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Christmas Vespers a success

A broad spectrum of talented Hope College musicians gathered on Saturday and Sunday for the annual sold out concert. Two choirs, individual organizers, the Hope Symphonette, Brass Ensemble, and flute choir all performed seasonal pieces at this celebration, ringing in the Christmas spirit.

more VESPERS on 3

Discourse virtues make reappearance

Andrea Vandenburgh
Senior Staff Reporter

In the past month, there has been some confusion and debate surrounding the recent chalking regarding homosexuality. Many questions were left unanswered and many feelings were hurt. Some may think that there are no steps being taken to help, but this is probably because not many students have heard of the Programming Committee on Issues of Sexuality.

The committee is made up of administrators, faculty members, and students. Four years ago, a task force was appointed by President Bullman to tackle some concerns regarding not only issues of homosexuality, but sexuality in a broader sense of the word.

The committee does its best to listen to students and encourages them to voice their concerns regarding the topic of homosexuality. "The committee encourages people to come to us and voice their concerns. We are hoping to have more discussions and readings next semester to help students," said James Herrick, professor of communications.

One of the main purposes of the committee is to make Hope's "Virtues of Public Discourse" known. The virtues are:

- Humility—recognizes the limitations of any one person’s knowledge, and thus makes it possible to learn from the insights of others.
- Humility says "no" to the pride that prevents open communication, thus encouraging a willingness to consider carefully others' opinions and perspectives. Humility does not mean, however, endorsement of every view encountered.
- Patience—recognizes the limitations of one's knowledge and thus makes it possible to express ideas unlike our own. Even worse, it is the virtue of receiving others into our presence and offering a safe place for people to express ideas not unlike our own.
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Although this year's Dance Marathon, planned for March 11-12, is not for another three months, preparations are well underway for this event.

Dance Marathon, now in its sixth year, has raised almost $267,000 for DeVos Children's Hospital of Grand Rapids. Participants and other participants were in- volved in fundraising since the beginning of the semester, with projects including the Date Auction, Tuesday Night's, a benefit bridal show for this year, but we hope to get there next semester," Bredlow said.

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Dance Marathon hosts holiday celebration

Evelyn Daniel
Senior Staff Reporter

Although this year's Dance Marathon, planned for March 11-12, is not for another three months, preparations are well underway for this event.

Dance Marathon, now in its sixth year, has raised almost $267,000 for DeVos Children's Hospital of Grand Rapids. Participation in the Dance Marathon committee have been actively fundraising since the beginning of the semester, with projects including the Date Auction, Tuesday Night's, a benefit bridal show and raising the dinning halls "for the kids."

Dec. 14-17, students on a meal plan can give up a meal and give the money to Dance Marathon. In addition, Christmas cards illustrated by the children of DeVos are on sale for $8 per set of eight.

East Saturday, Dance Marathon gave students an opportunity to meet with some of the families being sponsored. The families, dancers and other participants were invited to come together for an evening of crafts, pizza and cookies, followed by a showing of the classic Christmas film "White Christmas."

In addition, Dance Marathon is starting a serious recruitment of their best fundraisers—students, dancers and monsters. "We have more dancers and more monsters than ever before at this time of the year," said event adviser Diana Bredlow, Assistant Dean of Students.

"We haven't reached our goal yet for this year, but we hope to get there next semester," Bredlow said.

This year's committee has set for this year, but we hope to get there next semester," Bredlow said.

The films average about 20 minutes in length. One film this year's committee has set for this year, but we hope to get there next semester," Bredlow said.

Additionally, students working campus jobs will be receiving a payroll check on December 31. If an employee wishes to have the check mailed home, please drop off a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Human Resources. If there is no envelope provided, checks will be available at Human Resources after break. Human Resources is located at 100 East 8th Street, Suite 210. Be sure to also have W-4 tax forms filled out to receive a campus check. If they are not filled out, forms can be picked up in Human Resources. Two forms of identification are required.

Film students to present works in Knickerbocker

Tomorrow in the Knickerbocker Theatre, the documentary class of Professor Schick will show free screenings of five of their documentary works. The showings will be followed by a question and answer session and will include free popcorn. The documentaries will include several local subjects. The films average about 20 minutes in length. One film will feature Holland resident Rob Knop, a top turret gunner during World War II, and another will focus on the underground railroad.
ones convictions even when one’s opinions may be considered dangerous or unpopular. Courage also involves the ability to listen openly as others articulate beliefs that are different from your own.

