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Pullers battle at the Black River: Even year victorious

Erika Ter Louw
Guest Writer

“In extreme,” “family,” “unity,” and “dedication” are all words that can be used to describe the Hope tradition, The Pull.

In the fall of 1898, Hope students banded together to create the first Pull, which makes this the “longest standing tradition at a college campus in the United States,” said even year representative Robin Baker (’10).

Outcomes of the first several years are unknown; however, the first recorded win went to the freshman class of ’13 in the year 1909. Since its beginnings, many legacies and memories have been made at the notorious Black River.

The Pull is a competition between the freshman and sophomore classes and involves 18 pullers and 18 moralers. Moralers act as guides and, more importantly, as encouragers for those devoting hours of physical exhaustion in the event. Each team is coached by upperclassmen; freshmen are coached by juniors, and sophomores by seniors.

An intense competition between even and odd year classes emerges. Since that fateful day in 1909, 30 freshman classes have claimed victory, while 63 sophomore classes have taken the bragging rights.

Pull season begins with a rally for each side which is designed to inform and encourage students to participate and get involved. Once practices begin, they run Monday through Saturday three weeks prior to Pull Day. Prior to the event, two judges measure the rope, and the battle begins. The longest Pull in the history of the event was 3 hours and 51 minutes, whereas the shortest Pull was 2 minutes and 40 seconds.

Critical Issues Symposium focuses on water conservation

Caillian Klass
Guest Writer

Hope College’s annual Critical Issues Symposium returned to Hope this week. Classes were cancelled Wednesday to allow student attendance. The main topic was water shortage in several different environments and situations.

The CIS website stated: “For those who live in a place like Holland, Michigan, it is hard to imagine water scarcity. Neither do we pay attention to the pollutants which daily poison our water sources, nor do we consider the interest that other states have in taking water from the Great Lakes region to meet their thirsty, growing populations.”

Speakers ranged from professors of various universities to members of Native American tribes to presidents of several companies. One of the speakers was Peter H. Gleick, the president at the Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment and Security. Gleick stressed the importance of acting quickly on our water issues with technology, economics and ecosystem restoration.

The Native American Perspective was given by Leland Little Dog and Lynn LaPointe of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe of South Dakota. Graham Peaslee of Hope College and Mary Fales of the Macatawa Watershed Project teamed together to discuss their project promoting higher local water quality and its relevance to the Holland community. Also discussing the quality of the local water was Dr. Robert McDonald, president of the AquaClara Foundation.

Hope College Seniors Ashley Austin and Tessa Talsma spoke about plastic water bottles and their effect on the environment, and Assistant Professor of Communications Teresa Heinz Housel spoke about the media’s targeting women in cleaning product campaigns as well as the lack of clarification on “natural” cleaning products due to the FDA’s indifference.

The two keynote speakers of the symposium were Gleick and Joan Rose, both experts on the topic. Rose commenced the speeches on Wednesday at 9 a.m., pointing out the importance of safe drinking water. Gleick spoke Tuesday evening at 7 p.m.

More information on the event can be found on the CIS website.
**CAMPUS**

**October 7, 2009**

**THIS WEEK AT HOPE**

**Wednesday**  Oct.  7

Critical Issues Symposium
Day classes do not meet; evening classes do meet.

Yoga Club Meeting
Maas Conference Room 8 p.m.

**Thursday**  Oct.  8

Philadelphia Center Informational Meeting
MMC 1st floor auditorium 11 a.m.

Computer Science Colloquium
VOW 104 11 a.m.

Off-campus Study Fair
Maas Auditorium 4 p.m.

Water Ethics in a Time of Climate Change - An Ecofeminist Perspective
Maas Conference Room 4 p.m.

Melting Point
Dewitt Flag Pole 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

**Friday**  Oct.  9

Biology Seminar
DeWitt Theater 3 p.m.

Chemistry Seminar
DeWitt Theater 3:30 p.m.

Homecoming Hoedown
Presented by SAC Tsuchin’s Farm 8 p.m.

Professional Championship Builders Tour
Van Andel Arena 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday**  Oct. 10

Homecoming Student and Alumni Tailgate
Smallenbourg Park 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Homecoming Ball
Tickets $22 at SOD and $10 at the door; Hawkeye Center 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

**Sunday**  Oct. 11

Homecoming Worship Service
Dimnent Chapel 8 p.m.

The Gathering
Dimnent Chapel 9 p.m.

**Monday**  Oct. 12

A.C. Van Raalte Lecture, Rev. Dr. Leon van den Broeke
Winants Aud. 4 p.m.

