Student Congress gears up for new academic year

Kara Shetler
Matthew Oosterhouse

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.

“Another 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 think 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 Student Congress, page 10

Events set for Alumni Week

Shannon Craig

Homecoming is providing Hope College students, faculty, staff and alumni with a “passport to the world” this weekend, Oct. 5-7.

Highlights 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 homecoming 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 11th 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 Hawthorn 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.

Hope exchanges 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 issues through the eyes of frustrated ranchers that have to clean up the property damage often associated with the illegal traffic, humanitarian 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

Campus 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 Maas 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.
Legendary: Freshmen blast ’10

Kevin Soubly
Staff Writer

Matt Oosterhouse
Cosmo News Editor

“ODD! YEAR! ODD! YEAR!” was the cry, bel- lowed by the surging crowd sur- rounding the freshmen team at Saturday’s 110th Pull across Hol- land’s Black River. The mottled sunlight shone down through the trees onto the ’11 Pull team, glistening off the sweat beaded on the warriors’ painted faces and il- luminating their eyes — some tired and drained, others sparkling with fierce determination and pain.

Each member wore the Odd Year uniform: boots, white jeans, their trademark maroon and gold shirts, and a mohawk haircut.

Their bodies were painted with war paint – accenting their facial features and making their gri- maces of pain ever so more grue- some. Their feet strained against the wooden board at the foot of their pit, which was itself painted in yellow with the word: “WAR.”

Heavily favored to lose – as in most years – the class of 2011 came out aiming to be not just the average freshman team.

“We set the bar high, we worked them real hard and they gave us everything. They cried in practice – and that brought them together. Today, they showed up as a team and did what needed to be done.” — Matt McCabe, captain of the Odd Year team.

“OdD Year, that’s what it’s all about,” said Jordan Vanderhovel (’10), Odd Year’s an-chor coach.

As the clock ticked down to the final minutes, the pile of excess rope behind the anchor of the Odd Year team spoke of victory, and the energized crowd sensed it.

The coaches began gathering at the head of the line and became a wall of support for their team. And then the call began again: “More rope! More rope! More rope!” And so the coaches motioned to “HEAVE,” the moralers chanted the call, and the pullers gathered their last ounces of strength and pulled – once again.

When the foghorn blew, sig- naling the end of the three-hour contest between classes, Odd Year claimed victory with a final gain of almost 31 feet – an astounding 371 hard-earned inches.

DeYoung (’11), a Puller on the Odd Year team, was en-thusiastic about the team’s vic- tory. “They said we could win it! (Even Year) thought that they’d just win automatically – that’s just not how it happens.”

Michelle Jule, mother Odd Year puller Austin Jule, was just as animated.

“It was amazing and very spirit- ual. I didn’t think the freshman had a chance, but I knew the guys would give it their all.”

“Congratulations brother, you had a good team,” said an un- known Pull observer, on the Even Year side of the Black River, into his cell phone to someone on the opposite shore.

The reality of the situation had just set in moments before: the Odd Year freshmen had taken more than 30 feet of rope from the Even Year sophomores. A wave of heavy-heartedness flooded the pits and sidelines upon the an- nouncement of the results.

“Last night we talked about the different shades of red,” Pull Coach Matt McCabe (’08) said to pullers and moralers, announcing the defeat. “Right now, I’m wearing a very, very brown shade of red.”

Matt Van Oostenburg (’10), a puller on last year’s Even Year team, expressed a sense of sym- pathy for this year’s Even Year Pull team.

“It hurts because we lost last year,” Van Oostenburg said. “They didn’t get to experience the joy of winning.”

Despite the loss, the even-year team took pride in completing the physically grueling contest of the pull. Last year’s Pull was called early due to medical concerns about the health of the even-year team.

“Our 2010 Pull team came a long way from last year,” said Jeremy Hendelveld (’08), an Even Year Pull representative. “We were on the rope for the full three hours and that in itself is an ac- complishment for all Pull teams in general... I have never been so proud.”

Above the loss and the physi- cal torment stood the relations- ships formed in the muddy pits by the Black River.

“In the end,” said Puller Nick Vanderhovel (’10), “I love my team and they are my family and we win or lose, I’m proud of what we have come together and have done in the past three weeks.”

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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 4.3 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 Michigan's already struggling workers, with a current unemployment rate of 7.4 percent and the recent strike involving the United Auto Workers and General Motors Corp.

Ahmadinejad addresses U.N.

Jon Parrish
Guest Writer

Amidst 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 human rights concerns that Ahmadinejad raised.

