Nykerk ladies square off in epic battle

Alyssa Barigian
Guest Writer

Nykerk—it’s not just a competition, it’s a tradition. On Saturday, Nov. 7, the Holland Civic Center hosted the 75th annual Nykerk Cup Competition. With the anticipation of the audience, the freshman class of 2013 and the sophomore class of 2012 battled head-to-head in hopes of winning the Nykerk house. Although news of the H1N1 virus as well as the flu spread throughout Holland, students, faculty and community members joined together in the Civic Center to experience the ultimate thrill of Nykerk. As the crowd rolled in, the excitement of the women in play, song and oration began to increase. After an exhilarating three hours, the freshman class of 2013 was awarded the Nykerk Cup. As the night began, the freshman song girls energized the audience by singing an American classic, “Footloose.” The sophomore girls, on the other hand, performed an invigorating medley from the movie “Grease.” Sophomore song-girl Rebekah Taylor (‘12) commented, “I really liked using ‘Grease’ because it had songs that everybody would know.”

WHICH WAY ARE THE JUDGES?— Odd Year Song (above) moves and grooves to “Footloose.” Even Year rocked out to a “Grease” medley.

Michigan legislators fail to keep Promise

Erika Ter Louw
Staff Writer

In light of Michigan’s approximate $1.7 billion deficit, scholarships are one of many programs to feel the budget crunch. On Oct. 30, Michigan’s legislators approved the 2010 budget which omitted the Michigan Promise Scholarship. The scholarship was first introduced by Gov. Jennifer Granholm in December of 2006. The aim of the Michigan Promise Scholarship was to increase the number of college graduates in Michigan. In a survey done by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2007, only 57 percent of the state’s college graduates with a bachelors degree were born in Michigan. In a two-fold effort to increase the number of well-educated persons in the workforce as well as in the long-term help decrease the deficit, the Michigan government was giving up to $4,000 as part of the scholarship program. The revoking of this aid, which provided $120 million for about 96,000 college students, will help Michigan’s deficit level in the short-term. However, many are fearful of its long-term effects. They fear that if college is not made more accessible to high school students, fewer will choose to pursue their education. Creating jobs, which require a college education helps Michigan’s economy long-term. However, without scholarships, and willing students, the numbers of graduates could decrease. In order to qualify for the scholarship, students had to receive a particular score on a merit examination in high school. If scores were high enough, students would receive anywhere between $500 and $4,000 in aid for up to four years of post-secondary education. The impact of the new budget will be felt immediately. All funding for the Michigan Promise Scholarship will be revoked, including the fiscal year 2009-2010. Starting with the class of 2007, all payments will be suspended for both installments and final payments. Additionally, high school students will no longer be given the opportunity to apply for the Michigan Promise Scholarship. Hope’s office of Financial Aid said they will be in contact with all students and families whom this could affect. As of now, they are waiting to see if the legislators will reinstate the scholarship.

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So much room for activities— Awkward roommate stories.

Tip-off— Hope’s basketball teams prepare for 2009-10.
Relay for Life set to help battle cancer

Abbie Lindberg

Nears 700 students and faculty will join together to fight cancer at Hope’s 7th annual Relay for Life event at the Dow, Nov. 13 – 14, from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Relay for Life, supported by The American Cancer Society, is a 24-hour non-competitive walking-marathon organized to raise money for cancer patients. For each participant, money is donated. Teams are encouraged to raise money independently before attending the event.

Relay for Life also raises awareness in the community about the severity of the disease and how to best prevent its onset, while allowing survivors and people who have lost loved ones to commemorate their experience.

This year, nearly 700 Hope students and faculty are expected to participate in the event. A 20-member team, dedicated with the help of a number of Hope departments, is organizing the event. At 7 p.m., there will be an opening ceremony where Rhonda Burton will be a keynote speaker. At 8:30 p.m., the Sweet Japonic Band will perform. They will provide entertainment for attendees and participants and deliver messages concerning breast cancer.

At 10 p.m., the luminaria ceremony will be held. The luminaria ceremony is a time for cancer survivors and those who have lost loved ones to cancer to achieve a catharsis and help others feel united in the fight. People purchase bags and write their loved ones’ names on them. These bags are illuminated by a candle and placed all around the track where the walk takes place. At 11:30 p.m., activities encouraging cancer sufferers to join the event.

