In Congress: Ready for a new year

Gretchen Baldwin  
Staff Writer

"To serve as a mediator between the administration and the Student Body of Hope College."

Taken directly from their website, this statement commissions the organizational student voice that is Student Congress.

Hope's Student Congress has quite the hierarchical melange. The executive board consisting of a president, vice-president and controller, as well as class representatives, is intermingled with cottage, apartment, dorm and off-campus representatives in addition to a secretary, webmaster and parliamentarian.

Currently Student Congress has every position accounted for, but all seats are not full as some spots, like Kollen Hall representatives, have multiple seats available.

Within these representatives and executive positions are committees and boards. Every member of congress is required to be on some sort of academic or faculty committee or board in order to promote discussion with Hope's administration with as many student perspectives as possible.

Also within these committees are more action-based committees created for specific projects that Student Congress decides to work toward. Rachel Syens (’11), one of the two senior class representatives, has been working toward a number of campus-wide sustainability projects in her going-on three years on Congress.

"It's one of our main commissions to make Hope more sustainable," said Syens.

Syens' most successful venture has been working as part of the committee that got recycling bins placed in every Hope dorm. She and the rest of Congress also work with RAs across campus through recycling seminars in hopes that eco-awareness and conscious sustainability will increase as more people become informed.

Congress members have also worked in recent years to change visitation hours during long school breaks, add a second guest pass to student meal plans and organize a Battle of the Bands benefit event for Haiti. They also hold an annual spring speaker series and put together teams for both Dance Marathon and Relay for Life.

This year Congress will be starting "What Do You Want Wednesday," an event intended to make the student body more aware of Student Congress' role on campus as a means to "help give administration and faculty the student perspective," as Syens puts it.

The first "What Do You Want Wednesday" will take place at tables set up across campus on Oct. 27 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Representatives will be handing out treats and encouraging students to give suggestions and complete short surveys to help Student Congress better serve its peers.

If students are interested in seeing more of what Hope's Student Congress is about, General Congress meets from 9:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Tuesday nights in Martha Miller 239 and encourages the general student body to attend.

Who's Your Representative?— Hope's Student Congress Executive Board consists of (left to right): Senior Representative Rachel Syens ('11), Vice President Alex Yared ('12), Junior Representative Michael Parrish ('12), President Katie Sawyer ('11), Sophomore Representative Mark Donkersloot ('13), Controller Chelsea Lynch ('11), Senior Representative Seth Coffing ('11), Sophomore Representative Alicia Wojcik ('13) and Junior Representative Marc Tori ('12).

Greek Life? Nope! It's Geek Life!

Chris Russ  Assistant Sports Editor

Everyone at Hope College knows about Greek Life, the organization of fraternities and sororities that has been a staple of Hope's extracurricular activities for years.

But comparatively few people are familiar with Geek Life, a new club that began meeting to play video games and hanging out with friends early into his freshman year.

Nicolas Pillsbury ('12) explained that early into his freshman year at Hope, he and a few of his friends began meeting to play board games and role-playing games. He said this group now forms the majority of the executive board of the club.

The group became an official Hope organization at the end of the 2009-10 school year after facing a small amount of difficulty.

"When we were trying to become a club, the head of Greek Life at the time felt that the term Geek Life was offensive and was too close to Greek Life," Pillsbury said.

"In fact when people hear about Geek Life and I'm kind of a nerdy kid, I enjoy playing video games and hanging out with friends and all of that stuff so I like it, it's fun," Geek Life member Josh Brubaker-Salcedo said, describing how he came to join the club.

As the club has grown, it has taken on new responsibilities. "We have public meetings once a month to throw out ideas to the general public and get votes on them."

"At our last public meeting, we had a merger with the Nerf group of Hope College. They were unsuccessful, and after an incident where they weren't able to organize themselves, we were asked to organize them. They are now a subset of Geek Life," Pillsbury said.

When we were trying to become a club, the head of Greek Life at the time felt that the term Geek like was offensive and was too close to Greek Life.

— NIcholas Pillsbury ('12)
Who doesn’t love food?: CIS wrap-up

Meagan Dodge
Staff Writer

For some students a day without classes was supposed to mean rest and relaxation. Oct. 6 quickly went into reverse when students were assigned to attend the Critical Issues Symposium. For 30 years CIS has been a part of Hope College's academic layout. A committee of faculty, staff and students decides on a topic worthy of taking a full day from classes. Hope College takes the issue seriously and provides a day of events and speakers to get students informed. This years CIS topic was "Good Food for the Common Good." To prepare students for the upcoming CIS events, several film screenings and speakers came to better educate Hope's campus before the official Oct. 5 kickoff. Film screenings of "Food, Inc." and "King Corn," showed students the underbelly of our nation's food and fast food industries. A dietician, Jennifer Hinkle, spoke with freshness about ways to fight the famous "Freshman 15."

Tuesday evening the event was underway as Bryant Terry, an eco-chef and food justice activist, gave the keynote address. He is a strong activist for healthy living and uses cooking as a tool to illuminate the intersections among poverty, structural racism and food insecurity.

While talking to students he gave examples of the good food that should be added into our everyday diet. Karlen Annette ('10) said, "It helped me realize that healthy food doesn't have to be disgusting like carrots and broccoli. Healthy food is a well-balanced meal."

Wednesday morning the day started off with another keynote address from Joel Salatin. The farmer and author raises livestock using holistic methods which are free from potentially harmful chemicals. He has received many awards for his achievements toward alternative farming, including a Heinz Award, and his family farm has been featured in well-known magazines.

