Celebrate life: Relay raises $35,022

Webster’s dictionary defines hope as “a feeling that something desired may happen.” On Friday, Nov. 12, through early Saturday morning Hope College students and organizations walked in the eighth annual Relay for Life. These individuals gave hope to the patients fighting the cancer battle and celebrated the people who have survived.

Relay for Life is part of a national fundraising initiative for the American Cancer Society. Each year 40 million people worldwide participate in this event. Though a non-competitive event, Hope students form teams and walk the Dow Center’s track overnight. The funds go toward cancer research, education and advocacy.

The event started at Hope in 2003 and has since made a total of $222,590. This year the Hope Community raised $35,022 for the American Cancer Society. Forty-two teams participated and the groups were encouraged to raise money through bake sales and spaghetti dinners as well as donations.

President James Bultman spoke at the opening ceremony and stated, “We’ve all been affected by cancer in one way or another.”

While participating in Relay for Life, many students reflect upon a relative or friend who has been affected by cancer. Watching survivors walk around the track was inspiring to those students because it gave them hope.

Arianna Cappuccitti (‘13), a member of the ‘13 Pull Team, said it was inspiring not only for students to see the survivors but for the survivors to see the students. The turnout of organizations which came to support showed the respect and solidarity of the Hope Community.

Every year 1.4 million Americans are diagnosed with cancer and half of them do not survive. On Friday night, 35 survivors inspired the Hope Community by making the first lap around the track. The survivors were cheered on and celebrated.

Different forms of cancer were represented throughout the night. For breast cancer awareness students were encouraged to decorate a bra at the craft table. There was a water relay to raise awareness for bladder cancer and a chubbly bunny contest to raise awareness for non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma. During the event, movies were played and inflatables were available to play in.

A lot of planning goes into this spectacular event. Savanna Rayner, who works with the American Cancer Society in the Holland-Zeeland area, provided insight into what goes on behind the scenes. Every week a team of 20 gathered to brainstorm ideas to make this event its best. They recruit teams from the college and meet with the team captains to better prepare them.

The American Cancer Society is trying to create a world with more birthdays. Relay for Life allows people to get involved.

Ethnic studies major revamped

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

Yelding has been at Hope since 2003 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 insight into what goes on behind the scenes. Every week a team of 20 gathered to brainstorm ideas to make this event its best. They recruit teams from the college and meet with the team captains to better prepare them. The American Cancer Society is trying to create a world with more birthdays. Relay for Life allows people to get involved.”
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 to not only 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 are also great opportunities for Hope students.

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

Making their mark— Relay for Life participants sign the Relay banner.

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 explained the inner workings of the international studies program. She talked with anyone interested in an international society. 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 one 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.
Holiday travelers threaten boycott of airport scanners

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 announcement last week of new airline boarding procedures to ensure passenger security.

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 implored passengers Monday not to take delaying actions or engage in behaviors that security officials said he would only serve to “tie up people who want to go home and see their loved ones.”

Pistole had pledged Sunday to review security procedures in the wake of a public outcry. But he also said the TSA must balance people’s demand for privacy with the need to protect passengers from those who would try to set off bombs on planes.

A loosely-organized Internet boycott of body scans is under way, and Pistole said he hoped people would exercise sound judgment over the busy Thanksgiving holiday. A National Opt-Out Day is scheduled for Wednesday to coincide with the busiest travel day of the year.

Just one or two recalcitrant passengers at an airport is all it takes to cause huge delays,” said Paul Ruden, a spokesman for the American Society of Travel Agents, which has warned its more than 8,000 members about delays resulting from the body-scan boycott. “It doesn’t take much to mess things up anyway — especially if someone purposely tries to mess it up.”

Body scans take as little as 10 seconds, but people who decline the process must submit to a full pat-down, which takes much longer. That could cause a cascade of delays at dozens of airports at airports weren’t necessary,” he said, “but that just isn’t the case.”

The statement came just hours after Pistole, in a TV interview, said that while the full-body scans and pat-downs could be intrusive and uncomfortable, the high threat level required their use.

In the TV appearance, Pistole appeared to shrug off statements by President Barack Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton that the TSA was taking steps to improve screening techniques that some passengers see as invasions of privacy.

Obama said in Lisbon on Saturday that he had asked TSA officials whether there’s a less intrusive way to ensure travel safety. “I understand people’s frustrations,” he said, adding that he had told the TSA that “you have to constantly refine and improve whether what we’re doing is the only way to assure the American people’s safety.”

