Student Congress gears up for new academic year

Kara Shetler, Guest Writer
Matthew Oosterhouse, Campus News Editor

A new school year means new representatives, leaders and goals for Hope College’s Student Congress. While executive board members and representatives of the sophomore, junior and senior classes were elected last spring, elections for dorm and cottage representatives took place on Sept. 13 and 14.

The new Student Congress president, Jay Gibbs (’09), has goals for reevaluating and strengthening various aspects of the organization this year to make its operations more effective. “This year, Student Congress needs to do a little bit of remodeling and maintenance work,” Gibbs said. “We’ve had a lot of programs that have been running for a long time and need to be revamped and need to be tailored more to the whole student body.” Gibbs has a clear vision for how these changes will take place. “My specific goals lie within programming. As president, I have a more managerial role in this congress and so my goal is to see every program that comes out of Student Congress is the best that it can be and be tailored so that Hope students want it and are interested in it,” Gibbs said. This is no small undertaking considering the breadth and involvement of Student Congress operations. According to the see CONGRESS, PAGE 10

SWEAT AND TEARS

BROTHERS IN ARMS—Odd Year Pull team members, Andrew Napoli (’11), left, Gabe Rubio (’11), and Isaac Bennett (’11), right, embrace in celebration upon learning of their team’s victory over the Even Year team. The Pull went the full three hours with Odd Year winning by 30 feet, 11 inches.

FRIDAY:
8:30pm Holland Municipal Stadium
Hope vs. Alma Football Game
2:00pm

SATURDAY:
10:00am Homcoming Service
Dimmitt Chapel

Events set for Alumni Week
Shannon Craig, News Editor
Homcoming is providing Hope College students, faculty, staff and alumni with a “passport to the world” this weekend, Oct. 5-7.

Highlight of the upcoming festivities include the 30th annual Run-Walk, a parade, a football game against Alma College, a student dance and a special worship service Sunday morning.

It is expected that hundreds of alumni will travel back to Hope’s campus for homcoming weekend as, in conjunction with the weekend’s events, the classes of 1987, 1992, 1997 and 2002 will be holding their reunions.

Student organizations will decorate cars and create makeshift floats for the traditional homecoming parade. The parade will start at 13th Street and College Avenue on Oct. 6 at 1 p.m. and wind its way through campus until it reaches Holland Municipal Stadium.

Alma College will be at Hope on Oct. 6 to challenge the Flying Dutchmen in the Homecoming football game at 2 p.m. Halftime festivities will include the presentation of the 12th annual “Favorite Faculty/Staff Member Award,” as well as the coronation of the Homecoming king and queen.

The annual homecoming dance for students will be held Oct. 6 at the Haworth Inn and Conference Center. The dance will feature a live swing band from 8:30 p.m. until 11 p.m. Tickets cost $7 in advance at the Student Union Desk and $10 at the door.

See full story on page 2.

Hopec exchange immigration stories

Katie Harper, Guest Writer

Members of Hope College’s campus community have been using the past weeks to share in an important, yet often untold story.

While this year’s Critical Issues Symposium on Oct. 2-3 examines the issue of immigration, many students, faculty and community members have taken advantage of the weeks prior to the symposium to learn more about the topic.

Several events recently offered on campus have served as preparation for the upcoming immigration discussion.

From Sept. 20-27, the Knickerbocker Theatre showed the award-winning film “Crossing Arizona.” The film depicts the struggles related to the nearly 4.500 people that illegally cross Arizona’s border each day. It examines the issue through the eyes of frustrated ranchers that have to clean up the property damage often associated with the illegal traffic, humanitarians groups working to prevent the deadly border-crossing dangers, farmers that depend on the illegal migrant workers and the newly formed Minutemen that patrol the border.

“Crossing Arizona” examines the crisis through the eyes of those directly affected by it,” a Hope College press release said. “It shows how we got to where we are today.”

The film has been shown at the Knickerbocker before, but was this year presented in conjunction with the Critical Issues Symposium. Dan De Vivo, the film’s director, and Mike Wilson, an activist featured in the film, are participating in the symposium on Oct. 3.

Pre-symposium speaker spoke on second-generation immigration

Camps and community members were also invited to a pre-symposium speaker Alejandro Portes’ presentation. His address entitled “Segmented Assimilation: Prospects for the Immigrant Second Generation” was held on Tuesday, Sept. 25, at 4 p.m. in Mead Auditorium.

