Freshmen upset sophomores in 114th Pull

Carolyn Werdmuth
Guest Writer

The Pull is one of Hope's oldest college traditions. The weeks leading up to Pull day are filled with intense training, grueling physical labor, chanting, bonding, and most importantly, teamwork. Thought to be the oldest college tradition in the United States, the first documented Pull was held in 1898. Each team consists of 18 freshman or sophomore men as pullers, with a female moraler for each one. Upperclassmen two years older than the pullers on their respective teams coach them through training and at the Pull.

On the day of Pull, the pullers get into their pits, heave, haul and use every ounce of strength they have to pull as much rope as possible to their side of the Black River. Whichever team has gained the most rope after three hours is declared the victor.

This year's victor was the class of 2015. Their joy was apparent as theytook a celebratory dip in the Black River immediately following the Pull's end.

Ian "Addiction" Nyberg ('15) said he "never worked harder in my whole life and never been so rewarded.

Odd year coach Tom "Brute" Gable ('13) said the freshman team "exceeded all of our expectations" and that "we as coaches couldn't have been prouder of the effort and determination that our team showed.

Although they lost, the even year team still found the Pull to be an unforgettable experience and were proud of their efforts.

"Obviously I would have loved to win, but regardless, I have no regrets about our season. It is incredible to be a part of such a unique tradition," says even year coach Ryan "Cat Scratch Fever" VerMeer ('12).

BELOVED TRADITION — After three hours, odd year was declared victorious Saturday in the 114th annual Pull. Odd year had an advantage of over 38 feet.

Photo by Danielle Mikhail

Typical Hope student is female, white, Christian Michigander

Katharine Maguire
Guest Writer

The profile of the typical Hope student's gender, home state and ethnic and religious background indicate the college's steps to increase diversity are definitely needed.

The profile below is based on enrollment data from the 2010- 2011 academic year and fall 2011. The percentages represent the portion of the total student body that shares that demographic.

Average Hope Student Profile:

Sex: Female (61 percent) Home state: Michigan (68.8 percent)

Ethnic background: White non-Hispanic (88.1 percent) Average GPA: 3.32 Dean's list status: (51.5 percent)

Major: Psychology (7.1 percent) Religious affiliation: The Reformed Church of America (18.9 percent) Roman Catholic (16.0 percent)

Anyone surprised? "I guess they (the average student) would be female, umm, because everyone always jokes about how there are no guys around," said Tara Hoover ('15).

Hope's male-to-female ratio is 39 percent to 61 percent for the entire fall 2011 student body. While the freshmen women are suffering a 38 percent to 62 percent male-to-female ratio, the senior women have to overcome a ratio of 36 percent to 64 percent.

Along with the unbalanced male-to-female ratio, this fall there are a whopping 2,217 students from Michigan out of the total 3,249. With 68.8 percent of Hope students from Michigan, this statistic has decreased over the past decade from 77.5 percent in 2000.

The second and third states that are most represented in the current student body are Illinois with 407 and Indiana with 104 students.

There are 33 countries represented as well. China tops the list with 18 students.

A total 88.1 percent of the student body is of a non-Hispanic white ethnic background. No other ethnic group even hits the 5 percent mark.

Hope College has been focusing efforts to increase the diversity of the student body.

"We are working hard to support the work of admissions to reach out to diverse students" said Vanessa Greene, director of multicultural education.

While Hope is working to increase its ethnic diversity, there is good news. Hope College students are getting smarter. The average GPA is at a high of 3.32 up from a 2.90 in 1979; consequently, more than half of the student body is on the dean's list (51.5 percent).

This is the first year in the last three decades that Hope has achieved or surpassed this 50 percent milestone.

So what are students studying?

A total of 1,251 students are majoring in the social sciences which include accounting, communication, economics, education, exercise science, international studies, management, political science, psychology, sociology and women's studies.

The next largest division is the natural sciences with a total of 596 students (23.6 percent). There is good news. Hope College students are getting smarter. The average GPA is at a high of 3.32 up from a 2.90 in 1979; consequently, more than half of the student body is on the dean's list (51.5 percent).

Part of our goal is building an inclusive environment.

— VANESSA GREENE DIrector, MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

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Get a story idea? Let us know at anchor@hope.edu, or call us at 335-7877.
Steps2Success program introduces underrepresented students to college

La'Shawn Donelson
Guest Writer

The class of 2015 began the fall semester with an exciting new start. The Office of Multicultural Education partnered with Student Life and Campus Ministries to pilot a program called Step2Success.

The program assists ethnically underrepresented first-year students in adapting to Hope's environment and gaining a bountiful supply of resources, as well as networks and expanding cross-cultural friendships.

“Often students from diverse backgrounds at Hope may require a different approach to transition to a new environment to make them feel a part of Hope,” said Latoya Gates, assistant director of multicultural education.