"Honesty: a determined commitment to discovering and speaking the truth by members of the community. Fidelity to what is the case, and an unwillingness to instead, are hallmarks of honesty. Honesty fosters an open environment that encourages growth and leads to real progress."

"The virtues are recommendations to students in hopes that they will learn to discuss things in a respectful manner and listen to each other’s opinions, not just about issues of homosexuality, but in other situations as well,” Herrick said.

"I think that students here follow the virtues very well. Of course, there are always going to be conflicts, but we hope that students will uphold the virtues during those conflicts,” said Tim Fry ('05).

"I affirm these virtues because they are essential to nurturing a strong, healthy community, and they are biblical. As a Christian community, we need to not only agree on these, but to live them out practically," said Paul Boersma, Chaplain.

"This can be evident in the way we treat one another, even when we have varying opinions or beliefs. As a diverse community, we need to be open to a variety of view points and respectfully interact with each other," Boersma said.

"As of right now, the committee does not have an official position on the recent chalking’s. The chalking’s are more of an issue of free speech, even though feelings were hurt by the things said. This is the reason the committee created the virtues, to make opportunities for things to be talked about openly without feelings being hurt.

There is also a debate about where exactly Hope stands on the issue of homosexuality today.

"Hope’s official position on homosexuality parallels that of the Reformed Church of America, distinguishing between homosexual orientation and practice and identifying the latter as contrary to biblical teaching while showing care, concern, and compassion towards all. Hope affirms that each student is to be treated with dignity and respect," Boersma said.

"Instead of rumors and frustration, and built-up feelings, there is a place where students can talk," Herrick said.

For more information on the virtues of public discourse, visit www.hope.edu/admin/provost/virt.

I affirm these virtues because they are essential to nurturing a strong, healthy community, and they are biblical.

—Paul Boersma, Chaplain

Virtues of Public Discourse

Humility  Courage  Hospitality  Honesty  Patience

DANCE from 1

DANCE Marathon participants had a chance to meet the kids at a party in Maas Auditorium last Saturday.

Lofty but achievable goals. The 2005 Dance Marathon plans to raise at least $100,000 and include a record number of students.

"We want to get 300 dancers this year, which would be 10 percent of the Hope student body dancing. If we could reach that goal, it would be absolutely amazing," Breclaw said.

The major task for dancers now is to get their friends involved and start fundraising by contacting their families and friends.

"I am one of the representatives for Dykstra Hall, so I’m trying to get more people from Dykstra to become dancers and mortals,” said dancer, Mallory Golas (’08).

"I met the family (that we’re fundraising for) and they are just so cute. I’m really excited that we get to fundraise with them and support them," Golas said.

Many dancers are preparing letters to send to people outside of the Hope community asking for their support.

"I sent out 50 letters to all of my family and friends," said Stephanie Pasek (‘08). "If each of them sends back just $5, that’s $250. The more people I send to, the more money we get, and it’s for a great cause. It’s for the kids!"

The Dance Marathon committee, or ‘Dream Team,’ has even more events scheduled for next semester.

"We have lots more fundraisers planned—everything from an art auction to ‘While You Were Out,’ where we redecorate someone’s room. We also will have many trips to the hospital, with van rides so that you can go see the kids and meet them," Breclaw said.

“We are keeping the theme a secret for now," she said, "but it should be bigger and better than ever before."

Students interested in getting involved should email dancemarathon@hope.edu or visit the Dance Marathon website at www.hope.edu/dancemarathon.

I’m really excited that we get to fundraise with (the kids) and support them.

—Mallory Golas (’08)

Fall 2004 Exam Schedule

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Vespers brings the joy of the season to campus

Hope students and faculty bring the songs of the season to life during Vespers

Nick Engel
Senior Staff Photographer

With snow falling and students feeling the pressure of exams, there can be little doubt that winter has overtaken Hope College. However, hope is not all lost. Last weekend Holland was regaled with Christmas Vespers 2004: a vivid, contemplative, and uplifting service conducted by the Music Department. The 64-year Hope tradition incorporates traditionally inspired choral music, classically written music, and various readings into a captivating one-and-a-half hour event. Four performances, all of which were sold out, were given last weekend in Dimmension Chapel.

