Hope swaps shuttle vans for bus

A diesel engine grinds its way down the asphalt, block after block. At each posted sign, brakes screech and squeal to a halt. A new vehicle has taken the Hope College campus by storm. It is the shuttle bus, rolling into town to replace the fleet of smaller shuttle vans that have previously carted Hope students from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Proudly striped with the college’s signature orange and blue, it can be seen (and heard) seven days a week tracing a carefully predetermined route around the main campus landmarks.

“The idea for a shuttle bus first came up in a discussion between the college’s transportation supervisor, Bill Marcus, and me about vehicle needs on campus,” said Greg Maybury. As director of operations, Maybury oversees several departments here at Hope, including the Transportation Department, which now runs the shuttle service. He explained several advantages that come with the bus.

“The new system provides a regular schedule for students to use when planning trips across campus,” Maybury said. The new bus has four video cameras providing more security for student riders and has radio communication with Campus Safety as it makes its scheduled rounds.

But the main reason for the switch is efficiency. “The on-demand system was not very fuel or driver efficient,” Maybury said.

Student reactions

The initial buzz within the student body seems to be that the new system will be a hassle by comparison. Rather than being driven immediately from point A to point B, passengers must bide time in their seats while the bus follows the prescribed path. For example, a trip from the Knickerbocker Theatre on 8th Street to a cottage on 14th Street would take perhaps 10 minutes by foot. The same bus ride, however, takes about 40 minutes, looping first up to the apartments on 16th Street and then down Fairbanks Avenue to stop at the Tennis Barn and the DeVos Fieldhouse.

“Some of the stops were at very, very random places,” said Megan Pitzer ( ’09).

After waiting half an hour one evening at the marked stop, Pitzer experienced the circuitous route described above.

“It would make sense during homecoming, for example, to have a stop by the football stadium. But in general, why would a girl be waiting out there at night?’”

Inconveniences aside, the question of safety comes to mind. This is the second complaint resounding on all sides: whereas they used to watch for the shuttle van from the window of whatever building they were in, students are now being asked to stand and wait on the sidewalk at night.

“I think it’s unsafe,” said Laura Malpass ( ’09), who has also taken the bus for a spin. “Even when people know the schedule, they still have to wait at the stop. If you have women standing out in the open, it’s just as bad as them walking alone. By the time the bus gets there . . .”

The question of efficiency

But, anyone who keeps abreast of the news (or fills up at the pump) is aware of the nation’s energy problems. Whether for environmental, financial or political reasons, most people agree today that fuel efficiency is a worthwhile goal.

If you have women standing out in the open, it’s just as bad as them walking alone.

—LAURA MALPASS

The question remains whether the new bus system is more fuel efficient than the old vans. To get some answers, I located the nearest bus stop and took my turn playing the waiting game. Before too many minutes had passed, the Gladiators women’s volleyball team swung into the arena, and some of them were in for a rude awakening.

This was the first breath of a reason, for a purpose we may still not be used to it. But it was going to be a tree that brought hope to the world, and this was the place to learn how.

Hope started turning into a home. It was not the same home I had left behind, but that didn’t mean it was any less important, or that I belonged any less. When a bunch of my cluster mates and I sat playing “Apples to Apples,” our first inside joke was born. It was like signing a contract, an irreversible decision, even though I didn’t realize it until later. No matter what the rest of my college experience was like, I had this moment. I had these friends.

This was the first breath of wind in my sails, and it got me started on my college adventure.

“Tryg” started talking about being “rooted in Hope.” He made me think about the trees he talked about, the ones planted by the water, growing strong, trees that bore fruit for the world. And then I realized that was who I wanted to be. Somehow, someway, I was going to be a tree that brought hope to the world, and this was the place to learn how.

Overwhelming. That’s the one word that describes orientation weekend. From the moment my parents’ loaded van pulled up to Dykstra Hall, I was swept into a whirlwind of information, adjustments and emotions.

One minute I was thrilled and excited to be at Hope and I felt like I really belonged, like at Playfair. The next, I just wanted to curl up alone and cry like when I was lying in bed at night. I felt like a marionette whose strings had just been cut off, all the ties to my old life, my old self, were gone. Nobody knew me. The girl I was going to be known as for the next four years, and maybe the rest of my life, was all up to me. And suddenly, I was unsure of WHO I wanted that girl to be.

Things started changing before too long, however. It started with the service in Chapel that first Sunday, when I started talking about being “rooted in Hope.” He made me think about the trees he talked about, the ones planted by the water, growing strong, trees that bore fruit for the world. And then I realized that was who I wanted to be. Somehow, someway, I was going to be a tree that brought hope to the world, and this was the place to learn how.

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This was the first breath of wind in my sails, and it got me started on my college adventure.

I know it won’t always be smooth sailing, but things back home weren’t, either. Adjusting to college may not have been like this for everyone. Some people got used to it so quickly they didn’t shed a single tear for what they left behind. Some people may still not be used to it. But it will get better. We’re all here for a reason, for a purpose we may not understand yet. But there is one. And that is why we are here at Hope.
### CAMPUS

**September 3, 2008**

**While you were out: Campus renovations**

Emilly West  
**CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR**

Spring semester, Hope College students received an email that addressed the cost of tuition for the upcoming academic year. The numbers brought the total tuition cost to $32,570. Room and board alone totaled $7,650. With full enrollment, over 3,000 students, some might wonder just how and where that money is spent.

Every year Hope budgets approximately $2.5 million for roofing, painting, furniture, equipment, plumbing, electrical, and safety issues, stated the Summer 2008 Presidential Update. A majority of these costly projects go largely unnoticed.

One project that the administration was most excited about was the renovation of Kollen Hall. Director of Operations Greg Maybury put the cost of the Kollen project at $900,000. Jim Brown of the Physical Plant said that the hall received many refurbished items along with new carpeting, ceramic tiling, vinyl flooring, bed frames, chairs, mattresses, lounge furniture, paint, windows near interior and exterior doors. Brown also noted a new electric fireplace.

“We want (Hope) to be a pleasant, exciting and vibrant place to live.” — Jim Brown

The new windows are energy efficient, which is part of the campus’ ongoing effort to be more environmentally friendly, said Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Residential Life and Housing, John Jobson.

Several study areas in Kollen were enhanced, including an addition of white marker boards to the new study places in the basement and a more comfortable arrangement in the library, according to Jobson.

“I encourage students to check out the space,” Jobson said.

Maybury said that major building projects are part of a strategic plan, a plan made by the Board of Directors as they look forward to the next 10-20 years.

“Last year brought in 9.5 million in requests and we were able to fund about $2.8 million,” he said. According to Maybury, there are times when a donor comes forward with a particular interest; such was the case with the $5.7 million Graves Hall Restoration project, according to a Hope press release.

Therefore, the restoration of Hope’s third oldest building does not take away from the budgeted capital.

With students continuing to bring refrigerators, computers, televisions and multiple other electricity-required devices, Scott, Wyckoff and Lichty residence halls received major electrical service to meeting the growing demands, Brown said.

