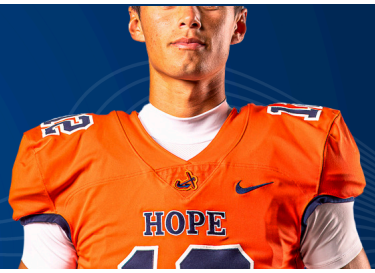
HOPE 2026 FOOTBALL GAME NOTES



GAME 9

GAME 9 | NOV. 7, 2026 | 1:00 P.M. EST | GRAND RAPDSI, MI | KNIGHT STADIUM

VS.

HOPE COLLEGE
FLYING DUTCH

Record	8-0 (5-0 MIAA)
Ranking (D3FB/AFCA)	9/8
Last Game	Oct. 31, 2026 v. Kalamazoo; W, 48-13
Head Coach	Peter Stuursma
Record at Hope	82-20 (10th Season)

2026 TEAM STATISTICS

Scoring	41.50
Opp. Scoring	11.13
Rushing Yards	2164
Opp. Rushing Yards	614
Passing Yards	1704
Opp. Passing Yards	1295
Total Offense	3868
Opp. Total Offense	1909
Penalties	45-88
Red Zone Offense (att-scores)	35-41 (31 TD)
Red Zone Defense (att-scores)	8-14 (6 TD)

2026 STATISTICAL LEADERS

Passing	Alex Thole (127-179, 1652 yds, 8 TD)
Rushing	AJ Martel (99 att., 573 yds, 9 TD)
Receiving	Kaden DeHorn (24 rec, 370 yds, 2 TD)
Tackles	Nolan Vis (53 tot, 38 solo, 15 asst)
Sacks	Joey Mahaney (3.0)
Interceptions	Trenten Bolhouse, Tyson Mann (1)

CALVIN UNIVERSITY
KNIGHTS

Record	8-0 (5-0 MIAA)
Ranking (D3fb/AFCA)	25/20
Last Game	Oct. 31, 2026, v. Trine; W 51-20
Head Coach	Trent Figg
Record at Calvin	9-13 (3rd season)

2026 TEAM STATISTICS

Scoring	47.88
Opp. Scoring	14.50
Rushing Yards	1508
Opp. Rushing Yards	515
Passing Yards	2752
Opp. Passing Yards	1655
Total Offense	4260
Opp. Total Offense	2170
Penalties	37-358
Red Zone Offense (att-scores)	38-43 (34 TD)
Red Zone Defense (att-scores)	10-13 (9 TD)

2026 STATISTICAL LEADERS

Passing	Thomas Vaccaro (187-257, 2542 yds, 37 TD)
Rushing	Hayden Slegers (65 att., 323 yds, 0 TD)
Receiving	Hunter Hogan (61 rec., 822 yds, 13 TD)
Tackles	Carson Schnurstein (58 tot., 24 solo, 34 asst)
Sacks	Kaden McCullough (5.0)
Ints.	Caden Schnurstein (5)



2026 SCHEDULE

Sept. 5	Denison **Big Red**	Deeds Field - Piper Stadium| Granville, OH	W, 28-14
Sept. 12	Wisconsin-Stevens Point **Pointers**	Ray and Sue Smith Stadium | Holland, MI	W, 38-10
Sept. 19	Hanover **Panthers**	Alumni Stadium | Hanover, IN	W, 27-10
Sept. 26	Albion **Britons**	Ray and Sue Smith Stadium | Holland, MI	W, 63-0
Oct. 3	Olivet **Comets**	Cutler Field | Olivet, MI	W, 66-17
Oct. 17	Adrian **Bulldogs** (One Big Weekend/Homecoming)	Ray and Sue Smith Stadium | Holland, MI	W, 24-22
Oct. 24	Alma **Scots**	Bahlke Field | Alma, MI	W, 38-3
Oct. 31	Kalamazoo **Hornets**	Ray and Sue Smith Stadium | Holland, MI	W, 48-13
Nov. 7	Calvin **Knights**	Grand Rapids, MI	1 p.m.
Nov. 14	Trine **Thunder** (Senior Day)	Ray and Sue Smith Stadium | Holland, MI	1 p.m.

FOOTBALL TRAVELS TO FELLOW UNBEATEN CALVIN FOR TITLE SHOWDOWN

The Rivalry for the Hope College football team has quickly become like the other sports on campus. When the Flying Dutch square off against Calvin, an MIAA championship hangs in the balance. The Week 9 showdown at Calvin will two feature two unbeaten and nationally ranked teams. The winner clinches at least a share of the league title and earns an automatic berth to the NCAA Division III playoffs. The fledgling series is just three years old, with Hope claiming a 2-0 record after victories of 38-7 on the road on November 9, 2024, and 52-0 at home on November 8, 2025.

The Flying Dutch have eclipsed 500 yards on total offense in both meetings: 577 last season and 569 in 2024. This is the Flying Dutch's first football game on Calvin's campus at Knights Stadium. The inaugural game in 2024 was played at Grand Rapids Christian High School. Hope enters the game with its highest national rankings ever: eighth in this week's American Football Coaches Association poll and ninth in the D3football for the second consecutive week. The Flying Dutch are ranked 11th in this week's NPI rankings that helps determine NCAA seeding.

A *HOPE WIN* WOULD....

clinch at least a share of the Flying Dutch's 24th MIAA championship and the fourth in head coach Peter Stuursma's tenure. Hope previously claimed outright MIAA titles in 2019 and 2024 and was a co-champion in 2021.

give the Flying Dutch an opportunity to play for their second 10-0 regular season in three years next week at home against Trine University on Senior Day. Hope also went unbeaten in 1975 (8-0-1) and 1984 (9-0).

be the Orange and Blue's 527th all-time victory in program history and their 258th in MIAA play since 1958.