The Gathering with guest speaker Shane Claiborne

Sunday Nov. 15

The Gathering with guest speaker Shane Claiborne
8 p.m. Dimnent Chapel

Sunday Nov. 22

The Gathering
8 p.m. Dimnent Chapel

The ANchor

2
Boyer’s health care talk.

Ethan Morrical (‘10), president of the Hope Democrats, said a decline in the number of Odd-year Song.

But despite student activism, “Student activism is always a competition between classes. Nykerk made me feel like I was a part of the Hope student body and also more involved on campus,” said Caitlin Karst (‘13).

Katie Anderson (‘12) said, “When Nykerk ended, it didn’t matter who won because both classes put their whole heart into it and gave a wonderful performance. It was an experience that you can’t get at any other college and one that I will remember forever.”

Odd-year wins coveted Nykerk Cup

“Meeting so many new girls and also our coaches because they were so energetic and made it so fun,” said Jillian Black (‘13) of Odd-year Song. Each Row (‘12) and Cara Green (‘13) reached the audience by speaking about their own understanding of this year’s theme: “Echoes.”

Rowe spoke of how a person should find happiness in the simple things and that although life may be complicated, a person needs to find the adventures that make him/her happy.

“I knew right away that I wanted to speak on adventure. I love the idea of adventure I love adventure stories, and I love hearing about others’ adventures...I wanted to write a speech dedicated to the simple pleasures of life,” said Rowe.

Green spoke about the importance of using our God-given talents as a way to echo throughout our lives. “In speaking through a competition by those who participated in this extraordinary event. While Nykerk is an event in which many girls participate, it is more than just a competition between classes.

Nykerk made me feel like I was a part of the Hope student body and also more involved on campus,” said Caitlin Karst (‘13).

Katie Anderson (‘12) said, “When Nykerk ended, it didn’t matter who won because both classes put their whole heart into it and gave a wonderful performance. It was an experience that you can’t get at any other college and one that I will remember forever.”

College students apathetic to political happenings

PERSPECTIVES

Robert Gilmour

“Everyone has a vested interest in this issue. Get involved, get informed and make your voice heard,” health care reform expert and Hope alum Tom Boyer said to an audience of less than 60 people in the Maas Conference Room last Nov. 4. At the Hope-sponsored event, Boyer spoke and answered questions about health care and health insurance reform. Less than 30 students attended — 30 out of a student population of more than 3,200. “If Hope realizes how important an issue is, it should be a well-attended event,” said Ethan Morrical (‘10), president of the Hope Republicans, prior to Boyer’s health care talk.

Does the event’s lack of attendance suggest student apathy towards the current health care debate occurring in Congress?

The Michigan Promise Scholarship was not included in Michigan’s 2010 budget set for Oct. 30. This means that current freshmen and sophomores who qualified for the aid will be losing up to $3,000, and juniors, who qualified for the aid will be losing up to $2,000. While these figures may seem small when compared to the yearly tuition at Hope, but it is still a substantial amount of money. There have been no organized student movements on Hope’s campus in reaction to the eliminated Promise like there were on other college campuses across Michigan. None of my classmates spoke about the issue.

Does the lack of attention towards the scholarship’s removal mean that students are not concerned about governmental action?

Both Morrill and Alison Benoit (‘10), president of the Class of 2012, said that student political activism was to be expected from this year to hear where they stand on the issue.

“Student activism is always pretty consistent ... Compared to election years, it has gone down, but it’s something that is something in student political activism was to be expected from this year to hear where they stand on the issue.”

Morrill said.

Health care legislation will potentially cause an historical shift.

“It’s very unnerving when people don’t understand our experiences. The power the vote gives them, when people have bled and died for that opportunity,” Morrill said about student apathy.
Hope alum leads discussion on health care debate

Emma Bligotin
National Co-Editor

Some of the questions surrounding the fate of President Obama's health care reform legislation, which the House of Representa-
tives were asked to answer last Saturday night at 11:15 p.m. when the House voted to pass the bill.

In an e-mail to his supporters on Saturday, Obama said: “This is a night to celebrate — but not to rest. Those who voted for reform deserve our thanks, and the next phase of this fight has already begun.”

The next phase for Obama's healthcare legislation is to receive the Senate's approval. The final Senate bill has not yet been released. The Senate debate will take place in the coming days.

Health care reform is a central feature of Obama's domestic agenda. His bill aims to extend health coverage to 36 million more Americans by providing an option for all citizens to receive coverage provided by the government.

