

CALVIN COLLEGE



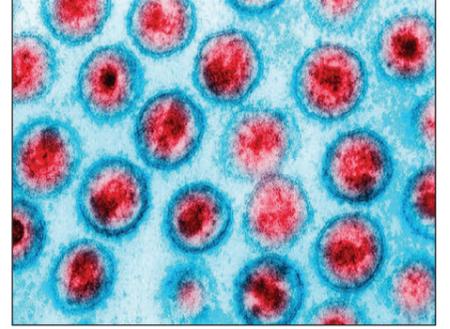
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Band and audience commune at Mutemath

BY WILL MONTEI
A&E Editor

Each Mutemath show begins with a ritual: the drummer, Darren King, duct-tapes his headphones to his head, wrapping the tape over his hair and under his chin like a collar he couldn't get off his head. It's a little bit strange and off-putting — there's nothing cool-looking about it. But you know that whatever comes next is going to be wild.

And it was. Included in Friday night's show: climbing instruments to play other instruments, crowd surfing on a glowing mattress, lead singer Paul Meany singing in the crowd ("You guys really like to hug it out"), the song "Blood Pressure" performed using Calvin's very own organ, and countless jam sessions filled with tasty grooves.

The show began with "Typical," a classic from their first album that they often start their shows with. Allow me to make a confession: I think old Mutemath sounds boring compared to their new material in "Odd Soul." Obviously, the energy and technical mastery of a Mutemath show makes up for a lot of that boringness — but the

music on "Odd Soul" is just ... better. In every way.

But after "Typical," they jumped into all the music I love the most: "Pyritania," "Tell Your Heart Heads Up," "Allies" — they almost played "Odd Soul" in its entirety. The only glaring exclusion I can think of is "Walking Paranoia," which was easily one of the albums best tracks.

Hopefully no one in the crowd's favorite album was "Armistice," because they only played one song from it. Even though it was critically well-received, fans tend to shun it. A shame, really. It wasn't a forgettable album.

On stage, they don't organize themselves like a typical band; instead of being placed in the background, King is placed on the side, faced so that he can keep an eye on everyone. They didn't perform as individuals; they performed as a group. Except for their new guitarist — he just stands off to the side and does his thing. I sort of feel bad for him, but maybe he'll start joining in on more of the fun later on.

Sometimes during the show, I would stop listening and just let my heart flutter with the thought of how talented all of the guys up on stage were. In the alternative

rock genre, bands don't often solo, but Mutemath does. Organ solos, bass solos, drum solos, guitar solos — all four members of the band know what they're doing. It's a nice change of pace from the bands that get up on stage and perform their songs by rote.

They also like to meld songs together — most often songs you wouldn't expect, too.

After Meany said, "Okay, we've got one last song for you, it's called 'Break The Same,'" they proceeded to play that song, and then morphed it into "Quarantine," a seven minute romper that comes as close to hard rock as Mutemath will ever get.

Of the night's surprises, Meany



PHOTO BY STEPHEN NOOREGAARD

Mutemath lead singer Paul Meany is known for his on (and off) stage antics.

playing Calvin's organ for "Blood Pressure" was one of the best. Obviously, as a lover of Calvin, I was overjoyed. But as a statement about the band, the inclusion signified something more. They fill in the space they're provided with, adapting to provide the best show that space

can offer.

It's hard to do better than a Mutemath show, and after a few weeks of sitting around and writing music, I'm sure they were ready to release all that pent-up energy. When they got on the stage, they were going to have a good time.

Divers move on to championship

BY PHILLIP VANDER KLAY
Staff Writer

Diving in her home pool at the Venema Aquatic Center,

Calvin senior Samantha Klaasen had a great weekend of performances at the Calvin-hosted regional NCAA diving championships — good enough to earn an automatic qualifying spot in the

NCAA D-III championships in Shenandoah, Texas.

Last Friday, Klaasen set a pool record with a score of 496.60 on the one-meter board. This score garnered her first place and an automatic qualifying spot in the national championship competition.

Then on Saturday, Klaasen had another brilliant performance, coming in second place on the three-meter board by only three points with a score of 482.60. Renee Jordan of Macalester College took first place in this event. Klaasen's performances were so good that she will be competing both on the one-meter and the three-meter down in Texas.

"Sam [Klaasen] was steady as a rock all weekend. She rose to the challenge and she's got another three weeks to her collegiate diving career as a result," said Calvin diving coach Aaron Paskvan.

Calvin freshman Sarah Roth also competed in the regional event. Despite battling a foot injury and showing up to the competition wearing a boot, Roth took 14th place with a score of 388.35.

"I'm really proud of both of our divers," said Paskvan. "Sarah was battling an injury, but she refused to use that as an excuse and she competed hard."



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Klaasen will compete in both the one and three meter dives.

Lacrosse wins game

BY JESS KOSTER
Sports Editor

The men's lacrosse team won its first game as a varsity sport Saturday, 5-4, playing in Defiance, Ohio against Defiance College.

The Knights had an early lead with goals by sophomores Tim Marco and Jonathon VanderLaan. Marco's goal came in the first quarter while VanderLaan's came in the second. Defiance then scored three goals to bring the halftime score to 3-2. Defiance scored again in the third quarter which would be their final goal of the game. Freshman D.J. VanderBaan scored an unassisted goal in the third quarter to bring the score to 4-3.

Senior Greg Boer tied the game in the opening minutes of the fourth quarter with an assist by VanderBaan. With a little more than 10 minutes remaining, junior Casey Harless scored the game winning goal on a feed from Marco.

After the win, coach Joel

Kamstra said, "We're really proud of our first win; it's a great benchmark in our first varsity season and a win that will be one of many for the program. Our guys played tough and we definitely earned it. We're hungry for more."

Boer went 9-11 on faceoff opportunities. Fellow senior Adam Wiersma had 11 ground balls. Calvin won 41 ground balls to Defiance's 26. Senior goalie Drew Sroczyński had two saves on the day.

"We played sloppy through the first half, but really pulled



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The team won its first game 5-4.

ourselves together at the end to get that much needed win," said Sroczyński.

The Knights play again on Saturday at Grand Rapids Christian at 1 p.m.

Promising future plans for Calvin's dining halls

BY SHARON DHAVALÉ
Guest Writer

Student senator Nathan Slauer and student senate vice president Josiah Sinclair are planning a promising project to enhance Calvin's dining hall food options. They are working with the dining hall director to create a brand-new food advisory committee.

According to Slauer, this committee will join other committees of Calvin and serve to "allow students to meet up with dining hall staff in a formal manner to present their ideas to provide a more tangible contact between students and staff."

Slauer hopes that this connection will provide better vocalizing opportunities for students than ones currently being provided.