PETER STUURSMA
HC

MEDIA AND CREDENTIALS *INFORMATION*

CREDENTIALS
Single game credentials can be requested by working members of the media by contacting the Hope College Sports Information Department.

PARKING
Parking is available for working members of the media on the north side of Ray and Sue Smith Stadium. Please enter off of Fairbanks Avenue near the DeWitt Tennis Center.

INTERVIEWS
Interviews with coaches and student-athletes can be arranged for practices and games through the Hope College Sports Information Department.

PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEOGRAPHY
Photography and videography is allowed at Ray and Sue Smith Stadium. There is no filming allowed inside the dotted lines that surround the field during today's game.

INTERNET
Free internet is provided by Hope College for guests of the college. Search for Hope Guest on your device and use the password hopetransforms to access the internet.

HISTORY

First Season	1902
Seasons	118
All-Time Record	527-376-340
Conference Titles (Last)	23 (2024)

LAST SEASON

2025 Overall Record	9-2
2025 Conference Record	6-1
2025 Home Record	4-2
2025 Away Record	5-0

QUICK *FACTS*

Location	Holland, MI
Founded	1866
Enrollment	3,427 (Fall 2024)
President	Matthew A. Scogin
Athletics Director	Tim Schoonveld
Sports Information Director	Alan Babbitt
Colors	Blue (Pantone) & Orange (Pantone)
Nickname	Flying Dutch
Affiliations	NCAA Division III Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association
Conference Website	https://miaa.org
Ticket Office	616-395-7890

HOPE FOOTBALL COMMUNICATIONS STAFF

Office	616-395-7860
Sports Information Director	Alan Babbitt
Email	babbitt@hope.edu
Sports Information Coordinator	Mackenzie McMahon
Email	mcmahon@hope.edu
Hope Athletics Website	athletics.hope.edu
Facebook	Hope College Football
X	@HopeCollegeFB
Instagram	@hopecollegefb

STADIUM

Football Facility	Ray and Sue Smith Stadium
Capacity	5,300+
Surface	Turf
Year Opened	1979

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach	Peter Stuursma
Offensive Coordinator & Quarterbacks Coach	Andrew Hawken
Defensive Coordinator & Linebackers Coach	Alex Smith
O-Line Coach & Recruiting Coordinator	Hunter Thompson
Cornerbacks Coach & Special Teams	Jinks Arnold
Wide Receivers Coach	Matt Bird
Running Backs Coach	Jim Caserta
Safeties Coach	KJ Landis
H/Y Coach	Curt Copeland
D-Line Coach	Isaiah Hicks | Jari Brown
Nickels and Sams Coach	Jeremy Gasper
Student Assistants	Ben Adkins, Granden Kinnie

SUPPORT STAFF

Strength & Conditioning Coach	Dan Margritz
Head Athletic Trainer	Erik Byl
Assistant Athletic Trainers	Mariah Supianoski
Managers	Rob Sterken, Andrew Tysse

THE RIVALRY *RECAPS*

2024: HOPE 38, CALVIN 7

The Hope College football team made sure its first-ever Rivalry meeting with Calvin University would be a day to remember. The Flying Dutchmen jumped out to a 21-0 lead after one quarter and went to defeat the Knights, 38-7, at Eagles Stadium in Grand Rapids to clinch a share of their 23rd MIAA championship in school history and their first trip to the NCAA Division III playoffs since 2019.

The Knights took the opening kickoff and drove inside the Hope 15-yard-line before the Flying Dutchmen stiffened. A 37-yard field goal attempt was no good and Hope took over possession of the ball.. The Flying Dutchmen then drove 80 yards in seven plays for the game's first points, with senior running back Tyler Amos (Portage, Michigan / Portage Northern HS) going the final two yards for the touchdown.

The Hope defense, which has been one of the toughest to run against in Division III all season, came up with a big stop on Calvin's next possession, as sophomore defensive backs Brad Raredon (Hudsonville, Michigan / Hudsonville) and Lorenzo Vitti (Dearborn, Michigan / Divine Child) stopped Knights' running back Jaier Harden for a 1-yard loss on a fourth-and-1, and the Dutchmen took over on downs at the Calvin 45. Two plays later, senior quarterback Ben Wellman (Bloomington, Illinois / Bloomington) connected with sophomore wide receiver Trevor Griffiths (Stevensville, Michigan / Lakeshore) on a 34-yard touchdown pass to give Hope a 14-0 lead.

Hope, which entered the game ranked third among Division III teams in total offense, generated 569 yards of total offense – 327 on the ground and 242 through the air. The defense, meanwhile, limited the Knights to 56 rushing yards and 242 yards of total offense for the game. Hope has still not allowed a rushing touchdown all season.

Amos led the ground attack, which was missing senior Chance Strickland due to injury, with 125 yards on 17 carries. Wellman threw for 220 yards on just nine completions and ran for 77 more on seven carries.

Motter chipped in 61 yards on the ground on 10 attempts. Fifth-year senior Grant Holtzer (Okemos, Michigan/Okemos) had 142 receiving yards on just four catches.

2025: HOPE 52, CALVIN 0

The Hope College football team lit up the scoreboard and the Saturday night sky on a historic evening at Ray and Sue Smith Stadium. The nationally ranked Flying Dutchmen provided all the fireworks in the first on-campus meeting of The Rivalry, defeating Calvin University 52-0 in front of 5,651 fans, one of the largest home crowds in program history.

Hope, ranked No. 16 in both the D3football.com and American Football Coaches Association polls, scored touchdowns on its first three possessions and added four more touchdowns and a field goal. Defensively, the Flying Dutchmen recorded back-to-back shutouts for the first time since 1983. Hope has not allowed a point over its past 10 quarters. The victory kept the Flying Dutchmen (7-1, 5-1 MIAA) in the league title chase with one week left in the regular season. Hope is tied for second place with Adrian College, one game behind first-place Alma College. Alma hosts Adrian next week, while Hope welcomes Olivet College to Ray and Sue Smith Stadium.

