The 1980s saw many changes at Hope College. Some were planned and some were not — and it is perhaps fitting that the decade that opened with the burning of Van Raalte Hall closed with the renovation of Van Zoeren and VanderWerf Halls.

Even before the 1980s faded, however, plans for the next 10 years were underway. In March of 1989 “Hope in the Future,” the strategic planning process initiated by President John H. Jacobson, began to investigate directions for the college’s future. In January, the Board of Trustees adopted the “Hope in the Future” final report. As this decade progresses, so, too, will implementation of the report’s recommendations.
CAMPUS NOTES

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NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION: Hope College is committed to the concept of equal rights, equal opportunities and equal protection under law. Hope College admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin, sex, sexual orientation, or handicap to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at Hope College, including the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, financial aid programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs. With regard to employment, the College complies with all legal requirements prohibiting discrimination in employment.

On the Cover:
Hope College is ushering in the new decade with a bang — Van Zoeren and VanderWerf halls are newly-renovated, and Hope in the Future, the strategic plan, has charted directions for the college in the 1990s — creating much to anticipate.

As the college faces the coming decade, it's appropriate to reflect upon the past, and so this issue contains a retrospective on the 1980s. And, because this issue celebrates both the college's future and its past, Donnett Memorial Chapel made an ideal cover illustration, symbolizing as it does the Hope College of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

For a look at the final report of Hope in the Future, see pages six and seven. For a retrospective on the 1980s, see page five. The story of the Van Zoeren/VanderWerf renovation appears on pages eight and nine.

Junior Elliot Church of Traverse City, Mich., received the 1989 Commandant's Trophy from the U.S. Marine Corps for achieving the highest average in Platoon Leaders' Class-senior. Pictured from left to right are William '64 and Sandra Sissing '64 Church, his parents; Elliot Church; Brigadier General (retired) Robert S. Raisch and President John H. Jacobson.

MARINE HONOR: Elliot Church, a junior from Traverse City, Mich., was named the 1989 Commandant's Trophy recipient by the U.S. Marine Corps. Church was selected for the honor from approximately 600 participants nationwide by achieving the highest average in Platoon Leaders' Class (PLC)-senior, a demanding, six-week U.S. Marine Corps officer candidate class.

Platoon Leaders' Class was instituted in the late 1930s as a means of increasing the number of commissioned officers in the U.S. Marine Corps, supplementing those commissioned via the U.S. Naval Academy and the Naval ROTC Scholarship Program. Today 70 percent of all U.S. Marine Corps officers enter through PLC.

The program consists of two six-week officer training courses that college undergraduates take during the summer. PLC-junior and PLC-senior. Successful candidates are offered commissions as U.S. Marine Corps officers upon receipt of their Baccalaureate.

The program was very rigorous — challenging physically, emotionally and mentally, Church said. "I was mainly pleased to have graduated, but to have received the award was an honor indeed."

Church was presented two trophies commemorating his accomplishments at a ceremony held at Hope in December. One trophy is Church's to keep, and the other will be displayed at Hope until next year's honoree is selected.

Church is earning a major in mathematics at Hope, and he tutors mathematics with the Upward Bound program at the college. He is the son of William '64 and Sandra Sissing '64 Church.

USA TODAY HONOR: Senior Jennifer Haskin of Farmington Hills, Mich., is one of 121 college seniors named to the first USA TODAY ALL-USA college academic team.

Out of 749 students nominated by their schools, 60 were named to the 20-member all-academic teams while another 61 (see "CAMPUS" on page 3)
Clergy and lay members of mainline Protestant churches appear to have fewer differences of opinion than they did in the late 1960s, according to a recent study by Hope sociologists Dr. Donald A. Luidens and Dr. Roger J. Nemeth. In a study of the members of the Reformed Church in America (RCA) published in the December issue of the Revue of Religious Research, the two sociologists found that pastors seemed to be more conservative than lay members on matters of traditional theology, while lay members were more conservative on political issues.

"One of the reasons often cited for conflict in the mainline churches during the 1960s and early 1970s was that the clergy tended to be more liberal on both theological and political issues," Dr. Nemeth said. "This prompted many to become politically and socially involved - especially in anti-Vietnam War and Civil Rights activities - in a way that angered many lay people."

"In a celebrated study on this pattern, Professor Jeffrey Hadden suggested that there was a 'gathering storm in the churches' because of this profound disagreement between ministers and members," Dr. Luidens said.

Dr. Luidens and Dr. Nemeth noted that these churches seemed to be significantly more divided in the 1980s than they had been only a decade before. They surveyed clergy and laity in the RCA in order to understand what had happened to the 1960s rift. Their analysis showed that the clergy were much more protective than the lay members of the theological and historical traditions of the church, supporting traditions such as the church's creeds and confessions. Conversely, the clergy were more liberal than RCA lay members on social and political issues such as defense spending, welfare programs, and the death penalty and permitting prayer in public schools.

On a seven-point scale, with "1" being "far right" and "7" being "far left," the clergy placed themselves near the midpoint: 4.1. The laity, by contrast, placed themselves more to the right, at 4.5, although neither group was far from the midpoint.

"In contrast to a single-minded conservatism among the clergy and single-minded liberalism among the laity, we found that there were 'parties' within both groups that were liberal and conservative," Dr. Nemeth said. "Some clergy were more liberal in political and theological issues, as were some laity. On the other hand, some clergy were more conservative on both agencies and they were supported by some of the laity members."

Dr. Luidens and Dr. Nemeth suggest that a pluralistic approach to perspectives is operating in the Reformed Church in America.

"With this cross-cutting of their viewpoints, the clergy and laity have found more grounds for agreement than existed in the 1960s and 1970s," Dr. Luidens said. "As a consequence, the church is not as factionalized as it was, and stability is more likely."

Although their research does not directly address the question of how the change evolved, Dr. Luidens and Dr. Nemeth suggest that one of Hadden's earlier predictions has come to pass. "As Hadden speculated, the most liberal clergy seem to have left the church," Dr. Nemeth said. "They found that they could act more effectively upon their liberal agenda - especially as it related to welfare and civil rights issues - through secular institutions such as the social service system and in politics."

Dr. Luidens and Dr. Nemeth have conducted joint research into issues of Protestantism and the Reformed Church in America since 1977. Among their collaborative efforts is a series of articles entitled "The RCA Today," published in The Church Herald in 1987.

Dr. Luidens, an associate professor of sociology and chairperson of the sociology department, has been a member of the Hope College faculty since 1977. He is currently involved in a major research project investigating the religious beliefs and behaviors of post-World War II Presbyterians.

Dr. Nemeth, an associate professor of sociology, has been a member of the Hope College faculty since 1983. On Oct. 28, he was designated Michigan's Outstanding Sociology Professor of the Year, in a category that included all of Michigan's four-year colleges, for his outstanding record as a teacher and scholar.

