Engineers Without Borders
Club improves global health

Emily West
Cam pus News Editor

In two weeks, the Critical Issues Symposium at Hope College will focus on the issue of global health. With this topic at the forefront on campus, the student organization, Engineers Without Borders-Hope, is hitting the ground running as it prepares for phase four of its quality of life project in Nkuv, Cameroon.

The Engineers Without Borders interdisciplinary club at Hope is part of a nationwide organization that works to improve the quality of life for people living in disadvantaged communities through various self-sustaining, economical engineering projects.

Currently, the group is working with the 500 residents of Nkuv that have been plagued by malaria, filaria, dysentery, dermatitis, meningitis and multiple other waterborne diseases as a result of the previously available water sources, according to EWB.

In the United States, water suppliers expect the average American citizen to use 100 gallons of drinkable water a day, according to Professor Jeff Brown, EWB-Hope’s advisor. “Water is one of the things we completely take for granted,” he said. “For the people of Nkuv, there are many more fortunate.”

According to Laura Petrosky (’11), fundraising chairperson for EWB, the three rivers available to the community of Nkuv contain approximately 450 fecal colonies per 100 milliliters. When a lake was tested in Holland Michigan, approximately 30 fecal colonies per 100 milliliters were found.

Quality and quantity: these are the issues that need to be addressed in Nkuv, according to Petrosky. She said, “The overall goal is to improve health.”

The first three phases of the project have been successfully completed in the five trips that Hope students have taken to Nkuv, according to Brown. Bio-filters have been built, installed and used, and local people have been trained to sustain them.

Empowering the community is one of the main goals of EWB. Active member Emily Raus (’11) said, “We’re teaching them how to do it; we’re not doing it for them.” Petrosky agreed and said, “You can’t just go there and say, we’re going to do this for you. That just doesn’t work.”

So, EWB has brought a variety of students with various majors together to teach the leaders within the community about healthy habits and awareness of community health issues. They have also taught local people to build, maintain and teach about the bio-filters engineered by EWB, Raus said. “They’ve even started showing surrounding

Students voice shuttle bus concerns

Kevin Souby
Staff Writer

Hope College students voiced their opinions last Wednesday evening over the new shuttle bus system at a town-hall-style meeting in the Phelps cafeteria.

Student Congress organized the event, and David Paul (’10), Student Congress president, officiated.

The meeting began with the administrative panel, consisting of Dean of Students Richard Frost, Bill Marcus transportation supervisor, and Greg Maybury, director of operations, hearing comments and opinions from the student crowd.

Numbering over 50 and split evenly between women and men, the comments quickly grew emotional and heated. Students voiced anger over the shuttle system change having been made over the summer and without student input, others expressed fear for their safety, seeing the new system as less efficient, less safe and an attempt for the administration to save money at the expense of student safety.

The major concerns were over the bus stops themselves, being in unlit areas and too far a walk from student destinations. Also under scrutiny was the wait time for the bus itself which sometimes borders on 20 minutes of standing outside.

The previous system of multiple GMC vans running a taxi-like service around campus had been in place since 1989, but, as mentioned by Maybury, the costs of operating such a system had been large and were rising in recent years. As well as the cost of paying dozens of student-drivers, Maybury added that the shuttle van system carried thousands of on-demand students each month, adding significant mileage to the vans and requiring significant maintenance; purchasing new vans each year was costly.

“There is a reality of where we are as an institution,” commented Dean Frost. “Your tuition costs are going up, and we cannot

Congress representatives give student body a voice

Amy Soukup
Cam pus News Editor

On Friday, Sept. 12, each dorm and residence area of campus had the chance to vote for their Student Congress representative.

These representatives from the dorms, apartments and cottages complete a Congress of 32 student representatives. Along with these newly elected representatives are two representatives from the sophomore, junior and senior classes. Student Congress also has an executive board, including the President (David Paul (’10), Vice President Priscilla Oddo (’10), and Controller Emily Mannenbach (’19).

Hope’s Student Congress plays an important role on campus. “Student Congress represents the students. We’re here to bring the students’ concerns to administration, as well as to come up with a solution that works both for the students as well as administration,” said Oddo.

The 08-09 Student Congress performed a great job, says, “This year’s congress aims to be the vanguard of student-driven leadership on campus by trailblazing new ways that amplify the student perspective.”

Student Congress represents the student perspective in a number of ways. Full congress meets every Tuesday at 9 p.m. All students and faculty are invited to attend and voice their opinion.

When a student writes a proposal and brings it to a Student Congress meeting, it is discussed and voted on. If the vote passes, Congress takes the proposal to Dean of Students Richard Frost or submits it to one of the boards that governs Hope’s campus. Congress also has representatives on each of Hope’s boards.

One of the current issues that Student Congress is working on is making improvements on the new shuttle bus system.

Oddo said, “I am leading a task force that will explore the many possibilities that can keep the student body safe and happy, as well as pleasing the administration.”

Along with hearing students’ opinions and making improvements on campus, Student Congress organizes events for Hope’s students. The next big event they are planning for is Rock the Vote, an effort to encourage students to vote in the upcoming presidential election. Student Congress is collaborating with Hope Republicans and Democrats, Student Activities Committee and Greek life in order to put on a Rock the Vote event. The event will feature bands such as Dear Future and Travis Kinnga. Food and facts will be provided as well as a couple of surprises.