Clinton, appearing Sunday on NBC’s “Meet the Press,” said she thought “everyone, including our security experts, is always looking for ways to diminish the impact on the traveling public” and that “striking the right balance is what this is about.”

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Referendum may grant South Sudan secession

Aftan Snyder
Co-National Editor

Voter registration began on Monday Nov. 15 in Southern Sudan to prepare for a January vote that will split the large east African country in two. The January referendum, if passed, would allow the largely autonomous southern region to secede from the north.

A U.N. panel arrived in southern Sudan last week to monitor the 7-day registration process. Three-thousand sites across the country and eight countries abroad plan to set up voter registration centers.

“We know that organizing voter registration has not been easy, given the country’s size and the scale of the process, but we remain confident that it can be completed successfully,” said Benjamin Mkapa, chairman of the U.N. panel and former president of Tanzania, in a statement Sunday.

The potential secession comes as part of the 2005 peace agreement that ended Sudan’s long-running civil war. The North and South battled over resources, religion and ideology, and in the process over 2 million people died from starvation and disease.

Today diplomats worry over viability of the referendum, concerned that violence could flare along the North/South border. “In the civil wars that have happened here, 2 million people died,” said retired U.S. Ambassador Princeton Lyman, who is helping to lead North/South talks. “If the war comes again, [this] will happen again.”

The success of the referendum will largely depend on how the two regions can compromise on a host of issues, including how to divide oil money – the South contains most oil reserves – and even the water of the Nile.

Other observers fear blatant war between the North and South if the government is perceived to have tampered with the voting process or results. U.S. Senator John Kerry, D-Mass, traveled to the Sudanese capital Khartoum several times in recent weeks to ensure that the government will honor whatever the voters decide.

In his latest trip, Kerry offered a deal on behalf of the Obama administration: If Khartoum accepts the referendum and resolves dispute over an area called Abyei, then the U.S. will take Sudan off the list of countries that sponsors terrorism by next summer.

The Sudanese government has not reacted well to this offer. Former Sudanese Finance Minister Abdul Rahim Hamdi – a member of Sudan’s ruling National Congress Party – said in an interview with NPR News that he and other officials viewed the offer as a “joke.” If Sudan gives up a large portion of its land and a majority of its oil, then the government will want more than just the removal of its name from a list. “We actually want a normal political and economic relationship with the United States,” Hamdi said.

The U.S. has imposed comprehensive economic, trade and financial sanctions against Sudan since 1997. The Darfur conflict further complicates these issues. Last year the International Criminal Court issued a warrant for the arrest of Sudanese president Omar al-Bashir, who has ruled Sudan since a 1989 coup. The ICC wishes to try him for war crimes related to the Darfur killings.

Many, however, view the Darfur conflict as separate from the North/South debate, since the Darfur conflict is between government militias and ethnic rebels. “We don’t care about it,” Lyman said. “And we’ve said that.”

The Sudanese will vote on the referendum Jan. 9.

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 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 in 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 suggested that 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 halt Bout’s extradition to the U.S. and does not want further investigation into this situation from the international community.

According to Al-Jazeera English news source, Russian government officials have publicly 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 around the globe.

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.

Medal of Honor awarded

+ Heroism, from page 3

“It’s not at peace with that at all,” Giunta told Logan. “And coming and talking about it and people wanting to shake my hand because of it, it hurt me because it’s not what I want.”

When asked what type of soldier he was Giunta responded, “I’m average. I don’t think that I did anything that anyone else I was with wouldn’t have done. I was in the position to do that, that was what needed to be done, so that is what I did.”

When Logan said to him that this is the greatest single award the military can bestow and that is pretty impressive for an average soldier, Giunta replied, “Think how good the great soldiers are.”

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Just email anchor@hope.edu

Out of the element and shot every individual in the flesh or (their) protective equipment. What Sgt. Giunta did at the time was regain his composure extremely quickly, assessed his soldiers and his team for any kind of casualties, and then began to render aid to individuals like his squad leader.”

Giunta and his team appeared on “60 Minutes” last week and emotionally recalled the events that led to Giunta being awarded the Medal of Honor. Though he is honored to be given such an award Giunta told Lara Logan, the “60 Minutes” reporter conducting the interview, he is not at peace with receiving the award.

-called Aybei, then the U.S. will take Sudan off the list of countries that sponsors terrorism by next summer.