"The committee seems like a good idea and is a really effective way of coming to a compromise in terms of food. Many people will be happier," Benedicta Arthur, a current freshman who was the president of the food committee in her own high school, said. Students like Benedicta are encouraged to see that an open communication medium is being created between dining hall staff and the student body.

"This way we know what Calvin's students want and appreciate," Arthur explained.

Students on campus share the

same vision as the student senators. Both students and the officers are eager to see a revolutionary connection created between the two sides.

Slauer and Sinclair are hoping to begin the committee's project next semester. Current project plans include introducing more international foods and specialized foods, such as more vegetarian and vegan options.

styles represented," Slauer said.

The idea is to go beyond delicious foods and cultural experiences. It is to also add enhancements to special events at the dining halls that just haven't lived up to their expectations yet.

Students are voicing both eager anticipation and genuine concern regarding the planned project, predominantly in the food prospect of the project.

focusing on international foods or minority foods would cost him his usual plate of hamburger and fries.

"Would the general foods be compromised?" Reed questioned. Concern is also being expressed in the food quality.

"We are concerned because we don't know whether authentic international foods will be produced," Britton said.

"What defines international foods?" Willard Noyes wondered.

Students are openly expressing concerns about what the addition of more food options would mean for the quality of the food. For students, the issue seems to reside in the outcome of the foods that will be introduced.

"I encourage it," Arthur said, remaining positive for the changes that Slauer and Sinclair are hoping

to provide within the dining hall.

"Individuals can join and volunteer. We are looking for students to be part of the committee," Slauer said, readily welcoming students to get involved in the project.

The dining halls have a bright future waiting. Anticipation and uncertainty rests within the students. Currently, the planning for the project appears to have a positive start and the senate officers are eager to launch the project. Students, student senators and the dining hall staff alike have to wait and see the outcome after the project launches, hopefully in the next semester.



Student senate hopes to enhance the dining hall food options by working with a food committee.

The senators are also hoping to enhance the environment of the dining hall. The focus is "giving students an educational environment, too," Slauer said.

"It is very important for students to be involved in what they are eating," Slauer said.

He hopes that the students' involvement with the dining halls goes beyond food consumption.

Slauer also states that "there is no particular shortcoming in the dining halls," and that the project was instigated because he hoped to introduce his passion about foods to the students through the committee.

"I want people to feel at home, and have their particular eating

"We need more vegetarian options," Noah Reed said. He was excited to hear that the project encompassed emphasis on minority foods, such as vegan and vegetarian options for students.

"Any effort to enhance any of the dining hall options is welcome," added Willard Noyes, who wants some form of a positive change in the dining halls food options.

"One of the main platters or hotline options could be international food," Kyle Britton suggested. He is just as excited to have a variety added to the food options.

However, students did have some concerns. Reed wonders if

Shirley Hoogstra apologizes to faculty for financial situation

BY JUSTIN VANDEN ENDE
On-Call Writer

Shirley Hoogstra, vice president for student life and member of the president's cabinet, apologized to faculty for her role in Calvin's fiscal problems Monday night, saying that she should have been a better leader and that this experience has humbled her.

"I have been asking myself over and over what could I have seen, what question could I have asked," said Hoogstra at the faculty senate meeting.

"I wish I had known how to detect the problems that were happening."

Provost and cabinet member Claudia Beversluis said the personal apology was well received by all she talked to.

"It was an honest and authen-

tic comment spoken from her heart," said Beversluis.

Hoogstra served on Calvin College's Board of Trustees from 1995-99 and has been vice president for student life since 1999.

Hoogstra is Calvin's longest-serving sitting cabinet member, after the departure of Henry DeVries in November 2012.

This is the first public apology made by a cabinet mem-

ber since the college's financial challenges came to light last fall. Hoogstra said that the only thing she can do is learn from the experience.

"I am humbled by it, and I am regretful. And when you make mistakes or don't perform as well as you thought, the only thing you can do is ask how can I learn and what can I do better."

Cabinet member Russ Bloem shared some of Hoogstra's sentiments.

"I have also given a lot of thought on how this decision came to be, what, if anything, I could have done differently, and what I have learned from how this has evolved," he said.

Beversluis agreed that the whole of cabinet has been trying to learn from the experience of the last couple years, while also "acknowledging that it's pretty hard to know what you don't know."

"Failure is painful but an excellent teacher," said Hoogstra. "And I pledge to work harder and hopefully wiser than ever."



Hoogstra's apology is the first by a cabinet member. The board of trustees has not made a statement.

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Chimes is the official newspaper of Calvin College. The mission of Chimes is to serve the community of Calvin College in a variety of ways: we aim to reform, review, challenge and foster dialogue within the community.

Mail and shipping services removed from campus store

BY KYLE RODRIGUEZ
News Co-Editor

In a continuing effort to cut costs due to the ongoing financial difficulties of the college, the Campus Store will no longer be providing mail services.

According to Tom VanWingerden, the manager of business services at Calvin, the position in the Campus Store responsible for providing mail services at Calvin has been removed.

While the store will continue to sell USPS postal stamps, any other mail and shipping options have been moved to the Mail and Print Services building as of

March 1.

“Students will still be able to drop off their mail at all dorm desks and will be able to utilize the US Post Office box outside of the Campus Store

in the CFAC parking lot,” said Van Wingerden.

The Mail and Print Services building, on the north end of campus attached to the campus safety offices, is a long trek for

most on campus students, but the functionality of the dorm desks should fulfill most on-campus students’ needs.

The Mail and Print Services building is open from 8 a.m. to

4:30 p.m. on Monday through Friday.

Students will need a valid Calvin identification card to purchase any stamps, packaging materials, or shipping services.



The store will continue to sell USPS postal stamps, but other mail and shipping options have been moved to the Mail and Printing Services.

Calvin accounting students scored record-high pass rates on CPA exam

BY JULIA LAPLACA
Staff Writer

Accounting students ranked 6th in 2012’s Certified Public Accountant exams according to the National Board of Accountancy. Calvin’s ranking is among mid-sized schools, and Calvin’s students also achieved the high pass rate of 74.7%, out-performing universities and colleges such as Cornell, Loyola, Samford, and Hope.

“Calvin’s strong combination of the liberal arts and professional programs prepares our graduates well, both for their lives of service, after graduation, and even for things like taking the CPA exam,” explains accounting Professor Julie Voskuil.

Calvin students have always done well in the past, but 2012’s results are certainly better than last year’s. In 2011 Calvin students came in 15th place among schools of a similar size.

Calvin students also did well outside of the “mid-sized” pool, or the group of schools with accounting programs similar in size to Calvin’s. According to the NASBA 2012 CPA exam performance results, Calvin ranked

in the top 40. This means that Calvin students are faring well among large, selective institutions with accounting master’s

master’s programs.”

The American Institute of CPAs certifies accountants after they have passed the “three

Calvin’s accounting major has been a flourishing part of the Business department for almost 30 years with about 30-35 majors graduating this year.

expressed enthusiasm for his major and department as well. He says, “I chose accounting because of the many job opportunities and how practical it is. It’s the best.”



