Alumni return for Homecoming

Christina VanderGriend
Guest Writer

This weekend, Hope College welcomed back alumni of all ages who once called this campus home.


The Homecoming festivities began on Friday, Oct. 3 with a hoedown at Teusink’s Farm. Students learned line-dances, consumed cider and fall treats, and petted farm animals from 8 p.m. until midnight.

The next morning, alumni gathered for a reunion brunch. All across campus, alumni met with younger generations of Hope students, from sorority houses to alumni soccer and lacrosse games.

In keeping with tradition, the 31st Run-Walk participants left the DeVos field house at 10 a.m. on Saturday and made a five-kilometer loop around the Holland area.

Approximately 300 students, alumni, and Holland residents took part in the race this year.

“I really don’t run that much anymore,” said 64-year-old Hope alum Merle Vander Shuis, “but I do (the Run-Walk) every year.”

Later in the day, Hope hosted its fifth annual Homecoming see HOMECOMING, page 2
**IN BRIEF**

ELECTION ISSUES DISCUSSED TUESDAYS

The Hope College political science department is joining Eta Kappa to hold a program called “Bound in a Common Life,” designed to educate Hope students and the community on the importance of faith and its role in making decisions regarding matters of national policy.

Selected faculty and staff will gather on stage with three moderators, answering questions posed by the audience or the moderators. The program is scheduled at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Maas Auditorium:

- Oct. 7: National Security
- Oct. 21: Health Care Policy

STUDENTS FAVOR PROFESSOR BOYD

Hope College students voted for the 2008 recipient of the “Favorite Faculty/Staff Mentor” award. Students were not provided with a list to select from but were instead asked to write in the name of a faculty member that they felt deserved the award. Dr. Boyd Wilson received the award at the Holland Municipal Stadium during the half-time of the Homecoming football game on Saturday, Oct. 4.

**CAMPUS**

**Hope celebrates homecoming**

- **HOMECOMING**, from page 1

xitgate picnic. Friends, family and fans alike gathered at the Smallenburg Park, adjacent to the Holland Municipal Stadium, to enjoy barbecue and live music. A band comprised of Hope alumni from the 1960s, a group called Gasmen, provided the music.

The picnic attendees were able to catch the tail end of the Homecoming Parade as it wound its way through campus toward them. Hope’s Greek and other student organizations designed the colorful floats that drove through campus.

Those wishing to watch the parade lined up along 13th Street, College Avenue, 10th Street and Columbia to see the floats and candy thrown out into the crowd. Tom Bylsma served as grand marshal for the parade.

The parade’s final destination was the Holland Municipal Stadium where the Dutch Football team hosted Trine University (formerly Tri-State University).

The Dutch fought a long, hard game against the Trine University Thunder. Trine University scored with just over a minute left on the clock and the Dutch retaliated with their final touchdown with only 35 seconds left in the game, narrowing the margin between Hope and Trine to a single point. The Flying Dutchmen, however, lost 30-28.

During the half-time show, the Homecoming King and Queen were announced as Graham Carlson ’09 and Tonisha Gordon ’09, who posed for pictures wearing crowns and sashes and carrying the traditional wooden shoes.

Also announced at halftime was the 13th annual “Favorite Faculty/Staff Member” award, presented this year to Dr. Boyd Wilson of the Religion Department. Wilson teaches world religions and theology. He has been with Hope College since 1982.

Later in the evening, Hope students flooded into the Haworth Inn, dressed to the nines for the Homecoming ball. The theme this year was “Under the Sea.”

Blue gauze covered the walls and students entered the ocean through an archway. Seashells decorated the food tables, which included a nautical tea punch. This year’s ball featured a disc jockey playing popular music.

The Swing Band, which traditionally plays a few songs throughout the night, was noticeably missing.

Rachel Doherty ’10, a member of the Social Activities Committee, commented on the swing band’s absence this year.

“I think students wouldn’t mind (the swing band) if it was shorter but most people just want to dance. They seemed to have fun with the DJ, though,” Doherty said.

Some students were disappointed with the swing band’s absence.

Sarah Koon ’09 said, “In past years, I’ve really enjoyed having a mix of style in music and dancing. Having live musicians was really fun. It made homecoming feel different than a high school dance.”

Another notable event of homecoming weekend was the raising of 12 new flags at the Martha Miller Center to celebrate the diversity of Hope’s student body.

The flags represent Armenia, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Kenya, Mexico, Palestine, Singapore, South Korea, Sweden and the United States and will rotate throughout the academic year.

On Sunday morning, Dean of the Chapel Truyve Johnson, Hope organist Haw Lewis and the Alumni Choir led a worship service in Dimnent Chapel, concluding the Homecoming festivities.

