Six senior stories show why.

They represent each of the departments that will be in the new building: biochemistry, biology, chemistry, geology and the environmental sciences, nursing and psychology. All came to Hope with their own dreams, but they were drawn by or have come to appreciate the same qualities: the college’s established reputation for excellence, and the character of the people, faculty and peers alike, that have been a central part of their experience.

The new science center will have a profound impact on Hope College, but not because it is reshaping the west side of campus. Instead, it will help Hope continue to be a place that helps shape young lives for the better.

Please see pages six and seven.
Legacies expands to include fieldhouse
Science center construction begins as campaign progresses

The progress of the initial fund-raising efforts for the Legacies: A Vision of Hope has led to an increase in the goal to $105 million.

The Board of Trustees authorized during its January meeting an increase in the scope of Legacies: A Vision of Hope from $85 million to $105 million by adding the DeVos Fieldhouse project into the overall campaign.

The move reflects the progress thus far in raising money for both efforts, according to President James E. Bultman '63.

“This is a special tribute to the generosity and faithfulness of the Hope constituency and the Holland community,” he said.

The campaign was launched in October of 2000 with three major initiatives: building a new science center and renovating the Peale Science Center; increasing endowment; and addressing a variety of other short-term and long-term facility and space needs, including especially the construction of the Martha Miller Center.

Funding is about two-thirds complete for the campaign’s major building projects. The percentage for the campaign overall is a bit higher—the college has raised about $85 million of the new $105 million overall goal.

Legacies: A Vision of Hope is the largest single fund-raising effort in Hope’s history. The college’s previous capital campaign, Hope in the Future, concluded in June of 1994 having raised $58 million.

The new science center, which will be connected to the west side of the Peale Science Center, will double the size of the current building and will include classrooms, laboratories, and office and storage space. Peale Science Center, which opened in 1973, will be updated to better meet contemporary teaching and research needs and today’s significantly higher enrollment. The trustees voted during the January meeting to move ahead with the new construction, which began in March and is expected to take about 18 months. The new construction and renovation are expected to total $36 million.

Some $30 million of the campaign total is earmarked for endowment, which provides support for every dimension of the college. Emphases include student scholarships; faculty research funds and chairs; support for the academic program, community outreach, internships and the student development program; and funds for equipment needs and library resources.

The $19 million designated for enhancing and expanding other campus facilities includes construction of the Martha Miller Center, which will house the departments of communication and modern and classical languages. The building’s site is not yet finalized. Other projects include renovation of buildings such as Dimnent Memorial Chapel, Graves Hall and Lubbers Hall and the Dow Center, the latter of which will feature expanded facilities for the college’s dance program.

The DeVos Fieldhouse project was announced as a separate fund-raising initiative in March of 2001, anchored by a $7.5 million leadership gift from the Richard and Helen DeVos Foundation. Fund-raising has since been spearheaded by James Jurries ’63 of Holland, Mich. The project will total approximately $20 million.

The building is intended to meet many of the spectator facility needs for not only the college, but also the Holland Christian Schools, other area schools and the Holland community. The facility will serve as the new home court for the college’s men’s basketball team, which has played its home games at the Holland Civic Center since 1954-55. The building will be located on the eastern gateway to the campus, although the specific site is still being determined.

While the building projects will significantly reshape the look of campus and the neighboring downtown area, most visibly the eastern gateway, President Bultman noted that they are especially exciting from Hope’s perspective for the effect they will have on the college’s work of educating students.

“Hope College is not about building buildings. Hope is about providing facilities that will enable students and professors to perform at the very highest levels,” he said. “The science center, Martha Miller Center and DeVos Fieldhouse projects are tangible evidence of that commitment. These are exciting projects that will change the face of Hope and improve its already lofty position in undergraduate Christian liberal arts education.”

While pleased with the total raised thus far, President Bultman noted that fund-raising for Legacies: A Vision of Hope will be continuing in earnest as the campaign continues through the end of 2003, particularly as the college expands its focus from leadership gifts to the Hope constituency in general.

Legacies: A Vision of Hope is a $105 million fund-raising effort that has four primary components: renovating and expanding the science center, constructing the DeVos Fieldhouse, increasing the endowment, and addressing short-term and long-term facility and space needs.

Thus far, the campaign has raised $85 million.

For more information about the campaign, please visit the college on-line at www.hope.edu or call (616) 395-7783.
Every program at the college is filled with remarkable students.

With 2,999 exceptional undergraduates enrolled at Hope, how could it be otherwise? And so, it was easy to identify six outstanding seniors in our effort to help show how lives are touched by the Hope experience—to demonstrate the central, human dimension of the college’s newest, and largest-ever, construction project.

In addition to photographing them, we asked each of the students the same three questions: “What about Hope—particularly the science program—drew you to the college?”; “What has been a highlight of your experience in your major program?”; and “What are your post-Hope plans?”