Hope limited Calvin (6-3, 3-3 MIAA) to a season-low 152 yards of total offense and forced three interceptions.

Freshman cornerback Keaton Hendricks (Zeeland, Michigan / Zeeland West), freshman linebacker Dom Cassise (Beverly Hills, Michigan / Detroit Country Day) and junior cornerback Lorenzo Vitti (Detroit, Michigan / Divine Child) each picked off passes. Senior linebacker Colton Schreur (Wayland, Michigan / South Christian) led the team with eight tackles. Senior defensive end Liam Danitz recorded one sack, giving him 12 this season, one of the top totals in the nation.

Hope's offense delivered as well, totaling 557 yards and 33 first downs while averaging 6.8 yards per play. Eleven different receivers and three quarterbacks combined for 297 passing yards, while 10 ball carriers totaled 260 rushing yards.

Sophomore running back Kal Motter (Lawton, Michigan / Lawton) and freshman running back Trey Goike (White Lake, Michigan / Orchard Lake St. Mary's) each rushed for two touchdowns.



MIAA CONFERENCE

2026 STANDINGS

	MIAA	OVERALL
HOPE	5-0	8-0
CALVIN	5-0	8-0
TRINE	4-1	6-2
KALAMAZOO	2-3	3-5
ALMA	2-3	2-6
ADRIAN	1-4	4-4
ALBION	1-4	1-7
OLIVET	0-5	3-5

2026 MIAA PRESEASON COACHES' POLL

1. **HOPE (7 points, 7 1st place)**
2. ALMA (15 points)
3. ADRIAN (17 points, 1 1st place)
4. CALVIN (28 points)
5. TRINE (29 points)
6. ALBION (40)
7. KALAMAZOO (42)
8. OLIVET (46)

THE RIVALRY: HOPE'S TOP PERFORMANCES VS. CALVIN

Most Passing Yards: 244, Alex Thole (2025)
Most Passing Touchdowns: 1, Ben Wellman (2024), Alex Thole (2025)
Most Rushing Yards: 125, Tyler Amos (2024)
Most Rushing Touchdowns: 2, Tyler Amos (2024), Trey Goike (2025), AJ Martel (2025)
Most Receiving Yards: 142, Grant Holtzer (2024)
Most Receptions: 8, Johnny Rohen-Blanton (2025)
Most Tackles: 10, Cole Luhmann (2024)
Most Sacks: 1, (twice in 2024 and 2025)
Most Interceptions: 1, (twice in 2024 and three times in 2025)
Longest Kickoff Return: 23, Gavein Reames (2025)
Longest Punt Return: 25, Gavin Reames (2025)
Longest Punt: 48, Noah Dunckel (2025)
Most Field Goals: 1, (2024 and 2025)
Longest Field Goal: 42, Caden Balkon (2025)
Most Total Offense: 557, 2025
Most Team Rushing Yards: 327, 2024
Most Team Passing Yards: 297, 2025
Most Points Scored: 52, 2025
Most Points Allowed: 7, 2024

GAME NOTES

TEAM EXCELLENCE

The Flying Dutch have excelled on both sides of the ball this season, ranking among the nation's best in several categories:
Total Offense, 14th (483.5 yds/game);
Scoring Defense, 14th (11.1 pts/game);
Total Defense, 15th (238.6 yds/game);
Scoring Offense, 22nd (41.5 pts/game).

GOING FOR IT

Hope has been efficient on third down, ranking among the NCAA Division III leaders with a 52.4% success rate (43-82) that is ninth best in Division III. Led by offensive coordinator Andrew Hawken, the Flying Dutch also ranks third in the nation in fourth-down success this season at 81.8% (9-11).

SCORING THREAT

Freshman running back Brody Schuiteman from Jenison High School is tied for second in NCAA Division III with 17 rushing touchdowns in eight games, trailing only Washington and Jefferson's Andrew Sharp by one rushing touchdown. Merchant Marine's Bubba Mustain also has 17 rushing touchdowns in eight games. After rushing for three touchdowns against Kalamazoo, Schuiteman moved into fourth place among Hope's single-season rushing touchdown leaders. Brandon Graham, Jenison Public Schools superintendent, holds the Hope record of 21. set duriong the 1996 season. Quarterback Mason Opple (2018) and running back Chance Strickland (2024) are tied for second with 18 apiece.

ON THE RUN

The Flying Dutch have established one of the nation's leading rushing attacks, averaging 270.5 yards per game and ranking 10th in NCAA Division III. Three running backs are shouldering the workload:

- Brody Schuiteman, 577 yards on 90 carries
- AJ Martel, 573 yards on 99 carries.
- Troy Goike, 485 yards on 66 carries.

Goike rushed for a career-high 146 yards vs. Olivet. Schuiteman ran for a career-best 121 yards vs. Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Martel rushed for a career-high 105 yards vs. Olivet.



PAVING THE WAY

Seven linemen make up the rotation: seniors Tim Clay, Kemper Millis and Philip McLaurin, juniors Nolan Collins, Caleb Fisher, and Nick Saade, and sophomore Aaron Hunt. Hope rushed at 200-plus yards four times this season. The Flying Dutch are 21st in total offense (464.4) and 26th in scoring offense (40.6).

ALEX THE GREAT

Quarterback Alex Thole has passes for 200 yards the past two games and three times this season. The senior completed 17-of-27 passes for 250 yards and one touchdown vs. Kalamazoo last week at Smith Stadium. Thole threw for a season-high 286 yards and three touchdowns, completing 17-of-23 passes at Alma, including a season-long 76-yard strike to wide receiver Trevor Griffiths that started a run of 38 unanswered points. Thole has passed for 4,477 yards and 29 touchdowns in two seasons since transferring to Hope from Grand Valley State University.