In an attempt to understand the proposed health care bill and the questions surrounding it, Hope College's Political Science Honors Society, Pi Sigma Alpha, held a discussion with Hope College alumni and health care policy professional, Tom Boyer. On Nov. 4, Boyer gave a lecture to Hope students and faculty, as well as local community members. Boyer discussed health Insurance Reform vs. Healthcare Reform: A Brief Overview of How Political Ideology is Shaping America's Health System for the Next Several Decades.

Boyer, a ‘91 Hope grad, was a political science major and participant in the Washington D.C. honors seminar. Currently, Boyer is a direct- ing government affairs of Nuevo Nor-
disk, lobbying for health care reform, and specifically working to improve legislation regarding diabetes.

At the beginning of the event, Boyer made his position on the topic of health care reform clear to the audience. “The current system is not sustainable,” said Boyer. According to Boyer, an inability to afford health care has become the leading cause of bankruptcy in the United States. With the current system, he said, “[If you get sick and you don’t have health insurance, good luck getting it.]" The average health care yearly premium for a family of four is $14,000, and Boyer expects it to increase by 1 to 2 percent each year. If America is to have the largest sector of the United States economy without government oversight and he agrees with Obama’s vision, then something needs to be reformed.

The two debates currently taking place are over health insurance reform and health care reform. The latter, explained Boyer, is much more complex. Boyer specializes in diabetes health care reform. In an effort to illustrate the change that needs to occur in regard to health care delivery, Boyer provided a comparative analysis of three different diseases in the U.S.

About 1.1 million Americans are infected with HIV/AIDS and the government spends about $750 million a year on the prevention and detection of the disease. Less than 200,000 people have breast cancer or cervical cancer in the U.S. and the government spends more than $300 million a year on the prevention and detection of the disease. Over 24 million people suffer from diabetes in the U.S. and the federal government spends $26 million annually on the prevention and detection of the disease.

Diabetes is the fifth leading cause of death by disease in the U.S., and the number of people with the disease has increased by about 13 percent in the past two years. By comparison, the incidence of HIV/AIDS and breast and cervical cancer are on the decline. Once diagnosed, for those with HIV/AIDS and breast and cervical cancer, the federal government or health insurance companies cover all expenses, but for Diabetes patients who are not senior citizens, Boyer says, for the most part, “You’re on your own.”

The disparity in coverage among patients to illus- trate the larger disparity within the current health care system. In order for people to be covered by their health insurance company in the U.S., they must meet particular health criteria. As the Senate debates the current bill, Boyer urges Americans to learn about health care policy because the debate “is not going away any time soon.”

Health care measure passed in the House, moves to the Senate

Sierra Hansen
Guest Writer

Health care is considered by many, regardless of political affiliation, to be the central national debate as President Obama’s administration attempts to reform the U.S. health care system.

House Democratic leaders are offering a $1.2 trillion, 10-year health overhaul bill called the Affordable Health Care for America Act. They say it will provide health insurance to 36 million Americans, eventually guaranteeing coverage to 96 percent of legal residents under the age of 65. The net cost is predicted to be $894 billion over 10 years, factoring in penalties on individuals and employers alike who don’t comply with new requirements.

If enacted, the new health care plan would prevent insurers from denying coverage based on pre-existing factors and limit higher premiums based on age. It would also include a 5.4 percent surtax on individuals earning more than $50,000 and on couples earning more than $1 million, which an aide said would bring in over $460 billion over 10 years to help pay for covering the uninsured.

According to CNN, one out of three Americans under 65 were without health insurance at some point during 2007 and 2008. Republicans have shown themselves to be nervous, primarily concerning the consumer-directiveness of the Democrat-led AHCAA. They question whether the entire health care system will become a federally run institution, or even that the bill will cause more job loss that will push the country further into debt.

Rep. Dave Camp (R. Mich) said, “The bill Speaker (Nancy) Pelosi was talking about has failed. Pelosi’s bill, she gave up on. House Democrats have failed.”

One area of speculation is Hasan's religious and ideological background. Hasan is of Pakistani descent and Islamic faith. While he was born and raised in Illinois and around Arlington, Va., there were occasions where he displayed a stronger allegiance to his Muslim identity than to his identity as an American according to the Los Angeles Times. However, the ensuing investiga-
tion has not uncovered evi-
dence to show that Hasan acted on behalf of Islamic terrorists. Further investigation seems to point to Hasan’s responsibilities as an Army psychiatrist as a likely catalyst.