Also, a federal mandate for the new T8 florescent lighting required Hope to remove the old fixtures and replace them with the new, more energy efficient lights in multiple residence halls, academic buildings and offices according to Brown.

“(Students pay a lot of money to go here) and “we want to be good stewards with that money,” Brown said.

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**Hope students continue tradition of community service**

On Saturday, Aug, 30 over 375 Hope College students participated in “Time to Serve,” a volunteer effort catering to approximately 40 sites around the Holland/Zeeland area. It is designed to help new students get involved in the community and work with their fellow classmates. Hope’s Volunteer Services heads the annual event that began in 2000 with only 100 participants and has grown to three times that size. In 2001, the event earned a Distinguished Service Award from Keep America Beautiful, Inc.

**New shuttle bus system in place at Hope**

• **BUS, from page 1**

long, the bus rolled into view, and I stopped on to talk with bus driver Tom Dunkelberger. He was happy to offer some information as we rumbled around the campus streets.

Dunkelberger estimated that the bus gets six miles per gallon. Taking the same cycle repeatedly would use about as much fuel as the bus operating alone—though that fuel would be gasoline, which is cheaper per gallon than diesel. In that sense two vans would be cheaper to run than one, but covering twice the distance.

To accurately analyze the relative fuel efficiency of the bus over van, further statistics would be necessary, involving the actual number of gallons of fuel consumed per week by the shuttle vans (whose numbers vary nightly according to the fluctuating demand that week). One assumes that those who worked on reformulating the shuttle system had sufficient data to reach a conclusion.

In the meantime, Pitzer went on to suggest an alternative idea, in effect a compromise between systems that would appear to maximize fuel efficiency while taking a step towards satisfying the student body.

“I think having a single route is an efficient way to run the shuttle system,” Pitzer said. “But I would prefer if they kept the smaller vans and had one driver, running the route in place of the bus. ‘That way the wait wouldn’t be so long.’” Two vans tracing the same route as the bus would consume the same amount of fuel, have a large passenger capacity, and shorten the wait time at each stop by doubling the frequency. Furthermore, on days with lower demand for the shuttle, Hope may need to run in place of two, a set-up that would maintain the current route frequency but double the fuel efficiency.

“The system may be a work in progress as students and administrators join forces to establish what is actually beneficial, in terms of student safety and minimizing fuel consumption. In the meantime, we can pick up a map of the shuttle bus schedule at the Student Union Desk in DeWitt. Why not find your nearest bus stop, catch a ride, and get to know Mr. Dunkelberger? As you enjoy the plush gray seats and soak in the local sights, you might find Tom is happy to tell you about his grandkids. Congratulations—a fourth one on the way!”

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**This Week at Hope**

Friday Sept. 5
Senior Orientation Session
Office of Career Services, 11-11:30 a.m. Overview of services offered and establishing letters of recommendation.

Saturday Sept. 6
SAC Drive-In Movie
Pine Grove. Admission is free. 9-11:30 p.m.

Sunday Sept. 7
Memorial Service for John T. Quinn
Dinkem Chapel. 3 p.m.

**IN BRIEF**

**HOPE RANKS 88TH**

Hope College moved up in rankings in the recently released annual U.S. News & World Report of America’s Best Colleges. Hope ranked in the first tier with the placing of 88th out of the 265 institutions of the National Liberal Arts Colleges compared to a ranking of 97th one year ago. U.S. News & World Report also recommended Hope for its undergraduate research and creative project opportunities.

**ARMED ROBBERIES**

On Wednesday Aug. 27 there were two reported armed robberies near campus, involving at least one Hope student. The first robbery occurred at the Fifth Third Bank on 9th Street and Central Avenue, and the second happened behind the 84 East restaurant on 8th Street. The suspect was reported to have worn a black hooded sweatshirt, blue jeans, and a black ski mask.

A third armed robbery occurred Monday Sept. 1 near the Paragon Bank on 8th Street.

**COMMUNITY DAY**

Hope College students and members of the Holland community are invited to come, Saturday, Sept. 6 for the activities of the 43rd Community Day.

There will be a picnic on the DeVos Fieldhouse Lawn with door prizes and live entertainment. The day also includes the Hope football team’s home opener against Illinois Central Avenue, and the second happened behind the 84 East restaurant on 8th Street. The suspect was reported to have worn a black hooded sweatshirt, blue jeans, and a black ski mask.

A third armed robbery occurred Monday Sept. 1 near the Paragon Bank on 8th Street.

There will be a picnic on the DeVos Fieldhouse Lawn with door prizes and live entertainment. The day also includes the Hope football team’s home opener against Illinois Wesleyan University. Kickoff is at 7 p.m.

Windmill Island will be open from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and will offer tours of the 248-year-old Dutch windmill, “De Zwaan,” a carousel ride and shopping.

Tickets for Community Day can be purchased in advance from the Hope Ticket Office or by calling 616-395-7136. They will also be available on Saturday, Sept. 6 in the DeVos Fieldhouse parking lot beginning at 10:30 a.m. under a blue tent. The cost of the tickets is $7.50 for adults, $4 for children ages 5-11, and free for children under age 5.
Hope student works as page at Republican National Convention

Sam Ogles
National News Editor

The Anchor's Taylor Hughes is currently attending the Republican National Convention and was interviewed about her experience by Sam Ogles.

Q: What is the purpose of the convention?
A: It used to be that the convention actually decided the presidential nominee. But today, mostly it is about getting together as Republicans, deciding what the party stands for, and getting excited about the general election, ceremoniously confirming the presumptive Republican nominee — John McCain. It's a lot of tradition, but also a lot of practical tasks for keeping the party on track and for preparing for the general election.

Q: Who attends the convention?
A: Delegates and their families. A lot of people can attend, but you can't be on the floor unless you're a delegate, staff, or press. The delegates are comprised of elected officials, party officials, and important figures for the party.

Q: What are you doing at the convention?
A: I'm working as a page. We do a lot of meet and greet with important figures, charity work such as dedicating a home to a veteran who served in Iraq (Homes for Our Troops), and we do a lot of material distribution to the delegates before and during the convention. Two of us are chosen from each state, and I was lucky enough to be one of them. We listen to a lot of speakers on issues ranging from the future of politics to young voters. We also volunteer with the ONE Campaign and for global poverty. A perk is that we also get to meet a few celebrities such as Jon Voight.

Q: Are most people (at the convention) excited about the presidential nominee?
A: I know a lot of people are excited about her. She brings something new to the table and complements McCain really well in a lot of ways. But there is also some hesitation because she isn't well known and has a lot of areas open for attack by critics. In the end though, I think that

Conflict in Georgia brings presidential claims

Amanda Gernonetz
National News Assistant Editor

It has been common knowledge to everyone since the start of the Olympic Games in Beijing that Russia invaded the Republic of Georgia on the day of the Opening Ceremonies. But, is that really what happened? It seemed like that conflict came out of the nowhere, but that is not the case. There are many issues involved that affect Georgia, and they shed new light on the Russia/Georgia conflict.

