Behind the scenes: ‘I’m the Lubbers guy’
The Anchor sits down for a late-night chat with the Physical Plant’s Scott Plaster

Sam Tzou
Guest Writer

When 8:30 p.m. rolls around, the majority of the Hope College faculty and staff have long returned home. As night classes finish up and the dining halls shut down, students all begin another night of homework and activities. This is when Hope Physical Plant staff member Scott Plaster goes to work in Lubbers Hall.

Aside from scrubbing floors, emptying trash cans and cleaning bathrooms, Plaster also has another agenda, one that has made an impact on countless students in the 16 years of his Hope career.

“I’m the Lubbers guy,” Plaster says, chuckling. “I’m okay if nobody calls me Scott, my job as the Lubbers guy is to invest in the students who come through that door while I work.”

While most would find an 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. work schedule exhausting, Plaster says he embraces his job and takes the time to get to know students who study in his building at night.

His friendliness is something that students over his 16 years have truly appreciated.

Two such students are Robert and Jessica Sjoholm (12), who met Plaster their freshman year while studying in Lubbers.

“Every time we saw him, even for just a few seconds, he took the opportunity to build a relationship,” Jessica said.

“Even if it was just asking how that test went, he always said something personal. It is the personal interest he took in people that has made him stand out. His business was not just the building, but everyone in the building.”

By taking the time to get to know students, Plaster says he gets the opportunity to watch the students grow up over the years.

“I see them at their best, I see them at their worst, I see their pain, and I see them when they are champions,” Plaster said. “I see the transformation from day one until the day they graduate, from the snot-nosed kid who knows everything, to someone who blossoms with potential to change this world.”

In the case of the Sjoholms, who were dating at the time they met Plaster, the relationship was one that was incredibly special as he has developed a reputation of creating quiet environments to help students study.

“Scott made sure that every single night we had a large quiet classroom to study in, as long as we needed it,” Robert said. “He had to work twice as hard to provide this to students, but he did it anyway.”

But there was more. This friendship continued into their junior year when Robert proposed to Jessica in the spring of 2012.

“I [Jessica] was so excited to tell Scott about the engagement because I knew he would be excited and happy for us,” Jessica said. “But he went above and beyond my expectations when he started tearing up and then dropped what he was doing to run to the Science Center and see Robbie.”

In the summer of 2012, Plaster and his entire family drove to Minnesota to watch the Sjoholm wedding. It had to see it happen, I had to be there, I had to sit in that chapel and watch that,” Plaster said. “I had to see that wedding because I felt like I was the father of both of them. I had a lot invested in both of those kids. It’s moments like that that make this a one-of-a-kind job.”

It meant more than that.

“No professors drove out to our wedding, but Scott did, along with his entire family. That really says a lot about how much he invests in students,” Robert said. “Marriage vows are best said before a gathering of people who care about a couple’s life and the choices they make. These are the people who have the chance of holding them accountable for keeping such vows. Scott is the kind of person you want holding you accountable.”

The Sjoholms aren’t the only individuals who have recognized Plaster’s undeniable selflessness and investment in students. He was also recognized in 2012 for the Vander-Bush Weller Award.

“We are so grateful for all that Scott has done for us,” Jessica said. “Scott made sure that every night we had a large quiet classroom to study in, as long as we needed it.”

Making a Difference—Scott Plaster

Scott Plaster takes a minute to pose for The Anchor during his typical evening frenzy of cleaning bathrooms, picking up after Hope College students and changing lives.

Slam poet brings message of reconciliation

(The photo on the left shows a slam poet performing at a Hope College event.)

The Power of Words—Last Thursday, Nov. 7, the Kletz hosted a special slam poetry performance by singer, songwriter and poet Sharon Irving. With a powerful message of racial reconciliation and social justice, Irving melodically dropped the rhymes in her own unique style. Irving has dedicated her life and talents to being a voice for the voiceless and continually strives to find new avenues to express her passion for music and the spoken word.

A head-bobbing, enthusiastic collection of Hope students and community members were thrilled to share in Irving’s music and poetry last Thursday night and eagerly awaited her next visit. Keep the beat and follow her journey on Twitter: @sharonimusic.

Stay tuned in to these opportunities by checking out the extensive list of S.A.C. activities.

Making a Difference—Scott Plaster
Plaster invests in students overnight

On Wednesday, Nov. 6, Hope College said goodbye to Dr. Gisela Strand, a beloved professor and faculty member who retired in 2001 after 32 years of teaching. Born in Hannover, Germany on April 26, 1939, Strand grew up and was educated in Europe before coming to Chicago to earn her doctorate in German studies at Vanderbilt University. She joined the Hope faculty as an instructor in 1969 and was promoted all the way up to professor status in 1989.

“The thing I most like about teaching is that it’s learning,” Strand said in a profile published in Hope’s 1983-82 catalog. “A teacher, like a student, is always coming in contact with new materials.”

Her hand-in-hand teaching style encouraged individual exploration and kept her solidly grounded in her belief that there was always more to be discovered.

“I also like teaching because it is a profession with instant rewards,” Strand said in the same 1981-82 profile. “You can tell in a glance if you have been successful in presenting something to your students.”

Professor Strand’s zest for education, which recognizes the extraordinary contributions that faculty make to the lives of students.

