8-29-2012

The Anchor, Volume 126.01: August 29, 2012

Hope College

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Bultman is back, eager for school year

Hope College President, James Bultman, postpones retirement as presidential search continues

Claire Call and Brooke McDonald
Cowan News Co-Editors

Hope College President James Bultman spent his summer busily flying around to London, Liverpool, Japan, and New York. None of these trips, however, were vacations. After agreeing to put off his retirement and return to his position as Hope’s president for one final school year, Bultman and his wife, Marty, have been hard at work preparing for this 2012-2013 school year and the arrival of the class of 2016.

"I would say that my summer schedule was probably even busier this year than it has been before," said Bultman. But being busy does not take away from Bultman’s enthusiasm. "We’re just as excited as we’ve been for the other 13 years at Hope... we’re eager for this year, no matter when retirement parties, we can just get on with the important stuff."

Arrival of the class of 2016.

"Hope has a fairly strong effort right now to get involved with integrated marketing... an attempt to coordinate all promotional efforts. The first big item in this was the upgrading of our website.

"And then a third goal of mine will be to complete the capital campaign, A Greater Hope. We’re at about 153 of 175 million dollar goal, we have work to do there. We’re very hopeful, we can get it finished by June 30 next year."

In spite of the fact that he will no longer be president to oversee many of Hope’s other upcoming building projects, Bultman has great interest in fundraising and planning for them. Among the projects are an additional engineering wing in VanderWerf, an art museum, a new concert hall and music facility, the new Student Center, the Lincoln apartments, and a renovation of Phelps cafeteria, all of which should be completed next year.

Some of Bultman’s other goals for the year include marketing and continuing to collect capital for the building projects which will soon change the look of Hope’s campus. "Hope has a fairly strong effort right now to get involved with integrated marketing... an attempt to coordinate all promotional efforts. The first big item in this was the upgrading of our website."

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Freshmen successfully housed

Claire Call and Brooke McDonald
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When the number of enrolled students exceeds a college’s space to house them, colleges typically don’t ask new students to add a tent to their packing list. In a talk with orientation staff, Kristen Gray of Counseling and Psychological Services joked that Hope College could offer the “9,000” incoming freshmen a “Pine Grove Wilderness Experience,” complete with hammocks, and a yurt when it starts snowing.

She said that her suggestion to the housing staff was not well received.

The class of 2016 proved a challenge to house, considering the 956 freshmen students who needed a housing assignment make up a record-sized incoming class.

One legitimate idea the administration had early in the summer was to put some house trailers on vacant lots to house students. But the administration “really didn’t want to do that,” said Hope President James Bultman.

Freshmen successfully housed

Claire Call and Brooke McDonald
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Ann Weber’s “Beauty, Joy, and Wonder” fuses cardboard and art.
**Bultman stays for another year**

*From page 1 on or before 2015*

One thing not on Bultman’s to-do list for the year is the search for his successor. As current president, he is not involved in the search, though he did talk to the committee about issues he considers to be particularly important on Hope’s campus.

Bultman’s willingness to return as president may have eliminated any immediate panic, but Hope still must find a new president for the 2013-2014 school year. The presidential search committee is still in place.

“I think there will be some candidates from the last search who will still remain interested,” Bultman said.

**Housing crisis solved just in time**

*From page 1*

Making the new units move-in ready required Residential Life and Housing to hire extra PAs, as well as to furnish the dorm stairs.

John Jobson, Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Residential Life and Housing, said solving the housing dilemma was a “campus-wide effort” that wasn’t solved “until the students were arriving.”

In future years, Jobson said that ReLife plans to take cottages that are a “physically calmer lower than we’re comfortable with and take them offline.” Jobson said this will not happen for a few years.

Construction work on the Tom and Ryan Cook Village on Lincoln Avenue is also part of long-term plans to provide better housing for upperclassmen and lower the cost of maintaining existing cottages. Greg Maybury, Physical Plant Director, said plans for the apartment complex originated five years ago, and that the college plans to build more apartments for upperclassmen “as the need arises.”

