

## CALVIN COLLEGE



#WEARECALVIN PAGE 3



BOOKBINDING PAGE 4



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SNAKE SENSATION PAGE 8

## Building projects primary source of financial troubles

*Le Roy releases summary of task force report Thursday, points to construction projects and investments*

BY RYAN STRUYK  
& ABBY ZWART

Online Editor and Editor in Chief

Calvin's method of financing construction projects significantly contributed to Calvin's fiscal problems, according to a task force report summary released by President Le Roy early Thursday afternoon.

The administration posted the report on a new website developed to help explain Calvin's financial situation. The website also includes letters from Le Roy and the Board of Trustees chair Scott Spoelhof as well as a frequently asked questions page.

The report explains that Calvin exceeded funding on several building projects and spent \$30.8 million more than it raised through fundraising. About half of that \$30.8 million came from the construction of the multi-million Spoelhof Fieldhouse completed in 2009.

"We built more building than we raised funds for," said Le Roy.

This \$30.8 million makes up almost half of a \$69.4 million unfunded gap in the plant fund, an

investment fund which was intended to pay off debt.

The plant fund can cover Calvin's debt service only through the 2014-15 fiscal year, according to the report.

"So what we have learned is that we cannot count on plant fund money in this fund to take care of this debt," said Le Roy.

The report attributed the rest of the gap to smaller-than-expected returns on investments and various other projects.

One of the main reasons the investments came back low was because Calvin had diverted money from the plant fund to cover extra spending on building projects.

"Generally, you put money you raised in a fund and invest it, hopefully getting something like 9 percent, then borrow money at a lower rate, usually 3 or 4 percent," said Le Roy. "If this works we're earning a

lot of money."

But since there was less money in the plant fund, the investments generated less returns than they otherwise would have.

The administration's aggressive investments did not fully



The Fieldhouse contributed almost half of the \$30.8 million extra building spending.

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Crossing. The recently-renovated Covenant Fine Arts Center — as well as the DeVos Communications Center and Prince Conference Center — stayed within initial projections.

"There was a strategy that had a lot of assumptions with it," said Le Roy, referring to Calvin's practice of borrowing money for buildings and then investing the money gifted for the building in the plant fund.

"That was the plan. If that had worked, they should have about \$115 million in [the plant fund]. But when I looked into it, I saw about \$42 million. Now we have to close that gap."

The report released by Le Roy is a summary of a full report

See "Budget," page 11

## Rangeela switches up acts

BY HAYLEY COX  
On-Call Writer

"Color, culture, and diversity; that is what Rangeela is about," said master of ceremonies Jed Bell.



Dancers from the Indonesian act wore traditional costumes and played the angklung.

PHOTO BY ANNA DELPH

This year's Rangeela performance — which sold out four days before the Friday opening — proved that these things are indeed what Calvin is all about.

This year, 180 students participated in 11 acts. While the show

always dances. The Navajo act, for example, featured a story of how the cosmos came into being.

"At first, I wasn't a huge fan of the Navajo act," said junior Audrey Hughey, "but I found myself getting into the story towards

I thought the entire show was awesome."

The Mexican, Peruvian and Caribbean acts offered a taste of

See "Dance," page 2

## Hollywood gathers

BY SIERRA SAVELA  
Staff Writer

The Oscars, film's biggest night, bring all of Hollywood's stars and royalty together to honor those who have made great achievements in the art of film. Movies are so important in our culture. They make us laugh, cry, hope, dream and aspire to be better than that which we have already become. They make us ponder life's great complexities, they inspire us to do great things and they define generations. They are stories put into motion, beautiful and epic.

This year's Oscars were hosted by Seth MacFarlane (Family Guy), who seemed like an odd choice at first but did a wonderful job. This man is a triple threat, he can sing, he can dance and he is funny as heck. The night started off with Seth waltzing onto the stage with the dazzling lights behind him wearing a suave tux. He shot off some funny jokes making the audience laugh at times and cringe at others. He showed off his im-

pressive, Frank Sinatra style voice by singing "The Way You Look Tonight" as Channing Tatum and Charlize Theron very gracefully ballroom danced around him. And he made our hearts pound when he tapped danced with Daniel Radcliff and Joseph Gordon-Levitt to "High Hopes."

The night was dedicated to the music of film and how without music, movies would be next to nothing. Music lets the audience know what to feel and when to feel it; it is the building block of motion pictures. There were many wonderful performances including Catherine Zeta Jones singing "All that Jazz" from "Chicago," which won Best Picture 10 years ago. "Dreamgirls" Jenifer Hudson sang a beautiful rendition of "You're Gonna Love Me." The entire cast of Les Misérables came together to sing "One More Day," and Adele sang "Skyfall," which not only won a Grammy but received the Oscar for Best Original Song.

The night was history in the making; many records were broken. Nine-year-old Quvenzhané

See "Oscars," page 7

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THE OFFICIAL STUDENT  
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COLLEGE SINCE 1907

## Professor Bratt wins award for exemplary teaching

BY GRACE RUITTER  
News Co-Editor

When Professor James Bratt was home sick from school as a kid, he read history textbooks.

"My dad taught history and bible. We didn't have a TV until I was about 10 or 11, so when I would be home sick, I would just pick up old textbooks," he recalls.

All those sick days paid off. Bratt, who has been a history professor at Calvin since 1987, recently received the Presidential Award for Exemplary Teaching from the college. It is the highest award a professor can be given. Bratt received the award at the annual Faculty Awards Dinner on Feb. 14.

Bratt primarily teaches classes in American history and the history of religion in America. His research focuses on similar areas. He specializes in Abraham Kuyper and has a biography of Kuyper coming out in a few

months. He is also intrigued by religion in the quarter century leading up to the American Civil War.

"We have to study that time period without knowing the war

is still an "old-fashioned lecture kind of guy," but he has come to put learning in the hands of students more often since he began teaching.

"I think I've learned that better

ent. However, he says he did not slow down enough to enjoy the ride at first.

"It has been really important to me to learn patience. I always had this sense of urgency and insecurity. I've been blessed with a long and productive career, but I didn't realize it until I was about halfway through it," Bratt says.

He hopes current Calvin students learn that lesson sooner. When he graduated from Calvin, he was facing Vietnam, whereas today's students face greater economic barriers. However, Bratt believes the same advice holds true today:

"You do have to embrace these difficulties and injustices, but you can't be dictated by them,"

he says.

Those who have embraced those difficulties and overcome them in the past are the people we study in history class today. Their stories are the reason Bratt loves history so much.

"I always had a natural fascination with story. I've never felt the past is distant, or irrelevant," he explains. "We're part of a much older and very intriguing story, and we're just writing the next page in a long book."



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The Presidential Award for Exemplary Teaching is the highest award a professor can be given.

was happening. History can go in many different ways. That generation so often gets defined in terms of the Civil War," Bratt says.

Bratt thinks it is important to reevaluate that time period from their perspective.

"For them, the war was not the only possible outcome. The Civil War is big and important, but it doesn't define their whole reality," Bratt explains.

In his teaching, Bratt says he

learning will happen if I shut up some and just trust the students to come up with questions and trust the process. I've really come to see less is more," he says.

Over his long career, Bratt has also learned to take the time to "smell the roses." Bratt, who earned his doctorate from Yale, has accomplished a lot in his career. He has received a number of grants, published over 50 articles and written eight books. He is also a two-time Fulbright recipi-

## DANCE: Rangeela showcased diversity

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the rich diversity in an area that is typically lumped together by stereotype. The African acts provided more context to the different countries and cultures when compared with last year. And the Indonesian and Chinese acts diverted from the norm to give the audience a look at the other equally beautiful sides of the respective cultures.

The Rangeela Committee chose "study abroad" as the theme for this year's show.

"It's educational," said this year's Rangeela director Esther Kwak. "It shows that you don't necessarily have to study abroad to learn about other cultures."

"I think the theme is rather splendid," said Kofi Akyeampong, leader of the African Dance act. "Many people have to learn a lot about our culture ... [At Rangeela], all you have to do is be attentive and learn [without books]. If that's how classes were at Calvin, who wouldn't want to take that? It's really genius."

Along with the themes, the structure of Rangeela as an organization has changed since its inception in 1996. Its creator, Egyptian student Anne Zaki, decided to replicate a show her high school in Canada, where she had been an exchange student, would put on each year. The first free show was Thursday night in old Fine Arts Center (FAC) and 600 students showed up to watch.

In 1998, when there was still no charge and the show had

moved to Saturday night. Every seat was occupied in the FAC, even overflowing to the aisles.

The following year, Rangeela leadership charged admission. A few years after that, the show's popularity demanded it become a two-night event.

Now, in 2013, Rangeela is no longer even a student orga-

are learning about the traditions and cultural background for the act they are in. Second, the audience. We don't want them to just attend to watch and leave, but also to embrace this great opportunity."

Besides limiting the number of acts in which students can participate to two, students have not

between openness and authenticity, as some acts remain closed to those not from the country represented in the act.

"I definitely respect the fact that people should be given a chance in trying to join in the showcase, however, people should also respect the fact that there are just some acts that need

to be done or are best done by people of the same culture," said Akyeampong.

"It's entirely up to the leaders," said Emily Larken, the Chinese act leader. "The faces aren't the point. The point is making something beautiful. What it comes down to is the experience more important than the dance, or is it to experience the dance as authentically as possible?"

All in all, though, Rangeela rarely leaves people wanting and has members returning each year because they believe in what Rangeela is all about.

"I love that we get to learn the values of other cultures,"

said Larken. "What they think is beautiful."

"Rangeela is important because it reminds us that there is more going on around the world than just what's happening with our own lives," said senior participant Lea Boehlke. "It gives us a chance to experience different cultures and may even spark within us a curiosity to learn more."

"We're all coming together to praise God for diversity," said Kwak. "And what's not great about that?"



