

NEWS / HOPE COLLEGE

HOLLAND, MICHIGAN



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact Tom Renner

The mathematics department at Hope College will hold an open house Friday (May 31) from 1:30-5 p.m. and Saturday (June 1) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to present the college's new electronics calculator center to prospective students, members of mathematics and physics departments in area high schools and colleges, industry, and interested citizens.

The center is regarded as a valuable asset to the teaching field in light of current mathematics emphases.

A matching grant of \$20,000 from the federal government under the Title VI, Higher Education Act, enabled the college to purchase 16 Dura/IME electronic calculators, supporting programmers and print-out equipment for this facility.

The center is located in the lower level of the Physics-Mathematics building on Graves Place (11th St.) and is under the direction of Dr. Elliot Tanis and Dr. Richard Vanderveide.

Chemistry, physics, and biology students analyze laboratory data with the calculators while students of business administration, education, physical education, psychology and sociology use the center principally for problems that are statistical in nature.

The professors in the mathematics department utilize the machines to demonstrate the fundamental concepts of mathematics. Functions, limits, sum of a series, and approximations are among the applications.

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Statistical applications include finding the sample mean and sample standard deviation of a set of data and finding the value of the test statistic in tests of statistical hypotheses.

Operation of the calculators is easily learned. The calculators are trouble free and adaptable to many problems of student interest. Each student has personal access to a programmable calculator that operates at high speed electronically.

The calculator center in conjunction with the adjacent computer center, which houses an IBM 1130 computer, makes it possible to solve problems at varying levels of difficulty.