Bultman gave high compliments to Richard Frost, Dean of Students, and his staff for their management of the housing situation this summer. Jobson said he wished to especially thank students who chose to be relocated for their flexibility and patience. “It made our lives a whole lot easier.”

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**Ceasar’s Pizza**

MONDAY - FRIDAY * 11 AM - 2 PM
MONDAY - FRIDAY * 3 - 6 PM
LUNCH MADNESS (And Mondays, too!)
KITCHEN OPEN UNTIL 2 AM
GOP leaders strand Akin for “legitimate rape” blunder

Wesley Riehl
World News Co-Editor

Until this past week, Representative Todd Akin was relatively unknown beyond his socially conservative 2nd Congressional district of Missouri. The 65-year-old, a six-term congressman brought a tidal wave of media attention last Sunday after his explosive remarks that victims of “legitimate rape” rarely get pregnant.

In an interview on a local St. Louis television station, Akin stated, “If it’s a legitimate rape, the female body has ways to try to shut that whole thing down. But let’s assume that maybe didn’t work or something. I think there should be some punishment, but the punishment ought to be of the rapist, and not attacking the child.”

Akin was quick to apologize for his remarks, but the damage had been done. Democrats from both chambers were quick to condemn his remarks, including the Obama administration. “The views expressed were offensive. Rape is rape,” responded the president in a press briefing on Monday. “[They] certainly doesn’t make sense to me.”

The Romney campaign and many other GOP leaders were not far behind. The Romney team has done its best to steer overemphasized social issues in its campaign, instead focusing on the economy and critiquing the President’s heavy-handed approach to welfare programs and government bailouts.

Paul Ryan, the vice-president nominee for the Republican Party, in an attempt to mitigate the effects of these comments on the larger conservative voting base nationwide, made a personal telephone call to Akin calling for the Congressman to step down from the Missouri Senate race. Sarah Palin also condemned the remarks, calling to Akin’s comments as “totally inexcusable.”

Akin has set himself apart during his 23 years in Congress as one who will not compromise on his moral beliefs. As Saint Louis University political science professor Ken Warren told Fox News last Wednesday, “The best you can say for Todd is that he’s a very principled guy. He believes what he believes, and he’s trying to comply with those principles just to be in the mainstream.” Although Akin remains an honorable, distinguished congressman, he may jeopardize the Republican’s chances for control of the Senate nonetheless.

“Chemical weapon an excuse”

China accuses U.S. of making excuses for Syrian intervention

Shubham Sapkal
World News Co-Editor

It has been more than a year since the Arab uprisings began and while most of them have subsided or completely diminished, the revolution in Syria is still escalating with world powers like the United States and China taking opposite sides in the crisis.

Soon after President Obama issued a statement noting that a military intervention by the United States will be inevitable if chemical weapons are used in Syria, the Chinese government bluntly labeled it as an excuse.

The Chinese government, much like the Russians, has warned the West against any military intervention in Syria. They have for a long time made it clear that military intervention by the West would make the conflict much bloodier; the Chinese and Russian government have noted that the conflict in Syria is to be resolved by the people of Syria, not outside powers.

President Obama made his stance pretty clear when he addressed the issue and stated, “There would be enormous consequences if we start seeing movement on the chemical weapons front or the use of chemical weapons.”

The Chinese government noted this statement to be “dangerously irresponsible” and the Russian government noted that a military intervention would lead to a vicious civil war in response to President Obama.

Both Russia and China have condemned the United States for calling for a cessation of foreign crusades and that “foreign crusades” are not the answer to subdue the conflicts that are rising in the Middle East. They have stressed that a ceasefire and U.N. led mediation is the best possible way to deal with the trouble in Syria.

