Ethnic studies major revamped

Chris Russ
Assistant Sports Editor

Hope College has appointed new directors to take charge of two key academic programs. John Yelding will direct the American ethnic studies minor while Annie Dandavati will direct the international studies major.

Yelding has been at Hope since 1994 and has led Hope’s Encounter with Culture courses for the past 10 years, and also teaches in the Phelps Scholars Program. Although the ethnic studies minor is a relatively small program at the college, in this stage of its development, Yelding is confident that it will progress and become an influential and significant part of the liberal arts education at the college.

“I would like students to know that the AES program is fully up and running, that a clear plan for completing the program is in place and already being distributed to students, and that I am fully prepared to answer any and all questions they may have about the program. I would also like them to know that this is a minor that offers critical marketable and life skills to a wide array of students and that I am seeing strong interest expressed by students from a variety of racial and ethnic backgrounds,” Yelding said.

Currently the program is only offered as a minor and Yelding said that he had spoken to approximately eight students who expressed interest in declaring the minor. Currently, he is working to fulfill a number of short and long-term goals that will guide the program’s development. Among his short-term goals are making the minor more well known while helping students understand the benefits of formal training in field of study, clearly defining the requirements of the minor, and increasing passion about the pursuit of ethnic studies at Hope.

Yelding’s longer term goals include seeing the program “promote meaningful and significant part of the liberal arts education at the college. . . .”

Women’s basketball kicks-off

She Shoots, She Scores—Hope women’s basketball season is off to a strong start, with wins over Manchester and Baldwin-Wallace in the Nov. 19 tipoff classic. See full story on page 12.

Tina McCarty
Assistant Sports Editor

The Anchor interviews animator Justin Kohn.

Animation Station—The Anchor interviews animator Justin Kohn.

Ping Pong—Table tennis club looks to expand.

Got a story idea? Let us know at anchor@hope.edu, or call us at 395-7877.
Science camps expand

Chris Russ
Assistant Sports Editor

The experience of going to a summer camp takes an important place in the childhood memories of many Hope College students. For over a decade, local kids have been making memories of their own each summer on Hope’s campus.

The Summer Science and More Camps are organized each summer by Hope’s science department. The program is open for children of all ages, from a camp known as “Princess Science” that is open to pre-kindergarten to first grade children to camps like “Video Game Making” for students from fifth to 12th grade. The camps are half-day and week long programs, and some students take several over the course of the summer.

This summer, the college is expanding the camps to include even more courses outside the discipline of science, particularly art and film-making focused camps.

Todd Gugino, Hope College chemistry lab director, directs these summer programs and is responsible for crafting the programs mission statement.

“There are three things that we’re looking at. Number one, we want to keep kids engaged over the summer, keep their minds engaged. Two, we want to work not only to engage them, but to ramp up what they’re learning, to set the bar higher. And then, the last thing is to make it fun and meet them where they’re at,” Gugino said.

This last area is particularly noticeable from the course guide that lists the available camps. It’s easy to see the appeal of camps which focus on the science of Transformers or camps entitled, “Disgusting Dissections.” Gugino explained that some of the most popular camps, like the “Harry Potter” and “Lego Robotics” camps, are ideal because of the interest kids already have in those topics.

“We then teach them the science behind what they’re interested in. They’re learning, they’re not going backwards in the summer, and they become excited about science,” Gugino said.

While these programs are wonderful opportunities for kids in the local community (or sometimes not so local, some parents drive their kids for an hour and a half every day to get to the camps), they also are great opportunities for Hope students.

Every camp is taught by Hope students who apply for paid, summer-long positions.

Ethnic studies minor revised

• ETHNIC, from page 1

understanding of the challenges and opportunities associated with improved racial and ethnic relations in the United States.”

“I welcome the opportunity to talk with anyone interested in knowing more about the AES program and invite any and all suggestions for ways to make the program more successful,” Dandavati said.

The program cannot be minor in, however students are encouraged to take the major in conjunction with another major program.

The program is also what is known as a composite major, an area of study that does not have its own courses but instead draws from other departments course offerings to form its requirements.

“There are two requirements that are unique to the international studies major, one is the study abroad component, which you must do for at least a semester,” Dandavati said.

“The other requirement is the language requirement. The word ‘international’ in the major is what’s important. Our mission and our goal is that we are providing students with the skills that are necessary to function in an international society. The world is changing and changing rapidly and if students don’t have the language skills and if they haven’t studied abroad they can’t fully understand other cultures,” Alyssa Shaler is a junior at Hope who is enrolled in the international studies program. She explained the inner workings of the program.

“You focus on one area of study and choose one region to specialize in and you have to study at least one semester abroad.”

“I like that the major requires you to study abroad; I feel like a lot of people feel like they don’t have time to do that and with my major it’s a requirement. Also, any class I take abroad counts as a part of the 12 elective credits I need to take to complete the major.”

Shaler has already spent time studying in Vienna and next semester will travel to China. This is the first year that Hope students will be studying there.