Twenty-six incoming freshmen and their parents arrived on campus one day early and were greeted with a warm welcome from various student leaders, professors, administrators and Parents Council representatives.

Activities included a dinner, a tour of downtown Holland, a luncheon and a dessert reception.

During each event, presentations gave students and their parents an introduction to the academic rigor of the college and resources to assist them in their acclimation to Hope in order to prepare them to succeed in their college careers and endeavors.

Students also joined together for an evening of community building.

“Step2Success is a great jump-off point for students in their first year to build a connection with other students and professors,” said participant Alyzza Guzman (15).

She enjoyed her experience so much that next year she plans to assist in the Step2Success planning process.

Multiple groups on campus brainstormed and created the idea of Step2Success including the Office of Multicultural Education, Student Development and Campus Ministries.

Also contributing significantly to the program’s success were the Multicultural Affairs Committee, student leaders and representatives of the Parents Council.

Vanessa Greene, multicultural education director, said monthly programs with a focus on social adjustment, academic and career access, student/faculty networks and cultural enrichment will provide continued support to students who participated in Step2Success.

There has been strong support to continue Step2Success in the coming years.

Ellen Awad, director of Student Life said it best: “Step2Success is a way to success.”

Pull teams reflect on 114th competition, friendships

“Pull, from page 1

“The team and I put a lot of effort into training for the Pull and we all worked hard, even though we lost.” Even year puller Chris “Gek Chic” Davis (14) said.

The even year and odd year team members interviewed all agree that their biggest gain from the whole experience is the close bond they made with their teammates, who have become like a family to them now.

Bekah “Cap’n Crunch” Eskandani (14), an even year moraler, said that she has “gained thirty-nine brothers and sisters that I know I will have for the rest of my life, no matter what… I have just gained so much love for them.”

Similarly, VerMeer said its “amazing to be part of such a close family. We all go through so much together in those three weeks.” In the end, it all comes down to the teamwork and brotherhood both teams share.

Odd year coach Gable (13) puts it best: “When it comes down to it, Pull is not about winning or losing. It is about the people you meet and the friendships you make, and when everyone, both even and odd year, looks back on Pull it will be the memories of the friendships they made that they remember.”
**Saudi women granted the right to vote**

In an address to the nation, King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia granted women the right to vote and run for political office in municipal elections, marking the first advancement for women's rights in the country in decades. The royal decree, which will be effective in the next political election in 2015, is seen by many as a step in the right direction for a country that has had a notoriously abysmal human rights record.

During the address, King Abdullah said, “We refuse to marginalize the role of women in Saudi society,” a statement that somehow constituted a move for the country of addressing women's rights more directly.

However, many critics believe that this is not enough, with political councils and advocacy groups such as Amnestypetitioning for more action to be taken immediately. “Why not tomorrow?” said Saudi Arabian feminist Waieha Al-Hawaiard in a statement to the Associated Press. “I think the king doesn’t want to shake our country, but look around us and we think it’s a shame... when we are still pondering how to meet simple women’s rights.”

Despite transitioning toward a more democratic nation under King Abdullah’s rule, Saudi Arabia remains, for the most part, an absolute monarchy with only three councils taking place in the country’s history. Estimates of the men who voted in the election that took place in September range from 5 to 10 percent of the country’s population, a statistic that alludes to the dis-satisfaction that many have had with the political system that has been put in place by the king.

In the last election men were able to vote to fill 150 seats on municipal councils, with the remainder being filled by the government. “By the end of the day you are electing individuals with no mandate and it’s just municipal councils. We are ready to elect people in the Parliament,” said Mohammed Fahad Al-Qahtani, the head of the Saudi Civil and Political Rights Association, a political activist. “We refuse to marginalize the role of women in Saudi society.” — KING ABDULLAH OF SAUDI ARABIA

**Roma leader arrest heightens ethnic tensions**

Kiril Rashkov, also known as “King Kiro,” was detained by the government of Bulgaria on charges of threatening to commit murder. Rashkov is the leader of the local Roma, a marginalized Eastern European people commonly known as Gypsies. The New York Times refers to Kiril Rashkov as a “supposed crime boss.” When Bulgaria was still under communist control he was convicted on several occasions for illegal transactions and foreign exchanges. He is also the founder of a Roma political party.

The BBC reports that a van containing relatives of Rashkov ran over and killed a young man in the southern village of Katunitsa on Sept. 24, leading to the local leader’s arrest. In response to the death, a mob of approximately 2,000 individuals attacked three Roma neighborhoods.

The incident exacerbated already heightened ethnic tensions in Bulgaria, leading to similar anti-Roma demonstrations in 20 Bulgarian cities, including Sofia, the capital, in the past two weeks. Many Roma neighborhoods were able to prepare to defend themselves before the attacks but because of rumors spread via the internet.