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**Symposium topic is "The Quest for Justice: Christian Voices"**

The 11th annual Hope College Critical Issues Symposium will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 28 and Thursday, March 1, and will include the conferring of an honorary degree upon the Reverend Allan Boesak of the Republic of South Africa.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28**

11 a.m. Morning Chapel

"Justice: A Biblical Voice," Nicholas Wolterstorff of Yale University; Dimnent Memorial Chapel

7:30 p.m. Allan Boesak

Awarding of honorary degree and keynote address

**8:40-9:40 p.m. Focus Sessions**


2. "Economic Freedom vs. Economic Justice: The Case of the Third World," James Washington; Professor of Religion, Union Theological Seminary, Mass Conference Room


4. "Christ and the Oppressed: Biblical Perspectives," Pablo de la Cruz, Hope Northrup Lecturer; VanderWerf 101

**THURSDAY, MARCH 1**

9 a.m. Keynote Address

"The Abuse of Love: Justice in Personal Relations," Rita Nakashima Brock, professor of religion with Pacific Lutheran University; Dimnent Memorial Chapel

10:15-11:15 a.m. Focus Sessions


4. Panel: "Can Violence Advance the Cause of Justice?" Donald Cronkite, professor of biology, Hope College; Jack Holmes, professor of political science, Hope College; James Van Heerden, World Alliance of Reformed Churches, Geneva, Switzerland; moderator Wayne Boulton professor of religion, Hope College; VanderWerf 101

11:30 a.m.-12:40 p.m. Lunch

"The Shattering of Apartheid: South Africa in the Coming Decade," Brown bag session with Allan Boesak and James Van Heerden, Mass Auditorium

12:45-1:45 p.m. Keynote

"Freedom, the Basis of Justice," Michael Novak; DeWitt Theatre

2-2:45 p.m. Wrap-up

Within the Quest: Can Christian Voices Find Harmony," Nicholas Wolterstorff; DeWitt Theatre

2:45-3:30 a.m. Panel Discussion

PRODUCTS
Hope in the '80s: The decade in retrospect

For Hope College, the 1980s were eventful. The decade saw buildings burned and built, enrollment and tuition rise, and a change in the college's leadership.

The college spent more than $25 million in the past decade improving the physical plant — new buildings were constructed, older buildings were renovated; the grounds were beautified.

From 1980 through 1989, 4,722 students graduated from Hope. Those individuals now comprise 28 percent of the college's alumni body.

The new facilities constructed on campus during the decade developed in part from the need created by growth in the size of the student body. From the 2,335 students in 1979-80, Hope's student population climbed to 2,770 during 1989-90.

Tuition rates also climbed. During 1981-82, tuition, room, board and the activity fee cost $5,775 for the entire academic year. During 1989-90, the same items cost $11,936.

Despite the changes in numbers and the campus evolution, however, Hope remains fundamentally the same. Today, as in 1980, the college remains committed to providing its students with a liberal arts education. Today, as in 1980 — and in 1883 — the college remains committed to providing its education in the context of the Christian faith.

### 1979-80

The $1.2 million renovation of the Phelps Hall dining room nearly doubles seating capacity and introduces the “scatter” system of serving.

The college holds its first Critical Issues Symposium. The topic is “Focus on the Middle East: Israel and the Arab World.”

Two fires within a week shock the campus. Van Vleck Hall, 123 years old, burns on April 21 but is saved. Van Raalte Hall, 78 years old, is destroyed on April 28.

### 1980-81

The $1.3 million restoration of 74-year-old Voorhees Hall is completed. The building had closed as a housing unit in 1969 after a small electrical fire.

The Physics-Math Building is re-dedicated as VanderWerf Hall, in honor of Hope's eighth president, Calvin A. VanderWerf.

The Van Raalte Student Center celebrates its 25th anniversary.

### 1981-82

"Sundog II," the college's first outdoor sculpture, is placed on the lawn outside Phelps Cafeteria.

The college hosts Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands and husband Prince Claus in June, 1982, during the Queen's second visit to the United States.

Hope's first-ever national sports champion is a woman as swimmer Sarah Stanwood captures the AIAW title in the 200-yard individual medley. It marks the beginning of an excellent decade in women's sports.

### 1982-83

The 75-year-old Carnegie-Schouten Gymnasium is torn down in July, 1982. The joint Hope-Calvin Nursing Program offers its first courses.

The new $1.8 million DePree Art Center and Gallery is completed, as are the new $1.6 million College East Apartments. Daruff Hall is renovated at a cost of $1.1 million.

The sculpture "Ballyvictoria" is added to Van Raalte Commons as a tribute to the college's founder.

Commencement is held outdoors — at Holland Municipal Stadium — for the first time.

### 1983-84

Renovations to DeWitt Center, expanded to become a student and administrative center following the burning of Van Raalte Hall, are completed.

The Board of Trustees approves preliminary plans for a new library that will complement the campus' Dutch architecture.

Dr. Jacob E. Nynhuys, dean for the arts and humanities, is appointed the provost in June, 1984.

Hope hosts the NCAA Division III national cross country championships, a first. Cross Country is a sport of distinction during the '80s as the men's and women's teams together win 10 MIAA championships. Chip Henry is Hope's first first-team All-American in basketball.

### 1984-85

The college launches a $26 million dollar, three-year fund-raising campaign called "The Campaign for Hope."

Rob Appell becomes the first Hope male to win an NCAA national championship as he high jumps seven feet.

### 1985-86

Dr. Irwin J. Lubbers, the seventh president of Hope College, dies on Sept. 8 in Grand Rapids, Mich. He was president from 1945-63.

WTHS becomes a full-fledged FM station (89.9) with its first official broadcast on Sept. 27.

Construction of the new Gordon J. and Margaret D. Van Wylen Library begins in March.

### 1986-87

The new $1.1 million Maas Student and Conference Center is completed.

The Campaign for Hope surpasses its $26 million goal in December — six months before its official completion in late June.

Daniel Sipit '87 is awarded a Rhodes Scholarship — the first received by a Hope student in more than 70 years.

Max O. DePree '48 is elected chairman of the Board of Trustees, succeeding Dr. Victor W. Einmacke.

The Philadelphia Center, for which Hope College is the agent school, celebrates its 20th year.

### 1987-88

Dr. John H. Jacobson is inaugurated as the college's 10th president. Dr. Gordon J. Van Wylen had retired after having served as the college's president since 1972.

The new $2.3 million Van Wylen Library opens in January and is formally dedicated in April. The library replaces Van Zoeren Library, which will be renovated and transformed into office and classroom space.

### 1988-89

Dr. Calvin A. VanderWerf, eighth president of Hope College, dies on July 18, 1988. He was president from 1963-70.

The Van Wylen Library introduces an automated library system that allows patrons to locate books from computer terminals. The traditional card catalogs are removed.

The Hope College Chapel Choir travels to the Soviet Union in May and performs in Moscow, Leningrad, Tallinn and Kiev.