“Studying abroad and working abroad interested me, and in our modern global society, the world is shrinking quickly, so I feel like we all need to better understand each other,” Shale said.
WASHINGTON — With one of the year's busiest travel days fast approaching, John Pistole, the Obama administration's top transportation security official, on Monday urged passengers angry over safety procedures not to boycott airport body scans.

Pistole said in nationally broadcast interviews he understands public concerns about privacy in the wake of the Transportation Security Administration's move to move away from new airline boarding security checks.

But at the same time, he said a relatively small proportion of the 34 million people who have flown since the new procedures went into effect have had the body pat downs that have come under withering criticism in recent weeks.

With the Thanksgiving travel rush less than 48 hours away, Pistole urged passengers Monday not to take delaying actions or engage in behavior that may disrupt the system.

He said only would serve to tie down a huge number of personnel at the nation's busiest travel day of the year.

"The most logical and probably the best way to do it is to consider the body scanners worthless," he said. "You may believe that you have a hero in your corner, but the front line of defense is the trained eye of the security specialist who is trained to see things that we cannot.

"That's what he did. That's why the incident was stopped."
Russian spy extradited to U.S.

Lacie Rawlings
Guest Writer

Viktor Bout, a former officer in the Soviet Air Force who has been nicknamed “the Merchant of Death,” has allegedly spent the last 20 years building a multi-billion dollar business selling high-class military weaponry on the international black market.

This week tensions between Russia and the U.S. heightened as Bout was brought to New York from Thailand, where Bout was caught in a sting operation two years ago.

Bout’s estimated $6 billion trade distributed weapons to conflict-plagued countries such as Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Sudan and Afghanistan. The U.N. report providing this information.

Bout could only have gained access to these high-grade weapons through cooperation at the highest levels of the Russian military. Conscious of this, Russia sought to frustrate Bout’s extradition to the U.S. and does not want further investigation into this situation from the international community.

According to Al-Jazeera, government officials have publically announced that Thailand’s decision to hand Bout over to the U.S. is “unlawful” and an example of a “glaring injustice.” The U.S. says that Bout’s intent to kill U.S. nationals makes it a national security issue.

A similar situation happened with Syrian arms merchant, Monzer al-Kassar, who received a 30-year prison sentence for his crimes. Al-Kassar’s case is expected to be the precedent for Bout’s trial.

Bout’s weapon’s arsenal is reported to contain 700 surface-to-air missiles, 5,000 AK-47 assault rifles, millions of rounds of ammunition, landmines and C4 explosives among many other things.

All this comes in the midst of current political pressure in the U.S. to ratify the new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, of which there have already been signed and ratified.

Since the first START signing in 1991, the START treaties have led to great downsizing of nuclear weapons in both Russia and the U.S.

The new agreement signed by President Barack Obama in April aims to decrease remaining nuclear weapons by 30 percent over the next seven years. The ratification process faces opposition from Senate Republicans who say that there is not enough time to reconcile differences over the agreement before the congressional session ends this year.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates says that if the treaty fails to be ratified, there will be no funding for nuclear modernization – something that the Republicans seek from the treaty. It will also leave the U.S. little chance of inspecting nuclear installations in Russia.

Other officials are concerned that because of this treaty Russia will have less incentive to seek negotiations with the U.S. They fear that perhaps this could lead to less future Russian cooperation with U.S. troops who seek to use Russian land routes in order to supply troops in Afghanistan.

Former Russian foreign minister Igor S. Ivanov said in a statement that the failure of this treaty “will by no means be a nuclear catastrophe but there will undoubtedly be negative results, and not just for U.S.-Russian relations.”

Other effects include to limit Iranian-Russian military trade and the nuclear arsenals of China and India.

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Stop-motion commotion in ‘Animation Celebration’

Question-and-answer session with Justin Kohn, acclaimed animator of ‘Coraline’ and ‘The Nightmare Before Christmas’

Caitlin Klaas
Arts Co-Editor

Seven movies, stop motion and ugly sweaters, oh my! The ‘Animation Celebration’, featuring seven films, a guest speaker, an ugly sweater contest and prizes, comes to the Knickerbocker Theatre on Saturday, Dec. 4. The film fest begins at 11 a.m. and continues until 1 a.m. with movies ranging from ‘Gullivers Travels’, a 1939 technicolor film, to ‘Spirited Away’, a 2001 Japanese fantasy-adventure film. Five films will be shown throughout the day. Tickets are $25 in advance and $30 at the door. Prizes are available for owners of the Ugliest Christmas Sweater Contest as well as the Costume Contest. Pull out your silliest sweater or stitch together a costume relating to the event for a chance to win. After appearing at the Knickerbocker will be Justin Kohn, the stop motion animator of ‘Life Aquatic’, ‘James and the Giant Peach’, ‘The Nightmare Before Christmas’ and a range of other classic animated films. He will have on display several props from ‘The Nightmare Before Christmas’. This is Justin Kohn’s first appearance in the United States.

The Anchor had a chance to speak with Kohn about his past work, his field of animation and his inspiration.

Anchor: What brings you to stop motion? Did any specific person/movie inspire you?