"Scott was selected because he truly exemplifies being a servant to the campus in both word and deed," Dean of Students Richard Frost said. "He gets the need to understand that we are all becoming what God wants us to be and we can only do so by helping and engaging one another."

Over the years, Plaster has had the opportunity to attend multiple weddings (including reading scripture at one), help students through break-ups, roommate troubles and much more, and has also been introduced to countless parents at graduation who thank him for the work that he’s done in leading students to Christ.

Plaster credits Building Service Manager Sue Volkers for giving him the opportunity to invest in students during his time at work.

“She [Sue] has been instrumental in helping me create the environment for this job," Plaster said. "My job is like creating the environment for the work that he’s done in leading students to Christ."

Operation Christmas Child is a unique project which provides children worldwide with a shoebox full of gifts for the Christmas season. Volunteer Services is sponsoring the drive and encourages Hope students to get involved by picking up a shoebox and filling it with toys for the children. Shoeboxes can be found at the SUD, the Keppel House and Dimment Chapel and should be filled with items such as toys, hygiene items, school supplies or personal notes. A donation of $7 for shipping and handling is also required to support this ministry. Operation Christmas Child ends Nov. 22. For more information, email Volunteer Services at volunteers@hope.edu.

**RELAY FOR LIFE KICKS OFF**

Hope College’s 11th annual Relay For Life will be held this weekend. Sponsored by Hope’s chapter of Colleges Against Cancer, the fundraiser will run from 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 15 to 7 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 16 in the Dow Center. All funds raised through Relay For Life go toward supporting the National Cancer Society as it attempts to find solutions and raise awareness regarding the disease. Students in the Hope community are encouraged to form teams and walk the Dow Center track together as cancer survivors, caregivers, those who have lost their lives to cancer and those who are currently battling cancer are honored and supported. Since it began in 2003, Hope has raised almost $400,000 through Relay For Life to support the American Cancer Society.
Chinese military reveals submarine fleet

Will this impact China’s relation with the western world, especially the US?

Andrew Gomez-Seoane
Staff Writer

In a surprising turn of events, the Chinese government has revealed its new fleet of nuclear submarines that are capable of attacking United States cities on the West Coast with lethal accuracy.

For the first time in nearly half a century, the state-run media announced the secrets behind the navy’s strategic submarine force and the development of its first-generation submarines. According to sources, such as the Global Times, Chinese officials believe that due to the short-range capabilities of their missiles, cities like Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco would be the most lethal targets in this case. Estimates by the government state that one Type 094 SSBN missile carrying 12 JL-2 nuclear warheads could kill and wound 5 to 12 million Americans. These JL-2 missiles have an estimated range of roughly 8,700 miles and are capable of hitting the entire continental U.S. with independently targetable re-entry vehicle warheads. Knowing that China has a vast number of on-shore Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles, it could deploy them around the world in a moment’s notice.

Overall, China currently has the world’s second largest submarine fleet on the planet. According to the state-run media, there are a total of 70 submarines, of which 10 are nuclear powered and four have the capability to launch nuclear weapons. This rapid rise in Chinese militarization over the last decades has prompted calls for a missile defense system to protect Americans not only from rogue nuclear states, but a counter-launch by some of our biggest foes on the international stage.

While this system has been proposed in countless sessions of Congress and within government circles, little has been done to research the capabilities and limitations of such a defense system. Not since the Soviet Era with the Strategic Defense Initiative proposed by President Ronald Reagan have we seen the development of a “missile shield” over America’s skies. As some have argued during the Cold War, the goal seems too ambitious and technologically impossible, with a complex series of satellites and stations on the ground all coordinating together to destroy these objects in mid-air.

While the goal of nuclear disarmament continues to be stressed, the U.S. military has continued to develop new and efficient means of deterring our enemies with the use of the latest in computer software to make our bombs more accurate and deadlier than ever. With the christening of the new class of nuclear aircraft carriers like the USS Gerald Ford, the fight over the increasing cost of our military and the preservation of American superiority in the all forms of combat will shape our foreign policy for years to come.

As nations like China have demonstrated, some say, now is not the time to fight over petty differences, but to engage in a meaningful discussion about the future of defense in an increasingly polarized world.

Colombian leaders negotiate peace

Leaders are working on six-point agreement that would end the use of violence to resolve conflicts

Brianna Cherry
Staff Writer

With almost 50 years of armed conflict in the books, Colombian officials are looking to start a new chapter for their country. A chapter that, ideally, would usher in long-awaited peace for government officials and civilians alike.

Present violence is a result of past power struggles between the government and armed rebel groups. When current president Juan Manuel Santos took office in 2010, he vowed to bring peace to the country.

“Never again politics and weapons together.”

— HUMBERTO DE LA CALLE CHIEF NEGOTIATOR

Three years later, the fighting continues. There is an estimated 7,800 active FARC members, the leading rebel group within Colombia. Rebel forces continue to push for a place in government to let their voice be heard among the segregated groups within the country. Violence is not a new topic in the Colombian headlines, although it is now taking a new form. The biggest threat is no longer illegal drug trafficking.