“It’s a lot of hard work, but in the end it makes for a really enjoyable experience,” said Brad Richmond, Director of Choral Activities and Vespers Chair. Richmond teaches conducting and voice and directs three choirs: Chapel Choir, College Choir, and the Collegium Musicum.

During the vespers service, Richmond conducted the Chapel Choir and College Choirs. They performed Christmas hymns by Felix Mendelssohn, Joseph Haydn, and many others. Some of the hymns, the audience was invited to sing along with the choirs.

Some of the more well-known songs sung at Vespers included “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” and “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing.” Organists David Bellows, Sean Denny, Abby Rockwood and Richard Newman accompanied the choirs and performed solo pieces, adding to the reverent air of the evening.

Meanwhile, the Symphonette, Brass Ensemble, and Flute Choir, directed by Richard Fipps, Steven Wurd and Julie Sooy, respectively, provided a selection of classical music ranging from J. S. Bach to Franz Schubert to Gustav Holst.

Vespers is an annual Hope tradition appreciated by the surrounding Holland community as well as Hope’s faculty and students. Thousands of members of the Holland and Hope communities gather each year for the services, a tradition begun on December 7, 1941, only hours after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

That first service drew about 500 people, but in recent years Vespers has drawn as many as four thousand to listen and reflect on the spirit of the season.

Vespers is also recorded and broadcast on radio and television stations in the Grand Rapids area throughout the weeks preceding Christmas. Students who participated found the performances stressful.

“It was nerve-wracking, being the first person in the procession,” said Maya Holtrop ’08, an acolyte. “But once the guests are over, the service is free.”

This year’s choir was comprised of Hope students, but enrollment is open to everyone. “We’ve worked so hard to refine, is my favorite part of the evening.”

The wassail is set to begin at 6:30 p.m. and the banquet begins at 7 p.m. The Hope College Collegium Musicum will provide vocal entertainment and the Renaissance Dancers will add to the scene. The performance will include short skits and numerous songs, including P.D.Q. Bach’s “O Little Town of Hawkenwood,” and some straight choreographic arrangements such as “There is a Rose.”

Participating are members Linda Dykstra and her husband John are the King and Queen of the feast.

“They were king and queen the last time we held this event,” said Richmond. “They were great. They’re basically in charge. If at any point they would like a table of guests to perform for them, then they can order it, and if they refuse, we have a set of stocks to throw the guests into.”

Tickets are now on sale at Nykerk Hall of Music for $16 for adults, $13 for children, or $5 for Hope College students.

Brass Ensemble members perform in front of a large stained glass window above the balcony in Dimmension Memorial Chapel.

ARTS

Experience a Madrigal Feast returns with singing, dancing, festivities

Amanda Zoratti
Senior Staff Reporter

After two years of unknown whereabouts, the Hope College Madrigal Feast has returned. This Christmas-season dinner, hosted by the music department, will take place December 10 and 11 at 7 p.m.

The dinner is set to take place in the Maas Center Auditorium, but once the guests are seated, the audience will cease to exist. The Center Auditorium, but once the guests are inside, the auditorium will cease to exist. The dinner is set to take place in the Maas Center Auditorium, but once the guests are inside, the auditorium will cease to exist. The dinner is set to take place in the Maas Center Auditorium, but once the guests are inside, the auditorium will cease to exist.

“This is my fifth feast,” said Professor Brad Richmond of the Music Department. “It’s a lot to put them together, but it is something I enjoy, and the students have a great time. It’s just one of those things that require a real collaborative effort to create the right end result.”

The evening will consist of singing, dancing, and, of course, feasting, all set in the time of Shakespeare. The luxurious meal will include a flamed jiggling poaching, a roast of salmon, bread, almonds, roasted red and gold potatoes, a variety of vegetables, and the traditional fruit and vegetable. The audience will be served with a grand hall. To complete the picture, the auditorium will be filled with tapestries and armor and the meal will be eaten by candlelight from cut stone. The wait staff will also be clothed accordingly, and costumes are encouraged though not required.