PHOTO BY ANNA DELPH

Rangeela's theme this year, "study abroad" was an educational examination of culture.

nization. Due to budget and complaints from professors that the time students put into Rangeela was affecting their studies, Rangeela converted to a non-student organization under the authority of the international student association committee and the international student development office. As such, many changes manifested themselves in this year's show.

"We had to totally revamp the mission statement and focus on education," said Kwak. "First, with participation. The students

experienced much change from the transition.

"There hasn't been a substantial difference on the participant end," said participant junior Nathan Phillips.

"I've heard from some tech people that there have been communication challenges," said Chinese act leader Emily Larken. "But there are always going to be things that go wrong after a big change. I'm just glad we still get to do this."

And while most students agree, tension still underlines the line

# #WeAreCalvin



I took this picture during an interim abroad to Europe. Studying abroad, either for a semester or for an interim, is one of the most exciting opportunities Calvin offers. Many of my friends look back on their semester or interim abroad as the apex of their Calvin career. Calvin currently has an incredibly strong off-campus program. I've gone on interim trips to Israel and to Switzerland. This photo was taken during a three-day vacation trip down to Paris that occurred at the end of my study in L'Abri, Switzerland. I look back on these trips and I know that they have profoundly affected my undergraduate experience and the way that I see the world.

**Josiah Sinclair ('13)**

This is a picture of the Outdoor Recreation/Creation Care floor on its fall floor retreat. We hiked the Manistee River Trail over a weekend, using the time to grow closer as a community. My Calvin experience would not be what it is without the living learning communities. They are a uniquely Calvin project that underscores our commitment to intentional Christian community. The intentionality that pervades this campus starts in the dorms, in our day-to-day interactions with each other as we live life in community.

**Ansley Kelly ('16)**



An aspect of Calvin that I love is the climbing wall! For us climbers, the wall is more than just rocks screwed onto a wall. It is the island away from "all things" school. When climbing, all stress leaves, and you get devoured by the task of scaling what lies before you. The rock wall has been so important to me since I came to Calvin. It keeps me going. The climbing wall also comes with a unique culture that I have loved getting involved in. It is almost a community of its own. A community of pushers and achievers. Always pushing for harder climbs, and always achieving new heights and because of these aspects there are always new ways to grow in my climbing ability. For these reasons, I believe the rock wall is important to Calvin.

**Nick VanderKolk ('16)**



## Student Senate launches #WeAreCalvin

BY GRACE RUITER  
Campus Co-Editor

Student senate is partnering with the Planning and Priorities Committee on a campaign seeking student opinions on the Calvin experience. The PPC plans to use the data gathered from the campaign to make decisions about Calvin's future. The campaign is called #WeAreCalvin. It will launch on March 4 and run until March 10.

President LeRoy believes that the campaign affirms Calvin's commitment to students.

"One thing that's really clear is every person at Calvin College is here to serve the students," he said.

#WeAreCalvin asks students to submit pictures of their favorite things about Calvin, such as a favorite study spot, or Calvin sports team. Pictures can be submitted through the Student Senate Facebook page by clicking on the #WeAreCalvin tab. Students can also upload them to Instagram or Twitter with the hashtag #WeAreCalvin.

Once uploaded or tagged, the photos will be available on the student senate Facebook page for other students to vote on the images they think are most important to the Calvin experience.

Student senate members are excited about the possibilities for

communication available using social media.

"One of our goals is to connect the administration with students, and to get students opinion about what they value on Calvin's campus in a unique way that wouldn't be possible without the technology," Nate Slauer, a junior student senator said.

Zee Kandanga, a sophomore

According to their mandate, the PPC is "concerned with the long-range direction of the college and with evaluating specific needs and priorities in light of the college's mission and strategic plan."

Senators say they are working closely with this committee on the project, as well as LeRoy.

We're working hand in hand

with the team that President LeRoy is working with on PPC," Kandanga said.

LeRoy appreciates the project's emphasis on students and their role in the decision-making process.

"The students are at the heart of our mission, and so, as we're trying to prioritize and strategize going forward, we'd be really remiss

if we didn't have that," he said. In addition to helping the college plan for the future, Student Senate hopes the #WeAreCalvin campaign will be a fun and creative way to celebrate Calvin College.

LeRoy is also excited about the creative possibilities of this project.

"I really appreciate student senate's creativity. It's cool they are doing it using photos. I'm excited about it."



STUDENT SENATE

**#We are Calvin is a campaign seeking student's opinions.**

student senator, expressed similar hopes.

"One of our goals is to connect the administration with students and to get students opinion about what they value on Calvin's campus in a way that wouldn't be possible without the technology," she said.

Senate plans to pass along the top 25 images based on student voting to the PPC. The PPC plays an important role in the decision-making process of the college.

One thing I have found to be very important to Calvin is the student organizations. There are over fifty student organizations on campus. They provide an incredible opportunity for anyone to find something he or she is interested in. Student organizations have the ability to create an extremely intentional community with people who have similar interests. Each student organization creates its own culture and community.

I am part of student senate and I have gained my closest friends from being on senate. This is because we all have similar interests and all fall in the same personality area. If Calvin did not have such an incredible variety of student organizations, myself and countless others would not have the community that is essential to a healthy college experience. Student organizations provide so many opportunities for personal, intellectual, spiritual and emotional growth. The many events that take place on campus also provide a great opportunity to meet more people and are often an opportunity for discernment.

**Jerry Grieser ('16)**



“ This really takes a two-by-four and really hits every agency, every department. It really hurts Americans.

Kathleen Sebelius, “Michigan affected by budget cuts” ”

## Art opening at 106 Gallery showcases unique beauty of books

11 Calvin students created works of art utilizing book materials and bookmaking methods

BY BRITTANY BEEZHOLD  
Staff Writer

Tiny triangular books, sculptural birds, dissected books and traditionally bound codex books were among the variety of books that lined the tables of the 106 Gallery's basement gallery space.

On Friday, Calvin College's art department and Visual Arts Guild sponsored the opening of EX LIBRIS: W-Eighty. During the month of January, 11 Calvin students learned the artistry of bookmaking under the guidance of Professor Anna Greidanus.

As a sampling of their collective 150 handmade books, the EX LIBRIS: W-Eighty show

is an interactive exhibition exploring the book as an aesthetic object.

“One of the things I like about teaching this class is it sort of merges art with a form that functions for most people simply as a reservoir of text,” says Greidanus.

“Now that we are entering the digital age where people



Professor Greidanus recycles book materials she finds during the year specifically for use in the bookmaking class.

are starting to wonder about the book and is it an antiquated functional object, I think there is more of a sensibility that the book is more than just a piece of paper with text on it,” says Greidanus. “It is an object that could be appreciated aesthetically.”

The 11 students who took the course expanded their creativity between binding methods and stitch styles to more elaborate sculptural forms and

dissected books.

“I like the pamphlet stitch because it's really functional,” says senior Annette Brouwer. “It is cheap to do and really accessible so a lot of people could learn it easily.”

Senior Scott Rodger extended his exploration of the book form into sculptural forms.

“My sculptural pieces are each a paperback book that I folded every single page in a different or sometimes the exact same fold or sometimes in variable positions,” says Roger. “But I folded every single page in the book — about 400 pages long — and they take on the spiral quality all by themselves.”

Students engaged in problem-solving organizational, conceptual and visual elements through their works.

From aged graph paper and wallpaper to science fiction excerpts and newspapers, the hand-

materials. I honestly look for materials all year round — if I see a pile of old books or old magazines or maybe even things like string or yarn.”

Investigating the book form at a young age, Greidanus credits her drawing experience as the root of her interest in bookbinding.

“In graduate school when I was taking drawing, I can remember doing layered drawings, works on paper where one layer related to the other layer.

made books demonstrated the wide variety of materials provided.

“This is one of the unique features of the class because I collect materials year round and I save them,” says Greidanus.

“The room is usually filled with supplies.”

“I strongly believe in recycling and re-purposing ma-

I would put them together and essentially that was already a book. So [bookbinding] emerged out of my interest in drawing and working with mixed media on paper,” she says.

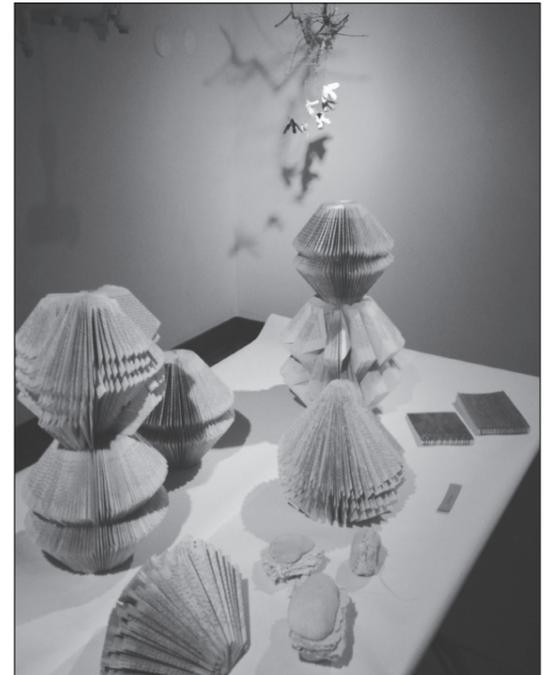
In addition to the gallery of books displayed, a wide variety of food was gathered in a potluck, with many visitors lingering in conversation.

“I wanted the opening to be a place for people to gather to share food with that informality extended into sharing the books,” says Greidanus.

The show is open until March 24 at 106 Gallery (106 South Division). Gallery hours are Wednesdays 1-9 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays 1-6 p.m.



Professor Greidanus designed the opening to be informal, with food and conversation.



Professor Greidanus focuses on the book as an aesthetic object, not just a text reservoir.