On Friday, Aug. 8, news broke that Russia had invaded Georgia, and there was deadly clashes of the two countries' forces. Russia was blamed for starting the conflict, but what the public doesn't seem to realize is that Georgia attacked Russian separatists in the region of South Ossetia, which is technically within the borders of Georgia. After Georgia attacked on Aug. 7, Russia proceeded to invade the country.

The regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia both declared themselves independent in the 1990s, right around the time of the fall of the Soviet Union. Since then, both regions have been dependent on Russian aid, and both use the Russian ruble as their currency. The people that live there are able to vote in Russian elections and are considered citizens of Russia (Russian authorities). Georgia, though, has not yet allowed the two regions to break free from its borders, refusing independence.

In an attempt to end the fighting and “save human lives,” Russian President Dmitry Medvedev announced on Aug. 26 that he recognized South Ossetia and Abkhazia as independent. That move further escalated the rising tension between Russia and other Western countries, including the United States.

On top of that, on Aug. 28 Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin accused the United States of orchestrating the conflict, in order to benefit a presidential candidate. However, after being pressed about that comment, Putin could not reveal any evidence to back up his claim, nor which candidate it was meant to benefit.

Georgia, which has been seeking to become a member of both the European Union and NATO, has further denied the independence of its two rebel regions.

In recent days, NATO has formed the NATO-Georgia Commission, where they hope to aid Georgia's acceptance into NATO.

The United States, among other countries, has rejected Russia’s association with the conference as well, citing that Medvedev’s declaration was in direct violation of the cease-fire between Russia and Georgia.

The member countries of NATO and the EU are supporting Georgia, hoping a closer relationship with Georgia would get them closer to Russia. After the accusations made by Putin against the United States, both President Bush and other spokespersons for the White House have made it very clear

Oil is the lifeline of modern economies. Its prices and those who control its production have been the targets of worldwide protests and even wars. But despite growing pressures on families and politicians and the givings of our better judgment, dependence on oil is a problem without the motivation needed for a solution. And it's a problem a lot of consumers, not producers.

The world has roughly 1 trillion barrels of proven crude oil reserves. The largest deposits are located in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, United Arab Emirates, Iran and Canada (oil sands). OPEC, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, was founded in 1960 for the purposes of regulating the oil market. OPEC's member states all have significant deposits of oil, and together possess roughly 75 percent of the world's total reserves.

OPEC is seen in the U.S. and elsewhere as a tyrant, and many criticisms of OPEC are true: members meet and decide the prices of oil, these nations export little to the U.S. in comparison to their production, and they have an interest in stabilizing the global market. Saudi Arabia is the world leader in oil production and has over 25 percent of the world’s oil.

But many would be surprised to learn that following the Iran/Iraq War, OPEC’s share of world oil production increased from 30 percent to over 60 percent. In 1973, two oil shocks (one that would take at least a decade to produce a single drop of oil to be sold and bring us no further to escaping our dependence on oil) occurred, and the world was taken by surprise.

In the last few years astounding spikes in public transportation, carpooling, and other means have taken place. In fact, our current economic predicament is not OPEC's fault, but that of our government and of the individual consumer. Oil is pricey precisely because of our incessant addiction (especially in the developed world where we have the means to break it) that keeps the demand high enough to ensure rising oil prices. It is convenient enough to encourage idleness in solving the issue. So be careful when asking, 'who's to blame for high gas prices?' The answer might just be us.

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Vice presidential selections Biden and Palin add new dynamic to campaigns

Gordon Fall
SUN STAR WEST

In an election cycle where weak attributes of both presidential candidates have been heavily scrutinized, analysts looked to the vice-presidential selections of Senators John McCain and Barack Obama to strengthen both tickets. The first selection was made by Obama, with the pick of Sen. Joe Biden as his running mate. Biden, a long-time senator from Delaware, attempts to add the experience of decades in the Senate, along with the foreign policy experience of serving on foreign relations committees. Biden also will fill the role of attack-dog, as all of his speeches directly bash McCain, thereby allowing Obama to continue with his stated goal of trying to be above political attacks.

Biden’s largest weakness has historically been his tendency for damaging comments. This “foot-in-mouth” syndrome has weakened his campaigns in the past, including this past winter when he told an Indian-American voter that “You cannot go to a 7-11 or a Dunkin’ Donuts unless you have a slight Indian accent.” Democratic staffs have expressed concern that a similar slip might happen on the campaign trail.

Obama’s selection came after many months of anticipation of a potential Hillary Clinton selection. By picking Biden, Obama has come under fire from Hillary Clinton supporters, who either thought that Clinton was the best choice for vice president or are still bitter that she is not the Democratic nominee for president. Organizations such as Just Say No Deal are actively campaigning against Obama, complete with protests at the Democratic National Convention last week. It’s been speculated that this lack of support may hurt Obama on election day.

Six days later, McCain revealed his selection for vice president. Gov. Sarah Palin of Alaska, a self-described “hockey mom,” was McCain’s choice. Palin, a 44-year-old mother of five, provides a contrast to McCain’s weaknesses while affirming his “maverick” image. McCain is far younger than McCain, 72, and is even younger than Obama. Palin is also the first woman to be on a Republican presidential ticket, which is both historic and vital in this election season. Already some Clinton supporters have expressed their desire to vote for the McCain/Palin ticket.

Palin’s major weaknesses, however, stem from her relative inexperience in office. She has only been governor of Alaska for 18 months, and before that, her role was mayor of Wasilla, Alaska for six years. Critics have wondered if she is ready to hold such a major office given her previous qualifications.

The selection of Palin was surprising to even the most ardent of political followers, as the leak of the selection in the morning before the official announcement did nothing to destroy the element of surprise. The pick has energized the Republican Party though, as over $7 million in donations have come in since the announcement.

Both vice presidential candidates are not in the race to stand alone, despite their qualifications. Both are in the public eye to complement the presidential candidate, and both have the possibility to do so well. An analyst for MSNBC declared that there are only a couple days when the vice presidential selection really matters, and one of them is the day of the announcement. However, in this heated race, the election may indeed come down the second-in-command.

The two vice presidential candidates will take center stage on Oct. 2, far the vice presidential debate of the campaign. Up until then, the public is likely to see more of both candidates as Election Day draws near.

Hope student experiences Republican National Convention

• RNC, from page 3

sharp criticisms won’t help her opponents but will probably attract pity more than anything, which could help her.

Q: What are the Republican Party’s strengths this election? A: I think McCain’s long record, military service, and foreign policy experience are probably some of his strongest assets. He’s got a good record of individuality and not being afraid of taking a stand when knows it is right. People talk about his “maverick” image, but he was given that label for a reason. As far as Sarah Palin goes, she’s the only one out of McCain, Biden, Obama, and herself that actually has executive decision-making experience. I think that will help her a lot.