In the midst of what is going on in Syria, the United States has repeatedly asked the Russian and Chinese governments to negotiate with Syria’s government. Regardless of all its aid, Russia and China show their unswerving support to the current Syrian government in centralizing the West of creating excuses to enter Syria.

The conflict of opinion between the world powers has elongated any sort of mediation in Syria; several Security Council resolutions aimed at Syria and it looks as if the international community is powerless to help Syria. The question of whether Syria is actually planning on using chemical weapons or not will only get answered if they actually open them.

Even though the United States claim that they are certain of the existance of chemical weapons in Syria, the international community, especially China and Russia, will make sure that no military intervention is implemented unless and until there is concrete evidence.

DON’T LOOK BACK NOW— A Syrian rebel fighter wields his weapon of choice as he walks towards Idlib, Syria, moments before clashing with government troops.

Mitt Romney: Energy independence by 2020

Plan would lessen federal oversight and expand domestic production

Wesley Riehl
World News Co-Editor

Presumptive GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney unveiled his plan for American energy last Thursday, speaking to a supportive crowd in Hobbs, New Mexico, pledging lower consumer prices, increased private sector growth, and an all-out domestic strategy to expand American energy independence by 2020. The simplified six-point plan generated heavy praise from industry officials and distinct concern from environmental activists and the Obama administration.

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The Obama campaign has criticized the plan heavily, citing that it favors dirty, unsustainable fossil fuels instead of new, clean-energy industries. “Romney wants to keep giving billions of dollars in tax subsidies to the big oil and gas companies and recklessly open new areas for drilling, but turn our backs on increasing energy efficiency and developing our clean, homegrown energy sources. That’s not a recipe for energy independence,” said Larry Smith, an Obama campaign spokeswoman.

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Let’s talk about the big picture—Congressman Akin meets with community leaders in the St. Charles area.

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Webber's beauty, joy, and wonder

Californian sculptor brings unique cardboard artwork pieces to DePree Art Gallery

Irina Cruz
Art Co-Editor

As the students of Hope College return to campus and prepare for the new school year, DePree Art Center prepares to display one of its most unique exhibits ever. Ann Weber's "Beauty, Joy and Wonder" is an exhibit that features sculptures made entirely out of cardboard boxes. The exhibit will be open through Sept. 28, and "The Anchor" has the exclusive opportunity to speak with Professor Anne Heath Wiersma of the Art Department, who shared valuable information about Ann Weber and her highly anticipated exhibit.

The exhibit marks Ann Weber's temporary return to the Midwest, in which she grew up, as she now lives in California. According to Heath Wiersma, Weber will stop at Hope College before she travels to Rome, Italy, where she will exhibit more of her pieces. During her time at Hope College, Weber will also give a demo in sculpture to Hope College students on Sept. 14 at 1 p.m. in DePree. The Hope College community is fortunate to have "Weber's niece as a student, as she suggested that Weber display her work at the school.

During the interview, Professor Heath walked around the monuments, commenting that the exhibit was different from other art she has seen in that these sculptures are a "bridge between high art and using materials that (are) not necessarily thought to be used for high art."

Heath Wiersma was intrigued by the idea that the sculptures are so big that "one can walk around [them]." She further explained, "These sculptures' scales are fun and different since the gallery doesn't usually display sculptures this big."

On her website, Weber shares that using cardboard boxes helps her contribute to a "world that not everything is what it seems. Heath Wiersma concur with Weber's attitude and sees her anecdotally through these art pieces. She explained, "When we see things that are big, we think heavy, big and permanent. But if you go and touch these sculptures you can see that [they] are lighter."