Justin Kohn: I was 5 years old when I first saw Ray Harryhausen’s ‘The Seventh Voyage of Sinbad’ on the big screen for a friend’s birthday party. I was blown away. Really scary! I just knew it wasn’t marionettes or men in Godzila suits. After that, I would always notice stop-motion in films and TV shows, and although I didn’t know how it was done, I thought it looked cool. It took me another 10 years before I knew this type of FX work was done, although I felt at the time that you had to be a bit nuts to want to do it. (Still do!) My parents got me a super 8 (film) camera for my 16th birthday and I started making animation/magic films at home with my friends. It wasn’t till the late 70’s I started making real puppets and animating in my bedroom in Florida. After two and a half years of this I finally landed my first real gig on the clay animated feature ‘I Go Pogo’ in Washington DC.

Anchor: What is your favorite stop-motion animation (by any animator)?

Justin Kohn: I guess I’m most proud of my ‘Nightmare’ and ‘Coraline’ and ‘Life Aquatic’ work, although I’m even happy with the way the low-budget children’s films directed by John Matthews turned out (‘Mouse on the Motorcycle’ trilogy, ‘Frog and Toad’, etc.). Films like ‘RoboCop 2’, ‘Monkeybone’ and others where the animation had to blend in with live action were particularly challenging.

Anchor: Which of your movies would you say is your ‘quintessential’ work?

Justin Kohn: If I bring my normal sweater I’m sure I’ll win! Buy your tickets for ‘Animation Celebration’ by calling the Knickerbocker Theatre at 616-395-7890.

ATTENTION TO DETAIL—Stop-motion animator Justin Kohn adjusts a sliğh in the production of the classic Henry Selick/Tim Burton film, “The Nightmare Before Christmas.”

The ‘Frame grabber’ technology. Frame grabbers record each frame as you take it so you can see the progression of your work as you do it. All work done before then was ‘Animating blind’. There was no way of knowing how well the shot was going to be until the finished shot came back from the lab. Now with Dragon software, istop-motion, Framethief, etc., you can see all of your work as you do it so the shots can be cleaner and more complex. We used to make a lot more notes and measurements while working to make sure we know where the animation is going. Before frame grabbers there were a lot fewer animators working in the biz.

Anchor: And lastly, are you entering the ugly sweater contest?

Justin Kohn: I’m just too lazy to make it worth my time. Buy your tickets for ‘Animation Celebration’ by calling the Knickerbocker Theatre at 616-395-7890.

Stop-motion animator Justin Kohn adjusts a slight in the production of the classic Henry Selick/Tim Burton film, “The Nightmare Before Christmas.”

This week in art

Tuesday Nov. 30
Vocal Jazz Workshop
Wichers Auditorium in Nykerk
7:30 p.m. free admission

Thursday Dec. 2
Concert Band Performance
Dimnent Chapel
7:30 p.m. free admission
Brown Bag Concert
Holland Area Arts Council
5 p.m. free admission

Saturday-Sunday Dec. 4-5
Christmas Vespers
Dimnent Chapel
4:30 and 5 p.m. Saturday
2 and 5 p.m. Sunday
$10 general admission

In brief

Students perform vocal jazz concert

Are you in the mood for some Ray Charles? Got a hangnking for Cole Porter? Then this weekend college students will perform in a vocal jazz concert on Tuesday, Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m. in Wichers Auditorium, located in Nykerk. Admission is free.

Edey Evans Hyde, a college jazz instructor, led students and the faculty jazz trio, which consists of Steve Talaga on piano, Charlie Hoata on bass and Mike VanLente on the drums.

The students featured in the performance include Amy Bana (’14), Elizabeth Brewwing (’14), Emily Brewer (’11), Carrie Gushman (’11), Joel Garner (’12), Ryan Martinez (’13), Brooke McBride (’12), Kyle McLellan (’12), Gabriela Olaguibel (’13), Mark Waterstone (’11) and Vida Wilson (’13).

Juried student art show set Dec. 3-15

The annual Juried Student Art show begins Friday, Dec. 3 and runs through Wednesday, Dec. 15 in InPree Art Center.

There will be an opening reception from 5 to 6 p.m. in the art center.

All students were able to enter their art to the competition, judged each year by an established person in the arts community.

This year’s juror is alumnus Mark Holmes (’83). Holmes teaches art at Knox College in Illinois, specializing in ceramics, sculptures and art history. He will give a talk on Friday, Dec. 3 at 4:30 p.m.

The gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. every weekday and Saturday, Sundays, the hours are 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Stop-motion commotion in ‘Animation Celebration’

Question-and-answer session with Justin Kohn, acclaimed animator of ‘Coraline’ and ‘The Nightmare Before Christmas’

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The ANchor

There was an air of anticipation in the DeWitt Center even before the doors opened. Although it was the penultimate performance, the energy in the room showed no sign of dwindling. The palpable excitement made it seem like a first performance. The scenery, a perfect depiction of gritty New York City, echoed a past long forgotten but brought to life at Hope’s first opera, entitled “Street Scene.”

