Vespers preview rings in season

Maureen Yonovitz

As the holidays draw near, many things come to mind: buying and wrapping gifts, putting up decorations, going to church, spending time with family and friends. All of these things have at least one thing in common. They are all traditions. And every year, another Christmas tradition continues on campus in Hope’s own music department: Christmas Vespers. Originating in 1941, as a response to the bombing of Pearl Harbor; what began as a single performance has now grown into a much larger festival of four performances. This year’s presentations will take place at 4:30 and 8 p.m. Saturday and 2 and 4:30 p.m. Sunday in Dimnent Chapel.

Brad Richmond, coordinator of the events describes Vespers as an important tradition for the school and a commemoration of the more spiritual aspects it pays tribute to.

“Vespers is an event that sells out early every year at Hope to the Holland community. Instituted in 1941, Vespers is still going strong today. The traditional Christmas Vespers program is Saturday and Sunday, and the Student Activities Committee, Salvation Army, IVE league, and the Kletz will be sponsoring several opportunities to get into the Jolly Ol’ St. Nicholas spirit. The Salvation Army and IVE leagues’ annual Angel Tree program is underway and gift tags can be acquired from the tree in Van Wylen library. All participants are asked to purchase the described Christmas present for a child and return each donation by Dec. 10. SAC will be sponsoring a Christmas Movie Spectacular starting at 7 on Saturday night in Knickerbocker Theatre. For a $3 admission, students and staff will be entertained by three Christmas films, or any one film can be seen for $2.

First up will be a showing of the 1960s version of “How the Grinch Stole Christmas,” by Dr. Seuss, followed by the recent remake starring Jim Carrey. The yuletide movie night will conclude with a showing of the traditional favorite, “It’s a Wonderful Life.”

Nightly Kletz snacks for Exam Week available Tuesday through Thursday next week, starting at 8 p.m. each night.

Preparations for the four Christmas Vespers performances on Saturday and Sunday are well underway as its ensembles continue to rehearse. Vespers is an event that sells out early every year at Hope to the Holland community. Instituted in 1941, Vespers is still going strong today.

It’s that time again: Holidays, Exam Week, upcoming break are upon students and staff

Coming soon are Christmas movies and snacks for studying

Jenny Cenzer

Sponsor: Bill Phillips

The sights and sounds of Christmas are more than apparent at Hope, whether it’s a dorm or cottage decked in twinkling lights, an actual manger, the carols playing in Phelps, or a sudden craving for candy canes. Hope has erupted with holiday cheer, and several local organizations will be sponsoring events for the season and to counteract impending exam exasperations.

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Students present at symposium

A total of 19 senior nursing students at Hope College will present the results of their fall semester research during a poster symposium on Friday, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., in the Schaap Atrium of the college’s new science center. The students have worked in a variety of health care settings on research or evidence-based projects this semester. Their projects range from seeking ways to help women stop smoking during pregnancy, to childhood obesity, to pain management, to hospital hand hygiene, to the length of time spent in emergency rooms.

Professor receives Dreyfus award

Dr. William Polik of the Hope College chemistry faculty has received an award from the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation Scholar/Fellow Program for Undergraduate Institutions. The award, one of only four made nationwide this fall, will enable a post-doctoral Fellow to spend two years mentored by Polik at Hope, learning how to combine a research program with undergraduate teaching. Hope’s Polik believes, is uniquely qualified to serve as a host site. The $150,000 award will pay the fellow’s salary and provide funding for research and supplies. The individual chosen will have just completed his or her doctorate.
Next up are fieldhouse, Martha Miller Center

After completion of Pea Science Center, Hope is preparing to renovate its Devos Fieldhouse — a new 102,000-square-foot sports facility and kinesiology complex is in the works. Construction documents for the fieldhouse complex have been drawn up, and all that is needed now is a go-ahead from the college’s Board of Trustees. A spring start date is anticipated.

Plans for the Martha Miller Center, a new home for the Communications and Modern Languages departments, are also moving along. That building will go up on the grounds of the soon-to-be-torn-down Lincoln School. Design documents for the center have been completed and the plans are being reviewed by the departments. Once the departments sign off on plans, final costs can be determined for the project, which has a groundbreaking planned for this spring.