Hispanic Heritage Celebration
Fried-Heilmann Aud. 6 p.m.

Resume Lock-in
MMC computer lab 8 p.m.

**Tuesday**  Oct. 13

Peace Corps Presentation
Maas Conference Room 12 p.m.

History Colloquium
Maas Conference Room 4 p.m.

GRE Informational Meeting
SC 1000 4:30 p.m.

Meijer Basketball Classic: Detroit Pistons vs. Washington Wizards
Van Andel Arena 7 p.m.

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**IN BRIEF**

**HOPE FOR HUMANITY AWARD PRESENTED TO JACI L. VANHEEST**

Dr. Jaci L. VanHeest, an exercise physiologist working at the University of Comestucet, will receive the H-Club’s annual “Hope for Humanity Award” during this weekend’s Homecoming festivities.

The award recognizes prominent Hope alumni for consistent service to others and demonstration of Christian commitment and service.

VanHeest is nationally recognized for her research in child obesity and elite female athletes. He work has been featured in Sports Illustrated and USA Today.

**Even year wins**

**• PULL, from page 1**

Facts aside, The Pull is much more than a competition. For all involved, they agree it is an extreme bonding experience with family and unity at its core.

According to Baker, “Pull has been one of the most meaningful experiences of my life. Being on the team helped me to discover my own strength and perseverance and allowed me to develop meaningful friendships.”

Odd year representative Jeff DeLoing (‘11) echoed with similar sentiments. “Watching the team grow as individuals, watching them grow as a team and helping them was the best experience because I love Pull so much and want to share that with them.”

In the eyes of a sophomore puller, Ryan Ver Meer, “It’s been an awesome time to build new relationships with everybody, get in really good shape and say you were part of this crazy tradition that you will never ever forget.”

In light of the wonderful experience, members admit there are some downsides. Practices become very grueling and tiring. Although practice is only three weeks, students are often fatigued and exhausted even before Pull Day.

In addition to the physical exhaustion, members realize that their reputation can sometimes receive a negative attitude from non-participants.

“What could drive a bunch of people to lie on a rope and yell in the mud? We know how we look,” said Baker. However, even in spite of this there are some benefits to it, she said, “I think the greatest downside is that more people are not able to participate.”

Odd year puller John Firek (‘13) knew what he was getting himself in to because his brother was part of the ‘02 Pull team. But regardless, it was still intense for him. “I already had the mindset that I had to do it freshmen year,” Firek said. “I loved the experience, loved my coaches, and it could have turned out better, but that just is going to drive us more for next year.”

Recognition, time management, strength, and confidence are just a few of the positive outcomes from The Pull that outweigh its negative reputation.

When asked why it is important for incoming students to know about this tradition all involved agreed that the experience is one you will never forget.

Ver Meers said, “It’s a ridiculous tradition, but whether you are in it or just watching on Pull day it’s an amazing experience to be a part of.”

In the end, Hope’s campus came together yet again at the black River last Saturday to be a part of the long tradition.

“I’ve made some life-long friends,” Firek said. “I didn’t know anybody coming into it, but I met 10 brothers that I didn’t know I had. You reach your limits that you didn’t know were there before and I can’t wait to do it again next year.”

**Variety of activities planned for Homecoming**

HOME PR – A variety of activities have been scheduled for the annual Homecoming Weekend at Hope College, running Friday-Sunday, Oct. 9-11.

Homecoming will hold a rededication ceremony for Graves Hall on Friday, Oct. 9 at noon. During the 30-minute rededication ceremony, the college’s Alumni Association will present a Meritorious Service Award to Dr. Elton Bruins, a 1950 Hope graduate who is former director of the college’s A.C. Van Raalte Institute and the Evert J. and Hattie E. Blekink Professor Emeritus of Religion at Hope.

On Friday, Oct. 9, at 3:30 p.m., Dr. A. Paul Schaap, a 1967 Hope graduate who is a member of the college’s Board of Trustees, will present “Chemiluminescence and 1,2-Dioxetanes: From Fireflies to the Detection of DNA” in the DeWitt Center main theatre. Admission is free. The Alumni H-Club’s annual Homecoming luncheon will begin on Saturday, Oct. 10, at 11 a.m. at the DeVos Fieldhouse. A reunion of alumni who played football will commemorate the 100 years that football has been an intercollegiate sport at the college.

There will be a tailgate picnic for alumni and their families on Saturday, Oct. 10, from noon to 2 p.m. at Smallenbourg Park. In place of a Homecoming parade this year, student organizations are arranging displays and will make presentations at the park in conjunction with the picnic.