All Hope students are welcome to get involved with the shuttle bus task force, the Rock the Vote event or other Student Congress activities and should contact Student Congress at studentcongress@hope.edu if interested.
September 17, 2008

CAMPUS

THIS WEEK AT HOPE

Thursday  Sept. 18
Dr. Philip D. Gingerich
“Fossils and Evolution: What We Know and How We Know It.”
Vanderwerf 102, 8 p.m.

Friday  Sept. 19
Carlos de Barrera - Classical Guitar
Knickerbocker Theater, 7:30 p.m.
Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for students, seniors and children.

Saturday  Sept. 20
Florez in Concert
Knickerbocker Theater, 8:30 p.m.
Free for students.

Tuesday  Sept. 23
Meijer Lecture Series
Hans Meijer, co-chairman and CEO of Meijer Inc. presents “One Immigrant’s Odyssey: Heredik Meijer, from the Old Country to the New Store.” Niewosz Inn and Conference Center, 4 p.m.

IN BRIEF

RECORD ENROLLMENT

Hope College’s student enrollment has risen for the seventh year in a row. The 2008-2009 student enrollment totals 3,238, slightly higher than last year’s enrollment of 3,226. The transfer student rate is also up compared to 57 students in the fall of 2007.

The current student body represents 42 states and 30 foreign countries with 1,301 men and 1,937 women.

STUDENT CONGRESS ELECTION RESULTS

Apartments - Tracy Piersma, Jason Failing
Gilmore - Lindsay Allward
Durfee - Aaron Martin
Scott - Robert Phillips
Voorhees - Kristen Garrison
Wyckoff - Chelsea Lynch
Lichty/Van Vleck - Oriland Dami
Off-Campus - Jeff Swift, Derek Terrell
Kollen - Mark Tori, Alex Yared
Cook - Laura Jaksa, Luke Tubergen
Phelps - Rachel Syens
Cottages - Abbie Gowman, Austin Jule
Dykstra - Heather Gill, Morgaine Davis, Christa Natke

DEJONG AWARDED

Associate professor of computer science Dr. Matt DeJongh received the Fulbright-Agattuine Regional Council Award. As a result, he will be in France this next spring semester working on a groundbreaking research.

In cooperation with biology researchers, DeJongh will organize and interpret genetic data, like that of the Human Genome Project. DeJongh also received a three-year grant for his ongoing research in bioinformatics at Hope from the National Science Foundation. The $235,022 grant provides support in part for Hope students in the research program.

Global health addressed

• WATER, from page 1

communities how to make them.”

Up next is the installation of a water system that will drastically shorten the distance people must walk to find a water source, said Brown. He added that this is the most costly phase of the project.

At the end of the CIS on Wednesday, Oct. 1, Braddigan will hold a concert at the Knickerbocker Theatre and will donate half of the proceeds to EWB. Petrasky strongly encourages students to “check it out.” Tickets are available at the DeVos Ticket Office; faculty, staff and student tickets are $4 and community tickets are $7.

“You cannot put a price on our safety,” added Priscilla Oddo (’10), Student Congress Vice-President.

An ovation from the student attendees followed her comment.

Though the meeting continued for an hour, the opinions of the students did not vary far. Aside from complaints, however, some offered suggestions to improve the new system.

Changes now being considered by the administration include adding or changing existing bus stops to improve efficiency and usability, adding a second bus to lessen wait times, moving bus stops to lighted areas, installing bus-stop shelters, and installing new Blue Phone emergency poles.

“I don’t feel comfortable in the current situation, and that’s not why I’m paying tuition to go here,” commented one concerned student.

“If (the shuttle system) is not made to where the students feel safe, then they’re simply not going to use it,” said another.

THE TRADITION CONTINUES— Above, Denton Smith (’12) and his moraler, Alison Lechner (’12), train for the Hope College Pull, a tug-of-war competition between the freshmen and sophomore classes that represents the oldest college tradition in the country. Right, Spencer Brown (’12) and Caitlin Pierce (’12) practice and prepare for battle against the class of 2011. The 111th Pull takes place over the Black River near U.S. 31 and M-21 on Saturday, Sept. 27, at 3 p.m.

2011 vs. 2012: Who will win?

Bus controversy provokes discussion

Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2008 • 7:30pm
Knickerbocker Theatre

Braddigan in concert

www.braddigan.com

Presented by
Hope College Concert Series and Critical Issues Symposium

All ticket revenue goes to charity

Tickets:
$10 general public
$5 Hope College community and all students 18 and under

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PHOTOS BY ANN GREEN

STUDENTS SPEAK OUT— Emily Bushell (’10) voices her opinion.

PHOTOS BY KEVIN SOUBLY

Photos in Ann Green


**Women’s golf tour retracts controversial English-only rule**

*By Chris Lewis*  

**Sarasota, Florida**  

Back in August, Golfweek Magazine reported that the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) would require its international member golfers to learn and speak English during the 2009 season. If players failed to comply with the new rule, they would face suspension from the LPGA.  

Commissioner Carolyn Bivens told all LPGA members that by the end of the 2009 season, players from other countries held LPGA membership for two years must pass an oral examination of their English skills or have their membership suspended.  