Set for groundbreaking in the spring, the new DeVos Fieldhouse is destined to be home to the Flying Dutchmen basketball, numerous other sporting event, and kinesiology classes.

In a few years, when these buildings are completed, they will greatly expand the experiences and services that Hope College can provide.
Students put effort into creating display-worthy pieces for annual exhibit

Jenny Cencer
Sewanee Review

A collection of juried student pieces will be available for viewing in the DePree main gallery from now until Dec. 12. An opening reception will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday.

John Hanson, assistant professor and director of DePree Gallery describes the display as more than 70 works, all by Hope students and all created from varieties of media, including acrylic paint, color and black-and-white photography; ceramics; and sculpture crafted from steel, bronze, and mixed media. Artwork ranging from a neon light sculpture, a lamp resembling a bomb, to melded steel formations are now light sculpture, a lamp resembling a bomb, students and all created from varieties of media, including acrylic paint, color and black-and-white photography; ceramics; and sculpture crafted from steel, bronze, and mixed media. Artwork ranging from a neon light sculpture, a lamp resembling a bomb, to melded steel formations are now on display in the show. "I had a painting rejected this year because the frame had been badly damaged. I thought that the painting was good, but I learned that not only the artwork itself is important, but also the way that it is presented...works were also turned down because they were not developed enough, the buyers wouldn't spend much money on a painting that they viewed as damaged.

Each piece residing in the DePree Gallery has a unique message for the viewer. "You can't measure art," Bender said. This is going to be a stellar reading.

—Alicia Abdo (’04)

These three pieces in the Juried Student Art Show are all ceramic works by Andrew Lick (’04). His three pieces in the exhibit include "clockwise from back left" “The Start,” “Anyone’s Guess,” and “Loaf Bowl.”

Sighs." Orlen has won three National Endowment for the Arts grants and he was awarded a Flannery O’Connor Award for Short Fiction. Orlen and Wells will both be sharing their award winning writing.

The reading will take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday at the Knickerbocker Theatre.

VWS ends semester with duo

Year’s final event features two award winning authors

Jordan Wolfsen
Sewanee Review

The end of the semester at Hope College holds many wonderful activities for those who want to get away from the stresses of finals week, including the holiday Vespers at Dimnent Chapel and the Visiting Writers Series (VWS), which has received its final authors of the semester.

For this final performance of the year, the VWS has brought in Steve Orlen, a very famous poet to present his works to the Hope College community. This VWS event will also feature Kellie Wells, a sculptor working out of Chicago. These experiences here at Hope...Steve Orlen is a tremendous poet who sounds completely willing to talk to students. He will be staying in Holland for longer then usual to dedicate more of his time to talking to students," said Phil Waalikes, student assistant to the VWS. Kellie Wells is an up-and-coming writer who has already released her first short story collection entitled "Compression Scars." She is finishing up her second collection, called "Fat Girl, Terrestrial." "Compression Scars" won not only the O’Connor award but also the Great Lakes College Association New Writers Award. Wells was also a finalist for the Dove Heyz Prize. She currently teaches at Washington University in St. Louis. "Slyly comic, yet deeply felt... (her fiction) embraces the sacred weirdness of everyday life," said writer and past VWS reader Peter Ho Davies about Wells’ work. "This is going to be a stellar reading. Both of these writers write with tenderness and care, and they invoke a captivating and addicting sense of humor through language. Steve has been writing for a number of years, and has published numerous books, while Kellie is a new and emerging writer. They will compliment one another perfectly," said Alicia Abdo (’04), another VWS student assistant. "Despite semester wind-down chaos and pre-exam stress that will abound next week, this is one reading not to miss. Steve and Kellie will help any audience member to ‘unwind’ a little.”

For those who crave a time to forget about their finals and hectic schedules, this reading is not to be missed. The Hope College Jazz Ensemble will precede the readings with a 6:30 p.m. performance.