Other events during the Homecoming weekend included performances of the play “Second Class” by the Theater Department and concerts by Hope College’s Orchestra and Symphonette.

The Hope volleyball team defeated Olivet 25-15, 25-14, and 25-17, the women’s soccer team defeated Adrian 8-0.

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The men’s soccer team defeated Adrian 8-0.

This year’s Homecoming events drew hundreds of alumni and gave the current Hope Col-
Robert Gilmond  
Social Worker  
The two extreme right parties have made substantial gains in Austrian elections.  The Freedom Party of Austria and the Alliance for the Future of Austria received 17 percent and 10 percent of the votes respectively.

The advances of these parties bring major concerns for the European Union. Both parties have alleged ties with Neo-Nazi organizations. They both leaders, Heinz-Christian Strache of the FPÖ and Jörg Haider of the BZÖ, are accused of having ties with Neo-Nazi organizations. While both parties have strong xenophobic sentiments, neither has endorsed violence in dealing with matters of immigration. While both parties have alleged ties with Neo-Nazi organizations, the FPÖ and Jörg Haider of the BZÖ, are accused of having ties with Neo-Nazi organizations.

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A major concern for the EU is Austria's involvement with Iran. In 2007, an Austrian oil company signed a $10 billion deal for access to Iranian oil fields. This action violated EU sanctions on Iran. Terrorist experts say that this could register to vote, state laws forbid them to cast a ballot. "As of 1997, 44 states had language in their constitutions, statutes, or case law barring voting by some subgroups of persons with mental illness or retardation," said Kay Schriner, research fellow at the Fultbirght Institute of International Relations. Currently, Michigan's Constitution, Article 2 §2 reads, "Legislature may exclude persons not deemed mentally competent." The legislation on this issue has not been changed since 1964.

The legislation on this issue has not been changed since 1964. However, the Department of State discourages political violence. "Other than city or town residency and age requirements, state and federal laws do not place any other restrictions on the right to vote...Our right to vote is basic to our system of democracy and depends on all people having full and equal access to the ballot," When asked to comment, the Office of the Comptroller General for the Secretary of State stated, "You cannot challenge the validity of a law based on your perception of mental and physical limitations."

Denying the mentally disabled the right to vote began in the 1700s. The goal of early state constitutions was to exclude any person incapable of making informed and intelligent political choices, according to Paul S. Appelbaum, professor of psychiatry and director of the Division of Psychiatry, Law and Ethics of Columbia University. Up until 2007 New Jersey's constitution still stated that any person being "insane" or "an idiot" could vote in elections. Many of the laws set out by states preventing the mentally disabled can be traced back to the 1800s. Often the label "under psychological guardianship" serves as an umbrella term and does not leave room for individual situations. Not taken into account are those placed under guardianship for another month. He has served in the German army, (The SS was) a part of the German army which should be honored.

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Haider has been controversial in the past. He has compiled the Hitler regime during a debate in parliament stating that it had developed a prosperous employment policy, which your government in Vienna has not once produced! He has stated that the SS was "a part of the German army which should be honored." And he has described women in burqas as "little ninjas."
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Amanda Gernentz
ASSISTANT NATIONAL NEWS EDITOR

Iran has been in a state of turmoil for several decades. The turmoil heightened, at least with the rest of the world, when the current president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was elected by popular vote in 2005.

There have been several problems between the United States and Iran since this time, most recently the United Nations General Assembly at the end of September.

At the U.N. General Assembly, Ahmadinejad is quoted by CNN to have said that the “American empire in the world is reaching the end of its road.”

Though a notetaker was the only representative of the U.S. present when he made his speech, he continued to attack the United States, saying that they have been oppressing Iraqis with occupation for the past six years, according to CNN. No one was present to defend the U.S.

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was born in Garmsar, which is near the capital city, Tehran, in 1956. He graduated from the University of Science and Technology, in Tehran, with a Ph.D. in traffic and transportation. He was also a lecturer at the university.

One controversial event in Ahmadinejad’s past is his role in the 1979 Islamic Revolution. Several of the American hostages that were held at the embassy in Tehran have insisted that he was one of their captors, but he denies that he was there. Many of the known captors also deny his presence and are now his political opponents.

Ahmadinejad has issued controversial statements in the past. He is noted to have claimed that the Holocaust never existed, and insists that it should be continually studied and hopefully denied as real. This has led to accusations of anti-Semitism, which he has also denied. He has also been a part of the “International Conference to Review and Appraise the International Nuremberg Principles and the International Vision of the Holocaust,” which was described in the west as a Holocaust denial conference. He has also stated that he “wanted Israeli military politically wiped off the map,” adding to the anti-Semitism accusations.