“I’d like to say my favorite part of the event is the dinner, but the participants don’t get to eat,” Richmond said. “I think the choral set, this great collection of pieces that we’ve worked so hard to refine, is my favorite part of the evening.”

The wassail is set to begin at 6:30 p.m. and the banquet begins at 7 p.m. The Hope College Collegium Musicum will provide vocal entertainment and the Renaissance Dancers will add to the scene. The performance will include short skits and numerous songs, including P.D.Q. Bach’s “O Little Town of Hawkenwood,” and some straight choreographic arrangements such as “There is a Rose.”

Participants from the Madrigal Feast of 1999

Brass Ensemble members perform in front of a large stained glass window above the balcony in Dimmension Memorial Chapel.

ARTS

Arts Brief Features Student Art Through January

The annual juried student art show at Hope College opened on Monday, Dec. 6, and continues through Friday, Jan. 7, in the gallery of the De Pree Art Center.

The exhibition opened with a reception on Monday, Dec. 6, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The public is invited to attend the exhibition and admission is free.

This competitive exhibition, open to all students at Hope, is an annual fixture in the De Pree gallery. This year’s show includes works by more than 50 Hope students in a wide variety of media, including painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, and sculpture. The public is invited to attend the exhibition and admission is free.

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Preventing the jams of crunchtime cramms

SPOTLIGHT

Helen Fylstra
GCU Writer

It is the daily struggle of students everywhere to improve study habits, as they are the source of virtually all good grades. Sometimes it seems like there is just too much information and no way to possibly remember it all.

Never fear, there is hope, and it is possible. Cognitive psychologists have been studying attention and memory for decades and they have discovered some very interesting findings about how our mind works. Their goal was not to find ways to help students study better; that is just an added benefit.

Attention is a matter that college students struggle with on a daily basis. Students struggle to pay attention in class, while reading textbooks, and while doing homework.

There are several psychological theories that may help you improve your attention skills. The first is Kahneman’s (1973) Capacity Model of Attention, which says that attention is a set of cognitive processes for categorizing and recognizing stimuli. The more complex the stimulus, the harder it is to process and therefore the more resources needed. That may sound complex, but it is really quite simple.

Kahneman’s Capacity Model of Attention simply states that attention is nothing more than a process that our mind uses to sort and identify information, and the more difficult the information is, the more energy you need to use to learn it. Kahneman also argued that one effect of being around is that more cognitive resources, meaning more brainpower, are available to devote to various tasks. So, if what you are trying to learn is difficult for you, it is going to take more of your mental resources to learn it.

It is recommended that you find a place to study where you can focus all your mental energy on what you are trying to learn. The place should be free from distractions including other people, television, radio, and other extraneous sounds.

Another theory of attention is the Attention Hypothesis of Automation, which states that attention is needed during the practice stage and determines what gets learned during practice and also what will be remembered from the practice. Logan and Etherton (1994) provided support for this in a series of experiments with college students.

The students were shown a series of two-word displays and were then asked to detect particular target words, words that named vegetables, for example, as fast as possible. For some participants in the study, the word pairs remained constant over the trials. For example, the word broccoli was always paired with the word poster. For other participants, the word pairs varied from trial to trial. So, one time the word broccoli was paired with the word poster and in another trial it was paired with the word plane. The researchers found that students in the experiment had better performance when the word pairs were constant over the trials.

The repeated presence of the second word, even though the word was unrelated to the first, helped participants recognize the words they were looking for more easily. Logan and Etherton put it this way, “Learning is a side effect of attending. People will learn about things they attend to and they will not learn much about the things they do not attend to.” This may seem obvious, but how many times have you sat through an entire class and not heard a single thing your professor said because your mind was miles away. You did not hear your professor because you did not attend to him or her. Even though you wrote down all the notes, if you were not paying attention, you did not learn a thing. The advice here is clear: Pay attention in class. You just might learn more than you think.

The most important part of learning is remembering what you learned so that you can use the information later in your life. The constant struggle of college students is finding the best way to study what we learn so that we can remember it later, usually for an exam.