However, due to continued criticism and pressures from the media and the women players, the LPGA decided to not introduce its new regulation that would compel LPGA tour members to speak English. LPGA tour commissioner Bivens decided to format the English-only policy.
North Korea stops nuclear disarmament citing U.S. offense

Rob Guimond
Guest Writer

On Thursday, Sept. 11, a U.S. envoy left for China on Thursday to ascertain the situation that North Korea had halted disassembling their nuclear program. The U.S met with North Korea, South Korea, Russia, Japan and China in a six-party talk about the nuclear issue.

North Korea announced in late August that it had stopped work because the White House has not taken them off of the United States State Sponsors of Terrorism list. They also threatened to re-build their nuclear complex in Yongbyon.

“North Korea knows what it needs to do,” McCormack said. “Part of what they need to do is to complete work on the verification regime.”

But North Korea’s nuclear programs are not beyond revival. Washington experts estimated that it would take at least a year for North Korea to get their facilities back to the level they were in 2006 when they successfully tested a nuclear bomb. Furthermore, a larger and more capable long-range missile base was made known in early September according to the Associated Press.

Despite this, McCormack doubts that North Korea’s full intentions are to restore their nuclear facilities. Instead, they are using these tactics to pressure the nations of the six-party talk to give more concessions beyond removal of trade sanctions.

This crisis takes place during a time of turmoil for North Korea’s Kim Jong Il regime. South Korea reported that Kim Jong Il suffered a stroke in late August and underwent brain surgery. North Korea confirmed these reports but Kim Yong Nam, North Korea’s second in command, told Japan’s Kyodo News agency that “there are no problems.” Another senior North Korean official dismissed talk of Kim’s illness as a “conspiracy plot” by Western media.

News of political unrest is alarming as North Korea continues to cause global unrest as a nuclear power. “The North has often taken hard-line measures when it was in a difficult situation,” said Kim Yeon-su, a North Korea expert at Korea National Defense University.

The U.S. and South Korea have not yet observed any signs of leadership change or any increased military activity.

“English Only” move retracted by LPGA tour officials

• LPGA, from page 3

to research to see whether or not the LPGA policy was legally discriminatory.

“It’s a no-brainer for those of us who have been the recipient of these kinds of discriminatory acts,” Lee said.

At the same time, one of the LPGA tour’s main sponsors, State Farm Insurance, was very upset by the LPGA tour’s possible suspension of foreign-born players.

“We don’t understand this and we don’t know why they’ve done it,” Kip Diggs, a State Farm spokesman, told Advertising Age, which quoted him on its web site.

“And we have strongly encouraged them to take another look at this.”

Despite the criticism, the LPGA viewed the policy simply as a means to show players how serious the tour is about its expectations of knowing the English language.

“This should be a priority in their professional development just the way working on their short game is a priority;” Gallloway said, according to Golfweek. “We just wanted to be clear about our expectations.”

The Tour will announce a new policy that will no longer include suspensions by the end of the year.

Substance Abuse Awareness Group

Support group for Hope College students only!

Starting Monday, September 29

Location:
Hope College
Dewitt Counseling Center

Monday 11:00 am
Thursday 7:00 pm

For more information contact:
Jon Zita at jonathan.zita@hope.edu
630-319-1407
Famed writer to speak

Critically acclaimed author and columnist visits Hope for the Jack Ridl Visiting Writer’s Series to read and discuss his works

Taylor Hughes  
*Arts Editor*

The Jack Ridl Visiting Writers Series of Hope College opens another season of talented authors and remarkable stories on Thursday, Sept. 25.

On Thursday, Sept. 25, the young and acclaimed Anthony Doerr will be the first to delight readers, writers and the Holland Community with excerpts from his critically acclaimed works. He is also part of VWS to celebrate the life of departed Hope College alumn and poet, Tom Andrews, by reading selections from and speaking on some of Andrews’ pieces.

Doerr’s ties to Andrews and Hope College go back to the time he spent in Rome after receiving the prestigious Rome Prize for his writing in 2004 from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Doerr worked in a studio named after Andrews for his works there at the Academy. Andrews died in 2001 at age 70 after contracting a rare blood disease while traveling throughout Greece.


Doerr’s book, like a long trip through a warm Italian night, is richly rewarding and well worth the effort. “The Seattle Times” said:

>His book, like a long trip through a warm Italian night, is richly rewarding and well worth the effort. “The Seattle Times”

Doerr’s works include not only his memoir and fiction, but also contribution he has made to the Boston Globe in the form of a bimonthly review of science-related books. Doerr is the author of three books: “The Shell Collector,” “About Grace,” and “Four Seasons in Rome.” Doerr’s short fiction has won three O. Henry Prizes and has an/hology in it in American Short Stories, The Anchor Book of New American Short Stories, and The Scribner Anthology of Contemporary Fiction. He has won the Barnes & Noble Discover Prize, and the Ohioana Book Award twice. His books have been a New York Times Notable Book, an American Library Association Book of the Year, a Book of the Year in the Washington Post, as well as many other awards. The British literary magazine Granta placed Doerr on its list of 21 Best Young American Novelists. All Visiting Writers Series readings are free and open to the public.

Readings are held at the Knickerbocker Theatre, unless otherwise noted. Jazz begins at 8 p.m. reading begins at 7 p.m.; There is a Q&A with Anthony Doerr at 3 p.m. in the Herrick Room of the DeVitt Center. All are welcome.