The rest of the day was followed up by speakers discussing how to make cuisine creative, why Christians should care about eating, our nutritional intake, and transforming the food and fitness environment in Chicago schools. The afternoon segments were sponsored by departments within Hope College. The science department sponsored a speaker who discussed good eating habits for performers, athletes and movers. The religion department's speaker discussed how first century Christians remembered Jesus talking about departments such as sociology, nursing and philosophy had speakers whose topics solely focused on how healthy food reflects a person's life. Tania Habbouche ('12) attended "The Effect of Nutrition on Health and Learning" for her exercise science major. "I learned more about what our country is going through and how we can make an effort to reverse it through daily exercise and a healthy diet."

A day off for students was not in the cards. Hope's campus was no different than any other day. But instead of being educated in their everyday classrooms, students were unified while learning about an issue that is strongly reflected upon our society. Students learned ways in which they can reverse their lives and make healthy choices in the future.

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Food for All—Kevin Soubly ('11) gives a presentation “Genetically Modified Foods in America (and Everywhere Else) Lessons from Study Abroad: Public Policy, Food Safety and Populist Perceptions.”

In Brief

NSF Grant continues support of research into pulsars

Hope PR - Featuring distances so vast and detailed calculations so precise and complex that they each in their way seem to approach the infinite, the astronomical research conducted by Dr. Peter Gonthier of the Hope College physics faculty provides a stellar learning opportunity for the students who work with him. Gonthier, working in collaboration with Hope students, has been studying the rotating stars known as pulsars for nearly 20 years. His research is currently supported by three federal grants—two from NASA, the second of which he received this summer; and a third, awarded this fall, through the “Research in Undergraduate Institutions” program of the National Science Foundation (NSF-RUI).

He is engaged by the opportunity to address fundamental questions about how the universe works, but—like his colleagues throughout the division of the natural and applied sciences at Hope—he is particularly driven by providing a chance for students to learn how science works by involving them in the process. Students are regularly co-researchers with him, working on campus during the school year and summer as well as at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., for a number of weeks each summer; making presentations at professional conferences; and even earning co-author status on publications.

Support of Research

Federal grants—two from NASA, the second of which he received this summer; and a third, awarded this fall, through the “Research in Undergraduate Institutions” program of the National Science Foundation—continue to support the research of Dr. Peter Gonthier of the Hope College physics faculty. Gonthier, working in collaboration with Hope students, has been studying the rotating stars known as pulsars for nearly 20 years. His research is currently supported by three federal grants—two from NASA, the second of which he received this summer; and a third, awarded this fall, through the “Research in Undergraduate Institutions” program of the National Science Foundation (NSF-RUI).
UN warns of a growing global refugee crisis

Amy Alvine
September 13, 2010

As a result of conflicts occurring in Afghanistan and Africa, a new “global” refugee burden is being created with an alarmingly large refugee population. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is an UN agency whose mission is to protect and support these refugees. Antonius Guterres, UNHCR chief, said to the UNHCR’s governing executive committee on Oct. 4, “As a result of never-ending conflicts we are witnessing the creation of a number of quasi-permanent, global refugee populations.”

In 2009, the UNHCR was responsible for 15 million refugees. Out of the 800,000 refugees who need somewhere to go (annually), only 10 percent of them have a possibility of finding a stable living environment. Guterres requested that developed countries need to take more action to deal with the increase in demand for refugee resettlement. “We need to increase international solidarity and burden sharing. A better understanding and recognition by the international community of the efforts of host countries is absolutely necessary,” he said.

Unfortunately, many of the host countries – countries like Pakistan, Syria, Jordan, Iran, and Guinea, are only willing to take a fraction of the individuals who have been forced to flee their home state due to crisis and warfare. More than half are fleeing conflict zones, with the majority living in developing countries such as Afghanistan, Somalia, Iraq and Sierra Leone. Some of the most urgent refugee crises come from Afghanistan and Somalia.

The Afghan refugees are scattered over 63 countries (one-third of all the countries in the world) where they are pleading for asylum. Many others live in refugee camps located in Pakistan and Iran. Currently, 1.7 million Afghans have sought asylum in Pakistan and 1 million in Iran.

For the Somali’s, the anticipation of a future peace that could allow their return home is far from realistic. Last year, only 61 Somalis were able to return to their home country. Discussing these refugees from Afghanistan and Somalia, Guterres said, “I do not believe there is any group of refugees as systematically undesired, stigmatized and discriminated against.”

Elizabeth Campbell, senior advocate at the United States nongovernmental organization Refugees International, believes that the highest number of refugees and asylum seekers in the future are likely to be in the Middle East. Campbell and many others believe it is time to address this crisis.

“As any time that people remain uprooted and have not been afforded basic rights or pathways to durable solutions, it is a humanitarian crisis,” Campbell told Guardian reporters.
SAN JOSE MINE, Chile (AP) — After more than two months trapped deep in a Chilean mine, 33 miners are tantalizingly close to rescue. Drillers have completed an escape shaft, and Chile’s mining minister says a video has revealed the hole’s walls are firm enough to allow the men to be hoisted out as early as Wednesday.

Officials said late Saturday that workers first must reinforce the top few hundred feet (almost 100 meters) of the tunnel and had begun welding steel pipes for that purpose.

The completion of the 28-inch diameter escape shaft Saturday morning caused bedlam in the tent city known as “Camp Hope,” where the miners’ relatives had held vigil for an agonizing 66 days since a cave-in sealed off the gold and copper mine Aug. 5.

Miners videotaped the piston-powered hammer drill's breakthrough at 2,041 feet underground and could be seen cheering and embracing, the drillers said. On the surface, the rescuers chanted, danced and sprayed champagne so excitedly that some of their hardhats tumbled off.

Later, a video inspection of the shaft gave rescuers enough confidence in the tunnel’s stability that they decided they would erect only its first 315 feet.

The plan is to insert 16 sections of half-inch thick steel pipe into the top of the hole, which curves like a waterfall at first before becoming nearly vertical for most of its descent into a chamber deep in the mine. That work would begin immediately, Mining Minister Laurence Golborne said.