PHOTOS BY BRITTANY BEEZHOLD

## Michigan government and economy likely to be affected by budget cuts

Federal spending cuts known as sequestration could have implications for a variety of programs

BY JOSEPH MATHESON  
Local News Editor

The looming government spending cuts known as the sequester could have serious impacts on the Michigan government and economy. The \$1.2 trillion federal cuts could result in millions or billions of cuts to Michigan education, public safety and job assistance programs among many others.

The sequester was created by the Budget Control Act of 2011 to find \$1.2 trillion in cuts and to be enacted if Congress could not pass a comprehensive deficit reduction plan.

The deadline has already come up, but Congress was not able to pass a deficit reduction plan, so they pushed the deadline back to March 1. Obama's current deficit reduction plan has faced opposition from Congressional Republicans, who believe that a deficit reduction plan should involve almost exclusively spending cuts.

It's unclear how soon and to what degree the sequester would affect Michigan specifically. The federal government is funded through March 27, so any cuts would not affect Michigan's budget for at least a month, but since more than half of the \$48 billion Michigan state budget comes from federal money, there could be a very serious impact. John Nixon, Gov. Snyder's budget chief, has said that the largest

portion of those federal dollars — the ones which go to Medicaid, food stamps and welfare — would be exempt from cuts.

The White House issued a report detailing the potential impact of sequestration cuts on a state-by-state basis, and its report for Michigan includes the loss of \$22 million to primary and secondary education, which it estimates will result in the loss of about 300 teacher or aide positions as well as leading to around 2,500 fewer lower-income students receiving financial aid for college and 1,300 fewer receiving work-study jobs to help them through college. Nixon said it was not clear how exactly spending cuts would affect Michigan education; while he admitted that it would likely lead to fewer teachers long-term, he also was clear that “at the end

of the day, every kid is still going to be educated.”

The White House also esti-

mates that Michigan would lose \$315,000 for HIV testing and \$2.9 million for programs to fight substance abuse.

other public safety programs, as well as losing \$1.7 million in funds to job search assistance programs, which they estimate could impact about 54,000 people.

“When you use a meat cleaver approach like they've done, you have unintended consequences — hitting programs with real people,” Nixon said in an AP interview. “Probably some of the programs shouldn't be cut. The bottom line is sequestration was not supposed to happen.”

Nixon is especially worried about cuts to programs providing heating or food to lower-income families and pregnant women. The White House estimate sequestration would cost Michigan \$1.8 million for providing meals to senior citizens,

Obama has criticized the inability of Congress to pass a deficit plan, arguing that the uncertainty over the sequestration cuts is hurting the American economy.

“These impacts will not all be felt on day one, but rest assured the uncertainty is already having an effect,” he said. “Companies are preparing layoff notices, families are preparing to cut back expenses and the longer these cuts are in place, the bigger impact these cuts will have.”

Snyder agreed with President Obama in a C-SPAN interview.

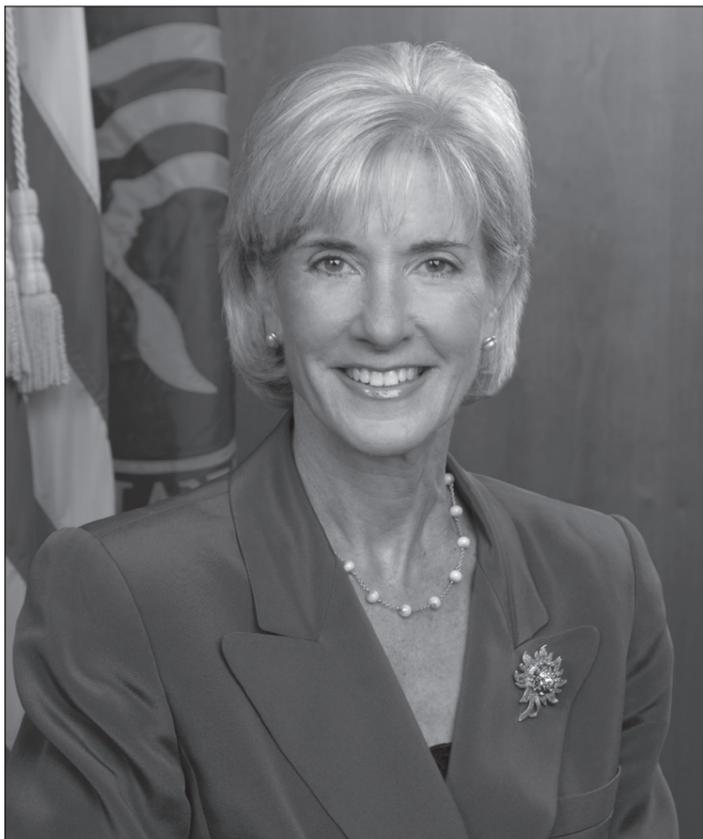
“The biggest challenge, when we look at [Michigan's] economic situation, is the mess here in Washington. I think that's holding back a lot of investment. A lot of business people are saying that if they don't know what the situation is going to be, they're staying on the sideline.”

Kathleen Sebelius, secretary of health and human services, also blasted sequestration.

“This really takes a two-by-four and really hits every agency, every department. It really hurts Americans.”

Nixon noted that the impact of the cuts was still not entirely clear, noting that some federal agencies were considering absorbing the cuts internally rather than forcing states to deal with the cuts.

“The question is exactly when the cuts will happen and how they will happen.”



Secretary of health and human services Kathleen Sebelius called the sequestration cuts a “two-by-four.”

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

# Heavy leaking detected in nuclear waste tanks

BY KEMAL TALEN  
Guest Writer

The Hanford Site, located in the town of Hanford, Wash., is the topic of recent public criticism concerning leaking nuclear waste and waste storage operations run by the U.S. Department of Energy (DEA).

Recent documentation from the DEA claims that six tanks are leaking underground the Hanford Site. This is the first official documentation of leaking tanks since 2005.

*Fifty-three million gallons of nuclear waste are currently stored in 177 tanks underground the Hanford Site.*

The Hanford Site is a decommissioned nuclear power complex established in 1942 to produce weapons grade plutonium for the Manhattan Project. The production increased during the Cold War, but is now officially decommissioned.

The Environmental Protection Agency has estimated that 475 billion gallons of wastewater have been released into the soil over the site's lifetime. The site has undergone recent clean up initiatives in the past two decades and is currently the world's largest environmental cleanup operation.

After a meeting with federal officials on Friday, Washington

Gov. Jay Inslee said the leaking levels of the tanks do not impose any immediate risk, but "they are certainly levels that cause us concern and demand action."

gallons per year. The DEA completed a stabilization procedure in 1995, which pumped all non-hazardous liquids from 177 single shell tanks, so only nuclear waste

said, "To put that amount (150 to 300 gallons) in perspective, roughly 1 million gallons of material previously leaked into the soil from the single-shell

stored in single shell tanks. Of the 177 tanks, 149 of them are single shell tanks.

In August of 2012, the DEA disclosed a memo to the Washington State Department of Ecology acknowledging a leaking of radioactive waste from a double shell tank, Tank AY-102. The amount was considered minimal and undocumented. The discovery of new leaks has raised concern in Washington, D.C. Senator Ron Wyden, chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, said he will ask the Government Accountability Office to investigate waste storage practices at the Hanford Site.

"This certainly raises serious questions about the integrity of all 149 single-shell tanks with radioactive liquid and sludge at Hanford," Inslee said.

The federal government is currently funding a \$12.3 billion project for the construction of a Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant at Hanford. It will treat the nuclear waste stored at the Hanford Site. However, the project is well under budget, and technical setbacks have pushed the completion date back since construction began in 2001.

After his meeting on Friday with the Secretary of Energy, Inslee said, "Secretary Chu has a long-standing personal commitment to the clean-up of Hanford. He has assured me he will do all he can to address the issue of the leaking tanks. He also assured me there will be immediate additional monitoring of the single-wall tanks."



Hundreds of spent nuclear rods are stored underground in facilities such as that in Hanford.

Fifty-three million gallons of nuclear waste are currently stored in 177 tanks underground the Hanford Site. According to the DEA, one of six leaking tanks referred to as tank T-111, is leaking at a rate of 150 to 300

remained. The single shell tank T-111, has been an "assumed leaker" since 1979 according to the DEA.

In response to public concern over leaking tanks, Lindsey Geisler, a DEA spokesperson

tanks at Hanford over a period of decades."

In 2005, the DEA transferred nuclear waste stored in single shell tanks to safer double shell tanks. As of 2013, 2.8 million gallons of nuclear waste still remain

# Texas leads the pack in pro-gun legislation

BY RACHEL HEKMAN  
Staff Writer

In Plano, Tex., a suburb of Dallas that actor Joel McHale and infamous cyclist Lance Armstrong call home, gun owners both current and hopeful may get a financial break.

The city of 270,000 is largely populated by upper-middle and upper class white-collar families, the breadwinners of which work in nearby Dallas or at one of the many corporate headquarters Plano is home to. As a result, it is a rich suburb, ranked the wealthiest city in America by CNN Money in 2011. Coincidentally (or perhaps not), it is also the safest: in 2010, Forbes reported it as having the lowest violent crime rate of any American city with a population over 250,000.

Despite its share of wealth and importance being disproportionate to the rest of the state, the city of Plano is near the forefront of the Texas second amendment protection movement. The city has five gun shops and two shooting ranges within city limits, and there are several dozen more just over its borders with the more rural cities of Carrollton and McKinney.

One of Plano's three representatives to the Texas legislature, Republican Rep. Jeff Leach, proposed on Monday a tax holiday for gun purchases in the state on March 2 of every year. According to NBC Dallas-Fort Worth, "the proposal would include no sales tax on shotguns, rifles, pistols, revolvers and other handguns, gun safes, gun cases, cleaning supplies, and optics, ammunition, archery equipment, hunting stands, blinds and decoys."