Representation within government is the issue now at hand. Since last November, the largest rebel group and the government have been meeting, hoping to reach a deal. Negotiations continue to take place in Havana, the capital of Cuba. There are six major points that have been developed for the peace agenda. Land reform, the first step of the plan, has been the topic of discussion the past few weeks. Deadlines for the conclusion of this first step are said to be later in November.

Ivan Marquez, a FARC leader, expressed a positive opinion on the matter, saying that this is an “important step in the right direction to end the conflict and to achieve a real democracy in Colombia.”

After agreements are reached on land reform, then political participation, disarmament, illicit drugs, victim rights and the implementation of the peace deal will be next on the list. Although the participation of the rebels in government has been crucial in gaining a common ground, this has become another issue in itself. Many believe that some parliamentary members should be banned altogether for the crimes they have committed against humanity. Within the six points being addressed, this is one that has gained significant attention. This may be the most challenging and has been said to be the most anticipated of the discussions to come. Despite opposing opinions, both sides have agreed to support the idea of creating new political parties.

Since the first conflict broke out, nearly 225,000 people have been victims of the civil conflict. Hundreds of thousands more have been displaced from their homes due to the continuing violence. Humberto de la Calle, the government’s chief negotiator, offered a sober warning: “Never again politics and weapons together.”
US-Egypt relations taking new turns

Timothy Cook
Guest Writer

In the aftermath of the recent overthrow of Egypt's democratically elected Islamist president Mohamed Morsi, a civilian judge has been installed as president, but it is all too clear that the power lies with General Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, the country's defense minister.

For many Americans, it is puzzling that after so much time and energy spent on the revolution, many Egyptians now sing the praises of an army strongman. Indeed, though a surprise visit by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry was intended to produce some noticeable sway in policy in the new Egyptian government, little new could be said. During his meeting with Senior Egyptian leaders on Nov. 3, Kerry publicly emphasized “democracy and stability,” words that have been consistently used by the Obama administration for over two years since the Egyptian revolution began.

Much of this tumultuousness reflects to turn in U.S.-Egypt relations that Egypt underwent during the Cold War. Egypt first appeared as an international player after the 1952 revolution in which young officers led by Colonel Gamal Abdel Nasser came to power. Though president of Egypt, Nasser, like many of his ilk, understood that finally boiled over with the Egyptian Revolution. Who else was to fulfill the people's wishes than the long persecut-ed Muslim Brotherhood now in possession of a vast under-ground support network?

However, hindsight told a different story. As happened in Algeria in 1992 and Turkey in 1997, the Egyptian military, aided by vast numbers of anti-Morsi citizens, moved against the Islamists before they could compromise the secular values of society. It is into this climate that Sisi, the youngest general’s and Morsi’s own pick for Defense Min-ister take center stage. For mil-lions of Egyptians disillusioned by the Brotherhood’s indecisive-ness, Sisi’s rule seems to indicate a return to a simpler era when a revolutionary officer answered the people.

Indeed, it was the Broth-erhood that provided food, charity and hospital care to the Egyptian poor when state subsidies started to be cut and graft and corrup-tion corroded Egypt’s once powerful military. It was this cli-mate of distrust and disaffection that finally boiled over with the 2011 overthrow of Mubarak in the Egyptian Revolution. Who else was to fulfill the people's wishes than the long persecut-ed Muslim Brotherhood now in possession of a vast under-ground support network?

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‘Fist of Awesome’ is a bear-punching good time

The single most important aspect of every iOS game on the App Store is how it controls. There have been countless FPS’s, brawlers, beat ‘em ups, strategy games, you name it that when viewed in a video seem promising, but when actually played they fail to live up to their perceived potential due to poor controls. Side-scrolling beat ‘em up “Fist of Awesome” from developer Nicoll Hunt, however, not only looks great when watched, it also features some of the best controls ever experienced in an iOS game.

Sliding your thumb across the left side of the screen moves the humble lumberjack hero Tim Burr across the screen, and tapping with your other thumb on the right side of the screen makes him attack. It’s that simple.

Of course as you progress, you’ll discover new abilities like stomping on fallen enemies, performing a flying kick and harnessing the power of the velociraptors and you’ll soon find yourself planning out the order in which you’ll take them down for maximum efficiency.

Additionally, Tim has a very basic experience system that increases his attack power with each level gained. Like many games in the same vein, the higher combo you can rack up, the more experience you’ll gain. It’s nothing too deep, but it gives you another thing to pay attention to during fights.

There’s a PC version of the game coming soon with a ton of extra content, and the iOS version will receive a free update with all that extra stuff as soon as it’s released as well. However, it should go without saying that the iPhone or iPad is the best way to play this game.

When played on a PC, it’s easy to imagine that “Fist of Awesome” might have some trouble competing with bigger indie titles. iOS games can get away with shorter levels and limited enemy variety much easier than full-fledged PC titles can. It’s hard to tell how much more content the PC version will include.

For $3.99 you can’t really go wrong with this game. It’s a little repetitive at times, but all in all it’s extremely well put together and it features an attention to detail that is oftentimes absent on the over-saturated App Store. “Fist of Awesome” does exactly what it set out to do—become the best controlling brawler on the App Store.
Letters from Nana and Gramps

Why do we dance?

Claire Call
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Dancers are absolutely fabulous – I just wanted to start out by saying that.