Portes is a Cuban native who became a U.S. citizen in 1968. Today, he is a well-known sociologist at Princeton University and the director of the Center for Migration and Development. He has also authored several prestigious articles and books. see CIS, page 10

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Budget crisis—Lack of funds force brief state government shutdown

Coming home—Hope football to play Alma this Saturday

Page 12

Get a story idea? Let us know at anchor@hope.edu, or call us at 395-7877.
Legendary: Freshmen blast ’10

ON SATURDAY, October 6, the entire campus was filled with the roar of students, the clink of medals, and the cheers of people. The Day of Pull was a time to show off the competitive side of the college, and this year’s freshman team was determined to do just that.

The day began with the traditional pep rally, where each team was given a chance to show their spirit and enthusiasm. The Odd Year team, led by their captain, Matt Van Oostenburg, was ready to give their all. They wore their traditional maroon and gold uniforms, painted their faces with war paint, and even had their hair and nails done. The Even Year team, on the other hand, was not as ready. They were still recovering from last year’s loss and were not as confident.

But the_odd Year team refused to let their past defeat affect their performance. They were determined to win and showed it with their determination and fierce determination. They were supported by their friends, family, and the entire campus, who were cheering them on from the sidelines.

The Day of Pull was a physical and mental challenge, and theOdd Year team was prepared for it. They had trained hard and were ready to take on the Even Year team. The Even Year team, on the other hand, was not as prepared. They were still dealing with the effects of their loss and were not as confident.

The Day of Pull was a test of strength and strategy. The Odd Year team was able to outsmart theEven Year team, and they were able to pull the rope with all their might. The Even Year team was left behind, and it was clear that the Odd Year team was the winner.

The Odd Year team was elated with their victory, and theEven Year team was disappointed with their defeat. But both teams were proud of themselves, and they knew that they had given their all. The Day of Pull was a test of their limits, and both teams were able to show their strength and determination.

The Odd Year team was able to show their spirit and determination, and they were able to win the Day of Pull. The Even Year team was not as successful, but they were still proud of themselves and showed their determination.

The Day of Pull was a test of strength and strategy, and both teams were able to show their limits. The Odd Year team was able to outsmart theEven Year team, and they were able to pull the rope with all their might. The Even Year team was left behind, and it was clear that the Odd Year team was the winner. The Odd Year team was elated with their victory, and theEven Year team was disappointed with their defeat. But both teams were proud of themselves, and they knew that they had given their all. The Day of Pull was a test of their limits, and both teams were able to show their strength and determination.
Bridging the $1.75 billion gap
Michigan Legislature narrowly avoids disastrous, prolonged shutdown

Laura Stritzke
Guest Writer

Michigan’s new fiscal year started Monday, Oct. 1, and Michigan lawmakers reached a deal with Gov. Jennifer Granholm barely in time to prevent a potentially disastrous statewide government shutdown.

In her Sept. 21 radio address, Gov. Granholm said, “We need a comprehensive (budget) solution by Oct. 1 when the new fiscal year begins.”

Granholm stayed true to her demands, ordering a full-government shutdown Oct. 1 at 12:01 a.m., when 35,000 government workers were threatened with temporary layoffs.

Crisis was averted when the state Senate voted on tax cuts, which allowed a 30-day extension of the current Michigan budget.

Democratic Lt. Gov. John Cherry cast the deciding vote of 20-19 at 4 a.m. The decision was then brought to Granholm’s office and all government services and functions were reinstated.

Among the changes voted for by the Senate are the expansion of the 6 percent sales tax to various services and to raise the 3.9 percent income tax rate to 4.35 percent. These tax increases will generate $1.35 billion in additional revenue for Michigan.

Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop said that lawmakers were now going to begin the task of cutting $435 million from state spending in order to fix a permanent 2007-2008 state budget. These tax increases should eliminate the projected $1.75 billion deficit.

“This budget agreement is the right solution for Michigan,” Granholm said. “We prevented massive cuts to public education, health care and public safety while also making extensive government reforms and passing new revenue.”

Democratic leaders hailed the decision as a “responsible compromise.” Many Republicans, however, noted the increased tax on services and income would be permanent but was to remain in effect for some time, pending an investigation into the incident. U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, in addition to offering her condolences for the lost lives, promised a “fair and transparent” investigation so that “such acts will not be repeated,” stated the office of Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki.

Blackwater claimed that the dead were armed insurgents and had provoked the firm’s employees into opening fire. “(Blackwater employees) acted lawfully and appropriately in response to a hostile attack … The ‘civilians’ … were in fact armed enemies and Blackwater personnel returned defensive fire,” said an official Blackwater statement.

Iraqi officials will file charges
An Iraqi official disputed Blackwater’s statement, claiming that the Iraqi government was in possession of a videotape that showed Blackwater employees opening fire unprovoked on Iraqi civilians. Testimonies of eyewitnesses were also gathered by Iraqi investigators as evidence for the case.