If approved, the Texas Gun Ownership Reinforcement Act

will take effect on Sept. 1, 2013.

Neither the title of the bill nor the proposed date are coincidental. March 2 is Texas Independence Day, an official state holiday celebrating the Lone Star Republic's 1836 secession from the Republic of Mexico.

Rep. Leach explained his position in a statement on his Facebook page that was accompanied by a picture of the

on our 2nd Amendment freedoms — and this unique legislation does just that. ... God Bless Texas!"

Such gun-specific legislation is becoming more and more common as legislators and regular citizens across the country react to the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School (Newtown, Conn.) last December. The Washington Post reports that a bipartisan group of US senators are nearing agree-



Texas has filed the Texas Gun Ownership Reinforcement Act.

flag used in the Texas War of Independence, an image of a cannon with the words "come and take it" emblazoned across the bottom as a salute to the defenders of the Alamo.

"I'm proud to author House Bill 1533, the Texas Gun Ownership Reinforcement Act, establishing Texas Independence Day (March 2) as a tax-free holiday towards the purchase of firearms and hunting supplies in Texas," Leach wrote on Monday.

"It is time for Texas to take the lead in the fight against Washington's attempts to infringe

ment on a bill that would require background checks for most gun sales, including private transactions. Vice President Biden also came forward recently in support for Connecticut governor Dannel Malloy's battery of legislation designed to close loopholes left by the state's already stringent gun laws.

New York was the first state to react, passing the nation's strictest gun laws in mid-January. All semi-automatic weapons are now banned from being purchased within the state, and current owners have one year to register them with police without punishment.

Like Texas, though, other states passed laws that loosened existing restrictions on guns. In Minnesota, legislators have passed several bills allowing for concealed weapons licenses, and lawmakers there are considering extending such privileges to public school teachers as a check against mass shootings like at Sandy Hook, a move Texas state legislators are trying to imitate.

In Michigan, more than a dozen bills concerning guns are up for consideration this year by the legislature in Lansing. Governor Rick Snyder vetoed a bill last year proposing that openly-carried weapons be allowed anywhere in the state, because it didn't give organizations like churches and daycares the option to choose to be gun-free zones.

Other Michigan bills up for consideration this legislative season include one that would exempt the state from federal gun laws when concerning weapons made in Michigan, one that would allow anyone (including faculty and staff) to carry weapons on school property, and another that would prohibit firearms dealers from taking photographs of individuals who are purchasing a gun or getting a license to own one.

Michigan State and County Police are reporting record numbers of applicants for licenses and gun registrations.

"Numbers are up due to public's belief that stricter gun control laws are looming coupled with (the) Newtown tragedy," says Michigan's Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton, quoted in USA Today.

In other parts of the country, weapons dealers are faced with sudden gun and ammunition shortages because of a similar skyrocketing demand.

ABC News reports that Texas governor and former Republican candidate for president Rick Perry "sent letters to 26 gun and ammunition manufacturers earlier this month inviting them to consider a move to Texas if the states they currently operate in impose 'restrictive laws' on their industry, according to a copy of the letter and list of the manufacturers provided to ABC News by the governor's office."

A month after running advertisements in New York inviting New York gun owners to move to Texas in response to the new state laws, Texas state attorney general Greg Abbott told the Texas State Rifle Association last week that "More guns equals less crime." No matter how strict the Obama administration makes gun laws, he went on to say, "I will never, ever let anyone come to the state of Texas and take your guns away from you."

Meanwhile, in Plano, residents sleep safe knowing that actor and honorary Texas Ranger Chuck Norris, a resident of Plano for many years, will be the last to give up his second-amendment rights.

"That right was enacted into constitutional law and was never to be encroached by anyone at any time, especially those in Washington," Norris stated in a column he wrote for Townhall.com last month.

"Could 27 words be any clearer?! 'A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.'"

But the meaning of those 27 words are up to the interpretation of Congress, the Supreme Court and the state legislatures, all of which will surely make controversial decisions in the legislative year to come.

# Working The Fields

BY KYLE BORISON  
Guest Writer

Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few” (Matthew 9:37, Luke 10:2, NIV).

On first sight this may seem a bit dreary. There is so much to do and it is a plentiful harvest. One step out the door and all we can see is fallenness — a view I tend to have this world. I realize that everything is fallen and needs redeeming right this very moment. Fix this, fix that, keep going, do more, but you can never do enough.

Yes, this verse may have that idea in it. The harvest is plenty; there is a whole lot of work to do, but let’s look a bit deeper.

“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.”

Let me take you through a short journey to arrive at what I believe is one of the greatest promises in the Bible.

To start, God is up there in heaven commanding us to do his work. He takes people from the widest gene pool possible. “You’re never too young”, he tells Timothy. “You’re never too old!” he tells Abraham. So he takes young and old, men and women, many of whom are the worst of worst: prostitutes, Christian persecutors, murderers, adulterers, alcoholics; you name it. God knows how to organize the most diverse gang ever! Big point one: God calls every sort of person from every stage of life. He is not selective; He is not picky. He simply wants to bring all people to Him. His promise to Abraham was that he, Abraham, would be a blessing all of the nations. Not some. Everyone. The news of God’s son was great joy for all people. Not just Israel. Everyone. Time after time God explicitly says he wants everyone saved (see Titus 2:11 or I Timothy 2:4).

Everyone.

One of my favorite aspect of the Bible is that everyone in the Bible has a deficiency of sorts; everyone is given an imperfection. Moses has a speech impediment, David was a murderer and adulterer (he even schemed his murder and adultery ahead of time!), Jonah ran the other way when God

called him, and Gideon had doubts that his army could defeat the Philistines. This is my big point number two: No Biblical character is ever left with a spotless, perfect reputation. How beautiful is that? Those Biblical heroes who we view as giants are no better men than you or I. What made them special was that they were willing to fully commit to God’s calling and make personal sacrifices to do his will for them. That’s something that you or I could do. It just takes a certain (large) amount of bravery, obedience and trust.

Everyone. Flawed.

“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.”

Another fantastic thing about these heroes is that no one who helped with the harvest ever came up unproductive. Big point number three: No one ever fails when working for the Lord. Want proof? Open your Bible. Just try to find someone who was called by God, did His work and didn’t succeed in bringing positive change to the world. I’ll tell you this right now, don’t look unless you want to waste your time. No one fails at fulfilling God’s calling.

Perhaps you are starting to see the biggest point, the great promise this verse has to offer us. It comes down to this. Think of the analogy a little deeper. God is compared to a farmer. Would a farmer ever turn down the offer of help from a well-meaning friend. Answer: no. God will not deny our help if step up to help him with his harvest. There is so much harvesting, work, fishing of men, to be done. So much so that there are not enough workers to get it all done, there cannot possibly ever be enough workers. The great thing is that God will help us help him. Want a satisfying life? Look no further. Work for the Lord and he will work through you! That is one of the greatest promises in the Bible. When we work with the intention of furthering the kingdom we will succeed — inevitable setbacks aside.

I leave with the following verse from John for your consideration. The implication of this verse is both encouraging and down right extreme. John 14:12 says this, “I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father” (NIV).

“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.”



“ The only remotely memorable thing a bad guy does in this movie is tap dance while eating a carrot — I’m not joking. ”  
Christian Becker, “Die Hard”

## ‘A Good Day to Die Hard’ action-packed but poorly made

BY CHRISTIAN BECKER  
Staff Writer

John McClane is back. Well, sort of. Bruce Willis is back though, and he’s packing all sorts of punches. A lot of skepticism has surrounded “A Good Day To Die Hard,” the newest entry in the “Die Hard” franchise. Fans worried because the iconic action character, which has been loved since the ‘80s, went from your everyday man with a gun and a badge to a superhero that can destroy helicopters with cars. In this film, McClane finds himself in unfamiliar territory: Moscow. He travels to Russia to find his son and bring him back home in order to protect him from all the trouble he’s been getting into. The story turned into a father/son bonding experience, where the son, Jack, wants nothing to do with his dad. Anybody going into a “Die Hard” movie has one question on their mind. Does it deliver on the action? Yes, it surely does, but that alone doesn’t make for a great “Die Hard” film. A lot of action movies today do their jobs by giving us fast-paced, breathtaking action, but their characters and stories are so thin that they could slip through the cracks on the sidewalk. Unfortunately, this franchise has gone from iconic and influential to a mindless action romp.

It is possible to have fun with the action this film has to offer. There is a fifteen-minute car chase through the streets of Moscow where cars are being flipped in every direction possible and John McClane gets to mow

down everything in his path. Some of the action that took place inside of a deserted apartment building reminded me of the original “Die Hard” film where everything took place within one closed high rise building.

But in the end, the action scenes go nowhere. You never feel the tension you should feel watching these characters fight off terrorists. It just happens, they can easily defeat them, and that’s the end of it. You feel McClane and his son are in no danger. Ever. Maybe I could accept that John McClane is now a superhero with the supernatural ability to dodge bullets and stay alive after every action scene, if the action scenes were creative and clever, but they’re not. Objects are conveniently placed so that at any given moment, all the filmmaker has to choose to do is throw in a few CGI explosions to make up for their lack of thinking.

There is a reason all the other “Die Hard” films are more successful. They are told and stylized in an old school fashion. This just looks like Michael Bay’s latest bomb fest. Most of this is due to

your next installment in a mega-franchise?

Not only are the main characters thinly written and packed with a flimsy arc, but the villain is absolutely horrendous as

well, which might be the biggest insult of them all. Hans Gruber (Alan Rickman) served as a fantastic villain in the first “Die Hard” and has gone down as one of the most iconic movie villains of all time. The rest of the movie’s villains don’t live up to that standard, but at least each one was memorable and had their own traits and visions in their evil schemes.

