Habitat hosts ‘sleep-out’ for awareness

Students to spend night in Pine Grove, experience aspects of homelessness

Erin Riley
Guest Writer

Safe, clean, affordable shelter for everyone. Now there’s a concept...and quite a lofty one. Now there’s a concept...and quite a lofty goal. Universal shelter is what one global-thinking organization is striving to attain through everything from raising awareness about the issue to hosting an eye-opening “sleep-out” event for people to learn what it’s like to spend a night in a cardboard box.

Habitat for Humanity is the organization, and Nov. 20 is the day when Hope students can show their support for universal shelter by sleeping out that night in the Pine Grove in the middle of campus.

Through the worldwide work of the nonprofit Habitat for Humanity, thousands of low-income families have found new hope in the form of affordable housing.

In fact, Habitat has now built more than 125,000 homes, providing shelter for more than 625,000 people in some 3,000 communities worldwide. This Christian-based housing ministry seeks no less than the elimination of homelessness everywhere. They try to overcome the plight of millions of others whose shelter is inadequate, unheated and otherwise substandard. Habitat attacks the significant social problem of decent housing for all and calls on concerned people to put money and time into finding solutions.

Hope College hosts one of the 1,600 campus chapters of Habitat in the United States. As a small liberal arts school, the Hope community may lack the funds and people power to do something as ambitious as building an entire home right here in West Michigan. Still, there are significant things that even a small Habitat organization can accomplish.

In order to raise money and awareness for the cause, the Hope College Habitat chapter will host a Sleep-out event on Nov. 20. Participants will sleep in a cardboard box from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. in the Pine Grove. The Sleep-out will be held in conjunction with the Habitat for Humanity’s international “Great Global Sleep-out” on Nov. 20, 2002.

The Sleep-out is an opportunity to raise awareness about the problem of homelessness, how to combat it, and to raise money to build homes for deserving families around the world. This year the Sleep-out will be held in conjunction with the Habitat for Humanity 2003 International Conference in Toronto, Canada.

Participants will sleep in the Pine Grove beginning at 6 p.m. on Nov. 20. Breakfast will be served at 6 a.m. and the Sleep-out will end.

Sleep-out participants in fall 2001 prepare their shelters for the night. (PHOTO BY ROB ONDRA)

Student groups launch on campus

Greek, jazz, Christian fellowship recognized

Jen Troke
CAMPUS BEAT EDITOR

Four new groups joined the ranks of Hope’s multitude of student groups last week: the International Association for Jazz Education, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Phi Sigma Kappa, and a multicultural sorority.

The International Association for Jazz Education (IAJE) is an organization for students interested in jazz music. The group has an upcoming performance on Dec. 1.

The group’s president, Alisa White, said, “Basically, we are a bunch of students who dig jazz music, who get together to talk about, listen to and play the music that we love.”

Glinda Rawls, director of multicultural life, noted, “All comedians use their comedy to talk about their lives, and Charlie (Hill) uses his experiences to show how they shaped him,” said Glinda Rawls, director of multicultural life.

The film is aimed at bringing awareness to the stereotypes in America, as it is seen in popular culture. This film is important because it is a lighthearted venture into dismantling common stereotypes of Native Americans.

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The talks will focus on Native Americans

Angela Matusiak
Guest Writer

In conjunction with Native American History Month, the Hope College Office of Multicultural Life is sponsoring a Dialogue on Race on Tuesday. The Dialogue will present the video biography, “On and Off the Res,” featuring Charlie Hill and produced by Sandra Sannisng Osawa, a Native American comedian and producer. Osawa

writes that her purpose in producing the film was “to aim directly at countering the ‘stereotypical’ Indian image.”

“All comedians use their comedy to talk about their lives, and Charlie (Hill) uses his experiences to show how they shaped him,” said Glinda Rawls, director of multicultural life.

The film is aimed at bringing awareness to the stereotypes in America, as it is seen in popular culture. This film is important because it is a lighthearted venture into dismantling common stereotypes of Native Americans.

Some people say the damnest things about people we know nothing about,” said Rawls.

The film has been applauded for its good-natured approach to such sensitive subject and for being one of the best videos available on Indian subjects. It uses humor but not gimmicks or slogans to tell the story of Hill’s Life.