Then an escape capsule built by the mine’s nervous owners, its spring-loaded wheels pressing against the hole’s walls, can be lowered into it via a winch and the trapped miners brought up one by one.

“All rescues have their risks,” Golborne said. “You can never say that an accident couldn’t happen.”

While the possibility of an accident can never be ruled out, the hole “is in very good condition, and doesn’t need to be cased completely,” Golborne said.

Chile’s success story would evaporate if a miner should get stuck on the way up for reasons that might have been avoided.

Contractor Jeff Hart of Denver operated the drill that created the exit route, pounding through solid rock and the detritus of the collapsed mine, which creaks deep below a remote hill in Chile’s Atacama desert.

There is nothing more important than saving — possibly saving 33 lives. There’s nothing more important than that,” Hart said. “We’ve done our part, now it’s up to them to get the rest of the way out.”

The Washington Post reported Oct. 5 that Taliban representatives and the Afghan government had begun to secretly meet to discuss ending war in Afghanistan. Afghan and Arab sources cited by the Post claim that for the first time Taliban representatives are authorized to speak for the Quetta Shura, the Afghan Taliban, according to the Post.

Karzai has always claimed that he will work with the Taliban if they end the violence, cut off all ties with terrorists and abide by the Afghan constitution.

The Post reported that the Taliban, according to the Post, has begun to talk about an agreement that would include the participation of some Taliban officials in the government and the withdrawal of US and NATO forces.

“They are very, very serious about finding a way out,” one source close to the talks said of the general consensus among Arab and Afghan sources is that the talks are preliminary and there is still much more to be done. They also expressed concern that any press coverage or talks about the secret discussion could have a drastic effect on the outcome.

Taliban leadership knows “that they are going to be sidelined,” the Post quoted a source as saying. “They know that more radical elements are being promoted within their rank and file outside their control ... All these things are making them absolutely sure that, regardless of [their success in] the war, they are not in a winning position.”

The top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, Gen. David Petraeus, said the Taliban officials have made new efforts to save the government.

“There are very high-level Taliban leaders who have sought to reach out to the highest levels of the Afghan government and indeed have done that,” Petraeus told reporters in Afghanistan.

Last week the Afghan government set up a peace council of 70 members in an effort to reconcile the government and lure Taliban foot soldiers off the battlefield.

A spokesman for Karzai, Wahid Omar, told Fox News that President Barack Obama’s goal of withdrawing troops from Afghanistan by July 2011 had little effect in beginning this effort.

Working toward peace with Taliban leaders is being pursued by the Afghan leadership at the very highest levels,” Petraeus said.

A new White House report severely criticizes Pakistan’s efforts toward militants stating that the government and military have been unwilling to deal with al-Qaeda and other terrorists.

The harsh language in the report comes two months before the presidential election in Afghanistan.

The Post reported that the Taliban representatives have always rejected past peace negotiations, insisting that all foreign troops first leave the country. The Quetta Shura has begun to talk about an agreement that would include the participation of some Taliban officials in the government and the withdrawal of US and NATO forces.

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Novelist brings Cuban variety to VWS

Katie Scheve
Arts Co-editor

The next writer for Hope’s Visiting Writers Series has arrived. Cuban-American novelist Cristina Garcia will be at the Knickerbocker Thursday, Oct. 13.


Garcia was born in Havana, Cuba. At the age of 2, her family fled to America after Fidel Castro came into power. Garcia and her family settled in New York City, where she was raised most of her life. Although her family moved to America, their Cuban roots stayed strong within their home. Garcia was constantly surrounded by her native language, and stories from Cuba. This Cuban influence spread into her writing as she matured.

Garcia attended Barnard College where she studied political science. She then went on for a master’s at Johns Hopkins University in international relations. After graduating, she spent a short period in Europe for work, but then returned to the United States.

Garcia began her career in writing through journalism. Garcia worked at the New York Times and interned at the Boston Globe, before landing a reporter/researcher position at Time magazine. After seven years with Time magazine, Garcia’s life took a turn and she took a leap into the world of fiction.

Garcia was a finalist for the National Book Award after her first book “Dreaming in Cuban” was published. Garcia also received a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Whiting Writers’ Award, a Hodder Fellowship at Princeton University and an NEA grant. Currently, Garcia is a visiting professor at the Michener Center for Writers at the University of Texas-Austin. Garcia has also accepted a position as a professor of creative writing at Texas Tech University.

2010 Art Prize winners

First Place
“Cavalry,” Chris LaPorte

Second Place
“Svelata,” Mia Tavonatti

Third Place
“Lure/Wave,” Beili Liu

Fourth Place
A Matter Of Time, Paul Baliker

Fifth Place
Vision, David Spriggs

Photos and standings courtesy of www.artprize.org

This Week In Art

Wednesday
Oct. 13
Coffeehouse
Featuring Jamison Story
Wells, 9 p.m. to 11 p.m.

“Evening of Japanese Music”
Wickers, 7:30 p.m.

Wed. - Fri.
Oct. 13-15
“Almost Maine”
DeWitt Studio Theater 8 p.m.

Wed., Fri. - Sat.
Oct. 13, 15, 16
“Mid-August Lunch”
Kickerbocker Theater 7:30 p.m.

Thursday
Oct. 21
Edye Evans Hyde with faculty
Jazz ensemble
Wickers, 7:30 p.m.

Friday
Oct. 22
Jazz Arts Collective Concert
Dlensmit, 7:30 p.m.

Critic’s Corner
A critique of the latest indie music

Joel Hofman
Starr Writer

After 2008’s double album “Microcastle/Weird Era Continued” brought them to the forefront of the noise-pop genre, Atlanta-based Deerhunter had quite a reputation to live up to with their most recent release, “Halcyon Digest.”