Bulgaria’s chief national prosecutor Boris Velchev has ordered the immediate arrest demonstrators for “inciting ethnic hatred.” Those prosecuted for this crime could be punished with fines up to €15,000 or up to six years in prison. More than 160 people have been arrested since the unrest began, but most have been charged with possession of weapons. Ethnic violence in Bulgaria is thought to be linked with the fact that it is the poorest country in the EU during a global economic recession. A similarly widespread rash of violence occurred in 1997 when the nation was undergoing hyperinflation and an economic crisis, the BBC reports.

Bulgarian Prime Minister Georgi S. Parvanov and Prime Minister Boyko M. Borisov are normally political rivals, but they visited Katunitsa together in the wake of the killing and riot. The New York Times reports that Borisov told a meeting of government ministers that “Ethnic peace is the only way to guarantee Bulgaria’s prosperity. Every other action guarantees the failure of the country and falling into deep isolation.”

However, Borisov maintains that the disturbance in Katunitsa was caused by crime and not ethnic tensions. Krasimir Kunev, president of a human rights organization called the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, told the BBC that Bulgaria has a long history of rampant organized crime and the govern-ment has continually failed to take legal crime lessenthe state. “It has always been very high,” Kunev said, referring to anti-Roma feelings. “In such an atmosphere, there should be no surprise that you have so many young people marching on the streets, shutting racist slogans and destroying property.”

The Roma population is concentrated in Southern and Eastern Europe but they live across the continent, everywhere experiencing poverty, lack of education, and discrimination. Last year the EU censured France for deporting Roma to Romania and Bulgaria. Then in April the EU requested that its member states draw up plans to increase the standard of living for Roma within their borders by the end of the year.

Unfortunately for the Roma, actions on their behalf by the EU and the Bulgarian government have proven largely ineffective thus far.

**Conservative Christians mingle with Chicago gay community**

Andrew Marin went from a homophobic, religiously conservative man, to an advocate for a civil, productive relationship between, Christians and the skeptical gay community. His aim is to build a safe, trusting relationship between reluctant Christians and the skeptical gay community. His aim is to build a safe, trusting relationship between reluctant Christians and the skeptical gay community.

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In an interview with the BBC, he stated “For the first three years, everybody just called me Straighty Straighterson -- I was literally the only straight male who continued to go to everything. ”

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Andrew Marin went from a homophobic, religiously conservative man, to an advocate for a civil, productive relationship between, Christians and the skeptical gay community. His aim is to build a safe, trusting relationship between reluctant Christians and the skeptical gay community.

In the initial years he wrestled with the lifestyle of the openly gay community he was living in and his theological beliefs. He would go to the neighborhood’s gay bars and clubs, and have to repress the urge to tell people: “You’re wrong and you need to change.”

He recognizes that some Christians will always adhere to the hope of “curing” gays, but he took a different approach for himself. He decided to make peace, Minister Boyko M. Borisov are normally political rivals, but they visited Katunitsa together in the wake of the killing and riot. The New York Times reports that Borisov told a meeting of government ministers that “Ethnic peace is the only way to guarantee Bulgaria’s prosperity. Every other action guarantees the failure of the country and falling into deep isolation.”

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UN delegates walk out on Ahmadinejad

Shubham Sapkota

OctOber 5, 2011

TENSION AT 66Th U.N. SESSION — UN Ambassador to Israel speaks to President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

Megan Stevens
Guest Writer

On Sept. 26, Russian finance minister Alexei Kudrin, an economist who is respected throughout the world, attempted to criticize the current government power shuffle as the underlying reason. Last month, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin announced his intention to run for president of Russia, which could make him the country’s longest serving leader since Joseph Stalin. He has already served two terms as president, from 2000 to 2008, and only stepped down because of the country’s two-term limit for the prime minister. However, only applies to consecutive terms, and the fact that Putin has spent the past three years as prime minister renders him eligible again for the presidency.

According to the New York Times, Putin was said to have been groomed by Kudrin to replace him as prime minister. However, the official announcement of Putin’s candidacy came to a news deal between Putin and current president Dmitri Medvedev.

Rather than nominate Kudrin for prime minister, as was long anticipated, the BBC reports that as president Putin will give up his current seat to the president, resulting in a simple exchange of powers. The president and prime minister of Russia will simply swap seats.

As all federal government ministers in Russia answer to the prime minister, Kudrin would answer directly to Medvedev. Following the announcement, Kudrin issued a statement saying that he refused to report to Medvedev due to their differing views on the country’s budget and what Kudrin views as irresponsible spending decisions on the part of the president.

Russian president, PM to trade seats

Rachael Kabagabu
Guest Writer

With 2012 presidential election a little over a year away, the Republican fight for the 2012 presidential nomination has begun. The race started after the Romney announcement of Putin’s candidacy earlier this year and it has been picking up steam with the recent debates, media coverage and straw polls.