The Flying Dutchmen will host Albion in football. The pre-game show, which begins at 1:30 p.m., will feature the Schoolcraft High School Halftime.

**It’s good to be green.**

Riding the MAX is easy on your budget and the environment. One way fares are still just $1, and riding the bus reduces traffic congestion and carbon dioxide pollution. So save your money and the planet. Ride the bus.

Visit www.catchamax.org for bus routes and schedules or to purchase a bus pass online.

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**This Week at Hope**

**Graphic by Emily Danner**
GM decides to discontinue Saturn brand
Samuel Zou
Gazan Weiss

General Motors officials announced Sept. 30, that it will stop manufacturing its Saturn brand car and close down the brand. And while the Saturn's marketing campaign centers on being "optimistic about the future" and asks customers to "take a closer look," GM's intentions showed otherwise.

GM's decision to discontinue the brand came after Penske Automotive Group Inc. announced it was no longer interested in buying the brand from GM because it could not find a company to manufacture the brand into a new chapter.

"Without that agreement, the company has determined that the risks and uncertainties related to the availability of future product to prohibit the company from moving forward with this transaction," Penske Automotive Inc. told the New York Times Sept. 30.

While GM offered to Penske that it could only manufacture its product until 2011, the company needed something more profitable. With no third party willing to manufacture the brand line, Penske had to cancel its pledge.

"Today's disappointing news comes at a time when we'd hoped for a successful launch of the Saturn brand into a new chapter," GM's chief executive, Fritz Henderson, said in a statement in the same New York Times report.

"We will be working closely with our dealers to ensure that Saturn customers are cared for as well as we can as GM takes necessary steps to discontinue the brand in dealers in the months ahead."

GM announced that the 330 remaining Saturn dealerships will all be closed by October of 2010. This number has dropped drastically from the 425 that were in the country. The rejection by Penske shut down Saturn's hopes of survival.

Cars.com reported in early September that the planned closings of Saturn would lose about 13,000 jobs. This announcement solidified the rumors that it would be joining the other two lame-duck brand lines of Pontiac and Oldsmobile.

Despite GM entering its bankruptcy bailout stage in June, Saturn suddenly found hope when former race car driver Roger Penske’s Penske Automotive Group Inc. announced that it would be interested in buying the retail and distribution portion of the company if it could find a company willing to purchase the production. This was ended by the announcement on Sept. 30.

For the past decade, Saturn has changed its brand line slogan from ideas such as "Rethink American," "Forward-thinking to the current "Welcome to the Neighborhood" and "We’re Optimistic About the Future." With the current situation, it may want to think again.

Chicago’s 2016 Olympics bid falls flat
Rio de Janeiro selected to host the Olympics as the Windy City is the first location eliminated

On Oct. 2, the International Olympic Committee stunned a crowd of faithful Windy City residents with the announcement that Chicago had been eliminated from consideration for the host of the 2016 Olympic Games.

This proclamation came as a shock to many, especially since Chicago was the first of five finalists to be moved. Adding to the disappointment was the effort put forth by many to lobby for the city of Chicago. President and First Lady Obama, Oprah Winfrey, Mayor of Chicago Richard Daley and a number of former American Olympian athletes traveled to Copenhagen to present Chicago's bid. Nevertheless, Chicago did not even make it past the first round of voting.

Chicago was eliminated in the preliminary round of voting along with Tokyo, leaving the IOC to make a final decision. Some felt that the presence of such high profile personalities may have caused early voters to look to other countries. Others contended that Chicago was snubbed because of conflict between the IOC and the United States' Olympic Committee which has recently undergone a tumultuous change of leadership. Suggestions were made that the interests of the bid presented by Chicago were not united with the interests of the USOC. Regardless, the dis-appointment was evident with President Obama and the city of Chicago.

There have been many ratiocinations offered for why Chicago did not receive the Olympic bid. Some felt that the presence of such high profile personalities may have caused early voters to look to other countries. Others contended that Chicago was snubbed because of conflict between the IOC and the United States' Olympic Committee which has recently undergone a tumultuous change of leadership. Suggestions were made that the interests of the bid presented by Chicago were not united with the interests of the USOC. Regardless, the dis-appointment was evident with President Obama and the city of Chicago.

On his flight back, President Obama reiterated that he felt that Chicago’s Olympic bid was the strongest of all the finalists and said, “(I am) proud that I was able to come in and help make that case in person.”

Mayor Richard Daley had also lobbied intently for the city.