After reviewing the evidence presented to them, investigators came to the conclusion that Blackwater employees had been provoked in the Nisoor Square incident and that the case would be sent forward to the Iraqi judicial system.

According to Iraqi officials, formal charges will be filed against the Blackwater employees involved in the fighting. However, it is unclear how the men will be brought to trial, as Ordinance 11 from the Coalition Provisional Authority grants private security contractors such as Blackwater immunity from Iraqi laws.

However, Iraqi government spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh does not agree that private security contractors should have this immunity, stating that “an Iraqi law should be implemented on everybody. Now (that) Iraq is under a sovereign government, they have the right to take any action and any steps against any security company as long as they are not complying with the Iraqi regulations and the Iraqi laws.”

Whether the Blackwater employees involved in the Nisoor Square incident are certain, but at least 10 Iraqis died in the fighting. The deaths of these people caused an uproar among Iraqis and prompted the Iraqi Interior Ministry to shut down Blackwater’s operations in Iraq.

This suspension was not necessarily meant to be permanent but was to remain in effect for some time, pending an investigation into the incident.

U.S. firm Blackwater kills Iraqi civilians
Brian McElhaney
Senior Staff Writer

The founder of Blackwater USA, Erik Prince, testified Tuesday before a House Committee on the accountability of private security contractors in Iraq following a Sept. 16 shooting which killed 10 Iraqi civilians. Prince is a Holland native and former Navy SEAL.

On Sept. 16, Blackwater, a private security contracting firm, was escorting a United States State Department diplomatic convoy in Baghdad when it became involved in a firefight. A police station, located between the Sunni neighborhoods of Mansour and Yarmouk in Baghdad, never existed.

The details of the battle are not known for certain, but at least 10 Iraqis died in the fighting. The deaths of these people caused an uproar among Iraqis and prompted the Iraqi Interior Ministry to shut down Blackwater’s operations in Iraq.

About waves of protest, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad visited New York this week to address the United Nations. Speaking before the General Assembly, Ahmadinejad denounced attempts by the U.N. Security Council to place sanctions on his country, saying that the nuclear issue in Iran is “now closed.”

Ahmadinejad stated that all monitoring of Iran’s nuclear program should be done “through its appropriate legal path,” the International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.N. nuclear watchdog agency.

While Ahmadinejad did not mention the United States by name, he criticized the actions of “arrogant powers” that “extensively violate” human rights by abducting persons and holding “trials and secret punishments without any regard to due process.” Iran has been charged with many of the human rights concerns that Ahmadinejad raised.

“Ahmadinejad and others perform” former U.N. Ambassador John Bolton said, according to the Associated Press. Bolton went on to describe the United Nations as a “Twilight Zone” that gives a platform to “tinhorn dictators.”

In response to Ahmadinejad taking the stage, the United States delegation is reported by the Associated Press to have promptly walked out, leaving only a low-ranking note-taker to record his statement. This was done “to send a message to the United Nations General Assembly, Sept. 25. His stop at New York City.

CONTRIVOSAL SPkEAKER—Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad waves prior to speaking during the 62nd session of the United Nations General Assembly, Sept. 25. His stop at the U.N. was a part of his controversial visit to New York City.

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Ahmadinejad visits New York, speaks at Columbia

**COLUMBIA, from page 3**

Qassim Abdul-Zahra
ASSOCIATE PRESS WRITER

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq’s prime minister told The Associated Press on Friday that a U.S. Senate proposal to split the country into regions according to religious or ethnic divisions would be a “catastrophe.”

The Kurds in three northern Iraqi provinces are running a virtual campaign to reject legislation in the U.S. Congress that would divide the country, Opposition leaders said.

Qassim Abdul-Zahra, Iraq's deputy prime minister, said the new government has failed to push the plan through parliament.

“Such a decision would be a catastrophe.”

**Iraqis are eager for Iraq’s unity.**

— Nouri al-Maliki, Iraqi Prime Minister

The majority Shiites, who will retain control of most oil revenues under a division of the country, oppose the measure because it would diminish the territorial integrity of Iraq, which they now control. Sunni and Shiites in Baghdad have reacted with extreme opposition to the U.S. Senate proposal.

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— Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad

Iran’s constitution lays down that it is clear that he will not stop what he is doing.

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Iraqi prime minister pans Senate partition proposal

al-Maliki responds negatively to suggestion that Iraq be divided between Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds

Qassim Abdul-Zahra
ASSOCIATE PRESS WRITER

ABU DHABI (AP) — Iraq’s prime minister, Nouri al-Maliki, told AP on a return flight to Baghdad from New York where he appeared at the U.N. General Assembly, “Iraqis are eager for Iraq’s unity.”