The first straw poll was held on Aug. 14 on the Iowa State University campus in Ames, Iowa. Minnesota congresswoman Michele Bachmann pulled out a victory with 28.5 percent of the 16,982 votes. Bachmann’s win came two days after a GOP debate in Ames. The debate was hosted by the Ames Republican and featured all of the Republican candidates for the 2012 presidential election with the exception of Bachmann, Newt Gingrich, Tim Pawlenty, Herman Cain, Rick Santorum, Jon Huntsman and Mitt Romney.

In the next straw poll, held in Los Angeles, Ron Paul was victorious with 44.9 percent of the 833 votes. The 76-year-old candidate has run twice before; however, he has never earned his party’s nomination.

The first straw polling straw polls took place in Florida and Colorado, where George native Herman Cain won 46 percent of the 2,657 votes. The former Godfather Pizza owner’s victory was especially stunning for Rick Perry and Mitt Romney, who are considered the front runners for the nomination, and Bachmann, who finished in last place after coming out strong in the first polls.

As the race has progressed, debates between the candidates have allowed the public to get a more in-depth view of each candidate. Each wants to show voters why they should be president, particularly in a time where approval ratings for both President Obama and Congress are at all-time lows.

In the next debate, several controversies have arisen. Michele Bachmann made comments in an interview on Fox News about the HPV vaccination drug Gardasil causing mental retardation. With no evidence to back up the claims, Bachmann was attacked and was forced to retract her statement, saying she was repeating what she heard.

Similarly, Rick Perry made an executive order in 2007 for all pre-teen girls in Texas to be vaccinated with Gardasil. Perry later said that he made a mistake and apologized to voters.

One of the most interesting things at the debates has not been the topics of conversation, but the audience’s reactions. The audience have not been afraid to have their voices heard. At a debate in California last month, cheers were heard when Rick Perry’s 235 death penalty record was read by moderator Brian Williams.

At the next debate, moderator Wolf Blitzer posed a hypothetical question to Ron Paul regarding a 30-year-old with a life threatening illness who has no insurance. Asking Paul if he would offer the dying man’s family some funding for surgery, Paul’s answer was overshadowed by yells from the audience saying that the president should in fact do so.

In Florida, candidate Rick Santorum was asked a question via YouTube by a gay soldier in Iraq who wondered how Santorum would deal with the military. Right before Santorum responded that sexuality should be kept private, several audience members were heard booing the soldier.

In the coming weeks, the hopefuls will be weeded out and scrutinized by their debate performances and voters will be left to decide who they want to be the Republican nominee for president.

Republican primary race swings

Chicago, from page 3

To begin with, curious members of the gay community began to approach him on issues concerning spirituality.

“We could discuss spirituality and anti-Semitism with people all with sorts of beliefs in order to have civil discussions about spirituality and sexuality. Roughly four years ago, Roscoe, one of America’s best known gay bars, hosts these large meetings. Other events include his “Living in the Tension” gatherings, where people are welcome to share their stories and experiences and come to a better understanding of their faith and self. I said to myself, ‘What we try and do is help the person live the most faithful, God-honoring life that they can.’”

Marian, who has previously been vocally supportive of the human rights of people with disabilities, has been an active participant in efforts to build understanding and acceptance among the general public. She has been a leader in the efforts to promote understanding and acceptance of people with disabilities in the gay community.

Marian has come under some criticism for failing to define his organization’s stance on Christianity and sexuality. While Marian provides a range of resources for people of faith, he does not provide a detailed outline of his organization’s stance on Christianity and sexuality.
**ArtPrize takes over Grand Rapids for third year running**

**Annelise Belmonte**

Art-Ed Co-Editor

Unlike families, students and tourists have made the trip to Grand Rapids to be part of ArtPrize since opening day on Sept. 17. This year there are at least 1,582 artists and 164 venues participating in the event. The top 10 entries will share the $474,000 total, $250,000 of which goes to the 1st place entry. The display will continue until October 10.

The first ArtPrize competition debuted in 2009, after founder Rick DeVos announced it as a social experiment. Any artist and a venue in Grand Rapids can become part of the competition as long as they establish an agreement. The ArtPrize website allows venues and artists to communicate and organize their work. Once they become registered, they are on the official ArtPrize roster and viewers can vote for their pieces.

Art-Prize attendees can explore the city and the exhibits without cost. Tourists enjoy the Grand Rapids Art Museum, often the first stop to get a map, and then move on to see local bands and restaurants as they peruse other venues.

According to USA Today's John Wisely, "Local restaurants and bars are reporting sales up 20 percent over the past two weeks over last year's opening days." The competition just keeps growing and fueling Grand Rapids' economy. Voting occurs throughout Grand Rapids at designated registration booths (sponsored by Xfinity) or in some cases online. Voters take time to consider their choices because they know that whatever is chosen will reflect on the values of the community itself.