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The Sudanese will vote on the referendum Jan. 9.
Stop-motion commotion in ‘Animation Celebration’

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

Caitlin Klaask
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 ‘Guillermo’s Travels,’ a 1939 technicolor film, to ‘Spiritied 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 winners 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.

Appearing at the Knickerbocker will be Justin Kohn, the stop motion animator of ‘The Life Aquatic,’ ‘Jame’s Pond 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,’ ‘The Cat’s Meow,’ and ‘Orel’ in his2007 animation, ‘The Animation Celebration.’

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. Blew me away. Really scary! I just knew it wasn’t marionettes or men in Godzilla suits. After that, I would always notice stop-motion in films and TV shows.

—Justin Kohn

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

Justin Kohn: I just knew it wasn’t marionettes or men in Godzilla suits. After that, I would always notice stop-motion in films and TV shows.

—Justin Kohn

Anchor: How long did it take to make the stop motion for “The Nightmare Before Christmas”?

Justin Kohn: We averaged around 120 frames (5 seconds) of footage per week (per animator), depending on the complexity of the shot. Some shots took a lot of time to set up before we even began animating. We usually had a day or more to test poses, block in the shot, etc, then onto the final shot which could take weeks or even months.

Anchor: Who has been in the business since the 1980s. How much has technology changed the style of animation since then?

Justin Kohn: The main difference is how between it’s done now as opposed to say, before 1992, is 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 till you saw the finished shot come back from the lab. Now with Dragon software, stop-motion, Premade, 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: Which of your movies would you say is your “quintessential” work?

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

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 sigh in the production of the classic Henry Selick/Tim Burton film, “The Nightmare Before Christmas.”

In Brief

STUDENTS PERFORM VOCAL JAZZ CONCERT

Are you in the mood for some Ray Charles? Got a hankering for Cole Porter? Then you’re in luck! Knox College students will perform in a vocal jazz concert on Tuesday, Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m. in Wickers Auditorium, located on N Nykerk. Admission is free.

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

The students featured in the performance include Amy Bana (14), Elizabeth Brewington (14), Emily Brower (11), Carrie Cushman (11), Joel Garner (12), Ryan Martinez (13), Brooke McElride (12), Kyle McElfan (12), Gabriela Ojagabel (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, sculpture and contemporary/contemporary art. 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.
**First-ever opera sweeps streets of Hope**

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

Elena Rivera

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 reading, the judging of the young girls coming home late. There was little grace and her best daughter, Rose, the Maurrant’s scene, Swatling-Holcomb filled them with such vitality it was discovered this affair, and the people in the high rise were forever changed. Another story, that of the love between the Maurrant’s daughter, Rose, played by Jenny Tremblay (’11), and her best friend who lived downstairs, Sam Kaplan, played by Jonathan Weppler (’11), was the sweetest thread in “Street Scene’s” narrative.

All of the players were immensely talented. Jesse Swatling-Holcomb (’13) stole every scene he was in as the nervous expecting father Daniel Buchanan. 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’s 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.

**ARTS**

**Critics Corner: Girls ‘Broken Dreams’**

Joel Hofman

2000 was a year that brought newfound success to the California based psychedelic pop group Girls. Their debut album aptly titled “Album” created a lot of underground buzz and earned them a spot on Pitchfork’s list of the top 10 albums of the year.

As soon as they started touring, Owens started to work on new material which is now being released in the form of the 6 song, 35 minute EP titled “Broken Dreams Club.”

Like “Album,” the new EP is filled with catchy melodies from Owens backed by a minimalistic, yet lush production approach from White. Owens is a master, with any sort of indie music blog, you are likely aware that Owens talent is the family heavily involved in the Children of God cult, which has shaped his reflective and somber tones in his songwriting.

Though there is no need to oversaturate this story, Owens 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 from 60s style pop numbers, to equally talented in building a longer piece from the ground up. On the closing track “Carolina,” the pedal steel, eerie guitar and airy tone it took.

The pedal steel, eerie guitar 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 wisp 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.
Thanksgiving fun facts!

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.”

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

Congress did not declare Thanksgiving a national holiday until 1941.

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!
Paradoxical perspectives

James Nichols
Co-editor-in-Chief

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) the 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.”

The problem with saying something is “the stupidest thing you have ever seen” is this: 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 hash out a movie after seeing it with your friends. But it irks me to no end when somebody has not one constructive thing to say about it. It doesn’t bother me if you thought the movie was terrible—explaining it with a well-thought-out sentence would be nice though. If the most intelligent thing you come up with is “that movie was terrible,” maybe you should just keep your comments to yourself.