Here’s what they had to say.

**Diana Castanon**

chemistry and philosophy  
Holland, Mich.

**Drawn to Program Because:** As a native Hollander, I initially refused to consider Hope College. It was just too close to home. However, parental encouragement—to state it modestly—helped me to change my mind... During my visit, I also learned about the research opportunities, Hope’s record for MCAT preparations, and medical school acceptance rates. These were all impressive, but what clinched it for me was walking through Peale and observing and interacting with faculty members who were open to answering questions and working closely with students. I knew that at Hope my efforts would be supported and my achievements would be recognized.

**Stand-Out Experience:** “Summer research in the chemistry department was the highlight of my college career. The lab was the ideal learning environment. I learned some practical science, how to trouble-shoot an experiment gone wrong, the importance of teamwork, how to prepare myself for Dr. Peaslee’s and Doc Williams’s grilling questions at the end of a presentation, and (most importantly) the duck-and-cover maneuver to avoid Dr. Peaslee’s volleyball serve at the weekly picnics. Because my experiences were so memorable, I am biased toward research. I think every science major should get involved.”

**Post-Hope Plans:** Will attend the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor.

**Brian Flickinger**

geological and environmental sciences  
Traverse City, Mich.

**Drawn to Program Because:** “I became interested in geology because of the practical nature of it. I could walk outside and see everything I was learning about. I wanted to learn what processes were responsible for the third I saw.”

**Stand-Out Experience:** “As a geology major I had the opportunity to take many field trips for classes. It would definitely be these experiences and friendships that I will take away from the geology program.”

**Post-Hope Plans:** Will enter the world of work after graduation.

**Jessica Hanba**

biology and psychology  
Reed City, Mich.

**Drawn to Program Because:** “Several of my teachers recommended Hope to me because of its excellent reputation as a science-oriented institution. After visiting the school and seeing the facilities first-hand, I realized that Hope was the place for me. As a student here, I majored in both psychology and biology and I feel both departments prepared me well for what’s yet to come.”

**Stand-Out Experience:** “I think the highlight of my experience as a psychology student at Hope has to be the personal relationships I have formed with faculty. The professors truly take a personal interest in their students and help them in any way possible. I have felt both respected and understood. At Hope, I have learned volumes from the faculty in educational terms, as well as life skills such as how to make decisions and how to persevere. Without their support and challenges, I doubt I could have come as far as I have.”

**Post-Hope Plans:** Will pursue a Ph.D. in cognitive psychology, focusing on memory and suggestibility with respect to eyewitness testimony. Hopes to become a professor at a liberal arts institution.

**Curt Mejeur**

nursing  
Kalamazoo, Mich.

**Drawn to Program Because:** “When I came to Hope as a freshman, I knew nothing about the nursing program—I didn’t even know that Hope had one! My mind was set upon becoming a doctor, and majoring in either biology or chemistry—both programs at Hope that had an excellent reputation among schools nationwide. However, through many events and circumstances, I found myself changing my major to nursing, also a very strong, reputable program at Hope.”

**Stand-Out Experience:** “As a result of my experiences in the nursing program at Hope, I have been able to develop my own standards of nursing care centered around my faith in Jesus Christ. The highlight for me has been the opportunity to care for patients while simultaneously being a witness of Christ’s love. I truly believe that this mindset can turn something as simple as a job into a vocation—something that one is called to do.”

**Post-Hope Plans:** Will work as an RN in the Trauma Care Burn Unit at Bronson Hospital in Kalamazoo. Plans to attend graduate school in nurse anesthesia.

**Matthew Nehs**

biochemistry (biology and chemistry)  
Traverse City, Mich.

**Drawn to Program Because:** “First, they had the top pre-medical reputation of the five [liberal arts colleges in Michigan I visited]... Second, Hope’s science program is perfectly tailored for undergraduate research. I was not particularly interested in research, but I joined a physiology lab and have had a positive experience, particularly in better understanding the scientific method... Last, from the janitors to the president, the people of Hope were a different caliber from other institutions. They made me feel at home when I visited, and that sealed the deal for me.”

**Stand-Out Experience:** “I had the once-in-a-lifetime experience of traveling to the Galapagos Islands with Dr. Harvey Blakespoor and 45 others... Visiting the Galapagos Islands was an opportunity to “live” the classroom experience. In addition to the unique biology I learned there, my visit to Ecuador was a lesson in cultural relativism. [Also,] my opinion matters... When Hope was hiring new faculty, the department asked two other students and I if we would take the candidates out for lunch and write an evaluation of them. This was used in the hiring process. There are several faculty members who I feel like I helped pick. The department took me and the other students seriously.”

**Post-Hope Plans:** Is choosing which medical school to attend among multiple acceptances. Long-term plans include a surgical specialty and perhaps a career in law specializing in intellectual property.