Join Hope’s dance clubs: all welcome to get their dance on

Anna Pillet  
*Guest Writer*

The upstairs of the Dow Center: home to the track, work-out room, and although you may not realize it, three rooms that demand hours of hard work and inspire endless creativity. That’s right, the dance studios. Many may be intimidated by the “dancer zone,” but what a large portion of the student body does not know is that the dance department is home to three student-run clubs: Ballet Club, Hip Hop Club and Swing Club that are open to all students on campus regardless of dance experience.

Made an official Hope club in December 2006, Ballet Club has since been growing exponentially. “Our first (performance) had two people in it, followed by seven, then eight, then over twenty. Finally, this year, we have over thirty people performing in our piece for the Student Dance Concert,” said Sarah Williams (‘09), co-founder of Ballet Club.

The hope of the Ballet Club is to bring awareness to ballet, an art form that has existed for centuries. Anyone and everyone can participate.

The club meets on Monday nights from 8-10 p.m. in Dow 208, and will perform the holiday classic “The Nutcracker” on Dec. 6 in the Knickerbocker Theatre.

Hip Hop Club is a great form of exercise and is often a fun activity for anyone wanting to be a mover, or learn some new ones.

Last but not least, the Swing Club has been in existence on campus for six years. The club provides a beginning swing dance lesson at every event before allowing the attendees to cut loose on the dance floor. All are welcome at these free events.

“You don’t even need a partner,” said club president Megan Pitzer (‘09).

Take a break from studying and add dance into your student experience. You might discover a hidden talent, a new passion, or meet new people. Contact balletclub@hope.edu, hiphopclub@hope.edu, or swingclub@hope.edu, or stop by nights from 8-10 p.m. for more info.

Recognized musician to perform Sept. 20

Rachel Syens  
*Staff Writer*

He has been described as “the musical equivalent of the boys next door” by Maverick (UK), and according to The Sun, a UK daily paper, he “explores big issues, plays great guitar and sings delightfully.” Oh, and he hangs out with Suffan Stevens. Who is he? His name is Denison Witmer, and he will be performing at Hope College on Saturday, Sept. 20.

According to a Hope College press release, Witmer lives in Philadelphia, Penn. and has been on the campus for six years. The club provides a beginning swing dance lesson at every event before allowing the attendees to cut loose on the dance floor. All are welcome at these free events.

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Holland munches with Mozart

Katie Bennett  
Co-editor-in-Chief

The world of classical music tends to involve tuxedos, elevated stages, and stern-faced ushers passing out cough drops. Dr. Andrew Le, piano professor at Hope, hopes to change that with a concert series called “Brown Bag Series at the Arts Council.” The concerts will take place on the first Friday of every month at noon, starting Oct. 3.

The series, which is really a string of what Le calls “concert talks and performances” aims at “stripping all of the pretense, whether real or perceived, from classical music.” Audience members will come as they are, performers will wear their jeans and talk about the pieces they are playing, and most importantly, people will eat.

“The eating part is what actually allowed this idea to blossom,” said Le. “People can eat their lunch while they listen.” The food will be provided by a downtown Holland establishment. Although the vendor hasn’t been decided yet, Le insists, “It will be cheap.”

The concerts are open to everyone, from people who love and know classical music to people who never listen to it and everyone in between. To help illuminate the behind-the-scenes aspects of music, Le will conduct a master class the evening of the first bagged lunch concert from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

“I’ll choose a couple of students from my studio and give them a public lesson. I want to let people in the community experience the process of what we do,” Le said.

Le has worked closely on the project with Lorma Freestone, executive director of the Holland Area Arts Council, who hopes to get more Hope students through the door.

“Most students don’t even know the Art Council exists!” said Le. “It’s so close - Dykstra has a clear view of the building from its window,” Le said. The Arts Council Building, which is located on 8th and Columbia, has proved the ideal place for the bagged lunch concerts.

Not having on campus worked,” Le said. “The Arts Council gallery is such a beautiful open space.” The inaugural event’s program includes both classical and jazz works and a few collaborative pieces, all performed by Hope faculty members. But the series is not just for the professional performers. Le insists that the venue will be open “if a student has something ready, or wants another opportunity to play in their jeans and sandals.”

Ultimately, Le sees the concerts as being even more inclusive.

“I look forward to including concerts more often than once a month and maybe dance, maybe visual art,” Le mused. “But for now, classical and jazz music is stepping off the stage to have lunch with the audience, and everyone is invited.”

Denison Witmer to play at Hope

By riding MAX, Amanda’s saving money and doing her part to help preserve the environment. Student semester passes are just $50, giving you unlimited rides on the fixed routes all semester long. You can even purchase bus passes online at www.catchamax.org, or stop by the Padnos Transportation Center at 8th & Lincoln.

Save money.  
Save the planet.  
Ride the bus.

Amanda’s book smart and street smart. Between her jobs and taking college classes, she’s always on the run. To get where she needs to go, Amanda takes the bus.

By riding MAX, Amanda’s saving money and doing her part to help preserve the environment. Student semester passes are just $50, giving you unlimited rides on the fixed routes all semester long. You can even purchase bus passes online at www.catchamax.org, or stop by the Padnos Transportation Center at 8th & Lincoln.

Save money.  
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Ride the bus.

Hope Press Release – Bruce McCombs, professor of art at Hope College, has recently had his work featured in a variety of venues, including the governor’s residence, a national publication and multiple exhibitions.