More recently, he has refused to stop nuclear activities taking place in Iran, insisting that all of Iran’s nuclear activities are peaceful, according to CNN. He also accused the United States of being hypocritical in this area, saying that they are “building or maintaining nuclear stockpiles themselves, unchecked by anyone, while asking Iran to stop all progress.

Despite all of this, he claims that his intentions with the U.S. and other countries are peaceful. As an example of this, he was the first Iranian president to visit Iraq in several decades. He also traveled to New York for the U.N. General Assembly, as an attempt to maintain peace on foreign soil. He has also had several reforms that have pleased more moderate Iranians. He refused to support a campaign to insist that women stick to Iran’s strict Islamic dress codes, and he allowed women to attend major sporting events for the first time since 1979.

Currently, all U.S. relations with Iran are handled by the Swiss. President Bush had been hoping to change that, but all plans were shelved until a new U.S. president takes office.

A coalition between the OVP and BZO may force the FPO and BZO to support a campaign to the anti-Semitism groups.

The FPO and BZO oppose economic sanctions produced by the EU and support the deal in Iran.

A coalition between the OVP and the BZO has been rumored, but recent talks suggest that the two right parties will join forces. “Voters now expect us to do something for Austria. They do not want us steeped in animosity and fighting each other,” Haider said, urging such a coalition.

The Social Democratic Party of Austria, which holds the majority of seats in parliament, has refused to partake in any government led by the far-rights. However, the strides made by the FPO and BZO may force the SPO to either retract this statement or be left behind.

Polls suggest that voters were unhappy with the lack of action in government while it was led by a coalition between the SPO and OVP. The issue of immigration was also a major concern in recent elections as immigrants, primarily Muslim, move to Austria due to conflict in neighboring countries. The FPO and BZO capitalized on these issues as well as the recently lowered voting age of 16.

The OVP and the SPO, took hits in the polls, dropping to 26 percent and 29 percent respectively — the worst showing for these two parties since World War II.

VOTING RIGHTS CONTESTED FOR MENTALLY CHALLENGED

Austrian parties draw charges of pro-Nazism

VOTE, from page 3

ties that don’t necessarily render a person unintelligent or unable to rationalize.

Student Adam Irre (’09) has worked with children with cognitive disabilities.

“It’s a fine line determining who is capable and who isn’t. It’s a case-by-case situation. You would have to be careful as individuals could try to swing their vote,” Irre said.

There are still those, however, who are high functioning special needs adults but have been diagnosed with having the intelligences of a child. Because of this, it has been argued that if we let those with the mindset of an adolescent vote, it would be the same as letting an actual child vote. Solutions proposed have included intelligence tests to those in question before being granted the right to vote. This could lead to embarrassment and lawsuits against individuals and government for discrimination under the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Without the right to vote, the individuals in question themselves cannot define what their rights are by law. This undefined and marginalized group is then left in the hands of their caretakers and concerned individuals. So who has the right to determine a person’s mental capability to vote and what the definition of intelligence should be? It is a difficult and complicated question that many seem hesitant in addressing.

PARTY, from page 3

an action violated EU sanctions on Iran. Terrorism experts say that Iran will use this deal to fund their nuclear program and finance terrorist groups.

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It’s a fine line determining who is capable.

—ADAM IRRE (’09)
**ARTS**

The University of Indianapolis invites Katherine Sullivan to display her works

**Studio majors show talent**

**Guest Writer**

Katherine Sullivan of the Hope College Art faculty has recently featured work for her 9th solo exhibition at the University of Indianapolis.

The critically acclaimed series began in 2002 and developed out of her growing curiosity for the representation of 3-dimensional space with the inherently flat space of a painting’s plane. Sullivan’s main interest concerns the combination of perspectives whilst a figure is used as the main subject matter.

In her painting and drawings, Sullivan is first interested in what she would call “the Wow!” factor. In other words, she has created images that instantly elicit a response through scale, color and technique. However, she hopes the work she has created will sustain interest beyond the initial response and that the viewer uncovers the more complex content and contradictions in each piece.

“This show is unique in that it incorporates pieces from two different series of work created over the course of six years. Its setting in a university gallery allowed me to focus more on the process that connected the different series, a process that is especially relevant for student artists,” Sullivan said. Her interests lie in the formal combination of flat and illusionist space in painting. Her subject matter is more abstract yet related to the figure she is painting. “I’ve been delighted with the show and with the chance to meet the University of Indianapolis art faculty and students, they have an excellent department,” Sullivan said.