Hasan regularly dealt with in-
stances of psychiatric trauma in soldiers returning from combat. Hasan was facing deployment, and any of Hasan's pre-exist-
ing fears or emotional stresses may have been intensified by his counseling interactions with return-
ning veterans. The New York Times reports that sources be-
lieved that this stress became too much to handle for Hasan. Currently, Hasan is being held under guard in Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio as further inquiry is conducted regarding his motives.

An inquiry is also being con-
ducted to check whether Hasan displayed any warning signs that should have been noticed by his peers.
Republicans gained momentum in elections that may reflect the changing direction of the nation

**NATIONAL**

**In races for governor, GOP gets big wins**

Amey Ainlee

With the United States economy attempting to rise again, thousands of unemployed citizens in the country have had to apply for unemployment benefits offered by the government.

On Nov. 4, the Senate approved a bill that extends several measures designed to spur the economy and help people who have lost their jobs.

The bill passed through Congress by a 98-0 vote and was sent to Obama. On Nov. 6, President Obama signed into law legislation that includes a provision that will extend unemployment benefits, provide tax cuts for businesses and present help to homeowners.

Every day, 7,000 people lose their jobless benefits. These laid-off workers, in nearly half their current residence for the first time homebuyer tax credit legislation will extend an $8,000

It concerns me that we continue to spend money when our national debt is so large — Michael McAuliffe (‘10)

Congress takes steps to combat rising unemployment

Unemployment benefits are extended with unanimous support by the Senate

Amy Ainlee

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Pulitzer finalist Susan Choi comes to Visiting Writers Series

Ann Malone
Short Wears

Susan Choi, whose novel "American Woman" was a Pulitzer Prize finalist, will be the next speaker in Hope College's Visiting Writers Series.

Choi, a recipient of fellowships from The National Endowment for the Arts and The Guggenheim Foundation, clearly knows her way around a typewriter. Her novels incorporate both fiction and real life events; "American Woman" is a fictionalized account of the Patty Hearst kidnapping, and her latest book, "A Person of Interest" is about the Unabomber case and the investigation of nuclear scientist Wen Ho Lee. Choi's books have gained considerable acclaim. Ron Charles of The Washington Post calls "A Person of Interest" one of the most remarkable novels to have emerged from our age of terror. According to the New York Times, it "transcends the limitations of our own lives, to find out what it's like to be someone else, to recognize unremarkable aspects of ourselves staring back at us from the portrait of a stranger.

Choi, born in South Bend, Ind., moved to Houston at age 8. She attended Yale University, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in literature, continuing on to earn a Master of Fine Arts from Cornell University. She currently resides in Brooklyn, N.Y., with her husband, who edits the dining section of The New York Times, and their two children. She began her career working as a fact-checker for The New Yorker, and has since written three books: "American Woman," "A Person of Interest" and "The Foreign Student." Along with David Remnick, she edited a short fiction anthology titled, "Wonderful Town: New York Stories from The New Yorker." Her nonfiction has appeared in numerous publications including Vogue, Tin House, Allure, O and The New York Times, as well as in anthologies including "Money Changes Everything" and "Brooklyn Was Mine.

All Visiting Writers Series events are held at the Knickerbocker Theatre in downtown Holland. Choi will be reading on Thursday, Nov. 12, at 7 p.m.; Hope College Jazz Ensemble will play at 6:30 p.m. Meet and greet, as well as book signing, will follow the event. Admission is free. Choi will also be featured during a question-and-answer session at 3 p.m. on Nov. 12 in the DeWitt Center Herrick Room.

Albums you should know...

Benjamin Gibbard & Jay Farrar - "One Fast Move Or I'm Gone"
Rating: 3/5 stars
Music inspired by Jack Kerouac's Big Sur done by the guy from Death Cab and another guy, resulting in an occasionally interesting album of woddy folk.

Devendra Banhart - "What Will We Be"
Rating: 3/5 stars
Watered-down compared to his previous albums - the best tracks are the ones where he still sounds like himself, but it's still a good listen.

Reliant K - "Forget and Not Slow Down"
Rating: 4/5 stars
Reliant K has continued to grow and produce good music since 2001. Solid album.

Woods - "Songs of Shame"
Rating: 4.5/5 stars
Lo-fi Rock. The album has some instrumental tracks and an awesome cover, and it all comes together to make a really good record.

These reviews are courtesy of WTHS music directors Paul Rice, Maria Krebs and Aaron Martin.