"The General Assembly is the theater in which 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 'tinhorns 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 nate-taker to record his statement. This was "to send a message," Bolton said.

CONTESTED SPEAKER—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.

U.S. firm Blackwater kills Iraqi civilians

Brian McLellan
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.

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.

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. 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 unprovoked 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 Orangemen from the Kingdom 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 everyone. 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 brought to trial for their actions or not, the company has been allowed to resume its operations within the borders of Iraq.

In Brief

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Democrats helped pass a defense bill authorizing another $150 billion for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Monday's 92-3 vote comes as the House planned to approve separate legislation that requires President Bush to give Congress a plan for eventual troop withdrawals.

The developments underscored the difficulty facing Democrats in the Iraq debate. They lack the votes to pass legislation ordering troops home and are divided on whether to cut money for combat, despite a mandate by supporters to end the war.

Democratic leaders say they will renew their fight when Congress considers the money Bush wants in war funding.

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A mother and her two children boarded a police bus only seconds before a suicide bomber detonated his payload inside, an attack that killed 13 police and civilians Tuesday, the second such bombing in Afghanistan this week.

Ten people were wounded in the attack.
Ahmadinejad visits New York, speaks at Columbia

**COLUMBIA, from page 3**

him a powerful message” State Department spokesman Gonzalo Gallegos said.

While the U.S. remains one of the strongest opponents of the Iranian nuclear program, many other countries voiced their concerns. French President Nicolas Sarkozy and German Chancellor Angela Merkel both spoke to the General Assembly about the danger of Iran acquiring nuclear weapons and threatened tougher sanctions should Ahmadinejad continue his ambitious nuclear policy.

So far, the Iranian president has defied two Security Council resolutions demanding that Iran suspend enrichment. While these resolutions have increased sanctions on Iran and its nuclear program, Ahmadinejad has made it clear that he will not stop what he defines as a peaceful attempt to provide nuclear power to his country.

The U.S. and key European countries fear that, despite claims to the contrary, Ahmadinejad’s program is merely a smokescreen behind which Iran is attempting to obtain nuclear weapons. A third resolution with tougher sanctions is currently being discussed, and the U.S. has refused to take military action off the table if Iran fails to comply.

Trip sparks outrage

Ahmadinejad’s visit to the United States has sparked outrage in New York and across the country. "The Evil has Landed" ran the front-page headline of New York’s Daily News, highlighting American hostility toward the Iranian president, who has denied the existence of the Holocaust and has said that Israel should be “wiped off the map.” Citing reasons of security and construction, New York police also denied a request by Ahmadinejad to visit the World Trade Center site of the Sept. 11 attacks. U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said on Monday that it would have been a travesty for the president of a country that is known to sponsor terrorism to visit the site.

**Columbia University visit criticized**

Prior to the U.N. General Assembly, Ahmadinejad was invited to speak at Columbia University. In response to this invitation, the institution has received criticism from all sides. Columbia should not be "rolling out the red carpet for the leader of a sponsor[s] of terrorism regime" said senator and presidential candidate John McCain.

New York City Council speaker Christine Quinn also urged Columbia to cancel Ahmadinejad’s planned speech, citing that while universities should be a forum for a healthy exchange of ideas, there are limits. “An exchange of ideas should not include state sponsored terrorism and hate speech. He can say whatever he wants on any street corner, but should not be given center stage at one of New York’s most prestigious centers of higher education.” Quinn said, according to Reuters.

Despite allowing Ahmadinejad to speak, the president of Columbia University Lee Bollinger pulled no punches when leading the forum. In his introduction, Bollinger called the Iranian president a “petty and cruel dictator” and said that denying the Holocaust is either “brazenly provocative or astonishingly uneducated.”

"I feel the weight of the modern civilized world yearning to express the revulsion at what you stand for,” Bollinger said to loud applause of about 700 students, many of whom were wearing “Stop Ahmadinejad’s Evil” T-shirts.

In his reply to a question about the recent execution of two gay men in his country, Ahmadinejad was reported as saying, “In Iran, we don’t have homosexuals like in your country.”

*This comment provoked a strong reaction from the crowd, resulting in a mix of boos and laughter.*

"This is a sick joke," said Scott Long of Human Rights Watch as reported in Reuters.

Long went on to say that Iran tortures gays and punishes homosexuality between men with the death penalty.

Iraqi prime minister pans Senate partition proposal

Qassim Abdul- Zahra

ABBAGHAD (AP) — Iraq’s prime minister told The Associated Press on Friday that a U.S.-Iraqi 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 presidential campaign, with both Sunni and Shiite Muslims having reacted with extreme opposition to the U.S. Senate proposal.