The city of Chicago took nearly two and a half years preparing their bid and spent nearly $50 million. Supporters of Chicago’s bid argue that the city’s pre-existing sporting culture, allowing for existing stadiums such as Soldier Field, Wrigley Field, US Cellular Field and a number of others play key roles in hosting Olympic events. A temporary stadium would also have been built in Washington Park, designed to house the opening ceremonies.

With Chicago losing out on the 2016 Olympics, some said that this is a reflection on President Barack Obama, representing a failure of his administration. However, after the initial shock of the decision wore off, it seemed the ongoing differences between the IOC and USOC, as well as the IOC’s desire to aid the country of Brazil were the major deciding factors. It is not uncommon for the IOC to take steps to help countries develop faster, and by choosing Rio de Janeiro, the IOC could have been trying to get more countries in line with the Olympic movement.

Regardless, the disappointment was evident on the mass of people that congregated in Chicago to hear the final verdict. Some felt that a bid for the 2020 Olympics should still be made. However, Daley was hesitant to make the commitment, so time will tell if Chicago ever reaches a level of international athletic recognition.

Earthquake devastates the island of Sumatra

Emma Biagoni
Co-National News Editor

Scientists deny that the earthquake in Indonesia was a reper- cuSSION of the second was a "tragic coincidence."

At least 1,000 people have died, over 2,000 people are in- jured and an estimated 3,000 are still missing after the earthquake shook the island of Sumatra in Indonesia on Sept. 30. The quake was also felt throughout the islands of Java, Indonesia, Malay- sia, Singapore and Thailand. The epicenter of the earthquake was only 35 miles from the city of Padang in Sumatra.

According to the U.S. Geo- logical Survey, this southeast- ern earthquake resulted from movement of the Australian and Sunda plates. Most earthquakes of this kind generally occur at depths less than 50 kilometers. The depth of the recent earth- quake was measured at 81 kilo- meters, or 50.3 miles.

USGS reported, “The subduction zone surrounding the immediate region of this event has not witnessed a megathrust earthquake in the recent past, rupturing last in an earthquake of M 8.5 or larger in 1979.”

Rescue workers and agencies from such countries as Australia, Great Britain, Japan and South Korea arrived in Indonesia bringing aid for the injured and equipment to save the missing. Most rescue missions have been concentrated in the worst hit city of Padang, whereas rescue workers have been working hard to save whoever they can, but they have found it increas- ingly more difficult to save those trapped beneath the rubble. Many believe it is too late to save the missing.

BBC shared the reality of such difficulties in a recent article: “In Padang, witnesses report that the stench of decomposing bodies now hangs over collapsed build- ings as rescuers battle to reach survivors.”

Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono called for $10 million of government aid to be distributed quickly. Many countries have also pledged aid to the country.

Kara Shelter, a Junior year student at Hope, just returned to the United States after spending 11 months on the island of Java in Indonesia as part of a one-year cultural service and exchange program. While in the country, Shelter experienced severe and damaging flooding and described natural disasters as a common occurrence in Indonesia.

Shelter said, "It is really hard for us here to imagine the un- certainty they live with regard to the very earth on which their homes are built and the ocean that, at least for Java, is never very far away.”

Geologists warn that Padang may one day be completely de- stroyed by an earthquake be- cause of its location.

Professor John McCloskey, a geophysicist at the University of Utah, warned, “The real danger in the coming days is that a sec- ond larger quake with a magni- tude of around 8.5 could occur just off the coast of Padang.”
ArtPrize attracts international artists to Grand Rapids

Ann Malone
Guest Writer

ArtPrize, a unique art competition that anyone can enter and that the viewers judge, has attracted over 1,200 artists from around the world to Grand Rapids. The pieces are spread throughout downtown with pieces in The B.O.B. on the Blue Bridge and in back alley. A unique aspect is that artists get to request spaces within the ArtPrize venue boundaries, but each venue has the right to choose which pieces they want to display. There are pieces inside, outside and on buildings all over downtown Grand Rapids.

On the Blue Bridge is a beautiful piece of art by Sarah Grant called “The Furniture City Sets the Table for the World of Art.” The piece, which sits atop the center trestles of the bridge, is approximately 20 feet tall. It is a stunning work, dwarfing all the other works around it, and at first glance simply seems to be part of the bridge. The artistic pieces on the entire surface of the artwork depict the bountiful cultural offerings of Grand Rapids.

Just off to the side is “Nessie Project,” a multimedia piece depicting the Loch Ness monster. Placed in the Grand River just off the Blue Bridge, it is a stunning piece created by Airline Aluminum Group, based out of Grand Rapids.