Cognitive psychologists have discovered three different parts of our memory: memory, short-term memory, and long-term memory. The part that we as students are most concerned with is long-term memory because there is where the answers for the exam questions will most likely come from.

Godden and Baddeley (1975) did a very interesting study to prove this theory. They presented a list of words to scuba divers either while they were in the water or while they were on the shore. Later, they were asked to recall the words either in the same environment where they learned them or in a different environment. The results showed that the ones who recalled the words in the same environment where they learned them had better performance. Lists learned underwater were best recalled underwater, and lists learned on the shore were recalled best on the shore. This finding, that recall is best when performed in the original environment, is called a context effect.

The application of this effect for students has to do with our favorite study spots. It might not be the best idea to study for that exam in your PJs with a cup of hot cocoa while wrapped up in a blanket and sitting all cozy on your bed. While this does sound very appealing, that environment is completely different from your classroom, with hard tables, rigid chairs, fluorescent lighting, and a generally cold and unsympathetic atmosphere. So, if you want to give yourself that added boost when you are studying, try studying in the classroom that you will be taking the exam in. If you cannot get into the classroom, try studying at the library. Students complain that the library can be cold and sterile, but it is that very aspect of the environment that will help you study better.

The next study tip is one that I am sure you have heard from your teachers over and over again. The phenomenon is known as spacing effects. Simply put, you are much better off with a number of short study sessions spaced some time apart than you are with one long session. In other words, don’t cram!

Rather than saturating yourself in caffeine and cramming throughout the night, spacing allows the context of the learning to change, so a wider variety of books can be attached to the material. The greater number of books, the greater the chances of getting hold of one or more of them at the time of retrieval, i.e. the exam. Students hear this advice over and over, but most still hold off studying until the night before. Hopefully hearing the empirical support behind the advice will help jump-start you to action.

There is so much to learn and remember, however; hopefully these tips will help you to do just that. Happy studying!

Up All Night?
December 13th
Free coffee 8-10am
Free Phelps breakfast 9-11pm
thanks to student development
INFOCUS

Erin L’Hotta

It’s a 3. Five more hours until the final exam. Six more chapters to go. Sigh. Pop a Pill to Get to Work.

With finals just around the corner, how many students can say they are living out this scenario? Adderall is a drug not foreign to Hope’s campus. This drug is commonly used to treat the symptoms of Attention Deficit Disorder, an illness the college Health Clinic said fewer than 10 percent of students exhibit. Adderall is more commonly known on college campuses as the “means to an A.” A person with ADD can legally pick up their prescription for Adderall at a pharmacy. After this legal purchase, these pills may be sold illegally for around $5 a piece to students wanting a quick relief from the stress of school. Those who have ADD may take only one pill a day and give the other two to their friends—but this illegal activity is something the pharmacy can’t control,” said an employee staffing the Meijer Pharmacy in Holland.

Although the drug is purchased legally by the person with ADD, those who abuse it can get a high similar to speed or cocaine. Some feel that, when used in certain doses, Adderall enhances concentration, increases alertness and helps students perform efficiently on little amounts of sleep.

According to a 2002 Johns Hopkins University study, one in five college students has illegally used Adderall in “the name of getting good grades.” Although this statistic may not hold true for Hope College, that does not mean Adderall use is nonexistent here. After standing by the entrance to the Van Wylen Library and recording the responses of the first five females and five males who responded, seven of 10 people knew a Hope student who has taken Adderall for non-medical purposes. Two of these 10 people knew a student who abused the drug consistently, taking it three to four times a week.

Maureen Rourke (’05) is a Hope student who said she was misinformed by these statistics.

“I am aware that Adderall use on college campuses is a problem, although I didn’t know that it was so common at Hope. I think that this drug really is a bigger problem on campuses than it is thought to be,” she said.

Nate Bibeau (’05) maintains that Adderall use is not a problem at Hope.

“I don’t know anyone that has illegally taken Adderall, and I don’t think it’s a problem here. But for those that do on campus, I suggest they reevaluate their priorities,” he said.

When abused consistently, Adderall can have some very negative side effects. When a person first experiences the effects of Adderall, he or she may feel like they can do anything for six to eight hours. However, as a person continues to abuse Adderall, long-term negative effects occur. Individuals may experience psychotic episodes, digestive problems, insomnia, vomiting and alcohol depression. Long-term abuse of Adderall has also been shown to increase the risk of stroke, depression and suicide.