SOUNDING DEHORN

Wide receiver Kaden DeHorn set career highs against Denison in Week 1 by totaling 151 yards receiving and six receptions. He opened the game with a 52-yard catch on the first play from scrimmage that set up a 1-yard touchdown run from running back Brody Schuiteman. DeHorn later hauled in 65-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter.

2026 INDIVIDUAL SUPERLATIVES

RUSHING

Most Carries: 20, AJ Martel (Adrian)
Most Yards: 146, Trey Goike (Olivet)
Most TDs: 4, Brody Schuiteman (Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Hanover)
Longest Rush: 68, Trey Goike (Olivet)

PASSING

Most Completions: 20, Alex Thole (Wisconsin-Stevens Point)
Most Attempts: 25, Alex Thole (Wis.-Stevens Point, Adrian)
Most Yards 286, Alex Thole (Alma)
Most TD Passes: 3, Alex Thole (Alma)
Longest Pass: 82, Trevor Griffiths (Kalamazoo)

RECEIVING

Most Receptions: 6, Jonny Rohen-Blanton (Wis.-Stevens Point, Adrian),Kaden DeHorn (Denison)
Most Yards: 151, Kaden DeHorn (Denison)
Most TD Receptions: 2, Johnny Rohen-Blanton (2)
Longest Reception: 76, Trevor Griffiths (Alma)

DEFENSE

Most Tackles: 12, Nolan Vis (Alma)
Most Tackles for Loss: 3.5, Nolan Vis (Alma)
Most Sacks: 2, Patrick Rowland (Olivet)
Most Interceptions: 1, Trenton Bolhouse (Wisconsin-Stevens Point)

SPECIAL TEAMS

Most Field Goals: 1, Avery Umphrey (Alma)
Longest Field Goal: 36, Cooper Clark (Wis.-Stevens Point)
Most Punts: 6, Noah Dunckel (Adrian)
Best Punting Average: 45.0, Noah Dunckel (Kalamazoo
Longest Punt: 46, Noah Dunckel (Denison, Adrian)
Punts Inside the 20: 2, Noah Dunckel (three times, last, Adrian)
Longest Punt Return: 23, Connor Knapp (Alma)=
Longest Kickoff Return: 33, Connor Knapp (Albion)

OPPONENTS

Most Carries: 21, Sebastian Boswell (Adrian)
Most Rushing Yards: 103, Sebastian Boswell (Adrian)
Most TD Rushes: 1, Brian Rager (Denison), Ronnie Fergurson (Adrian)
Longest Rush: 24, Brian Rager (Denison), Ronnie Ferguson (Adrian)
Most Pass Completions: 34, Eian Roudebush (Hanover)
Most Pass Attempts: 50, Eian Roudebush (Hanover)
Most Passing Yards: 278, Brian Rager (Denison)
Most TD Passes: 1, four (Stevens Point, Hanover, Olivet, Adrian)
Longest Pass: 44, Sebastian Boswell (Adrian)
Most Receptions: 9, AJ Winders (Denison)
Most Receiving Yards: 92, AJ Winders (Denison)
Most TD Receptions: 1, five teams
Longest Reception: 44, Braiden Whitaker (Adrian)
Most Field Goals: 1, three (Wis.-Stevens Point, Hanover, Olivet)
Longest Field Goal: 39, Tyler Soldermann (Wis.-Stevens Point)
Most Punts: 8, Chcis Bowman (Albion)
Longest Punt: 60, Nick Stoner (Hanover)
Punts Inside 20: 2, Nick Stoner (Hanover)
Longest Kickoff Return: 100, Riley Dunbar (Adrian)
Most Tackles: 10, Paul Morris (Wicson-Stevens Point
Most Sacks: 1, five teams
Most Tackles for Loss: 3, Dewayne WIlliams (Albion)
Most Interceptions: 1, Jason Gyebl (Hanover), Thomas Hansen (Denison)

GAME NOTES

STINGY DEFENSE

Hope's defense has been in lockdown mode to start the season. The Flying Dutch did not allow an offensive touchdown until the fourth quarter in the first four games against Denison, Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Albion and Hanover. Led by first-year defensive coordinator Alex Smith, The Flying Dutch are tied for 10th in red-zone defense at 57.1%, seventh in third-down defense (53.7%), 22nd in first downs allowed (111), 28th in rushing defense (76.8), and 41st in passing yards allowed (161.9).

ARCHITECTS

Offensive coordinator Andrew Hawken and defensive coordinator Alex Smith have guided Hope to great heights this season. Hawken, who played football at Michigan State, has served in his role since the 2017 season. Smith, who played football at Central Michigan, is in his first season at Hope.

LEADING TACKLER

Linebacker Nolan Vis has established himself as the anchor of the Hope defense. The sophomore tops the Flying Dutch and ranks ninth in the MIAA at 6.6 tackles per game. Vis was selected as the MIAA Defensive Athlete of the Week following his performance during a 38-3 victory at Alma College. Vis helped Hope hold the Scots to a season-low three points and their second-fewest total yards gained, 205. He recorded a career-high and team-best 12 tackles, including seven solos and a career-high 3 ½ tackles for loss.

MANN UP

Senior safety Tyson Mann set a career-high in tackles against Hanover, recording a team-high eight. He recorded seven solos for a defense that limited the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference preseason favorite to a season-low 10 points one week after a winning 43-point effort against Marysville.

KICKING ACCOLADE

Freshman kicker Avery Umphrey was namie MIAA Special Teams Athlete of the Week on October 5 following his effort during a 66-17 victory at Olivet. Umphrey scored 12 points during the Flying Dutch's 66-17 victory at The University of Olivet, kicking a 28-yard field goal to open the scoring, then booted all nine PAT attempts for the second consecutive game, including six when Hope outscored the Comets 42-0.