Directly following the video, Glinda Rawls will be facilitating a discussion on Native American stereotypes. Osawa was originally scheduled to speak and lead the discussion, but she had to cancel due to scheduling conflicts. This will be a chance for students and faculty at Hope College to speak openly and freely about the issues touched on in the video.

“The 2000 census showed that Michigan is the most segregated state in the country. Most of us who live in Michigan do not have many opportunities to get to know people from other backgrounds and traditions. The Dialogue on Race is a chance for us to learn more about the experiences and perspectives of many different racial and cultural Groups on 2

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Money raised will benefit campus in many areas

Kurt Koehler
Senior Staff Reporter
$210,000. That is the amount of money Hope College plans to raise for its Hope Fund through this year’s Holland/Zeeland campaign. They have for the last 25 years, local business leaders and Hope College administrators, faculty and staff teamed up this month to raise money for the Hope Fund. "The campaign engages business leaders from the community and pairs them with Hope college faculty and staff volunteers...The teams will go out on Wednesday morning, called the "sleep-out" event. It’s not to try to be super (Habitat) volunteers but to know that there is a need even in Holland, Michigan," he said. Since its inception, Habitat for Humanity’s mission is to raise awareness about homelessness, and the Nov. 20 "sleep-out" event will hopefully do just that. Supportive students and staff who come will be invited that cold night to grab a cardboard box and make it their overnight sleeping quarters. Eric Barnder (’03), president of Hope Habitat chapter, and his executive committee have invited guest speakers from the Ottawa County Housing Coalition, a non-profit organization, to further educate attendees to the "sleep-out" event. "We felt that there was a need to get back into the community, the money raised for the Hope Fund will then, hopefully be able to meet the majority of the people face to face and make their appeal for the Hope Fund," Feldkamp said. More than 250 local businesses will receive personal lists. Those businesses not receiving a personal visit will receive letters requesting a contribution. Feldkamp estimates a total of more than 800 businesses will be solicited. Every year, a local business leader is chosen to serve as campaign chair. Lynn Kotecki, this year’s chair and president of the Huntington Bank’s Holland/Zeeland community, believes that supporting Hope College is beneficial for businesses. "It gives business leaders an opportunity to invest in the lives of Hope students, many of whom will be future leaders in the community," Feldkamp said. The Holland/Zeeland campaign is useful to the college for more than raising money. The campaign is also one of the college’s ways of building and maintaining relationships between the college and the surrounding community. The money raised for the Holland/Zeeland campaign comprises only a small part of the Hope Fund. "The $210,000 only represents one of the constituencies which we appeal to: the businesses and corporations," Feldkamp said. "Overall, we have alumni, parents, friends, churches and foundations that we appeal to as well to meet our overall goal of $3,100,000." Money from the Hope Fund supports several college programs, including academic programs, campus security and maintenance, health and counseling services, the Frost Center for Social Research, campus ministries and student scholarships. "The Hope Fund monies make it possible for the students to have services such as spiritual life, counseling, health, and the security of the campus. The Hope Fund is absolutely beneficial to Hope College," Feldkamp said.
Jazz Combos present first concert

Jazz groups perform Monday at Dimnent

Maureen Yonovitz

At 7 p.m. on Monday in Wahrer Auditorium, the Hope Jazz Combos will return with their first concert of the year. Admission is free.

The concert, held once every semester, comprises five different small jazz ensembles, instrumental and vocal, performing three pieces each.

"For most of the Combos this is the only performance of the semester, so it is the only chance to hear them play," said Alisa White ('05), who plays trumpet in the Blue Note Ensemble, coached by Robert Hodson, Professor of Music.

Works will include some by Duke Ellington, John Coltrane, Hodson, Professor of Music.

The musicians in the Jazz Combos come from all different levels, from those who are just starting out to the more advanced who travel around the state to perform. On Monday night, they will all come together with a common inspiration: their love of jazz music and the desire to share their talents with others.

"Whether they're (the musicians) just beginning or advanced, the audience enjoys it," Coyle said. "It's a really enjoyable concert."

The performers believe the improvisation contributes to this.

"It's a kind of catharsis that comes from playing improvised music," said Glenn Lester ('05), bass player for the Jazz Chamber Ensemble. "If we play well, hopefully the audience will feel that catharsis as well."