SLEEPING AT LAST PERFORMS NOV. 13
Sleeping at Last will be headlining at the Knickerbocker Theatre on Friday, Nov. 13 at 8 p.m. Their song "Quicksand" was featured on "Grey's Anatomy." They will be playing songs from their albums "Ghosts" and "Keep No Score." Also performing will be Denison Witmer, who is musically affiliated with Rosie Thom- as and Sufjan Stevens. Tickets will cost $10 at the door and $5 with a Hope College I.D. Tickets can be picked up at the ticket office in the main lobby of DeVos Fieldhouse. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. the night of the concert.

HOPE FACULTY FEATURED IN SYMPHONY CONCERT
The Hope College Symphony Orchestra, performing on Friday, Nov. 13, at 7:30 p.m. in Dimnent Memorial Chapel, will feature faculty member Adam Clark in a rendition of "Piano Concerto in A minor, Op. 54". Clark joined Hope faculty in 2008 as an assistant professor of music. He is currently teaching courses in applied piano, keyboard skills and piano pedagogy. Closing the concert will be Robert Schuman's "Cello Concerto in A minor, Op. 97" ("Rhenish"). The public is invited and admission is free.

IN BRIEF
TRANSLATION OF JAPANESE EPIC SET NOV. 18
Dr. Michael Watson, the Meji Cakuin exchange professor, will present, "L'echo des vicissitudes humaines," The Tale of the Heike through its Translation History on Nov. 18 at 4 p.m. in the Fried-Hemmesw Auditorium. There have been three English translations of the work in the past, and another is in the works. Watson will discuss the work's importance in Japanese history and focus on its famous opening. "L'echo" is a romanticized account of Japan's first great civil war in the 1180's. Watson will discuss how translators of different languages have tried to convey its special rhythm, style and content.

DR. RHODA JANZEN PUBLISHES MEMOIR
Dr. Rhoda Janzen of the Hope College English department has published her memoir. The memoir, titled, "Mennonite in a Little Black Dress," was inspired by a series of mid-life crises including finding out her husband was leaving her for a man and getting into a car accident. She went home for a scheduled bariatric leave and reunited with her childhood religion, Mennonism. As she was sending e-mails to her friends and colleagues, they told her to save her stories, because it was the beginning of a memoir. "Menn- nonite in a Little Black Dress" is available for $22 and is on sale at the Hope-Geneva Bookstore, located on the ground floor of the DeVitw Center.
75th ANNUAL Nykerk Cup
Take notes on the stories above and try to avoid these situations as much as possible. Although the awkwardness can remain even after using this advice, just remember - you can always choose a new roommate next year!

We all have experienced awkward moments at some point in our life, such as sleeping in class with your teacher waking you up or waving and shouting to someone who you thought you knew, but it turned out you didn’t. Whatever the case may be, these moments were awkward. Have you ever had an awkward roommate encounter? These Hope students have – like the senior quoted above – and they wanted to share with us…

“Before I met my roommate, I looked her up on Facebook and she was karate-kicking a glass door. Later on, I was looking through her pictures again and saw one with her holding up an axe and two guns! I almost called Hope to switch my roommate.”

- Junior

“One day, I was brushing my hair and looking into my mirror. Then I noticed that my roommate was also looking at me…through my mirror.”

- Junior

“I was sleeping and my roommate was doing her homework. I bolted out of bed (startling my roommate) and shouted, ‘Pudding! Where’s the pudding?!’ and then proceeded to dramatically collapse back down onto my pillow as my roommate stared at me in awe.”

- Junior

“Weights Up,
Pudding Cup?

“I was taking a nap and my roommate came charging into the room, flicked on the lights and started singing really loudly, adding her own dance moves. I didn’t know what to do, so I just calmly said my roommate’s name and she spun around and screamed bloody murder.”

- Sophomore

“Did you think I was gone one day and climbed up my ladder and into my bed. She then realized that I was in the bed and looked at me, confused. Within five seconds, she got out of my bed and quickly left the room. Later on, she pretended like nothing ever happened. To this day, I still don’t know why she got in my bed.”

- Junior

Although things can get awkward between roommates at times, there is still hope for a good friendship. Here is some advice for getting past those embarrassing moments with your roommate:

· Do fun things together! You two will become more comfortable around each other, and it will be less awkward at times.
· Laugh when it does become awkward. It may not even be funny, but laugh anyway!
· Ask each other fun questions! You never know what you can learn about each other.
· If all else fails, Hope’s Counseling Center is open for business (but hopefully it won’t become that difficult!).