Abusing Adderall not only negatively affects the body, selling or possessing it without a prescription is a federal crime.

“We are aware that Adderall abuse is a phenomenon that is popular on college campuses, but not specifically at Hope’s.” However, selling or possessing Adderall for non-medical purposes is a federal crime,” said Sgt. Jeff Velthouse of the Holland Police Department. “A Hope student who is found in possession of Adderall without prescription faces a sentence of one year in jail with an additional $1,000 fine. A Hope student who is found selling Adderall can receive a maximum sentence of a four-year term in jail.”

Hope’s Staff Counselor Ziyah Dawk let students with this advice on Adderall abuse:

“With finals coming up, I want you to say be careful if you’re thinking about taking Adderall.” Dawk said, “Drugs like that don’t seem harmful, but they really can affect your body. And just like any drug, it can lead to addiction or even a prison sentence.”

FEATURES

One in every five college students have illegally used Adderall.

—Johns Hopkins study

Staying single, loving life: A possibility?

Editors Note: The following article reflects the opinion of the writer and does not necessarily reflect the views of The Anchor as a whole.

Martha Hunyadi

Guest Writer

Being single is not always easy, especially during the holiday season. But for many students, this time is looking too hard. Moms from all over the world have been saying for years, “You’ll find love when you stop looking for it.” But what does that mean? How can it be possible to find something it is not being searched for?

It means that too much worry can lead to settling or resignation. The best thing about this is that one does not even have to do anything to attract him or her. Acting as an individual is a sure way to start a quality relationship.

Pressure is another factor that forces people into relationships they do not want to be in. It is not the peer pressure that is the worst, however. Any single college student dreads the holiday dinner at home. This is like any other dinner, except it leads to one’s family possessing it without prescription (can) receive a sentence of one year in jail with an additional $1,000 fine. A Hope student who is found selling Adderall can receive a maximum sentence of a four-year term in jail. Hope’s Staff Counselor Ziyah Dawk let students with this advice on Adderall abuse:

“With finals coming up, I want you to say be careful if you’re thinking about taking Adderall.” Dawk said, “Drugs like that don’t seem harmful, but they really can affect your body. And just like any drug, it can lead to addiction or even a prison sentence.”

Ride Exchange

Open Now for Xmas Break!
Don't give up—you never know what effect you will have

So it's the last week of classes for the semester and many of us either have or haven't done all that we said we were going to do at the beginning of the semester. Whether these things are in your room clean, whatever.

I definitely fall within the latter of the two groups. There are many things with not only my personal and academic life, but also work. So I never found the time to go to my room instead of just leaving it when I was too busy or just didn't want to.

During this last week of classes, I was in the Anchor office on 8th Street. He was reading The Anchor, and where she told him that she knew me, she said, "It was like I knew a celebrity!"

Knowing that something I did can have so much of an effect on even one person gives me a whole new reason for doing the things I do.

Last week I wrote that I was thankful for second chances. Next semester will be a second chance for all of us to do all the things we said we were going to do. And if that's not true for you, what is? I'm sure that every single one of us reading this, even if you don't know it, has also affected someone in some way. In an e-mail I received from a professor today, he said, "Don't evaluate something based on how 'hard' or how 'easy' it is. Evaluate something based on if it's valuable, if you made it matter." This is what is truly important.

In my opinion and take a stand against something is done to rectify this injustice. Rather than put yourself and your fellow Catholics on campus, we aren't "sorry" for Catholic students? Last time I checked, we pay our tuition. Why should Hope visitors get more priority than Hope students?

Distressed driver voices campus parking concerns

To the Editor:

I am a sophomore at Hope College, and I love my school. If I am not a confrontational person, but I feel as though I must voice my opinion and take a stand against the injustice that is happening on campus in regards to our school's parking situation. It's currently 1 a.m. the morning right now, and I am sitting in my room without a parking spot because Public Safety refused to find me a spot that wouldn't cost me at least a $20 ticket. Since I have already paid $200 for my parking pass, I think forcing me into a situation where I can't help but be charged $20 more money is absolutely ludicrous.