In some cases, the pieces are interactive, some are traditional and some probably couldn't fit into many categories, such as construction site. The construction workers froze in a position for minutes until one of them handed out a voting card to approaching visitors.

**Robert Shangle**, the artist and creator of the sculpture, explained, "It's a piece created by his apprentice and son Jasper Shangle, a student at Calvin College.

One entry that drew a big crowd was a LifeStatue experience labeled "Under Construction." Living statues represented people who are facing cancer (acting like statues) interacted with each other in a scene familiar to West Michigan: a construction site. The artists themselves may step in to check on their pieces and chat with viewers to expand on the title and short description on the identification cards nearby.

For example, Lindy Crandell's piece "Good Morning Sunshine" is a painting of a sunflower. While the card tells us it was planted by a bird in her backyard, Crandell explained the story telling a passerby that she actually had to take a picture of it because the flower was changing in the sunlight. The painting itself could be mistaken as a textured photograph because of its detail and focus.

ArtPrize announced the top 10 pieces voted for on Sept. 29 with mixed reviews from critics. Some, like art-focused writers Joseph Becherer and Ed Rios argue that the top 10 were mostly street exhibits with more flash than meaning, while the gallery pieces were underrepresented. Critics call for an art festival, as opposed to an entertainment-focused event. However, the votes are supposed to reflect the community's choice, which tended towards the flash and entertaining.

This weekend will be the last chance to catch ArtPrize in downtown Grand Rapids. The winner will be announced on Oct. 6, before Afterglow, an event celebrating ArtPrize's success for another year. For more information visit artprize.org.

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**Ralph from ‘50/50’ celebrates life and love**

**Elena Rivera**

Senior Staff Writer

Every once so often a movie comes along that hits a chord in the audience of the credits, to stand up and clap, tears glistening on their eyes, smiles seemingly stretch from ear to ear. A theater may have been completely unprepared to deal with the sudden seriousness of their lives.

The movie premise is simple: Gordon-Levitt plays Adam, a 20-something who works in public radio in Seattle with his best friend, Kyle. They play by Robert, Adam's life-changing news: he has a rare form of cancer that has formed around his spinal chord. The movie chronicles his life after this news and the way it affects the people around him: his worrying mother, his wise-cracking best friend, his girlfriend and his new therapist.

"50/50" is a cancer movie, but it's also an R-rated buddy comedy, a coming of age drama and a love story. The brilliant thing about "50/50" is that it buys into a love story. The brilliant thing about "50/50" is that it buys into a love story.

The movie opens Saturday, Sept. 24.

One of this year's most deeply resonant emotional journeys is a movie about cancer starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Seth Rogen who play a best friend and his new therapist.

Anthony Blixt, the artist and creator of the sculpture, was joined by his apprentice and son Jasper Blixt, a student at Calvin College.

One entry that drew a big crowd was a LifeStatue experience labeled "Under Construction." Living statues represented people who are facing cancer (acting like statues) interacted with each other in a scene familiar to West Michigan: a construction site. The artists themselves may step in to check on their pieces and chat with viewers to expand on the title and short description on the identification cards nearby.

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**Orchestra rocks opening night**

**Andrea DeVries**

Guest Writer

Flowing classical melodies filled Dimnent Chapel Friday night as the Hope College Orchestra opened its season with an impressive performance. Students, family and community members gathered to witness the students showcase their musical talents. Under the direction of Richard Pippo, the orchestra, the orchestra is a member of his high school orchestra, the orchestra is a great opportunity to continue his musical interests while pursuing other academic ventures.

Thomas Flath ('14), a clarinetist from Chicago who moved prone played in an orchestra before coming to Hope College and was eager to take advantage of this opportunity.

For some sleepy students (like the guy that was sitting in front of me), the sounds served as a lullaby, but the selections included a wide range of tempos and styles which along with the energy of the performers, kept the audience engaged.

Comprised of more than 60 members, the orchestra lets both music majors and non-music majors alike to showcase their talents through the performance of orchestral works.

Under the direction of Waechter ('15) the viola section, who was a member of his high school orchestra, the orchestra is a great opportunity to continue his musical interests while pursuing other academic ventures.

Flath and Waechter, along with other members of the orchestra, were pleased with the first performance of the season and are looking forward to a great year.

This talented group of students put on a remarkable performance they should be very proud of.

As the bows slid across the strings and fingers flew about creating notes, the orchestra gave a composite work and an introduction to the great performances yet to come this year.