The “Grand Rapids Family Tree” by Matt Kelsey is a beautiful piece that allows visitor participation. “Contributors: Coming Soon” says the artist bio; visitors to the piece, shown at 45 Ottawa Ave., are asked to write their name on a ribbon and tie it to the frame or tie other ribbons on the tree.

While ArtPrize features many local artists, international artists are featured as well. From Sibbhult, Sweden, Jonathan Haner gives us “La Grande Bebe,” the form of a “giant, fat, faceless baby” made of white material and filled with plastic bags. Viewed from across the street, the piece looks odd; up close, the piece, which is attached to the side of The B.O.B., as though it is leaning on the building, simply becomes stunning. The size is overpowering, and the white is bright and crisp.

Kadima, Israel, boasts ArtPrize Ana Lazovsky, whose beautiful bronze sculptures can be found at the B.O.B. Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico, is represented through Alfonso Arambula’s “Mi Casa es Tu Casa,” an ecological statement about how the world is a home (casa) for all.

The event runs through Oct. 10, with outdoor pieces available for viewing all hours and indoor pieces available for viewing Monday through Thursday from 5 p.m.-8 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 12 p.m.-10 p.m., and Sunday from 12 p.m.-6 p.m. For more information, visit www.artprize.org.
Visiting Writers Series welcomes Aracelis Girmay

On Thursday, Oct. 8, Emilie Clark of the New York Arts Program will visit Hope. Any students interested should meet with Clark from 4 - 7 p.m. at the Off-Campus Study Fair in Maas Auditorium. In addition, Clark will be available in the Kletz from 10 a.m.-noon and 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Interested students should contact Prof. John Tammi of the Theatre Dept., the representative for the Program. Additional information is available at the NY Arts Program website (www.nyartsprogram.org).
The due date was Sept. 30. When that day passed, I knew there was no turning back. I had done all I could do. With the click of a button, an era had ended. 

I was going to graduate.

We seniors received that e-mail about two weeks ago. It was a reminder to fill out our application to graduate. We have to make sure we’ve taken enough classes, decide which ceremony to walk in (if we even want to walk at all!), and fill out our diploma details. And students will normally fit into two categories after reading that e-mail:

~ Elated: I have been waiting for this day for 17 years. Buying $200 books, spending nights studying (or partying) all night, dragging out five-page papers that should only be one-page…I've paid my dues. And let me tell you, a 9-5 job will do just fine now, thank you very much.

~ Petrified: I have been dreading this day for 17 years. I know how to be a student. I don’t know how to handle a steady income, bill after bill, and a REAL job. Pleaaaase, can’t I just push out that five-page paper now? I’ve become a pro!

Regardless of which category you fall into, the day is coming. You’re going to graduate. And you’re going to need to know your options NOW…before it’s too late. If there’s anything you’ve learned in the past four years, shouldn’t you have learned some preparatory skills?!
More school. Yeah, it’s true. If you’re scared to leave school, just go to another. Whether you have to go to school for your Ph.D, or you just would like your master’s in creative writing – as long as there’s money, you can keep going to school. The MCAT, LSAT, and GRE are offered multiple times during the year. Find a date that corresponds with your schedule – and don’t forget to study (most informational websites offer study tips and how-tos)!

Teach for America. Want to travel and teach? Join Teach for America; you’ll teach in rural and urban cities for two years. Worried about compensation? Employees are paid $27,000 to $47,500 depending on your placement region (and you’ll receive full health benefits!). The next deadline is Oct. 28. Check out their website (www.teachforamerica.org) for more information about the program and financial benefits.

Go Army! You can match your interest with just about any career in the Army. Want to write? Be an on-scene journalist. Love to take pictures? They need those too. You can serve your people and your country in multiple ways besides just combat. But hey, if you desire to do that, go ahead! You are not only compensated with money, but you can also choose other health benefits and even an education. Click on over to www.goarmy.com/ for some answers to your further questions.

Get a job. Yep. I said it. And you know what my first bit of advice is? MAKE AN APPOINTMENT AT CAREER SERVICES. You can schedule mock interviews, make a resume and just get general advice from the people skilled in finding you a job. Walk over to their office on Eighth Street or check them out at http://www.hope.edu/student/career/. Believe me, they’re gonna give you all the facts… hopefully, it won’t be more than you can handle.

OF COURSE, there are more options for you (some of which will be lined out for you with an appointment at Career Services). Type in your major on Google and see what you can do with it. I’m only trying to get you started here.

Graduation does not have to be scary. After all, isn’t it a celebration? Congratulations – you’ve worked hard the past 17 years of your life. Sure, it was the end of an era.