Q: Was it a good choice to suspend the convention in light of Hurricane Gustav? A: Yeah, of course. Because of Katrina and the government’s response last time, I think everyone is taking it a little more seriously. We learned from experience. It would just be an inappropriate time to celebrate at a political convention when people are fleeing their homes.

Q: Will Gustav have any bearing on the momentum of the convention? A: The speakers and delegates really got down to business. The speeches were shorter, President Bush decided not to attend, and some of the more celebratory aspects were cut out. But I still think by the fourth day when McCain comes, everything will be a little more toned down, but it should still be very exciting for the convention and for the party to have an official nominee.

Q: Looking toward the general election, what would McCain have to do to secure the presidency? A: I think he’ll have to work to excite the conservative base, people that are conservative but perhaps somewhat indifferent for whatever reason. Also he’ll need to motivate the independent voters and I think Palin will do a good job of that. She obviously wasn’t the safest choice, but she was a solid choice to reach voters who are still undecided.

Georgian conflict complicated by contradictory claims

• GEORGIA, from page 3

that they would never allow something of that caliber to happen just for an election. Fears of another cold war are rising, and Russia and its representatives are not helping matters. It has yet to be seen how the developments in the last week are going to play out.

TAYLOR 2 DANCE
SEPT. 4 AND 5, 7:30PM
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“The performance would have been impressive enough...but the dancers’ aplomb and artistry were even more remarkable.”

The New York Times

Tickets: 616-395-7890 • www.hope.edu/gps

GRAPhICS BY Cory WARNER

Hope College student experiences Republican National Convention
Taylor 2 kicks off Great Performance Series

Bria Berger Assistant Arts Editor

The Great Performance Series kicks off its six-event schedule on Sept. 4 and 5 at the Knickerbocker Theatre with a two-day production from Taylor 2 Dance. Taylor 2 Dance is a six-person dance company that has toured the United States, created a strong fan base in New York, and went on a government-sponsored tour of six African countries. Explosive, dynamic and artistic, Taylor 2 Dance promises an exciting first performance for this spectacular series. The Great Performance Series has been bringing an eclectic mix of dance, musical, and theatrical groups to the Hope community for over 30 years and has an impressive lineup scheduled for the 2008-2009 season. From dance companies to string quartets to Shakespeare comedy productions, the Great Performance Series is the one-stop shop for creative and artistic performances.

On Sept. 4 at 2 p.m., the Aquila Theatre is presenting two different and time-honored productions on Feb. 13-14. First up is "The Bla"d" the classic tale of Achilles and the Trojan War. Watch as the Greeks attempt to conquer Troy and as Achilles tries to conquer his anger. The following night, the Aquila Theatre will showcase the English and American Shakespearian's "The Comedy of Errors," a farcical play riddled with slapstick humor, puns, and mistaken identities.

Quartet San Francisco wraps up the season on March 31. A Grammy-nominated group for best classical crossover recording in 2006 and 2007, Quartet San Francisco brings musical diversity to the 2008-2009 season of GPS. Experienced in everything from jazz to bluegrass and bluegrass to early music, Quartet San Francisco is one group you can't afford to miss. Season tickets and individual tickets for the Great Perform- ance Series are now available by calling (616) 395-7890 or stopping by the ticket office in the DeVos Field house between 10am to 5pm. For more information about the GPS performers, please visit www.hope.edu/gps.

In brief

Jack Ridl, Visiting Writers Series announces season

A diverse and decorated lineup of writers has been announced as guests for the 2008-2009 season of the Jack Ridl Visiting Writers Series. The Visiting Writers Series has brought exceptionally talented writers to speak before Hope College since 1982. Joyce Carol Oates, William Stafford and Billy Collins are just a few of the talented writers who have visited Hope in past years. In addition to welcoming Hope students with a chance to hear authors give readings of their work, admission is always free and the readings are open to the public at the Knickerbocker Theatre. Many writers are also available for question-and-answer sessions before their readings.

This fall, visiting writers include Anthony Doerr on Sept. 25, Ander Monson and Andy Mozina on Oct. 27, and Tony Blackman on Nov. 18. The Visiting Writers Series is sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Life, the English Department, the Cultural Affairs Committee, the Women's Issues Organization and many other Hope College organizations.

All readings begin at 7 p.m. in the Knickerbocker Theatre and are introduced by the Hope College Coffee Ensemble at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please visit hope.edu/vws.

My Dance Dance Revolution

Bria Berger Assistant Arts Editor

The first day of classes, I woke up anxious and jittery. As I was packing my big red bag with textbooks, pencils and notebooks, I also tossed in a brand new pair of ballet shoes and an old pair of tights. This semester I decided to take jazz 1 and modern 1 in addition to my academic classes to challenge my academic classes. Hope College has a leg up on many other liberal arts colleges in the Midwest by being fully accredited by the National Association of Schools in Dance, an impressive task for any school that is also exceptionally strong in academic courses.

But what exactly was I getting myself into? Being a klutz non-dancer? My Jazz I professor, Amanda Smith-Heynen, says not exactly. Most non-dance majors take dance after seeing a performance that sparks an interest or to fulfill a general education requirement. She also said she actually prefers teaching beginning dancers.

"I think beginning dance is easier to teach because there’s a blank slate. There’s not as much old material to get in the way of your memory to fight."

My first day in dance was a blur of bevels, dress requirements and floor- to-ceiling mirrors. The students in my first class included former gymnasts, musical theater majors and many students who were stepping into a dance studio for the very first time. Gathered in half-heartened circles, we talked more than we moved, which Smith-Heynen says is common.

"For experienced dancers, not only do you lose every minute of the class can be strange. Upper-level classes don’t always like to stop and break things down. You have to get into a place where you’re not afraid to refine and truly become aware of yourself."

For students looking to take a dance class for the first time, it’s recommended that you take a class at an appropriate level for your ability and also plan on working hard, though Smith-Heynen says the work will be vastly different than normal academic classes.

"There’s so much work for a beginning one-credit class. You’re working two to three days a week and you really put yourself out there, physically learning all this new stuff, mentally and emotionally making changes, but not physical take-home assignments. You have to try to process that information in different ways then you’ve ‘re used to.’"

So do I have a chance of becoming the next winner of "So You Think You Can Dance," or at least a backup dancer in a music video? Smith-Heynen says she’s seen dozens of beginning dancers become enthralled with dance and pursue it as a major or minor, becoming successful dancers and choreographers.

"There are a lot of students that come here with not that much background and succeed. Enthusiasm, coordination and ability can beat technical ability. If you have that passion and drive, you can accomplish anything."
Oil is formed by aquatic plants and animals getting trapped under massive amounts of clay. As these substances decompose, they morph together into mud, and pressure and heat eventually turn the mud into oil. Dr. Graham Peaslee of Hope's chemistry department said the oil we use now is actually millions of years old. While oil has been used for ages in various ways, it did not become the dominating industry that it is presently until 1859, when E. L. Drake of Pennsylvania found a way to drill for oil. As a result, it was mainly used to light lamps, but the invention of the gasoline engine sparked the transportation industry, and oil has been addictive ever since.