Since they arrived on the scene in 2005, Deerhunter has been known for noisy, cluttered pop records that force the listener to dig out the melody amidst the distortion and feedback present on the track.

Though their earlier records are more akin to ‘90s shoegaze like My Bloody Valentine, “Halcyon Digest” makes the progression to clearer and more accessible songs that could likely expand their pop-pitch outside of the indie world.

Upon first listen, “Halcyon Digest” seems like a slow, woozy dream in which the listener is stuck in a lull for the full 45 minutes of the album. The opening track “Earthquake” is anything but a typical album starter, with its creeping drum machine and slow rolling guitar pattern that make the listener feel as if they are slowly slipping into a dreamy trance.

The rest of the album contains many subtle sonic moments within each song that make the record far more musically varied than one might initially presume. Whether it is the saxophone solo on “Coronado” or the cricket chirps that provide the ambient to the minimalist “Sailing,” Deerhunter knows how to make a record that becomes more satisfying with repeated listening.

The way they evolve and become more accessible with "Halcyon Digest" shows up in the way that lead singer Bradford Cox makes his melodies stick out more within the mix. Songs like “Memory Boy” and “Revival” represent short bursts of jangly ‘60s pop with a hazy backing, while others such as “Don’t Cry” show that the band still has a knack for using noise to enhance the confused feelings of its lead singer.

Vocally, Cox evokes feelings of loneliness and isolation that are usually complemented by the cold and cloudy backing of his band mates. This sentiment is best presented on the second single “Helicopter.” Throughout the song, the chimelike guitar lags behind the beat ever so slightly and sounds as uncertain as the lyrics. At the end of the song, Cox’s tone of voice turns from uncertain to pleading and defeated when he claims that, “Now they are through with me,” while the noise on the track increases to the point where it eventually drowns out the disheartened singer.

Though Cox is the main creative force behind Deerhunter; guitarist Lockett Pundt may have the most accessible song on the album in “Desire Lines.” With a highly singable chorus and a solo reminiscent of The Cure’s iconic “Just Like Heaven” intro, Pundt shows that he has a special talent for making multi-layered, nobody-driven music. With each passing album, Deerhunter shows they have the ambition to refine the edges of their previous work and “Halcyon Digest” is another successful step in a bright musical career.
WTHS reviews albums

Our music director friends at 89.9 WTHS have meticulously listened to the following six albums. Some are “poppy,” some are “slinky,” some are “contemplative,” and others are just “sporadic and energetic.” All are worthy of a listen or two. Check them out!

by Paul Rice
Laura Helderop
and Aaron Martin

Hear the reviewers’ radio shows!
Paul Rice - Mondays at 10 p.m.
Laura Helderop - Thursdays at 8 p.m.
Aaron Martin - Wednesdays 7 p.m.

Mavis Staples - “You Are Not Alone”

The Staples Singers were a big deal for a long time in the last half of the last century. What that means is that lead singer Mavis Staples is now really super old. Luckily for her, her voice is still as forceful, flexible and distinct as ever. Jeff Tweedy of Wilco recorded “You Are Not Alone” and wrote the title track, and many of the songs feel like his band with an awesome soul singer. But You Are Not Alone really shines when Mavis is doing what she does best: joyful, infectious gospel.

Maximum Balloon - “Maximum Balloon”

Maximum Balloon is David Sitek, a member and producer of TV On The Radio who has recently made a name for himself by putting a direct, futuristic sheen on records by the Yeah Yeah Yeahs, Foals and other New York indie acts. This is his first solo album, and it’s very different from his other projects, but parallels can be seen. Every track on Maximum Balloon has a different guest vocalist. On the tracks where singers of TV On The Radio or the Yeah Yeah Yeahs contribute, the music resembles their respective bands’ poppier, more danceable tracks. But it always sounds like David Sitek - even when singers from hip-hop and electronic scenes participate.

Superchunk - “Majesty Shredding”

Superchunk have been around for a couple decades now. In that time, they’ve recorded 15 albums, started a successful record label (Merge), and defined a city’s music scene (Chapel Hill, N.C.). Their first album since 2004, “Majesty Shredding” is a blast of energy that sounds like it should be coming from a band several years younger, but is tempered with a maturity that keeps the album vital - they’ve been around too long to leave any dead weight on these tracks. If you like upbeat rock but you’ve grown out of your pop-punk phase, this is where you might go next.

Shad - “TSOL”

Like any other genre of music, the most creative rap acts are usually a little hard to find - since they’re a bit more challenging, a little less like what the average person expects, they don’t tend to show up on pop charts or radio stations. Shad’s third album, “TSOL,” is the first Shad album to be promoted and distributed outside of his native Canada. His lyrics demand full attention, interweaving humor and startling spiritual depth in his skillful flow. The music ranges from triumphant, soul-sampling triumph to sulky, quiet bass jams to a capella verses. With guest appearances from other Canadian rappers and members of Toronto’s Broken Social Scene, Shad is solidifying himself as a name to be taken seriously outside of his local scene.

Junip - “Fields”

Junip is a Swedish band featuring Jose Gonzalez, a talented acoustic folk musician of Argentine decent. The music on this album reflects a fine balance between the rhythms and sounds of both Junip’s propulsive energy and Jose Gonzalez’s contemplative hush. It is rhythmic, folksy, and impactful. There is frustration and patience, love and hate, peace and chaos.

Of Montreal - “False Priest”

Though it fits in especially well with next to 2008’s particularly groovy Skeletal Limb, Of Montreal’s new album, “False Priest,” has all the typical characteristics of Of Montreal’s older music. It is sporadic and energetic and pop-influenced, full of slick, glam/rock guitar sound, flashy synth hooks. Each track is unpredictably structured, spontaneous, and loud. Frontman Kevin Barnes has a Bowie-esque image that he makes his own with his high pitched, raw yelps.