Shelly Russell is named the National Division III female swimmer of the year for a second time. She was a national champion seven times during her career. The women's swimming team was a perfect ten for the decade, winning 10 straight league championships.

Men's basketball remains the premier sport, winning 77 percent of its games while claiming seven MIAA titles, gaining seven NCAA tournament appearances and beating Calvin 13 of 21 times.

### 1989-90

Renovation of the VanderWerf/Van Zoeren complex provides additional and remodeled space for several academic departments. The project is completed early in 1990.

Hope and Meiji Gakuin University of Japan celebrate the 25th anniversary of their exchange program.
Steering Committee issues strategic recommendations

From the several months of research and discussion conducted by the 12 planning groups created for *Hope in the Future*, 189 pages of recommendations and information resulted. The *Hope in the Future* Steering Committee culled from that report a set of strategic recommendations that promised to have a major effect on the direction of the institution, seemed likely to generate many positive consequences and represented a general approach to decision making, rather than a specific response to a specific problem. The Board of Trustees conducted an initial review of the Steering Committee's report during its January meeting, and following additional investigation and input will continue to discuss the document in May.

The bulk of the Steering Committee's report follows.

Academic

We recommend a shift in the balance of Hope's priorities over the next decade. The past decade has been a highly successful period of academic enhancement and campus development, but we sense that the time has come for greater emphasis on the former and diminished emphasis upon the latter. In recommending top priority for the enhancement of the academic program, we are not recommending that Hope move toward the recruitment of an elite student body. We believe that Hope should define the excellence that it seeks in terms of its students' educational progress rather than in terms of admissions data or other input measures.

Our excellence should lie in what our academic program is able to do for our capable students and not in our success in recruiting an academically elite student body.

*For the next decade the further enhancement of the academic program should be Hope's top priority.*

*Each academic department and program should be continually improving. By the year 2000 all departments and programs should be either strong or exemplary in relation to criteria that Hope College will develop.*

*Hope should continue to develop aspects of its academic program which place emphasis on active learning, learning by doing, and creative collaboration in learning by faculty and students. These aspects include joint student-faculty research and internships that give hands-on learning experience.*

*In response to world developments and to its own Christian mission, Hope should become more aggressively international in its academic program, its faculty and student body, and in its outlook.*

*As an encouragement and support to its Christian scholars and as a part of its mission, Hope should find an institute to promote scholarship on matters affecting the relation of Christian faith and learning.*

*Different faculty properly have different emphasis among teaching, research and service. At Hope all faculty teach and serve as academic advisors to students. We should encourage a policy of individually and flexibly defined professional obligations for faculty. We should encourage a substantial faculty involvement as advisors to co-curricular activities.*

*We should improve the salary, compensation, and faculty load of our faculty to allow us to attract and retain outstanding faculty. We should achieve a similar improvement in salary and compensation for our staff.*

*For the next three to five years, Hope should strive for stability in the size of the student body and the quality of the student body at entrance. We should also strive to improve the financial base of the institution.*

*We should improve our financial aid program by increasing the proportion of gift aid and reducing the self-help component in our financial aid packages. The purpose of this is to continue the present level of economic diversity among our students. The College should also selectively develop new approaches to merit-based aid.*

**Diversity**

We recommend that the College continue and extend its commitment to racial and cultural diversity among students, faculty, and staff.

*Increasing the multicultural presence on our campus should be a top priority for the College. We should increase the number of domestic minority faculty, staff and students, and be sure that we create a situation on campus that is welcoming and nurturing.*

*We should appoint significant numbers of women to faculty and upper-level staff positions. We should assure that the Hope experience is as nurturing for women as it is for men.*

*We should continue our efforts to make Hope physically and psychologically accessible and welcoming for faculty, staff, and students with handicapping conditions.*

*We should increase the geographical diversity of our student body.*

*We should combine our efforts with other agencies and institutions to increase the pool of minority applicants to colleges and universities.*

**Student Life**

We affirm Hope's commitment to a residential campus in the context of the Christian faith. Our planning for campus life should be realistic and attuned to the Christian values of our tradition.

*Hope should continue its commitment to be a residential campus, while creating ever more diversity of living situations on campus, and striving to improve the attractiveness to students of on-campus living.*

*We should develop more effective educational programs to help students deal constructively with health and mental health issues that they face.*

*We should reaffirm the College's philosophy and approach to intercollegiate and intramural athletics, viz., that we place primary value upon academic accomplishment.*

*We should develop a more intentional program of centers of activity designed to foster a diverse and fulfilling on-campus student social life.*

**Opportunities and Challenges**

The College has many traditional strengths that provide sound footing for future development. Two in particular are history ties to the Reformed Church in America and the beauty and utility of our campus.

*We should seek further ways of supporting the program and needs of the Reformed Church in America while enabling RCA people to be more connected to Hope.*

*We should develop an approach which will enable the College to have a more extensive summer program which will use College facilities and also advance the mission of the College.*

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Mission Statement of Hope College

The mission of Hope College is to offer, with recognized excellence, academic programs in liberal arts, in the setting of a residential, undergraduate, coeducational college, and in the context of the Christian faith.

Vision Statement

(from "A Vision of Hope in the Future")

Hope should be, and be recognized as, the leading Christian liberal arts college in the country. Hope should be, and be recognized as, one of the nation's leading liberal arts colleges.
Hope in the Future

President Jacobson on “Hope in the Future”

Hope in the Future is a direct result of President John H. Jacobson’s vision of Hope College as both the leading Christian liberal arts college in the nation and one of the nation’s leading liberal arts colleges, secular or denominational. Through Hope in the Future, the strategic planning process he proposed to the Board of Trustees in January, 1989, methods for achieving such distinction have been identified.

President Jacobson took time recently to reflect both on the process in general and a few of the 20 major strategic goals named by the Steering Committee.

Q: Why is strategic planning important to the college now, as the college faces the 1990s?

A: “Hope College is in a strong position now. We want to continue to build on the great strengths that we have and achieve our potential.

“We’re strong in our academic program, in our students, our faculty and our campus. We’re by no means a wealthy institution, but we do have good resources and loyal support from our friends and alumni.

“It’s often said that if you aren’t moving ahead you’re slipping back. The fact that we’re now in a good situation doesn’t mean that we can sit back and rest. It does give us a good foundation for meeting the challenges of the future, the challenges of the society in which we live and the challenges that arise from our own situation.

“The guiding theme is the great hope we have of achieving a future that is even greater than our past has been.”

“We want to continue to build on the great strengths that we have and achieve our potential.”

— President John H. Jacobson

Q: How do you see us proceeding from this point with the recommendations?

A: “The Steering Committee will meet again and appoint subcommittees to prepare more specific reports on each of the 20 strategic directions. At their May meeting the Board will have a document that will enable them to see the full implications of the directions that have been proposed.

“In this stage of the work we will identify specific actions that the college needs to undertake. We will also re-examine the available resources and the possibilities of gaining further resources.”