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**Noah Thomas**

**Arts**

**Thursday, October 3, 2007**

**Guest Writer**

**Julie Kocsis**

Mat Kearney, a Nashville-based singer-songwriter, will be performing this Monday, Oct. 8th at 8 p.m. in Dimnent Chapel. Kearney released his first CD, “Nothing Left to Lose” in April of 2006. From this CD he released the title track “Nothing Left to Lose,” which gained immediate success and popularity. His newly-released song “Undeniable” is currently on Billboard’s Top 40 Charts and VH1’s Top 20 Countdown. In April of 2007, one year after releasing his debut album, he released an iTunes exclusive EP. This EP consists of four songs from “Nothing Left to Lose” that have been “stripped down” to acoustic form. Kearney certainly has a style all his own, mixing hip-hop beats, pop choruses, acoustic folk and even spoken verse. His lyrics are also very much an important part of his music.

“When I set out to write, I want to write something that will rip your heart out and connect with you. Great songs connect beyond genre,” Kearney said.

“My artistic goal was to write something that’s one hundred percent real and true to me and to this world. I tried to touch on truths that really connect with people from every avenue of life.”

A song of which Kearney is proud is “Breathe In Breathe Out,” which he describes in his online journal as “one of the best songs I have written in a long time.”

“Breathe In, Breathe Out” can be heard on his MySpace page along with his video for “Undeniable” and two other songs, “Nothing Left to Lose” and “Girl America.”

Tickets are $20 for the general public and $10 for students with a Hope College I.D. Tickets for the show are available online at HopeTickets.com and by phone at 616-395-7890.

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**Katie Bennett**

**Arts Editor**

Q: What is it like teaching both music students and dance students?
A: It was about 1975 before I started introducing it here at Hope. It wasn’t always a self-contained course. Back then, I simply integrated it into music theory. Eurhythmics is the study of expressive, and I stress expressive, musical rhythm through body movement. And I can’t think of a better way to present music on all levels. So much of our music teaching is geared to the reading of music, to reading the symbol on the printed page.

Q: What is it like teaching both music students and dance students eurhythmics?
A: I like to explain it this way: we’re all involved with cutting up space and time. Danc- ers are moving in space and they need to realize the rhythmic implications of movement. And then there are the dancers who learn rhythmic notation, whereas music students come with training and rhythmic notation but without understanding of the feeling behind the notation. So it’s interesting to have both types of students in the class together. The dancers of course can model good movement for the music students, which is desirable. And the music students are more skillful at reading rhythmic notation, so it works out quite satisfactorily.

Q: How has the music department changed over the years?
A: A big question. When I came to Hope Col- lege all those years ago, it was strictly a Bach- elor of Arts degree. Students could get majors, but they could have an education major in music but it wasn’t a Bachelor’s of Music Education degree as we know it today. I believe our first one generation graduated in 1970 with Bachelor’s of Music degrees. It was one of course, perhaps why I wanted to stay here. The department was growing and becoming more professional in a sense. So far as I can remember, 71, I went on sabbatical and then you’re kind of hooked. You have tenure, and then here you are 45 years later. I love the college I love the area where we are, and watching the changes occur not only in the college and in the music department but in Holland. 40 years is a favorite class it’s very interesting.

Q: Is there any chance that you’ll still perform with the orchestra after this year?
A: I don’t know, you’ll have to talk to Mr. Piippo.

Q: Some of your students want to know: what is your favorite color?
A: I mean they don’t know that it’s blue!! But not orange unfortunately! So will I be wearing an orange and blue tie on Saturday? I don’t think so.

Q: What animal would you be?

Q: Which is your favorite class of all time?
A: Well this one of course! (laughs) Every year is a favorite class it’s very interesting how that goes, and you develop very special relationships with students and you’re sad to see them go and yet another crop of stu- dents comes along and fills their shoes. And I think oh I’ll never have another student as good as this student, and then low and be- hold, you do. It’s impossible to pick a favor- ite class.

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**All eyes on Charles Aschbrenner**

**Piano prof reflects back on years well spent**

(I ran into them there), and I was thinking, of piano?

Q: What made you decide to come to Hope?
A: So 45 years ago you started teaching at Hope. 45 years ago you started teaching at Hope. Did you always want to teach here?

Q: You mean they don’t know that it’s blue?!!
A: We’re honoring me I guess for all those years of service to Hope College. Forty-five of them! A lot of water has passed under the bridge in those years.

Q: I bet! What are your responsibilities as grand marshal?
A: 45 years ago you started teaching at Hope.

Q: What is your favorite color?
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Q: What is your favorite color?
A: I played both instruments through college.

