editor:

First let me congratulate all of those involved in the dedication ceremony of a truly amazing undertaking. The new science building is beyond what any of us, as students, ever imagined. I feel so lucky to have been part of the process in seeing the building go up, and I feel even more fortunate to be able to take advantage of the facilities in research, learning, and socializing. What is life for, and I wouldn't change a thing. I love learning everything there is to know about chemistry, and with every new class that I take here, I get more and more excited about science and the possibilities of my future. Research is no different. The adrenaline rush that I feel when running the particle accelerator (by myself) or doing the research that I am doing is something that I am seeing something that no one else has ever seen before...that rush is not something that everyone can have the privilege of experiencing. Finally, all of this could not be possible without the absolutely fantastic science professors we have here. I cannot say enough good things about them to do justice to the extraordinary work they do on a daily basis, and the huge impact they make in the lives of those, often without even realizing it. This concluded and diluted version of my real excitement and passion is also present in many of the other senior science majore. Because of this very deep and heartfelt love we all have for Hope science and the new building, I can help but express my disappointment with the lack of student involvement in the dedication ceremony. I understand that there was a limited amount of time, and that there were many people who were an integral part of the development of the building who needed to be recognized. I cannot understand, however, what the basis was for choosing one student to represent everyone. Many of us, as seniors, have been here, unfailing, through the whole process. We were in the old building on learning days doing research, we started research immediately after classes in the summer of 2003 so that we could finish in time to move into the new building during the last half of the summer. We helped set up the new building, embraced it as our own, and were there for the second move when the old building was restored. We were there to make the building what it is, setting up display cases and having our research posters in the hallways. I've talked with many of these seniors who weren't invited to participate at all, in any of the dedication events. I'm talking about the best Hope has, dedicated and devoted to class work and research, simply left out. Any participation that we did do was last minute and not well planned. Some important points regarding the student perspective on the dedication process, the learning experience, and research were left out, or not emphasized. As I sit here, I'm reminded of the many sayings that could have been involved with the dedication that simply would have let us know that we are appreciated. Instead of letting one or two students do everything, it could have been divided. Most of all, we, as seniors, could have been informed on what was going to happen that day, and a simple e-mail could have been sent, asking if we wanted to be involved. This letter is not meant to cause feelings of regret or anger among those in charge of the dedication ceremony. I do realize that the purpose of the ceremony was to honor and celebrate the back bone of the project, and so the thank yous. This absolutely needed to be done, as the building would not have been here today were it not for them. I only wish to make it known that there were plenty of missed opportunities for good students to be involved. In the near future, Hope College will be dedicating two additional buildings, and my only hope is that the feelings and efforts of the students involved in those projects will be taken into consideration.

I'm not angry, but the sadness and disappointment that I feel far outweighs anger. My hopes have always been elevated by Hope science, but today, a part of me was let down. We all wanted to share our love of science, our gratitude toward the new building, and our passion for Hope's exceptional way of incorporating teaching and research. If only we had been able to express that.

Maintaining the JCMC standard of excellence...
Freedom of speech doesn't apply to the minority

To the Editor:

Monday, October 11th was National Coming Out Day. Many people celebrated this day on Hope College’s campus by writing on sidewalks and putting up posters with information about Proposal 2. On any other campus, this day might have gone without any problems. Unfortunately, this is not “any other campus” and many people in high power took away our rights.

An anonymous person called the Physical Plant to have anything written on the sidewalks regarding this to be “wiped away” because it was a Visitation Day. Posters were ripped down and even after re-chalking sidewalks, they were still scrubbed away.

I talked to the person who gave the order of erasing everything, with the president of GLOBE – Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Equal-

versus and Happy Birthdays, I know, as someone who had their chalkings erased, that I don’t feel, “welcome and respected.” That I do feel discriminated against, and that freedom of speech only applies within the school’s boundaries. Even if you don’t agree with the day, that doesn’t mean you should ruin it for those who do, by writing such things as, “Queers Go To Hell!” “Ban Gay Marriage, Support Bush” or “You’re either for it, or against it.” The messages originally written were not vulgar or hateful, nor do I feel they were in my face. They said such things as, “Love differently.” “Do not judge what you don’t understand.” “Educate, not discriminate.” “Happy Coming Out Day!” Believe it or not, there are gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgender students at Hope College and they should feel accepted as anyone else. I’m going to do my part to make sure everyone is accepted and respected, not just the majority.