Sullivan is set to lecture on her series in New York.

**‘Blue Like Jazz’ author campaigns for Obama**

**Brittany Adams**

Features Editor

On Friday, Oct. 3, Hope students and faculty along with seven other schools had the chance to see some of their artwork in the public in the Activesite art show in Grand Rapids.

Activesite is an organization that hosts projects put on by co-founders Paul Amenta and Todd Ernst as a way to collaborate between art, business and development in West Michigan and beyond. Their goal is to create unique exhibition and promotional opportunities for artists by taking advantage of buildings that are being converted from one business to another and uses that brief moment when the building is empty to show the work of young area artists. In this way, not only the artwork is viewed but also the building itself, linking the business and art aspects in Activesite’s goal.

“I was very excited to be in the show, it was my first one outside of Hope,” said Cassandra Thomas, one of the students involved.

The same was true for many other students, all of whom began developing their pieces at the beginning of the semester. Many of the students felt honored and thrilled to have the opportunity to publicize their talents alongside the work of their professor’s. Types of work displayed by Hope students and faculty included sculptures made from various materials of all kinds.

Everyone’s work was original and everything from bold ACTIVESITE, page 6

**In Brief**

DE FREE FEATURES BUSH CARTOONIST

Hope College will feature the exhibition “Leadership: Obi- lphant Cartoons and Sculpture from the Bush Years” in the gal- lery of the De Free Art Center from Friday, Oct. 17, through Saturday, Nov. 22.

There will be an opening re- ception featuring Patrick Oliphant at the gallery on Friday, Oct. 17, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

In the exhibition features the work of one of the greatest political cartoonists. Australian-born Patrick Oliphant, world-ren-owned for his fearless, caustic portrayals for America’s most prominent peoples and events, will be showing cartoons, sketches, oversized caricatures, and sculptures in bronze and wax.

Oliphant uses traditional ar- tistic devices, like caricature and hierarchy of size, to illustrate a complex variety of ideas. The “bad” characters of his cartoons are huge. The “good” are small, often seen conversing with the wise and ironic “Punk” the pen- guin. Pursuing a pun or the voice of reason, that which should in- spire our actions as we watch the events in Washington unfold.

The exhibit includes the voice of reason, that which should inspire our actions as we watch the events in Washington unfold. De Free senior citizens, and with the U.S. presidential election, the show will invite the members of the audience to reflect on their current political choices. The exhibition focuses on the Bush administration.

**GPP TO PRESENT SYNERGY BRASS QUINTET**

The Great Performance Series will feature Symphony Brass Quintet, on Friday, Oct. 17, at 7:30 p.m. in Dimnent Chapel. The quintet’s unique perfor- mances are known to engage both new and veteran classical audience members. “The perfor- mance was superior,” reviewed The Rapid City Journal.

The quintet is comprised of five brass players. The ensemble’s repertoire is written specifically for this instrument combination and offers a wide range of music from the Baroque to modern works. The quintet will perform an extensive selection of music from the Baroque to modern works, including works by Bach, mozart, Beethoven, and contemporary composers.

Tickets are $17 regular admission, $12 for seniors and $6 for children 18 and under.
ARTS

October 8, 2008

Hope artists on display in Grand Rapids

According to a Hope College Public Relations press release Hope College Theatre will present "Second Class" by Brad Slaight in the DeVitt Center main theatre beginning Friday, Oct. 3.

Performances are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, Oct. 3 and 4, and Wednesday through Saturday, Oct. 8-11, all with an 8 p.m. curtain.

"Second Class" is a continuation of Brad Slaight's previous play, "Class Action"; both plays pertain to the trials, tribulations, and joys of high school life. Through a series of scenes, vignettes, and monologues, "Second Class" aims to demonstrate that although teens have their tough days, there are plenty of good times and a lot of laughter, too.

"I wanted to examine the clichés of high school. I'm of a mind that when I just think back on my own high school experiences — some of those friends are my friends for life," said "Second Class" director Jean Reed Bable, "I learned a lot of important stuff. Things beyond English and biology, but life experience, how to be with other people."

Bable has been involved with the arts in West Michigan for more than 30 years as an administrator, publicist, reviewer, and free-lance talent in radio, television and industrial films; and involved in area theatre as a playwright and director. As an actor, she has appeared in more than 50 productions, working with Boarshed in Lansing, Hope Summer Repertory Theatre in Holland, Grand Rapids Civic and Circle Theatre, and most prominently with Actors' Theatre.

For the past 20 years, Bable has taught acting and writing workshops in area schools, at Actors' and Civic, and has served as adjunct faculty in the theatre department at GRCC. Since 1994 she has served as visiting assistant professor in the theatre department at Hope College.