Written by Kurt Weill, “Street Scene” follows the lives of various tenants in a high rise in New York City in the 1940s. Their joys, their triumphs, their sorrows are all captured by “Street Scene” over two acts with over 20 songs. The opera opened with various tenants complaining of the heat as well as gossiping, the standout being a sassy Swedish lady named Olga Olsen, played by Rachel Parada ’12.

Much of the opera was narrated through other people’s perceptions of the tenants who lived near them: the whispers of a scandalous breach, the judging of the young girls coming home late. There was little grace being given to the people who broke the social norms of the time. The dichotomy between what other people expected and the way they grew ultimately given their fans a shot of a stagnant life.

Determined that the love between other people’s expectations and the rebellion that stirred in a lot of characters’ hearts was a central thread in “Street Scene’s” narrative, Anna Maurrant, played by Sarah Ashcroft ’11, was a perfect example of the danger this dichotomy posed. Trapped in a loveless marriage and kept there because of the love she felt for her two children, Anna, became the talk of the apartment building. But when she began to have an affair, it didn’t feel like it was Sam. “Street Scene,” while dark and realistic, had many moments of levity that truly did represent the polarity of human life.

Another lively song was “Moon-faced, Starry-eyed,” a duet between an adorably cheeky couple played by Lauren Conley ’11 and Skye Edwards ’13. Both Conley and Edwards were the right amount of cheesy and romantic, just like real-life couples.

The song also contained “Street Scene’s” longest and most complex dance number, which both people pulled off to great success. They were not only in sync but also seemed to be enjoying themselves greatly, which made the song and the couple an audience favorite.

The real revelation in “Street Scene” though, was Jonathan Weppler as Sam. While many people were talented, Weppler seemed to inhabit Sam. It didn’t feel like he was playing a part, it felt like he was Sam, bringing to life every movement. Weppler was “Street Scene’s” greatest asset.

Although the opera has many characters, most of the characters were pious, dishonest and prone to unfair judgment. Although these characters are accurate representations of many kinds of people found in the world, the only likeable person that was worth rooting for was Sam. “Street Scene” contained different narratives: the problems with parental pressure placed on children, complex ideas of immigration and native citizen xenophobia, what true love really is, but above all it was a snapshot of a stagnant life.

These people were tied to their building and could only live through the adventures of those who were brave enough to change. In that way, their gossip and their judgment make sense: those who have no freedom envy those who seem to have all the freedom in the world.

Sadly enough, not even all the young people are free at the end of the story, some still chained to a life and a place they desperately wanted to leave behind. “Street Scene,” Hope’s first-ever opera, was an opera about many things, but above all, was an opera about people: the way they loved, the way they struggled, and the way they grew.

First-ever opera sweeps streets of Hope

Hope theater and music take on the opera in first show of season: ‘Street Scene’ gets rave reviews

Elena Rivera

Though there is no need to recount this story, Girls’ Broken Dreams continues to write about the heartbreak and sadness of lost love, a theme heavily prevalent on “Album.”

However, “Broken Dreams Club” represents a sonic shift for the band, who has moved from 60s style pop numbers, to only about 11 minutes of sound that include horns and a moody pedal steel over the course of the EP. The EP opener “The Oh So Protective One” starts out with a surprisingly clean feel accented by a breezy guitar flourish and a phrase that makes one wonder if it is the song sound as heartfelt as ever on this first single.

Though Girls are particularly skilled at creating three- to four-minute pop songs, they are also equally talented in building a longer piece from the ground up. On the closing track “Carolina,” the sprawling instrumental and slow growing structure are very reminiscent of their seminal hit “Hellhole Ratrace.”

The pedal steel, staccato guitar picking, and light feedback create a swirl of sound that leaves the listener guessing what will evolve from this puddle of noise. Near the end, the band diverts from the hazy wisps and concludes the song with an almost classic-rock-like ending.

With “Broken Dreams Club,” Girls have refined their production style of old and ultimately given their fans a bright glimpse of what is to come.
As you get ready to head to wherever you happen to be celebrating, take a look at a few pieces of trivia gathered for your consumption.

Thanksgiving is always celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. This year it is exactly one month from Christmas.

Thanksgiving is officially celebrated in five countries: The United States, Canada, The Netherlands, Grenada, and Liberia. They are not, however, celebrated on the same day of the year.

Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to be the United States’ national bird. Apparently it can get quite feisty.

Only male (tom) turkeys gobble. Females make a clicking noise. The famous gobble is actually a seasonal mating call.

A turkey’s field of vision is an astonishing 270 degrees.

President Abraham Lincoln established the original date for our National Thanksgiving Day celebration in 1863 after Sarah Josepha Hale, an American magazine editor, persuaded Abraham Lincoln to declare Thanksgiving a national holiday. She is also the author of the popular nursery rhyme “Mary Had a Little Lamb.”

According the U.S. Department of Agriculture, more than 45 million turkeys are cooked and eaten in the United States at Thanksgiving.

Domesticated turkeys cannot fly, however wild turkeys can fly up to 55 miles per hour over short distances.