But, you know, it’s the start of a new one too.
Musings on mutual misunderstandings

You’ve never heard of...

There is a movement sweeping the nation and our campus is no exception. This belief system is baffling and difficult to categorize. Music-snobbery: the belief that oneself is the originator of musical uniqueness, that oneself is responsible for discovering every truly talented musical group (not on the top forty and most likely labeled ‘indie’) and that oneself—having been entranced with such a talent for discovery—is the sole protector of the obscure musical groups.

It might be confusing to identify a music snob at first because many times he or she will play it off as if they expect you to be aware of these random musical groups. The conversation between a music snob (S) and an average music listener (L) usually looks something like this:

L: (Hears some bizarre sounds coming from S’s oversized headphones) “What are you listening to?”
S: (Pretends not to hear at first, bobbing and swaying, then responds) “Oh, it’s the Heartfelt Lion Tamers. You’ve never heard of them?”
L: (Feeling slightly offended by S’s disbelief of and mortification by L’s musical ignorance) “Oh, Er. Um."

S: “You are probably thinking of Heath, Leon and Time, a very different group, although they did do a cover that made it onto Now 89.”
L: (Trying to remember the last Now CD created) “Yeah, maybe.”
S: (Moves to put on his headphones again) “Where did you hear of those lion guys?”
L: (Trying to decide how much to allow L in on the musical chamber secrets) “I saw them a while back. Had some PBR with Jason, Zephyr and Sheila afterwards, and they gave me the first album they made together.” (Feeling as if it was a bit over-share, puts on headphones quickly)
L: (Confused about what just happened) “Oh.”

Of course, not every interaction will look like the one above. Sometimes the average listener is seduced into the lifestyle, playing Heartfelt Lion Tamers for friends and then subsequently belittling those friends for not knowing about the group. Other times, the music-snob shares even less information while still managing to show how much he or she knows about the group.

Nailing down the typical person involved in music-snobbery is difficult. Some point to indie kids, indie yuppies, emo-kids, scene kids and hipsters. But who is really to blame? Take a look at what experts at Urban Dictionary have to say about these groups:

Indie Kid: “Usually, if an indie kid asks you if you like a band, you will have not heard of the band. Indie kids could usually name 500 bands you’ve never heard of without breaking a sweat.”

Indie Yuppie: “Indie yuppies are the Starbucks-drinking, Volvo-driving kids who thing that the music they hear on The O.C. is ‘indie’; think that that Shins song is life-changing and only pretend to read James Joyce.”

Scene Kid: “Being scene ‘in the early days’ was all about plastering one’s myspace, Facebook, etc. with a long list of all the bands that they know and love but no one else has ever heard of. However, now, with posers diluting the scene, many scene kids will NOT list their favorite bands.”

Hipster: “Lestens to bands that you have never heard of. Has hairstyle that can only be described as ‘complicated.’ (Most likely achieved by a minimum of one week not washing it!) Probably tattooed. Maybe gay. Definitely cooler than you.”

We may never know where to place the blame.

Emily hopes that you all take active measures to understand music-snobbery in order to prevent further musical hate crimes on this campus.

Write Letters to the Editors

If you are passionate about an issue, concerned about a problem, or excited to share an idea:

Small Letters to the Anchor

If you want to write...

Please e-mail parents@hope.edu.

You must be a current Hope student to enter.

Sincerely,
Julie Kocsis ('10)

Student urges campus to put aside prejudice

To the Editors:

In response to last week's published letter from the Sexuality Roundtable regarding the visitation of “Mill” screenwriter Dustin Lance Black, I would also like to say how disappointed I am in certain members of the Hope College administration for canceling this event. Not only does this kind of censorship contradict the school’s “Reason for Being,” but it encourages such blind opposition that can lead to fear and hatred. Only through open discussion can informed opinions be developed.

I would also like to acknowledge the Sexuality Roundtable for fighting so hard to be recognized on campus over the last few years. Although I myself am heterosexual, I have had a number of homosexual friends throughout high school and college who, on a daily basis, face great opposition in both recognition and acceptance. This type of courage deserves recognition in itself. It is important for everyone to love thy neighbor, whether you agree with their lifestyle or not. Put aside any prejudices and engage in conversation, ask questions, develop informed opinions and see for yourself what is out there and whom you can meet along the way.

So to the members of the Hope College administration who are responsible, please step out of the Dark Ages and open up our minds to the possibility of learning about some revolutionary ideas so everyone can decide for themselves what they believe.