German diction class performs Lieder Abend

Students sing traditional German-song cycle

Maureen Yonovitz

"Was wuschen Sie und warbren alle Sinnen? Sie mochten wieder in das All verschweben? "What is the wise and striving of all things?"

"I see it as a connection of all things in creation to God," Gutowski said. "Each piece in the cycle is connected by a thought of oneness and thought of greater purpose than a single song," Gutowski said. "I like the formal elasticity of the German diction class at Hope carry out this tradition with a Lieder Abend performance."

"I performed many Lieder Abend," Dykstra said. "Because that performance medium is such an integral part of the repertoire we study and the reason we are learning German diction. I wanted the students to experience it firsthand."

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The cycle tells a story through the perspective of nature with aspects such as a bush, birds, and a maiden.

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Homosexuality is not a choice, open up dialogue

I would like to take a moment this week to respond to Brian Barry's letter in the 11th edition of the Anchor. Brian said in his letter that he promotes racial diversity because skin color and ethnicity is not a choice, but he cannot approve of sexual diversity because homosexuality is a choice. I beg to differ. Many of my friends at home are either homosexual or bisexual, and they would tell you that their sexual orientation is not a choice that they made but rather a part of their identity. If something is going on that offends you, then by all means, speak up.

Another thing that caught my attention in the letter is Brian's shoe analogy. He says that if he thought it was morally wrong to wear shoes, it would be wrong to protest to those who do wear shoes and convert them to the barefooted way. I completely disagree. Nothing is changed in this world without protest. I am not saying that the protest must be violent or that everyone must be changed to see things your way. But I am saying that something should be done. If there is something going on in the world that is important enough to offend you, then by all means, speak up. Discussion is the only way that these issues can be resolved, and discussion cannot happen unless all of the views are out on the table for all to see and respond to.

Staff Anchor

Your voice

Content should be stressed in Nykerk competition

To the Editor:

This past weekend, I had the pleasure of attending the Nykerk Competition. While there, I had two distinct impressions:

1) Nykerk is a noble tradition that I hope will continue for many years.
2) In order to attract new participants and retain its status as a legitimate competition, Nykerk needs to make some minor adaptations to its current program.

I noticed that participation from freshmen and sophomore women was way down this year as opposed to other Nykerk competitions in the past. While it might be just a fluke, I wonder if the lack of participation had something to do with the Nykerk program as it currently stands. Many people think that Nykerk is outdated and silly. I don't agree. I think that parts of Nykerk are silly and outdated. In order to retain Nykerk's relevance as a Hope College tradition, the members of the Nykerk executive committee need to re-evaluate parts of Nykerk in order to ensure that it is a competition of substance, not just style. For example:

1) Why does the program begin with a parade of committee members and their escorts? It's not a long-standing Nykerk tradition—no one was escorted in the '70s. It seems more like a beauty pageant than an acknowledgement of the work that committee members have put into the program.
2) Why not give orators a topic to address? Currently, orators are given a theme from which they must write a speech. This year's vague theme was "From the Inside Out," and orators' speeches suffer from a lack of context. In fact, orators receive more points for the presentation of their speech than for the content of the speech itself. This seems silly; it encourages style over substance. If orators have a specific topic to address, it gives them the opportunity to write a speech that presents concrete ideas. Perhaps the committee should also rethink the way judges evaluate oration. Currently, 45% of an orator's score is based on the content of her speech; 55% is based on presentation. Why not make the percentages something like 60% content, 40% presentation? It's another way of ensuring that Nykerk values substance over style.

3) Why are Nykerk participants still called Song Girls, Play Girls, and Morale Boys? It confirms rumors that Nykerk is an opportunity for girls to play dress-up, not an opportunity for women and men to engage in a competition.
4) Why bother with a joint song? It seems that song coaches should use all their time preparing their own song without having to worry about singing a joint piece. The joint song is often significantly rehearsed. It's another way to shorten the program.

I hope Nykerk continues for many years, but I also hope that the committee will put more emphasis on improving the content of the competition.

Jane Bast ('03)
Freshmen take the cup

Even year play dances to Michael Bolton.

'06 song directed by Samantha Hyde ('04).