He has had two pieces chosen for display in the Michigan Governor’s residence from August of this year through July 2009 as part of the Governor’s Residence Artists Program. Conducted by the program in conjunction with the Aiken B. Dow Museum of Science and the Midland Center for the Arts.

Both works selected by the First Family feature classic automobiles. "Gulliver’s Lincoln," a 22x28 black-and-white etching; and "Van Andel Museum," a 22x30 watercolor. McCombs and his art were featured in a 12-page article published in the spring 2008 edition of "Watercolor" magazine, which notes that “Bruce McCombs uses bold drawing and heightened color to present a powerful and entertaining vision.”

McCombs has been a member of the Hope faculty since 1969.

Art professor recognized

Works by McCombs featured in multiple venues

Denison Witmer to play at Hope

• WITMER, from page 5

longer than those genres have been around,” Kadzban said that in spite of his talent, Witmer is still only largely known within a smaller circle of faithful fans. However, Witmer has played several, well-received shows over the past few years. "Those shows were beautiful, intimate… I have also had a number of students talk to me about those shows and/or ask me to bring Denison to Hope," Kadzban said.

Also playing the show is Ordinary Neighbors, featuring Josh Banner and his wife Susanna Childress. The DeVitt Studio Theatre was chosen for the concert because according to Kadzban, Witmer packed Lemonjello’s in the past and a larger venue was necessary.

I think it will be a very intimate environment for a show with an artist who is best known and heard with just his guitar and voice,” Kadzban said. There are only 120 tickets available and Kadzban believes the show will sell out, so it is advised to get tickets early from the Hope College Ticket Office located in the DeVos Fieldhouse. Tickets are $5 for the Hope community and $10 for the general public. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. and the concert starts at 8 p.m.

Kadzban also recommends listening to Paul and Andrew’s radio show on WTHS on Wednesday from 7-9 p.m. because they will be giving away tickets at some point during the show. For more information e-mail concerts@hope.edu.

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Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac made headlines last week when they were taken over by the federal government. While it is no surprise that the economy has seen better days, the takeover of two of the nation’s largest mortgage companies has shown a real low in the housing economy. But what do the words “housing crisis” mean, and how did we get to this point?

Dr. Robin Klay of Hope’s economics department explained that throughout the ’90s, up until 2001, the economy was strong and housing prices were on the rise. Houses, which are typically a person’s biggest asset, were thus seen both as a place of residency as well as a source of income.

“Those expectations were simply excessive,” said Klay. Since homeowners were feeling richer, they began using new innovation in the industry to borrow money against their assets in order to spend more. At the time, banks were happy to do this, since it was assumed that prices would continue to rise in what is called a “housing bubble.” But all bubbles eventually pop.

Housing prices got higher and higher to the point that they surpassed houses’ actual worth, or, as Alan Greenspan famously said, to an “irrational exuberance.” People began to sell. However, so many houses on the market caused the prices to begin falling.

Klay said, “No economist was surprised this would happen.” On the contrary, it was those who had thought they had gained wealth in the housing bubble that were surprised. Thanks to interest rates and falling house values, homeowners soon owed more than their houses were worth.

“It’s the flip side of the bubble,” said Klay. Thus, in came what was called the “sub-prime housing market.” To boost loans, mortgages were offered at rates that made it affordable to buy a home for people who would not normally be able to. The interest prices were really low at first, and a large down-payment was unnecessary. However, as time went on and interest rates increased, people became unable to pay for their homes.

This problem was caused by the irresponsibility of both the bank and the borrowers, and it was made worse by the economic recession; incomes were falling, and assets were losing value.

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac participated in the sub-prime housing market and went wrong by offering fixed mortgage rates for 30 years. According to Klay, no bank would do that, and some think that if Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac would, the government had no option but to rescue them. Others criticize this move with the philosophy that a failing business should suffer the consequences. However, if Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac had gone out of business, getting a loan would have become significantly more difficult.

The good news is that the housing economy is a cycle; Klay said that once the prices drop low enough, people will begin buying houses again and the market will pick up. She especially said that it will be beneficial for new homeowners who have no current house to sell and will be able to get a bargain. She said that it will also be beneficial for current college students, who will also be able to get a good price on a house by the time they are ready.

Klay said, “For your generation, it’s a good deal.”
Inexcusable insensitivities

One out of every six American women will be sexually assaulted in her lifetime. 38 percent of rapists are a friend or acquaintance. Four in 10 rapes take place in the victims’ home.

Rape is defined as forced vaginal, oral, or anal penetration.

I’ll tell you something few people have the privilege of knowing (until now): my greatest fear isn’t of death or public speaking. My greatest fear is that of rape. Walking across campus at night, my heart races and suddenly my sight and hearing are attuned to the faintest footprint, or the slightest shift of a shadow.

I analyze the situation: who is around if someone grabs me? Will anyone come to my rescue? Should I get on my cell and call someone for moral support, or should I avoid all distractions, in case someone is planning to prey on me?

But I don’t just worry about rape when I’m alone at night. I think about it when I’m at a party, when I’m with an unfamiliar man in an elevator, and when I go on long runs near campus. Why? Because a person can never be too safe.

My mother’s words continue to ring in my conscience: better safe than sorry. But I continue to doubt you’re safe with me and everything will remain strictly confidential.