For instance, I love you who don’t know me (which is most of you – I’m not trying to kid myself), I am a dancer. Dance is not only my major, it is my obsession, one that started before I can even remember. And once you start dancing, it is very hard to stop. That being said, dance is not easy. It’s one of the hardest careers I could imagine; dancers rehearse and take class every single day, no matter how tired and sore they are (because, trust me, they are), they’re on the road, travelling all over the country, maybe even the world, but only ever seeing the inside of a theatre.

When you’re a dancer, it’s acceptable for your boss to comment on your body. In fact, it’s necessary. And it’s also likely that, sometime during your career, you won’t get hired simply because you don’t fit into the costume the last dancer wore.

And you have to try not to take it personally – because it’s going to happen a lot.

So why do we dance? It’s a good question, really – one that I’m asked often.

I couldn’t imagine a life in which I’m not dancing. I’ve tried, many times, when been worn out or injured or just lacking self-confidence, to imagine what life would be like if I wasn’t a dancer. I fail miserably every time. You see, I love dance. I love performing, I love the realization that I can do something I never thought I could, but these aren’t the reasons I dance.

I love the weirdness of dancers. I thrive in the community I have built with my fellow dancers, but these things are not what keep me dancing. I dance because I need to. I dance because if someone told me I couldn’t anymore I would say “watch me.” I dance because when I am injured, when I am watching, I only want to be up there on stage or in class that much more. I dance because that’s who I am. I am a dancer.

I’ve met dancers who have said that if dancing ever started to feel like a job, that’s when they would stop. I like this idea, not because I want an excuse to stop, but because it reminds me of what dancing is. It helps me remember that when I wake up every morning, I don’t have to keep that job. I get to choose.

I am reminded that I have a privilege that many others could never even dream of. I have a body that is able to move, and a community that allows me to do just that. I’ve had the privilege of learning another language, one that predates any written or verbal form. I get to create stories, poems, and manifestos in this language, and people are willing to listen to them, to watch them.

Dance is a powerful thing. It is an important (and I believe) necessary part of culture. It is worship, it is expression, it is ritual and it is language.

It takes a combination of strength and brilliance to make a dancer. It takes someone who is willing to never stop learning, even while teaching.

As a dancer, you must listen to people tell you to “move like water,” or to “dance like you would write,” or to “compose hairy or bald” and show them you understand.

Dance is so much more than shapes and transitions – but at the same time, you’d better get that shape right and do so with pointed toes and energy in your fingers.

Dance is full of contradictions, full of different teachers telling you different things to think about, then telling you to stop thinking so hard.

Dance isn’t a job, it’s a lifestyle. Dancers don’t get to leave their work in the office when they come home for dinner. And dancers are definitely not going to be done working when it’s time for dinner.

But we dance anyway. We dance anyway because we love it, because we have something to say, because we don’t know any other way to live.

Claire has been asked to do all of these things, too, even the hairy or bald assignment.

Asking and You May be Advised

Dorm Room Dilemmas

Lauren May
Columnist

Dear Lauren,
I am having some roommates problems that I was hoping you could help me with. The beginning of the year things were going great, but now since my roommate and I have been living together, we have run into a couple of issues.

She never puts away her stuff and always leaves clothes lying around. Also, she is never really in the room and comes back late at night, waking me up. I noticed that a lot of roommates can be very loud, but I feel like I wasn’t having any. Any advice?

This is a great issue to address, so I am sure that many of other people on campus are having similar difficulties. While having a roommate can be super fun and a cool new experience, it definitely can have its challenges too. It is hard trying to get used to living with another person and I know it’s not easy to figure out how to best handle problems when they arise.

In regards to your situation, I think the main thing you need to focus on is to help solve your problem is communication.

In regards to her leaving her stuff around, you could suggest politely confronting her about it. Just tell her that you like to keep your room clean and ask if she would mind picking up her stuff a couple times a week.

Also it is important that you let her know that she wakes you up in the middle of the night when she comes back from the room. Simply ask if she can be a little quieter when she wakes up. I get that this can be a little courteous about the times she chooses to return.

I think it is important to realize that you is need to inform her about these issues and not let them go unsettled. If you don’t talk to her and truly let her know how you feel, you won’t be know that what’s bothering you and how to fix it. Don’t be afraid to express your concerns with her, for worry that she will be mad. Most likely she will be understanding and willing to help you with the things she needs to share with you, too. Communicating with each other is the best way to figure out what is bothering you guys and make rooming together work.

On a side note, one important thing to keep in mind is when you do go to talk to your roommate about these issues, make sure you do not come across as rude or bossy. Try avoiding getting angry or frustrated with her, but instead, just politely share your concerns. The nice and calmer you are about the situation, the more likely she will be to listen and take into consideration what you are saying.

Finally, in regards to wanting to bond more with your roommate, try to do some more activities together. Find something both of you like and go do it. One good idea might be to pick a day once a week where you go get lunch together. You could also go to a sporting event on campus, or just hang out in the room one night and watch a movie. The more time you guys spend together, the better you will start to get to know each other. I hope this advice was helpful, and best of luck!

To my great disappointment, I’ve never met her. I’ve purchased three books she wrote. Occasionally, I post about them on the Internet. I convinced a few more people to read my copies. That’s all.