There are so many solutions for this ridiculous situation, and I just feel that some one has to step up and make something happen. For instance, maybe they could write down the information of each person who could not find a parking spot and inform the Public Safety officers of the situation so they wouldn't ticket that particular car. Especially now, when there is NO snow outside, to ticket me because I am parking in a "snow" spot is just cold (pardon the pun). There are also numerous visitor spots and lots such as the one behind Gimlok and Dykstra where there are some 30 spots wide open tonight with no one in them because we are saving them for visitors? ?? When was the last time we had 30 visitors arrive at 7 a.m.? Well, thank goodness we didn't need to move our car or else I'd get a ticket. Why should Hope visitors get more priority than Hope students?

I am not a confrontational person, but I feel as though I must voice my opinion and take a stand against the injustice that is happening on campus in regards to our school's parking situation. It's currently 1 a.m. the morning right now, and I am sitting in my room without a parking spot because Public Safety refused to find me a spot that wouldn't cost me at least a $20 ticket. Since I have already paid $200 for my parking pass, I think forcing me into a situation where I can't help but be charged $20 more money is absolutely ludicrous.
Homosexual issue must be addressed further

To the editor:

As I picked up the last issue of the Anchor and began to read the article entitled “Catholics on campus feel misunderstood,” I couldn't help but think of the homosexual community on campus. They are misunderstood,” I couldn’t help but think of the homosexual community. They are overwhelmed by the struggle against a whole community that is seemingly anti-gay and shows no apparent willingness to change.

A group that is very misunderstood on campus is the homosexual Christians. These students are praying about their relationships constantly, and are confused by the lack of acceptance from their brothers and sisters in Christ. Many of these students are driven out of the chapel program because of mistaken, ignorant individuals. Not to belittle the feelings of isolation a Catholic at Hope College feels every day—they must feel very out of the loop on campus, but they are accepted as a people of faith, with their own funded organization (UCS), and I have yet to hear about any hate crimes against Catholics on campus.

The Gay/Straight Forum is the closest thing to an organization the homosexuals have, yet it fails to be recognized as an official student organization. It is made up of both homosexuals and heterosexuals, but the desire to attend such a meeting on this campus is commonly mistaken as an indication of one's sexual preference, not to mention an indication of one's support for the homosexual community. Needless to say, the Gay/Straight Forum is accompanied by constant conflict and misunderstanding.

I realize the administration probably thinks the only thing they can do to change the hostile environment of campus is to encourage acceptance of all of God's children and establish a committee to talk about the issue. That isn’t all they can do. The behavior of the student body is largely out of the administration’s hands. What they hold in their hands, however, is money, and specifically money to fund an organization that would provide some support for homosexual students. It isn’t a gay advocacy group, and I don’t think it is too much to ask for. A Gay/Straight Forum is open to any sexual orientation, and the only requirement is a willingness to listen.

It is this resistance to give any recognition to the homosexual community at Hope College that makes life on campus as an "out" homosexual very oppressive. What message is the Administration sending to other students by ignoring the rights of homosexuals? Talk about misunderstanding! Many people don’t even bother to ask questions. Instead they are perfectly satisfied with their assumptions, and when those assumptions are questioned they take the defensive and get hostile. A college campus should be a place where all kinds of students are highly esteemed and encouraged. Hope College’s campus is not. Something must be done to change this disparity.

Hilary Pitchlynn ('08)
Men's Basketball falters at Wheaton tournament

The Dutchmen bowed out this weekend without a win or a point guard, losing Greg Immink for the season

Nick Everse  
Staff Reporter

The news couldn't have been any worse for the Hope men's basketball team. Just as the Dutchmen return 2 suspended starters, the heart and soul of the Dutchmen falls victim to another injury. This time it was Greg Immink, a senior point guard from Hudsonville, who was hit by the injury bug. Immink hurt his right knee in practice last week, and a subsequent MRI revealed a torn anterior cruciate ligament. The injury will sideline Immink for the rest of the year, further depleting a starting lineup that has been decimated by injury and suspension.