Rape is not funny. Ever. Rape is not a joke. I doubt you’re laughing now.

Let this be a lesson to everyone on campus – especially women – that you really must be careful whom you trust and the situations in which you put yourself. Because your life can change from a romantic comedy to a horror film in minutes…even seconds.

Since when is the act of rape a joke? Rape is not funny. Ever.

—Ashley DeVecht

Ashley would like to acknowledge A.W. for inspiring her to write this column. You know why. She would also like to thank the counseling center, for the help and comfort it provides to all students, but especially those who have experienced sexual assault.

Ashley DeVecht
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Gotta stay positive

Are we living a hoax?

I am what you call a huge Bigfoot fan, a Sasquatch supporter, a Yeti-head, if you will. Naturally, I went berserk when just a few weeks ago two men hiking through the woods of Northern Georgia claimed that they not only saw a few of these elusive beasts, but had a corpse on their hands as evidence.

Pictures were posted on the internet of the large hairy body smushed into a freezer, eyes glazed and swollen tongue sickly drooping out of its mouth. So cute. Bigfoot hadn’t seen this much publicity since Harry and the Hendersons was adapted into a television show (everyone remembers that, right?).

In my euphoric state I frantically called my family, let all my friends know the details and did the “Sas- squatch Stroll” (a great move on the dance floor if perfected) everywhere I went. “We found him! We found him!”

I was like the Paul Revere for the American mythological monster set warning everyone not of the Redcoats, but of the world where we can stand as one, hand in giant rubbery hand.

We could get the little ones in school. Older ones could get jobs eating our overflowing landfill, eliminating the potential problem for our future generations (Think Green!). Some could be bankers. Get these creatures on the front lines in Iraq. We can see the headlines now: “Terror- ism in Middle East Sasquashed!”

The possibilities are endless!

The responses I received back from my friends and family did not share the same sense of optimism. Jaded naysayers, all of them.

We know when incidents like this arise there is a very good chance of hoax (which it turned out to be), but still, why fault hope? At what point in our lives do we lose childlike curiosity and become lackluster bores? I know it would be tough to pinpoint the exact moment for some.

Others could probably reflect on the whole Santa debacle or when they were told Ashlee Simpson lip synched at that one concert you went to (some- one very close to me is still troubled by this discovery. This very same per- son may also be writing this column). I am not advocating the acceptance of all out naivety by any means. I just think we all would share a more con- tented disposition if we could revive our juvenile hunger for knowledge and intrigue. Step number one would be to avoid shunning some of life’s greatest mysteries or assuming they are simply nonsense. Ghouls, aliens, who’s inside the Dutch costume at football games. I want answers . . . but not too many.

If there are any real Yetis reading this please contact the columnist at robert.casey@hope.edu. Remember, you are safe with me and everything will remain strictly confidential.

R.J. Casey
Indifferent karma

The new cigarette

Our society is beginning to transition into a more environmentally friendly lifestyle. There are some individuals still holding on to their wallet-busters, all because they wish to remain cool: they are the hummer-drivers. Much like cigarette smokers, these people are becoming targets of social criticism and new taxes.

Hummer drivers are well aware of the pains they have to endure to keep up with this absurd vehicle. This behemoth costs an arm and a leg to fill, but the good news is you can feel safe knowing that unless you get into a head-on collision with an armored car, you’re going to be protected.

For those of us not possessed with this compulsive need for an unyielding automobile, we should move past the disbelief. Face it, there are people who think they need a car that takes up two lanes while driving to the grocery store.

Instead, we should take advantage of this way of life that seems to worship excess, and put it to use for us.

There is no way that anyone outside of Shaquille O’Neal or Bear Grylls could rationalize the owning of a Hummer; and the funny thing is that even the people who make Hummers realize this. All Hummer commercials show the vehicle bounding over dunes in the Sahara or speeding across frozen tundra in the arctic.

The advertisers show these extreme situations and are somehow tricking the average Joe into thinking that he may need a vehicle with the capability to seat 13 people while scaling the side of a mountain.

There is also no such thing as a fuel-efficient Hummer. The average Hummer gets 10 mpg in the city, which makes it equivalent to some riding lawn mowers. Driving a fuel-efficient Hummer is a bigger oxymoron than eating jumbo shrimp or listening to Ultimate Barry Manilow.

Even with all these obvious negatives to Hummers, there is an option for those of us who have seen the light of not owning such a waste. Car. Taking a page from the smokers, if we want to deter people from buying this car, we simply need to put a tax on everything associated with Hummers.

Do you want to trick out your H3 with custom spinning rims? We implement a rim tax. Do you want your kids to watch DVDs while you’re driving? We implement the “Finding Nemo” tax.

By putting a tax on all these different aspects of owning a Hummer, we can start to deter people from buying these cars, while still making a profit from the holdovers. Everyone wins! Until then, those of us with common sense will have the ability to make do with dirty looks as these brute automobiles lumber down the road. You can’t stand up to them, lest you become a mere speed bump on their path of environmental destruction.

Eric Anderson encourages you not to take anything too seriously, especially this column. E-Mail him at eric.anderson@hope.edu.
US takes over mortgage firms

The Mortgage Bankers Association reported that the first quarter delinquency rate on mortgages in 2008 rose to 6.35 percent from 5.82 percent last quarter. Mortgages are deemed delinquent when homeowners fall behind on monthly payments. This often leads to mortgage defaults.