When asked about her favorite part of the exhibit, Professor Heath replied that she enjoyed the entire installation because "the DePree Art Gallery had never displayed something so strange and beautiful." Heath shared that one of her favorite pieces is "The Wedding Party." "The Wedding Party" is a seven-piece work, which can be seen in WEBER, PAGE 7

Discover summer 2012's buried musical treasures

Leigh Clouse
Art Co-Editor

Many popular radio stations engulled listeners in a tidal wave of Carly Rae Jepsen and Justin Bieber this summer, their songs of Carly Rae Jepsen and Justin Bieber this summer, their songs becoming the soundtracks of radio stations (besides handy-dandy public radio and niche stations). That is not to say these gems that stood out this past season didn't have ++

1. Jack White
Blunderbuss

If White Stripes fans were worried about the quality of Jack White's first solo album, Blunderbuss, those fears are on high. White brings back his tried and true garage-rock sound with songs like "Sixteen Salines" and "Freedom at 21," he also branches out stylistically with great results. A combination of blues, country, punk, and folk is present in "I'm Shakin'," "Hyp (Eponymous) Poor Boy" and the title track, and White's raw and charismatic voice perfectly complements each genre. Blunderbuss demonstrates that there is something for everyone.

Recommended Tracks: 
"Sixteen Salines," "Love Interruption"

2. Santigold
Master of My Make-Believe

Santigold (nee Santi White) has been producing music for several years (her first album came out in 2008), but her sophomore album Master of My Make-Believe shows that she is a master of her craft. Santigold's songs bring together a dance-worthy mix of African beats, dance rock and punk metal razer-sharp to her social commentary-infused lyrics. Santigold is at her spunkiest on "The Riot's Gone" and "The Keepers" and "The Keepers" are also biting with their wit.

Recommended Tracks: "Disparate Youth," "The Keepers"

3. Glen Hansard
Rhythm and Repose

Glen Hansard has struck out on his own with Will Become," "High Hope" and "The Keepers" are also worthy to put on repeat. "Predict a Graceful Expulsion, I Predict a Graceful Expulsion, a listen. Influenced by gospel music from the American Deep South, Cold Specks specializes in making soulful blues tunes that are minimalist in their set-up but rich in their intensity. Speaks voice is as sweet as honey, even on the most mellow tracks on the album such as "Winter Solstice," "Hellland" and "Heavy Hands." Her debut deserves its place in this summer's musical treasures list.

Recommended Tracks: 
"Have Gold, Once again with their latest studio album, Valtari. Lead vocalist Jonn's ethereal voice soars above the band's blend of guitar, piano, percussion and accompanying string instruments, transporting listeners to far-off dreamscapes. "Varial" is a slow burner that will bring up goose bumps while more mellow tracks like "Vardelius" and "Daulaglima" are also powerful and evocative.

Recommended Tracks: "Varial," "Vardelius"

3. Cold Specks
I Predict a Graceful Expulsion

Cold Specks, the stage name created by Canadian singer-songwriter Al Spx, describes her music as "doom soul." However, do not be intimidated when it comes to giving her debut, I Predict a Graceful Expulsion, a listen. Influenced by gospel music from the American Deep South, Cold Specks specializes in making soulful blues tunes that are minimalist in their set-up but rich in their intensity. Specks voice is as sweet as honey, even on the most mellow tracks on the album such as "Winter Solstice," "Hellland" and "Heavy Hands." Her debut deserves its place in this summer's musical treasures list.

Recommended Tracks: 
"The Anchor"
HELLO TO OUR NEW STAFF ADVISOR, ROEL GARCIA!

GET INVOLVED! WRITE FOR US!
Email anchor@hope.edu if you're interested or want more info.
That’s the way it is

Madalyn Muncy
Co Editor-in-Chief

Elena Rivera
Co Editor-in-Chief

You have become something unstoppable: a community

The start of a new school year always reminds us of why we chose Hope College, and all the things we love about it and what we are away from. Watching the freshmen move-in on Friday from our office window in Martha Miller brought back all the emotions and memories from our move-in day three years ago. There was so much shopping, moving in and orientation weekend that helped to introduce us to Hope’s community. Our O.A. groups, our dorm neighbors, our roommates—everywhere we looked there were welcoming, friendly people who wanted us to be a part of the larger community at Hope.