Steven Orlen and Kellie Wells are the semester’s final visiting writers. They will read at 7 p.m. on Thursday in the Knickerbocker. This semester’s series of academic colloquia sponsored by the Dean for the Arts and Humanities was conceived with a student colloquium. This will be held at 4 p.m. on Thursday in rooms B04 and B05 of 10 E. Eighth Street. The student colloquium is a rare opportunity for students "to get a taste of what it’s like to be a real scholar," said Kathleen Verdun, coordinator of the colloquium. Most of the colloquium is reserved for the faculty members to make presentations to their colleagues, but the last colloquium of the semester is reserved for students to make presentations to the faculty and other students. After the presentations, student presenters will take questions from the audience.

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Joshua Hauser (’04), a student presenter at last year’s colloquium, commented that the question-and-answer session was the most instructive portion of the experience. "...The opportunity to read my paper in front of a public audience was a great privilege, but it was an even greater privilege to have that same audience tear it apart," Hauser said. Hauser later revised his paper based on the feedback he had received.

Competition to be a student presenter at the colloquium is stiff. Students must demonstrate outstanding scholarship in their discipline in order to be considered. This year’s student presenters will be Alisa White (’04), Lauren Rebecca Hinkle (’04), Timothy Fry (’04), Kerylin Harkaway (’04), Glenn Lester (’05), and Alicia Abdo (’04). Verdun commented that the colloquium is very good for students who may not otherwise be aware of how distinguished their work is. "The colloquium is a chance for students to see the quality of their work and to be rewarded for their labors," Verdun said. There will be two sessions of the colloquium, which will be conducted simultaneously. Refreshments will be served. Admission is free of charge and all members of the Hope College community are invited to attend this event.
INFOCUS

**WEEKEND WOES**

There’s fun to be had on campus, but you need to go out and find it

Katie Taylor

I recently moved from Holland to Hope College, and I have noticed a trend of people complaining about the absence of events on campus. Many students feel that there isn’t much to do when they are on campus, and they often express their dissatisfaction with the lack of activities available to them.

One student, who wishes to remain anonymous, commented, “I’m so used to finding my own entertainment that I don’t really get too bored here.”

On the other hand, Mike Vagle, a Hope College student, has been pleasantly surprised by the abundance of activities on campus. He said, “There’s fun to be had on campus, but you need to go out and find it. Guys can always take Vagle’s last bit of advice: ‘If I get really bored, I just go to a girls’ dorm and meet some new girls, it’s sweet.’”

The play “Everyman,” put on by the Hope theatre program last year, was a popular event to attend on the weekend.

The Anchor staff takes a break from producing the last issue of the semester. Front row, left to right: Brad Vanderberg (‘05), Anjey Dykhuis (‘06), Danielle Koski (‘04), Jenny Cencer (‘07), Maureen Yonovitz (‘05). Second row: Katie Taylor (‘06), Mackenzie Smith (‘07), Andy Borozan (‘07). Back row: Advisor Mark Lewison, Nick Denis (‘03), Rob Ondra (‘04), Jordan Wolfson (‘07).

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Some students have to remain at Hope for part of holidays

**SPOTLIGHT**

Mackenzie Smith
Senior Editor

For most Hope students, Christmas break is synonymous with going home to friends and family. However, there are a number of students who will be spending part or all of their break on campus.

All campus housing units, including dorms and cottages, officially close at 5 p.m. Friday, December 12. However, not all students will be leaving campus. According to Diana Breclaw, assistant dean for residential life and student affairs, there are a variety of reasons.

Several students with on-campus jobs will also be here over Christmas break. As most residential life staff will also be on break, several special precautions will be taken for the safety of these students. A coordinator—coach, advisor, or supervisor—is put in charge of each group of students. These coordinators are responsible for checking in with students on a daily basis and serving as the students’ liaison for any problems that may occur.

Lisa Lockman, coordinator of residential life and judicial affairs, said, “Our main concern is to make sure we have staff on duty or on call.” She explained that she is working closely with Campus Safety to ensure campus readiness over the coming three-week break.

The college’s housing department is also working to prevent students from staying alone over this time, to provide greater safety for them. If only one person is remaining in a dormitory or dorm area, they will be moved to a different room for the course of the stay.

This arrangement will continue until Dec. 22, at which point all campus housing will be completely closed. Students who must be on campus between then and Jan. 1 will be lodged at the Havorth Center. Lockman emphasized that all college policies, including curfews, will remain in effect over Christmas break.