POSTSEASON SUCCESS

Hope started a new tradition during the 2025 season, making back-to-back trips to the NCAA Division III Playoffs for the first time in program history. The Flying Dutch fell to the Universsity of Wisconsin-La Crosse, 9-7, at home at Ray and Sue Smith Stadium after advancing to the third round in 2024.

CAMPBELL TROPHY NOMINEE

Wide receiver Jonny Rohen-Blanton is Hope's College 2026 nominee for the National Football Foundation's WIlliam V. Campbell Trophy® award in college football. The senior business major has been a key contributor on the Flying Dutch's last two NCAA Division III playoff-qualifying teams, earned All-MIAA Second Team accolades last season as well as MIAA Academic Honor Roll distinction for the third time.

MIAA FOOTBALL ON TV

The Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association is bringing fans closer to the action with the launch of The MIAA Pulse, a new weekly football television program. The 30-minute program airs weekly on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. and will provide fans with an in-depth look at MIAA football each week through highlights, expert analysis, exclusive interviews and stories from across the conference. The MIAA Pulse is available on WXSP-TV, WOOD-TV+, and each MIAA member institution's video platform.

DEBUT IN 1893

The first recorded Hope College football game kicked off in 1893. Led by head coach Erasmus A. Whitenack, Hope defeated a team from the City of Holland. The score is unknown. Controversy on a national level over the nature of the hard-contact game kept organized football at Hope sidelined until 1902.

PRESEASON RANKINGS

The Hope College football team debuted in both the American Football Coaches Association and D3football Preseason Polls at 19th. The Flying Dutch totaled 351 points in the AFCA poll, the most among four MIAA teams that received votes. North Central College (Illinois), the 2025 national runner-up, topped this season's AFCA poll. Hope totaled 173 points in the D3football preseason rankings, the highest among four MIAA teams that received votes.

2026 TEAM SUPERLATIVES

OVERALL

Most Points: 66 (Albion)
Fewest Points: 27 (Hanover)
Most Opposing Points: 22 (Adrian)
Fewest Opposing Points: 0 (Albion)
Most Total Offense: 669 (Olivet)
Fewest Total Offense: 319 (Adrian)
Most First Downs, Total: 35 (Olivet)
Least First Downs, Total: 16 (Denison, Adrian)

RUSHING

Most Rushing Yards: 419 (Olivet)
Fewest Rushing Yards: 63 (Hanover)
Most Rushing Yards Allowed: 112 (Denison)
Fewest Rushing Yards Allowed: 68 Wisconsin-Stevens Point)
Most Rushing Attempts: 57 (Albion)
Fewest Rushing Attempts: 28 (Denison)
Most Rushing TDs: 7 (Albion)
Fewest Rushing TDs: 3 (Denison, Adrian)
Most Opposing Rushing TDs: 1 (Denison)
Fewest Opposing Rushing TDs: 0 (six teams)
Most First Downs, Rushing: 15 (Wisconsin-Stevens Point)
Least First Downs, Rushing: 4 (Alma)

PASSING

Most Passing Yards: 263 (Denison)
Fewest Passing Yards: 115 (Hanover)
Most Opposing Passing Yards: 278 (Denison)
Fewest Opposing Passing Yards: 35 (Albion)
Most Sacks: 8 (Olivet)
Most Passing Attempts: 25 (Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Adrian)
Fewest Passing Attempts: 17 (Albion)
Most Opposing Passing Attempts: 43 (Denison)
Fewest Opposing Passing Attempts: 21 (Albion)
Most Passing Completions: 20 (Wisconsin Stevens Point)
Fewest Passing Completions: 11 (Albion)
Most Opposing Passing Completions: 32 (Denison)
Fewest Opposing Passing Completions: 11 (Albion)
Most Passing Touchdowns: 3 (Olivet)
Fewest Passing Touchdowns: 0 (Albion, Alma)
Most Opposing Passing TDs: 1 (Denison)
Fewest Opposing Passing TDs: 0 (Wis.-Stevens Point, Albion)

OTHER

Fewest Sacks: 0 (Wis-Stevens Point, Adrian)
Most Opposing Sacks: 2 (Stevens-Point, Adrian)
Fewest Opposing Sacks: 0 (Denison, Hanover, Adrian)
Most Fumbles Recovered: 1 (Denison)
Most Fumbles Lost: 1 (Denison)
Most Interceptions: 1 (Wis.-Stevens Point)
Most Interceptions Thrown: 1 (Denison)
Most Punts: 6 (Adrian)
Fewest Punts: 2 (Denison, Albion)
Most Opposing Punts: 8 (Alma
Fewest Opposing Punts: 2 (Denison)
Most Penalties: 8 (Stevens Point, Olivet)
Fewest Penalties: 0 (Albion)
Most Penalty Yards: 105 (Stevens Point)
Fewest Penalty Yards: 0 (Albion)
Most First Downs Allowed: 21 (Denison)
Least First Downs, Allowed: 4 (Albion)

SEASON *RECAPS*

WEEK 1

The big Orange (and Blue) sacked the Big Red to kick off the 2026 college football season on a sweltering, 80-degree Saturday in Granville, Ohio.

The No. 19 Hope College football team powered past Denison University 28-14 behind offensive touchdowns in each quarter and timely defensive stops against the Big Red. The MIAA's unanimous preseason favorite never trailed and overcame two turnovers, including a fumble in the end zone that resulted in a Denison touchdown.

Freshman running back Brody Schuiteman rushed for a game-high two touchdowns, including a game-clinching 46-yard jaunt on fourth down with 4:13 remaining in the fourth quarter.
Defensively, sophomore linebacker Nolan Vis recorded a game-high 10 tackles, including nine solo.
The Flying Dutch surrendered 390 yards but forced two turnovers and held Denison to 1-of-4 scoring possessions inside the red zone.