Community is a word that many use to describe Hope. Being inclusive and welcoming is something we do with pride. The endless array of strangers saying “hello” in passing or the reassuring smiles of passers-by in the Pine Grove are unique qualities that, on the surface, make Hope seem like a different place, a special place. There are so many things we do well as a community at Hope, but there are things we need to strengthen and cultivate. We need strong people with visions to continue reforming and reshaping this community into something that reflects who we are and what we stand for collectively.

Delving deeper into the Hope community requires action and commitment. It requires us all to make a conscious effort to participate in all our community has to offer. On a small scale, that means joining clubs and organizations that spark your passions and interests, or making the time to go to special events and lectures even though you might not know a lot about the subject. That means volunteering to participate in Images, or Dance Marathon, or Nykerds, or Pull, even if you’d rather be sleeping sometimes.

On a larger scale, that means letting your voice be heard on issues that are important to you. Do you think that Hope needs to bump up its environmental efforts? Start a group, sign a petition, and rally the troops to help make our efforts as a community better. If it doesn’t exist, create it. If it is being talked about, bring it up. If it needs to be updated or recreated or reintroduced, make it so. It’s not an easy task, but it’s an integral part of being a member of the Hope community.

The Anchor is an important part of this community. It’s our forum for sharing our ideas and opinions. It belongs to you, to all of us. So write a letter to the editor or send in a story idea or come be a part of our staff. There’s a way for everyone to get involved in let your voice be heard. This year, we want the newspaper to reflect who we are as Hope College. So where does that leave us? It’s a new year, a new semester, and we have yet to make our mark on campus. As seniors, what will our legacy be when we leave Hope in May to go off into our careers and houses down the street? As freshmen, what will define you this year and the next three years? What Hope and the Hope community look like is up to us.

Madalyn and I are going to tell you what they want, what they really, really want.

The Anchor

Scribbles

Alex Brennan
Voices Editor

An open invitation

Well, Hope College, it’s that time of year again. Holland will wake up to a few thousand extra people and professors will dust off their textbooks. The same thing happens every year, but this semester let’s think about starting off differently. Let’s start by telling people that they are awesome, sharing memories, and embracing friends we haven’t seen in months. It’s time to share our admiration publicly. And for the freshmen, it’s time to dare to be yourself. Let yourself get caught up in the excitement and make new friends.

Over the summer, I was introduced to a very intriguing idea. While most people have heard the phrase “pay it forward,” lesser known is the Blue Ribbon phenomenon. The idea is simple. Each person starts with three blue ribbons. They give each ribbon to one person that has made a difference or an impact in their life. The recipients then pass on their ribbons to someone else in an endless cycle of encouragement.

This isn’t just about having an opportunity to thank someone, it’s a chance to tell someone that you respect them. This is an opportunity to create a kinder, more caring world. This movement, if we let it, could spark and catch fire, spreading even beyond the confines of Hope’s campus. Take the time to consider where your ribbons will end up. Maybe a professor mentored you, someone that you respect, or a classmate offered you a smile when you most needed it. It could even be someone who you don’t know personally.

It doesn’t matter what your reasons are, just that you are able to communicate this to them; to receive the blue ribbon.

When I discovered this movement, I wondered who I would give my ribbons to. After some thought, I figured out exactly who would receive my three and why. One of them probably has no idea that she has affected my life in a significant way. We roommates freshman year, which was nerve-wracking, especially because I had never shared a room in my own life. Even though she was probably just as nervous as I was, she made me feel welcome in my own room. Her constant encouragement has stuck with me, even three years later. It’s the silly things that I remember; that made me laugh. She doesn’t know it, but her love for God and her faith have given me hope many times.