“The majority Shiites, who would retain control of major oil revenues under a division of the country, oppose the measure because it would diminish the territorial integrity of Iraq, which they now control. Sunnis would control an area with few if any oil resources. Kurds have major oil reserves in their territory.

Iraq’s constitution lays down a federal system, allowing Shiites in the south, Kurds in the north and Sunnis in the center and west of the country to set up regions with considerable autonomous powers.

Nevertheless, ethnic and sectarian turmoil have unraveled hopes of negotiating such measures, especially given deep divisions on sharing the country’s vast oil resources. Oil reserves and existing fields would fall mainly into the hands of Kurds and Shiites if such a division were to occur. So far there has been no agreement on a broader sharing of those revenues, one of several U.S.-mandated benchmarks the government has failed to push the Senate through.

On Sept. 27, Iraqi Vice President Adel Abdul-Mahdi, a Shiite, said decisions about Iraq must remain in the hands of its citizens. And a spokesman for radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr demanded the al-Maliki government reject the proposal.

“We demand the Iraqi government to stand against such a project and to condemn it officially,” said Liwa Semeirim, the al-Sadr spokesman. “Such a decision does not represent the aspirations of all Iraqi people and it is considered an interference in Iraq’s internal affairs.”

A spokesman for Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, the Shiite spiritual leader, dismissed the proposal during a Friday sermon in Karbala.

“The division plan is against Iraq’s interests and against peace in a united Iraq,” Sheikh Abdul Mahdi al-Karbalaei told worshippers. “Any neighboring country supporting this project will pay the price of instability in the region.”

Biden argues that the U.S. has focused too much on trying to prop up a strong, central unified government in Baghdad. But it is unlikely the Bush administration will alter its policies on Iraq as a result of the resolution. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Tuesday that the administration supports a federal Iraq, but it is a “sensitive issue best left to the Iraqis to address at their own pace.”

Iraqi prime minister responds negatively to suggestion that Iraq be divided between Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki told AP on a return flight to Baghdad that the U.S.-Iraqi Senate proposal to split the country into federal regions under constitutional call for Iraq to be divided into regions according to religious or ethnic divisions would be a “catastrophe.”

The comments were al-Maliki’s first since the measure passed through parliament.

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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.

Kearyn 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 melodies and lyrics.” Kearyn 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 Kearyn 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”. It was about 1975 before I started introducing my music at home. 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 to 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: It was about 1975 before I started introducing it here at Hope. It was 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 to all levels. So much of our music teaching is geared to the reading of music, to reading the symbol on the printed page.

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A moral question

When you think about the immigration debate, what first comes to mind? Is it an image of illegal immigrants attempting to win votes? Is it a complaint about Congress’ failure to reform immigration law? Is it the image of politicians attempting to win votes? Is it an image of prisoners or sick. And we’re not about to start talking about them. It’s just too easy to say that someone who is committing a felony is ludicrous, because it is not going to resolve any of the immigration issues you mentioned.

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.

As author Byrd Baylor said in the film, “I don’t believe in the death penalty for anything, so I certainly don’t believe in the death penalty for trying to walk across the desert to look for better life for immigrants’ food.”

Anyone who writes off the immigration issue as merely a political problem 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 social 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 argue? And when do we define state and 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. Many 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 — to seriously begin to take part 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 then we are missing the greatest personal and collective opportunity of our time.

Evelyn was unable to learn this week that an Illinois middle school banned hugs. The principal was concerned that excessive hugging fed students to be lasted for classes and caused crowding in hallways.

To the Editors:

April 2, 2002: Israel is invading Bethlehem. At the Study of International Affairs count. An attack on Nativity Church unknown to many.

Israel launched a massive air attack against the city of Bethlehem. At the Study of International Affairs count. An attack on Nativity Church unknown to many.

Israel began a military offensive against the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank. The operation was launched in response to continued Palestinian attacks on Israeli settlements.

The Israeli army has been targeting Palestinian leaders and their supporters, using air and ground forces to raid homes and arrest suspected terrorists.

In recent months, Israel has increased its use of aerial and ground force operations to target Palestinian infrastructure, including homes, businesses, and government buildings.

The Israeli military has also launched a series of ground offensives into West Bank cities, targeting Palestinian neighborhoods and residential areas.

The Israeli army has been using tanks, artillery, and fighter planes to attack Palestinian targets, causing significant damage to buildings and infrastructure.