Three possible government sponsored solutions have been laid out by experts to rebuild the mortgage industry. One possibility is the disenfranchising of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac into several entities. Recapitalizing the corporations while adding a few regulations is another possibility. Yet another possibility is to restructure them as regulated utilities with rates and profits set by the government.

Whatever the solution, economists assert that all is not lost. It is a cycle in history that exposes some structural issues,” said Hawtrey. “It could take 1 to 2 years to fix the crisis in the financial sector.”

Tibetan shares experiences with student

Their music was featured on NBC’s hit show “Scrubs,” and they have performed on stage with Gavin Degraw, Matt Wertz, and Josh Kelley. They sing in Spanish, French, and English, and one of the members, Eric, was on Survivor: China.

Were you the kid who got in trouble in Sunday School for asking too many questions?

Come join the rest of us!

Wednesday, September 17
Through November 5
6-8 pm
Grace Episcopal Church
555 Michigan Ave.
Holland, MI 49423
Call for more information or to register
616-396-7459

SAC presents...

FREE CONCERT:

Their music was featured on NBC’s hit show “Scrubs”, and they have performed on stage with Gavin Degraw, Matt Wertz, and Josh Kelley. They sing in Spanish, French, and English, and one of the members, Eric, was on Survivor: China.

Come listen to their smooth, energetic music for FREE!!!

Seats limited to the first 500 only!

Saturday, September 20 at 8:30 pm
in the Knickerbocker Theater
A look at performance-enhancing substances in Division III athletics

Karen Patterson  
Assistant Sports Editor

In recent years it seems that sports and performance enhancing drugs have become almost synonymous. With Major League Baseball taking much of the heat, all of a sudden athletes who have long been considered heroes and legends in their sports are now being questioned if their ability is natural or if they had a little help along the way.

Drug testing has become a prominent issue in the sports world, with athletes at all levels being put under tests to show that they are, in fact, really that talented. While things like steroids, anabolic agents, and stimulants can seem so far away, it affects everyone, right down to the student athletes here at Hope College.

As early as 1986 the National Collegiate Athletic Association has been drug-testing athletes at all levels. While they started out by just testing postseason qualifying teams, eventually the policy was expanded to include random year-round testing to ensure that athletes are staying clean both in and out of season.

So how exactly does this affect Hope College? For the most part, it doesn’t have a very large impact on Hope athletics; the school is not one of the schools that has been selected for year-round testing. However, when Hope athletic teams qualify for the NCAA tournament in their respective sport, there is always a chance that they may be tested prior to competition. Recent examples of this include the volleyball team in 2006 and the women’s basketball team in the ’05-’06 season when they won the national championship.

Even though drug testing is not something that is done regularly at Hope, the coaching staff and athletic trainers, as well as the athletes themselves, have high expectations for their teams. While each coach has a different style in how they coach their teams, football coach Dean Kreps, track and field coach Kevin Cole, and women’s basketball coach Brian Morehouse all agreed that if they discovered one of their players was using performance enhancers, they would openly and honestly approach that athlete.

“I would explain to them that it isn’t tolerated on our team... I think that they need help more than they need punishment,” Cole said. “I believe, though, that the type of well-rounded student athletes we attract are less likely to use performance-enhancing drugs than those that are only focused on athletic achievement and attaining a sports scholarship.”

While it may seem unfair, the fact that Hope cannot offer athletic scholarships because they are a Division III school may almost work in the school’s advantage. While the sports teams at Hope are notable and consistently perform at levels higher than the competition, many of the athletes are here to be more than just members of a sports team.

However, being more than just an athlete does not exempt players from responsibilities. Should anyone ever test positive for a banned substance, the player will automatically be ineligible to participate in regular season or postseason competition for one full calendar year. The Hope Athletic Department ensures that all student athletes are aware of the policies and penalties by holding a meeting for all sports teams at the beginning of each year.

While drug testing is not necessarily something that people enjoy talking about and thinking about, the reality is that for the near future, it is here to stay. The NCAA discourages people from looking at this as a negative process, though.

According to Dan Dutcher, the NCAA vice-president for Division III, “The goal is to improve the health of student athletes and ensure fair competition amid concerns about the use of performance-enhancing drugs at all levels of sports.” Overall this seems to fall in line with the goals of Hope’s coaches and athletic trainers.

Whether you are an athlete who has been tested in the post-season at Hope, or an occasional fan, drug testing in sports at all levels is something that affects each of us. The next time you see Nora Sleek (’09) slam a ball between the opposite blocker’s arms, Jesse Reimink (’09) sink a three-pointer right at the buzzer, or one of the track relay teams win by a land-slide, just remember the effort that goes into that performance, and more importantly, what doesn’t.

**EROGENIC DRUG USE BY NCAA DIVISION III (2005)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ephedrine</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anabolic Steroids</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutritional Supplments</td>
<td>28.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amphetamines</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Correction:** Women's soccer MIAA defensive player of the week was Courtney Cook (‘11) not Courtney Erin. The Anchor regrets this error.
Welcome to the Macatawa Bay Yacht Club. Home to hundreds of Holland’s finest shipping vessels and, unbeknownst to most, the Hope College sailing team.