"When they announced that '06 had won, we couldn't believe it! I'm still in shock because usually the sophomores do win. I am so proud to have coached a group that helped make class history-they won as freshmen!" On behalf of my girls I will say this: they worked so hard and put 110% into it," Hyde said.

The night was a success for both years, with a great deal of effort and care put into the performances, but in a rare brush with fate, the freshmen have walked away with the Nykerk Cup, thanks to the hard work of the coaches, the girls, the motorists, and everyone else involved.

"The little things that came up, the stressful moments were completely erased due to the abundance of good things that occurred. We formed a new path for the Nykerk tradition to begin on...furthering the principle that Nykerk is a friendly competition, and while one year does have to win, everyone walks away with the gratification that everyone won because they had put so much into it," said Noordeloos.

Anne Bast ('06) the even year orator

Even year play takes a bow.
Jessica Henneman ('05), the odd year orator, delivers her speech, "Authenticity Defined."

Odd year play girls perform a dance during their play. The odd year play was "Peter VanderPan from Dutchy Dutchy Land", featuring many of the classic Peter Pan characters with a Dutch twist.

Odd year song girls throw glitter while singing songs from the musical "Grease."

Even year song girls sing "It's Only a Paper Moon."

Jennica Avery ('06) portrays Miss Scarlet in the even year rendition of "Clue."

Miss White, Col. Mustard, and Kevin solve the "Clue."

Elizabeth Johnson ('05), as Tinkerbell, pouts in the corner after Wendy, Jessica Nelson ('05), said she didn't believe in fairies. Lacy Peterson ('05), playing Peter VanderPan tries to reconcile the situation.
Even year coaches hold high the Nykerk Cup after the '06 victory.

Anne Bast recites her speech, "Beneath the Surface."

The judges sit and prepare for the upcoming decision.
Nykerk has bittersweet ending for '05

Rebekah Oegema
Copy Editor

The last lines echoed throughout the bleachers of the Civic Center as anxious freshmen and sophomores sat with straining backs, wide smiles and crossed fingers. After all of the preparation for this year’s Nykerk competition, all that was left for the students of the class of '05 was to wait. And when the verdict came, there were tears and hugs, but a prevailing sense of accomplishment. No, the sophomores had not won, but they had gained experience and lifelong friendships. Such is the stuff that the Nykerk Cup competition is made of.

The girls of song, play and oration, along with their coaches and mentors felt that this loss was disheartening, but not utterly discouraging.

"Nykerk has been one of the greatest experiences of my time at Hope. The friendships that I have made are amazing, and I know that they will not fade. All of my great memories of Nykerk will definitely outlast the glimpse of sadness that I experienced on Saturday night," said Amy Huizen ('03), '05 Chair elect.

Annie Otto, an '05 song girl, and '07 Assisting Song Coach, concurred that her experience with Nykerk was enjoyable, and is already making plans for next year.

"I had a lot of fun this year during Nykerk. There was a ton of bonding and Nykerk spirit. I can’t wait for coaching next year, the '07 coaching staff is awesome," Otto said.

While some experienced Nykerk for the first time this year, several participants have been involved with the competition for all four of their years at Hope, and for these students, the victory of Even Year proved a bittersweet ending for their participation in the tradition.

"Nykerk has meant a lot to me over the past two years and I am sad to see it end. It was hard to coach my last year and not end in victory, especially after what my song girls did out there... I am so incredibly proud of them and what they did" said Courtney Beechik ('05), '05 Assisting Song Coach. "I am going to miss Nykerk so much next year, but I am confident in the choices that Erryn ('05 Directing Song Coach) and I have made to carry out the Odd Year traditions of just providing a great show and having tons of fun doing it."

The Nykerk General Chair, Hillary Noordeloos ('03) was the emcee for Saturday’s Nykerk Cup competition.

Ellen Dudeney ('05) instructs her advanced third grade class.

Jessica Henneman ('05), the sophomore orator emphasizes her speech with hand motions.

Holli Cooper ('05), as Captain Clompin explains his feelings towards Peter Vanderpan, while Smee, played by Anna DeHaan listens attentive.
Wrestling with religions at Hope

Students discuss their experiences as religious minorities at Hope

David Gutierrez, '03

The diversity debate at Hope has received much attention in the past months. Questions have been posed and frustrations have been divulged, but the discussions often center on color: blacks, whites, browns, and yellows; while other forms of diversity may be passed over. Hope is a Christian college, but also contains students who are not of the Christian faith. For some students, the transition to a Christian college was a change that took some getting used to.