Our music director friends at 89.9 WTHS have meticulously listened to the following six albums. Some are “poppy,” some are “slinky,” some are “contemplative,” and others are just “sporadic and energetic.” All are worthy of a listen or two. Check them out!
What are you doing for fall break?

By John Rebhan and Alyssa Barigian

Fall break is finally here! Many students are taking time to catch up on some much-needed rest, while others are seizing the opportunity to travel around the world. We asked a few students to share what they will be doing this weekend.

“I’m going home for fall break to spend some time my family and spend some time relaxing. I want to go to the local apple orchard which has prize-winning cider and really good apple cider doughnuts. I’m going to make a stew.”
- Ella Vandervlugt (’11)

“My mom is meeting me in Chicago from Denver so we’re going to hang out. There is a kid who went to my youth group who goes to school there so we’re going to see him. We’re going to get some good food and see ‘Billy Elliot’. It should be fun!”
- Cara Green (’13)

“Over fall break, my mom and I are going to decorate the house for fall and then hopefully get a chance to do a little hiking.”
- Emilee Anderson (’12)

“I shall be going to Chippewann, Ind., with my family for the day and doing my homework on the side.”
- Daniel DeVries (’12)

“I’ll be going back to my hometown in Sandusky, Ohio. There I will be playing three shows with my band. I play bass, banjo and guitar. Between shows I will probably get the best grilled cheese on the planet from Melt Bar & Grill (sorry, Mom). And as my housemates used to say, I will be chilling unreasonably hard.”
- Andrew Fleck (’11)

What about The Anchor staff?

We asked the staff what they were up to this October. The results were mixed: a lot of “Chicago!” and “Nothing.” We appreciate the energy, Anchor staff.

“Well, I’m not doing anything cool, but my housemate Lia Holwerda is going camping at Sleeping Bear Dunes!”
- Brittany Lapham (’12)

“I will be traveling to Minneapolis with my roommate and her boyfriend to visit one of our good friends who graduated last spring and currently attends St. Thomas for grad school. We plan to turn the city on its head, be raucous, cause lots of trouble, and be exemplary representatives of the college… but really, we’re just looking forward to getting to hang out again and get away from classes for a little bit.”
- Karen Patterson (’11)

“I will be raking all the leaves in the Pine Grove into a huge pile to jump in.”
- Aftan Snyder (’11)

“I am going backpacking at Pictured Rocks in the UP.”
- Lindsey Bandy (’12)

“My best friend and I are going to take a road trip to the Upper Peninsula. We have no idea what we’re doing up there yet. All we have planned is the hotel and when we’re coming back to Hope. It’s going to be a blast!”
- Alyssa Barigian (’12)

“I will be up in Traverse City, but no matter how nice the weather is, I’ll be sleeping in. No doubt about it.”
- John Rebhan (’11)
True community?

We live in a broken world. It’s impossible to go to any news media site, watch the evening news or glance through a newspaper without seeing examples of brokenness. But the brokenness isn’t just “out there.”

I would argue that Hope’s campus has people hurting and suffering just as much as those without clean food and water in Africa or those under oppression in the Middle East, as different as the circumstances may be.

Why, then, do we spend hours of our time and give portions of our budgets to help people we’ve never meet while we ignore the people who live just a few hundred feet away?

Last week I had coffee with someone that I became acquainted with last school year. She is not someone who is in my immediate friend group, but we are in a student organization together and have things in common, so we decided to meet and develop our friendship. Over coffee, she revealed that within the last month, her ex-boyfriend had forced her to have sex with him against her will. In layman’s terms, he raped her.

I was stunned. To most people she probably appears happy, laid-back and generally carefree. The average person would never guess the sort of emotional hurt that lies beneath the surface.

I know in my heart that she is not the only person in this situation.

Campus Ministries has done some great things since my freshman year, and this year, with the Hope Way 2.0, the idea of real community is being encouraged like never before. However, the fact remains that a significant portion of the student body will never attend a Campus Ministries sponsored event, join a Talmidim group or partake in a Spring Break Missions trip. Students are doing ministry to those who do not participate in these activities?

We are most certainly called to be Global Christians, going out and healing one piece at a time.

One another, the brokenness can be healed one piece at a time.

Instead of asking the person you’ve been friends with since freshman year to coffee to discuss the same old thing, ask someone you don’t know as well. Take a risk and be spiritually vulnerable with them; hopefully they’ll be the same with you. My prayer would be that students are heard saying, “I’m having a hard time right now, but I feel so uplifted” rather than, “My friends don’t seem to understand why I can’t just be happy.”

This is a slow and sometimes painful process, and change doesn’t happen overnight. But that doesn’t mean that change is impossible. Often, it starts with a simple “Hi, my name is…” When we truly take the time to look beyond the surface and invest in one another, the brokenness can be healed piece by piece.

Karen thinks that the people who have already stepped out of their comfort zone and been vulnerable are amazing and is encouraged by them. I also think that the Counseling Center is an awesome place and more students should check it out!

I really like the way the words “apple pie” look together. Maybe it’s all the “p’s” in; apple pie. I don’t know, but I sure think it looks good. I first noticed this when I was boasting proudly of my own creation over my Facebook status. It was the first apple pie I’d made without parental guidance, and I figured the world ought to know about it.

I also really like the way apple pies go with fall. They fit, somehow, the way all the “p’s” fit in “apple pie.” And now that it’s October, I’m starting to think of all the other lovely things that go with this season.