She hasn’t somehow taken back anything she gave us, hasn’t ruined the past stories in any way. So my love for them is still intact, regardless of whether or not I liked the current one.

Veronica Roth doesn’t deserve shame because of your unmet expectations. Though she’s received a lot of necessary support, it’s from a huge body of fans, not just you. And it’s not because a bunch of really nice people decided to make her life better. It’s because she did something worthy of support: writing good books, and a good story. Shouldn’t she be the one who gets to decide how to end it?

There’s always a silver lining

On story endings

Jaclyn Brett
Columnist

The end of October marked the release of the final book in the Divergent trilogy, an event that didn’t go as expected. Now, this is a spoiler-free article, but while reading up upon that reading the book, many people were upset with what Veronica Roth did with the story, and word spread.

The results were what you might expect: outrage, spoilers and general unrest. Some fans were disappointed in their disappointed and others flat-out refused to start reading. An unwillingness to experience a story a certain way is something I understand. The desire to have control over your reading experience often leads to a reaction. But what I don’t understand is the sentiment of entitlement felt. It was as if they thought the author owed them something, as if they deserved more say over how the story went than she did.

This is a phenomenon not unique to this book, or even to books in general. It’s easy to feel like you’ve invested in something, you have some control over it. It’s easy to get mad at beloved celebrities for “selling out” and doing things you don’t want them to, mad at authors for “wasting their time” writing books you don’t want to read or disappointing musicians whose “old stuff was good.”

But here’s the thing. They don’t owe you that. There’s no such thing as an emotional shareholder: you come into a work of art and feel how you want to feel. Shouldn’t she be the one who gets to decide how to end it?

I don’t know Veronica Roth.
Fall is soup season. Now that the weather has finally turned chilly, I find myself hungering for anything I can eat with a spoon. Potatoes, onions, and chocolate pudding have all made their way into my recipe lineup over the past couple of weeks. I have savored each in turn and as delicious as they are, I probably won’t be craving any of these dishes again soon. Soup, however, is a different matter.

Soup is versatile. You can follow a recipe precisely, or use dinner as an excuse to clean out whatever odds and ends are cluttering up the fridge. Soup is easy. Just chop, drop and let everything simmer until the flavors meld and the ingredients are tender.

Above all, soup is comforting. The smell and savor of a bubbling pot always reminds me of cloudy Sundays spent at home, doing crossword puzzles with my mom.

Though I can’t say I ate it growing up, this African peanut soup is one of my all-time favorite meals. You start by sweating aromatics—onions, garlic and ginger—in a little olive oil until they turn golden and soft.

Next comes red pepper for color, while chunks of pineapple add a delicate sweetness that is offset by the kick of chili flake. At this point, you can also add diced firm tofu, which holds its bold flavors like a sponge and makes it tasty enough to convert even the staunchest carnivores.

The crowning grace of this recipe is the peanut butter. Along with the handfuls of spinach you stir in toward the end, it makes the soup irresistibly creamy and delectably nutty. If this sounds strange, just think about how well a garnish of chopped peanuts finishes off pad thai. The savory, salty notes of the peanut butter act like a maestro, tying everything else together into an orchestra of flavors.

This is also a perfect make-ahead dish since any leftovers will only get better as they sit. So dust off your biggest pot, crank up the stove and get simmerin’.

To make the Wilona African Peanut Soup:

1. Dust off your biggest pot, crank up the stove and get simmerin’.

2. In a soup pot on medium heat, warm the oil. Add the onions and salt, cover and cook until soft, about 10 minutes. Stir in the ginger and garlic and cook covered, stirring occasionally, for 5 more minutes.

3. Add the bell pepper, crushed pepper flakes and pineapple. Cook covered for 5 minutes, then add the water and tofu. Bring to a simmer, then reduce the heat, cover and cook for 15 minutes so flavors blend and peppers soften.

4. Stir in the peanut butter before adding the spinach handfuls at a time. When the greens have wilted, stir in the cilantro and season with salt and red pepper flakes to taste.

Meredith’s recipe: African peanut soup with greens and pineapple

John May
Columnist

Hello everyone! First-time writer, occasional reader here. It’s so weird to be finally writing for The Anchor. Back when I was a freshman I had every intention in the world of writing for The Anchor, starting on the football team and generally being the big man on campus—just doing everything I could. Fast forward to now, and lots of things have happened: I hurt my shoulder and stopped playing football (I wasn’t great anyway), I joined Greek Life (Phi Sigma Kappa — Tau Septon), I started cheerleading (Go Dutchmen!) and I really started to dislike Hope College.

“RECORD SCRATCH”

Did I just say that? Yes, I did. Don’t get me wrong, I’m going to value the degree I have from Hope, it’s a great school, and great people work here and attend here. But Hope as a whole just rubs me the wrong way.

Many of the minority students live in one dorm building, I don’t see acceptance of homosexuals, the local fraternity culture is one hazing and irresponsibility (although it’s finally beginning to change for the positive) and we pride ourselves in our uniqueness which isn’t exactly unique. I’m talking to you @ OnlyatHope—finding a hotdog between LJ’s and JP’s, and the cycle continues.