“We’re extending them an invitation,” she said, adding that she expects that students who have been granted permission to stay will behave responsibly.

Breclaw said, “There have not been any major problems over any break” at Hope College. These safety precautions are taken to prevent any future problems from occurring.

Margaret Fylstra ’07, a freshman on the girls JV basketball team, will be staying on campus until Dec. 20. She is more worried about occupying her time than about safety measures on campus.

Fylstra commented, “I’m just a little concerned that there will be nothing to do here [over break].”

“I’m just a little concerned there will be nothing to do here [over break].”
—Margaret Fylstra ’07

Finding one parking space — let alone dozens — is usually a challenge near Hope’s campus, but during the holiday emptiness will be the rule. Few cars, even fewer students will be present on campus over Christmas break, leaving room for your car and several others.

Via Maria Trattoria presents...

**The College Feast**

The perfect atmosphere for morning and afternoons, study group meeting and quiet reflection.

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494-0016
To the editor:

I was thrilled when I saw a letter in last week’s Anchor about the inoperative electronic scrolling sign Student Congress installed in 2000. I was the Anchor editor-in-chief that year. It was a perfect example for starting the “Watch This Space” counter in the Anchor back in 2001, and this is the first time anyone has mentioned it.

Yes, the counter has become a glorified space filler for the Anchor, but I put it in for more reasons than that. As I recall, the sign of that was about $500 and there were a couple more signs like it around the campus. That year’s Student Congress made a huge deal about the signs, pointing to them as examples of an active Congress. However, once the signs were installed, they did little more than display the same messages that were loaded, and eventually said nothing. That same school year, your current editor and I asked Student Congress to increase the salaries of the Anchor section editors and were denied. When I became editor, I placed the “Watch this Space” counter in the me because I was upset that Student Congress was so willing to throw money away on useless electronic signs, yet refused to help re-establish Hope College’s rapidly dying student newspaper. Surely, nothing has changed.

The Anchor was once a source of pride for Hope College. In 2000, the Anchor was called the third best weekly college newspaper in the Midwest by the Associated Collegiate Press. Over a dozen similar awards from previous years are hanging on the walls of the Anchor office. Lately though, the Anchor has become somewhat of an embarrassment—fallen trees as front page news and incomprehensible, poorly researched feature stories. I can understand what led Paul Hayes to accuse the Anchor of wasting money. Honestly, I don’t think the answer is to take money away from the Anchor, but to give it more, or rather to give the Anchor staff greater incentive to stay on the Anchor and to work hard at it.

When I worked on the Anchor, I received no college credits for my four years of work and only enough money to buy a one electronic scrolling sign per year. Luckily, in my first couple of years, there were a number of students willing, like me, to do hard work for the Anchor despite the small compensation. However, by my junior year, most of these students either burnt out or graduated. The only reason I lasted on the Anchor as long as I did was because I wasn’t that academically minded and was willing to sacrifice my GPA for a good student newspaper. I’m not saying this to brag about myself, but to say that Anchor staff members shouldn’t be expected to do what I did. A Hope College student should be able to put in some good work at the Anchor and get into medical school at the same time. More and more college students are becoming more concerned about their grades and are less motivated towards extracurricular activities—especially those like time-consuming and demanding, such as the current Anchor leadership is probably just getting by, struggling merely to retain a tiny, vastly underqualified staff.

Instead of letting what was once a great student newspaper fall by the wayside, Student Congress, the Dean of Student Development and his staff, the departments of communications and English, and President Balmain all have the opportunity to make it priority to find a way to compensate Anchor staff members with either college credit or money. If Anchor staff won’t be forced to choose between the Anchor and classes or a part-time job.

Whatever we think of what appears on the opinion page of the Anchor, we can all agree that a fully-functioning press is a necessary part of the student experience (not to mention a valuable source of professional training). A newspaper allows us to experience the fullness and diversity of our college. By informing us, a newspaper enables us to become participants rather than spectators. Even a basic electronic scrolling sign—or even a working scrolling sign—can’t do that.