In 1870, John D. Rockefeller entered the scene with his infamous Standard Oil Company of Ohio and ended up establishing a monopoly of the industry. The company shattered into many of today's popular oil companies in 1911. His ways of conducting business included the passing of many laws to reform the industry.

Then, in 1956, oil monopoly changed again, as OPEC was created. It was meant to benefit the oil-producing nations, and as a result, price rose—especially during a third important oil event, the oil embargo of 1973. OPEC placed an embargo against Israel's supporters (Israel was in conflict with Egypt at that time). Therefore, OPEC created a significant amount of oil. A big problem, Peaslee explained, is that in Venezuela and the Middle East, oil is in the U.S., where the U.S. Geological Survey has to report the known oil fields, the oil fields are unknown. He said that since oil is their claim to prosperity, it would be in their own interest to not divulge if they were nearing the end of their oil supply. Therefore, we don't know how much oil is left in these major reserves.

Drilling in Alaska

According to Dr. Steven Boonza- Prediger, head of Hope's religion department, drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is the biggest controversy surrounding oil in the U.S. Those in favor of drilling in the refuge do so to get the industry to the point where we need oil. Those against drilling in ANWR argue that drilling is dangerous—both for the workers and the environment—and could not provide as much oil as we could conserve. Additionally, it would be difficult to transport the oil from the refuge.

Alternative Sources

It now looks like nuclear will be the next big source of energy. Reactors are already ahead of the game, as the International Commission reported that as of 2004, their energy supply was 40 percent nuclear powered. This U.S., on the other hand, used nuclear for only 8.4 percent of its total energy consumption in 2007, according to the Energy Information Agency. Boonza-Prediger explained that while nuclear provides clean energy and we have an abundance of the materials needed to produce it, it brings many serious problems for example, the crises of Chernobyl and Three-Mile Island, as well as the risks of cancer, the possibility of terrorism, and an uncertainty as to what to do with its waste, which lasts for thousands of years. Regardless of the risks, Peaslee pointed out that nuclear plants take about 10 years to construct, and as it would take time to make the shift from oil to nuclear. God is also a significant source. The EIA reported that in 2007, it made up 22.6 percent of our energy consumption. Boonza-Prediger pointed out that while coal is more abundant than oil and nuclear, it is damaging towards the environment, as it is the mountain top removal method of mining it. Wind and solar have everything the others don't: abundance, safety and environmental friendliness. For these reasons, Boonza-Prediger sees them as the future of energy. However, as Peaslee said, there is yet to be a way for them to meet our consumption levels. He adds, "Anything we're doing now is sticking our head in the sand and the world is laughing at us."

Conclusion

While nuclear provides clean energy and we have an abundance of the materials needed to produce it, it brings many serious problems. Regardless of the risks, Peaslee pointed out that nuclear plants take about 10 years to construct.
Change for tradition's sake

Ashley DeVecht

“Congress shall make no law...abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or of the right of the people to peaceably assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

I think Hope students have forgotten how the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution reads. Or maybe we’ve just forgotten the true importance of these words; many shed blood so that we could live in a truly free society.

And not only have we forgotten, we’ve taken this all for granted. Do you realize what's going on here? That one’s voice isn’t heard — especially hers. For instance, it's best people don’t hear her when she belts out Jack Johnson’s “Banana Pancakes” in the shower.

What has become of us? Why does our generation choose to hide behind passionless complaints and useless web pages? What ever happened to protest? Something more needed to be done. Break out your loud speakers and tell the administration that their new system isn’t working. Write a letter to President Bultman. Sign a petition. Make use of the freedom of the press and write to the Anchor. Silence is getting you nowhere. Go out there and let your voice be heard.

Ashley admits there are times it’s best that one’s voice isn’t heard — especially hers. For instance, it's best people don’t hear her when she belts out Jack Johnson’s “Banana Pancakes” in the shower.

The devil’s greatest victory will come when Hope’s perception of Jesus is so skewed and far from the truth that we would rather be accepted by others than seek to love Him better. He is not dead! Nor should the hearts of His followers be, either.

So let us start the year with life in mind, keeping with the gift of Jesus Christ, who said, “I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” We have been shown incomparable kindness, so why not pass it on? We have been forgiven, so let us forgive. We have been greatly loved, so let us love greatly.

Bryant is a complete Narnia nerd. Shoot him an email if you’re interested in joining the Narnia book club that meets on Monday nights.

Prune juice and diplomas

RJ Casey

When I was a young child a place called Leaps and Bounds was my mecca. Looked back on it now, it could have probably been considered a poor man’s Discovery Zone or, at worst, a sweat-soaked collection of plastic nooks and crannies indefinitely growing bacteria that was spread by the knee areas of my Oshkosh jeans. But all rationale beside, these were our fifty tubes. They were home to birthday parties, duct taped water beds, static electricity, and even more birthday parties. I even found a chicken strip at the bottom of the ball pit one time!

So you can only imagine the bewildemen...
Indifferent Karma

Eric Anderson

73 percent of males 18-24 approve

The political season is truly upon us. Both candidates have vice-presidents, and the news networks are fighting for more coverage while sacrificing their dignity, and the “2008 Presidential Election” campaign has been abandoned with no new wave of attack ads. On a related note, ESPN’s flagship program, “SportCenter,” is now live starting at 9 a.m., satisfying our craving for sports statistics in ten minutes, and then drooling on for six more hours. If this landslide of over-analysis shows us anything, it is that America has an obsession with trivial statistics.

Twenty-four hour news networks are the main culprits. It takes a lot of programming to fill 24 hours, and most of us don’t want to watch “the O’Reilly Factor” once, let alone four times a day. But the news networks are able to kill time with “experts” pointing at huge screens telling us about the insignificant “convention bump” Obama just received, because we are apparently so uninformled that we’ll ignore actual issues and support the candidate who has just denounced Democrats as “Barack’s Mile High Standard speech could only have been better if he had concluded with the Heisman pose.”

Another popular time killer employed by the big-time networks, in an attempt to induce panic in any die-hard candidate supporter are the hypothetical “what-if” situations. Just when the Democrats think they have Obama’s home state of Illinois in the bag, MSNBC’s Chris Matthews appears with his magic speculation machine. Suddenly, a state that should be guaranteed is in jeopardy if Biden gets caught running for the St. Louis Cardinals and Obama pronounces “Illinois” as “Illinoise.” With this scenario, McCain could swoop in and throw out the first pitch at a Cubs game and his VP Sarah Palin could swing by a University of Illinois frat party, and maybe the election could be swung! Our obsession with these statistics extends far beyond the political world. Chances are if you spend more than five minutes watching ESPN, you will be drawn in by a “breaking news” story, with a graphic worthy of announcing a terrorist attack. Once you are captivated, you will sadly come to learn that all this commotion was over some guy setting the record for most left-handed dribbles on a Tuesday while wearing non-matching socks and humming the theme to “Miami Vice” and everyone else watching will be like, “Oh, my gosh, that is a lot of dribbles!” And you will sit and wonder why we care.