Turkeys are known to spend the night in trees!

President Thomas Jefferson scoffed at the idea of establishing a national “Thanksgiving Day.”

Congress did not declare Thanksgiving a national holiday until 1941.
Grumps need not apply

It might have been something our mothers told us when we were kids but it’s something we should all take to heart: if you don’t have anything nice to say, don’t say anything at all. Everywhere around me, I see people demeaning others for (what seems to be) no other sake of it.

I have vivid memories of watching TV over the past few years where a silly commercial will come on, and afterwards people watching with me will say, “That was the stupidest commercial I have ever seen.”

This isn’t to say that every odd-year person I talked to was bitter. A lot of them were actually completely content with the outcome and were proud of the Grumps. Can’t you accept the fact that regardless of who was better or not, your team didn’t win?

The topic of music snobbery has been talked about to no end—and by no means am I trying to beat a dead horse. There is a problem, however, when people say a certain band or genre of music is bad, that they would “rather die than listen to that.”

I accept that you don’t like it, why can’t you just leave it at that? I doubt you would rather die than listen to a band you don’t like. Your ears aren’t going to bleed after you listen to it, your brain isn’t going to melt. My last example is Nykerk. This year was the first time I had ever gone, and I was blown away.

The problem with saying something is “the stupidest thing you have ever seen” is that it’s a ridiculous statement. Do you mean to tell me that the commercial we just saw, one of thousands you have seen over your entire life, was honestly the stupidest commercial you have ever seen?

Take movies, for example. It’s natural to haul out a movie after seeing it with your friends. But if it irks me to no end when somebody has not one constructive thing to say about it. “I accepted that you don’t like it, why can’t you just leave it at that?”

I have vivid memories of watching TV over the past few years where a silly commercial will come on, and afterwards people watching with me will say, “That was the stupidest commercial I have ever seen.”

I am now halfway through my semester at Meiji Gakuin. It is midterm time. I have observed the campus in my classes very much. Now I know them by name, and some even stick around to talk to me after class. Their English is very good, they have been doing well on quizzes and papers, and they seem engaged and interested. I know “seem” might be the operative word there but I’d prefer to believe Pollyanna when it comes to assessing student engagement and interest in Japan. I had actually been warned to expect otherwise.

The knock on Japanese college students is that they are slackers, that college is their time to be free. They text on their cellphones in class (American students have been known to do this) or simply put their heads down on their desks and take a nap (American students have been known to do this too). Their diploma is more important than their transcript. I hope I was told.

I can honestly tell you this has NOT been my experience here. So where do those rumors come from? I don’t know. They may be true in classes that have 500 students, as some do at MGU. All I know is that my Japanese students — though often prone to not raise their hands or speak up in class — are a delightful bunch who seem to be motivated to learn about American sports sociology and American history. I am fortunate, nay, blessed to be able to teach excellent students on both sides of the globe!

Meiji Gakuin was founded in 1863 and it actually three years older than Hope. Its founder was Dr. James Curtis Hepburn, an American medical missionary who came to Japan in 1859 through the Presbyterian Church. What is the best way to treat people physically and spiritually? Create a clinic giving free and equal health care and create a Christian school. Hepburn did both. He is also the man primarily responsible for translating the Holy Bible from English to Japanese. The MGU motto “Do For Others,” taken from Jesus’ golden rule (Matthew 7:12).

They have an extensive volunteer center to put that educational principle into practice and chapel services on both campuses every weekday. The number of MGU students who are Christian is representative of the overall Japanese population—which is to say somewhere between 1 to 5 percent.

I went to a chapel service at the campus, which consisted of an orator, an organ, two hymns, and six other students who listened to the message delivered in Japanese and surmised it was given from the epistles or Acts as I heard Paul’s name spoken several times.

I then sang “I’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations” (the six others in Japanese and me in English) and the doulou (again, two languages filled the air). MGU’s Christian foundation is evident and respected as most top administrators are Christian and all major events begin with prayer. When I’ve told people at Tokyo Union Church or other social functions that I am teaching at MGU, without exception the response has been, “Oh, that’s a good school!” Further investigation has confirmed that it is one of the top Christian schools in the country.

I am here, of course, because Hope and MGU have had a long relationship of international exchanges—first with students in 1965 and then with professors starting in 1994. As I am now experiencing another culture while teaching in Japan, a MGU professor, Shinichi Oka sensei, is at Hope right now doing the same in America. Though I did not have the chance to meet him before I left, I do know he is teaching in our sociology department and being hosted by our wonderful faculty there, namely Roger Nemeth who himself was a MGU exchange professor several years back. I am following a long line of distinguished Hope professors who have graced MGU’s campuses over the last decade and a half. To be in a group with names like Nemeth, Tom Ludwig, John Krupczak, Annie Danavati, Deb Sturtevant, Rob Hodson, and Marla Lunderberg is a humbling honor.