Kat Ramsey ('07)

An open letter from a student to Dean Frost

To the Editor:

Hey, dude. Thanks for the campus-wide e-mail—sent through blind carbon copy, even!—regarding last week’s chalkings. I have a few questions regarding your comments.

First off, what’s up with the third sentence in your second paragraph? The “this” used doesn’t have an antecedent in its sentence nor in the sentence previous. I’m guessing that by “this” you mean “the issue of homosexuality,” a phrase which occurs in the first sentence of your second paragraph, and “...each individual is of iniquified worth...and will not tolerate any form of discrimination.” The handbook also claims, “Hope College is strongly committed to academic freedom and free speech.” Apparently this only applies to people who don’t write on Visitation Days, or only write bible quotations. Seriously, my man, check out the St. Martin’s or something to avoid your ambiguous subject reference. Or is your vagueness intended? By declaring that “each occurrence caused hurt and pain,” are you implying the chalkings advertising National Coming Out Day were as hurtful as those decrying anti-gay marriage? Are you trying to evade denouncing the gay-bashing chalkers? I think that it doesn’t make much moral fortitude to condemn such blind hatred as that shown by the authors of the anti-gay chalk marks. Just come out and say it man, “Prejudice toward and hatred of gays will not be tolerated at Hope College” would have been a nice addition to your email.

Also, bro, what do you mean by “non-Christ-like manner”? All those hyphens get in the way of my understanding. Are you implying that Jesus would not encourage chalk scripting? This seems ludi-

curious; I mean, he’s the dude who chucked up the infamous writing on the wall! Wait, nevermind, wrong testament. Anyway, it’s kind of funny that you tell us that our college is “about”—far far as an institution can be said to be “about” an ind definable concept—“learning to love one another as Christ has loved us”; this, coupled with the earlier hyphen-laden invocation of this Savior fellow, leads me to suppose that you think all Hope College students need to base their lives around Christ Jesus. This simply is not true, Hope College intends to be, as you write, “an educational community.” Educational communities are organizations geared toward the pursuit of knowledge and critical inquiry; educational communities are open to students of all religions. Hope College is a school, not a church nor a Christian-factory. But I may be misconstruing your words.

Have a good day, Dean Frost. I appreciate your working toward creating civil discourse and a civil student community.

Glenn Lester ('05)
Basketball team prepares for season

A large number of returning seniors lead the Flying Dutchmen to another year of Hope hoops

Nick Everse

Hope Men's Basketball Team Expects Big Things

The team only graduated two seniors from last year's MIAA championship team. The Hope College men's basketball team didn't graduate any sophomores from last year's 21-5 campaign and translate that into better and bigger things this year, including a possible national championship.

Coach Glenn Van Wieren remains at the helm for the Flying Dutchmen, entering his 23rd year as head coach. Van Wieren is Hope's all-time winningest basketball coach, coming out victorious an amazing 74 percent of the time while achieving 531 victories.

Van Wieren has to feel good about the chances for adding big to that win total with this year's squad, which could be the best since 1995's team that finished second in the nation. The Flying Dutchmen graduated two seniors from last year's squad, neither of which played more than 15 minutes a game.

Hope returns an impressive group for the 2004-'05 campaign, bringing back six team-mates who played more than 20 minutes a game. The team will field six seniors, all of whom have made an impact on the squad’s success over the past two years.

Senior Greg Immink, returning as the starting point guard, is a product of Hudsonville High School and has been seeing the floor consistently since his freshman year. Immink averaged 8.8 points and led the team with an average of 2.7 assists per game last season.

Another returning standout is senior Daane Griffelh, who completed 16 of 36 passes for 167 yards. Tailback Chris Clay gained 55 yards on 18 carried for the Bulldogs.

A win is a win, and for that reason Hope went home happy on Saturday. Performances like this are necessary for a team with conference championship aspirations. It's not always going to be pretty, but at the end of the day all that counts is that number in the win column.

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