Q: If the top priority at Hope College during the 1990s will be further enhancement of the academic program, how will the college differ from the Hope of the 1980s?

A: “We will focus more attention on the programmatic aspects of the academic who desire to participate in the exciting intellectual task of exploring the relation between faith and learning.”

Q: Why did the committee recommend that the student body size be stabilized, and what are the implications of the “current demographic trends” mentioned in the eighth recommendation?

A: “Demographic realities will probably force the college to stop growing in size for the next few years because the number of 18-year-olds is declining sharply.

“The college should stay at about its present size without dropping in the quality of the students it admits and it should endeavor to do that without creating a greater strain on its financial resources.”

Q: The report makes five recommendations concerning diversity. As an example, let’s examine the goal of increasing the multicultural presence at Hope. Why is that important?

A: “There are basically two reasons that underlie this recommendation.

“One is that we can offer fine educational opportunities to members of domestic minorities, thus providing a benefit to those students. We will be more effective in providing this benefit to those students if we have minority faculty and minority staff. Increased minority presence will create a more stimulating, and ultimately a more useful, educational environment for our students, whether they be minority or majority students.”

Q: The report mentions a program of centers — plural — to foster diverse and fulfilling social life. How did that idea develop, and what form do you think it would take?

A: “We started out with the idea that students had expressed — that they felt the need for a student hangout.

“As we discussed this and thought more about it, however, we realized that rather than one place for students to gather we need a lot of places where students with different interests, and different lifestyles and habits can congregate.

“We should have a place where certain kinds of academic interests can be reinforced. We could have places for different kinds of recreation.

“We started from the idea that we need to have one space in which students would feel comfortable in their ‘off hours.’ We moved quickly to the idea that we need many such spaces.”

Q: What more can you say about the goal that discusses Hope and the Reformed Church in America?

A: “In the founding and sustaining of Hope College, the Reformed Church has been of central importance.

“We need to find ways of giving back some of what we have received. We need to support the work of the Reformed Church through programs offered at the college.

And we need to continue to enable RCA people to understand how very important Hope College is to the Reformed Church — and what the college can do for the church as well as the things that we occasionally ask the church to do for the college.”

Q: As you look at these goals becoming strategies and eventually becoming implemented, how do you see the Hope College that will result from this implementation as being different — better — than the Hope College we know today?

A: “Hope College in the future will be known for academic strength in more areas than has been true in the past. We have great academic strength in departments that are not presently well known as some of the others, and will continue to develop new areas of exceptional strength.

“Students increasingly will be drawn to Hope College because it is a place in which they can engage in active learning in joint student-faculty research, in internships and in other active hands-on modes of learning. Students will continue to be drawn to Hope College because of the strong commitment to Christian faith and academic excellence.

“We will see a change in the complexion of the faculty, and student body and staff. As the years go by we will see more people of color in our community.”

Q: As this process is now a year old (since it was initially announced) are you pleased with the way everything has been proceeding?

A: “I am pleased with it. I would not have imagined that it would go so smoothly or so productively.

“It’s a tremendous tribute to the willingness of Hope people to work hard and to give their best thought and effort. It’s also a great tribute to Ken Gibson, who has played a major role in helping us think through the organization and in keeping the process moving, and also to Mari Graves, who has been his highly capable assistant throughout this effort.”

Max Q. DeFrees ‘48, chairman of the Hope College Board of Trustees, speaks during the Board’s discussion of Hope in the Future. President John H. Jacobson, left, listens attentively.

NEWS FROM HOPE COLLEGE, FEBRUARY 1990

SEVEN
There's no place like home

by Greg Olgers '87

The newly-renovated VanderWerf/Van Zoeren complex is a worthy companion to Van Wylen Library, its neighbor to the east.
The changes in the original buildings, austere remnants of an earlier decade, are apparent even from the outside. Gone are the brick sun screens that guarded the buildings' second floors on Graves Place. Gone, too, is the sense that the buildings are lesser cousins — forgotten relatives from the "wrong" side of campus.

Connecting links join Van Zoeren to Van Wylen and VanderWerf to Van Zoeren. A doorway on the library's second floor makes it possible to travel from the east side of Van Wylen to the west side of VanderWerf without once stepping outside — a pleasant walk that brings all of the buildings' faculty and staff closer to the center of campus.

Instead of the fragmented sun screens, tinted, reflective glass wraps the upper floor of the two buildings — an effect that from the outside makes it seem the sky emanates from the building itself, and on the inside opens the outdoors to the occupants.

Even the entry foyer, sheathed in varnished wood, embellished with brass fittings and dominated by a winding, balustraded stairway, tells the visitor that he has arrived at a place that deserves a closer look.

And, perhaps best of all, the facility has become the new home of four disparate departments that for many years had been scattered throughout the campus' hidden nooks and crannies. The education and business administration/economics departments moved into the building late in the summer. They were joined during the semester break by the academic support center and the department of sociology and state work.

The academic support center, previously housed in the basement of Dimnent Memorial Chapel, is now in the second floor of Van Zoeren Hall, a move that strategically places it mere steps from the library and provided space for a resource area and tutoring rooms.

Jacqueline D. Heisler, director of the academic support center, is pleased with the change. "This for us is a wonderful improvement," Heisler said during an interview in her new room in Van Zoeren from the basement of Graves Hall.

"It's great to have classrooms in the same building with our office facilities... And we're very elated with the facilities we have.

— Dr. Lamont Dirkse '50
Professor of Education and chairperson of the department.

The academic support center shares a full-time secretary (also new) with the department of sociology and social work, which moved to the second floor of Van Zoeren from the basement of Graves Hall.

The change was especially dramatic for Deborah Weiss '75 Sturtevant, assistant professor of sociology and social work, who formerly occupied a windowless, interior office in Graves. She now has a bright, second-floor office that provides a wide view of Pillar Church on Ninth Street and downtown Holland beyond.

"It's really nice having the window and seeing the weather," she said, adding "It's nice having the extra space, too."

Dr. Donald A. Luidens '69, associate professor of sociology and chairperson of the department, is happy to see the department in its new home. "I'm pleased that the college is committed to improving the environment in which faculty members work," Dr. Luidens said. "We appreciate the fact that the sociology and social work department on campus has been recognized as a significant department on campus and deserving of better quarters."

As a 1969 Hope graduate, and as a member of the Hope faculty since 1977, Dr. Luidens knows well the department's geographic history. "My guess is that it was probably down in the basement since it was founded in the '50s," he said. "I know for the time I was here in the '60s they were in the basement — and I think they were here before then."

The education department, also on the building's second floor, was previously in the old College Guest House, on 11th Street between College and Columbia Avenues.

"It's great to have classrooms in the same building with our office facilities. And we're very elated with the facilities we have," said Dr. Lamont Dirkse '50, professor of education and chairperson of the department.