"It's a true ensemble piece" Bable said. "Everybody gets their glory moment; they each play five or six different characters. It's a nice stretch piece for actors!" Bable wrote to playwright Brad Slaight to discuss the script. She was interested in adding stylized movement in between scenes, and, with Slaight's go-ahead, Bable and the cast have been experimenting with a guest artist from the department of dance, Sharon Wong. In addition to incorporating movement into "Second Class," the cast wrote its own epilogue.

Have you Heard?

Bria Berger reviews Girl Talk's 'Feed the Animals'

Writing a music review about Girl Talk in 250 words is like trying to describe the Sistine Chapel ceiling in a greeting card. Girl Talk’s music is the mashup of mash-ups; the remix of remixes; the breath of life that has revolutionized the 21st century independent music scene.

Greg Gillis is a self-confessed pop music enthusiast, former biomedical engineer and the brainchild behind Girl Talk's unique genre of sample-heavy music. He refuses to call himself a DJ and up until last year worked full time as an engineer and kept his musical life hidden from his colleagues.

On “Night Ripper” in 2006, his third release on Illegal Art but first breakout hit, Gillis deftly tosses the line between the question of where clips of random songs end and where musical ingenuity begins.

But the music industry knows the test of time is more important than the initial explosion. On his latest album, “Feed the Animals,” Gillis continues his tradition of mixing ballads (like Sinead O’Connor’s “Nothing Compares 2 U”) with distinctive artists like Three Six Mafia and Fleetwood Mac. “Feed the Animals” starts off timidly but confidently progresses into a more innovative, mature response to a more innovative, mature response to "Second Class," the cast wrote its own epilogue. For Bable, this is what playmaking is all about: honoring the playwright but finding the portion that one can bring to it. As Bable summarized, "(It's) going back and looking at experiences that you may tend to dismiss. High school is very different now than when I went to high school, and yet some things never change."

Tickets for “Second Class” are $7 for regular admission, $5 for Hope faculty and staff, and $4 for students and senior citizens, and are available at the Hope College ticket office in DeVos Fieldhouse, open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The theatre lobby ticket office in the DeVitt Center will be open on performance nights at 8 p.m. The ticket office may be contacted at (616) 395-7890.

Substance Abuse Awareness Group

Support group for Hope College students only!

Starting Monday, September 29

Location: Hope College Dewitt Counseling Center

Monday 11:00 am

Thursday 7:00 pm

For more information contact: ext 7945

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The options in the current American healthcare system: private, governmental, and a look at alternative healthcare

Brittany Adams
Features Editor

With the two presidential candidates offering drastically different plans concerning healthcare, it is worth taking a look at what healthcare is and what it means to the American people, including you and me.

To begin with, there are two major types of insurance plans: those funded by the government, and those not. Obama is offering a universal healthcare plan, meaning that the government would provide citizens with healthcare in order to fight costs for the people, while McCain favors keeping the current system of privatized healthcare and intends to use competition to curb costs.

In 2005, the U.S. Census Bureau released a report stating that as of the year before, 15.7 percent of Americans were without health insurance.

Many Americans receive health insurance explained through their employment. However, it's possible to obtain health insurance independently.

Four main types of plans exist: the Health Maintenance Organization, the Preferred Patient Organization, the indemnity, and the Point of Service.

The HMO provides coverage for its subscribers to have a primary-care physician with other specialists as necessary. The main thing about an HMO is that it is only pays for care received from physicians in their network; a group of doctors that pay them to belong. Outside of the network, subscribers pay on their own. This offers them less choice. However, the good news with HMOs is that visits to their doctors cost less with a determined co-pay, and premiums, the amount paid every month to belong, are reasonable.

The PPO offers more flexibility in choosing physicians. Subscribers are not required to use its network, but it's cheaper if they do. PPOs bill their clients deductibles and then co-insurance payments, which require the client to pay for a percentage of the cost, or co-payments. The PPO does not require its clients to get a referral if he or she needs to see a specialist.

An indemnity plan differs from an HMO or a PPO in that an indemnity plan's coverage list includes procedures rather than physicians. The limitation of indemnity plans thus lay in their services; they may only cover care for emergencies and sicknesses. Indemnity plans still consist of co-payments and deductibles, just like the other plans, although the copayments can be a little more expensive.

Lastly, the POS offers more choices in physicians, as it helps pay for care received outside of its network through co-payments and/or deductibles. The POS also offers clients a maximum amount that they will have to pay, similar to the PPO and indemnity plans.

To explore my options as an individual, I decided to look at the health insurance company Aetna to get a quote for a 20-year-old female from Illinois (many insurance companies offer plans according to one's place of residence).