Sincerely,

Julie Kocsis ('10)
From the inside out

Bethany Stripp
Sports Editor in-Chief

Do what you love

I don’t remember much from my high school yearbooks. I don’t remember the themes or where pages may have been ripped out. I’m not even sure that I could tell you what my class voted me senior year, and I just graduated and went off to college.

There is however, one thing that has always stuck with me from one of my high school yearbooks. One year, the yearbook staff went around to the teachers in my high school and asked them for advice they would like to give to students. Our assistant principal at the time had these words for us: “Don’t go into a profession just for the money, because if you don’t enjoy your job, it will soon get very, very old.”

It’s a little cliché, but this advice has come to mean a lot to me. Over the summer, after turning in what felt like hundreds of applications, I managed to find a job at a little café in my hometown. I had never eaten there before, but I needed to make some money over the summer and figured I’d give it a shot.

That waitressing job ended up making for one of the best summers I’ve ever had. I’ll admit that being that restaurant at 7 a.m. various mornings wasn’t exactly fun, and there were times when impatient, poorly tipping customers made me want to scream, but overall I distinctly remember thinking to myself several times over the summer, “I absolutely love my job.”

Our cooks, the other wait staff and especially our regular customers made me want to work there, and I think I know why. I have a little more than two and a half years before I have to try to look for a “real job,” and it’s possible that by then the job market will be better. But I worry that I won’t be able to find a job that I truly enjoy even if the economy has improved by then. Unlike some professions, such as teaching or medicine, I don’t know that there will always be a demand for newspaper journalism, which is my current career plan. It seems like nearly every day I’m reminded of how the newspaper is a dying art form and how there’s no future in that field.

But I’m not willing to sacrifice my happiness for a job that I wouldn’t like. I don’t want to be a teacher, and I could never, ever handle a career in medicine—just thinking about the things those careers entail makes me woozy. So, even though I really don’t know if I’ll ever be able to find a steady job after I graduate, I refuse to compromise. I refuse to settle for something less, because I’ve experienced what it’s like to love what you do, and I sincerely hope I will never have to find out what the opposite feels like.

So I know this won’t leave me living with my parents until I’m forty.

Bethany would like to career as a professional orientation assistant if journalism doesn’t work, Shout out to OA Group ’79 and Brian’s AD group.

Grace & peace

Grace Olson
Columnist

Wick and wax

This week is cold and we haven’t turned on our heat. My roommates mention the thermostat and suggest space heaters, but living off-campus and being responsible for utilities, we instead pull out wool socks and flannel blankets. I’m cross-legged in our living room, wearing two sweaters and a pair of wool socks. I’m a little chilly, but this is a great night for a good book.

The foreign journey

Rachel Syens
Columnist

Community abroad

My first memory of my dog, Sam, was from the age of 8. My parents and I had been searching for a dog, making countless visits to the humane society, yet still having trouble finding our perfect fit. One evening, upon arriving home, I opened the door and was greeted by something entirely unexpected: an extremely energetic and furry Soft-Coated Wheaten Terrier mix. My dad had brought him home as a surprise. From the moment that he became a part of us, I knew he was perfect for our family. So as you can imagine, it was extremely difficult to leave my parents and Sam as I packed up to spend three months in York, England. This good-bye was made even harder by Sam’s declining health in his old age. However, I left with hope that I would see him again in December and set off for a new adventure.

Before we left for the UK, I began cleaning and getting ready to go. It was a hectic time, and once we left, I realized how much I would miss my puppy. When I left, I knew that people would want to know how he was doing, how he was coping with the new distance.

It was a long journey to England, and once we arrived, we were greeted with a cold, wet and windy weather. It was a shock to the system, and I was faced with starting a new life in the UK for the first time. I was determined to make the most of my time abroad, and I was looking forward to the challenges and opportunities that came with it.

While I was away, I found inspiration in the beauty of the country and the people I met. The experience of living abroad taught me valuable lessons, and it was a time of growth and self-discovery.

I am grateful for the memories I made during my time abroad, and I carry those experiences with me as I look towards the future. I learned to be independent, to adapt to new situations, and to appreciate the beauty of different cultures.

Or we snuff our candles before bed and huddle alone in the darkness, after the moonlight has descended. When the sun comes up, we wake and forget. Who needs a slim flame when we have 27 million degrees of light swooping down upon us? Instead of the brights, we forget birthdays, let dinner get cold and neglect the very people the candles were intended to remember—until, of course, the daylight wanes and the sun falls low at 6 o’clock instead of 9, and feeling evening’s loneliness pressing in, we scurry to find the matchbox.