Accounting students ranked 6th in 2012’s Certified Public Accountant exams.

students. The percentage of Calvin students who pass the test exceeds the national percentage of 54.3 and the state of Michigan’s—63.8 percent.

Professor Voskuil said, “These results go to show that Calvin students have a good work ethic and that we can compete with more selective institutions with

Es”—education, examination, and experience. The CPA exam fulfills the 2nd “E.” The 14 hour test encompasses 4 sections including, Auditing and attestation, business environment and concepts, financial accounting and reporting, and regulation.

After passing the “three Es,” students are given a card proving their CPA certification.

One of the department’s strengths is its faculty. “The accounting faculty is well-prepared academically and professional prepared because we’ve worked in the field before. We know the expectations and goals of the field and can set those same goals in the classroom,” says Voskuil.

Senior Erin Deckinga echoed this thought, “What I appreciate is that the majority of the Profs have experience. They can give applications they got from real life [experience].”

As she begins to gain practical accounting experience, Deckinga explains, “It’s been cool to see how classes applied to the real world.”

Mike Fennema, also a senior,

According to the accounting department website, 92% of graduates from 2012 and 2011 have jobs and the other 8% are in graduate schools. Voskuil explains, “Calvin has a national alumni network that students can tap into when they want to get a job.” Calvin accounting grads are working in Michigan, Chicago, New York, New Jersey, Boston, and Seattle.

Freshman accounting student, Ana Barahona Reyes, explains that she came to Calvin because of other Calvin accounting graduates she knew. One was the vice president of a non-for profit organization and the other a consultant at a local firm. She says, “They had good jobs and they were doing meaningful things in their job.”

“I think Calvin prepares students to work well anywhere.” As an international student, Barahona expressed appreciation that her accounting major from Calvin would enable her to do good work in the states or abroad.

The #WeAreCalvin campaign is going strong. Submit photos of what you love about Calvin to the student senate Facebook page!

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Grand Rapids Cooking School Kickstarter doesn't get funding

The cooking school will continue educating the community without money meant for supplies

BY BRITTANY BEEZHOLD
Staff Writer

Founded by Molly Clauhs and Chris McKellar in 2012, Grand Rapids Cooking School (GRCS) is cultivating an appreciation for the culinary experience for the Grand Rapids community. Grand Rapids Cooking School is a place to inspire the home cook. Partnering with the school, Kelly LeCoy and Clauhs launched a campaign on Kickstarter, an online funding platform for creative projects. The campaign, an effort to better equip and grow the school, was launched on Feb. 6 and ended on March 6.

Clauhs has been working in the local food community in other ways, even before opening the school with McKellar. She owns the Silver Spork Gourmet Food Truck. LeCoy is the owner of Uptown Kitchen, the commercial

experienced food entrepreneurs at the age of 24, are passionate about educating the community about their food choices and providing hands-on experience and skill sets.

“The cooking school started as a side project for Chris and Molly. I think that GRCS is a wonderful addition to West Michigan, Grand Rapids and especially the Uptown neighborhood. There currently isn't another hub for cooking classes [in West Michigan],” says LeCoy.

“We exist as a way to get inspired in the kitchen. It's an alternative to going out to dinner and a way to increase cooking schools and food knowledge,” says Clauhs.

GRCS emphasizes locally sourced food and informed food choices.

“The cooking school focuses on local farms and produces and promotes that in all of the classes.



PHOTO BY JONATHAN STONER

The Grand Rapids Cooking School emphasizes locally sourced foods and promotes the local food economy as a part of their teaching.



PHOTO BY JONATHAN STONER

Grand Rapids Cooking School offers hands-on training in home cooking, and were hoping to raise money to improve their kitchen to

kitchen and oven space where GRCS holds their classes. Clauhs and LeCoy, already

Not only are students learning about how to be a more confident home cook, but also how to sup-

port their local food economy,” says LeCoy. Contrary to other forms of

culinary experience, GRCS offers classes for \$55.

“You can take classes around town through different private chefs, at restaurants and other businesses, but there isn't one place to go and find a variety of consistent classes taught by a variety of great local chefs and educators,” says LeCoy.

For Clauhs, her enthusiasm for cooking and quality food started at a young age.

“My mother and grandmother started a cooking school in Pennsylvania in 1990,” says Clauhs. “I've grown up in a family with three generations of passionate home cooks. That resonated with me and I wanted to offer a similar experience and resource for home cooks here in Grand Rapids.”

“The reason Uptown Kitchen exists is to give small food businesses a platform to get started.

[We] advocate for and contribute to the food culture in Grand Rapids, specifically by providing opportunities for interaction between food and community in our space. Cooking classes are a great way to do that,” says LeCoy.

The campaign closed on March 6. Although GRCS did not reach their Kickstarter goal of \$8,000, they were supported by 55 backers who pledged a total of \$3,946. The Kickstarter funding was anticipated to purchase professional knives and cutting boards, small appliances, pantry staples and jars for storage.

In addition, the funding was intended to make improvements in their demonstration kitchen as well as marketing and promotional materials. But even though Clauhs and LeCoy did not reach their Kickstarter goal, they anticipate continued innovation within the local food community.

Plan to raise money for Michigan roads not likely to make May ballot

BY JOSEPH MATHESON
Local News Editor

Michigan politicians are attempting to put together a plan to provide additional funding to road maintenance. Lawmakers are hoping to raise nearly \$1 billion a year for Michigan roads, but they haven't assembled a comprehensive plan yet, and likely won't in time to put it before Michigan voters in May.

Michigan currently levies a 6 percent sales tax, including on gas, but little of that sales tax money is used to pay for roads or bridges. Some fuel excise taxes are used to fund road projects, but on the whole Michigan taxes drivers more and has less money for roads than most other states, despite the fact that Michigan's rapid temperature fluctuations make roads in Michigan higher-maintenance than comparable roads in other states with more stable temperatures.

“It's the biggest public policy problem we have,” argued Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association's Lance Binoniemi. “The general public does not understand that the 6 percent tax does not go to funding roads and bridges.”

Governor Snyder recently called for a plan that would create

additional revenue by increasing general taxes on gasoline and diesel as well as vehicle registration fees. His plan would change the 15-cent tax on diesel and

funds, and diverting that money to transportation would leave a hole in the education budget.

Another idea that surfaced was an alternative proposed

ity in both the House and Senate and would need to be approved by Michigan voters at the ballot.

Lawmakers had hoped to have the sales tax amendment passed in a week, in order to get it on the May ballot, but it's looking unlikely that they'll be able to pass it by then, meaning they'll have to wait until the next election to put it on the ballot.