Trees that burst into flaming gold and red, and then drop leaves for me to crunch through on my way to class. Frost gilding the grass. Mittens, or another warm hand, to tuck your own into to keep your fingers warm. Sweaters, scarves, coats. Halloween candy. Squirrels that act just a bit crazier than usual because they’re busy gathering in their winter supply of food. Bonfires in the backyard. Hot drinks steaming in yellow Lemonjellio’s mugs. But what I like best about fall is the dormiosity that it brings. I can just hang down and relax; no rush, no pressure to be out and about. I have a routine, and while it may be busy, it’s a kind of busy I’m familiar with. “For man, autumn is a time of harvest, of gathering together. For nature, it is a time of sowing, of scattering abroad” (Edwin Way Teale).

I’m curling up, settling in, calming down, and the world outside is bursting at the seams with change. That makes me wonder, a little, if I should be doing that too. Should I be a little less comfortable in my routine? Should I be like nature and give a little of myself to the world around me instead of reeling it all in? Hmm… maybe a little. I really love the way everything comes together in autumn, but maybe part of the coming in is letting go. Maybe I should spread myself out, with smiles and laughs and kind words that flutter gently to hearts the way leaves float softly to the ground. Curling up at home and settling into a routine is good. But so is reaching out and giving of myself to others… like a tree. An apple tree. An apple tree that grows all summer, then gives its fruit to eager hands in the orchard. And those hands take the apples home and make them into a pie, which is gone in under 24 hours because that apple pie was shared.

Kate would like to remind you of another nice thing about fall: fall break! Have a wonderful time wherever you go and whatever you do with your time off!
The Anchor is looking for an Assistant Sports Editor

This is a PAID POSITION

We are hiring for the Spring Semester (Jan.-May)

Interviews for the position are on a rolling basis

Interested candidates can contact the Anchor at anchor@hope.edu

Letters to the Editors

...and you, the readers.

To the Editors:

Just like every amateur photographer goes through the over-saturated, super-contrasty phase (don’t deny it—we all have been there), every music listener goes through the music snobbery phase. My music is better than yours. That is all good and fine. It helps you determine what you like and why, but my problem is when people never grow out of that phase. Who says your music is better? Is music even measured by the fact that it may not be in 4/4 time, or that it has intricate chords to back up the super-intelligent lyrics rather than the mere value a listener gets from it?

Music is special to each individual who listens to it. Perhaps my perception of various music genres is different than yours, but I firmly believe that getting over the music snobbery phase of life will make you a happier person. Believe me. I’ve been there. My middle school and high school careers consisted of finding the most obscure bands I could and being the allegedly cool kid that boycotted pop radio stations (imagine my dismay when “Hey There Delilah” hit the radio hard, two years after the album came out) but in figure skating at Hope College, I’ve been exposed to so many music genres and styles that I would have immediately written off, and it makes me appreciate the art of music so much more.

I used to judge rap music. My affinity to what I label in iTunes as “ghetto gangsta beats” is a direct result of working with Kari for two summers. Living with Lisa for two years has opened my eyes to the beauty that is the Jonas Brothers (and no, I’m not referring to the physical attractiveness of Joe Jonas). Had I not branched out and listened to other music types, I may still be in my indie bubble just sticking to mainstream music. Now, I love some Giga, and I’m not ashamed to tell you that in addition to a whole lot of indie, Eminem and Nelly are on ALL of my running playlists.

The larger problem is when organizations as a whole reject the opinion of an entire population on this issue. Whose right it is to state that my choice in music and my right to free speech are less important simply because I rock out to Backstreet Boys on my way home, or because I can sing you every word to “Should’ve Been a Cowboy,” or because my ringtones are Luda and the Magnetic Fields? How is it that we all have responsibilities to each other, similar to the rules about when to talk in class that I had to follow in high school. It’s all about knowing what makes you happy, and what pressures come with spring. If you are in a relationship, you can start to celebrate with each other’s decisions; if you are not this column.

Year’s are right around the corner and once again you are celebrating with each other’s relationships. After returning from winter break, Valentine’s Day is approaching; before you know it, it’s spring, and if you are a senior we all know what pressures come with spring. If you are in a happy committed relationship, good for you. I don’t mean to cause you harm and I apologize for wasting your time. If your relationship is on the rocks, I simply am giving you food for thought. Take it or leave it. If you end up suffering through to spring don’t say I didn’t warn you.

Matt Lee
National Co-Editor

The Anchor looking for an Assistant Sports Editor

From the inside out

The other October rule

Like most stories, the column for this week just came to me randomly. One night I was on my way to Martha for a late night of studying; I walked across the train tracks by DePree. And it was there that I was startled by a girl sitting alone in the dark, talking on her phone.

Now I thought to myself, there is only one reason you come to an area like this to talk on the phone. And as I walked by, I heard the infamous “It’s not you it’s me” line: my inclination was right. Let me be clear that I was not intentionally eavesdropping on this conversation; it was just one of those moments when you are so close you can’t help but overhear.

I walked away smiling not because someone was being dumped, but because I was thinking about a rule a wise professor once shared with me. (For his protection, so that he is not blamed for any break ups, I will use his alias, Max Steel.) As October begins we are entering what can be known as “the break-up month.”

But let’s face it: fall, in all of its glory, is a significant other very pleasant. This past week, most of fall’s weather is filled with down-pouring rain and sleet. The beautiful colors and occasional perfect weather that can be known as “the break-up month.”

As October begins to explain to me, people break up in October because too, if you wait too long it’s Thanksgiving, and next thing you know your significant other is going home with you to meet the family. Then once you go home for Thanksgiving, it’s only a couple weeks to finals, and no one wants to be dumped the night before their chemistry final.

Then once you make it past finals, Christmas and New Year’s are right around the corner and once again you are celebrating with each other’s families.

After returning from winter break, Valentine’s Day is approaching; before you know it, it’s spring, and if you are a senior we all know what pressures come with spring. If you are in a happy committed relationship, good for you. I don’t mean to cause you harm and I apologize for wasting your time. If your relationship is on the rocks, I simply am giving you food for thought. Take it or leave it. If you end up suffering through to spring don’t say I didn’t warn you.