I decided to look into two plans, one with a high deductible and other with no deductible. The first plan, the High Deductible 3000, would require that I pay a $3,000 deductible when receiving care from inside the network, and $6,000 if I would choose to go outside. After that, healthcare would typically cost nothing inside of the network, or 50 percent of the bill outside (although preventative healthcare would only be covered up to $200).

Another benefit of this plan is its compatibility with a Health Savings Account. An HSA allows people to put aside money for healthcare and not get taxed for it, therefore making healthcare a little more affordable. The out-of-pocket maximum for this plan is $3,000, and its monthly premium is $92, not including dental insurance.

The other plan I looked into, the First Dollar PPO 40, would have no deductible if I stayed inside the network (it would be $7,000 if I decided to go outside). However, it would require me to pay more each time I received care. For example, a visit to a non-specialist or a specialist inside the network demands a $40 or $50 co-payment, respectively. Outside of the network, we would have to pay half of the medical bill (or all of it, if the deductible has not been met).

This plan, whose premium is $140 a month, would make me pay for 40 percent of any outpatient surgery and 40 percent of any emergency room procedure within the network; those numbers jump to 50 percent if outside the network. The preventative healthcare policy is the same as with the High Deductible 3000 (except that I would have to pay 50 percent outside of the network), although the out-of-pocket maximum would be $12,500.

As it turns out, through their various plans, Aetna has a profit margin of 6.26 percent meaning that, while the economy is currently in the toilet, a major insurance company was still able to make $1.86 billion in income.

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs is a government-run military veteran organization responsible for administering healthcare programs of benefits for veterans, their families and survivors.

The State Children’s Health Insurance Program is a United States federal government program that gives funds to states in order to provide health insurance to families with children who are not eligible for Medicaid.

Medicare is a jointly funded, federal-state health insurance program for lower-income and needy people, that covers children, the aged, blind, and/or disabled and other eligibilities.

Unlikely the majority of the American population who spend over 10 percent of their income on healthcare, my family spends less than 3 percent on average. However, the bulk of our income is spent on food.

My parents operate a small organic farm in North-Central Indiana. Health is maintained in our household not through pills and prescriptions but organic meat, dairy and produce. Instead of the biannual family practitioner visit, I swing by the chiropractor’s office monthly.

Medicare was not in the picture for lack of income but it wasn’t needed because, well, we didn’t get sick. If we did on rare occasions, sugar was cut from the diet completely and coconut oil became the staple ingredient in every meal. Two daily tablespoons of cod liver oil was my parents’ idea of daily vitamins and raw milk was the super food answer to every physical complaint.

When accidents rolled around as do when living on a farm, such as Mom’s nearly amputated finger, the smallest form of health insurance with the highest deductible become a necessity. Yet still, the first answer from the mouth of my parents to any physical ailment is “Go get some milk?”

Sources
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**Change for tradition’s sake**
Ashley DeVecht
Co Editor-in-Chief

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**The Threshold**
Kevin Soubh

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This past week was Hope’s 26th annual Critical Issues Symposium on Global Health – ushering in an unprecedented involvement among the college’s staff, faculty, Greek Life and other student groups. While composing last edition’s article about this year’s CIS, I was privileged to converse with several of the influential persons included in making it possible.

That together with attending some of the CIS events themselves provided an enhanced sense of gratitude and thankfulness that my Hope College, this small Midwestern school, can afford – both literally and figuratively – to host such a significant event.

The fact that Hope College has essentially decided to remove an entire day from its academic calendar and devote it completely to the discussion of global issues – promoting that which Hope College is designed to do, stated as such in its mission statement – is astonishing.

I was very pleased to know that many of my friends and acquaintances deemed the issues important and interesting enough to take time out of their “free day” to visit some of the CIS forums, and I think it wonderful that Hope College is an institution of trust, where learning, education and being informed are all qualities that are held in high esteem.

I was disappointed, however, to see and hear of so many of Hope’s students simply staying out late on Tuesday night and partying, and failing to attend a single CIS event.

It is a well-known fact around Hope that several campus groups annually designate the Tuesday before CIS as a hard late-night party. What is the sense in attending a liberal arts institution of higher learning if one desires neither an education nor a holistic understanding of the world?

I understand well that some people have busy lives, crowded schedules and deem it necessary to catch up on homework, or simply rest their weary selves during CIS – but it is another thing entirely to blatantly disregard CIS, Hope College, our learned guests and ourselves by ignoring the importance of studying issues that impact the whole world out of our own postures.