With seven sailboats and as many lifejackets as sailors, the sailing team disembarks for the picturesque Lake Macatawa—with its lush adult foresta, lakeshore homes, and glowing view of “Big Red”—typically every weekday to enjoy the splendor of the open water.

Students of all backgrounds are encouraged to take to the waters no matter their level of experience. Alongside the seven highly trained and excelled sailors, anyone with a remote interest in sailing can get his or her feet wet.

Skipper Jessica Stanley (’10), a sailor since age 7, asks that those interested come out to watch and learn. As a matter of fact, most of the 20 to 35 members of the sailing team have done just that. After climbing aboard one of the two-person sailboats, these new sailors jump right into the action with the help of their boat’s skipper. Within 30 seconds, sailors learn how to control their boat’s headsail or jib, and shortly thereafter, they embark on their first sailing race. All along the way, the skippers eagerly coach their sailors.

“What we’re trying to do is to let you do what you want. If you’re a diehard racer then we can race competitively, but if you just want to come out, have fun, and relax then we’re up for that too,” said Commodore Colin Vis (’10).

This openness truly exemplifies the ambiance of the sailing team. No matter if you are a veteran like skipper Laine Klopfenstein (’12) or a novice like Rachael Wierenga (’12), the sailing team invites you to join them on Lake Macatawa.

“I don’t like water but I went to practice and had fun. Now, I have about seven days worth of experience,” Wierenga said.

For those competitively inclined students, the sailing team presents a unique opportunity. Every weekend from late-August through mid-November, the team heads out to Indiana, Wisconsin, Lansing and numerous other locations for regattas where they sail against Division I varsity and club teams.

“We’re the only team to compete against Big Ten schools. And we do pretty well. This past weekend in Indiana, we beat Michigan State,” Vis said. The Hope College sailing team is extremely important, being able to develop that competitive mentality,’ Schmidt said. “High standards are something we talk about a lot. I also think from a Division III perspective, although we’re trying to keep the whole athletic experience competitive, we want our team to be involved in the community and other things on campus. It’s not just about volleyball. Volleyball is important, but I’m going to be much more concerned about having a positive collegiate experience than just winning some matches.”

Schmidt will only take a modest amount of credit for the team’s success. “I think it comes down to the players we have. The success I had as a player was due to excellent teammates and coaches. It’s important for team members to work hard and maintain a selfless attitude, and always try to work for team success,” Schmidt said. “We’ve been lucky to have players that have similar kind of mentalities. All coaches can do is try to provide the framework to reach goals they have set for themselves. I think that it’s definitely more about the players and the total team effort it takes to make this kind of thing happen. We’ve got really high expectations for what we’re trying to achieve.”

As for the upcoming season, the outlook appears to be positive.

“I fully anticipate this team and players coming up behind them will compete at the same high level, hopefully pursuing more every step of the way, while trying to help us improve.

Fifth-year volleyball coach reaches milestone 100th win

Meghan Wilson

just five years into her coaching career at Hope College, Becky Schmidt reached the milestone of 100 wins on Sept. 6. The team’s tight knit and does a great job of working together, along with Schmidt, who has been with Hope College since 2004.

Schmidt came to Hope College as a student in 1990 originally intending to play basketball. “While it was a good experience, it wasn’t really the experience I was hoping it would be,” Schmidt said. “I had friends on the volleyball team and decided to give that a shot. I ended up making the JV team as a sophomore, got moved up to varsity three weeks later, then had a starting position a couple weeks later. It really was a whirlwind experience, obviously an amazing experience, because I discovered volleyball is definitely where I should be.”

Schmidt played volleyball at Holland High and was team captain as a senior. Schmidt was a middle hitter throughout both high-school and college. Former Hope College volleyball coach Maureen Dunn served as a mentor for Schmidt, and she eventually started getting interested in coaching. Her coaching career began first with eighth graders, then with the freshman volleyball team at Hamilton High School.

“I think what I learned from Coach Dunn was the importance of having high standards, and really how to be competitive, how to push yourself and each other, and have high standards with the people you are playing with. That really characterized her coaching and her as a professor,” Schmidt said.

Schmidt tried to adapt these standards and use them as a basis for her own coaching.

While she learned a lot from both playing and learning from other coaches, Schmidt says her greatest learning experience came from coaching in Miami of Ohio in a Division I setting.

“I think one of the things I learned in Miami is, tactically, how to take advantage of opponent’s weaknesses. There are little games within the game, and it’s important for the team to know how to best take advantage of our strengths and exploit the opponent’s weaknesses,” Schmidt said. “Looking at all the different aspects of the game determines overall success. These sub-games include stuff like out serving the opponent and passing better than the opponent. We as coaches learned how to break it down into each one of those little things, and see how as a coaching staff we could improve.”

Coach Schmidt continues to hold high standards for her team.

“I want them to be competitive, I want them to see games within the game. Competition is extremely important, being able to develop that competitive mentality’,” Schmidt said. “High standards are something we talk about a lot. I also think from a Division III perspective, although we’re trying to keep the whole athletic experience competitive, we want our team to be involved in the community and other things on campus. It’s not just about volleyball. Volleyball is important, but I’m going to be much more concerned about having a positive collegiate experience than just winning some matches.”

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SPORTS

September 17, 2008

The Anchor

CENTURY MARK— Coach Becky Schmidt poses with the women’s varsity volleyball team. The team earned Schmidt her 100th win on Sept. 6.