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THE PULL
**In pursuit of knowledge**

**Evelyn Daniel**

**A moral question**

When you think about the immigration debate, what first comes to mind? Is it an image of political leaders attempting to win votes? Is it a criminal act to offer any assistance to immigrants who were in the United States illegally, among other provisions. As the cardinal interpreted it, this would prohibit anyone from offering food, clothing or shelter without asking for documentation of their citizenship status.

When you think about the immigration issue as merely political would be sorely misguided. It is saturated with intensely personal moral questions, the answers to which are critical to our individual identities. How, for example, will we balance the need to maintain security and rule of law in our society with the biblical command to love our neighbors? When do we allow our religious views to dictate how we vote or how we treat others, and state district separately, even in our own minds? When, as in Mahoney’s case, is civil disobedience justified?

I fear that on Thursday, it will be tempting to walk away from CIS unchanged. Much of us will go listen to the speakers and panelists. But after it’s over, how many of us will actually take a stand? Will any of us be confident enough in our opinions to take action — so seriously begin to partake in the debate in the future? Immigration is indeed a societal problem that requires immediate government attention. Nonetheless, if we as individuals overlook its significance as a moral dilemma, is it possible that we will lose genuine progress?”

Evelyn was amused to learn this week that an Illinois middle school banned hugging. The principal was concerned that excessive hugging led students to be late for classes and caused crowding in hallways.

**October 3, 2007**

**SENIOR STAFF WRITER**

— David Lee (’08)

**LETTERS TO THE EDITORS**

**Students should show more community**

To the Editors:

I’d like to see students out of their dorm rooms, out of their busy-as-hell lives, away from all of the meetings and activities, out of their residence halls, to see how they feel when they meet each other in DeWitt. You know, the Student Center which is far from being the student center. The situation right now feels unfair. I’ve attended Hope for three years and barely know people from my own class outside of the humanities departments. I know a handful of ‘athletes,’ I’ve met nursing students more regularly off campus, in other towns, than on campus. Three years! The campus feels he sized. It isn’t intentionally clique-less, but it is — by your dorm and gender, by sorority and fraternity, by your academic and activities. It begins when you’re brought to the campus and continues in DeWitt. You know, the Student Center, which is far from being the student center.

I think about how students need community. Everyone needs a place, a group of people they visit, see, hang out with on more a casual, informal basis. A group of people that you spend some time just talking with. Unorganized, unhindered and unplanned fun. Imagine a night at the bar, just without the beer and the belligerence or a party without being illegal or stupid. That doesn’t mean that these people you know aren’t important to you, that you don’t care about them. Far from it. They check up on you. You’ll be missed, whether you want to be or not. You may or may not in keep touch in these people forever but you won’t forget each other. You don’t have to, you just respect enough to talk. Everyone is included and everyone has the choice to participate. Otherwise it is oppression. It’s a bunch of people interested in each other for the sake of each other, rather than by some specific point of interest, which can get ugly. Think Democrat/Republican, or any such binary division on campus.

We can’t talk to each other if we don’t know each other, and we don’t know each other if we never meet each other. If we never talk to each other, no meaningful dialogue happens and without that, nothing changes. This is part of the fabric that makes our bubble. There’s a stigma around having acquaintances or casual friends here. Everything has to be so serious. You’re ostracized from certain groups if you hang out with the wrong people or do the wrong things. It’s not explicit, the group just stops hanging out with you, stops calling you. There are people that have lost entire groups of friends this way. Everything is so personal, and it’s not the way it should be.

But we’re all too busy, and Hopemakers are sure you don’t have time to talk to the person next to you. We’re cast into roles, we’re pressured to be something more, get your name on a committee, a roster, anything. We’re stressed, we don’t have enough time to get to sleep, we worry more about missing class than learning. We replaced community with Facebook. We breathe, but we don’t all live. We can’t just be ourselves.

C’mom guys. Eight hundred people in each class, 3,000 people in the college, and we can’t even ask some questions? Let’s meet together, somewhere public, and have a community. Not this conditional friendship stuff.

**Attack on Nativity Church unknown to many**

To the Editors:

April 2, 2002: Israel is invading Bethlehem from the outskirts of the city and Israeli soldiers gather ammunition to start an offensive attack against the city of Bethlehem. At the same time, Palestinian paramilitary groups are preparing for an invasion: burning tires, closing roads and positioning themselves in multiples locations around town. Meanwhile before Israel started its invasion, the Palestinian Police; Army; and paramilitary groups from Hamas, DFLP, and Fateh were coordinating their plans of action, committing a felony is ludicrous, because it is not going to resolve any of the immigration issues justified.