My goal has always been to make Hope proud and carry on their Hope legacy of teaching excellence. It’s one of my goals. My other is not to cause an international incident! So far, so good on that last one.
It's time for you to be called back... I'm afraid those opinions have limited us from pursuing so many worthwhile interests. It's the clichés, the debates, the stereotypes and the superficial ways that keep us at war with our would-be hobbies.

Music fans, in particular, get me down sometimes. We are a generation of negativity. I want to experiment for a minute.

I like strong and purposeful female messages, like those of Kim Gordon, Shirley Manson, and Liz Phair. "Fear of a female planet. Fear, baby!" I like persistence. I like a band who she or he owns half of the music industry, but mostly, I really love Radiohead.

And yet, this 40 years of going nowhere was so hard (especially in college) to make it so. What's a Letter to the Editors look like? To the Editors: I just read Karen Patterson’s valiant attempt to decouple Nykerk from The Purl by explaining the way “correlation does not prove causa- tion.” Well and good, it doesn’t have to, but it still may. Considering smoking. For ethical reasons, researchers can’t randomly choose college students for their “forbidden” 10 years and force them to smoke from 1000 from smoking to reveal a causal relationship. All they can do is to correlate smoking with much higher incidences of lung cancer.

So it may be most prudent to keep an open mind on the issue. Maybe, just maybe, there is a conspiracy. The powers that be at Hope College spend lots of time behind closed doors—who knows what they are planning or scheming. Consider how the Del Phi House was mysteriously painted a different color several years ago. What happened to all of those blue trays that were used in Phelps? Why do fr Bridge to fire hydrants to trees (supposedly!) struck by lightning. In fact, students of Hope, how do you know that Karen Patter- son and her column are not co-conspirators? Be on guard or next they’ll start charging for vans by the day rather than the mile in order “to save us money.”

What’s a Letter to the Editors look like? It’s your thoughts: what you say in this space fuels discussion and gets other people thinking. Maybe they’ll agree, maybe they’ll disagree. The important thing is this: you are using your voice to say something that’s important to you.

Write a letter (keep it under 500 words), to anchor@hope.edu, and we’ll put it in ASAP. We want to hear from you, Hope College!
Student researchers honored during national conference

Eight Hope College students who participated in research on campus this past summer had their work selected for presentation during the recent Annual Meeting and National Student Conference of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, more than twice as many as from all other colleges and universities in Michigan combined, with two of the students receiving awards.

Sophomore Howard Dobbs of Warrenville, Ill., won second place in the “General Papers” category, and senior Lucas John- son of Cadillac won third place in the “Environmental 1” category. This was the third consecutive year that at least one student who participated in Hope’s summer research program received an award in the national competition.

The National Student Conference ran Friday-Monday, Nov. 7-12, in Salt Lake City. The undergraduate poster session took place on Nov. 8 and featured the primary presenter, only four institutions had more posters in the event than Hope College. Of the 78 colleges, universities and laboratories listed as affiliation of the primary presenter, only four institutions had more posters in the event than Hope College.

All of the participating Hope students are engineering majors in the chemical, biochemical or environmental engineering emphasis options. Three Hope faculty in chemistry, one in engineering and one in geological and environmental sciences were mentors for one or more of the projects.

Seven of the eight students attended the conference and presented their posters. Dobbs and Johnson, as well as senior Joseph Brandson of Troy; senior Jonathan Boldt of Catalonia; senior Katherine Garcia of Battle Creek; junior Tabatha Hipsheal of Zeeland West High School; and senior Lili Anderson of Montague were mentors for one or more of the projects.

In addition, senior Victor Kanyi of Marigat, Kenya, was a co-author of a presentation based in part upon his research work completed at Michigan State University last summer. It was presented by Venkata Pappu, a graduate student in the Department of Chemical Engineering and Material Science at MSU.

Dobbs won his second-place award in the “General Papers” category for a presentation that he co-authored with senior Kent C. Kammermeier of Grand Rapids and Dr. William F. Polik, who is the Edward and Elizabeth Hofma Professor of Chemistry.

Johnson won his third-place award in the “Environmental 1” category for a presentation that he co-authored with senior Daniel Anderson of Montague; Alexia Bakker, a senior at Holland High School who participated in summer research through the college’s REACH program; Jennifer Bakker, a senior at Holland High School who participated in summer and explained how the camps added to her educational experience at Hope College.

“I had a professor tell me about summer science camps and I decided it was something I really wanted to do,” Johnson said. “I had a professor tell me about summer science camps and I decided it was something I really wanted to do, being a science composite major for elementary education. I really enjoyed being part of the summer staff. “We have a lot of different camps, which was nice because we got to teach a lot of different things. The kids were such a joy to work with and the camp staff was a great group of people. Camps kept me busy, but it was such an awesome experience!”

Other parts of the science department also actively participate in community outreach programs as well. The Chemistry Club just recently performed experiments at a local mall to help support chemistry month, and Lori Hertel of the biology department organizes science field trips through Hope’s facilities for over 1,500 kids each year.

Summer science camps

The Anchor would like to wish all of its readers a Happy Thanksgiving!