—Matthew Cook ’02

Hope College’s value system should support gay marriage

By inferring us, a newspaper enables us to become participants rather than spectators.

To the editor:

I want to bring attention to the Editor’s Voice column. I would like to continue discussion on not only issues facing Hope but also our nation. As a freshman, I have only heard about the division, despondency, and anger the topic of homosexuality caused several years ago at Hope. The common ground between disagreeing parties is the willingness to talk, and that’s what democracy and this letter are all about.

This year the issue of gay marriage exploded into the political arena. One group openly gay bishop was confirmed in the Episcopal Church. Archdiocesan sodomy laws were ruled unconstitutional in Texas, Massachusetts’ Supreme Court ruled gay marriage does not conflict with its state constitution. Legislators are prompting for a constitutional amendment that would forbid gay marriage. So why the sudden resurgence of this issue? In a nation where we are so commonly told to defend against “the evidence,” some turn to also defend something more tangible, personal, and “sacred” marriage.

The debate of marriage was created in 1996 after gay marriage was almost legalized in Hawaii. Defense is the key word. The only time someone defends or protects something is when he fears something else. Are we afraid of the prospect of gay marriage? Society’s answer is an emphatic yet discrete, “YES!” All to often I hear the “sanctity” of marriage between a man and a woman must be protected. Let me ask you: what does this mean? Does this means that one campuses and institute its image of what marriage is: especially

To put it another way, when it disrupts the love between two people. David Von Drehle of the Washington Post asks, “If a person’s sex life is her own business, and if marriage is a fundamental human right, then why not same-sex marriage?” Gays have lasting relationships too, and the love between two people is all that matters.

Let’s put aside our religious convictions and look objectively at this issue from a legal standpoint. This matter is about social justice. A person can quack all day about homosexuality’s status as a sin, but gay marriage comes down to the civil liberty of everyone’s right to marry who they want regardless of sexual orientation.

After long reflection on this topic, something becomes clear to me during Vegas Night here at Hope. I could ‘get hitched’ with a woman I barely knew. Sadly, this does happen in the real Las Vegas, but people also receive a real marriage license with all its rights and privileges. True love, no union of souls between two people. The spiritual hole of incompleteness marriage was suppose to fulfill between two people still exists. Yet these people have the right to marry. Hope College is a special place because of its emphasis on building relationships among friends, teachers, that significant other, and God. Hope’s ideals reflect why gay marriage is essential and imperative, but for its representation of the basic human need of a loving relationship.
Letters to the Editor

To the editor:

"Isn't she hot?" "Check out those hot girls over there!" "Was that girl pretty hot? No, but this other one I met was..." If we're honest, words and phrases like these are coming to be commonplace among some guys on campus. Evidently, these guys seem to think fairly well of all the women out there, since the words are said in a positive context. But what do they mean by "hot" when describing a woman? Do they mean that she is fun to be around; has a wonderful heart for others, is an amazingly brilliant person, or is someone who brings joy to people? Honestly, I have my doubts. I think it means that she is very visually appealing/sexually attractive. And I fear this has become the main focus of some males at Hope in regards to women.

Gentlemen, when you look at a woman, what do you see? I'm not saying that it is bad to be attracted to someone, but what are your motives? Why are you attracted to her? When I see swimmer posters and the like in the rooms of my peers, I question their motives. Do we see the wonderful women around us as amazing, multi-faceted people with many incredible feelings, thoughts, interests, talents, and abilities? Or do we see them, wishing they were clad in a bikini or less, like on the posters of so many guys' walls?

Students should be grateful for campus arts programs

To the editor:

I am writing in regards to "Forced Attendance Deleterious to required events" article. Appearing like the ones that we have here at Hope, I would hope that professors would take advantage of these phenomenal teaching opportunities.

In regards to the comment, "students who do not want to go will find ways not to attend, and in the process annoy people who actually want to be there," how will they annoy people at the event if they haven't attended it themselves? Your grammatical syntax seems to reflect your attitude. For those people who choose not to attend, they are wasting their own tuition dollars and missing out on an intellectually stimulating experience.