Perhaps the cause of the disregard lies, surprisingly, with some of the college’s own faculty. Hope purposely cancels all classes and meetings – as a means of being successful in our pursuit of this year’s CIS. How is it that Hope College expects us students to treat CIS with dignity and take time out of our schedules if the Hope College faculty cannot respect it enough to even adhere to the official policy of no classes or activities during the symposium?

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Perhaps the cause of the disreg...
The central problem with American politics is that it is devoid of one thing: honesty. Honesty. Straightforwardness. Responsibility. They are, all of them, chillingly absent. The politicians are certainly blame-worthy for their part. But how can the child be guilty of behavior that is encouraged by the adults around him? If the central ills of American politics dishonesty, then accountability is the cure. I believe we have a lack because we force presidential candidates to appeal to 252 million individual views (the size of the adult population). And how can one accomplish winning kudos over no one else? This is done by using meaningless phrases like, “rebuild America’s reputation,” “strengthen the econo- my,” and “creating jobs.” The true political citizen cares nothing for these pronouncements because they are empty. The true political citizen is never swayed by rhetoric and does not idealize a party (though he may agree mostly with one). The true political citizen has an in- terest in facts, in history, in the science of public policy. This citizen can look past small character flaws and even mistakes. But most importantly, he would care about the greater good rather than the immediate gratification of his desires and satisfaction of his individual needs.

He is interested solely in the truth of the matter at hand, and as such he is in a position to not only prepared to embrace honesty from his leaders, but to demand it in such a way that dishonesty will be met with in- surrections, for the greater good. I propose the manner that such citizens are found should be a test. No degree would be required, just adequate preparation. Electing a president is a responsibility so as to set an example, which may mean having to lose the election. I realize fully the irony of arguing that the idea become popular which attempts to disregard the validity of “majority knows best.” But of the removal of democracy for the greater good is perhaps the result is true progress. And perhaps we can start this movement by adhering to Descartes’ advice and acting so as to actually change the world, which may mean refraining from voting.

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I asked him if he considered himself to be an evangelical.

He replied, "Well, you know, there's so many different categories of evangelical. I fit Barna's model of what an evangelical is. I believe the Word of God is true, I believe Jesus is the Son of God, those sorts of things. (Evangelicals) would say, 'Well, you're an evangelical,' and I say, 'Okay, thanks.' It's like going to the dentist and being told you have a certain molar. Whatever, it's just who I am, I didn't choose it.'

Miller's most recent book "To Own a Dragon" is about growing up without a father. Obama, too, grew up fatherless. I wanted to know how this has resonated for him with Obama.

"One of the reasons it resonates with me and Barack Obama is because he speaks about it from a position of success, he speaks about it from a position of strength. There were mentors in his life who have guided him out. So the mentoring thing we have in common.

"(Obama) talks about the importance of mentoring, talks about the importance of responsible fathers. And 85 percent of men in prison grew up without a dad, and if you grew up without a dad you are 70 percent more likely to commit suicide. The statistics are staggering. And yet, we haven't had a candidate until now who's actually talking about that issue. Mentoring is a solution to many of America's problems, or at least an improvement to many of America's problems."

A group of pastors recently openly endorsed a presidential candidate, which caused problems with the IRS because of churches' apolitical and tax exempt status.

Ogles asked if, as a religious figure, Miller felt these pastors were right or wrong to endorse a candidate, and how, if at all, he was different from them.

"I'm a writer, not a pastor, so I'm not legally handcuffed in any way. My feeling about that is that it's a good law.... My real issue is with what they're saying. One of them, the guy from Minnesota, actually said, 'You can't be a Christian and vote for Barack Obama.' I find that to be absolutely absurd...."

"[This] group of pastors wants to get up and control their congregation and tell them who to vote for rather than teach them how to think. I don't support that methodology of educating people. Teach people to think, don't tell them what to do."

At this point, Miller had to get going to catch a flight. Just like the thousands of others who have read his books, his words gave me a lot to think over.
Golf teams eye MIAA championships

As the end of the season draws near, both the Hope men's and women's golf squads look to finish off successful seasons. The men's team sits in second place, 27 strokes behind MIAA leader Olivet.

"It's going to take a lot to get us ahead of Olivet to win the conference," Steven Strock ('10) said. "Everybody is going to have to step it up."

Calling the women's team ahead of Olivet to win the conference, "Steven Strock ('10) said. "Everybody is going to have to step it up."

The Dutchmen have one chance to make up that difference before the season ends in their match at Kalamazoo on Oct. 9. Led by Strock, this season's top individual scorer the Dutchmen are primed and ready to capture the MIAA crown.