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**ART IN MOTION— Above, a trio freezes for the crowd in various poses for “Under Construction.” Right, Crandell beams beside her painting. Above right, Jim Garrison’s sculpture “Precious” reminds passersby of what they hold dear.**

**PHOTOs BY ANELISE BELMONTE**

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**GuEst WritEr**

**Annelise Belmonte**

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**The Anchor**

5
Give back to Hope’s giving trees

“Once there was a tree, and she loved a little boy.” The opening line of Shel Silverstein’s “The Giving Tree” reminds us that trees are more than just part of the scenery. This summer, on July 11, tempestuous winds upwards of 100 mph wreaked havoc on the trees of Hope’s campus. The Pine Grove, Voorhees Hall, and the President’s Home all suffered from this storm. In total, about 30 trees were uprooted or damaged. Trees that stood 100-feet tall were among the fallen.

Hope is calling on alumni donations to help restore lost campus trees. Alumni can make one time donations when they register for homecoming with the brochure or online at www.hope.edu/alumni/homecoming.

October 14
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting (Graves Hall President’s Room)
3 p.m. Gentile Lectureship: Dr. Joaquin Ruiz (TBD)
3 p.m. Hope College Architecture: An Exhibition of Watercolors (DePree)
3 p.m. – 7 p.m. Midwest Volleyball Invitational (DeVos Fieldhouse) $5
6 p.m. Young Alumni Networking Downtown (New Holland Brewery)
6:45 p.m. Homecoming 5K Run/Walk (DeVos Fieldhouse)
7:30 p.m. Faculty Piano Recital Featuring Adam Clark (Dimnent)
8 p.m. Hope Theatre Presents “Marion Bridge” (DeWitt Studio Theatre) $10

October 15
9 a.m. Homecoming Brunch Registration & Childcare Check-In (Haworth)
9:30 a.m. Homecoming Celebration Brunch (Haworth)
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Hope College Architecture: An Exhibition of Watercolors (DePree)
10 a.m. Men’s Alumni Lacrosse Game (VanAndel Soccer Stadium)
10 a.m. & 2 p.m. Midwest Volleyball Invitational (DeVos Fieldhouse) $5
11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Greek Life Open Houses
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Alumni Chapel Choir Rehearsal (Dimnent)
12 p.m. 8th Annual Homecoming Tailgate (Smallenburg Park)
12 p.m. Women’s Alumni Soccer Game (Van Andel Soccer Stadium)
1 p.m. Men’s Alumni Soccer Game (Van Andel Soccer Stadium)
2 p.m. Hope vs Albion Football Game (Holland Municipal Stadium)
4 – 5 p.m. International Student and Alumni Reception (Martha Miller)
4 – 6 p.m. Nursing Alumni Reception (Science Center Atrium)
4 – 5 p.m. Phelps Scholars Reception (Scott Hall Lower Level)
4 p.m. Baker Scholars Alumni Reception (Graves Hall Winants Auditorium)
7 p.m. Hope vs. Calvin Men’s Soccer Game (Van Andel Soccer Stadium)
Class Reunion Parties
1986: Boatwerks, 7p.m, $35
1991: Butch’s, 7p.m, $20
1996: Scrapyard Lofts, 7p.m, $25
2001: Alpen Rose, 6p.m, $30
2006: New Holland Brewing Company, 8p.m, $15
8p.m. Hope Theatre Presents “Marion Bridge” (DeWitt Studio Theatre) $10

October 16
10 a.m. Homecoming Worship Service (Dimnent)
11:15 a.m. Dimnent Heritage Society Luncheon (Haworth)
1 p.m. – 5 p.m. Hope College Architecture: An Exhibition of Watercolors (DePree)
No glam
Alex Brennan
Columnist

Trendy fashions are generally an easy target for ridicule. UgG boots, North Face jackets, oversized sorority hoodies with leggings and “intense” looking Tapout shirts are all looks that I’ve heard mocked on multiple occasions on Hope’s campus for being ugly or overpriced.

However, one fashion trend that has managed to avoid this level of mockery is charity clothing, most notably TOMS shoes. If you’re not familiar with this for-profit corporation, the basic premise of their sales-pitch is that for every $55 pair of shoes you buy, they will deliver a pair to “a child in need.” The seeming contradiction of nature receives is probably what has prevented mockery from being directed at consumers of their products when in fact, these shoes deserve a lot more ridicule than your average trendy piece of clothing.

Every year, TOMS organizes a “One Day Without Shoes” campaign. This day is meant to raise awareness for people who go without shoes, by encouraging Americans with plenty of shoes to “raise awareness” by going barefoot. Members of Hope’s campus participated in this event when it took place in 2010.

Using this double-talk, you could say that Marie Antoinette was just “raising awareness,” when she pretended to be a peasant on her castle grounds. In response to this marketing campaign, “A Day Without Dignity” was founded as a counter-campaign to inform people of the harm that TOMS is really doing by out-competing local markets.