Here, various people acting as “the bad guy” come and go, leaving no lasting impression. Half the time, it doesn’t even feel like a villain is involved at all. The only remotely memorable thing a bad guy does in this movie is tap dance while eating a carrot — I’m not joking. As an audience member, you go through the movie seeing our

two heroes being shot at over and over without knowing why until about an hour into the story. Even at that point, you are still left scratching your head going “huh?” At least a reasonably easy plot would have brought this movie up for me. I don’t mean action movies aren’t allowed to be smart, but the “Die Hard” movies shouldn’t have convoluted plots and storylines that viewers can barely follow. That is not what the franchise is about. Some reviewers are hammering Willis with criticism, saying that he was only playing a tough version of himself, and not the John McClane fans have known and loved for all these years. Personally, I could see the John McClane character many times throughout the film. Willis was always making snide remarks and interjecting his sarcastic attitude upon everybody. He was funny and fearless and I think Willis did a great job in keeping this character so lovable, but also dangerous. His son on the other hand — I have no idea who he was trying to be. I thought the son of John McClane would have at least a few of same traits as his father. Instead, Jai Courtney plays him as a straight-faced jerk that never says a single clever thing or even cracks a measly smile.

“A Good Day To Die Hard” may please those who are only looking for mindless action in the style of a poorly developed video game. Fun can be found here, and a few scenes have proven that, but those scenes are too few and far between to make this the “Die Hard” film fans wanted.



FILE PHOTO

the lack of comprehensive direction from the film’s obviously incapable director, John Moore. Let’s take a look at what this man has made in the past. He’s directed “Behind Enemy Lines,” “The Omen” and the video game adaptation, “Max Payne.” Does this sound like the type of filmmaker you want taking control of

ous people acting as “the bad guy” come and go, leaving no lasting impression. Half the time, it doesn’t even feel like a villain is involved at all. The only remotely memorable thing a bad guy does in this movie is tap dance while eating a carrot — I’m not joking. As an audience member, you go through the movie seeing our

## Fleetwood still impressive

BY JONATHAN HIELKEMA  
Staff Writer

I was born to my parents when they were thirty years old, which means that they were as old as I am now when Fleetwood Mac released “Rumours,” their eleventh and most epochal record. Selling over forty million copies — at one point moving over 800,000 per week — and garnering critical acclaim for its technically proficient production and excellent music arrangements, the album is now recognized as a milestone for pop music in the late 1970s. It has now been reissued in a lavish box set, giving critics from all music publications a perfect excuse to reaffirm its already-established greatness.

On first listen, if the listener is not equipped with liner notes or perhaps an online lyrics sheet, she or he will think this album as a relatively breezy and glossy pop record. There would be considerable justification for this, as attested by the smooth vocal harmonies, elegant guitar breaks, and catchy melodies. Listening to “Rumours” often feels like basking in the sunshine, with none of the jagged edges often found in contemporary punk rock or funk. When the guitars are electrified, as in a brief solo in opening track “Second Hand News,” they sound crisp. The more folky acoustic songs brim with pretty chords. Bass and percussion are de-emphasized in favor of accessible tunes, particularly in the perennial radio favorite “Go Your Own Way.” Some of the songs toy with putting on some sonic weight, as hints of a seductive beat show up in “You Make Loving Fun,” but for the most part “Rumours” keeps it light.

At least, the arrangements and instrumentation are light. Produced in a morass of romantic

turmoil and interpersonal strife, the album mainly features songs relating stories of heartbreak and separation. That shiny opening track — “Second Hand News” — is pleasant to the ear but the lyrics beg to differ.

Vocalist and lyricist Lindsey Buckingham opens the song by lamenting “I know there’s nothing to say/ Someone has taken my place.” From there, songwriters Buckingham, Stevie Nicks and Christine McVie express their bitterness and let listeners in on some of the personal dramatics that made for press fodder back in 1977.

Another affecting track that comes near the middle of the record — it was the beginning of Side Two when it was originally on vinyl — is “The Chain,” a song produced by a collaborative effort from Buckingham, McVie, Nicks and even drummer Mick Fleetwood. It is the only such song on the album, with the rest being composed by one of the band members. Its sound is layered, founded on a solid rock bass progression and built up with guitar solos, banjo riffs and keyboards. It features some of the most solid songwriting on the album, using few words in a highly expressive way. “And if you don’t love me/ You will never love me again/I can still hear you saying you would never break the chain.” This refrain sounds more insistent each time it is repeated.

While its music has had any hint of an edge sanded down, “Rumours” has its own bitter-sweet atmosphere. At times it keeps too closely to middle-of-the-road guitar pop for its own good, but the quality of the music and especially the recorded vocal performances sell even less impressive songs. Much imitated and long adored, Fleetwood Mac’s best-selling album is certainly worth giving a close inspection.

## OSCARS: 85th breaks several records

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Wallis was the youngest person nominated for Best Actress in Oscar history for her role in “Beasts of the Southern Wild.” Mark Wahlberg announced a tie for the category of Sound Editing; both “Zero Dark Thirty” and “Skyfall” won and Wahlberg assured us that it was no “B.S.” This is the first tie for this category, but not the first tie to occur for the Oscars. In 1932 Wallace Beery and Frederic March both won Best Actor and in 1968 Katherine Hepburn and Barbara Streisand both won Best Actress.

Daniel Day Lewis won Best Actor for his role as Lincoln, making him the first actor to ever win three Oscars for that category. And he very appropriately thanked his inspiration, “the mysterious beautiful mind, body and spirit of Abraham Lincoln.”

For Best Supporting Actor, Christoph Waltz took home the Oscar for his role in “Django Unchained.” Anne Hathaway won Best Supporting Actress for “Les Misérables,” which was not a surprise after her breathtaking on-screen performance of “I Dreamed a Dream” brought many people (myself included) to tears. A soft spoken Hathaway accepted the Oscar with teary eyes.

She fittingly added into her speech, “Here’s hoping that someday in the not-too-distant future, the misfortunes of Fantine will only be found in stories and nevermore in real life. Thank you.” A very well-deserving “Brave”

“Silver Linings Playbook.” The young star fell up the stairs and stayed on the ground, catching her breath as the crowd rose to give her a standing ovation.

She responded: “You guys are just standing up because you feel really bad that I fell and that’s embarrassing, but thank you.”

The night ended with Jack Nicholson and Michelle Obama via video feed from the White House, announcing Best Picture; which was none other than “Argo,” which had been nominated for a total of seven Oscars.

Ben Affleck, who not only starred in the movie but also directed and produced it, accepted the award with an inspiring speech saying, “You have to work harder than you think you possibly can ... and it doesn’t matter how you get knocked down in life because that will happen — all that matters is you gotta get up.” “Argo” is

the fourth film in 85 years to win Best Picture when the director wasn’t nominated.

As Seth MacFarlane said, “The film is so secret that the film’s director is unknown to the Academy. They know they screwed up.”



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Jennifer Lawrence, originally of “Hunger Games” fame, won the Oscar for best actress for her performance in “Silver Linings Playbook.”

won Best Animated Film, Quentin Tarantino’s “Django” won best Original Screenplay and Ang Li won an Oscar for directing his film, “Life of Pi.”

But by far the highlight of the night was Jennifer Lawrence winning Best Actress for her role in

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SUDOKU

## CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

2/20/2013

Campus safety took a report of a larceny of a Dell 17 inch monitor from an office in the science building sometime between 2/15/13 and 2/18/13. There were no known suspects involved in the monitor's disappearance.

2/21/2013

Campus Safety spoke with a subject who provided false and misleading information regarding their status as a student in an attempt to get out of registering their vehicle and paying for tickets they had accumulated as a result. The report was forwarded to judicial affairs for review and possible disciplinary action.

2/21/2013

Campus safety responded to the library on a report of a suspicious note that had been discovered in a study room on the fourth floor. The note was taken by campus safety for further analysis.

## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

- 1 Suitable
- 4 Young boxer?
- 7 Litigious sort
- 8 Middle Eastern dish
- 10 Bethlehem's region
- 11 Ball game segment
- 13 New Orleans neighborhood
- 16 Barbie's companion
- 17 Hosiery shade
- 18 Shaft of light
- 19 "An Inconvenient Truth" narrator
- 20 Enticement
- 21 Chris of tennis lore
- 23 19th President
- 25 Leave out
- 26 Cartoonist Goldberg
- 27 Help
- 28 Inscribed pillar
- 30 "Suburgatory"

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**DOWN**

- 1 Poet W.H.
- 2 Hammer-head part
- 3 Farm vehicle
- 4 Piece of cheesecake?
- 5 Arm bones
- 6 Twosome
- 7 Confident
- 8 Sharp irritation
- 9 False
- 10 NYC airport
- 12 Toothed wheels
- 14 Rodgers partner
- 15 "Catcher in the —"
- 19 Obtain
- 20 Caustic solution
- 21 Eastern potentates
- 22 "America's