Perhaps the department's greatest pride is the model classroom designed specifically with teaching future educators in mind. Special tables, marked with grids and able to tip or take attachments for experiments as needed, ring the room, and state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment allows the students to see what sorts of teaching tools are available. Even the grid-work carpet can be used for large-scale graphing.

The new room has proven popular. "It was used every hour from about 9 a.m. until about 4:30 p.m.," Dr. Dirkse said.

The department of economics and business administration moved into the newly-renovated VanderWerf Hall from the renovated 11th Street near the main entrance. Robin Klay, associate professor of business administration and assistant to the dean for academic affairs, said that it was a move to take advantage their 11th Street facilities.

"I think all of us appreciated the campus — in terms of being on campus and being with other faculty.

She said that one concern was that the move would allow to better advantage their 11th Street facilities.

"All of us were wondering move from the house that we have to interact with each other.

"But it's turned out that it really makes that easy."

Renovations to VanderWerf Hall have added facilities to the departments of economics and computer science, all of which were previously located in Van Zoeren Hall.

In addition to the new rooms, the department of economics and computer science received a new classroom and a new office, which was previously in Van Zoeren Hall.

"It looks more like an office — maybe because of the wallpaper," Dr. Klay said.

"A lot more like an office — probably because of the wallpaper," Dr. Klay said. 

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"A lot more like an office — probably because of the wallpaper," Dr. Klay said.
Professor Sherburne said, "And you’ve got this nice view and sunshine."

The massive relocation project — which at times made it seem the college was playing a sophisticated version of musical chairs — has benefited other departments as well. The counseling center and the office of career planning and placement have both moved to the business department’s former home on 11th Street, gaining a sense of warmth and privacy their former offices lacked. And career planning and placement’s move created space in the student development office for Dr. James R. Krkering ‘65, vice president for student development services and admissions.

The office of international education moved from their house on Columbia Avenue at 11th Street to the education department’s former home, gaining both space and a central location. The old international education house became a student cottage, and upward Bound and the department of modern and classical languages are claiming more of Graves.

Even after the start of the semester, fine-tuning was still taking place. A new microcomputer lab in Van Zoeren was being wired; the sound system to the model classroom’s observation room was being completed. The grounds, too, now covered with snow, are not yet complete.

In time, the newness will fade, and as the current generation of students graduates the building will seem as familiar a part of the campus landscape as Van Vleck Hall. For now, however, the new facility is a novelty — and even when the novelty wanes it will remain needed, appreciated and a valued, fitting addition to Hope College.
John Van Iwaarden shares enthusiasm for Hope and teaching

by Lora Huizenga '90

Although things have pretty much settled down with the renovation and the changing facilities of the Van Zoeren/VanderWerf complex, there still is a great deal happening inside.

Tucked away in office 212 is the warm smile and lively voice of John Van Iwaarden, professor of mathematics, whose personality and presence are sparked with energy. Professor Van Iwaarden, a Hope alumnus himself (1957 graduate), has been on Hope's faculty since the fall of '61. During the mid-60s he worked in the physics department, and later, during the boom of the computer age when there was also a surge of students, he lent a hand and instructed some courses in the computer science department as well.

"I love my job," he explained.

But more than that, he's embraced and actualized the goal of not only providing a solid foundation in education, but making that learning real for the students. It's all about application, feels Professor Van Iwaarden, whose specialization is in applied mathematics.

"The application of the mathematics is where I find a great joy — in showing people how the stuff works out in the real world," he said.

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"The application of the mathematics is where I find a great joy — in showing people how the stuff works out in the real world," he said.

He is concerned that students really understand the material. "I don't want them just to be number crunchers," he said.

Like many others, Professor Van Iwaarden is genuinely concerned about the lack of preparation students receive in math prior to college. Although he feels the problem cannot be pinpointed as beginning in the high schools, or even earlier, he did speculate on just what may be happening.

Unfortunately, I think what has happened is that people have become more like robots in their math. Rather than to get the real foundations thoroughly, they're becoming more and more number pushers," he said. "People aren't thinkers like they used to be. They're more mechanical."

Professor Van Iwaarden feels a push in our society away from ingenuity may be at fault.

"Creativity might be lacking — and maybe creativity is what would instill more

"Somewhere I've read, or heard, or had someone quote to me that what Hope College attempts to do is to develop a student in a variety of ways: intellectually, spiritually, physically . . .

I think those are all aspects of what the college is there for."

— Professor John Van Iwaarden '57

Professor Van Iwaarden explained that the answer is a definite yes.

"Somewhere I've read, or heard, or had someone quote to me that what Hope College attempts to do is to develop a student in a variety of ways: intellectually, spiritually, physically . . .

I think those are all aspects of what the college is there for — to provide an overall, well-rounded education for this student."

Professor Van Iwaarden is a family man as well. He's been a busy father of six children.

Two are Hope graduates — John Van Iwaarden '82 and Deborah Van Iwaarden '86 De Mino — and two are presently attending Hope — Mark, a senior and Daniel, a sophomore.

He said that having his children attend Hope "has never been a problem. In fact, it's been a plus." Professor Van Iwaarden likes that he is right on campus with them, and can be available for them.

The oldest of his children are now involved in running a successful family business — VIPets — and have recently opened their third store. Although he is mainly a reference person in the business, he noted "it's a lot of fun — we're having a great time doing it."

Professor Van Iwaarden is also the proud grandfather of three, including a bright-eyed three-month-old.

Between his position on the math faculty at Hope and the many shoes he fills beyond that, Professor Van Iwaarden is definitely a busy man. But whether he's in the classroom, in the broadcasting booth, on the playing field, or in the pet store lending a helping hand, one thing is certain: everything he does requires energy and commitment.
ALUMNI NEWS

alumni alert

by Janet Miekle ’84 Pinkham

Campus is covered with a layer of fluffy white snow, just in time for the Alumni Association’s sixth annual Winter Happening on Saturday, Feb. 17 — a day of entertainment, education and excitement.

Recently, I returned from two meetings of our California alumni. In Los Angeles, more than 70 alumni and their families attended a marimba performance of The Nutcracker hosted by Hope alumnus Don Battjes ’68, owner of Bob Baker Productions. Prior to the show, we were treated to a backstage tour allowing us to see the 3-foot tall puppets up close. Afterward, a special reception was held. Many thanks to Don who made the day magical for us all!

Our Greater San Francisco area alumni enjoyed an “After Hours” event at the Holiday Inn of Palo Alto. An abundance of food and conversation combined with extremely attractive surroundings made for a winning evening. Thank you to John DeFries ’41 and Jan Evert ’57 who helped us.

If you plan to be in the Holland area next month, please join us for Musical Showcase, March 6 at Grand Rapids’ DeVos Hall. Now in its second year, this annual event features the College’s musical groups in a festive atmosphere. Ticket information is available by calling the Office of Public Relations (616) 394-7860.