Hope players know it will be hard to make up for Immink's presence on the court. His leadership from the point guard position has been an important element in Hope's success in the past few years. "Greg's injury hurts the team a lot," said Sophomore Stephen Cramer. "He is such a presence on the court and he knows how to control a game. Everyone else is going to have to step up their play even more with Greg out.

Immink's injury makes him the fifth important player to miss considerable time for the Dutchmen this season. Senior Kyle Kleereynder remains out due to suspension, and MIAA most valuable player Andy Phillips is still a few weeks away from returning after a finger injury. Seniors Duane Griffeth and Travis Spaman played for the first time this weekend after serving 4-game suspensions.

Hope traveled to Wheaton, Illinois for the CCIW/MIAA Classic over the weekend. The Dutchmen expected a lift from Griffeth and Spaman, but it wasn't enough to overcome a steadily attack from the 13th ranked Thunder of Wheaton. Playing on their home court, Wheaton jumped out to an early 17-2 lead and never looked back, winning 76-57.

The normally reliable shooter, Griffeth struggled from the floor in his first action, finishing with just 2 points on a pair of free throws. Spaman provided an immediate spark, going 4-6 from the field and 8-9 from the foul line on his way to 16 points. Cramer matched Spaman with 16 points of his own, continuing his impressive start to the season.

The loss came just 24 hours after another defeat, a 70-66 decision against the Carthage Reds. Cold shooting plagued the Dutchmen in both games, as they failed to shoot above 40 percent from the field in either match up. Hope had trouble containing the perimeter, allowing 12 Carthage three pointers. Mark Morrison hit 4 of 5 three-point attempts off the bench to load the barrage for the Reds. Hope was paced by Cramer's 19 points, but he knocked down just 6-17 field goal attempts. Cramer's 16 points the following day against Wheaton marked his fifth straight double-digit game as Hope's leading scorer.

The Dutchmen will look to get back to their winning ways this Tuesday against Aquinas; a team Hope recorded their only victory against Nov. 27 at VanAndel Arena. "These losses this weekend were really tough, because we know as a team we didn't play as well as could have," remarked Cramer. "The game tonight (Tuesday) means a lot. We need to get a win and start a winning streak as we head into league play. It's all about us having heart and going out and playing hard."

After facing Aquinas the Dutchmen will host their first home-game Saturday against Trinity Christian.

Hope Swimmers compete well

Both the men and women traveled to Wheaton, Illinois for the Wheaton Invitational.

Nick Everse  
Staff Reporter

The Hope men's and women's swimming teams competed fiercely this weekend in their first Invitational on the young season. The men placed fifth overall with 496 points, but were encouraged by 17 season-best finishes.

The Women also fought hard, placing sixth overall in the nine team field, facing tough competition from schools like Grand Valley State and UW-Milwaukee. The Hope men finished with 352 team points.

It was best Wheaton that owned the pool over the weekend though, placing first in both the men's and women's overall team results. The men's winning score was 801.5 while the Wheaton women finished at 801.5.

The Hope men were paced by Kurt Blohm of Wilmington Ohio. The junior placed first in the 200-yard backstroke with a time of (1:54.08). He also managed a second-place finish in the 100-yard backstroke, with a time of (55.62)

Daniel Gardner placed second in both the 500 freestyle (4:43.90) and the 1650 freestyle (16:30.50). The 200 freestyle relay team consisting of Blohm, Travis Barkel, Abram Glas and Jeff Heydull finished fifth in the 200 freestyle, with a time of (1:19.65).

Team captain Erika Steele took first in the 50 freestyle in (24.21). She also grabbed a couple second place finishes in the 100 and 200 freestyle.

Dearborn native won the 100 butterfly and the 200 butterfly in times of (56.71) and (2:09.54) respectively.

The Hope Basketball team is now out of the Wheaton Tournament with a loss of 7-7.

"Those losses this weekend were really tough, because we know as a team we didn't play as well as could have," remarked Cramer. "The game tonight (Tuesday) means a lot. We need to get a win and start a winning streak as we head into league play. It's all about us having heart and going out and playing hard."

After facing Aquinas the Dutchmen will host their first home-game Saturday against Trinity Christian.

Karaoke at the Kletz

Sing along with Big AL  
Thursday night from 9:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

Prizes for everyone who gets on stage and sings!!!

The Kletz. Eat there.

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