The documentary “Crossing Arizona,” shown in the Knickerbocker Theatre last week, offers a depiction of the thousand or more immigrants estimated to have died crossing the Southern border since the mid ’90s.

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

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

On Monday morning, Michigan's state Senate decided that a two-week deadline Republican lawmakers in the state will have to compromise to find the proper end result, right? Apparently not.

As we entered August and lawmakers were playing political games. Though Gov. Granholm first addressed the $1.75 billion deficit that the state was facing by July 1, both sides realized they had two months to fix the budget, a couple of proposals were bandied about. Republican leadership backed away from those legislators threaten to vote to cut $3 billion from the state budget due to a deal, Republican leadership backed away and deemed worthy for reproducing in our own kitchen table and had to peer longingly up the heights of giants? Remember when the backyard tree was not an object to manure or gracefully mop around, but a soaring novelty of climbable branches and hideaway niches? Remember when your broken jousting stick or injured foot left you red-handed in the fight of the century that overran dilapidated barn or schoolyard alleyway. Remember when you … well, I could probably go on endlessly. Some days these long-forgotten memories would return, and in the midst of my mid-life crises as I stop mid-stride to observe a certain child’s luxuriously free adventure and excitement. This reminds me of a storybook page of Defoe’s “Robinson Crusoe.” Verne’s “Ten Thousand Leagues Under the Sea” or perhaps Stevenson’s “Treasure Island.” My personal favorite for emulating the characters of and imagined scenes with brother and neighborhood children was, of course, Mark Twain’s “Huckleberry Finn.” This tale in particular seems always to elicit a thoroughly real complex of experiences relatable with degrees worthy for reproducing in our backyard creek. Even though we may still have a memory of our youth, it is too much to suppose that most of us have forgotten how to return there on a whim into territories bordered by grass and与否 can speak directly from stardust again. When I cross paths incidentally with kids rambling outside in pursuit of new discovery and unhindered exploration, the proper end result, right? Apparently not. To be a child again isn’t just a futile attempt at conjuring up a sense of nostalgic sentimentalism. It’s an ability to view perspectives differently – upside-down, by each examined angle or even from within. As I ask myself sometimes if reflected wonder has become so elusive because our imagination is caught in a contagious mentality of supplied information. You see, wonder often evokes definition precisely because it’s high point of awareness beyond language. Why? Because politicians in Lansing were doing what politicians do best; playing for votes to prove to themselves, to their constituents, and to anyone else that I was capable of more than five hours every night. My friendships were going down the drain. Yes, there were moments I considered quitting. But I didn’t have the strength or courage to walk away. I’ve never scored a touchdown, kicked a field goal, or scored a goal in 2009. Michigan’s colleges and universities. An additional $71 million would be withheld from community colleges across the state. These increases were barely enough to keep up with inflation. New federal funding for job training and manufacturing jobs, it is preposterous to think of cutting education. Maybe it’s not exactly a comforting thought, but it shut down. The shutdown, had it lasted, would have left 35,000 Michigan workers unemployed. It would have meant odd numbers and gotten rid of almost all of my red clothing. Maybe they’re right. Maybe I am crazy. People often ask me why I tried out for the Pull. They think I’m crazy for devoting 20-hours a week to practice and for spending my hard-earned cash on supplies. They think it’s ridiculous that I’ve become obsessed with odd numbers and gotten rid of almost all of my red clothing. Maybe they’re right. Maybe I am crazy. I tried out for the Pull my freshman year because I didn’t think I could do it. By the looks of me, most people would think I’m a natural athlete — I’ve got long legs for running and I’m the perfect height for sports like basketball or volleyball. But looks can be deceiving. I’m not an athlete. I was hurting for it all to be lost. I’m just as good as I was before. Maybe I’m being a little melodramatic. Ashley would like to dedicate this article to the Pull participants — old and even alike. May the tradition live on.

From the inside out

Brian Straw

Steppin’ out

You may very well think that I’m a little bit off my rocker, but I assure you, I’m not. I mean, how often do you think that you’re being watched by 1.7 million Americans? - my fellow Americans? - our lawmakers to help spark the economy.

Ashley Devetch

More to the Pull? Maybe.

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**Congress, from page 1**

Student Congress website, the organization is divided into a number of task force groups that deal with different campus issues. Furthermore, at least one Congress member sits on each of about 20 governing committees that advise the president of the college on different topics.

More successful program development first requires closer relationships between representatives and constituents before anything is discussed in a committee meeting. “This year, an emphasis will be placed on making sure that every representative is in touch with the people they represent,” Gibbs said.

Already, Student Congress has been developing and implementing immediate plans. Sarah Mejia, Student Congress vice president, hopes that current Congress goals will soon become a reality.