So Catlin Trice, expect a blue ribbon from me very shortly. This year I want people to know that they are appreciated; I want our campus to be alive with encouragement and compassion. My blue ribbons will soon have homes with Catlin and two of the other people that have impacted me. If you want to join the blue ribbon army, there will be ribbons for you to pick up outside the Anchor office in Martha Miller. This has the opportunity to thrive on campus. Join the party and pay it forward!

Alex likes pina coladas and getting caught in the rain.

Tunes to live by

Leigh Clouse
Arts Co-Editor

As we, Hope College students, make the slightly painful transition into fall and once again get used to all of the classes, exams, papers and general stressors that come with the territory, it is sometimes impossible to find a silver lining amid the general brouhaha of the day. It is at these times when it is most important to sit back and take a breath, to remind yourself that these difficulties shall pass. For me, slapping on a pair of headphones and listening to music is the perfect remedy for a case of academic melancholy. Here is my recipe for getting rid of the summer-into-fall blues. Stir the songs together into a lovely mix and enjoy.

Leigh’s like a bird, she only flies away. She has no home, we’ve lost her soul. Please contact the Anchor with information regarding its whereabouts.

Tunes to live by

Leigh Clouse
Arts Co-Editor

2012 FALL SEMESTER STAFF

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Wesley Rith
World News Co-Editor

Beefy enemies live in the heart and mind of every young man in the desire to make a name for himself, to be accepted by people, to feel that the goal of his life was to achieve greatness. The boy who spent the majority of his time in the fields was akin to pulling teeth (it was), but I was living on a farm. Growing up in the countryside was a lot like a manifest destiny of sorts. "Leave the small town behind and move on to bigger and better things!" As I put one foot in front of the other, I had to move on to something bigger and better. As I discovered, this advice involved me moving the simplicity of rural Southwestern Michigan to a far-off land, full of high-rise buildings, fast cars, and expensive restaurants with endless dessert buffets. This proverbial land of milk and honey could offer me wealth, success, and happiness. It sounded good to me!

Fast forward to January of 2012, and I did just that, finding myself on an airplane from South Bend to Washington, DC. As a Junior studying political science of all things, the next logical step (or so they told me) took me to the nation's capital. I suppose part of my motivation stems from the childhood notion of success that my father had. One day I was to place myself into a front porch to call my own. The other half might be a part of me that needs to really see what the world has to offer, almost to discover and conquer, and DC looked like a good place to try that out. To be sure, my time in Washington has been a period of so many, many years. I'm truly confident that the experiences I've gained there were not only unique, but will serve me well in the future. It's probably a good thing I left the state I felt so comfortable with. It's probably a good thing I left the state.

The more I thought about it, the more I wondered why I had put myself into this atmosphere, voluntarily. What was my motive? After spending four years at the University of South Bend, I left in haste or go in flight; for I knew my mutual colleagues, talks about the GOP nomination, the inefficiencies of the federal bureaucracy, and the irrelevance of our economic theory when applied to real life situations.

I discovered a bit more about God's control over our lives. He has control over our past, over our future, and over most of all, your life. He will go before you, be your rear guard; He will lead you. Every job is a step up, every experience another weapon in the arsenal. The question is: to what end? I found myself wondering: What should I major in? Am I going to get into graduate school? Is this really the place God wants me to be? These questions contribute to the uncertainty of this time period. At the same time, though, this column is for the Senior who can't believe that the 4 years are nearly over, who also doesn't know what to do with his or her life. You've been immersed in this atmosphere for four years, if not more, of your life. Instead of coming to a decision, this inquiry caused me to start questioning what lies beyond my senior year of college. I have no job lined up, no internship, and I am still not sure whether I should pursue a career above the level of the senior described above.