Take notes on the stories above and try to avoid these situations as much as possible. Although the awkwardness can remain even after using this advice, just remember - you can always choose a new roommate next year!
Phelps Dining Hall is on an ego trip

Let me explain.

Phelps switched to the entirely trayless approach this year to try to gain back some environmental street-credit, an area in which it had fallen short in recent years. The problem is, I can no longer get my two glasses of milk, one glass of water and one glass of Gatorade, I have to narrow it down to just one cup (and mixing the four together is not a viable option).

Also, I have to endure through the occasional, “Hey Chris!” returning the wave only to watch my plateful of two glasses of milk, one glass of water and one glass of grape Juipe that will work on how to improve writing instruction at Hope. In contrast, SALT scores showed that several parts of the curriculum that are supposed to help students improve their writing skills but curiosity and creativity as well.

SALT data is also being used by a committee formed to evaluate Hope College’s current general education requirements. SALT data will only be useful if student participation remains high. Last spring, 85 percent of students filled out SALT forms, either in class or online. If student SALT participation remains high as more and more courses do SALT online, Hope will be able to reduce the use of paper. So doing SALT online helps improve both teaching and learning at Hope as well as Hope’s environmental stewardship.

Carol Simon

Professor of Philosophy

Director of General Education and IDS
Musings on mutual misunderstandings

Karen Patterson

I hope you dance

Everyday we move in a variety of ways. For many of us, our daily movements consist of simply walking to class and perhaps engaging in some form of physical fitness at the Dow. Some people are constantly moving: tapping a pen against the desk in class, bouncing a leg to help focus on the lecture or bobbing one’s head in rhythm to a catchy song. On occasion, though, we are able to partake in a form of movement that is much more involved than anything we do on a daily basis: dancing. During one such week, I was out with friends, and one friend commented that he isn’t a very good dancer. The natural reaction to that statement was something to the effect of “I doubt that’s true.”

However, he was insistent and we dropped the subject. His comments got me thinking, though. What is about dancing that has some people convinced that they are protectors and others positive that they shouldn’t come within 100 yards of a dance floor?

In high school, and even here at Hope, it seems that a circle always forms, and the best dancers are shoved into the middle to show off their skills, while the rest of us are left to stand in observation wishing that we could move in a similar fashion.

I studied classical ballet for just over six years when I was younger, and for the first two years at Hope, I was able to take classes to continue my dance education. With no stretch of the imagination, I am not a great dancer, but that will never stop me from dancing.

For me, dance is an opportunity for me to express something that I love, that I can’t always convey with words. I am the person that hears certain songs and wants nothing more than to get up and start moving because something about the rhythm combined with the instruments and melody begs me to react.

Still, many people have never taken a dance class in their life. Some enjoy it but don’t think they have talent. Others don’t even like to dance. To all those people, I say dance anyways. If dancing makes you happy, it shouldn’t matter if you are a little off the beat or can’t seem to get your arms to move in conjunction with your legs.

Make up new moves if that’s what your heart desires. One of my friends has something that he likes to call “the Microwave,” and while it’s completely over the top and silly, he manages to rock it.

While many readers will never even know what a fouette is, much less master 32 of them (that’s for all you Swan Lake experts), dancing is something that is for everyone. Don’t be afraid to bust out a move or maybe just freestyle to a song on the radio. It’s amazing how three minutes of movement can completely transform your day to make it better.

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Men's soccer season comes to a close

James Nichols  

It all came down to one game. Hope vs. Calvin: The Rivalry. If Calvin wins they earn the MIAA title outright. If Hope wins or settles for a tie, they win the title. In the end, Friday afternoon's game ended with a lot of happy Calvin College fans.

With a 1-0 victory, Calvin was crowned MIAA champs with a division record of 10-3-1. Hope, on the other hand, finished the regular season with a 9-2-3 record in the MIAA and 13-4-3 overall record. The Flying Dutchmen fell short of Calvin, who finished with 31 points in the MIAA this season, by compiling 28 division points this season (three points are awarded for a win and each team gets one point for a tie).

"We had a very successful year," said Coach Steve Smith. Smith attributes Calvin's success to hard work in practice, their fitness in the gym, and the competitive spirit of the team. "They bring good leadership and everyday solid, consistent performance."

This year's senior class accounted for 17 of the team's 32 goals. Forty-two of the team's 88 points also came from seniors (two points are awarded for a goal and one point for an assist). Jeffrey Eckdom (11) finished second on the team in goals (5) and points (11) along with David Whitaker (12), who equaled Eckdom's point total but finished fourth on the team in goals (4). Logan Neil (12) was the main man in net this season for the Flying Dutchmen. By averaging a miniscule 0.44 goals against per game, Neil was a force to be reckoned with. Ten shutouts help to explain the incredible 0.889 save percentage Neil racked up this season.