Based on research presented in The Economic Journal and another study done by Philadelphia University, it has been found that charity clothing imports to Africa caused 50 percent of the increase in unemployment there between 1981 and 2000. Basically, companies like TOMS cause more harm than good by assuming that un-requested gifts from the United States are the best way to pull others out of poverty.

Ultimately this should not be surprising. TOMS and other charities fashion products like those insipid Inspired (red) T-shirts, allowing people to buy clothes for themselves in order to feel like they are helping the world. This concept is the bastard child of charity and consumerism.

In addition to being economically harmful, these shoes allow people to tell everyone about their “charitable” donations. Bragging about charity is now simply being called “raising awareness.” Helping other human beings should be done because it is the right thing to do. It should be done in a way that protects dignity, and a person should not boast about it on a shirt or with a pair of shoes.

Marie Antoinette is mocked today because of her painful misunderstanding about the conditions that the poor in her community lived in. Let’s not let Americans be remembered the same way. Besides, TOMS shoes are heinously ugly.

Walking on water through the storm
Samuel Tzou
Columnist

Aside from my dream to have the ability to fly, I have always wished for the superpower of walking on water. This, no doubt, often times makes me think of Peter’s experience in Matthew 14.

So many times when we read Bible stories, we think to ourselves how we long for God to use us in some supernatural way. Whether that be walking on water, healing a man with a broken leg, or casting a demon out of someone. In the Bible, we are often met with a response of, “then will you believe?”

And even when Jesus does show up, we recognize him as a radical thought that we don’t have time for, or an idea too crazy to follow.

That was, until Peter took the first step of faith and called out to Christ, asking Jesus to help him walk on water.

However, as he stepped across, Peter became fearful and began to sink. This applies to those of us who have or haven’t yet taken that first step of faith.

Just as Christ controls the rain and waves, he also controls all elements of our storms of life. He placed us in the classes that we’re currently taking. He gave us the friends that we have, and he put storms in our life that we can handle if we only simply look to him. These are all things that he can control and that he will use to bring glory to him if you only will let it.

While it may not seem like walking on water, our role as sons and daughters of Christ is to reach out to those in need. Use the storm to glorify God.

Studier hard and help out struggling students in your classes. Be the good listener and the comforter for your friend who is hurt. Be the light that shines for Christ in the classroom, in the sports game, at work, in your family, and elsewhere.

Just as God controlled gravity, and the natural elements, he also controls every factor and idea that is in our lives.

I truly believe that there is a place for what we call supernatural miracles of healings and demonstration of sign spiritual gifts.” However, instead of waiting for these to show up, our desire should be like Peter’s to use any and every opportunity to glorify God.

Our works of comfort and the sharing of Christ’s love, in the Lord’s eyes, mean the same if not more than any supernatural work. There are millions of individuals in this world who have never heard of the love of Jesus Christ. It is our job to go to them. Jesus is calling out to you to come. Go ahead, walk on water. What storm is stopping you?
I apologize for apologizing

Madalyn Muncy
Copy Editor

I have a bad habit. Well, I suppose I have many bad habits. We all do. But this habit is not conventional by any means. This habit just doesn’t fit in with biting your nails or clicking your pen or bouncing your leg. Nope. I have a bad habit of saying “I’m sorry” too much.

I realized it after a long week of good intentions gone bad. Circumstances were out of my immediate control, yet I found myself apologizing for what could be called bad luck. I didn’t have to apologize for not having the ability to be in three places at once, but I felt the need to take some responsibility.

We’ve all been somehow led to believe that apologies are polite. Women especially are prone to this habit. If we get too close to someone in class or accidentally bump into someone on the sidewalk an “I’m sorry” escapes our lips. “I’m sorry that I can’t make the meeting.” “I’m sorry that I have a huge crush on Edward Cullen.” “I’m sorry that I sneezing all over the place.” It seems silly, but that phrase shows up in our daily lives far too often.

Feeling sorry for those things is OK. There’s nothing wrong with it, but it almost seems as if we are constantly apologizing for things that just don’t seem to warrant an apolog. Is constantly saying “I’m sorry” a way of anticipating a negative reaction and therefore curing all feelings of negativity towards a subject? Probably. Is it a way for us to conveniently reassure ourselves that we’re nice polite people that no one could ever despise? Maybe.

There are many times when we don’t mean it. We aren’t sorry. And that’s OK. I’m not sorry that it takes me forever to put my dressing on in the salad bar line. I’m not sorry that I take over entire futon while watching a movie. I’m not sorry that I overslept and missed the meeting. I’m definitely not sorry for having an opinion about something.

Constantly overusing the word “sorry” takes away the power of the word. Apologies are powerful things. They mend relationships. They coax the grief-stricken. They provide a bridge of trust between people. But when they are used in vain, as they often are, apologies no longer carry the weight they should.