While not all Americans can be tricked this easily into marathon sessions of TV watching, enough of us must be falling victim to the seduction of ESPN’s Erin Andrews and MSNBC’s Keith Olbermann to make it worthwhile for the networks to keep it up. To end this tedious statistical orgy, we must band together and not watch, to realize that we don’t care what percent of Latino women in Idaho are voting for Nader, we want quality information. Either that or re-runs of “Rob and Big.”

Eric Anderson encourages you to send him emails at eric.anderson@hope.edu.

You have story idea? Do you want to write takephotos draw a design?
Anchor meetings are always open to all Hope students.

Every SUNDAY, 6 p.m. MMC 151

Erika English

Baggage claim

Suppose the world is one big airport. Everyone is coming and going, but not as passengers, we are the baggage. All at once we not only have purpose, but destination, as well as a specific path to follow. We are checked and tagged and told if you are overweight or too oddly shaped to be packed away with the other luggage. Isn’t it funny how that moment seems so easy to recall, like high school?

Then you’re tagged with a sticker and a diploma, and shoved off on one of the many ramps and conveyor belts bringing you to your destination- whether it’s Miami, Colorado Springs, or Nantucket. College to your destination- whether it’s Miami, Colorado Springs, or Nantucket. College diploma, and shoved off on one of the many.

Soon enough, dawn breaks and you’re on a luggage cart ready to be presented to the world as so-and-so’s, a small capsule of a life made travel-easy by being packaged in a nice convenient bag, preferably with a handle. The passengers who ignored you once are now eager to see whose you are, and what you have been doing for the past odd hours. New scratches? Wear and tear? All contents still there? It’s a mad rush to be paired off. Sadly, a few are always left behind. There are no-shows from passenger 1 who didn’t hear the baggage claim number because her toddler was screaming just that loud, and no-shows from passenger 2 who didn’t realize who gave you your baggage? And call it baggage. Have you ever stopped to realize who gave you your baggage? And even an more thought-provoking question, whose baggage are you?

Men and women often like to type themselves with their baggage. It sounds like a good idea at the time. A matching set of Louis Vuitton, or stackable TravelSmarts all in navy blue. It makes identifying luggage easier. Others like to adorn their totes with the stickers and marks of where they have been, making it painstakingly obvious to observers that they are either a world traveler, aspire to be, or are just that proud of where they have been. What marks of identification do we carry, and does it even matter if we’re not found?

But then again, since someone sent you out with purpose, isn’t it only meant to be that someone would find you later on in the journey?

You see, in the airport, the only thing that matters is this— that your baggage looks good or is the right type, but that you have it all. It’s not even about finding baggage that goes with your own, but rather taking stock of the relationships and people that guided you. You see checks and claims along the way. When the day is done, everyone is carrying around something or someone that has been bumped around a lot on the harrowing journey from check in to the claim conveyor belt. You may not always get the destination right, or get out without a few squeaky wheels, but you can be sure that when dawn breaks and the conveyor belt starts spinning, you’ll end up somewhere with somebody, eventually.

Erika English is enjoying late summer in Southwestern Michigan by frequenting beaches, the beach, and photographing in case you’re wondering, her luggage is pink.

Myths, tricks and train wrecks

Write Letters to the Editors

If you are passionate about an issue, concerned about a problem, or fed up with something, e-mail your letter to anchor@hope.edu.

Every LETTER TO THE EDITOR
SUNDAY, 6 p.m. MMC 151

Political parties urge respect

Dear Hope Community:

As we approach the 2008 Presidential election with excitement, we look back upon previous elections. In the past, there has been unfriendliness, and sometimes downright mean, competition between Republican and Democratic students on Hope’s campus. This year, we want to make sure that as election season approaches everyone and their ideas are respected, regardless of political leanings.

As presidents of the two partisan political groups on campus, we will be the first to tell you that we do not agree on everything. Despite everything about which we disagree, we both agree that it is best for everyone when they aren’t scared to discuss and display their opinions. So we ask that you respect your fellow student’s beliefs whether you agree with them or not.

This fall, we are looking past our differences to work together to register voters and in the community.

Nicole VanDerKolk ’09 president, Hope Republicans
Shannon Craig ’08, president, Hope Democrats

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Doyou have story idea? Do you want to write? Do you want to draw a design?
Anchor meetings are always open to all Hope students.

Political parties urge respect

In September, we will be working together to help Student Congress pull together a Rock the Vote rally and help Alpha Phi Omega with their benefit concert to raise both awareness and money for Parkinson’s research.

We challenge you to get educated and excited about the upcoming election, whether you support Sen. McCain or Sen. Obama or are still undecided. Friendly debate is encouraged, but please always remember to respect people who may not see things the same way you do. We hope that this year we can leave a legacy at Hope College by respecting others with differing opinions and working together.

Sincerely,

Eric Anderson encourages you to send him emails at eric.anderson@hope.edu.
Football

Sept. 6 - Illinois Wesleyan at Hope, 1:30 p.m. ET
Sept. 13 - Hope at Carthage, Wis., 1 p.m. CT
Sept. 20 - Hope at UW-Eau Claire, 11 a.m. CT
Sept. 27 - Wheaton at Hope, 7 p.m. ET
Oct. 4 - Trine at Hope, 2 p.m. ET
Oct. 11 - Hope at Albion, 1 p.m. ET
Oct. 25 - Hope at Adrian, 1 p.m. ET
Nov. 1 - Olivet at Hope, 1 p.m. ET
Nov. 8 - Alma at Hope, 1 p.m. ET
Nov. 15 - Hope at Kalamazoo, 1 p.m. ET

Get out and support your teams

Fall sports schedules

Men’s Soccer

Sept. 5, at Trinity, Ill., 4 p.m.
Sept. 6, at Wheaton, Ill., 7 p.m.
Fri.-Sat., Sept. 12-13, at Wilmington, Ohio Tournament (Friday – Hope vs. Kenyon, Ohio, 5 p.m. / Saturday – Hope vs. Wilmington, Ohio, 7:30 p.m.)
Sept. 20, at Kalamazoo, noon
Sept. 27, at Olivet, 2 p.m.
Sept. 30, TRINE, 4 p.m.
Oct. 4, ADRIAN, 2 p.m.
Oct. 8, at Calvin, 4 p.m.
Oct. 11, at Albion, 2 p.m.
Oct. 14, ALMA, 4 p.m.
Oct. 18, KALAMAZOO, 2 p.m.
Oct. 22, OLIVET, 4 p.m.
Oct. 25, at Trine, 2 p.m.
Oct. 28 at Adrian, 6 p.m.
Nov. 1, CALVIN, 2 p.m.
Nov. 5, ALBION, 3 p.m.
Nov. 8, at Alma, 2 p.m.
Nov. 12-29, NCAA Championships

Cross Country

Sept. 13, GLCA at Oberlin, Ohio, 11 a.m.
Sept. 26, MIAA Jamboree at Saint Mary's, 5 p.m.
Oct. 4, at Hanover, Ind. Pre-National Invitational, 11 a.m.
Oct. 18, at UW Oshkosh Invitational, 10:15 a.m.
Oct. 18, at Manchester, Ind. Invitational, 11 a.m.
Nov. 1, MIAA Championships at Kalamazoo, 11 a.m.
Nov. 15, NCAA Great Lakes Regionals at Otterbein, Ohio, 11 a.m.
Nov. 22, NCAA Championships at Hanover, Ind., 11 a.m.