One thing that I am remarkably hopeful for is our new president. He’s not one of us. He’s smarter. He’s Presbyterian. He was never a Frater, and he had no idea what a “Frater” was before he came here—not to say anything bad about the men of Fraternal. It is my sincere hope that President Knapp comes into his new position like Pope Francis (who is the leader of the church that 17 percent of the student body follows), ready to right the wrongs using the best methods of all—common sense and empathy for all people. President Knapp, be a breath of fresh air in this Dutch oven named Holland.

Critical thinking

Anchor of Hope… Or a dead weight holding back progress?

Anchor of Hope

Our Mission: The Anchor strives to communicate campus events throughout Hope College and the Holland community. We hope to amplify awareness and promote dialogue through fair, objective journalism and a vibrant Voices section.

Disclaimer: The Anchor is a product of student effort and is funded through the Hope College Student Activities Fund. The opinions expressed on the Voices page are solely those of the author and do not represent the views of The Anchor. One-year subscriptions to The Anchor are available for $40. The Anchor reserves the right to accept or reject any advertising.

Letter Guidelines: The Anchor welcomes all letters. The staff reserves the right to edit due to space constraints, personal attacks or other editorial considerations. A representative sample will be taken. No anonymous letters will be printed unless the author indicates in writing by 5 p.m. Monday, prior to Wednesday distribution.

Contact Information: To submit an ad or a classified, or to request a brochure or other information, contact our Ad Representative at anchore@hope.edu.

To contact our office, call our office at (616) 300-7877.
Ballet club to present ‘The Nutcracker Suite’

Hope College’s Ballet Club will present their own rendition of a holiday favorite, “The Nutcracker Suite” on Friday, Dec. 7 and Saturday, Dec. 8 at the Knickerbocker Theatre in downtown Holland at 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome and admission is free. Tickets opened to the general public on Monday, Nov. 11.

Set to music by Tchaikovsky, the accompanying choreography and beautiful dancing is sure to take you to a magical winter wonderland.

The directors of Ballet Club’s “The Nutcracker Suite,” Sarah Lowry, Christina Sarosek and Christine Hunter, note that the performance is a collaboration of several choreographers, each bringing their own varied histories to this beloved holiday ballet.

The directors state: “The enthusiasm we’ve been met with this year from dancers, choreographers, students, and community members has been overwhelming in the best of ways. We feel so blessed to be able to be a part of this well-loved tradition and to kick off the Holiday season with dance and fun!”

The Hope College Ballet Club is a student organization dedicated to exploring the spirit of ballet, increasing its members’ technical efficiency through classical ballet and considering the role that ballet plays in today’s dance world through experiencing contemporary and original works rooted in ballet.

For more insight into the beautiful life and teaching career of Dr. Gisela Strand, take a look at the April and December 1987 issues of “News from Hope College.”

Now we, the Hope community, are left to repeat what was said in 2001 with Strand’s retirement after a long and fruitful 32 years spent dedicating her time and energy to Hope’s students and fellow faculty members: Goodbye, Dr. Strand. You will be missed.

Hope College sailing club annual regatta

Men’s soccer takes MIAA tourney crown

CALL THEM CHAMPIONS— Grant Neil (’14) competes for a header on Thursday in Hope’s 2-0 win over Olivet in an MIAA Tournament semifinal matchup. The victory advanced the Dutchmen to the championship game against Calvin on Saturday in Grand Rapids. Hope proceeded to defeat the Knights in a penalty-kick shootout that occurred after the two teams went scoreless in the first and second overtimes. The Dutchmen (16-4-2) claimed the MIAA Tournament, and they now prepare for the NCAA Tournament. Hope’s first-round matchup will be Wisconsin-Oshkosh on Friday at Wartburg (Iowa).

Hope says goodbye to former German professor Gisela Strand

Strand was also the author of several published papers and made numerous presentations at professional conferences and workshops.

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You’re invited to this year’s Christian Speaker Series

Sunday, November 17, 2013 @ 8pm
Gathering Service @ Dimnent Memorial Chapel

Join us as Libby Little shares about her many experiences of God’s grace while serving in Afghanistan, and about her passion for God’s call to serve in the world.

Libby Little

Do not be overcome with evil, but overcome evil with good.
–Romans 12:21

interserveusa.org

For additional information see grow.hope.edu
Casey Rutledge
Guest Writer

With a regional home-court advantage and an MIAA Tournament Championship on the line, the much-anticipated rivalry rubber match between Hope College and the Knights of Calvin College proved to live up to all the hype, and then some. Head coach Becky Schmidt and the Flying Dutch came in as one of the hottest teams in the nation (backing up their No. 1 national ranking) with a 16-game winning streak on the line.


For the Flying Dutch, it was Lauren Hazekamp (16) leading the way in assists and setting. Hazekamp also recorded 17 digs. Jenna Grassmeyer (15) topped the charts in kills with a match-high 21, while Courtney Earles (14) and Anna Lynch (15) each contributed 10 kills.

“It was a great battle between two amazing teams, and it’s no mistake that we met in the championship,” libero Allie Mitchell (16) said. “When it goes a fifth set, it’s really anybody’s game, and we just came up a little short.”

“I don’t think this loss is going to hold us back at all, we’ve shown what we’re capable of. We’re going to be ready to get back in the gym and focus on the next one.”