"I grew up in an Anglican [Protestant] high school with Buddhists, Hindus, and Christians, and there were never problems within the different religions represented at the school," said Radika Rupasinghe ('03). "I knew Hope was a 'Christian' school, but I didn't think it would be any different than my high school."

Rupasinghe, a native of Sri Lanka, follows Theravada Buddhism which is common within her home country. Raised in a Protestant school system, she found Hope's atmosphere to contrast with that of her previous education.

"At home, the thought of being from different religious backgrounds never had an effect on us," Rupasinghe said. "No one tried to impose their beliefs on anyone else. We all knew about Christianity, Buddhism, and Hinduism and it was never an issue. We respected other people's views and supported them even if we didn't totally agree. When I came to Hope as a freshman, that wasn't what I encountered.

Students from other religions have also been met with a variety of reactions to their particular beliefs, but not all of these reactions are negative.

"Here at Hope I get all forms of reactions for being a Muslim: good, bad, inquisitive, even hostile," said Dorian Bako ('04). Some students point to a lack of knowledge as a cause of the negative reactions.

"A lot of it is ignorance—people just don't know much outside of Christianity and that affects the way they view outside religions," said Muhammad Karim ('03). "People have come up to me before and said things about my religion being wrong and how I need to convert, but it hasn't been an everyday thing."

Rupasinghe added, "The biggest problem for me is that I would like to have better access to a mosque since the nearest one is in Grand Rapids," Karim said. "We pray five times a day and that makes the drive not very reasonable. I pray in my own room instead."

While this may be an inconvenience to some, it also has a positive impact on one's religious devotion.

Even though some interactions have been condescending toward "outside" religions at Hope, not all confrontation and interaction between the differing religions is negative.

"The fact that people are willing to ask shows they are interested in learning about something they weren't raised on," Bako said. "People ask questions and I'm more than happy to answer them, even if they are somewhat strange. This interaction helps promote better understanding."

Karim agreed. "I've always known people who were curious about Islam and ask questions, or others who invite me to Chapel, and I don't have any problem with that at all. If anything, it opens up the dialogue. The more people talk, the more they learn and know about another religion and culture, and that's awesome."

In addition to student and community reaction, some of the Muslim students find it difficult to practice their religion due to their location.

"My faith has gotten a lot stronger being in the U.S. Here I don't have anyone to hold me accountable for my faith," Karim said. "In Pakistan I was just one of many people who followed Islam. Now if I don't practice it it's my own fault; I have to take the responsibility for my faith."

Along with the difficulties of being a religious minority here at Hope, there are a number of positives that come from being surrounded by another culture and religion. The formation of new doorways into understanding and learning is possible because of this.

"A lot of times the media inaccurately portrays Islam and people don't realize it, so you get some strange questions, but it's better to ask than to believe everything," said Karim. For the most part, people are curious and we both learn about each other when we discuss our respective religious beliefs.

This curiosity can lead to conversations that open all sides of the religious discussion.

"I think that people, through interaction, see that cultures and religions go together and are exposed to something new," Rupasinghe said.

Although learning takes place, religious concepts are not always easy to grasp.

"It can be difficult. I have a hard time grasping and understanding parts of Christianity, but it is a good thing to experience," Bako said. "This kind of diversity is helpful and gives you a wider view into how different cultures think and act."

Some see a more diverse religious community as something that the College community could benefit from.

"I think diversifying the campus by recruiting more students from different religions would be a positive thing, but I don't know if that would happen," Karim said. "Hope is a Christian school. They focus on getting [Christian] students. I just think it would be better to get a more religiously diverse campus."

Even though religious diversity remains low, and the school remains focused on its Christian approach to worship and learning, some students of religious minorities have benefited from their situation here at Hope.