Perhaps you are wondering how the Alumni Office determines the cities in which regional events are held. Generally, these are defined by alumni population. To ensure high quality, low cost events, we must anticipate attendance of 10 percent, or a minimum of 20 people.

Population also plays a role in the frequency of events. Regions with smaller alumni populations tend to meet every other year, whereas those with a larger concentration may meet several times annually.

Should you have an idea for an event in your region, please contact me at (616) 394-7860. I always appreciate hearing from you.

ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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A. Jeffrey Winne ’73, McMurray, Pa.

news and information for class notes, marriages, births, advanced degrees and deaths are compiled by Greg Ogilvy. The deadline for the next issue is March 1.

Class of 1950
40th Reunion
Alumni Weekend
May 4-6

Donald Buse ’50 of La Port, Wis., retired on Oct. 1. Lawrence De Vaut ’50 of Muskegon, Mich., has recently received two different administrator of the year awards. He was named the 1988 Administrator of the Year by the Michigan Reading Association, and the 1989 Administrator of the Year by the Federal and State Programs Association.

AF-70 since Nov. 1 has been “visitation pastor” at First Reformed Church of Portage, Mich. Robert Krasner of N.Y. has received the L.C.M. degree. He was unanimously appointed to the faculty of the University of N.Y. in the fall.

Class of 1950
40th Reunion
Alumni Weekend
May 4-6

Drs. C. Busman ’60 of Detroit, Mich. and J. Davis ’60 of Allentown, Pa., have been appointed to the University of Michigan faculty. Dr. C. Busman has been appointed to the University of Michigan faculty. Dr. J. Davis has been appointed to the University of Michigan faculty.

Class of 1950
40th Reunion
Alumni Weekend
May 4-6

Robert Hendrick’s 50th Reunion is being held on Saturday, April 1. The reunion is being held at the University of Michigan faculty.

Class of 1950
40th Reunion
Alumni Weekend
May 4-6

Rolf Schipper ’55 of Chicago, Ill., has been appointed to the faculty of the University of Michigan faculty. Rolf Schipper has been appointed to the faculty of the University of Michigan faculty.

Class of 1950
40th Reunion
Alumni Weekend
May 4-6

Hope College
MUSICAL SHOWCASE

Tuesday, March 6
8 p.m.
DeVos Hall
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Featuring the Hope College Music Department

— Soloists
— Orchestra
— Chapel Choir
— College Chorus
— Jazz Ensemble
— Wind Ensemble
— Collegium Singers
— Chamber Ensembles

For Ticket Information Call
(616) 394-7860
Thomas Carlson '55 is vice president of Wheaton's Concession Supply Co. of Columbus, Ohio and was awarded the Silver Beaver Award by the Central Ohio Council of the Boy Scouts of America. William Hendron '55 retired from the U.S. Army in January, 1989 after more than 28 years of service. He served as chief of the department of surgery, and currently is chief of staff at the Army Medical Center. He also served as the adjutant general for the American Medical Association as an accreditation officer. He was formerly a fellow at Temple University Hospital. Richard Decker '56, senior research fellow with Abbott Laboratories, will assume a new responsibility: he will be the director of the European operations of the company. Ronald Boyer '61, Alum of Ann Arbor, Mich., is going to law school at the University of Michigan. He will be attending the University of Michigan Law School, where he plans to study for a degree in law. Barbara Wood '61, Alum of New York, is the director of the New York City office of the American Lung Association. Since 1973, she has been involved in the smoking control area. She has been instrumental in developing programs to help smokers quit. She has also been active in lobbying for legislation to restrict smoking in public places. The office of the New York City chapter of the American Lung Association is located in Midtown Manhattan. Since 1973, she has been involved in the smoking control area. She has been instrumental in developing programs to help smokers quit. She has also been active in lobbying for legislation to restrict smoking in public places. The office of the New York City chapter of the American Lung Association is located in Midtown Manhattan.

Class of 1955
35th Reunion Alumni Weekend May 4-6

C.J. Stronger '60 represented Hope College at the inauguration of Dr. Abel B. Sylve Jr. as the head of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Dr. Stronger is currently a professor of environmental science at Hope College. Joseph Kitchener '56, Alum of New York, is the director of the New York City office of the American Lung Association. Since 1973, he has been involved in the smoking control area. He has been instrumental in developing programs to help smokers quit. He has also been active in lobbying for legislation to restrict smoking in public places. The office of the New York City chapter of the American Lung Association is located in Midtown Manhattan. Since 1973, he has been involved in the smoking control area. He has been instrumental in developing programs to help smokers quit. He has also been active in lobbying for legislation to restrict smoking in public places. The office of the New York City chapter of the American Lung Association is located in Midtown Manhattan.

Class of 1960
30th Reunion Alumni Weekend May 4-6

Bruce Necker '65 and Susan Sommerville '67

Class of 1965
25th Reunion Alumni Weekend May 4-6

Bruce Necker '65 and Susan Sommerville '67 are "generation student" parents. Their son, Matthew Necker '90, is a junior at Hope College. John B. Richardson '66 of Naples, N.M., is a social worker for the State of New Mexico. He was named to the U.S. Public Health Service's Supplemental Honor List for his outstanding contributions to the field of public health. Harold Layman '67, Alum of Chicago, is the director of the Illinois Civil Rights Commission. He was named to the American Legal Foundation's Honor Roll for his contributions to the field of civil rights.

Class of 1970
20th Reunion Alumni Weekend May 4-6

Robert Scott '68, Alum of Chicago, is the director of the Illinois Civil Rights Commission. He was named to the American Legal Foundation's Honor Roll for his contributions to the field of civil rights. Steven Haensel '68 of Rochester, Mich., is a graduate of the University of Rochester. He has been named to the American Legal Foundation's Honor Roll for his contributions to the field of civil rights.

Class of 1975
25th Reunion Alumni Weekend May 4-6

Bruce Necker '65 and Susan Sommerville '67

Class of 1980
30th Reunion Alumni Weekend May 4-6

Bruce Necker '65 and Susan Sommerville '67 are "generation student" parents. Their son, Matthew Necker '90, is a junior at Hope College. John B. Richardson '66, Alum of Naples, N.M., is a social worker for the State of New Mexico. He was named to the U.S. Public Health Service's Supplemental Honor List for his outstanding contributions to the field of public health. Harold Layman '67, Alum of Chicago, is the director of the Illinois Civil Rights Commission. He was named to the American Legal Foundation's Honor Roll for his contributions to the field of civil rights.

Class of 1985
35th Reunion Alumni Weekend May 4-6

Bruce Necker '65 and Susan Sommerville '67

Class of 1990
40th Reunion Alumni Weekend May 4-6

Bruce Necker '65 and Susan Sommerville '67 are "generation student" parents. Their son, Matthew Necker '90, is a junior at Hope College. John B. Richardson '66, Alum of Naples, N.M., is a social worker for the State of New Mexico. He was named to the U.S. Public Health Service's Supplemental Honor List for his outstanding contributions to the field of public health. Harold Layman '67, Alum of Chicago, is the director of the Illinois Civil Rights Commission. He was named to the American Legal Foundation's Honor Roll for his contributions to the field of civil rights.