What appeared to be an Achilles’ heel for the Dutch was their unforced errors. Service errors and failed attempts to put big points away kept Hope from sustaining big runs and a lead late in the match.

Hope went on an opening run of their own in the fifth set, taking what seemed to be a championship-clinching 6-1 lead as the Hope faithful erupted in support.

But it was Calvin who stormed back, rattling off an 11-2 run of their own to take a 12-8 lead.

Calvin was able to carry over momentum to the end, with a 15-12 victory capturing the MIAA Tournament Championship and an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

“Last night’s game proved that volleyball is a game of momentum,” Hazekamp said. “Unfortunately we couldn’t defend their run at the end.”

Despite not winning the conference tournament, Hope (29-2) received an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament. And it won’t take much to motivate this team, as nationals are to be held at DeVos Fieldhouse on Nov. 21-23.

Hope was selected to play this Thursday vs. Webster (Mo.) at Elmhurst (Ill.) at 1:30 p.m. in a first-round matchup.

Don’t be surprised if you see Hope and Calvin meet for a fourth time this season at the end of their magical quests in the NCAA DIII National Championship Game and in what would surely be another white-knuckled, pandemic showdown for the ages featuring one of the nation’s most heated rivalries.

Furthermore, the Dutch will have some very valuable players to replace as seven seniors are headed for the next level. Coach Leigh Sears’ Dutch will definitely build on this as they move forward into next season.
Men’s soccer wins MIAA Tournament

Nicole Motzler
Guest Writer

Hope’s men’s soccer team defeated both Olivet and Calvin to take home the MIAA Tournament Championship last weekend. Hope hosted Olivet on Thursday for the semifinal game and traveled to Calvin on Saturday for the final.

The snowy weather was not enough to hold back the Dutchmen from beating Olivet 2-0 on Thursday at Van Andel Soccer Stadium. The first half saw 19 shots from both teams combined. Hope had five shots before being able to put one on the scoreboard. In the 33rd minute, Josh Hagene (‘17) scored the first goal of the night from 12 yards out. Tarwo Konbloa (‘15) had the assist. It was Hagene’s sixth goal and Konbloa’s fourth assist of the season. No goals were scored in the second half.

Three minutes into the second half, Matthew VanZyveld (‘14) struck a hard shot from the point. The unassisted goal off a cross-ice pass from O’Brien (‘15) and Max Deloof (‘14) recorded the second shot before Hope could secure its win with a second and final goal from Cameron Dice (‘15) in the 86th minute. The unassisted goal flew past Olivet’s goalie, making it the sixth time Dice had scored this season. With the score at 2-0, Olivet had no chance of recovering in the last minutes of play.

Goalie Ethan Beswick (‘16) made seven saves throughout the game. This was his sixth shutout of the season. BEing a goalkeeper, there are certain times when you feel like the pressure is on to make a big save, but you can’t focus on that,” Beswick said. “As far as shotstoppers go, I try to focus on each shot individually, because that’s all you can really do.”

Given the amount of hype surrounding the championship game, Beswick said, it did not disappoint. Some doubted the ability of the Dutchmen because of their game at Calvin earlier this season that ended in a 2-1 defeat. The Dutchmen came back fighting and took down the Knights in a penalty shootout on Saturday.

Both teams had one goal apiece before going into two periods of overtime. Without either team could produce a goal, the game went into a shootout. The first half ended without a change in score. Dice came up with the first goal in the 58th minute, chipping the ball off the crossbar. The unassisted shot took Dice’s goal count up to six for the season. Calvin came back just five minutes later in the 63rd minute to level the score.

The second half ended in a 1-1 draw. Neither team could make a definitive goal, so the game went into penalty kicks.

The pressure was on for both MIAA finalists as the shootout began. Muller was the first to step up. His attempt was successful. Calvin’s first shot-taker missed his attempt. Hope was able to slot four straight penalty kicks past Calvin’s goalie before missing one. Both Calvin and Hope made their next shots. All eyes were on Beswick as Calvin stepped up to take another shot. Beswick stopped the attempt and the shootout had been won 5-4 in Hope’s favor.

Beswick finished the game with seven saves. Muller and Konbloa had the most shots at four each.

“I think I speak for the whole team when I say that we had something special from the beginning of the year,” Beswick said. “Obviously, like any team we have had a couple of hiccups in our year, but I truly think these have helped us grow as a team, and find out what we are really capable of.”

Hope earned a berth into the NCAA Division III Tournament. This will be the 11th time the Dutchmen have made the NCAA Tournament under head coach Steve Smith. Hope will face Wisconsin-Oshkosh (15-1-4) on Friday at Wartburg (Iowa). “It was great to win a conference championship on Calvin’s home field,” Beswick said. “We, as a team, were very excited to get back out there after we were embarrassed 5-1 early in the season. But as far as the NCAA Tournament, we are extremely excited to keep our season alive and to have the opportunity to represent Hope on the national stage.”

Steven Skawski
Guest Writer

The Flying Dutchmen traveled to Lansing to take on the Lansing Community College (LCC) Stars at the Summit Sports and Ice Complex. Eric Lippon (‘16) started in net for Hope, who was plagued with injuries from Austin Bremer (‘15), Joe Pappas (‘15) and Zach Schaap (‘17). LCC was also reeling from the absence of several notable players, resulting in a very short bench for the Stars.