“We are remodeling the student organization area in DeWitt with new carpet, paintings and paint and also trying to get four more plasma screen TVs for Cook, Phelps and the (Student Union Desk),” Mejia said. “Another (goal) is to set up a memorial for students who have died while at Hope.”

One issue that will garner the attention of Student Congress this year is the developing role of Hope’s new mascot character, “Dutch.” According to the website of the Mascot Character Project and a college press release, this new representation of the Official Flying Dutchman mascot was developed through the efforts of a Student Congress committee beginning in early 2005. The new character was introduced at a pep rally last winter.

While the mascot project has been met with some opposition on different fronts and for different reasons, the next step to take amid the conflicting views is forward.

“At this point,” said Gibbs, “the mascot is here, we’ve spent a lot of money on it, and how we got it is irrelevant. Now it becomes a question of stewardship. How can we best use it to serve Hope College?”

Dutch is expected to be an asset at various campus events as well as athletic competitions.

“The mascot is a program that has a lot of benefits, especially in a public relations sense, for Hope College,” Gibbs said.

According to Gibbs, other athletic support groups such as the Crew and the cheerleading squad do not need to feel threatened by the new role created by Dutch.

“We are working very closely with these other groups so that we form a unique role for Dutch,” he said. “It would not be right for us to put him in the place of someone else, and there shouldn’t be anyone feeling that there’s any danger of that.”

For more information and Congress meeting minutes, students can access the website at www.hope.edu/student/congress.

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**VIsible Representation— Student Congress president, Jay Gibbs (’09), works in his office in the Dewitt Center. This year, Gibbs is placing an emphasis on strong communication.**

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**CIS, from page 1**

“We wanted him to be one of our CIS keynote speakers, but he was not able to come on those days,” said Symposium Co-Chair Derek Emerson. “However, he is such an important voice in this discussion that we asked him to come earlier and help build the base for future discussions.”

Portes’ talk was based on the recent Children of Immigrants Longitudinal Study. The study examined the assimilation and adaptation process of children who immigrated to the U.S. at a young age or who have at least one foreign-born parent.

Portes addressed the issue of downwards assimilation, or the negative paths on which many children of immigrants find themselves. According to the study, Mexican immigrants in California are most affected by downwards assimilation. Often, second-generation immigrants have higher high school dropout, teen pregnancy and unemployment rates. Portes blamed the U.S. labor market for part of the downwards assimilation.

“The U.S. labor market has changed from a pyramid to an hour glass,” Portes said. “Today’s first-generation immigrants need to attain what it took European immigrants several generations to achieve.”

With the recent surge in immigration levels, Portes argued that second-generation immigrants have a significant affect on the entire American society.

Students, staff and faculty members have also been invited to share their personalized immigration stories over the past few weeks. Sixteen videotaped immigration stories of Hope College community members are available online at the CIS website.

“Diversity is all around us,” said Barbara Rubio (’09) shared her immigration story online as well. Rubio said that her parents immigrated to the United States from Chile and integrated Chilean culture into her upbringing.

She was glad for the opportunity to tell her immigration story.

“Diversity is all around us,” Rubio said. “From students to faculty and staff, we all have a story to tell.”

To view the immigration stories, visit www.hope.edu/cis.
Fab four golfers take last stand

Nick Hinkle
Sports Editor

With putters in hand, four friends practice on the putting green while joking and laughing. An onlooker would not realize they were preparing for a MIAA tournament like they have done so many times before.

Seniors Tommy Yamaoka, Ryan Sheets, Matt Lapham and Steve Martindale have been the core of the Hope College men’s golf team since they were freshmen, helping the team win three MIAA championships and earn two NCAA appearances. Currently, the team is five strokes ahead of Olivet College for the MIAA title with one tournament remaining.

Last season Hope won the MIAA by 70 shots though the team has struggled this year.

“Last year we were setting records almost every tournament,” Martindale said. “We came in this year and thought we would automatically take the conference. We needed to adjust our attitude.”

In addition to some possible preseason overconfidence, the team has not been able to put together four solid scores on the same day.

“The bottom line is we need to win tournaments and we are not doing that,” Yamaoka said. “No one is scoring; we are just playing mediocre golf.”

Hope will play its final tournament on Oct. 6 at the Zollner Golf Course at 1 p.m.

“It (Zollner) is fairly easy but (we) still need to play well to shoot the numbers,” Lapham said. “It is a key tournament for us. No lead is really safe.”

In addition to their experience, they have bonded on and off the course, which has built trust over the years.

“There is definitely trust,” Lapham said. “I feel like when I am not playing my best someone can pick up the slack.”

Traveling to and from tournaments and trips such as the team’s tour of Scotland this summer have provided plenty of time for the seniors to get to know each other.