"I was raised to think and believe certain things. If you want to be my friend you have to face that," Rupasinghe said. "I learn a ton from the Christian community here and they learn from me. I couldn't have made a better choice than Hope."
Hope College Theatre presents

CARRUSEL

Music by Richard Rodgers
Book & Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein

November 15, 16, 20-23, 2002  8:00 PM
DeWitt Center
Columbia at 12th Street, Holland, MI 49423
TICKET OFFICE: 616-393-7890

IN CONCERT
Saturday, January 11, 2003
Hope College • 3 pm • Dimnent Chapel
135 Hope Students with valid admission (Students are admitted)
300 Hope College Faculty & Staff and General Public
Ticket or on sale at Dimnent Monday, November 24, 9:30 at the DeWitt Center Box Office, United Reformed Church
Tickets with on sale of the Holland Community Theatre and Student Union, 11-29-02
CONCERT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE VIRTAS FORUM

ARCADIAN FRATERNITY
CAN DRIVE
As part of a competition between the Arcadian Fraternity and Sigma Sorority, all funds proceed to the Holland Mission. Drop off cans @ the Arcadian cottage until November 22.

IF YOU...
1. Love kids
2. Want to help a needy child
3. Have just 1 hour a week to donate
THEN...
You could become a big brother or sister. Partners in Promise is a student organization at Hope College. We are dedicated to helping children in the Black River Public School System. You could eat lunch once a week in their school with them (school is IN WALKING DISTANCE...just three blocks past the Dow) or go to recess. Each month PIP sponsors a full organization party so you and your little brother/sister can attend a social event with other brothers and sisters.

If you're interested call Kristi Creswell at x6665 or e-mail at Kristi.Creswell@hope.edu.
Hope pulls another goal-line stand at game's end to win
Ben DeHaan

With ten seconds left to play, the Hope College football team rebounded from the deficit with a two-point conversion, sealing the win. The Dutchmen downed the Comets in the final seconds of the game, losing to regular season runners-up, Adrian College, 30-28. The victory moves Hope to 3-2 in MIAA play, and 4-5 in the conference. Once again, Hope was able to brush up on the record books, as Joel Solomon ('03) broke the record for most receiving yards in a season. Solomon has 978 yards with one game remaining, on a 16-yard reception, earning Brian Adoff's ('02) mark of 896 yards from last year. Hope's offense produced another strong performance, as quarterback Phil Butler ('04) threw for 246 yards and two touchdowns. This puts Butler's career touchdown passes at 51, only two shy of tying the career record. Tailback Dan Bloomers ('04) ran for 113 yards on 24 carries, with two touchdowns of his own.

The Dutchmen showed a promising start to the game, as they took the opening drive 72 yards to the Comet endzone, capped off by Bloomers' 15-yard touchdown run. However, the Comets would respond with 5:40 left in the first quarter, with a five-yard touchdown run to even the game at 7-7. The Comets would strike again on Hope's next possession, intercepting the ball and scoring five plays later on a two-yard score to take a 14-7 lead with 2:56 left in the first.

Hope nearly scored on the following possession, but came up short on a fake extra point play for a two-point score and a 22-1 lead. Butler was unable to score on a touchdown drive, but kicker Nate Barnett ('06) easily kicked a 20-yard field goal, giving Hope a 24-2 lead with 14:44 left in the game. The Dutchmen would extend their lead in the fourth quarter, as the offense drove 55 yards and ended on Joscieszko's four-yard touchdown pass. The Comets then used a 19-yard conversion pass to Scott Jeschke ('04), giving Hope a 21-14 lead.

The Comets would answer slowly, as they are the time on their next drive. Olivet used up 8:15 of the quarter, ending on a five-yard touchdown run. Olivet would respond with 5:40 left in the first quarter, with a five-yard touchdown run to even the game at 7-7. The Comets would strike again on Hope's next possession, intercepting the ball and scoring five plays later on a two-yard score. The Comets would use up 19 seconds left in the first. Hope nearly scored on the following possession, but came up short on a fake extra point play for a two-point score and a 22-21 lead. Butler was unable to score on a touchdown drive, but kicker Nate Barnett ('06) easily kicked a 20-yard field goal, giving Hope a 24-2 lead with 14:44 left in the game. The Dutchmen would extend their lead in the fourth quarter, as the offense drove 55 yards and ended on Joscieszko's four-yard touchdown pass. The Comets then used a 19-yard conversion pass to Scott Jeschke ('04), giving Hope a 21-14 lead.