Several other plans have also been offered, including closing tax loopholes to raise the revenue, and selling naming rights to various public programs, such as parks, bridges or offices, and selling advertising rights on bridges. The current hybrid plan is to raise gas taxes and possibly vehicle registration fees, eliminate the sales tax on gasoline and raise the sales tax on everything else. However, the sheer number of ideas presented is slowing debate.

“I think the fact we threw an idea on the table that hadn't been fully vetted before caused new people to bring new ideas, and actually we have more to

choose from now than we did before,” comments Senator Randy Richardville, the Senate majority leader. “And so, to give all those ideas a chance to be looked at, I think this is going to take more time.”

It's also unclear if Michigan Republicans will be able to build bipartisan support for the plan, especially since the sales tax increase requires a two-thirds majority. Democrats have expressed some concerns about the plan, and are worried that the discussion has not sufficiently included Democrats.

“If it's a proposal that focuses on a sales tax increase, which if you ask any economist is the most regressive kind of tax you can possibly implement on families, it's certainly not something that Democrats are going to be rushing to support,” said a spokesperson for Michigan Democrats. “I think they're going to have trouble coming up with the votes on this.”

Although Michigan lawmakers are motivated to raise revenue for transportation projects, the current proposals have not yet cohered into a single unified plan.

“It's not soup yet,” admits Richardville.



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

One strategy proposed for raising revenue for Michigan roads is to sell space on bridges to private companies for advertising.

19-cent tax on gasoline to a flat 33-cent tax, which could then fluctuate based on the market. This increased revenue would be used exclusively for transportation projects. The current money from sales tax would about cover the revenue Snyder wants to raise, but the majority of funds from sales taxes go to school aid

by Republicans that would raise the sales tax from 6 to 8 percent. This would raise the revenue for transportation and avoid cutting into current sales tax money for education. To raise the sales tax would require an amendment to the Michigan constitution, which would require a two-thirds major-

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Debate fueled by Keystone XL Pipeline report

BY LAUREN DE HAAN
Staff Writer

The debate over climate change in the United States was fueled on Friday by the latest report from the U.S. State Department concerning the Keystone XL oil pipeline — a 1,700 mile pipeline that would run from Canada to the Gulf Shore, bringing tar-sand oil to refineries in Texas. The report finds that there would be no significant environmental impact to most resources along the proposed route and concludes that alternative ways of transporting the crude oil to the Gulf would be worse for the environment. The report was heralded by supporters and slammed by environmentalists.

The Obama administration is facing significant pressure from Republicans, business and labor groups, and the Canadian government to approve the pipeline. The State Department stopped short of recommending the approval of the pipeline, but did provide the Obama administration cover if it chooses to endorse the pipeline against the wishes of many Democrats and environmentalists.

The deal needs the State Department's approval because the pipeline would cross the US-Canada border. The latest report was commissioned after the pipeline's operator, Calgary-based TransCanada, changed the project's route through Nebraska

thus requiring a new environmental analysis of that region.

The Obama administration blocked the construction of the pipeline last year because of the environmentally sensitive land in the Sands Hill region. This initial rejection of the pipeline went over

tribute to global warming than the pipeline. The Keystone XL pipeline, according to the report, would annually release the same amount of global warming pollution as 626,000 passenger cars. Two other modes were investigated in depth and scenarios were

The problem for many environmentalists is not with the different modes of transportation but rather with the development of tar sands oil in general. “The State Department is overlooking the fact that the pipeline is likely to trigger at least 450,000 barrels per day of additional tar sands production capacity,” said Stephen Kretzmann, executive director of Oil Change International, in a statement.

James Hansen, a Columbia University professor and one of the world's most respected experts on climate change, also issued a statement attacking the report's findings.

“To say that the tar sands have little climate impact is an absurdity,” he said.

“Americans are already suffering from the consequences of global warming, from more powerful storms like Hurricane Sandy to drought conditions currently devastating the Midwest and Southwest,” adds Daniel Gatti of the group Environment America. Production of oil from Canadian tar sands could add as much as 240 billion metric tons of global warming pollution to the atmosphere, Gatti said, a potential catastrophe that would hasten the arrival of the worst effects of global warming.

On the other side of the debate are Republicans, oil companies, and the Canadian government who argue that the oil will find a way to market with or without Keystone XL. Republicans also see this as a way to boost the economy by creating new jobs and lessening dependence on foreign oil as well as bringing down fuel prices.

“The Keystone XL pipeline will make more Canadian and U.S. oil available to us — oil that will not need to be imported from unfriendly places,” said Karen Harbert, president of the U.S. Chamber's Institute for 21st Century Energy. Construction of the pipeline would support 42,100 jobs across the United States, directly and indirectly, the review said. The operation of the pipeline would result in 35 to 50 permanent jobs.

“[The] report again makes clear there is no reason for this critical pipeline to be blocked one more day. After four years of needless delays, it is time for President Obama to stand up for middle-class jobs and energy security and approve the Keystone pipeline,” said House speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio.

The draft report issued Friday begins a 45-day comment period for the public, after which the State Department will issue a final environmental report before Secretary of State John Kerry makes a recommendation about whether the pipeline is in the national interest.

The Obama administration is not expected to make a decision until midsummer.



Environmentalists have gathered in Washington to protest the Keystone deal.

poorly in Canada, which relies on the United States for 97 percent of its energy exports.

The report says that tar sands are likely to be developed regardless of whether or not the United States approves the pipeline. It goes on to investigate different ways of transporting the oil from Canada to Texas — including rail, trucks and barges — and concludes that other modes of transportation would release more greenhouse gases than con-

developed for each. The report finds that a scenario that would move the oil on trains to mostly existing pipelines would release 8 percent more greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide than Keystone XL.

Another scenario that relies mostly on rail to move the oil to the Canadian west coast — where it would be loaded onto oil tankers to the U.S. Gulf Coast — would result in 17 percent more greenhouse gas emissions.

Sequestration cuts deep into major sectors

BY JOVIANUS HARTOPO
Staff Writer

A week ago today saw President Obama sign into place an order for \$85 billion in automatic spending cuts within the US economy, marking a series of drastic cuts to government funding throughout the nation.

Only days earlier on Wednesday, the Republican-controlled House of Representatives approved legislation to prevent a March 27 government shutdown with a 267-151 vote, sending the bill to the Senate.

Famously known as the “sequestration” or the “sequester,” the National Journal explains that the term refers to “\$1.2 trillion in automatic spending cuts due to go into effect over the next 10 years, with roughly \$85 billion slated for this year.” Moreover, the Congressional Budget Office predicts that the effects of the sequestration are expected to cost nearly 750,000 jobs by the end of the year.

Following a futile meeting with congressional leaders, President Obama declared that “it's happening because of a choice that Republicans in Congress have made,” the Washington Post reports.

“They've allowed these cuts to happen because they refuse to budge on closing a single wasteful loophole to help reduce the deficit,” Obama added.