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 it.” 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. Why is there such a problem with a band that you don’t like?

My last example is Nykerk. This year was the first time I had ever gone, and I was blown away. Everything about it shook me to the core. But talking to people afterward broke my heart: instead of praise and respect, it seems I only heard negative comments. Negative comments about the judges’ decision, about the song girls’ demeanor, about the content of the play and about the poise of the orator.

Granted, most of the negative comments were coming from people associated with odd-year, but I still didn’t understand why they had to belittle the song or play from even-year just because they were bitter that even-year had won. Can’t you accept the fact that regardless of who was better or not, your team didn’t win?

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 girls and all the work they had put into it. And that’s the right attitude to have. We all have to do things, listen to things and experience things we don’t like; you should just keep your comments to yourself.

Assistants to the Editor

The Anchor is looking for an Assistant Sports Editor

This is a PAID POSITION!

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

Interviews for the position are on a rolling basis

Interested candidates can contact

The Anchor at anchor@hope.edu

Joggin’ the Globe

The abroad column

More than tweed

Professor Eva Folkert with her students at Meiji Gakuin University in Tokyo. Check out more of her story at: evaefolkert.wordpress.com.
From the inside out

Half-full

When we were kids, everybody loved everything. We all devoured the latest Disney movie. We would know every word to all of the songs on mainstream radio channels. Our friends picked us to be on the selective; everyone we knew signed our yearbooks.

Then, around middle school, we wisened up. We started to realize that we would have time to take root. We would have the opportunity to know the depths of God’s commitment to us, nor would their commitment to God have known the depths of God’s commitment to them, nor would their commitment to God have known the years. I’m afraid those opinions have limited us from pursuing so many worthwhile interests. It’s the claques, the debates, the stereotypes and the superficial things 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 grows with you, matures as you do; I love Brand New. I like it when people recognize the talent of my favorite musicians. I like relating with thousands of strangers over my favorite songs. I like a musician who’s humble, even if he or she owns half of the music industry, but mostly, I really love Radiohead.

I like feeling sad and hollow when I listen to a great song. I like knowing that people make mistakes, feel human emotions. I love Joy Division.

I like music that gives me dancing instructions. I love New Order. I like music that lulls me but doesn’t put me to sleep. I like it when artists add amorphous twists and turns of sound with no conventional melodies.

Beautiful feet

Are we there yet?

I looked up the word “linear” and found: 1. Arranged in or extending along a straight line, 2. Progressing from one stage to another in a series of steps.

Unfortunately, my life is not linear, not even close. Life is so rarely arranged in a straight line or one direction. Though we would have said yes, your head (ego) would have gotten the disappointment to God, His holy spirit instruct ed me: “Do you know how many students are denied every once in a while. I’ll go hear another Jason Mraz song. I didn’t, though, because I know how refreshing it is to hear an optimistic voice every once in a while. I’m going on a limb here—I think this message is very applicable in every situation. Maybe try it sometime.

Caitlin is currently spinning Avery Tare’s “Down There” and The Jesus & Mary Chain’s “Munkil” while visualizing how awesome Thanksgiving break is going to be.

To the Editors:

I just read Karen Patterson’s valiant attempt to decouple Nykerk from The Pull by explaining two-way “correlation does not equal causation.” Well and good, it doesn’t have to, but it still may. Consider smoking. For ethical reasons, researchers can’t randomly choose to smoke for 10 years and keep another 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 DelPhi House was mysteriously purged of all colors several years ago. What happened to all of those blue trays that were used in Phelp’s? Why do frisbee golf targets keep disappearing over the years—from flagpoles to fire hydrants to trees (supposedly!) struck by lightning. In fact, students of Hope, do you know that Karen Patterson 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.”

Tim Penning

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

**Courtesy of Hope PR**

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 Johnson 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 work grouped within a variety of categories within the field of chemical engineering.

The preliminary program for the student poster session listed 216 posters. The primary presenters represented institutions in 39 states, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Qatar and Taiwan. 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 Brandonisio of Troy; senior Jonathan Boldt of Catalonia; senior Katherine Garcia of Battle Creek; junior Tabatha Hipshear of Buchanan; and senior Laura Bakker, a senior at Holland High School who participated in summer research through the college's REACH program; Jennifer Soukhome, who teaches biology/environmental science.

Johnson won his third-place award in the "Environmental 1" 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.

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.

It was presented by Venkata Pappu, a graduate student in the Department of Chemical Engineering and Material Science at MSU.