Matt cannot be blamed for any break-ups that occur after reading this. October is the reason, not this column.

Matt Lee
National Co-Editor

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

Disclaimer: The Anchor is a product of student effort and is funded through the Hope College Student Activities Fund. The opinions expressed on the online page are solely those of the author and do not represent the views of The Anchor. One-year subscriptions to The Anchor are available for $54. The Anchor reserves the right to accept or reject any advertising.

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Memoir reflects on face blindness, family and forgiveness

In her newly published memoir “You Don’t Look Like Anyone I Know: A True Story of Family, Face Blindness, and Forgiveness,” Dr. Heather Sellers, of the Hope College English faculty explores how an apparent handicap turned out to be a remarkable gift that allowed her “to ‘see’ people as they truly were and gave her unexpected insights into the nature of family, forgiveness and love.”

The book is being released on Thursday, Oct. 14, by Riverhead Books. The publication will be celebrated locally with a book launch party on Saturday, Oct. 23, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Washington Square Art Gallery, 453 Washington Ave., in Holland. Hosted by Literary Life Books of Grand Rapids and Perediddles Restaurant, the event will feature musical entertainment by Three Five Four, a duo of Hope students Charlie Walter and Colin Hoogervorst.

The public is invited to the reception. Admission is free.

Sellers has a highly unusual neurological condition known as face blindness, or prosopagnosia. The disorder, which is believed to affect about 1 percent of the population, prevents the brain from interpreting the information that it receives from the eyes, with the effect specific to the section or process that deals with face recognition. The eyes function correctly, but the brain can’t make sense of what it is being shown.

“I have failed to recognize my step kids, my best friends, even my then-husband,” said Sellers, who has taught at Hope since 1995. “I can’t even recognize myself in a photo or video unless I remember what I was wearing that day, although my huge hair helps.”

The book is about her experiences coming to terms with the disorder, which was undiagnosed until about five years ago. In the memoir, she describes her childhood in Florida, and how the strange circumstances of that upbringing made it impossible for anyone to realize she had the bizarre, troubling condition.

She was working about a memoir about her family when she discovered she had the condition after coming across the term “face recognition” in an article.

She eventually connected with the Prosopagnosia Research Center at Harvard University, where researchers confirmed that she had a severe degree of face blindness. Simply having a diagnosis was an enormous relief that profoundly affected her life. But as the researchers also confirmed, to her disappointment, there is no cure for face blindness.

To help others who suffer with the condition in silence, Sellers has appeared on NBC’s “Today” show and on ABC’s “Primetime.” In 2007, she gave a presentation about face blindness during the Winter Happening event coordinated by the college’s office of public and community relations. Every time Sellers speaks on the topic, at least one person in the audience approaches her and tells her they believe they are also face-blind.

As she has reflected on her condition, she has found, unexpectedly, that face blindness has provided her with a perspective that she might otherwise have missed — a way of looking at people, and life, which she hopes will help others.

“I am isolated by this condition,” she said. “And at the same time, it’s what connects me so deeply to other people: we all have this experience of trying to love others and that is basically a process of attempting to ‘see’ someone, know which person they are.”

“Love is recognition,” she said. “My whole life — while it was a very odd childhood — turned out to be this kind of school in which I learned, in some other kind of recognition. A deeper kind of knowing.”

She hopes that others who read about her journey may find help in their own.

“In some ways, we all are keeping part of ourself even from ourselves,” she said. “I hope that it helps someone who is struggling to fit together parts that maybe don’t all fit. That’s my hope, that it’s a positive story.”

Sellers is the author of several other books, including three volumes of poetry, a collection of short fiction, three books on the writing process and a children’s book. She has had poems, short fiction, memoir and creative nonfiction appear in journals, anthologies and magazines around the country. In 2000, she was one of only 41 writers nationally to receive a National Endowment for the Arts grant for 2000-02 to create original work or translate work; the resulting volume, “Georgia Under Water,” was named a finalist in the 2002 “Paterson Fiction Prize” competition and in 2001 was recognized in the “Discover Great New Writers” program of Barnes & Noble bookstores.

Copies of “You Don’t Look Like Anyone I Know: A True Story of Family, Face Blindness, and Forgiveness” will be available through the college’s Hope-Geneva Bookstore as well as through other area book sellers and online.

 Graves Hall adaptive restoration honored by architects group

The recent adaptive restoration of Graves Hall at Hope College has earned honorable mention in the Grand Valley American Institute of Architects 2010 Honor Awards program.

The award was presented during a ceremony on Sept. 25, held in conjunction with a reception at the 38 Commerce building in Grand Rapids that recognized projects by area architects in several categories. Graves Hall was recognized for Historic Preservation/Adaptive Reuse.

Dedicated in 1894, Graves Hall opened in August 1909 after a year-long, $5.7 million, adaptive restoration that has emphasized a return to the building’s original character while updating the 19th-century landmark for use in the 21st.

The second floor features four large classrooms, the varnished wooden doors and wainscoting without suggesting the classic elegance of a bygone era.

The main staircase, isolated behind metal doors in the 1962 redo, again greets visitors to the main lobby. As prior to the restoration, the ground floor of the building continues to house the Upward Bound and CASA programs, as well as the Schoon Meditation Chapel, all in improved space.

A major new addition — built of stone to match the rest of the building and facing the Pine Grove — includes an elevator that provides access for the first time to the top and ground floors for those with mobility impairments. Other features where the library stacks once stood include an additional classroom and the ‘Presidents’ Room’ conference room featuring portraits of all of Hope’s presidents.

Additional amenities underscored when the structure was built include wireless Internet service and wiring throughout for access to the complete array of technologies that exist in support of education and air conditioning.