## Super Crossword

GO WITH IT

**ACROSS**

- 1 Takes without right
- 7 Actress Alba or Tandy
- 14 Fine, rare violins
- 20 State in Mexico
- 21 Newspaper sales pitch
- 22 Present but not active
- 23 Fruit tossed from a ship?
- 25 Batting posture
- 26 Manitoba Indians
- 27 Topic in psych 101
- 28 A, in Austria
- 30 Torch's crime
- 31 Beehive State dweller
- 33 Always avoid mentioning muralist Rivera?
- 38 Gentle touch
- 40 Whit
- 42 Mauna —
- 43 Clock or cat preceder
- 44 Where old freight is sold?
- 47 Lacking firmness
- 52 "— Croft: Tomb Raider"
- 53 "The World According to —" (1982 film)
- 54 G3 or G4 computer
- 56 Chilean child
- 57 Mantel, e.g.
- 59 "All untrue!"
- 61 Where some tourists in Africa travel?
- 66 Large ducks
- 68 Teachers' union: Abbr.
- 70 High, wispy clouds
- 71 President pro —
- 72 Italian
- 73 Cheese sold in Florida or Georgia?
- 77 "... man — mouse?"
- 80 A nephew of Donald Duck
- 81 Cam output
- 82 Battlefield docs
- 86 Periods spent using a batting-practice bat?
- 89 Part of PS
- 92 "Vive —!" (French cry)
- 93 Polar chuk
- 94 Livy's 502
- 96 Oral history
- 98 Big top, e.g.
- 99 Málaga miss
- 104 Fled from Brazzaville?
- 107 Elvis Presley's middle name
- 108 Brief slumber
- 109 It may be permed
- 110 Ending for Ecuador
- 111 Change the location of a North Dakota city?
- 117 Stiffly formal
- 119 Occurrence
- 120 11th mo.
- 121 ETs' craft
- 123 Show shame
- 126 Champion
- 128 Being green with old cards for a numbers game?
- 133 Tolerate
- 134 Stimulates
- 135 Crude shed
- 136 Cease
- 137 109-Across salon worker
- 138 Most unusual

**DOWN**

- 1 Jarhead's org.
- 2 Fly like a kite
- 3 Not spayed, say
- 4 Thesaurus author
- 5 Humdrum
- 6 — Paulo
- 7 PC image file format
- 8 — the side of caution
- 9 Sis, e.g.
- 10 — -cone
- 11 Give — shot
- 12 Concerned person
- 13 Steele's collaborator
- 14 Yankovic and Gore
- 15 Bullfighter
- 16 1980s game console
- 17 Edgy
- 18 Wearing a disguise, for short
- 19 Office scribe
- 24 Not dorsal
- 29 iPod type
- 32 Novelist Tami
- 34 Building add-on
- 35 "Va-va- —!"
- 36 Really rankle
- 37 Appetite
- 38 Beat of life
- 39 Japanese brew
- 41 Prefix with culture
- 45 Valleys
- 46 Watchful
- 48 Political poll abbr.
- 49 Talent
- 50 Pertaining to
- 51 Dire destiny
- 55 Sprite maker
- 58 Tolkien hero
- 60 Island locale
- 62 Mil. enlistees
- 63 "... — quit!" (ultimatum ender)
- 64 Saroyan's "My Name Is —"
- 65 Watson player Bruce
- 67 Hard fat
- 69 Cleo's snake
- 73 Start for night or light
- 74 Sewn edge
- 75 Bit of advice
- 76 "— Joy"
- 77 Rip- — (swindles)
- 78 Wield power
- 79 Partner of ever
- 83 Star of "I Remember Mama"
- 84 Dance in a winding line
- 85 Use as a bench
- 87 GM's Prizm, once
- 88 West-central Italian city
- 90 Not yet a jr.
- 91 Crime of disloyalty
- 95 "— Three Ships"
- 97 Cut film, e.g.
- 100 Roof boards
- 101 Radio's Glass
- 102 Ripped up
- 103 Silky goats
- 105 Tax prep expert
- 106 Bellyached
- 111 Copied a cat
- 112 Sheeplike
- 113 Hawks
- 114 Listlessness
- 115 Plain to see
- 116 Christmas seasons
- 118 Homeric epic
- 122 Boxer's weapon
- 124 Bosses of cpls.
- 125 Owl's cry
- 127 No longer practicing: Abbr.
- 129 Shy
- 130 Brynner of Broadway
- 131 Hit CBS procedural
- 132 Shine, in some product names

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## CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: T equals O

MANJ CWKZND-FGJ TD LAN  
 RDNNJ BGJLNDJ RTNC LT G  
 ZNBK, ZTNC AN FQJOA TJ G  
 CQWND ANDT CGJZMKOA?

## The Toymaker's Son

March 8-10 — Hearts In Step Christian Dance Academy Ensemble presents a heartfelt ballet that uniquely illustrates the story of Easter through classical and contemporary choreography. 7:00 p.m. Friday, 3:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. DeVos Center for Arts and Worship at GR Christian High School. Tickets available at [www.dca.org](http://www.dca.org). Advance: \$6/\$11, At the door: \$8/\$15.

## Women fall to Hope, still NCAA bound

BY CONNOR STERCHI  
On-Call Writer

Hope women's basketball team came out on top of a closely fought game Saturday afternoon, winning the MIAA tournament championship game 62-59, and gaining an automatic bid to the NCAA D-III tournament.

During the final seconds of the game, Calvin's Kayla Engelhard missed a three-pointer that would have sent the game to overtime.

The teams were evenly-matched coming into the game, with Calvin ranked No. 3 (23-3), and Hope ranked No. 2 (26-1).

The defeat marks the Knights' first loss of the season in the Van Noord Arena.

Calvin women's basketball head coach John Ross, who is coaching his 10th year for the Knights, said that it was a tough game throughout, with an unfortunate ending.

"Obviously we played a lot better than last Saturday," said Ross. "I think if we could've done a better job of rebounding and had a higher shooting percentage...I thought we had some great looks, but they just didn't go in."

"They're really good, and we're really good, and it was a good battle before the NCAA championship," he continued.

Ross has high hopes that the Calvin women are still going to be placed in the NCAA national tournament, despite the loss to Hope.

"I would think that we would be in it," said Ross. "We're looking forward to four more games 21 more days of playing with each other after today."

As for the loss to Hope, Ross said it was difficult to take control of the game.

"It's pretty tough," said Ross. "They pressure you, and it's really physical...things just didn't work out for us."

Calvin and Hope were neck-and-neck throughout much of the first half. With 4:40 left in the first half, Calvin went on a 9-0 run, leading 26-16 — the largest lead of the game.

With 30 seconds left in the first half, Calvin sophomore Kayla Engelhard walked off the court with an injured knee, which she recovered from, returning to play in the second half.

Just seconds before the end of the first half, Hope's Maura McAfee intercepted a cross-court pass from Calvin's Logan Marsh, scoring a buzzer beater layup on a fast break, and thinning Calvin's lead to 30-28.

At halftime, Calvin led in rebounds (22-18), and also in turnovers (15-9). Calvin's Carissa Verkaik led overall in scoring with 13 points, 9 rebounds, and 1 assist.

Five minutes into the second half, Hope regained the lead, 38-37, over the Knights. The game remained very close throughout the second half, and the last ten minutes of the game were neck-and-neck.

Carissa Verkaik led the Knights in scoring and rebounding. She finished the game with 13 rebounds and 24 points, half of which were from free throws. Verkaik was 12-16 from the free throw line. She said it was little breaks throughout the game that led to their defeat.

"I think it was just little things, just little breakdowns on defense where we didn't box out," Verkaik said.

Hope head coach Brian Morehouse was excited about the win and is confident in the team going into the NCAA tournament. He was glad that the game was close and lived up to the exciting Calvin-Hope rivalry expectations.

"It was an awesome game with two great teams," said Morehouse. "You know, often-times your championship or

rivalry game doesn't live up to the billing, but I thought this game lived up to the billing, and then some.

"Today I thought both teams played with incredible effort," he continued. "It was just a back-and-forth battle...I thought we did a really nice job on the defensive end."

The game was close throughout, and it came down to the last few minutes, Morehouse said.

"Today I thought we won the game in the last five minutes," he said. "The last thing I said leaving the half was, we have to finish the game like we finished the half — with a flurry. We have to make sure we're finishing strong at the end, not weakly. I thought we finished well...we withstood their run at the end, which was huge."

Hope senior Courtney Kust had a career high with 29 points. She was 6-7 from the free throw line, and 3-6 for three-pointers.

"It was all our offense," Kust said. "Shots fell for me, we set good screens. I can't take all the credit...we had a game plan, and we executed on the offensive end."

Hope coach Morehouse said it has been great playing against Calvin throughout the season, and thinks that both teams have made each other better, which is what good rivalries do.

"They [Calvin] are a class program," he said. "I don't know if I'm going to get a chance to coach against Calvin again this year, but Coach Ross and this team have a lot of class, and it's been a pleasure competing against Ross, Verkaik, that whole group of seniors...they've made us better, and I think we've made them better, and that's what rivalries are supposed to do."

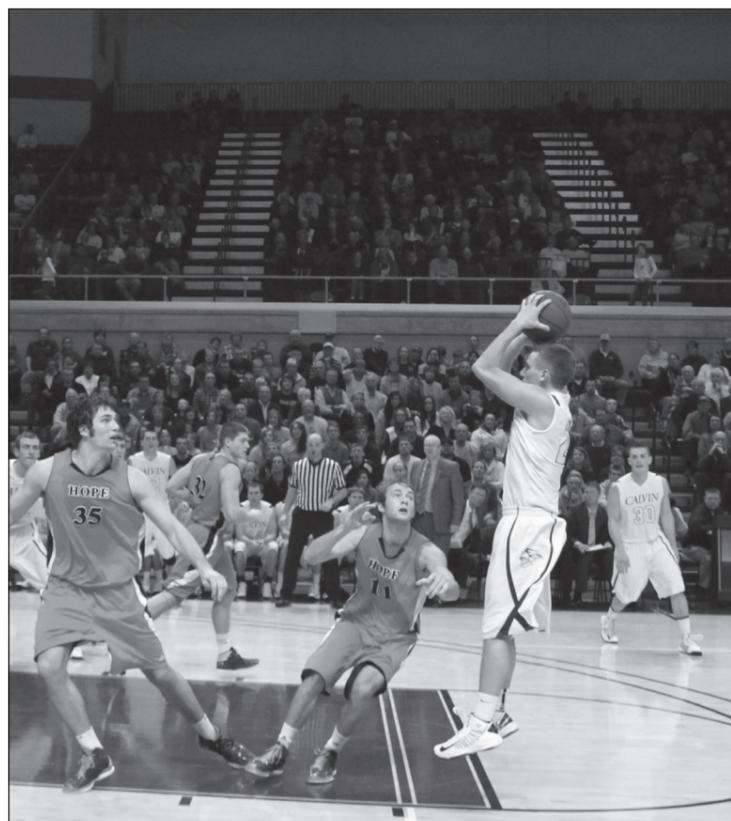


PHOTO BY MILES KUPERUS

Bryan Powell goes up for a jumper as the men defeat Hope to go on to NCAA tournament.