The preliminary program for the national conference ran Sunday-Friday, Nov. 7-12, in Salt Lake City. The unifying theme of the meeting, but his poster was not among those displayed.

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.

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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 regionals 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 short, but we proved that we’re a strong, focused team from top to bottom. We’ve battled with injuries to guys that were expected to be difference makers for us, and every time, someone new stepped up to fill their shoes," said Richardson.

The top performer for The Flying Dutchmen was Love. Like Richardson, he had two personal 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 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 as a whole was 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 the 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 qualify for nationals.

"Personally, I thought we had a pretty good chance to qualify for nationals before we ran in regionals. Our team was very close to qualifying last year, and we have improved tremendously from then. I knew we would all have to race hard to get there, but we were all very prepared and eager to do so.

"Coach Mark Northhuis reflected positively on his team’s accomplishments this season and also spoke positively on the outlook for next season.

"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," Northhuis said.

The Hope College men’s soccer team ended their exciting season Sept. 12 by falling 1-0 to North Park, Ill., in the first round of the Division III NCAA Tournament.

The team qualified for their second consecutive victory to barely squeeze their way into post-season play. The tournament opener was an at-large birth into the championship, the Dutch were 26-4 and had won 19 consecutive matches. The trip to the tournament was Hope’s third in a row but only its eighth trip in the history of the program. Last season, Hope lost in the final four to Washington-St. Louis who went on to win the national title.

The tournament opener was another win for Dutch who extended their winning streak to 20 games by defeating the University of Chicago. The contest mostly went well for the Dutch with the exception of the second set, which finished in a 27-25 score. Two days later, the team faced off against Whittier College. Whittier was the last team to defeat Hope two months prior and once again, defeated the Flying Dutch. Hope was swept in the contest and finished the season with a 27-5 record.

The volleyball team was not doing making headlines however, as four days later on Nov.17, it was announced that Hope senior Jacie Fiedler had been honored as a Division III All-American. She was voted onto the All-American second team. This is the second year in a row that Hope Volleyball has had a representative on the All-American roster. Last season, Andrea Helminak earned the honor. Current coach Becky Schmidt is the only other player in franchise history to have been elected to the All-American roster.

"I would study geography with my friends for half an hour and then play table tennis for an hour," Pennings said. "The club is competitive right now because our resources are limited," Sit said. "If we could add a few more tables, it would be a lot more fun 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.

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Sports Editor

Flying Dutch take Tipoff Classic

Bethany Stripp

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. Carrie Snikkers (’11) put the Flying Dutch on the scoreboard less than 15 seconds into the game. Miranda DeKuper (’11) soon followed, 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 11th Hope player to score 1,000 or more career points. Britanny Berry (’14) started her 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 they are a familiar opponent for us. That’s when we form, and Hope plays a large role in that.”

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 teams 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 Bazydlo (’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. New freshmen to the varsity squad this year are Justin Glick, Kevin Deane, Caleb Digion, Andrew Dolhey, Jamie Haak, Riley Hoernschmeyer and Caleb 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 for 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.

Photo by Jackie Canonaco

FACEOFF— Hope’s hockey team defeated Northwood twice last week, winning 6-0 on Nov. 19 and 7-1 on Nov. 20, to bring its season-long schedule to 13-1. The team faces rival Calvin College on Dec. 3 and 4, playing away on the Friday and at the Edge Ice Arena on the Saturday.

Charlotte Park

GUEST WRITER

Flying Dutch take Tipoff Classic

Meredith Kussmaul (’13) and Amanda Schroeder of Baldwin-Wallace chase after a loose ball in the Nov. 20 Tipoff Classic championship game.

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

Hope to be represented in European tournament

Brett Kopinski (’11) and Chris Kunnen (’12) have been named by the American Collegiate Hockey Association to the USA Division III select team. Hope coach Chris Van Timmeren has been named the team’s head coach. The select teams will travel to Europe from Dec. 26- Jan. 6 and play five games in Switzerland, Austria, and Germany.

“My hopes for Kopinski and Kunnen are that they have fun, enjoy new experiences in a foreign country, get to know players from different teams across the country, and play to their abilities,” said Van Timmeren. “I know they will represent Hope College very well. It should be a great experience for all three of us.”

PHOTO BY JACKIE CANONACO

FIGHT FOR POSSESSION— Meredith Kussmaul (’13) and Amanda Schroeder of Baldwin-Wallace chase after a loose ball in the Nov. 20 Tipoff Classic championship game.