A MIAA championship this season would have marked the ninth under Smith. The eight titles Smith already has is a Hope College coaching record. Other records held by Smith: win percentage (overall 0.776 and MIAA 0.979), seasons coached (19), most wins (265) and consequently, most losses (87). "When asked what the secret is to his success, Smith praised the Holland community. "Hope is a great community," said Smith. "We gather good people around us here."

He offered thanks to the admissions office, administration and alumni that help with recruiting. Smith also said he couldn't be as successful as he has been without assistant coach Lee Schopp. Winning the MIAA means the Calvin College Knights are automatically qualified for the NCAA Championship. Over the past 19 seasons, Hope has a 5-8 record all time at NCAA Championship tournaments and will have to wait until next season to get another shot.

Smith didn't seem to be too worried about not making it to the NCAA Championship though. "We will talk about next season next year," said Smith. He wants to focus on this season's accomplishments and wait a bit to even think about the possibilities for next season.

Smith's team has finished second in the MIAA every year for the past nine seasons and Smith considers that something to be thankful for. "God has blessed us," said Smith.

James Nichols  

**Volleyball qualifies for national tournament**

Jake Bajema  

Hope College's volleyball team has been nothing less than dominant as of late. The Flying Dutch were undefeated for a month-long span, stretching from the Illinois Wesleyan Barker Invitational in which they fell to UW-Platteville on Oct. 3 and this past Saturday after a loss to rival Calvin in the MIAA conference tournament championship game.

The only challenging game the Dutch ran into during this undefeated streak was the conference clincher at Calvin two weeks ago. The match was a five-set thriller in which the ladies won the first set 25-22 before dropping the next two 22-25 and 25-27. A record crowd of 2,775 was in attendance at Van Noord Arena on the campus of Calvin College to see the Flying Dutch come back and win the final two sets 25-12 and 15-6 to clinch the regular season conference title.

"The atmosphere was crazy," said junior outside hitter Sara DeWeerd. "Beating Calvin at their place was one of the most memorable moments of the season thus far."

The ladies were victorious against Calvin for the second time this year but faced Calvin for a third time in the conference tournament championship game in DeVos Fieldhouse on Saturday, Nov. 7. Calvin triumphed in the first set, 25-15, but Hope rallied to even the game out in the second set, 25-23. However, Calvin came back with a vengeance and won the next two sets, 25-23 and 25-15 to take the game, the conference tournament championship and the automatic NCAA tournament bid. Hope's volleyball team, however, received the at-large bid on Monday and will also participate in the tournament, facing off against Lakeland College at 8 p.m. tomorrow.

Winning a conference championship was a goal for the team this year, but achieving that goal is one that the ladies got to celebrate for about just a bit. "We enjoyed that moment after the game for about two minutes. After that glowing over our undefeated conference season, we didn't feel that it was enough to just get a conference championship," Cassidy Bulthuis ('11) said. "We want more than that!" The team will get a chance to get more with the NCAA tournament coming up, the first round of which will be held at DeVos Fieldhouse.

The team is excited at the chance to continue their season. "Senior captain Teresa Borst says playing on the home court will be a big advantage for the ladies. "We just head on the court and play our game. We go out there and have fun, and like coach always says, we just have to go out there and show the fans how much we love this game and how much we love each other."

The team has become a close-knit group over these past few months and it has shown on the court with their stellar record and the chemistry both on and off the court. "This is the closest and most fun group of girls that I've ever had the pleasure to play with," Borst said. "To have gone 16-0 in the conference is an unbelievable feeling. It's just a base-line though. We want to keep building on this success every single day. We can't settle for just a conference title." The team is looking forward to these next few weeks as they bring home a National Championship title. Though the season may be wrapping up, they are hoping to create a few more fireworks before the season ends.

**HOPE HOSTS REGATTA**

Last Saturday the Hope Sailing team finished up its season by hosting the Area East Regatta at Macatawa Bay. Nine schools from around the midwest attended the competition. Several volunteers from the yacht club contributed to the event and there was significant support from spectators, specifically the sailors’ families. The weather could not have been better: sunny and warm with steady winds.

The fall season typically runs from Sept. to the first week in Nov. The team was meeting at the flagship in front of Graves Hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays. After September and has opened the club up to anyone who is interested in giving sailing a try.