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Winter sports appear strong in preseason

Hope looks to retain NCAA championships in the winter season

Ben DeHaan
Sports Editor

It was almost too perfect of a season for Hope College sports last winter. Men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s swimming, and hockey all saw some type of postseason play.

Even though none of the teams brought home NCAA championship hardware, the Dutchmen and Dutch made a strong reputation of themselves for being a strong competitor in both conference and postseason play.

The Hope College Hockey Club and the varsity swimming teams have already begun their seasons, and the basketball teams are within two weeks of beginning their competition. Listed below are previews for each sport’s seasons:

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Being defeated by Calvin twice last year didn’t stop the Dutchmen from humiliating the Knights on their home court in the MIAA finals. Hope went on to win a game in the first round of the NCAA playoffs before being defeated by Carthage (WI.) in the second round of the tournament.

Carthage (WI.) finished the season with a record of 8-1, the best start in the Midwest Intercollegiate Athletic Conference since last season. B.J. Lentz and Brandon Fitzgerald lead the team on offense, while goalkeeper Eddie McBirke has been solid so far.

The Dutchmen hope to come out of this weekend winning both games, but they know that they have a rough road ahead of them. “We have been playing well so far, but some of our opponents have had players missing,” defender Kye Samuelson said. “This weekend, we definitely have our work cut out for us.”

HOCKEY CLUB

The Hope College Hockey Club amazed campus last year when they not only qualified for the national championships, but placed fifth in the tournament. This season, the motivation is the same, and the Dutchmen are already off to a 9-1 start.

Captained by Scott Van Timmeren (’03), Hope is loaded with talent again with seven seniors. The net will once again be tended by Ben Von Eitzen (’03). In nine games, Hope has scored a number of goals on the power play.” Van Timmeren said. “It was a pretty rough game, but we played well during all three periods and in the end, we came out on top.”

On Saturday night, the team played host to the Northwood Timberwolves at the Edge in Holland. The Flying Dutchmen received notable performances by winger John Collins (‘03) and defenseman Kye Samuelson (’06). They got off to a quick start, scoring five goals in the first period. Goalie Ben Von Eitzen (’03) played a solid game for the first 50 minutes, only allowing two goals. Brad Vanderberg (’05), the team’s backup goalie, came in near the end of the game and stopped all four shots that he faced.

“The team came out and buried them [Northwood] in the first period,” Vanderberg said. “Everybody devoted 100 percent and we won big.”

The team will have two tough games this weekend. On Friday night, the Dutchmen will travel to Grand Rapids to play undefeated Davenport University. On Saturday night, the team will play host to Lansing Community College. Lansing has split the only two games that they have played, but have started recruiting and have had noticeable improvements since last season. B.J. Lentz and Brandon Fitzgerald lead the team on offense, while goalkeeper Eddie McBirke has been solid so far.

HOPE COLLEGE

KNOXVILLE, IOWA

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Men’s soccer set to begin tourney

Ben DeHaan
Sports Editor

With the success of winning the NCAA conference title accomplished, the Flying Dutchman soccer team stands ready for their next task: the first round of the NCAA tournament.

The Flying Dutchmen will host Dominican University of River Forest (IL) today at 1 p.m. at Athletic Field.

Dominican, who gained an automatic bid into the tournament by winning the Northern Illinois-Iowa conference, carries an 11-4-6 record going into today’s game. The Stars are new to Division III play this year. They were longtime members of the NAIA, and qualified for the NAIA national tournament in 1999.

The Dutchmen are 15-4-1 on the year. This will be Hope’s seventh entrance into the national tournament. This also marks the first time since 1997 that Hope has entered post-season play. Their best performance in the NCAA tournament was in 1994, when they reached the quarterfinals of the tournament.

If the Dutchmen pull out the win at home today, they will travel to Wisconsin this Friday to take on the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh in the regional semifinals.

The Dutchmen played against Wisconsin-Oshkosh earlier this season at the Cal Bergsma Tournament. With hope prevailing 2-1.

The winners of Friday’s match-up will play against each other on Saturday in the regional finals.

Forward A.J. Stachecki (’03) keeps control of the puck clearing out Jackson’s offensive players in front of the net. “As a whole, the team played very well on Friday night and scored a number of goals on the power play.” Van Timmeren said. “It was a pretty rough game, but we played well during all three periods and in the end, we came out on top.”