Graves Hall Renovation Project Website: http://www.hope-edu/pr/campusdev/graves.html.

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Both golf teams finish season in third

Hope College's men's golf team came in second at Saturday's MIAA jamboree in Alma. The second place finish put the Flying Dutchmen in third place overall in the MIAA and ended the team's chances at making a second appearance in as many years at the NCAA tournament in the spring.

The race for the MIAA men's golf title has been tight all season between several teams. Though Trine led for much of the season they were not able to establish a large enough lead to retain the title after Saturday's jamboree, which Calvin won with a score of 296. That score moved Calvin into first place with a season-long total of 2,411, giving the Knights its first MIAA title. Trine finished just two strokes behind Calvin at 2413, while Hope finished nine strokes away from the title with a final season score of 2420.

"I'm happy with the way the season turned out," head coach Bob Ebels said prior to Saturday's jamboree. "I'm happy with the season yet I'm also disappointed because we lost one of our best players to Bowling Green, which caused a hole in the lineup. That player was Charlie Olson, a first-team All-MIAA selection. Olson ended last season with a 74.1 average.

All through the season the Flying Dutchmen posted similarly consistent scores at MIAA jamborees, with 21 strokes separating their lowest score of 295 from their highest of 316. Captain Chris Ansel ('11) said this was one of the team's biggest accomplishments.

"We never really took it too low or had a bad day," Ansel said. "We just consistently put a good number up.

Ansel ('11) shared medalist honors for the jamboree with David Veen of Calvin, with both golfers shooting 71 on the day. Nick Campbell ('12) and Andy Thompson ('12) also finished in the top 10. Both had a score of 75, which put them in a seven-way tie for sixth place. Ansel finished as the top golfer in the MIAA, averaging 72.5 strokes per round and was named to the first-team All-MIAA for the second time in his career. Campbell ('12) also made the MIAA's first team.

The golf team also has a spring portion of its season. If the team had qualified for the NCAA tournament, it would have been a warm-up for the NCAA tournament. Even without the national tournament to look forward to, the spring season is still important to the team. We will play tournaments to keep interest alive with the golfers," Ebels said. "It gives them the opportunity to play against players and schools they wouldn't normally play against.

Though the focus of the fall season is MIAA jamborees, the golf team does play in non-conference tournaments as well. On Oct. 7, the team traveled to Dearborn where they placed second in the Red Poloing Classic with a score of 320. Ansel led the Flying Dutchmen at that tournament as well, shooting a 73 on the day. Campbell and Thompson were second and third with scores of 79 and 82 respectively. Sean La Douce ('13) and Austin Farah ('13) rounded out Hope's score for the day, each shooting 86.

A highlight for the Dutch as their fall season came to a close was the announcement that two of their players, Lauren Zandstra ('12) and Megan Scholten ('12), had achieved All-MIAA second team honors. They ended the season with 85.4 and 86.0 stroke averages respectively. The All-MIAA first team was occupied solely by members of the St. Mary's and Olivet teams.

Scholten, who co-captains the team with fellow junior Emily Atsma ('12), spoke on the struggles the team faced and also examined their ability to compete in the upcoming season.

"We have an immense amount of potential on our team and I know that we have the ability to do better. However, we are right where we want to be going into our spring season. We have a spring season in which the main focus is qualifying for nationals. Coming from a very tough conference in which there are two teams that are ranked in the top 10 in the nation, it has been difficult for us to qualify the past two years," Atsma said.

"We really want to make it to nationals and we have the talent and potential to do so if we can put three good rounds together this spring."

Are you a fan of Hope sports?
If so, you should write for us! The Anchor sports section is looking for students interested in writing about Hope College athletics. You can write just one article or write an article in every issue.

E-mail us at anchor@hope.edu or just stop by the Anchor office in Martha Miller at 6 any Saturday night for more information.

The Anchor, October 13, 2010

SPORST

Chris Russ
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

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Hope College Golf

Behind Olivet and 115 strokes behind St. Mary’s, Rival Calvin College finished 231 strokes behind Hope, finishing seventh in the MIAA.

Girls' golf is a rather unique collegiate sport in that it has two seasons. The first season, in the fall, is played to determine the first and second place teams in the MIAA. The conference champions get to host a 36-hole tournament in the spring. The second place team is given a shorter, 18-hole tournament to t o

WHO WE ARE

How to make the most out of seasonal Partial funding is provided by the Department of Communication at Hope College. The Anchor is also sponsored by the Intercollegiate Athletic Association of Hope.

Both golf teams finish season in third

The Hope College women's golf squad was staggeringly consistent this fall season. They competed in four Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association jamborees and each time they finished in third place. In each competition, rivals Olivet College and St. Mary's College in Indiana finished either first or second.

In the two-day, 36-hole final tournament of the season, on Oct. 9, the Flying Dutch once again took third and ended the season 78 strokes behind Olivet and 115 strokes behind St. Mary's. Rival Calvin College finished 231 strokes behind Hope, finishing seventh in the MIAA.

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Soccer looks to get back on winning track


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The league is a slugfest and it is really up for grabs right now.

"The incoming freshmen are playing significant minutes and players like Brayden West ('14) and Nick Heyboer ('14) have even started for us at times this year," Smith said.

"Matt VanZytveld ('14) is really settling into his own," Neil said. "I think what makes our team so dynamic is that we are able to play against the best team in the league day in and day out."

"We may have a starting group and a second group, but our second group could give any starting group in the league a run for their money."

Looking ahead, Hope has a slew of MIAC games remaining before a season finale at Olivet on Nov. 6 for both teams. While the Dutchmen are looking at a few key games, they are also looking that far ahead however.

"Our cancer fundraiser game [Tuesday] is very important to us," Turner said. "Turner league is still very wide open."

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