Class of 1995
45th Reunion Alumni Weekend May 4-6

Bruce Necker '65 and Susan Sommerville '67

Class of 2000
50th Reunion Alumni Weekend May 4-6

Bruce Necker '65 and Susan Sommerville '67 are "generation student" parents. Their son, Matthew Necker '90, is a junior at Hope College. John B. Richardson '66, Alum of Naples, N.M., is a social worker for the State of New Mexico. He was named to the U.S. Public Health Service's Supplemental Honor List for his outstanding contributions to the field of public health. Harold Layman '67, Alum of Chicago, is the director of the Illinois Civil Rights Commission. He was named to the American Legal Foundation's Honor Roll for his contributions to the field of civil rights.

Class of 2005
55th Reunion Alumni Weekend May 4-6

Bruce Necker '65 and Susan Sommerville '67 are "generation student" parents. Their son, Matthew Necker '90, is a junior at Hope College. John B. Richardson '66, Alum of Naples, N.M., is a social worker for the State of New Mexico. He was named to the U.S. Public Health Service's Supplemental Honor List for his outstanding contributions to the field of public health. Harold Layman '67, Alum of Chicago, is the director of the Illinois Civil Rights Commission. He was named to the American Legal Foundation's Honor Roll for his contributions to the field of civil rights.

Class of 2010
60th Reunion Alumni Weekend May 4-6

Bruce Necker '65 and Susan Sommerville '67 are "generation student" parents. Their son, Matthew Necker '90, is a junior at Hope College. John B. Richardson '66, Alum of Naples, N.M., is a social worker for the State of New Mexico. He was named to the U.S. Public Health Service's Supplemental Honor List for his outstanding contributions to the field of public health. Harold Layman '67, Alum of Chicago, is the director of the Illinois Civil Rights Commission. He was named to the American Legal Foundation's Honor Roll for his contributions to the field of civil rights.
HOPE COLLEGE ALUMNI FUND

Reunion Class Giving is the key to reaching the $1,100,000 goal from 50% of our Alumni

**CLASS**

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Mail your reunion gift TODAY!
Professor Roger E. Davis dies

Roger E. Davis, professor of music, died on Thursday, Dec. 27, 1989. He had been a member of the college’s faculty for 27 years. His death marked the passing of a talented artist who both inspired his students and helped shape the college’s music program.

“Professor Davis had a very profound influence on our department over the years,” said Dr. Robert Kibbe, the dean of the college’s School of Music. “His dedication and commitment to music education were unparalleled.”

Professor Davis was born in Akron, Ohio, in 1935. He received his bachelor of science degree in music education from the University of Akron in 1957, the master of music and the master of music degree in music performance from Western Reserve University in 1960, and the doctor of musical arts degree in music education from the University of Southern California in 1967.

Professor Davis taught organ and voice and was the director of the college’s choir. Among his many accomplishments, he was selected as the “Outstanding Musician” by the American Guild of Organists in 1971. He also presented the first public recital on the college’s new organ.

In addition, Professor Davis was a highly respected recitalist and performed in many churches in the Midwest. He was active in the music community and served on several boards and committees.

Professor Davis enjoyed playing the organ and was known for his fine recitals. He was a member of the American Guild of Organists and the American Institute of Organists.

Professor Davis was survived by his wife, Jane, and their two children, Michael and Jennifer. He also leaves behind his mother, Elizabeth, and her brother, Dr. Donald Davis, a retired professor of music at the University of Akron.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Jan. 1, 1990, at 2 p.m. in the college’s chapel. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Roger E. Davis Scholarship Fund, c/o the college’s Development Office.
Lake, Mich., and Pella, Iowa. Trained as a teacher, she taught an economical released-time Bible course for students of the Pella Public Schools before moving to New Jersey in 1958. A 50-year resident of Ridgewood, N.J., she had been active in the Old Peaceful Reformed Church as a choir member, member of the music committee, and director of church-related activities. She was a leader of national stature in the denomination, serving as president of the Reformed Church Women and as the moderator of the Triennial Conference held in Philadelphia.

She was deeply committed to the ordination of women, and was one of the leaders in that successful struggle. She was later employed as a real estate agent with Century 21 in Ho-Ho-Kus, N.J. She passed her state real estate exam at age 66, and went on to become a member of the state real estate Million Dollar Sales Club in 1983-84.

Surviving are her husband, two daughters, Kathleen Vandenberg of Mahopac, N.Y. and Lake College, New Hope, Pa.; a son, James of Philadelphia; a brother, John Engelman of Alexandria, La.; and seven grandchildren.

Minnie Roseboom, '24, Sanko died on Nov. 30, 1989. She is survived by a son, Tom, a daughter, Barbara, and five grandchildren.

Howard C. Schade, '32, of Seminole, Fla. died on Monday, Sept. 25, 1989 at University General Hospital, Seminole. From Oct. 27, 1936 in the Bronx, N.Y., he graduated from New Brunswick Theological Seminary in New Jersey after attending the Gilbert from Hope. From 1945 to 1959, he served pastoreties in Cranston, R.I., Tippecanoe, Ind., and Newton, Mich., N.Y. In 1958, he was elected president of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America. From 1959 to 1966 he served at their national headquarters as an executive secretary of the Board of National Missions. He then returned to a pastoral ministry in Beverly, Mass., serving there from 1966 to 1971.

During his long ministry, Reverend Schade was active in a wide variety of state and community affairs. For example, he was a member of the Governor's Conference for the Aging and served on the President's Conference on Traffic. He had worked as chaplain in both military and hospital settings.

After retiring to Seminole in 1973, he was called to be associate pastor at Lake Seminole Presbyterian church from 1974 to 1976. As associate pastor, he led that congregation, which had been in ministry for 30 years, by teaching a Sunday school class, leading the Thursday night prayer group and visitation until shortly before his death.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; a son, Thomas V. of Tempe, Ariz.; and a brother, Arthur, of Albuquerque, N.M.


He was born in Holland, Mich., on March 1, 1908, to Herman and Alice Boyenga Slagh. He attended Holland High School, and in addition to Hope, attended the University of Michigan and the University of St. Louis.

He moved to Else in 1939. He and Carol Degan were married on Dec. 28, 1937 in Bay City.

Slagh was a member of St. Cyril's Catholic Church and the Else United Methodist Church. He served in the U.S. Army as a captain during World War II, and a member of the American Legion Post 502 in Else, Illinois, and a charter member of the Else Lions Club and a member of the A.M.A. He was a retired medical doctor on staff at Clinton Memorial Hospital and the Memorial Hospital in Owosso.