Each week the team sails out from Macatawa Bay Yacht Club. This year, the team is a balanced mix of experienced and amateur sailors.

The team will come together again for the spring season.

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**See brief on right.**
Basketball season arrives at Hope College

Women hope to build on history of success this year

“Our goals are to improve each day, win the league, win the league tournament and go as far in the NCAA [tournament] as possible, ideally the Final Four,” Morehouse said.

Even though the team is the defending MIAA champ, Calvin, St. Mary’s and Albion pose a threat to knocking off the Flying Dutch from the winner’s circle. Although these three teams are all worthy of respect, the team is confident that their success will continue. The Flying Dutch enter this season ranked third in the nation, but head coach Brian Morehouse doesn’t think the high expectations will negatively affect the team. “I suggested winning to the team and they agreed that would be a good way to deal with the high expectations,” Morehouse said.

With the leadership of tri-captains Jenny Cowen (‘10), Phila Greene (‘10) and Carrie Snikkers (‘11), the team has highly valued experience. All three players have been awarded with first-team MIAA distinction in the past, and Snikkers was named a consensus Division III All-American last season. The captains carry a large burden for how the season goes. “The captains’ duties are to lead by example and have fun,” Morehouse said. “Their discipline and enthusiasm will set the benchmarks for expectations.”

After finishing last season with a 28-2 record, an MIAA Championship and an Elite Eight berth, the Dutch are looking to keep their goals and expectations high. Losing to the eventual national champions during the past two years in the NCAA tournament, is fresh in the team’s mind.

“Ourselves. We try to get ourselves ready to play every day by practicing at a high level. All I can ask our players to do is play to their ability. If they do that, I’m pleased,” Morehouse said.

With a 49-game winning streak at DeVos Fieldhouse, the team will be difficult to beat. If they play to their ability, the road to the Final Four and NCAA championship could run through Hope.

Men look to pick up where they left off last season

“The six freshman prospects include guard Olivia Allore of Muskegon (Muskegon Catholic Central HS); guard Liz Ellis of Grand Rapids (East Grand Rapids HS); forward Courtney Kust of Cincinnati, Ohio(Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy); center Ashley Bauman of Manistee (Manistee Catholic Central HS); forward Jillian Nichols of Brighton (Brighton HS); center Meredith Kussmaul of Hartland (Hartland HS). Coach Brian Morehouse believes these players can help the varsity team in many ways. “They are all good players,” Morehouse said. “Their job is to get better every day, just like our veterans. The freshmen typically make large improvements during the season as they learn our system.”

Chris Ray

Guest Writer

Winning never comes easy. It is rare enough to have one, two or three consecutive winning seasons, but for the women’s varsity basketball team, winning has become tradition. After winning 20 games in each of the past 11 seasons, as well as winning the National Division III Championship in 2006 and reaching the Elite Eight the past two seasons, the team is confident that their success will continue. The Flying Dutch enter this season ranked third in the nation, but head coach Brian Morehouse doesn’t think the high expectations will negatively affect the team. “I suggested winning to the team and they agreed that would be a good way to deal with the high expectations,” Morehouse said.

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“Success for us is not about championships; it’s about the journey. It’s about each player having the peace of mind when he walks off the court after every game and after every practice that he has given his best to be the best. “If the players have fun, become friends instead of merely teammates, and give themselves completely to the team, the season will be a success,” Van Wieren said. Van Wieren sees a bigger core guys off of last year’s team all lived in Holland for the entire summer in the same house. Being in the same hour, playing basketball, living in the Dow with each other every single day, Bowser said.

We were also involved in two different summer leagues, where we played other college teams in the area. The awesome atmosphere on this year’s team is a direct result of hanging out together all summer and doing what we all love to do: play basketball,” Bowser added.

The Dutchmen are ranked nationally in DIII preseason polls and are expected to compete for the MIAA title and a berth in the NCAA Tournament. However, the team’s mission goes far beyond just winning basketball games. “Success for us is not about championships, it’s about the journey. It’s about each player having the peace of mind when he walks off the court after every game and after every practice that he has given his best to be the best. “If the players have fun, become friends instead of merely teammates, and give themselves completely to the team, the season will be a success,” Van Wieren said. Van Wieren sees a bigger picture for his basketball team. “The purpose of this team is to serve the community, and it is my hope that the lessons my players learn playing basketball will make them better leaders, fathers, and men later in life.”

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