WEEK 2

Facing an opponent from a formidable NCAA Division III conference, the nationally-ranked Hope College football team tackled the challenge successfully.

The Flying Dutch delivered in all three phases of the game during the Orange and Blue Weekend home opener on Saturday, earning a 38-10 victory against the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point at Ray and Sue Smith Stadium.

It was Hope's second victory against a Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference foe in five tries and the first since a 32-20 victory at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville on Sept. 21, 2002. The WIAC has produced six national champions and five national runner-ups this decade.

Sophomore linebacker Nolan Vis recorded a team-high eight tackles. The defense yielded only 162 yards of total offense: 64 on the ground and 98 through the year. Offensively, the Orange and Blue followed their line to a season-high in points and 456 yards of total offense, including a season-best 258 rushing.

WEEK 3

On a sweltering afternoon in southern Indiana, the nationally ranked Hope College football team beat the heat and an unbeaten opponent in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association-Heartland Collegiate Conference Crossover. The Flying Dutch powered past HCAC preseason favorite Hanover Col lege, 27-10, on Saturday, using a stout defense and a robust ground game to close non-league play with a 3-0 record.

Led by safety Tyson Mann, the Orange and Blue did not allow an opposing offensive touchdown until the fourth quarter for the third consecutive game despite playing in 90-degree temperatures on artificial turf even warmer. Mann finished with a team-high eight tackles, including one for loss.
Offensively, Hope averaged 6.2 yards per carry while outrushing the Panthers, 261-63. Freshman Brody Schuiteman led the charge with his second consecutive 100-yard game, running for 120 yards and four touchdowns on 19 carries. It was Schuiteman's second consecutive game with four rushing touchdowns.
Schuiteman now has 10 rushing touchdowns this season, ranking him among the NCAA Division III leaders.

WEEK 4

Many hands carried the unbeaten Hope College football team to a commanding MIAA opening performance. Using eight touchdown scorers and 32 tacklers, the nationally ranked Flying Dutch shut out Albion College for the second consecutive season, rolling to a 63-0 victory in front of a sunny Smith Stadium crowd of 2,838.

Hope, the MIAA's preseason favorite in the league's coaches poll, racked up a season-high 513 yards of total offense and held the Britons to just 66 yards total. The Orange and Blue also blanked Albion in consecutive meetings for the first time in the series' 97-game history. Hope won, 62-0, at Albion last season while giving up 81 yards. Led by first-year defensive coordinator Alex Smith, the Flying Dutch did not surrender a touchdown during the first three quarters for the fourth consecutive game this season. Entering Week 4, only six teams in NCAA Division III had allowed fewer yards in a game.

WEEK 5

A second-half Orange and Blue eruption launched the nationally ranked Hope College football team to a 66-17 victory at The University of Olivet on Saturday. The Flying Dutch rushed for a season-high 419 yards and finished with a season-best 669 yards of total offense. Hope also outscored the Comets 42-0 after halftime on their homecoming, bursting open a close score with six touchdowns during the third and fourth quarters. Defensively, the Orange and Blue held Olivet to 70 second-half yards on 35 plays and 204 yards. The Flying Dutch's total marked their highest single-game total since 459 during a 63-17 victory at Kalamazoo College on Oct. 28, 2023.
Sophomore running back Trey Goike led the Hope rushing attack with a career-high 146 yards on seven carries, including a 68-yard touchdown.

WEEK 6

With one final Orange and Blue push at the Adrian College 18-yard line for a first down, a lively One Big Weekend could finally end in celebration. The 11th-ranked Hope College football team ran out the final 1 minute and 42 seconds after running back AJ Martel's second-down carry for 15 yards, giving Flying Dutch fans, alums, and families on their special weekend a 24-22 victory against Adrian College in front of a Smith Stadium crowd of 5,004. The Orange and Blue overcame their first deficit of the season, and it was a large one. Adrian seized a 22-7 halftime lead. The Flying Dutch shut out Adrian during the second half and allowed only 53 total yards after halftime.

WEEK 7

Hustling past a defender, Hope College wide receiver Trevor Griffiths sprinted untouched down the middle of the field, caught Alex Thole's long pass in stride, and ran 76 yards for a go-ahead touchdown. Only more Flying Dutch points followed as ninth-ranked and unbeaten Hope rolled to a 38-3 win over Alma College on Saturday. The visiting Flying Dutch (7-0, 4-0 MIAA) dominated on defense and offense, holding the Scots to a season-low in points and outgaining them, 498-205.
Propelled by Griffith's longest play from scrimmage, the first play after Alma's Jace Heck kicked a career-long 47-yard field goal with 1:21 remaining in the first quarter, Hope tacked on three more touchdowns and a season-high two field goals

WEEK 8

Running back Brody Schuiteman continued his meteoric rise up among Hope College football's all-time leaders as the ninth-ranked Flying Dutch soared to a 48-13 victory against visiting Kalamazoo College on Saturday. Schuiteman gave the Orange and Blue three of their first four touchdowns, giving him 17 rushing TDs, just four behind Brandon Graham's 1996 single-season record. The freshman entered the game tied for first in NCAA Division III in rushing scores. Hope's defense excelled against Kalamazoo, shutting out the Hornets (3-5, 2-3 MIAA) for the first three quarters. The Flying Dutch, led by sophomore linebacker Nolan Vis, allowed only four downs during the first half.





PETER STUURSMA *HEAD COACH*

In 10 seasons, head coach Peter Stuursma '93 has guided the Hope College football team to a 76-20 overall record, including a 49-10 mark in Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association games. The Orange and Blue have made three playoff appearances, including in back-to-back seasons for the first time in program history (2024 and 2025).

The Flying Dutch have won three MIAA titles — outright championships in 2024 and 2019 and a co-championship in 2021 — and finished in second place four times during his tenure.