## Men roll past Hope

BY JUSTIN VANDEN ENDE  
On-Call Writer

The Calvin Knights men's basketball team ruled the court at Van Noord Arena to defeat Hope College 77-57 and take home the MIAA championship Saturday night.

Hope's 16 turnovers and poor shooting in the second half allowed Calvin to take over and claim an automatic spot in the NCAA D-III tournament championship. The Knights play Rose-Hulman on Saturday at 7:30 in Terre Haute, Ind.

Meeting for the third time this season with one win a piece, the teams put on a show for the over 4,000 in attendance in a closely-contested first half.

"I don't think it's humanly possible for either team to play harder than what they were doing," said Calvin head coach Kevin Vande Streek.

Calvin controlled the glass and balanced their intensity with smart plays to put together a smothering performance. Vande Streek was sure to commend his team's rebounding, saying that it was the key to the victory.

"If you can rebound and take care of the ball, you can win a lot of games," he said. "We had eight offensive rebounds in the first half and that really put us in great position."

Every possession was a battle in the first half and neither team gave up much on the defensive end of the court; however, in the first three minutes of the second half, Calvin seniors Tom Snickers and Bryan Powell demonstrated their leadership by taking control of the game.

With Powell hitting a num-

ber of deep three-pointers and Snickers driving the basket to get some hard-fought points, Calvin steadily began to pull away.

Powell said that they came out in the second half on a mission to command the court.

"I think that it's crucial to dictate the game, and I feel like we did that," he said.

Snickers, who was disappointed with his performance at Hope in their previous meeting, surely made up for it with 17 points, 6 rebounds, 4 steals and efficient play on both ends of the court.

"He wants to win so badly that sometimes it gets him into trouble," said Vande Streek about Snickers' play at Hope two weeks ago. "Tonight he had a great balance of when to attack, and yet being smart and talking care of the ball."

"Today every one of us, from the starters, to the role players... everybody brought it emotionally," said Snickers.

Junior Tyler Kruijs definitely brought the emotion, contributing 11 points and 11 rebounds to the Knight's victory.

Hope head coach Matt Neil said that his team's effort was there, just not the execution. Hope shot 6-25 in the second half and 1-14 from three-point range for the game.

"You gotta make shots to win the basketball game," said Neil adding, "[Calvin] did a nice job of taking care of the basketball."

Hope senior Nate Snuggerud played a fantastic game for the Dutchmen tallying 17 points and 7 rebounds while playing 31 minutes, but admitted that his team couldn't handle Calvin's runs.

"We just couldn't get things going the way we wanted to," said Snuggerud.

## Spring sports previews

### Softball

#### Key Losses:

Marie Prins  
Danae Miedema

#### Key Returners:

Lina Avila (Jr.)  
Merin Cok (So.)  
Christie VanderMeer (So.)  
Trista Brownlee (So.)  
Catherine Hilbrands (So.)

#### Thoughts from Sharon DeKleine

"We are going to do better than we did last year. We have some experienced transfers that have joined us. We have some quality freshmen that have come in. Our sophomores are doing their thing too. We have good leadership on the team from Lina Avila and Jenelle Agren and a few of the other girls are doing a great job of leading the group. And we're excited about playing."

#### Home Schedule:

March 27 v. DePauw  
March 29 v. Trinity Christian  
April 2 v. Alma\*  
April 4 v. Adrian  
April 10 v. Olivet  
April 12 v. Finlandia  
April 16 v. Saint Mary's  
May 2-3 MIAA Tournament

### Baseball

#### 5 Key Returning Players:

Ben Cok (Sr.)  
Grant Van Putten (So.)  
Kyle Spoelma (Jr.)  
Tyler Tos (Sr.)  
Mike Fuller (Sr.)

#### Key Returning Pitchers:

Nate Schepers (So.)  
Grant VanderWall (Jr.)  
Jeff Victor (Jr.)

#### New Faces to Look For:

Jalen Bouma (Fr.)  
Michael Kamp (Fr.)

#### Thoughts from head coach John Sparks

"We are excited about the upcoming season. The team has prepared well during the off season and now into February. Our strength is in the experience we have returning from last season's team which was exceptionally young. This is a close knit bunch of guys who have worked hard and as a coaching staff we are excited to see what is in store for us this season."

#### Home Schedule:

March 22 v. Trine (2)  
March 30 v. Olivet (2)  
April 6 v. Kalamazoo (2)  
April 11 v. Adrian (2)  
April 22 v. Alma (2)  
April 25 v. Albion (2)  
May 3 v. Hope (2)  
May 8-10 MIAA Tournament

### Women's Lacrosse

#### Impact Players:

Yelena Boykov Davis (Sr.)  
Nikki Perregaux (Sr.)  
Michelle Holwerda (Sr.)  
Katie Pranger (Sr.)  
Lauren Spoelstra (Sr.)

#### Thoughts from coach Blake Boehm

"I think we'll do alright [this year]. I think we have a strong defense and we're bringing new concepts this year to the team that we haven't had in years past. I think that will keep our opponents scores low and then add that to our offense and what we're looking at doing — I'm confident and excited for the opportunities we have. I'm looking for our seniors to stand out and lead the team but I think that anybody at anytime could really rise to the top."

#### Home Schedule:

March 12 v. Alma @  
Davenport University  
March 14 v. Hope @  
Davenport University\*  
March 28 v. Loras  
April 10 v. Albion  
April 13 v. Trine  
April 20 v. Pacific  
April 27 v. Olivet  
May 1 MIAA Semifinals  
May 4 MIAA Finals

## Knights schedule

### Friday, March 1

Diving Regional at home at 5 p.m.

Women's basketball NCAA tourney game at Cornell at 6 p.m.



### Saturday, March 2

Diving Regional at home at noon.

Men's basketball NCAA tourney at Rose-Hulman at 7 p.m.

### Thursday, March 7

Women's lacrosse at Davenport at 4 p.m.

“It’s proof of principle that we can cure HIV infection if we can replicate this case.”  
 Dr. Deborah Persaud, “Child cured of HIV”

# Child cured of HIV for first time, a medical breakthrough

BY JON HIELKEMA  
 Staff Writer

On Sunday, March 3, a child was deemed functionally cured of an HIV infection. With this landmark case open to greater scrutiny and researchers looking to understand its implications, the door could be open to curing many children who are afflicted with the virus.

The child, born two and a half years ago in rural Mississippi, had contracted the virus, which causes devastating immune disor-

der AIDS, from its mother. When the signs of the infection were first detected, Dr. Hannah Gay, the presiding physician, immediately on an aggressive antiretroviral treatment regimen. After eighteen months of the treatment, the mother ceased taking the child to the hospital.

Subsequent tests confirmed that the virus was undetectable even after the withdrawal of the drugs. This has never happened before, since in all other reported cases the virus quickly returned once the suppressive effects of the

medications were removed. Yet over one year after withdrawing treatment, the virus appears to have vanished.

According to the New York Times report that broke the story, Dr. Deborah Persaud, as associate professor at Johns Hopkins Children’s Center, said, “It’s proof of principle that we can cure HIV infection if we can replicate this case.”

She reiterated to The Wall Street Journal the unprecedented nature of this event: “That’s really unheard of. If people go off therapy, most of them rebound..

within a few weeks.”

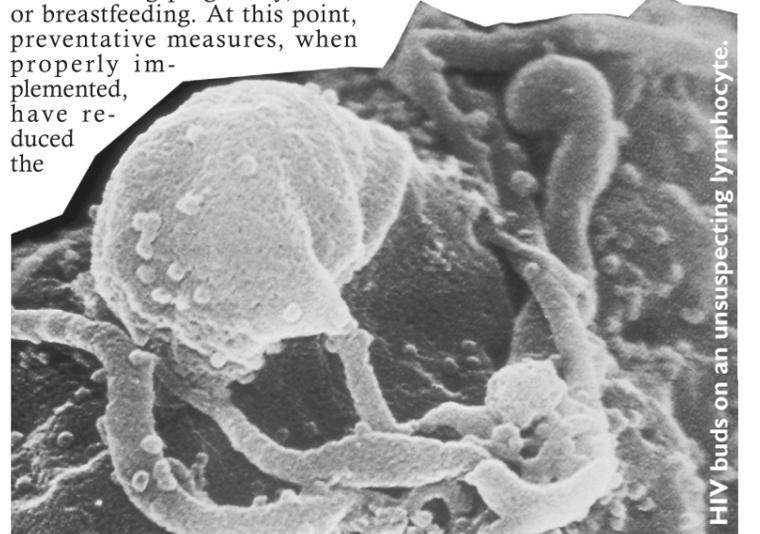
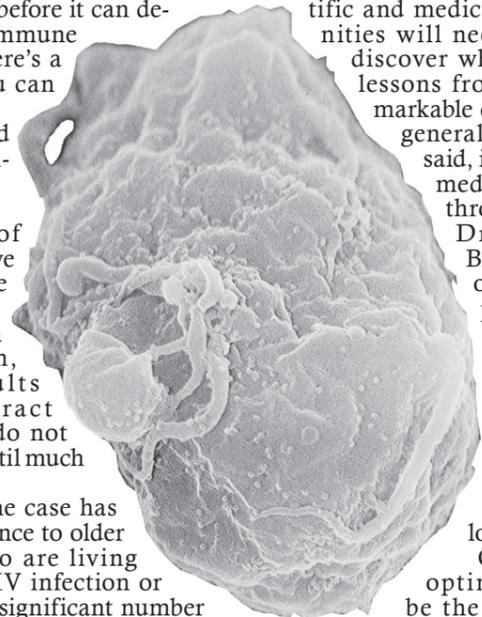
One reason this might have worked was cited by Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, cited here in the New York Times: “That goes along with the concept that, if you treat before the virus has had an opportunity to establish a large reservoir and before it can destroy the immune system, there’s a chance you can withdraw therapy and have no virus.”