With six freshmen the Dutchmen are a relatively young team, but that doesn't seem to have slowed them so far as they have finished as one of the top three teams in every match since August.

"We have Nick Campbell ('12) who is playing very well," Strock said. "That has been a great addition for us, and the rest of the freshmen are waiting in the wings in case the team needs someone to step in."

Hope's women's team also moved into second place last week after a second place finish at their fourth league jamboree. Looking ahead, the Dutch have the MIAA championships on Oct. 10 and 11, which has the potential to make or break the season.

"We're only one stroke ahead of St. Mary's so beating them this weekend at the championship is really big," Jori Niemann ('11) said.

Calling the women's team young is an understatement, boasting eight freshmen and only one senior, experience is something they truly lack. Never finishing worse than fifth place as a team, winning one, and finishing second and third twice each, the Dutch have displayed maturity on the links, showing that they are a team on a mission.

"The youth has been great," Niemann said. "They've actually contributed."

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## Mid-season report: Hope in the MIAA

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Baseball and softball prepare for spring seasons

Karen Patterson
Assistant Sports Editor

Every fall Hope athletic teams such as football, volleyball and soccer participate in conference and NCAA play. What many may not know is that they are not the only Hope teams working hard toward a conference championship. Every fall for four weeks, Hope’s baseball and softball teams are given a unique opportunity to participate in something referred to as Fall Ball.

Fall Ball is a specific time when the teams are able to go out and practice with the coaching staff. The NCAA has strict rules about out-of-season contact time between coaches and their players, and both the softball and baseball teams are careful to stay within the regulations.

“The NCAA grants us 16 days of contact, however, the MIAA limits us to nine dates in two hour increments,“ head baseball Coach Stu Fritz said. “The coaches then determine what days will work best for their players.

I set the dates based on when my players get their Hope physicals and class schedules,” head softball Coach Karla Wolters said.

During those nine practices the teams work hard to make use of the little time they are given. For the softball team this includes going over technique and giving the pitchers and hitters a chance to work on their form. Wolters also has her players focus on their individual and team defense as well as base running.

“For the teams, though, scrimmaging is key. “Our practices are a combination of drills and scrimmages, but really more scrimmaging than anything else,” Fritz said. “We cannot play against other schools, scrimmaging is key.” Wolters said. “This year more of our practices is just and orange and blue scrimmage.”

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“We don’t get very many live repetitions, which are very beneficial. We do a lot on our own off the field in the gym, “going live,”” Fritz said. “We get to see them play outdoors as much as possible as well as see how they are going to fit with the returners.”

For returners, a chance to work with the new players before the official start to the season is invaluable. “Fall Ball gives us a great chance to look at the new players coming into the program and keep our game sharp,” baseball second baseman and pitcher Robby Poll (‘10) said.

“It’s such a great chance to get to know the new girls coming into the program,” Flying Dutch pitcher Deidra Enochs (‘10) said. “It makes things much easier when it comes to spring and we’re already pretty good friends.”

Fall Ball is not something that many people know about but that is incredibly beneficial to the teams that take part in it. While the March and April seem so far off in the distance, the reality for the baseball and future is that there are just a few short months before they begin their practices. “It’s a good opportunity for us as a team, the extra time together is valuable and used towards improving our chances of claiming a conference title.”

Volleyball continues win streak

James Ralston
Staff Writer

SERVING UP HOPE— Sara DeWeerdt (‘11) serves against Olivet. The team sold pink Dig for the Cure shirts and Hope Wins wrist bands to raise money for breast cancer research.

KICKIN’ FOR THE CAUSE— Lauren Miller (‘11) flies by a St. Mary’s defender. Hope won 2-1 in double overtime. The team wore pink jerseys to help raise breast cancer awareness.

Hope teams hold breast cancer awareness games

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Volleyball

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MIAA honors three Hope athletes

Men’s Soccer

Nicco Lamb (‘12) was named the co-offensive player of the week. Lamb scored a goal in each of the team’s victories over Trine and Adrian last week. Lamb ranks second in the MIAA for scoring in conference games and has helped the Flying Dutchmen score 15 goals in the first four MIAA games.

Football

Jake Manning (‘09) was named as the MIAA offensive player of the week after giving the Hope offense an incredible performance in the Hope homecoming game. Manning completed 22 of 45 passes for a total of 497 yards with four touchdowns with two of the touchdowns coming in the final three minutes of the game.

Volleyball

Nora Slenk (‘09) has been named as the MIAA player of the week for the second time in her career. In Hope’s three-game sweeps of Alma and Olivet, Slenk collected 22 kills, 16 digs and had a hitting percentage of .541.

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Karen Patterson
Assistant Sports Editor

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