More notably, President Obama referenced a “Star Wars term,” stating, “the fact that [Republicans] don't take it means that I should somehow do a Jedi mind-meld with these folks and convince them to do what's right.”

With the looming furloughs of hundreds of thousands of federal workers, a Gallup poll reports a

decline in Obama's approval rating from 51 percent to 47 percent.

The heart of the sequester has been an ongoing confrontation between Republicans and Democrats to agree on a long term deal to reduce the \$16 trillion debt the United States has continued to accumulate.

The term “sequestration” was first phased as part of the Budget Control Act of 2011.

At the start of the year, the American Taxpayer Relief Act was passed, ending what many had feared with the United States economy “going over the fiscal cliff.”

With President Obama pushing for higher taxes and Republicans continuing to refuse this measure, the U.S. Congress failed to reach an agreement before the March 1 deadline. Unlike earlier this year, both parties refused to strike a last minute deal to save the economy from falling victim to the sequester.

According to the Guardian, “Obama said a country like America should not be forced to run its economy making deals on a month to month basis and he is looking for a long-term solu-

tion: what he referred to as a balanced approach, a combination of spending cuts and new taxes.”

As consequence of the sequester, “the hardest-hit department will be the Pentagon, which will

ment — will see their wages cut and their hours reduced,” the President stated in the recent White House press conference.

Hence the consequences of the sequester are being felt by



Lawmakers on the hill have failed to steer clear of the March 1 deadline for the sequester.

have to find more than \$40 billion in savings between now and September, about 9 percent of its overall budget.”

However the cuts are also set to reduce an amount of 5 percent for the budget of nearly every government department.

“Beginning this week, businesses that work with the military will have to lay folks off. Communities near military bases will take a serious blow. Hundreds of thousands of Americans who serve their country — border patrol agents, FBI agents, civilians who work for the defense depart-

public schools as the Associated Press reports that “about 1,400 school districts serving roughly 11 million children nationwide — including nearly 376,500 students from military families” will be hit by the cuts that affect Impact Aid, the federal program that “supplements local property tax losses for districts that cover federal land, including military posts and Indian tribal areas.”

Moreover, nationwide an expected “10,000 teachers and 7,200 special education teachers, aides, and other staff could be dropped as a result of cuts to federal spend-

ing on local education.”

In fact, countless others will be hit by the sequestration itself, including national parks. The National Journal reports that “park administrators in Yosemite National Park say the coming spending cuts could lead to less trash collection, which could lead to more bears at campgrounds.”

In addition, airline passengers are expected to face longer delays. Ray Lahood, transportation secretary and Republican lawmaker, pointed to a \$600 million in cuts within the Federal Aviation Administration, effectively furloughing thousands of employees.

According to former Republican Senator Pete Domenici and fiscal expert Alice Rivlin, “The president should call the senior representatives of the parties together to Camp David — or any place with a table, chairs, and no TV cameras — for serious negotiations on replacing the sequester with firm, enforceable beginnings of a comprehensive long-term debt stabilization agreement.”

In addition, after months of political silence, Mitt Romney emerged into the political spotlight on Reuters, accusing Obama of “flying around the country and berating Republicans and blaming and pointing, instead of striking a budget deal.”

Yet in the long run the political battles are far from over. By midsummer, Congress is expected to reach an agreement on the federal debt ceiling as well as finding a way to fund the government by Sept. 30.

In reference to the sequester, Obama stated that “this is not a win for anybody, this is a loss for the American people.”



Whole Foods, Conscientious Urban Planning, and Food Deserts



BY MAXWELL HOWARD
Features Editor

On March 5, the real estate broker Mike Murray, who works for Collier International, announced to the press that three stores would be coming to Grand Rapids in the near future; namely the two food retailers Whole Foods and Trader Joe's, as well as the clothing retailer H&M. While the news from Mike Murray is not largely substantial, considering that on March 6 Trader Joe's released a statement stating that a store in Grand Rapids is not within their two-year plan, the news has been met with a large amount of enthusiastic support. From a general excitement at the conversation to micro-blurbs on Facebook and Twitter, the majority consensus about the coming of these retail stores however is very positive with a few nitpicking issues; one of which is the placement of the stores.

Deriving from a mainly aesthetic concern, the placement of H&M is of no problem to many enthusiasts in that its future location of the Woodland Mall is an obvious and easy choice to make. The possible placement of Whole Foods on 28th Street near Cascade, however, has prompted more frustration out of Grand Rapidsians due to the unpleasant and visually unappealing landscape. But this is really only a minor concern: I assume most Grand Rapids residents would love to

have a Whole Foods whether or not it was placed on a particularly ugly street. However, despite my relative uninterest in Whole Foods, I still do care a great deal about where we place our food markets.

Instead of the aesthetic concerns of Whole Foods we should be focusing on the financial implications behind them. The sentence that caught my attention as I read an article on the MLive Group Press website was this: "Both retailers have stores on the east side of the state and are looking for locations near highly educated and affluent populations," Murray said."

In this statement addressing the placement of Whole Foods, we see the kind of financial thinking we would expect behind the placement. And while this financial thought, that building businesses closer to higher income areas will yield a larger return, is not inherently bad, it should not be the sole reason for the urban planning of business centers. What we should concern ourselves about is the placement of food centers so that more of the general population has access to healthy and reasonably priced food.

With this in mind, the placement of Whole Foods on 28th Street is not only about fighting the ugliness of a street, it is about fighting the food deserts of inner city Grand Rapids. Food deserts are any place in which the income of the neighborhood means that fresh and healthy food is not provided within a

mile of it and where the population does not have the means or money for readily available transportation. Such areas more of a problem in Grand Rapids that we might like to think, and what grows in the absence of fresh food retailers are convenience stores and fast food restaurants, offering the barest nutritional minimum.

In Grand Rapids neighborhoods such as Heartside and Baxter, we find that the closest food centers are Grand Central Market (one mile and a half away with more expensive, specialty food items) and the Wealthy Market (a closer market, but with less choices of food). It is in neighborhoods like these that residents have not only anxieties about having enough money for food, but also the difficulty of ready access to food. So, in a way, we should be concerned about the placement of a place like Whole Foods, but not in ways that first came to our mind. When we talk about Whole Foods then instead of talking about the ugliness of a street, which is a real subject to be addressed too, let us use this opportunity to speak of the social issue of food deserts as well. We can hope and we can plan for our future buildings of the growing Grand Rapids around our poor and needy — around people who need the help that comes from the financial investment and urban planning that comes with the development of businesses like Whole Foods and other healthy food centers.