Men’s Golf

Sept. 6, at Alma (Pine River CC)
Sept. 10, at Olivet (Bedford Valley CC)
Sept. 16, at Albion (The Medalist GC)
Sept. 20, at Adrian (Lenawee CC)
Sept. 27, at Trine (Zollner GC)
Sept. 29, HOPE (Wuskowhan Players Club)
Oct. 6, at Calvin (Watermark GC), 1:30 p.m.
Oct. 7, at Red Poling Classic (TPC of Michigan), 9 a.m.
Oct. 9, at Kalamazoo (Mihlam GC)

All games begin at 1 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Women’s Soccer

Sept. 3, CORNERSTONE, 4 p.m.
Sept. 6, at Siena Heights, 12:30 p.m.
Sept. 12, OHIO NORTHERN, 4 p.m.
Sept. 13, FARMINGDALE, N.Y., noon
Sept. 17, at Saint Mary’s, 4 p.m.
Sept. 20, ROCHESTER, noon
Sept. 24, AQUINAS, 4 p.m.
Sept. 27, CALVIN, noon
Oct. 1, TRINE, 4 p.m.
Oct. 4, SAINT MARY’S, noon
Oct. 7, OLIVET, 4 p.m.
Oct. 11, at Kalamazoo, noon
Oct. 15, at Albion, 4 p.m.
October 18, at Adrian, noon
Oct. 29, at Alma, 4 p.m.
Nov. 8, MIAA Tournament
Nov. 12-29, NCAA Championships

Women’s Golf

Sept. 4, MIAA Jamboree at Olivet, 1 p.m.
Sept. 12-13, at Olivet Invitational, 1 p.m./9 a.m.
Sept. 20, MIAA Jamboree at Trine, 1 p.m.
Sept. 24, MIAA Jamboree at Calvin, 1 p.m.
Sept. 26, at Muskingum, Ohio Invitational (River Greens GC), noon
Sept. 27, at Capital Inv. (Westchester GC), Canal Winchester, Ohio, 11:30 a.m.
Sept. 30, MIAA Jamboree at Adrian, 1 p.m.
Oct. 4, at Manchester Invitational (Honeywell CC), Wabash, Ind., 8:30 a.m.
Oct. 7 Host Hope Invitational, 1 p.m.
Oct. 10-11, MIAA Championships, 1 p.m./9 a.m.

Volleyball

Sept. 6, Albion at Olivet, noon
Sept. 6, at Olivet, 2 p.m.
Sept. 9, SAINT MARY’S, 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 12-13, at Wittenberg, Ohio Border Battle
Sept. 16, at Kalamazoo, 7 p.m.
Sept. 19, at Calvin, 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 20, ADRIAN, 2 p.m.
Sept. 23, TRINE, 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 26-27, at Central, Iowa Invitational
Oct. 1, at Alma, 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 3, OLIVET, 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 7, at Saint Mary’s, 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 10, ALBION, 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 15, at Kalamazoo, 7 p.m.
Oct. 17, CALVIN, 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 24, at Trine, 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 25, at Adrian, 11 a.m.
Oct. 31, ALMA, 4:30 p.m.
Oct. 31, HEIDELBERG, OHIO, 7 p.m.
Nov. 1, KALAMAZOO, 11 a.m.
Nov. 1, BALDWIN-WALLACE, OHIO, 1:30 p.m.
Nov. 4-8, MIAA Tournament
Nov. 13-22, NCAA Championships

Get out and support your teams
**Women’s Soccer**

The Hope College women’s soccer team kicked off their season last weekend at the Washington University Invitational in St. Louis. On Friday, Aug. 29, the Flying Dutch squared off against Transylvania, Ky. At half time, the Flying Dutch trailed 1-0. Senior Suzi Knowles scored halfway through the second half to tie things up. However, Transylvania scored in the last three minutes of the game, handing the Flying Dutch their first loss.

On Saturday, Aug. 30, the Flying Dutch took on the Invitational Hosts, Washington University. The Flying Dutch kept it close in the first half, trailing 1-0 at halftime to the No. 5-ranked team. Washington University went on to win the game with a final score of 4-0.

**Men’s Soccer**

The Hope College men’s soccer team defeated Aquinas 5-2 on Aug. 29, and continued with a winning streak in the Bergsma Memorial Tournament Aug. 30 defeating Goshen, Ind. 6-0.

Against Aquinas, Hope held a 3-1 lead during halftime, and ended the game with a 5-1 lead in shots on goal. Scoring goals against Aquinas were John Turner (10), Nico Lamb (12), Drew Nichols (11), Andrea McCarty (12), Cassie Sneller (10), Sasha Burau (09), and Andrea Helminiak (10). Led by Captains Nora Slenk (99) and Andrea Helminiak (10), the team fields two seniors, three juniors and five sophomores. Of the ten, eight were members of last year’s team that finished second in the MIAA to rival Calvin. Despite a smaller squad, the outlook for the season is bright; Slenk was voted to the 2007 MIAA First Team and Helminiak to the Second Team. Also returning after a standout season is sophomore VandeGuchte (11). VandeGuchte led the MIAA in hitting percentage, was voted as the MIAA’s Freshmen Player of the Year and was also named to the Second Team.

When asked what will be critical to team success this season, many of the players pointed to trust. “We have a lot of trust in each other,” Outside hitter Sara DeWeerdt (11) said. “We have been working really hard since pre-season and have been together a lot. Since we’re such a close knit team, I think that this will be an advantage on the court.”

It would appear that the team has laid a strong foundation of trust, showing a solid beginning over the weekend in their season opening tournament. On Friday the Flying Dutch split their matches, losing in a battle of nationally ranked teams to Carthage 3-1, but came right back to defeat Transylvania in three straight games.

Saturday afternoon the Flying Dutch continued to dominate, defeating host Elmhurst 3-1 and College 3-0. The Flying Dutch have begun what looks to be another successful season under Head Coach Becky Schmidt. The team has their home opener in the DeVos Fieldhouse against fellow MIAA team St. Mary’s on Sept. 9 at 6:30 p.m. Their next big match after that will be against conference rival Calvin, at Calvin on Sept. 19. A month later on Oct. 17, the team will take on Calvin at DeVos. While Calvin has won the MIAA Conference Titles two years in a row, the Flying Dutch are confident that they have what it takes to regain the title.