In 2024, Stuursma led Hope to the first 10-0 regular-season in program history and was named both the American Football Coaches Association Region 5 and MIAA Coach of the Year. He also guided the Flying Dutchmen to their first postseason win with a 49-21 second-round victory vs. Aurora Univerity.

Hope recorded the second nine-win season in team history in 2019 when the Flying Dutchmen made their fifth NCAA Division III playoff appearance. Stuursma is Hope's seventh head football coach. He followed Dean Kreps (1995-2015), Ray Smith (1970-94), Russ DeVette (1955-69), Al Vanderbush (1946-54), Bud Hinga (1931-42) and Jack Schouten (1920-30).

Stuursma has deep ties to Hope College and the Flying Dutchmen football program. As a student-athlete, Stuursma served as co-captain for the Hope College football team during his senior season. He was a running back and special teams player. Stuursma received the team's Allan C. Kinney award after the 1992 season despite playing in only three games due to an injury. The award, presented annually since 1971 and named in memory of football player Allan C. Kinney, who died of cancer in his senior year in 1967, honors a senior player for maximum contribution to the football program. As a coach, Stuursma served as the Flying Dutchmen's defensive coordinator during the 1999 season before becoming a teacher and head football coach at East Grand Rapids. Hope claimed a share of the MIAA title in the 1999 season with a 5-1 league record while allowing only 18.1 points per game and scoring 32.6. Stuursma also was Hope's recruiting coordinator that football season as well as an assistant track coach for the 1999-2000 year.

At East Grand Rapids High School, the Pioneers flourished on the field under Stuursma's guidance. His teams went 162-34 with 13 state playoff appearances during his 16-season tenure. They claimed Michigan High School Athletic Association state titles in 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2003, and 2002. They also reached the state semifinals twice. Stuursma was named Detroit Lions High School Coach of the Year in 2008 and High School Football Coaches Association Division 3 Football Coach of the Year in 2010, 2009 2008, 2007, 2006 and 2002. He was inducted into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame in March of 2020. Stuursma also served as principal at East Grand Rapids Middle School from 2005 to 2016. He was assistant principal at East Grand Rapids High School from 2002 to 2004. He taught social studies and physical education for three years prior to becoming an administrator. Stuursma graduated from Hope College in 1993, completing the secondary teacher education program, majoring in physical education and minoring in social studies. In 1998, he earned a master's degree in physical education / sports administration from the University of Northern Colorado. In 1997, Stuursma worked as a graduate assistant on the NCAA Division II National Champion Northern Colorado football team.

YEAR-BY-YEAR AS HEAD COACH

YEAR	*RECORD*	*NOTES*
2026	8-0-0	
2025	9-2-0	2nd in MIAA
2024	11-0-0	1st in MIAA
2023	8-2-0	2nd in MIAA
2022	6-4-0	T-3rd in MIAA
2021	8-2-0	T-1st in MIAA
2020	DNP	Pandemic
2019	9-2-0	1st in MIAA
2018	8-2-0	2nd in MIAA
2017	8-2-0	2nd in MIAA
2016	7-3-0	3rd in MIAA

COACHING *STAFF*



ANDREW HAWKEN

Offensive Coordinator and Quarterbacks Coach

Andrew Hawken has served as the offensive coordinator for the Hope College football team since the 2017 season. He also coaches the quarterbacks. From 2017 through 2023, Hawken also coached the H-Backs and tight ends.



ALEX SMITH

Defensive Coordinator and Linebacker Coach

Alex Smith was introduced as Hope College's defensive coordinator on Feb. 12, 2026. After graduating from CMU, Smith went into coaching and has spent the last 11 seasons coaching at the high school level in Michigan.



HUNTER THOMPSON

Offensive Line Coach and Recruiting Coordinator

Hunter Thompson joined Hope College Football as the offensive line coach prior to the 2021 fall season. In February 2022, he moved into a full-time position that included a role as recruiting coordinator.



JINKS ARNOLD

Cornerbacks Coach and Special Teams Coordinator

Jinks Arnold joined the Hope College football coaching staff for the 2023 season. He coaches cornerbacks and serves as special teams coordinator.



MATT BIRD

Wide Receivers Coach

Matt Bird joined the Hope College Football coaching staff prior to the 2022 season as wide receivers coach. Bird brings a winning pedigree to the Flying Dutchmen after serving as head coach at two high schools for 16 seasons and winning 88 games.



JIM CASERTA

Running Backs Coach

Jim Caserta joined the Hope College Football coaching staff for the 2017 season. He coaches running backs. Caserta coached quarterbacks from 2017-2013. Prior to coming to Hope, Caserta coached football at the high school level for 35 seasons in Michigan and Ohio.



KJ LANDIS

Safeties Coach

KJ Landis joined the Hope College football coaching staff prior to the 2024 season as a safeties coach. Landis previously served as defensive coordinator at Grandville High School the past four seasons.



CURT COPELAND

Tight Ends/H Coach

Curt Copeland '03 returned to the Hope College Football coaching staff a tight ends/H-backs coach before the 2026 season.



ISAIAH HICKS

Defensive Line Coach

Isaiah Hicks '25 joined the Hope College Football staff before the 2024 season as a student assistant coach. He was named the defensive line coach before the 2025 season. Hicks played on the defensive line for the Flying Dutchmen for three years.



JARI BROWN

Defensive Line Coach

Jari Brown joined the Hope College Football coaching staff before the 2026 season as a defensive line coach. Brown currently serves as a high school physical education teacher at East Kentwood's freshman campus. He worked as a corrections officer for Washtenaw County in southeast Michigan for 14 1/2 years before pursuing a career in education.



JEREMY GASPER

Nickels and Sams Coach

Drew Peterson joined the Hope College Football staff as the H/Y coach for the 2025 season. Peterson played tight end for four years at Grand Valley State University, totaling 30 receptions for 239 yards and two touchdowns in 48 games (2021-24).