“ This is a serious, comic, seriously-comic talent to watch. With routines this pointed and subject matter this potentially explosive, he has to be. ”

Jon Hielkema, “W. Kamau Bell”

New ‘Community’ less charming than previous seasons

BY NICK KEELEY
Staff Writer

Throughout television history, the behind-the-scenes changing of a show’s creative force has become a common occurrence. While some shows, like “How I Met Your Mother” and “Breaking Bad,” have had the same set of showrunners from the beginning, most shows endure a changing of the guard at some point during their run. One of the most recent shows to change hands is NBC’s “Community.” Last spring, NBC and Dan Harmon, the show’s inventive creator, parted ways after creative differences. Harmon was replaced by David Guarascio and Moses Port (“Just Shoot Me”), with the new showrunners promising to retain Harmon’s zany vision. After the first three episodes of “Community’s” fourth season, Guarascio and Port have struggled to live up to their promise.

“Community” tells the story of a close-knit study group at Greendale Community College and their crazy adventures. The group is anchored by Jeff Winger (Joel McHale), a narcissistic former lawyer who has grown to love his friends. Surrounding Jeff are his on-again, off-again love interests Britta Perry, a neurotic psychology major, and Annie Edison, the group’s overachieving voice-of-reason. Also in the group are best friends and pop-culture nerds Abed Nadir and Troy Barnes, middle-aged mother Shirley Bennett and bigot Pierce Hawthorne.

The first few episodes of the fourth season of “Community” have been problematic for a number of reasons. Over the course of its first 3 seasons, “Community”

episodes, the show’s parodies have been lazy and unfocused, especially the season premiere’s take on “The Hunger Games,” which seemed out of place and

nominee for its writing, season four of “Community” has already had one of the worst scripts in the show’s history. The season’s third episode, “Conventions of

of different versions of the show, including a broad sitcom with a laugh track and an animated version with the characters as babies. The storyline, which runs parallel to the lazy riff on “The Hunger Games,” works as a clever way to address the show’s new management and the fan’s fears over what the show would become.

While the direction and writing of “Community” have had its troubles, the show’s magnificent cast continues to shine. Joel McHale is great as the snarky and self-centered Jeff, anchoring the show’s eclectic ensemble strikingly well. Allison Brie and Yvette Nicole Brown are reliably endearing as the good-natured Annie and Shirley. The wacky Gillian Jacobs and Donald Glover continue to impress as the now-dating Britta and Troy. Veteran comedian Chevy Chase, as brash as ever and set to leave the show at the end of the season, is a perfect fit for the unlikable Pierce Hawthorne. As excellent as the ensemble is, the standouts of the show continue to be the magnificent Danny Pudi as Abed and Oscar-winning screenwriter Jim Rash as the ridiculously over-the-top Dean Pelton.

Unfocused and less energetic than before, the fourth season of “Community,” and first without series creator Dan Harmon, has stumbled out of the gate. While the show may never again reach its previous heights, “Community” still boasts one of the best ensembles on television and has a good shot at finding its footing.



FILE PHOTO

was often one of the funniest sitcoms on television, thanks in large part to its brilliant use of meta-humor and parody. While the show is still funny, part of the new season’s problems lie with its direction. In the past, the show’s excellent parody episodes, such as last season’s takes on Ken Burns’s documentaries, “Glee” and “Law and Order,” have been spot-on with their direction and execution. Through the first three

ultimately unneeded. The show’s signature quick pace has also diminished. Despite the fact that two of the episodes were directed by executive producer and frequent collaborator Tristram Shapeero, the fourth season has been far less energetic than its predecessors, resulting in a significant loss of wit and charm.

In addition to its execution, “Community’s” writing has been a mixed-bag. A previous Emmy

Space and Time,” is completely devoid of the show’s immensely clever style of meta-humor. Set at a convention for “Inspector Spacetime,” the show’s version of “Doctor Who,” the episode bumbles around until it reaches a set of unnecessarily earnest conclusions. As bad as the third episode is, season four’s first two episodes are slightly more redeemable. In the season premiere, Abed frequently thinks

W. Kamau Bell at Calvin

BY JON HIELKEMA
Staff Writer

In an interview with CBC Radio show-host Jian Ghomeshi, W. Kamau Bell distanced himself from the role of activist.

“Some people have put that label on me, but I feel like that detracts from activists. You know, that’s a job. I just find that I like to do comedy about things I care about.”

However, when the subjects you care about revolve around racism and its persistence in America, such disclaimers might seem insufficient. Bell, who will be performing his acclaimed standup act “The W. Kamau Bell Curve: Ending Racism in About an Hour,” at Calvin at 8 p.m. Monday in the Covenant Fine Arts Center, has been touching raw nerves and breaking down taboos through laughter for some time now.

Both onstage and in his FX show “Totally Biased,” Bell exudes a personal warmth that mixes well with his pointed routines. One segment on his show, available to watch on Youtube, shows him watching the recent presidential election results roll with members of the Brooklyn Young Republican Club. While clearly standing (metaphorically) to the left of all those present, he remains jovial even when the subject matter is controversial or tense.

At the club, he spoke to a representative of Young Republican Gangsta Rappers, a middle-aged woman wearing what looks to be a Tupac Shakur T-shirt. When asked why she voted for Mitt Romney, she explained that her goal was to promote a support network for poor urban children. Bell’s bemused reply, “And you think Mitt Romney has a lot of love for inner city kids?” received a halting response.

He is quite conscious of the racial messaging he presents on stage, saying in an Indiewire interview, “I’m a six foot four-inch, 250 pound black guy who people expect to get angry. It’s the vessel you’re in — Bill Maher seems angry all of the time but no one’s afraid of him ... I’ve often had a way of going through life ‘okay, everything’s cool. I have a problem, I’d like to explain it to you.’ That’s just who I am. There’s nothing wrong with being happy to be there. I’m not very good at ironic detachment.”

What makes his comedy work on a level above polemics, however, is how his jokes are written and delivered. Using open body language and surgical wit more than anger — though that element is certainly not absent from his routines — Bell comes off as reasonable and amiable. Ever ready to prod and unmask unstated prejudices, he remains careful with language. As well he should, since most of the appeal of his comedy, and of much of verbal comedy, comes from twisting words, delving into them and finding their power to elicit laughter. His sincerity keeps his audience’s attention and, hopefully, their affections, letting him work the jokes for all they’re worth.

All of that might seem like serious business, and as many comics will attest, the mechanics and artistry of comedy are every bit as serious as dramatic film-making. Once the material is embodied on stage, though, Bell’s words and actions begin to look effortless.

This is a serious, comic, seriously-comic talent to watch. With routines this pointed and subject matter this potentially explosive, he has to be. Luckily, he is up to the task of helping in a small way to make people laugh and put names on the imagined barriers that divide people of different skin color.



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SCAN & LEARN MORE

Janene McIntyre
Principal Public Finance Lawyer, at Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith P.C.