Surviving are his wife, Carol, two daughters, Kathryn Olson of Ovid, Mich. and Mary Slagh of Daytona Beach, Fla.; a son, Michael Slagh of Queensland, Australia; and four grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers and four sisters.

sympathy to

The family and friends of William H. Vande Water of Holland, Mich., who died on Friday, Dec. 8, 1989. He was 88.

Hope College honored him in 1971 for 50 years of service to Hope in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association. He was honored for his dedicated and distinguished service to collegiate athletics since 1920. His newspaper career began in 1920, and he was a staff correspondent for the Grand Rapids Press from 1922 to 1963. He wrote the first Tulip Time story to ever appear in an outside daily newspaper. Vande Water also wrote for the Holland Sentinel, Detroit News, Detroit Free Press, Chicago Tribune and Kalamein Grinn.

His civic activities in Holland spanned decades. The organization in which he had been most involved included the Tulip Time board, Holland Chamber of Commerce, Boy Scouts and Holland Rotary Club.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Randall P. and Mary E. DeKock; 72; Vande Water of Holland; one granddaughter, Nancy Vande Water, '81; one son, John F. of Tyler, Texas; two great-grandchildren, two brothers, Bernard and Charles Vande Water, and one sister, Mrs. Ralph (Phoene) Donker, all of Holland, and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Kitty, in 1983.

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More than 20,000 alumni have been part of Hope's tradition of academic strength.

The RICH HERITAGE of Hope is in traditions sustained by generations of alumni. Each generation leaves its mark and enriches the College for successors.

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HAVE YOU MADE YOUR ALUMNI FUND GIFT?
The other athletes: intramurals offer fun, friendship, variety

by Stephanie Wright ’91

Have you ever heard of pickleball? It’s a fairly unusual sport that combines ping pong, tennis and racquetball. It’s also one of the new sports being offered through the Hope College intramural athletic program.

The program has been in existence at Hope for several years. In the fall of 1988, however, Dr. Anne Irwin, already an associate professor of physical education and the athletic director for women, became director of intramural sports.

With the help of students, Dr. Irwin restructured the intramural program so that it could include more sports and different sports, such as pickleball, than in the past. The program already had traditional sports such as football, basketball and softball, but Dr. Irwin thought that by offering other sports as well, she could boost participation.

“My focus was on trying to get participation up really high, so I was trying to think of things we could do to hopefully make that happen or at least give an opportunity to make that happen,” Dr. Irwin said.

Consequently, she has shortened the seasons so that she could keep the sports already being offered and add new sports as well. She is hoping that everyone at Hope will be able to find an intramural sport they like to play.

Some of the sports Dr. Irwin has added are fairly traditional, such as tennis, racquetball, badminton and indoor soccer. She has also added some unusual sports, like pickleball and inner tube water polo, and social sports, like one-day bowling and miniature golf tournaments.

The tactic seems to be working. During the 1988-89 academic year, 950 people participated in the intramural program and with 550 persons having been involved during the past fall semester alone, there is every indication that participation will be even higher this year. The campus seems to appreciate the variety.

This year there are approximately 25 sports or seasons offered to men’s, women’s and co-ed teams. There are also special freshmen tournaments offered at the very beginning of the year to introduce the freshmen to the program. And, May Day, a traditional event at Hope which has often had many Greek participants, is getting more publicity and participation through the intramural program.

Teams can be formed through any combination of members of the Hope community, and while the teams are mostly students, there are a few faculty and staff team members. Last year there was a team called “The Graduates,” which consisted entirely of faculty members.

While the main emphasis of the intramural program is on participation and fun, there is always going to be competition in a sporting event. Keeping these two things in mind Dr. Irwin developed a system of points and awards for the program.

An “Outstanding Team Award” is given to a men’s and a women’s team which has accumulated the highest number of points throughout the year. An “Outstanding Individual Award” is given to each man and woman who has on an individual basis accumulated the highest number of points throughout the year.

Doreen German, a junior from Greenville, Mich., has been very involved with the intramural program since Dr. Irwin took it over. As a freshman she played on the women’s junior varsity basketball team and didn’t know much about the intramural program, but as a sophomore she was one of the students who helped Dr. Irwin re-structure the program. She also was the captain of an intramural team and won the “Outstanding Individual Award.”

German is positive about the program and how it has changed since she’s been at Hope. She discovered that for her it has been not only a lot of fun, but a great way to make friends and relieve stress. She found being involved in varsity athletics here very time-consuming and stressful, but intramurals has a more relaxed atmosphere and the activity itself is a great stress release.

She says that competitiveness exists but that it is part of the fun. “You can be competitive and enjoy that part of it, but then after the game it’s cool and it’s not like you lost the conference championship. You can just go back to the dorm and goof around with those same people (you played against),” German said.

She also said she has made many friends through the program and points out that the environment of intramurals is so casual that it is a great way to meet people.

Dan Otis, a sophomore from Ludington, Mich., has also been fairly involved with the intramural program. He was the team captain of “The Beefcakes,” who finished third last year in overall points. Otis, who finished second for individual points, echoed some of German’s comments.

Otis played several varsity sports in high school, but when he came to Hope he decided he didn’t want to play on the varsity level. He was concerned that being on a varsity team would mean having to fit studies around the sport, whereas he feels that intramurals are very flexible and don’t interfere with his studies.

One aspect of intramurals that both Otis and his teammate Rob Riekse, a sophomore from Grand Rapids, Mich., enjoy is the camaraderie of the team. “It helped in my freshman year to be with a group of guys who will get together at least once a week for the different competitions and put aside our schoolwork for awhile, just be guys,” Otis said. “And that camaraderie, and the fact that it’s a very, very fun program to be involved in brought me back.”

He said he also likes the variety that the short seasons and different sports offers. Otis said he believes that there is a lot of participation in the program, but that he would like to see even more. The number of people participating this year is already up quite a bit from last year at this time, and Otis said they have added more people to the “Beefcakes” team roster.

Dr. Irwin is happy with the way the intramural program is running.

She is hoping to continue to build participation, and she is experimenting with activities that may interest people who, as she puts it, “don’t like to get sweaty.”

She has also thought about orienteering, which for many people would also involve learning a new skill. “I’m trying to come up with a variety of things, so everybody would be interested in at least one thing during the year,” Dr. Irwin said.

She is also concerned that the program exist for the students and “that everybody is considered.” She asks students what they think about ideas she has. She calls up some of the students who have been very involved in the program or the talk to students who has in class. She also talked to the Sports Management class about the intramural program and asked them if they had any ideas or suggestions.

She found it interesting that some of the things they suggested, such as a T-shirt contest to design the championship T-shirt, were ideas she had already been exploring.

One thing she is thinking about doing this year is having a play-off game between the over-all winning team of Hope’s intramural men’s basketball and Calvin’s winning intramural team. If the competition happens, it has every chance of catching the spirit of the Hope-Calvin rivalry. For Riekse, however, there is no question which team would emerge on top.

“We would probably win,” he said.