HOPE FOOTBALL *DEPTH CHART*

GAME NINE VS. CALVIN

OFFENSE

QB	4	Alex Thole	Sr.	5-10	173
	3	Jonathan Pittman	So.	6-2	222
RB	8	AJ Martel	Jr.	5-9	200
	21	Trey Goike	So.	5-9	194
LT	73	Aaron Hunt	So.	6-4	256
	68	Brendan Syrba	So.	6-2	277
LG	56	Kemper Millis	Sr.	6-0	303
	72	Braden Hembree	So.	6-0	294
C	75	Timothy Clay	Sr.	6-1	260
	63	Caleb Fisher	Jr.	6-1	290
RG	71	Phillip McLaurin	Sr.	6-0	278
	78	Josh Pritzlaff	So.	6-2	305
RT	61	Nolan Collins	Jr.	6-2	276
	62	Nick Saade	Jr	6-4	324
H	40	Seth Luhmann	Sr.	5-11	232
	17	Cameron Peterson	Jr.	5-9	209
WR	1	Eli VanderVeen	Sr.	6-4	221
	10	Liam Young	Jr.	6-0	195
WR	2	Trevor Griffiths	Sr.	5-10	169
	0	Connor Knapp	So.	6-1	204
WR	15	Kaden DeHorn	Sr.	6-6	239
	14	Charlie Norton	So.	6-3	200

DEFENSE

DE	43	Tyler Radley	Jr.	6-1	241
	11	Jude Osunaiye	So.	6-1	216
DT	48	Jake Punches	Jr.	6-0	245
	99	Jacob Reynolds	Sr.	6-0	276
DT	69	Tate Bezeau	Sr.	6-1	275
	55	Jayden Libema	Jr.	6-2	266
DE	23	Joey Mahaney	Sr.	6-4	224
	92	Davis Hutt	Fr.	6-2	221
LB	22	Mike Murphy	Jr.	5-10	199
	41	Connor Brintnall	So.	6-0	216
LB	5	Nolan Vis	Sr.	5-11	206
	29	Aidan Decker	So.	6-2	214
LB	12	Dom Cassise	So.	6-3	191
	24	Wyatt Hicks	Jr.	5-9	189
S	25	Trenton Bolhouse	Jr.	6-3	193
	4	Mason Gougis	Jr.	5-11	187
S	9	Tyson Mann	Sr.	6-0	174
	16	Cooper Clark	So.	6-2	182
CB	13	Austin Harvey	Sr.	5-10	190
	14	Caleb Clinger	Sr.	5-9	166
CB	3	Louis Bosscher	Jr.	6-1	188
	15	Matt Toole	Jr.	6-0	168

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	89	Avery Umphrey	Fr.	5-11	163
	16	Cooper Clark	So.	6-2	182
KO	16	Cooper Clark	So.	6-2	182
	89	Avery Umphrey	Fr.	5-11	163
HOLD	3	Jonathan Pittman	So.	6-2	222
	10	Liam Young	Jr.	6-0	195
LS	10	Liam Young	Jr.	6-0	195
	83	Ian McGrath	So.	5-11	232

P	26	Noah Dunckel	So.	5-11	209
	16	Cooper Clark	So.	6-2	182
KR	0	Connor Knapp	So.	6-1	204
	10	Liam Young	Jr.	6-0	195
PR	0	Connor Knapp	So.	6-1	204
	10	Liam Young	Jr.	6-0	195

FLYING DUTCH *BREAKDOWN*

HOPE
FLYING DUTCH
8-0, 450 MIAA



HEAD COACH
PETER STUURSMA
RECORD AT HOPE: *82-20*

HOPE 2026 STATISTICAL LEADERS

PASSING	COMP	ATT	INT	PCT	TD	YPG
ALEX THOLE	127	179	2	70.95	8	206.5

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	TD	Lg	AVG/G
AJ MARTEL	99	573	5.8	9	30	71.63
BRODY SCHUITEMAN	90	577	6.4	17	46	72.13
TREY GOIKE	66	485	7.3	3	68	60.63

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	Lg	AVG/G
JONNY ROHEN-BLANTON	27	355	13.15	3	36	50.71
KADEN DEHORN	24	370	15.42	2	65	46.25
TREVOR GRIFFITHS	19	437	23.00	2	82	54.63

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG
NOAH DUNCKEL	20	668	33.40

FIELD GOALS	FGM	FGA	%	LONG
AVERY UMPHREY	3	4	75.00	32

PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	LONG
CONNOR KNAPP	16	141	8.81	0	23

KICKOFF RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	LONG
CONNOR KNAPP	12	267	22.25	0	33

OPPONENT *BREAKDOWN*

CALVN
KNIGHTS
8-0, 5-0 MIAA



HEAD COACH
TRENT FIGG
RECORD AT CALVIN: *9-13*

CALVIN 2026 STATISTICAL LEADERS

PASSING	COMP	ATT	INT	PCT	TD	YPG
THOMAS VACCARO	187	257	3	72.76	37	317.75

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	TD	LG	AVG/G
HAYDEN SLEGERS	65	322	5.0	0	27	40.25
THOMAS VACCARO	62	369	6.0	5	20	46.13
NICK EARLES	45	219	4.9	2	32	27.38

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LG	AVG/G
HUNTER HOGAN	61	822	13.48	13	68	102.75
LUKE MICHMERHUIZEN	43	611	14.21	7	43	76.38
HAYDEN SLEGERS	17	200	11.76	1	24	25.00

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG
LOGAN NAP	14	568	40.57

FIELD GOALS	FGM	FGA	%	LONG
SAL RUFFINO	5	8	62.5	43

PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	TD
HUNTER HOGAN	12	144	12.00

KICKOFF RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD
AIDEN O'BRIEN	9	218	24.22	0