As a Public Finance/Corporate attorney for Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith P.C., Janene McIntyre has much experience in financing, including serving as counsel for several state and local issues in the states of Michigan, Connecticut, Missouri, New York and the District of Columbia. She also has a passion for mentoring and volunteering in professional organizations, including serving as president of the Davis-Dunnings Bar Association. Before working with Foster Swift, McIntyre worked as a full-time bond lawyer with Lewis & Munday, P.C.

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CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

2/27/2013

Campus safety assisted Residence Life with a room search in regard to a subject possibility in possession of controlled substances. Several items were found and taken for further analysis. Information on the room search was forwarded to Judicial Affairs for further action.

2/28/2013

Campus safety was requested to assist Judicial Affairs Office with the search of a room and a vehicle related to a violation of college policy for possession of illegal substances. The results of the search were forwarded to Judicial Affairs for further action.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Humongous
- 4 Unfriendly
- 8 Took to the skies
- 12 Commotion
- 13 Eye layer
- 14 Emanation
- 15 1849 California event
- 17 Commotion
- 18 Campus digs
- 19 Trusty mount
- 20 "Yippeel!"
- 22 Create
- 24 Equal
- 25 Shirk work
- 29 Mess up
- 30 Analogy mark
- 31 Have debts
- 32 Paris airport eponym
- 34 Winter transport
- 35 Guitars' smaller kin
- 36 Director Almodóvar
- 37 Put into words
- 40 Complaint
- 41 Stead
- 42 Source of wealth
- 46 Teensy bit
- 47 Vicinity
- 48 Junior
- 49 Former European

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|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 50 Sailing vessel | 9 Troubadour's instrument | 30 Potential pickle, for short |
| 51 Day divs. | 10 Great Lake | 33 Fall |
| | 11 Actress Sela | 34 Appear |
| DOWN | 16 Entryway | 36 Go by |
| 1 Satchel | 19 Epidermis | bicycle |
| 2 Bachelor's final | 20 Newspaper page | 37 Thick slice |
| utterance | 21 Present | 38 One of The Jackson 5 |
| 3 Cohort | 22 Shopping centers | 39 A billion years (Var.) |
| of Behar and Hasselbeck | 23 Lotion additive | 40 Huffed and puffed |
| 4 Pungent dish in Indian cuisine | 25 Beauty spot | 42 Festive |
| 5 Egg | 26 Pepperidge Farms | 43 Man-mouse link |
| 6 "— Miserables" | 27 Basin | 44 Neither mate |
| 7 Doo follower | 28 Start over | 45 Type measures |
| 8 Zip up, | | |

Bullseye

Sample Sale:

Saturday, March 9th from 9:30-3:00

Location: 4880 36th ST SE (SE corner of Patterson & 36th)

Majority of items priced @ \$10.00 or less.
Cash & Credit cards (except Discover)

Items for Sale: dress shirts, golf shirts, jackets, sweatshirt, athletic wear, bags, hats

Name brands available; all clothing is new & in men's & women's styles.

Super Crossword

ALPHABETICAL ACTS A-TO-A

ACROSS

- 1 Wise to
- 8 Raven calls
- 12 Salve target
- 15 Vacation facilities
- 19 Sticky stuff on a bat
- 20 Andy's radio sidekick
- 21 Abnormal
- 23 Curry does a patisserie job?
- 25 Ripped open
- 26 Olds antiques
- 27 Gains a lap?
- 28 Big scuffle
- 29 Petroleum
- 30 Hopper lifts weights?
- 35 Lighter fuel
- 38 Atop, to poets
- 39 "Swinging on —" (1944 hit song)
- 40 Wilder picks up a bug?
- 46 Forget to mention
- 48 Gain entry to
- 49 — Lady of Fatima
- 50 Setback
- 53 "— right?"
- 54 "Little Red Book" writer
- 55 Carrey is amorous with gals?
- 60 Big name in sportswear
- 64 Like Smurfs
- 65 Justices' org.
- 66 Astor feeds her infant?
- 73 Lyric-writing Gershwin
- 74 Ending for billion
- 75 Duncan of dance
- 77 Shriver gets off her soapbox?
- 84 Tattered cloth
- 85 — Wan Kenobi
- 86 City map
- 87 Suffix with krypton
- 88 Llama's kin
- 91 Ostentatious display
- 93 Alito gets an arena worker's attention?
- 98 Lord of a manor
- 101 Tillis of song
- 102 Really annoy
- 103 Damone plays a percussion instrument?
- 109 Alaskan lang.
- 110 Dr. Seuss title creature
- 111 Sour fruit

DOWN

- 1 On — (equal in value)
- 2 Chablis, e.g.
- 3 — Domini (in the year of the Lord)
- 4 Graycoats
- 5 Greek letter
- 6 Sturdy wood
- 7 — lens (spotlight component)
- 8 Prickly desert plants
- 9 Garner
- 10 Asian pan
- 11 Tampa-to-Ft. Myers dir.
- 12 Provide food
- 13 Letter-shaped iron bar
- 14 Mother with a Nobel
- 15 — Lanka
- 16 Sweeping views
- 17 Against lawbreaking
- 18 Embezzled
- 22 Scuba spots
- 24 Moral lapse
- 28 — mortal
- 30 Morse bits
- 31 Space chimp of 1961
- 32 Nearly an eternity
- 33 Deletes, with "out"
- 34 Platte River tribe
- 35 "Stop panicking!"
- 36 Old 7UP nickname, with "the"
- 37 No-frills shirt
- 40 Chess, e.g.
- 41 "— dare?"
- 42 Total amount
- 43 Rankle
- 44 Western actor Lee Van —
- 45 Lean- — (hovels)
- 47 "— a pity ..."
- 51 Stinging hits
- 52 Native Israeli
- 55 — de mots (pun, in Paris)

ACROSS

- 56 Henrik who wrote "Peer Gynt"
- 57 — -mo (replay choice)
- 58 End-of-word add-on: Abbr.
- 59 Voiced
- 61 Actor La Salle
- 62 Pancake pour-on
- 63 Sluggish sort
- 67 Jamaican with dreadlocks, often
- 68 "Yes, —!"
- 69 Time chunk
- 70 Contract need: Abbr.
- 71 "Nick and — Infinite Playlist"
- 72 Brings honor to
- 76 Gel for a petri dish
- 79 Aping
- 80 Prof's aides
- 81 Shop — you drop
- 82 Addams family cousin
- 83 School lobby gp.
- 88 Dumb — ox
- 89 Attract
- 90 Free TV ad
- 92 Church seat
- 94 Tullius' 2,020
- 95 180, slangily
- 96 Right angle
- 97 City northwest of Tucson
- 99 Stupid, clumsy sort
- 100 Wore away
- 103 Bodices, e.g.
- 104 Norwegian currency
- 105 Brazil's Espirito —
- 106 Colonel North, briefly
- 107 Cheesy pie
- 108 Medical care gp.
- 112 Italian "dear"
- 113 Cereal that's "for kids"
- 114 Lacoste of tennis
- 115 Fails to keep up
- 117 Bottom line
- 118 Sharp bark
- 119 Online address
- 120 Ending for phenyl
- 121 Prefix with tax

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“All the guys on our team are just really excited to give it our best shot and lay the foundation for years to come.”