It’s kind of like continuously saying “I love you” to both people and inanimate objects: it just takes away from the gravity, the seriousness of the word. If not being sorry for things makes me unpopular, so be it. It’s better to maintain the power of the word instead of allowing it to deflate into a miserable, meaningless, nothing. To me, over-apologizing is a sign of insecurity or a fear of conflict. I do not owe someone an apology for standing up for myself or for not being perfect one hundred percent of the time.

By all means, don’t stop apologizing altogether. That’s silly. Sometimes we all are clearly in the wrong. But before you utter that “I’m sorry” when announcing your opinion or taking too long to order your coffee, think carefully about whether you mean those words.

Madalyn Muncy proudly reads Entertainment Weekly in her free time, watches “Glee” religiously and always takes up way too much room in her apartment’s refrigerator. And she’s not sorry at all! Really!
**Dutch soccer scores MIAA win against Albion**

**Bethany Stripp**  
*Sports Editor*

Hope College’s women’s soccer team returned to its winning ways on Saturday, blanking Albion 5-0. It was the Flying Dutch’s largest margin of victory since last year’s final game of the season against Rochester, and the first MIAA win for the women in over a week.

After two conference losses against Alma on Sept. 24 and Adrian on Sept. 28, Saturday’s game against Albion was a crucial win for the team. The past two games were tough for us, so we were looking to come back today with a big win,” co-captain Danielle Petzak (’12) said. “We aren’t quite halfway through our conference season yet, but every game counts in the long run, so [Saturday] was very important.”

Hope dominated offensively throughout much of the first half of the game. Petzak was the first to get the Dutch on the board, putting the ball into an open net after Erin Jipping (’15) crossed it to Petzak past the goalie. In the 17th minute, Petzak scored again on an unassisted shot. Petzak’s goal sparked a flurry of offensive activity on the part of the Dutch.

Less than 90 seconds later, the first scoring duo of Jipping and Petzak reversed roles. Petzak passed the ball to Jipping, who netted her first collegiate goal. Jipping was back with the assist three minutes later, giving the ball to Cara Johnson (’14) who scored her third goal of the season. Albion started to take more offensive control after Johnson’s goal, but could not get the ball past Megan Altieri (’13) or Laura Kooy (’14), who both saw goalkeeping action during the first half.

The Flying Dutch scored its fifth and final goal of the game with 3:08 left to play in the first half. Lindsey Bieri (’15) headed the ball into the goal off an assist from Rachel Doud (’13) to put Hope up 5-0 heading into the break. “One of the aspects we’ve struggled with in a few of our games so far is starting the game off a bit slow, so it was really nice to be able to get ahead early,” Petzak said. “It set the tone for the rest of the game, and we were able to control the ball from then on. We played extremely well as a whole, and everyone got a lot of playing time which was great.”

All 29 players on the Flying Dutch roster made it into the game on Saturday. Together, they combined for 38 total shots, which is one shot less than the team has had in the past three games combined.

The women continued their MIAA season on Tuesday at Calvin and will wrap up the first half of the conference season on Thursday against St. Mary’s. Regardless of the outcome of the game, Petzak said the team will work on keeping a positive attitude. “The captains on our team have discussed how important it is to remain positive and determined in every practice or game, no matter what set face,” Petzak said. “We also believe that keeping the entire team committed has been a huge factor in our success so far. Everyone has done a great job of supporting one another, and this will continue to play a huge role in the coming weeks. We’re confident that if we play our game we can make some noise in the conference.”

**Campbell ‘leads through example’ on men’s golf team**

**Shaun Groetsma**  
*Guest Writer*

The Hope College men’s golf team is continually proving to be one of the top teams in the MIAA. The Dutch men’s golf team is currently two strokes off the MIAA team score of the week and the team is looking for their second consecutive conference championship.

The Dutchmen went to Alma on Saturday for its first MIAA matchup of the season and came away with a commanding 38-15 victory. The Dutchmen led 10-0 out with a commanding 38-15. The outcome of the game was never in doubt as the Dutch were in control from the beginning.

Petzak said. “It set the tone for the rest of the game, and we were able to control the ball from then on. We played extremely well as a whole, and everyone got a lot of playing time which was great.”

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**Campbell passed on the credit to his fellow teammates.**

“Two are a lot of talented young players on this team and they are doing their part,” Campbell said.

Campbell is posting great scores each time he steps on the course and encouraging his teammates to do the same with hopes of winning the next two tournaments and bringing home the MIAA crown. He is currently two strokes behind the lead for individual medalist.

With just two tournaments left this fall, the team is hoping to expand its current lead. “We are going to close the MIAA out as a team,” Campbell said. “Winning the league in the fall will give us an advantage because we will be able to host two of the three rounds in the spring.”

“It would be great to win that and get to nationals in the spring, but that is second to what the team is doing this season,” Campbell said.