I understand that some people can't miss The Bachelor, but we are in college and education should take precedence. I am a musician and if I am not on stage performing, I am not learning. People who leave in the middle of a performance do distract me, but they certainly do not make Hope look bad. They make themselves look bad. I propose another solution to your displeasure. Professors should educate their students on what constitutes proper etiquette for these events. This will allow students to attend these events and not be a disruption.

—Richard Van Vroost ('04)

Student questions maturity of peers at Hope College

To the editor:

Saturday evening, while leaving Graves Hall after the SAC movie around 11:30 p.m. I saw something absolutely appalling. A group was surrounding a boy (I refrain from using the term man based on the level of maturity shown by all involved with the incident) who was hung by his feet from a tree. Members of the group who had put the boy there appeared to be bashing him and hitting him. My reaction was to head back into Graves and call Campus Safety. Unbelievably, others were doing the same.

Disturbed by the situation, I waited until the Campus Safety officers were present before I went and found out the details. Apparently the boys, including the one hanging by his ankles, had thought it would be amusing to pull this stunt in the middle of campus.

There is only a certain amount of information that a person can take in from reading a book. With accredited students, like the ones that we have here at Hope, I would hope that professors would take advantage of these phenomenal teaching opportunities. In regards to the comment, "students who do not want to go will find ways not to attend, and in the process annoy people who actually want to be there," how will they annoy people at the event if they haven't attended it themselves? Your grammatical syntax seems to reflect your attitude. For those people who choose not to attend, they are wasting their own tuition dollars and missing out on an intellectually stimulating experience. I understand that some people can't miss The Bachelor, but we are in college and education should take precedence. I am a musician and if I am not on stage performing, I am not learning. People who leave in the middle of a performance do distract me, but they certainly do not make Hope look bad. They make themselves look bad. I propose another solution to your displeasure. Professors should educate their students on what constitutes proper etiquette for these events. This will allow students to attend these events and not be a disruption.

—Annie Schuster ('06)

Letters to the Editor Guidelines

Open to anyone within the college and related communities

The Anchor reserves the right to edit due to space constraints

No personal attacks, poor taste or anything potentially libelous

Letters chosen on a first come first serve basis, or a representative sample is taken

No anonymous letters, unless discussed with Editor-in-Chief

Editor-in-Chief may verify identity of writer

The Anchor reserves the right to refuse publication of any letter submitted

Letters over 500 words in length will not be considered for publication

Mail letters to the Anchor c/o Hope College, drop them off at the Anchor office (located in the center of Dewitt), behind WTHS, or e-mail Anchor@hope.edu

Christmas Movie Spectacular

Featuring...

Dr. Seuss' "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" (both versions) and "White Christmas"

Both shows: $3

7 p.m. Saturday in Graves Hall
Flying Dutch stay undefeated, Dutchmen have tough weekend

Andrew Borozan

The Dutch’s continued success over the past couple years has carried into this fall, or so it seems early in this basketball season. The Dutch improved to a sparkling 4-0 as they defeated previously unbeaten Grand Valley. Ind. 63-50 on Saturday and defeated rival Calvin 78-61 Nov. 25.

After trailing Anderson at the half 25-16, the Dutch exploded with a 45 point outburst in the second half. Sisters Bria ('06) and Linda Ebels ('06) led the charge for the Dutch as they both tallied 15 points apiece. Linda also pulled down an astounding 14 rebounds. Teammate and captain Aedylana Vilmann ('05) also had a stellar performance as she grabbed 11 rebounds and had 10 points.

“In our first home game everyone was a little tight in the first half. We were playing good defense but layup shots were not going in,” commented Linda Ebels on the rebounds and had 10 points.

A superb performance as she grabbed 11 rebounds and touting 14 rebounds. Teammate and flying Dutch stay into this fall, “commented Linda Ebels on the rebounds and had 10 points.

Butler was picked off by a Wheaton defender late in the fourth quarter sealing the playoff victory for the Thunder. “We were hoping that we had made greater strides than they had since we first played them, but I think they have just gotten better,” Coach Kreps commented after the game. “We were hoping that we had closed the gap on them a little bit more than we had. We were hoping the difference was going to be the running game.” The running game proved to be Hope’s downfall as they only managed 26 yards on the ground all game.