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Hope College's cross country teams ended their seasons on a high note with a trip to the NCAA Division III cross country championships in Waverly, Iowa. From the men's team, Nate Love ('12) qualified as an individual and the women's squad qualified for the championships as a team.

The men's team finished sixth at nationals and narrowly missed an at-large berth while The Flying Dutch finished seventh, trailing only rivals Calvin in their regional qualifying race. Men's team captain Jordan Richardson ('11) moved into a leadership role on the team and by his own standards, had a successful season.

"For me, I wanted to run the fastest times of my life and improve from being a middle-of-the-pack runner to making a difference on the team. Both of those goals were met. As for the team, we ran tough all year. We hoped to finish top two at conference and fell a little on the MIAA, finishing third in a very close race," said Love, who's preparation for the National meet was also helped along by three of his teammates who continued to train with them even after their season was technically finished.

At the national meet, Love ran the fastest race of his career, completing the eight kilometer run in 25 minutes and 13.2 seconds, finishing 61st among 279 runners. The women's team ran as a tight group at regionals, with their top five runners all finishing within 19 seconds of one another. This emphasis on the team had been a key goal for the season explained team captain Claire Bird ('11).

"We are running as a team on what we like to call the "Pain Train." We're not running as individuals. We're running together, pushing each other, and helping each other every step of the way."

Junior Kelly Luftkin was The Flying Dutch's top runner at Nationals, finishing 69th in a field of 279 runners. Overall, Hope finished 19th out of 32 teams. Heading into their qualifying regional meet, Luftkin expressed little doubt in her belief that the team would make the same mistakes. "We have enjoyed the campus and community support this season. The teams ran very well at the end of the season finishing among the top teams in the region. With the majority of both teams returning next year, the outlook is very good for the 2011 campaign," Luftkin said.

The Hope College volleyball team ended their 2011 campaign, "Northuis said. "The outlook is very good for the 2012 season. The teams ran very well at the end of the season finishing among the top teams in the region. With the majority of both teams returning next year, the outlook is very good for the 2011 campaign," Northuis said.

"The club is competitive right now because our resources are limited," Sit said. "If we could add a few more tables, it would help to have a few more players and fun games going on at the same time." Anyone interested in participating in the table tennis club is welcome to come to the Dow gym between 2 and 4 p.m. on Sunday afternoons to play.

"I thought they had tremendous focus for the whole year on what they wanted to accomplish. They improved each meet and didn't continue to make the same mistakes. They continued to learn from what each race provided and they continued to improve as the season went on both physically and mentally. They were running their best races at the end of the season which is a good thing.

"We have enjoyed the campus and community support this season. The teams ran very well at the end of the season finishing among the top teams in the region. With the majority of both teams returning next year, the outlook is very good for the 2011 campaign," Northuis said.

When Mike Sit ('11) began his sophomore year at Hope College, he had a vision: to begin a table tennis club at Hope that could compete with those from schools around the country. Two years later, that vision is about to become reality.

Every Sunday afternoon at the Dow Center since Oct. 10, a group of people have come together to play table tennis. This group, which varies in makeup from week to week, has the chance to work with Brian Fowler, a coach from the Holland area who Sit happened to meet at the Windmill in downtown Holland. After a few conversations, the two began to work together to form a group at Hope.

"I became interested in table tennis after my younger brother returned from spending time in Europe, where father of his was born. "It was an Olympic-qualified table tennis player. What really drew Sit to the sport, though, is its longevity. Table tennis is a lifelong sport," Sit said. "I think that's what attracted me in some way."

The chance to interact with individuals from different backgrounds is another draw of the sport for Sit.

"One thing I really like is the kind of people you meet," Sit said. "You can honestly meet people from every culture. In Chicago I've met people from India and goals for the season, the first of which was to avoid the injuries, particularly the plantar fasciitis that plagued him in his sophomore season running for Hope. Love's second goal was to work harder over the summer to prepare himself to the season.

"Both of these goals would have been much harder to accomplish had it not been for the teammates and people around me this summer," said Love, who's team and community support this season. The teams ran very well at the end of the season finishing among the top teams in the region. With the majority of both teams returning next year, the outlook is very good for the 2011 campaign," Luftkin said.
Flying Dutch take Tipoff Classic

Bethany Stripp
Sports Editor

Hope College’s women’s basketball team started its season in a familiar way last week, winning its first three games and extending their home court winning streak to 64.

The women began their season on Nov. 16 when the Warriors of Rochester College came to DeVos Fieldhouse. Caeirie Snikkers (11) put the Flying Dutch on the scoreboard less than 15 seconds into the game. Miranda DeKuiper’s (11) fast break, giving Hope a 3-0 lead before one minute of play had passed.

The Dutch never looked back and built up a 22-point lead by halftime. The team continued to dominate in the second half, never leading by less than 18 to come out with an 82-65 win.

Snikkers insured that her name will go down in Hope history in the victory, becoming the Dutch’s nine 3-point collegiate career off with a bang during the game, hitting four of the Flying Dutch’s nine 3-point shots to kick off a week of strong behind-the-arc action. Berry, Snikkers, and Allie Cerone (12) all scored in the double digits for Hope.