Then, gathering the candles onto the coffee table, we sit together with cups of tea whose steam sways up like phantom flames, and we read “Medical Surgical Nursing” and “Principles of Biochemistry,” recount the day and bemoan the heating bill. And the light, making a little space for our stories, holds us together.

Speaking of candles, Grace wishes happy birthday to all five men at 440 College who celebrate in October.

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VOICES

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 this, objective journaler and a vibrant Votum section.

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**IN BRIEF**

**FOOTBALL SUFFERS FIRST MIAA LOSS**

Hope’s football team opened their conference season Saturday with an away game at Trine. The Flying Dutchmen started the game strong, leading 14-0 after the first quarter. Trine cut Hope’s lead during the second quarter with two touchdowns and a field goal, but Hope still remained on top at halftime. After the break, Trine began to pull away, scoring two touchdowns in the third quarter. Hope fought back from a 10-point deficit going into the fourth quarter to bring the game within three points, but another touchdown by Trine sealed the Dutchmen’s fate and Hope fell, 35-28. Conference play will continue on Saturday as the team takes on the Britons of Albion for the annual Homecoming game.

**CROSS COUNTRY COMPETES IN LANSING**

The men’s and women’s cross country teams participated in the Lansing Community College Invitational on Oct. 3. The women’s team won the 5K race, edging out host Lansing Community College by one point. Taylor Matarrella (’13), Sharon Hecker (’13), and Katie Martin (’13) were the first Flying Dutch to cross the finish line, coming in third, eighth, and ninth, respectively. The men’s team competed in an 8k race and came away with second place out of nine teams. The first three Hope finishers were Collin Kooy (’10) in ninth place, Brian Hernandez (‘12) in 11th place, and Blake Rottschaffer (’13) in 12th place. On Saturday, both teams will travel to Indiana where they will compete in the Rose-Hulman Invitational.

**SPORTS**

**Young women’s golf team keeps playing strong**

"I grew up golfing and it’s definitely a passion of mine," Sneller said. "I just have a great time playing the game but love the fact that at Hope, golf isn’t my life. I’m able to focus on my work in the classroom as well as play golf, which for me is a great combination. Obviously, golf is not going to be my career, so it’s important that I focus on my academics.

The Flying Dutch have one remaining fall match, the MIAA Championship at Battle Creek on Oct. 9. After taking the winter off, the team will play three 18-hole rounds in the spring to determine who will receive the MIAA bid to the NCAA Division III championships.

**Van Andel Stadium opens with win**

For the 650 fans watching the inaugural soccer game at the new Van Andel Stadium on Sept. 29, the cold and rainy weather couldn’t dampen their spirits. The Hope-Calgary Heretics, now the Alison Britton’s in town, the Flying Dutchmen soccer team was given a tough battle. After about 80 minutes of each team playing shutout soccer, Jeff Stusock (’11) scored the lone goal of the game to give the Flying Dutchmen a 1-0 victory, the team’s first victory in Van Andel Stadium.

**Hope volleyball remains on top of conference**

"Our team is virtually all underclassmen and we are very young, which only means a bright future for the women’s volleyball team," Sneller said. "A lot of our recent success has been us staying focused on getting it done," Baker said. "We have the mentality of every point counts; we don’t want to let the other team hang around. Our intensity level has been great lately." After the loss to Ohio Northern, the Flying Dutch returned to their winning ways, defeating Wittenberg in the final game of the Ohio-Michigan Border Battle. They then continued to conference play. The third and perhaps most exciting MIAA game was against 11th-ranked rival Calvin in front of the home crowd in DeVos Fieldhouse.

"The Flying Dutch were looking to average last year’s disappointing home loss to the Knights," DeWeerdt said. "(We) didn’t want them to come into our place and win again; we have worked hard to make sure that didn’t happen again," said Sara DeWeerdt (’11), who had six kills and eight digs in the win.

The Hope-Calvin rivalry in volleyball may not get the same national attention as the basketball game, but it is still one of the biggest games on their calendar every year. "Everyone brings their best; each team wants it so bad, (and) a lot of times there is a conference championship and national tournament berth on the line," DeWeerdt said.

Hope took on Calvin on the main court in DeVos, which allowed over 1,400 fans to watch the game. DeWeerdt said the energy from the fans has had a big impact on the team’s success. "The fans have been great this year," DeWeerdt said. "They give us great energy to feed off of and are up on their feet cheering all the time." Over the weekend, the team competed in the Illinois Wesleyan Barker Classic, where they defeated three of their four opponents. The Flying Dutch will be on the road this week before taking on Olivet Oct. 14 in DeVos.