“No doubt we feel comfortable around each other,” Sheets said. “It is almost like we are brothers.”

Looking back at their four years at Hope, the players will remember winning with teammates, but their friendships created will probably be the most valuable.

“Golf is only four years but our relationships will last a long time,” Yamaoka said.
Hope football returns to winning form

Flying Dutchmen win first conference game against Albion; anticipate Homecoming matchup with Alma College

Gordie Fall
Staff Writer

After three losses, Hope College’s football team rebounded at Albion College last Saturday to break multiple losing streaks.

The team won its first game of the season, a 42-35 win at Albion, improving to 1-3 while starting conference play at 1-0. The win at Albion marked the first Hope football road victory at that school since 1982.

The 42-35 win was the highest-scoring game in matchup history and was senior tailback David Booko’s season debut, which he celebrated with three touchdowns.

“When asked how he felt about coming back, Booko said, “It was a great experience, and always great to have a game like that statistically, especially my first game back.”

He added, “I’ve just been itching to get back out and play some ball. A lot of things went well for me, my offensive line blocked great, and they opened up a lot of holes to make my job easy.”

Hope is now 1-3 and at full strength heading into this week’s conference home opener.

“Everybody was excited to get the whole team back,” Booko said, adding that “the best thing to do is just put those non-conference games behind us.”

This year’s team “Feels like it’s very similar to last year, the tempo of practice has been great, and it’s a really great group of guys,” Booko said.

This Saturday for its homecoming game Hope will play Alma College at 2 p.m. Last season, the Dutchmen defeated Alma away 49-43 in overtime.

UP FOR GRABS—Hope’s Jack Kiefer (’08) attempts a reception in the Central Iowa game.

30th annual Homecoming run/walk set for Saturday

Grace Denny
Staff Writer

For the 30th consecutive year, Hope College is hosting its annual Homecoming Run/Walk. Free to faculty, staff and students, the event hopes to attract a large crowd.

This event will be held on Saturday, Oct. 6 in conjunction with this year’s Homecoming festivities. A Health Fair will be going on in the DeVos Fieldhouse from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. and will focus on educating people about diet and nutrition, exercise and decreasing stress.

The 5k run around Windmill Island and the 2-mile walk around the Buy’s Athletic Complex will begin at 10 a.m. and students, faculty and staff are able to register for this event for free. Participants will be awarded prizes based on how close their finishing time is to the time they predicted in advance.

Hope College kinesiology professor and head coach of Hope’s men’s basketball team Glenn Van Wieren has been the director of the event since the beginning.

“It started as an outgrowth of Hope’s Health Dynamics program and used to be held at the Dow Center,” Van Wieren said.

“The purpose of the event is to promote wellness and health to our community in a way that’s positive.”

Van Wieren also notes that the Annual Homecoming Run/Walk has seen many changes over the past 30 years. In the past, biking and swimming were included. At one point, around 1,200 to 1,500 people were able to compete.

Now, due to safety reasons and an effort with the Holland Police Department, the event only consists of a run and walk and hopes to attract 400 to 500 people.

“It represents who we are,” Van Wieren said. “It’s an awesome event on campus. It’s been a really nice thing for Homecoming and a lot of alumni get involved.”

Another staff member, Professor Deh Swanson, is getting involved in the event as well. Swanson has been leading an FYS class this semester called “Walk the Walk,” and she and her students take walks together when the weather is nice. Swanson is encouraging the students in the class to do the race and notes that Hope College’s wellness program is also encouraging the staff and their families to get involved.

“I am looking forward to doing an activity outside of class with students,” Swanson said. She is also excited to see all of the alumni participation, and her daughter’s Girl Scout troop will be snacks as well.

On the impact that the event has on the community and the campus Swanson said, “It continues to tell students that part of being a well-rounded student is being physically active.”

She also believes that this event is something that is needed.

“Walk to stay healthy,” Swanson said. “It is a good lesson to learn and something that you can do all your life.”

Lots of students are planning to get involved in the event as well. Members of the men’s basketball team will be running the race in addition to a run/walk group led by Blair Williams (’10).

“I’m really excited in seeing who all comes out to compete for it,” Williams said.

To get ready for the event Williams, along with several other students, are getting together and running after class three days a week. They have been working on speed and also longer endurance jogging.

“It’s been a really good experience and it’s helped me to feel connected to people I’m going to be running with,” Jaynie Lunger (’10) said.

For a lot of the students it will be their first 5k race. Registration can be done in advance through the DeVos Fieldhouse ticket office or also before 9 a.m. on the day of the event. Showers and locker rooms will be available in the DeVos Fieldhouse to participants and refreshments will be provided as well.