On Nov. 19, Hope’s women took to the court in DeVos again, this time in the first game of the Flying Dutch Division III Tipoff Classic. Hope met Manchester in the first game. Although the Spartans scored first, Hope gained the lead off a 3-pointer by Lauren Greens (11) and never looked back in the 76-32 win.

Nearly every Hope player scored in the game, with Snikkers’ 12 points leading the team and Maddie Burnett (12) adding nine in a preview of what she would contribute the next day. In the championship game of the Tipoff Classic on Nov. 20, Hope faced an undefeated Baldwin-Wallace team that had defeated Alma 56-41 the night before. Though Baldwin-Wallace is not in the MIAA, they are a familiar opponent for the Dutch.

“I was really excited to play Baldwin-Wallace,” Snikkers said. “I remember the past three years Baldwin-Wallace, ‘Snikkers said.

DeKuiper and Snikkers got the scoring started for the Dutch again in a high-energy first minute of play. The Yellowjackets kept Hope from building much of a lead, bringing the game within three points on two different occasions until a 3-pointer by Cerone, with 3:09 left in the first half, gave Hope a 12-point lead. Hope went on to win the game, 72-45, to bring their season record to 3-0. Snikkers and Burnett led the team in scoring again with 18 and 12 points, respectively.

“I thought this game was the scoring started for the Dutch again in a high-energy first minute of play. The Yellowjackets kept Hope from building much of a lead, bringing the game within three points on two different occasions until a 3-pointer by Cerone, with 3:09 left in the first half, gave Hope a 12-point lead. Hope went on to win the game, 72-45, to bring their season record to 3-0. Snikkers and Burnett led the team in scoring again with 18 and 12 points, respectively.

“I thought this game was a game where we could really set the course for a really solid season,” head coach Brian Morehouse said. “Today we did that.”

Over the course of the past three games, the Dutch began to establish the team’s identity for this season.

“‘We’re very good together,’” Morehouse said. “We were really good last year, but we also relied on Phulan [Greene] to do some things off the dribble. This year I think we don’t have some of the special things she did, but other people are doing things we haven’t had any drop-off.”

Burnett, a transfer from Grand Valley State University, has already shown that she is an impact player for the Dutch this season and was named to the all-tournament team after Saturday’s game.

“What intrigued me [about Hope] was probably just the environment,” Burnett said. “All the girls were just extremely accepting and we just play hard.”

The women will take to the road next week with games at North Park and Alma before coming back to DeVos Dec. 8.

Charlotte Park
Guest Writer

With a current record of 13-1, the Hope men’s hockey team remains undefeated in league play, suffering only one tournament loss. Almost halfway through its five-month season, the team is continuing to put equal emphasis on every opponent with its ultimate goals to win the league title and the American College Hockey Association National Championship.

“We are looking forward to all the games equally,” coach Chris Van Timmeren said. “The minute we put more or less emphasis on one opponent than the next is when we forget the big picture.”

With team leaders in captain Brett Kopinski (’11), and alternate captains Chris Kunnen (’12), Will Guerin (’11) and Mike Kazdys (’11), the men believe their closeness and team unity to be their biggest strength.

“Arguably even more crucial to our success on the ice is our team chemistry off the ice,” Kopinski said. “I don’t think we would be nearly as good a team as we are without the friendships we form, and Hope plays a large role in that.”

In addition to great teamwork, offense has been a huge strength of the team, with a lot of players who can score and give Hope early leads in games, Van Timmeren said.

While there is always room for improvement, taking better care of the puck and turning it over less in the neutral and defensive ends are areas the team plans to focus on, Van Timmeren said.

Van Timmeren always recruits a talented freshmen class and this year was no exception, Kopinski said. The freshmen to the varsity squad this year are Justin Glick, Kevin Deane, Caleb Digison, Andrew Doherty, Jamie Haak, Riley Hoernschmeyer and Kaleb Skinner.

“We have had a lot of freshmen step into pivotal roles, which has greatly attributed to our current record,” Kunnen said.

Hope has a JV hockey team as well that competes with the current players for their spots. This inter-squad competition has helped motivate the team to play to its potential each game.

“Our JV team is really helpful because it forces everyone to put it all on the line every time we touch the ice,” Sean LaDouce (’13), one of the team’s goalies, said.

While the team aims to play each game like it’s the most important, Hope hopes to sweep Calvin and beat Saginaw Valley who they fell to last year in the ACHA National Championships held in Florida. The next game is Dec. 3 at Calvin, with their ACHA National Tournament scheduled to take place March 9-12 at Hope’s home rink The Edge.

“We are taking this season game by game,” Kunnen said.

“Our biggest hope for the season is that the team to never give up on any situation or in any game. We have a lot of potential as a group and I hope we can fulfill it to the best of our abilities.”

Giving their efforts to represent Christ in the best way they can, the team is led in prayer by Van Timmeren before every game.

“It is our goal to honor God and represent Hope College in a positive way every time we touch the ice,” LaDouce said.

Hope hockey 13-1 halfway through season, Calvin game next