Here I was, a 21-year-old student spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on my education and then doing hundreds of hours of community service internationally. One might wonder if what have I gained? I suppose part of my motivation stems from the childhood notion of success that my father had. One day I was to place myself into a front porch to call my own. The other half might be a part of me that needs to really see what the world has to offer, almost to discover and conquer, and DC looked like a good place to try that out. To be sure, my time in Washington has been a period of so many, many years. I'm truly confident that the experiences I've gained there were not only unique, but will serve me well in the future. It's probably a good thing I left the state I felt so comfortable with. It's probably a good thing I left the state. The more I thought about it, the more I wondered why I had put myself into this atmosphere, voluntarily. What was my motive? After spending four years at the University of South Bend, I left in haste or go in flight; for I knew my mutual colleagues, talks about the GOP nomination, the inefficiencies of the federal bureaucracy, and the irrelevance of our economic theory when applied to real life situations.

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New tennis complex and improved football stadium ready for play

Madalyn Muncy
Correspondent

This academic year, Hope College, along with the Holland community, welcomes a new tennis facility and a vastly improved football stadium. The VanDool Tennis Center, the six-court indoor facility where the Hope tennis teams and tennis academy were previously housed, underwent a much-needed facelift.

Boasting 12 courts and elevated seating, the $2.159 million facility is named after Earle Vande Poel (’35) and George Heeringa (’36), who were doubles partners at Hope during the 1930s.

The courts provide an excellent venue for tournaments and compliment the DeWitt Tennis Center, the six-court outdoor facility where the Hope tennis teams and tennis academy were previously housed. According to Greg Maybury, director of Hope’s physical plant, the college consulted various other facilities across the country in order to find a design that worked best for the college.

“The facility is functional for both collegiate and summer tennis. Compared to even Division I and II schools, the facility is top notch,” said Maybury about the new courts.

The facility was used this summer by the Hope College Tennis Academy, which was attended by 450 players spanning kindergarten through 12th grade. Hope tennis players are eager to start practicing on the courts themselves.

Leah LaBarge (’13) has been on the courts throughout the summer and believes that they bring a new dimension to Hope tennis.

“It’s important to have an outdoor facility because a lot of our key matches are outdoors. We need to be able to compete against the elements, taking our game to the next level,” said LaBarge.

The courts will be available for public use between programs. A dedication is planned for Saturday, Sept. 22.

While tennis season isn’t until spring, football season is just around the corner and the Holland Municipal Stadium received its various improvements just in time.

Most notably, an artificial turf field and upgraded Musco lights have been installed in order to provide a better playing experience. Not visible to the naked eye, in order to properly install the new turf, the underground of the field was completely redone as well.

Crews began work on the stadium after classes ended at the college. Work was completed in August in time for football practices to begin.

The college decided to attempt to acquire the stadium over a year ago. According to Maybury, despite the change of ownership, Holland Public Schools will have access to the stadium free of charge.

“The city has agreed to tell the stadium and the sale was officially approved by the council last Wednesday. However, there are a series of meetings that have to take place in order for Hope to take ownership. We are expecting to take official ownership in November,” said Maybury.

Besides new turf and lights, the stadium received other aesthetic upgrades, such as repainting the maroon parts of the stadium blue and the installation of a brick half wall around the perimeter.

“These changes are just the beginning of what is expected to be a series of on-going upgrades to the stadium as Hope takes on full ownership. Fans can enjoy the stadium for the first time on Community Day on Saturday at 1:30 p.m. when Hope plays North Park.

Senior soccer player pleased with pre-season, has high hopes

Elena Rivera
Co-Editor-in-Chief

This year the Hope College men’s soccer team is all about redemption. Unreasonably knocked out of the Elite 8 last season in a challenging match against Ohio Wesleyan, members of the team are focused on bringing home a national championship this year.

Sitting down with Jason Muller (’13), a senior midfielder player from Potsdam, and last season’s leading scorer, he discussed his goals for his final year on the team, the bonds he has formed with his teammates, and his own Hope journey.

Muller, a political science major who spent last spring studying off-campus in the Washington, D.C. honors semester, was initially attracted to Hope because of its soccer program, but he soon discovered that the college had more to offer than sports.