“The success of our team is going to depend on how we treat one another as individuals and teammates,” defensive specialist Kristen Johnson (10) said. “Talent is necessary, but how we channel that talent through respect and trust has way more to do with how we’ll perform.”

If their opening weekend is any indication, this team is already doing a great job of trusting each other and using that to help win matches. Though it is still early, this looks to be a highly successful season for the Hope Volleyball team and one that will be exciting for all of their fans.

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**In Brief**

**Women’s Soccer**

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Against Aquinas, Hope held a 3-1 lead during halftime, and ended the game with a 5-1 lead in shots on goal. Scoring goals against Aquinas were John Turner (10), Nico Lamb (12), Drew Nichols (11), Andrea Schwieter (10), and Jeff Stuttsch (11). Scoring against Goshen were Turner, Lamb, Schwieter, Sam Joyce (12), and Mitch Kinner (12). Currently the team is off to their best season’s opening since 2002.

**Women’s Golf**

Women’s golf opened their season this weekend at Holland Macatawa Legends golf course taking top honors against Cornerstone University and Calvin College. The match was highlighted by a hole-in-one by Caitlin McDougall (12). Hope players also contributing to a winning score were Megan Scholten (12), Cassie Sneller (10), Sasha Burau (12), Lindsey Springstroh (12), and Andrea McCarthy (12).

**Guest Writer**

Meghan Wilson

Hope College men’s golf season is quickly approaching, hopefully just as promising as previous years. Last year, the golf team made their third consecutive trip to nationals, and placed 18th for the second year in a row. They are also coming off of their fifth consecutive first place finish in the MIAA.

This year’s roster, however, is without four important team assets due to last year’s graduating class. Tommy Donaldson, Ryan LaRosa, Evan Yamaoka, and Matt St. John are among the upperclassmen to push each other to meet their full potential. They put pressure on the underclassmen to push themselves, too.

Along with the two team captains, Danny Ouhammed (09), Steve Stroock (10) and Josh Jelenek (10) are among the team’s rising talent.

Having upperclassmen there helps the new team members to become acquainted with playing at the college level. The juniors and seniors play vital roles in leading the team, Scholten said.

Losing team members to last year’s graduating class makes for the team’s biggest challenge this year. “I think the biggest challenge will be filling the void left by the seniors last year” Scholten said.

Since then, the current seniors and juniors have stood up as leaders are now ready to leave their own mark.

“A lot of the upperclassmen this year are hungry to get out there because they know they can make a huge impact on the teams” Scholten said with a hopeful outlook.

And the Hope College golf team is still in good hands with their coach, Bob Ebels, who has been with Hope for 17 consecutive seasons. “Coach Ebels is good for the golf team because he knows what it takes to win a championship, the competition it takes to make a team. He keeps those resources available for us so we can continue to be a strong team,” Scholten said.

Scholten sums up the prospects for this year. “This is my last season, and I’m excited about the position I’ve been given as co-captain, and excited to see how this year unfolds. We’ve got some great guys and I think our team is in some great hands. I’m excited to see how far our team can take this.”
Runners push to strong start

Lindsey Wolf

The men’s and women’s cross country teams are off to a great start this season as both teams captured a first place finish at the Vanderbilt Invitational to prove it.

The men raced first at Ridge Point Church on Saturday morning. Without a cloud in the sky and the sweltering sun beating down on the course, the Hope team ran a great race finishing ahead of Cornerstone, Albion, and Concordia University with a team score of 24.

Matt Wiersum (’10) finished first with a time of 26:27. Right behind him in second was co-captain Rob Bailey (’09) with a time of 26:38. Rounding out the top five Hope runners were Seth Weener (’08) finishing fifth, co-captain Paul VanderVelde (’09) with sixth, and Zachary King (’09) in 10th.

When asked about their team’s performance at the season opener, co-captains Bailey and VanderVelde had nothing but optimistic enthusiasm.

“This year’s team is the best we’ve had in a while. It’s the first time since my freshman year that we’ve won this invitationals,” VanderVelde said.

“We ran really well together today,” Bailey said. “The team didn’t break up during the course.”

The co-captains, pleased with their team’s early success, agreed on the fact that their team is well-rounded.

“This is one of our stronger years,” Bailey said. “The team is solid, we don’t have just one top runner. Coming into a race, the top spot is always up in the air and the top 10 guys will switch up.”

Even though the team put up great times at the home opener, the co-captains know there is room for improvement.

“Over the summer we do our speed work. “Woods said. “Coach Northuis was really tough, but we ran an amazing race.”

The next meet will take place on September 13 in Oberlin, Ohio.

Hope alumni approach top tier of umpiring

Chris Lewis

Every since their days at Hope College, DJ Reyburn (’99) and Dave Uyl (’99) have each had one goal on their minds—to one day be an umpire for Major League Baseball.

“I worked at little league games while I was in high school. As soon as I started, it just clicked with me that this was what I wanted to do with my life. It felt like a calling,” Reyburn said.

“I began umpiring in the summers while I was at Hope. I really enjoyed the games I worked at and I decided it would be my career someday,” Uyl said.

Since graduating from Hope in December of 1999 and attending the Jim Evans Academy of Professional Umpires in Kissimmee, Florida, Reyburn and Uyl have worked as professional baseball umpires in the AA league for two years and in the AAA league for three years.

Both have now reached the point in their careers in which they can truly pursue their dreams of umpiring in the Major Leagues. This year Reyburn was asked to travel to umpire at six MLB games, three when the New York Yankees were at Oakland, and three when the Washington Nationals were at Seattle. Both are hoping to work at as many MLB games as possible, hopefully starting next season.

While at Hope, Reyburn and Uyl were good friends and even were roommates at the Jim Evans Academy of Professional Umpires. Both men also had ties with Hope baseball head coach and assistant football coach Stuart Fritz as they played football and baseball at Hope.

“Coach Fritz recruited me. He was always supportive of me and my dreams of becoming an umpire,” Reyburn said.

“I could tell early on that they were both going to be good at umpiring,” Fritz said. “They each have a good knowledge of the game and are very patient individuals.”

“DJ and Dave were both outstanding kids with very good family support. I’m sure that they miss home and being with their families though,” Fritz said.

While working as a professional baseball umpire, Reyburn said that there are positives, both men are married now with outstanding kids with very good family support. I’m sure that they miss home and being with their families though, “ Fritz said.

“Nothing is worth anything if you are not willing to sacrifice for it,” Reyburn said. “I’ve missed friends’ weddings, yearly camping trips and so much more because I have had to work at games. I think it has been worth it though.”

“If you want to do something bad enough and have passion for it, go for it. Do it while you are young,” Uyl said.

“It’s been a long haul. So many people told me I couldn’t do it. They said I was too small, but I kept going,” Reyburn said. “Now I have reached my dream.”