At least 20 Palestinians have been killed in the Israeli military operations, and thousands more have been displaced from their homes.

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Budget brinkmanship

On Monday morning, Michigan’s government shut down. It wasn’t for long, but it shut down. The shutdown, had it lasted, would have left 35,000 Michigan workers unemployed. It would have meant that 100,000 low-income households wouldn’t get their child care subsidies. It would have affected the 1-in-5 Michigan residents who need Medicaid. It would mean a bonfire celebration afterward, a war against terrorism or communism or the axis of evil. I know I wouldn’t have the strength or courage to fight that battle—and I wouldn’t deserve the honor to do so even if I could.

After two years as an ‘09 moraler I think Pull day isn’t a war against terrorism or war at all. Republicans couldn’t care less about the war on terrorism or communism or the axis of evil. They just want to look like a deal was struck. It was felt, and perceived, as if the economy was going to be helped and the unemployment would go down. We pulled our weight because we want to help the state, but the economy didn’t improve. Why? Because politicians in Lansing were doing what politicians do best: playing politics. On July 1, Granholm set an initial budget deadline of July 1. Why the budget deadline was set for July 1 is because although the state’s budget does not need to be complete until Oct. 1, schools across the state are required to have their budgets in place by July 1. These schools rely on state funding to stay afloat. If you would expect that once a deadline passed and the July 1 deadline did, lawmakers would realize they had to focus on getting a workable proposal, you would be wrong. Following the July 1 deadline, Republican lawmakers in the state Senate decided that a two-week vacation would be nice. As we entered August, lawmakers realized that they had two months to fix the budget, a couple of_proposals were bandied about. Democrats wanted to raise the income tax to early 1970s levels. Though the income tax is down from the current 3.9 percent. This would allow all state-funded activities to continue unabated. Republican lawmakers countered with their proposal to cut $1.75 billion from the state budget. Of course, both sides realized they would have to compromise to find the proper end result, right? Apparently not. Though reports in early August suggest that party leadership on both sides had come to a deal, Republican leadership backed away from it at the beginning of September. In the place of the bipartisan deal, the Republican proposal of $1.75 billion in cuts came back. These cuts are truly awe-inspiring. They would result in losing a $290 million increase to K-12 education. Under the Republican proposal, a $355 million increase would not be given to Michigan’s colleges and universities. An additional $71 million in cuts would be withheld from community colleges across the state. These increases were barely enough to keep up with inflation. But with this type of proposal, with the addition of manufacturing jobs, it is preposterous to think of cutting education. Frankly, after taking the majority of the year discussing what the budget was going to look like, a deal was struck. It was implemented in the pre-dawn hours of Oct. 1. Michigan has a weak economy and the worst unemployment rates in the country and our lawmakers play with a potential government shutdown. Michigan needs our lawmakers to help spark the economy. Instead those legislators threaten to shut it down.

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Brian Straw is a senior political science and philosophy major. When not absorbed in political blogs or arguing the purpose of the federal government with Professor Polie, Brian enjoys cooking, playing tabletop games and watching the West Wing with his girlfriend.
**Student Congress plans for new academic year**

**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.**

**Hope shares immigration stories through different methods**

**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 drop-out, 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.

"The purpose of videotaping the immigration stories of members of the campus community was to make us all more aware of the diversity or origins that we have here on campus and the experiences that some of us or our families have had in coming to and adjusting to the United States," said Prof. Chris-tine Swain, a CIS committee member. Swain said that many people on campus are unaware of the cultural heritage present on campus.

"In sharing my past, I am sharing part of me with Hope community and taking part in it, not crusading for a cause," Tseng said. "Students like stories, and I am sharing part of me with Hope students."

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.
Guest Writer
Grace Denny
30th annual Homecoming run/walk set for Saturday

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 and was scoring game in matchup history.

Football road victory at that school marked the first Hope conference play at 1-0. The win improving to 1-3 while starting the season, a 42-35 win at Albion, breaking multiple losing streaks.

Albion College last Saturday to college’s football team rebounded at

staff Writer
Gordie Fall
anticipate Homecoming matchup with Alma College

Flying Dutchmen win first conference game against Albion; getting form Hope football returns

To win the game back. “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 on Saturday at 2 p.m. Last season, the Dutchmen defeated Alma away 49-43 in overtime.

30th annual Homecoming run/walk set for Saturday

Grace Denny

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 A

letic 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 Deb 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 Grif handing out 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’s 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 running group led by Blair Williams (’10).

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

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.

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

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