He found that he loved everything about Hope, from the people to the way he could live out his faith on campus. He formed strong bonds with his fellow soccer teammates. “It’s nice to have a group of guys to hang out with on and off the field,” he said.

While this year’s roster is short a couple of instrumental seniors, Muller is optimistic about the large group of freshmen that joined them for pre-season practices this past week.

He describes the pre-season atmosphere as very competitive this year, and saw a solid group of freshmen hopeful push themselves to their limits.

For Muller and the rest of the team, this year is all about improving performance and winning that national championship.

Muller thinks that winning a championship isn’t out of reach, and is a “pretty realistic” goal for the team that they have set up this season.

He knows his own freshman experience as a player was shaped by “coming in and playing behind seniors and stronger players” and learning from their technique and guidance.

Muller can see that same learning happened with freshmen on the team even in pre-season workouts.

“This past Saturday, Aug. 25 was the culmination of their pre-season training, the intersquad blue/orange scrimmage, an active way to start the season.”

Looking to the future, Muller would enjoy working in Washington, D.C. in the short-term, because of the abundance of opportunities there, but his heart really lies in Michigan.

This “midfield maestro” hopes to leave men’s soccer at Hope with a spotless reputation, and, with an incredible pre-season, it seems like he is on his way.

Last season the Dutchmen finished 7-5-4 overall and 10-3-1 in the MIAA. The 17 wins were the most tallied by the men’s soccer team since 2007.

The team kicks off their season against Depauw, Ind., on Friday, Aug. 31, and their first home game in Friday, Sept. 7 at 7 p.m. against Aurora, Ill., as part of the Bergema Memorial Tournament.

SET FOR ACTION— An aerial shot of Hope’s new 12-court tennis complex and gorgeous new Holland Municipal Stadium turf, Hope’s first game on the turf will be Saturday, Sept. 1.

FOOTBALL HAS FIRST SCRIMMAGE ON NEW TURF

The Flying Dutch took part in their annual intrasquad scrimmage on Saturday at Holland Municipal Stadium. It was the first action that the new synthetic turf experience and Hope football fans showed up to cheer on the athletes. Every player stepped on the field for a chance to impress and get a feeling of the improved facilities. Admission was free and 25-cent popcorn was being sold. The teams are chosen for the CMAC 5-3 season overall, including a 5-1 record in the MIAA. The first game of the 2012 season is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 1 at 1:30 p.m. against North Park at Holland Municipal, which is part of Community Day.

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

Saturday
Cross Country
Bill Vancordt Invitational at Ridgport Church at 10:30 a.m.
Football
vs. North Park at 1:30 p.m.

IN BRIEF
CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS RANKED REGIONALLY

The U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association released the national rankings for the NCAA Division III pre-season national poll, ranked 22nd. The Flying Dutch have made an appearance in the NCAA National Championships the past two seasons.

Both cross country teams have the first meet and will be on the Sept. 1 at Ridgport Church in Holland beginning at 10:30 a.m.

VOLLEYBALL RANKED HIGH NATIONALLY

The American Volleyball Coaches Association released their national rankings for the NCAA Division III poll and the Flying Dutch are ranked eighth overall. Hope is coming off a 25-7 season and an appearance in the NCAA Tournament, where they were eliminated by rival Calvin. Calvin has been ranked third in the nation in the pre-season poll.

Calvin and Hope are picked to finish one-two, respectively, in the pre-season MIAA poll.

Calvin won the conference last season while the Dutch finished second.

Hope will host the NCAA Division III national finals at DeVos Fieldhouse on Nov. 15-17.

The Flying Dutch’s first match is set for 31 at 11 a.m. against Mt. Union, Ohio.

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LOOKING TO THE FUTURE— Jason Muller (’13) recorded seven goals and eight assists in 2011. He scored the game-winning goal in the second round of the 2011 NCAA Tournament.