Though children of HIV-positive parents are rigorously tested soon after birth, most adults who contract the virus do not realize it until much later.

While the case has little relevance to older people who are living with an HIV infection or AIDS, the significant number of infants who are born with the disease might glean powerful benefits from this case. Over 300,000 children, 90 percent of them in sub-Saharan Africa, are born having contracted the virus from their mothers, which can occur during pregnancy, birth or breastfeeding. At this point, preventative measures, when properly implemented, have reduced the

chances of such transmission to about two percent. While that number is far lower than it once was, that leaves thousands of children with infections who might now have hope for a cure.

As with all discoveries of this nature, however, the scientific and medical communities will need time to discover whether any lessons from this remarkable case can be generalized. That said, it remains a medical breakthrough, what Dr. Yvonne Bryson, chief of global pediatric infectious diseases at UCLA, calls “one of the most exciting things I’ve heard in a long time.” Cautious optimism may be the best most appropriate posture to take after any seemingly-miraculous case come to light, but there is at least a hopeful sign that children who are born HIV-positive can recover and live a life relatively unaffected by the effects of the virus.



HIV buds on an unsuspecting lymphocyte.

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## SCIENCE DIVISION SEMINAR SCHEDULE

### BIOLOGY

Cowpea Grown in Soils of Differing Quality  
 Joel Betts, Calvin College Junior Biology student  
 Friday March 8 at 1:30 p.m. SB 010

### PHYSICS

Discovery of the Higgs Boson and its place in the Standard Model  
 Robert Kroeger, University of Mississippi  
 Tuesday March 12 at 3:45 p.m. SB 110

### CHEMISTRY / BIOCHEMISTRY TBD

Mr. Kwabena Bediako, Harvard University  
 Thursday March 14 at 11:30 a.m. SB 110

### MATHEMATICS / STATISTICS TBD

Randall Pruiem, Calvin College  
 Thursday March 14 3:30 p.m. NH 276

“ To just blame a person or a bunch of people is scapegoating, and a vast oversimplification.

President Le Roy ”

# BUDGET: ‘together..we can meet these challenges’

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

made by the Financial Review Task Force, a group of four people selected by Le Roy in early fall of 2012.

The task force included: Mary Tuuk, a Calvin alum and president of Fifth Third Bank — Western Michigan; Brian Benzel, the finance vice president at Whitworth University; William Boer, a former Calvin finance VP; and Milton Kuyers, a former Calvin board chairman.

“I was in a real bind,” said Le Roy, describing his mental process when he learned of the budget concerns. “I didn’t have a full, clear understanding, but it was a large enough issue that I couldn’t keep

it quiet. It was adding up to be a disconcerting situation.”

To address the situation, Le Roy commissioned the task force and gave them access to all of Calvin’s files, as well as to any employees it needed information from. The task force sent Le Roy its final report in December, but Le Roy wanted to wait until he, his cabinet and the Board of Trustees understood the report thoroughly before releasing the information to the public.

The Board of Trustees has also taken its own action: the board’s investment committee got a new charter and new guidelines for composition. Now, a majority of the investment committee must be sitting board members and its

chair must be appointed by the executive committee.

But although Le Roy has focused on transparency and accountability to the Calvin community, his summary does not include all of the information from the task force’s full report.

“The report was written for me, it wasn’t intended to be an investigative piece,” he said.

Le Roy withheld the full task force report because it contained personnel assessments, but said he did not exclude anything substantial from the summary.

“I asked the task force to review personnel,” said Le Roy. “Calvin will never share personnel assessments with people. If there’s anything of substance that’s not

included in here, it’s about personnel.”

He also thought the task force may not have been as frank if they thought the report would be released to the public.

“I needed them to be very candid, and they were,” he said.

Anyone following Calvin’s recent string of budget woes, or anyone involved in the financial industry, will realize that the situation is far from simple.

“There are multiple causes here, but our human mind wants to simplify things. We want to blame it on a person, blame it on investment strategy, but that doesn’t work,” said Le Roy.

“I see this as a system failure,” he said. “To just blame a

person or a bunch of people is scapegoating, and a vast oversimplification.”

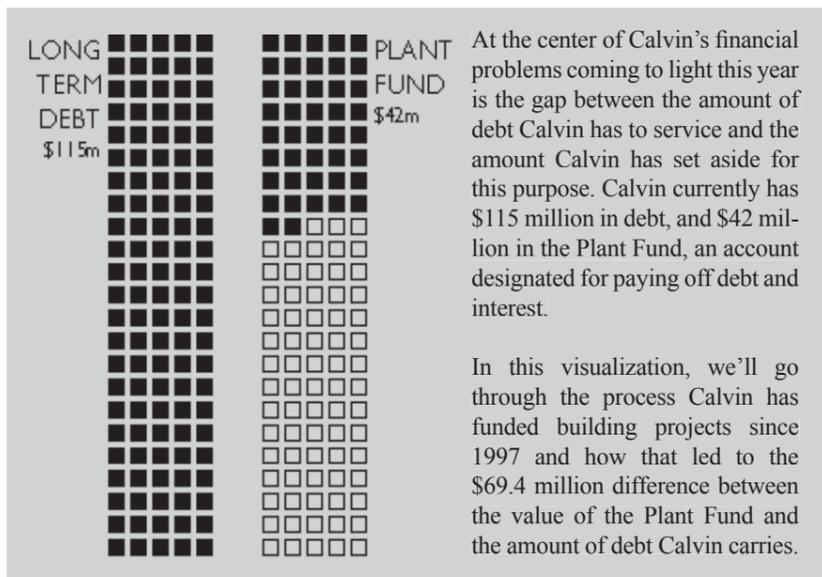
The task force agreed with him, according to Le Roy’s summary.

“It is apparent from the report that multiple causes are responsible for the financial challenges affecting Calvin,” wrote Le Roy.

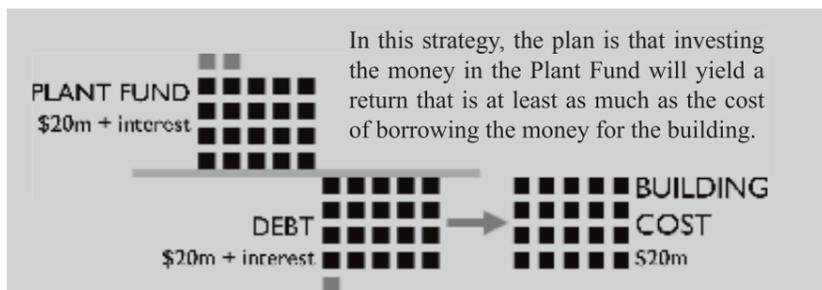
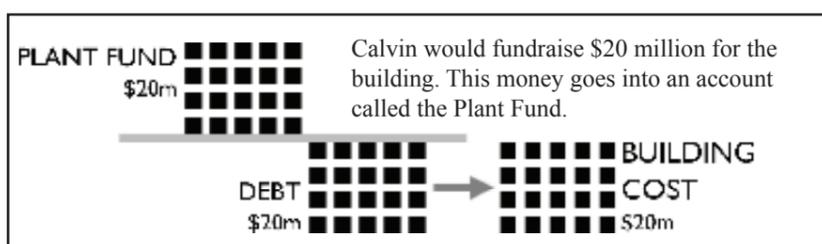
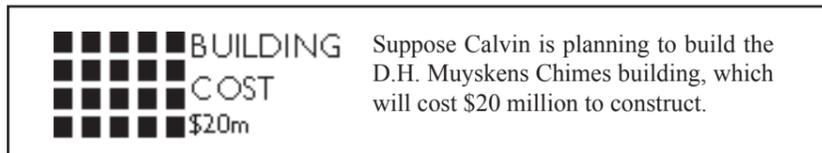
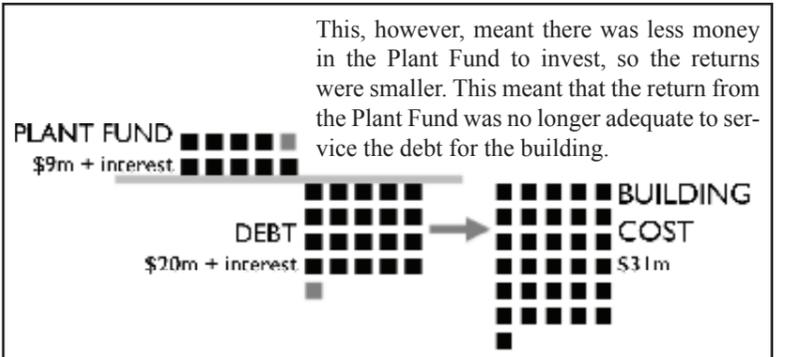
But as Le Roy looks forward, he is optimistic that Calvin’s mission and desire to serve students will carry the school through.

“These initiatives represent the first steps down the path toward institutional renewal,” he wrote. “Working together ... we can meet these challenges with a united and joyful spirit.”

*Additional reporting by John Kloosterman, managing editor.*



**Budget infographic**  
Read from top left to bottom right  
BY JOHN MUYSKENS AND JOHN KLOOSTERMAN



If everything worked according to plan, money from Calvin’s operating budget (the budget that Calvin can spend how it wishes) would not need to be used to pay for the debt. There would be investment returns left over, which could be spent on other projects. Many colleges use this strategy, which would be sound as long as the Plant Fund was about the same size as the debt.