Hope won the opening faceoff and never looked back. Lansing simply could not keep up with the Dutchmen’s relentless forecheck.

In fact, icings represented the only times that LCC was able to clear the puck—until Jared Lehman (‘15) buried a shot four minutes into the contest, 1-0 Hope. The Stars’ trendy literally stood on his head for the remainder of the period as he turned away shot after shot. The exception occurred when Kyle Wollet (‘14) and Drew O’Brien (‘15) found themselves away from an Olivet defender in Thursday’s semifinal game. The Stars’ tendy he turned away shot after shot.

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Wollet leads stampede over LCC

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Guest Writer

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Dear Reader,

This week, Hope will be hosting critically-acclaimed poet Patricia Smith, four-time champion of the National Poetry Slam. In honor of this event, I'd like to shed some light on the inciting art of slam poetry. Regardless of whether you write a poem a day or you'd like to see poetry slammed in its metaphorical face, I hope you'll hang with me. The following information is borrowed from a book called *Poetry for Dummies* by By The Poetry Center and John Timpane, and I believe it does a great job capturing the loud, proud, crowd-inciting nature of slam poetry. I've also included a snapshot of Smith's poetry, for your reading pleasure. Enjoy!

Cheers,

Lindsay Timmerman, Features Editor

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**What is Slam Poetry?**

This week, Hope will be hosting critically-acclaimed poet Patricia Smith, four-time champion of the National Poetry Slam. In honor of this event, I'd like to shed some light on the inciting art of slam poetry. Regardless of whether you write a poem a day or you'd like to see poetry slammed in its metaphorical face, I hope you'll hang with me. The following information is borrowed from a book called *Poetry for Dummies* by By The Poetry Center and John Timpane, and I believe it does a great job capturing the loud, proud, crowd-inciting nature of slam poetry. I've also included a snapshot of Smith's poetry, for your reading pleasure. Enjoy!

**What to Expect at a Poetry Slam**

*From Poetry for Dummies by The Poetry Center and John Timpane (2001)*

“Poetry slams are a form of poetry reading that are not for the faint of heart. Poetry slams are, most commonly, competitive readings at which audience reaction, or the reaction of a panel of judges, decides who “wins.” A certain kind of poet, and a certain kind of poetry, goes over well at slams. Self-indulgence is expected. Performers will do just about anything in a poem (or a performance) to win the audience... The kind of poetry that wins very often has:

- Striking, often outrageous or violent stories with interesting characters.
- A strong, assertive first-person narrator (an I).
- Immediately striking language — often ribald, vulgar, hip, or slang.
- Lots of jokes and other humor.
- Constant allusions to contemporary popular culture (movies, TV, music), social history, politics, and poetry.
- An ending that leaves the audience with a concluding shock or joke.

Slams are slams. If you’re going to get up in front of the crowd to read your poetry, you have to:

- Like the rough-and-tumble of it, the theater, the zaniness.
- Embrace the need to be a real actor, a ham if necessary.
- Grow the triple-thick, titanium-coated rhinoceros skin you’re going to need if response to your work is less than, um, wonderful.
- Learn to be a good sport, to congratulate your conquerors, to be gracious and full of good humor if an audience or panel lets you have it. Conversely, if you win, you should be just as gracious.
- Promise yourself you won’t go to only one slam. Experience is everything, especially in this world halfway between fine arts and the World Wrestling Federation. Become part of the regular audience, get to know the poets and their entourages, and enjoy yourself!”

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**Want to Get Up Close and Personal with an Award-Winning Slam Poet?**

Patricia Smith will be hosted by the Jack Ridl Visiting Writers Series (JRVWS) on Thursday, Nov. 14.

Smith will hold a Q&A session at 3:30 p.m. in Fried-Hemenway Auditorium (Martha Miller Room 111)

Her reading will take place at 7 p.m. in the Knickerbocker Theatre.

To learn more about the JRVWS and the events they host, check out jrvws.org.

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**For More about Slam Poetry, Visit:**

The National Poetry Competition’s website: nps2013.poetryslam.com

Poetry Slam, Inc. website: poetryslam.com

You should also visit Patricia Smith’s website: www.wordwoman.ws

I’d also recommend searching “Patricia Smith” and “Slam Poetry” on youtube.com!

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**Hip-Hop Ghazal**

*by Patricia Smith*

Gotta love us brown girls, munching on fat, swinging blue hips,
decked out in shells and splashes, Lawdie, bringing them woo hips.

As the jukebox teases, watch my sistas throat the heartbeat, inhaling bassline, cracking backbone and singing thru hips.

Like something boneless, we glide silent, seeping ‘tween floorboards, wrapping around the hims, and ooh wee, clinging like glue hips.

Engines grinding, rotating, smokin’, gotta pull back some. Natural minds are lost at the mere sight of ringing true hips.

Gotta love us girls, just struttin’ down Manhattan streets killing the menfolk with a dose of that stinging view. Hips.

Crying ‘bout getting old—Patricia, you need to get up off what God gave you. Say a prayer and start slinging. Cue hips.

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**Photo Courtesy of the Jack Ridl Visiting Writers Series**

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