Adam Wiersma “Hot Seat”



PHOTO BY MILES KUPERUS

Hot Seat: Adam Wiersma

BY JESS KOSTER
Sports Editor

Sports editor Jess Koster sat down with men's lacrosse captain, senior Adam Wiersma. This is Hot Seat:

Koster: First off, how old are you?

Wiersma: 21.

Where are you from?

Holland, Mich.

How many siblings do you have?

I have an older sister and a younger brother.

What is your major?

International development. Business minor.

What brought you to Calvin?

Well, besides pretty much my entire extended family coming here, I came for the academics and to play lacrosse too.

What first got you interested in lacrosse?

Well, back in high school, one of my good buddies just kind of convinced me to play. It was kind of a newer sport and it's growing and he just said, "Hey, I think you would be good," and I went out and loved it.

What is the best part about playing lacrosse?

I love the fast paced nature of the game. It's very quick and you always have to be ready for a different situation. It's a lot of problem solving on the defensive end with what sort of offensive set are they running and how can we counter that. So I like trying to figure that out.

What are your interests besides lacrosse?

I love the outdoors. I love to go backpacking or fishing or hiking. I love spending time with my friends and playing other sports or playing games.

How hard is the transition from club lacrosse to varsity lacrosse?

We definitely see some stronger programs. Some more well-established teams, but it's still the same game, we still love to play. It's no different game so it's nice that it's kinda the same still, but we do have to step it up a level as a team.

What are your thoughts on this inaugural season of lacrosse?

It's very exciting! We are honored really to be the first

new varsity sport along with women's lacrosse in quite some time and it's just very exciting. I know our coaches are excited. All the guys on our team are just really excited to give it our best shot and lay the foundation for years to come.

What's your favorite color?

Blue.

Favorite music?

Probably alternative rock, soft rock.

Favorite books?

There's too many to choose from.

Favorite movies?

Probably the Lord of the Rings Trilogy

Favorite sports team?

Detroit Tigers

Tell us about a significant person in your life whom you really look up to.

I would have to stay it was one of my mentors back in high school, he was also one of my assistant coaches for lacrosse. He was just a good example of what it looks like to live a good life for Jesus Christ as a husband, as a friend and as an athlete too.

What do you hope to do when you grow up?

I guess somewhere down the road, I would like to start my own organization or be top level management of a non-profit or something like that.

What are your hopes and goals as a lacrosse team this year?

We have some specific team goals this year and one of the kind of measurable goals we have is 50 percent of the ground balls we'd like to win. We like to say that ground balls win games. It starts with the little things and it gets you possession and therefore time on offense. But as a team, we're really looking to lay the foundation for the years to come and to start a successful program that will be well known in the future.

Who helped you improve your game while at Calvin? Even in club play.

I would say Eric Kamstra. I had the honor of playing with him for two years and now he's the assistant coach. He's a very driven person and that motivates me to get better. He's always been encouraging and helping me improve over my four years here.

What advice do you have for younger players?

Keep working on the fundamentals. They can be sometimes boring or monotonous to work

on, but fundamentals are what can set a team apart at a higher level so it's important to keep working on the little things.

If you had to pick one person, historical or living to have lunch with, who would it be?

I would maybe go with Martin Luther King Jr.

Describe one of your most embarrassing moments.

I'm sure there was one time where I tripped up the steps going to Uppercrest or something. I don't know.

Describe a perfect day.

I'd probably say get up on time, go out fishing in the early morning, maybe come back and have a big breakfast with some friends. Play some sports in the afternoon.

Do you prefer cats or dogs?

Dogs, definitely.

What's the best Calvin dorm?

Bolt.

What is one thing you cannot survive without?

Coffee.

If you were stranded on a desert island, which of your teammates would you eat first?

I'd maybe go with Greg Boer, fellow senior.

Commons or Knollcrest?

Commons.

What would I find in your refrigerator right now?

I got some eggs, yogurt, condiments, some mushrooms, tomatoes, strawberries.

What is the last book you read?

This summer I read "The Book Thief."

If you could trade places with any other person for a week, famous or not, living or dead, real or fictional, who would it be?

Wow. Hmm. Maybe Bilbo Baggins from the "Lord of the Rings."

What is the last movie you went to go see?

I want to say "The Dark Knight Rises."

If Hollywood made a movie about your life, who would you like to see play you?

Maybe Matt Damon, even though we don't look anything alike.

What is the best pizza topping?

Pineapple.

What came first, the chicken or the egg?

The chicken.

February in review

BY JESS KOSTER
Sports Editor

The sports teams have been very busy in the month of February. Here's a quick recap of what we think the biggest stories of the month were.

10. Senior basketball player Carissa Verkaik has played her last collegiate basketball game. She was recently named a finalist for the Jostens Trophy, which recognizes excellence on the court, in the classroom and in the community. She finishes on the top of the scoring list with 2,236 points. That point total puts her in third on Calvin's all time scoring list for both men and women behind Mark Veenstra and Steve Honderd. She also finishes the season third on the points per season list behind herself. She also holds the fifth spot on that list. She has the block record with 440, the rebounds record with 1071 and the MIAA scoring record with 1,219. She's only the second woman to score more than 1,000 points in the MIAA.

9. Four of the seniors from the women's basketball team have helped the Knights win 100 games in the last four years. This is the first time players have won 100 games in

a career in women's basketball history at Calvin. Those four seniors are Julia Hilbrands, Kelsey Irwin, Carissa Verkaik and Ally Wolffis. After the women's last game, Irwin had tied the three-point baskets in a career with 187.

8. In the championship swim meet, Calvin's women defeated Hope by 38 points. Senior Stephanie Fox, freshman Michaela Rookus, senior Elizabeth Counsell and sophomore Kathryn Wrobel won the 800-meter freestyle relay. Wrobel also won the 500-meter free. Rookus took the 200 individual medley. Senior Samantha Klaasen won both diving events. Senior Kristy Kinzer, Counsell, senior Rachel Colasurdo and Rookus won both the 400- and 200-meter medley relays and set the MIAA record in the 200-meter with a time of 1:45.84. Counsell also won the 100- and 200-meter breaststrokes.

7. Men's swim and dive came in second in the MIAA championships. This is their highest finish in over twenty years. Freshman Caleb Meindersma set the record for the 1650-meter freestyle. In the MIAA Championship meet, junior Andrew Mitchell, freshman Johnson Cochran, senior Mark Rushlow and freshman Mitchell Schroder combined to

win the 400-meter medley relay. Rushlow also won the 100-meter butterfly. Meindersma won the 1650 freestyle as well.

6. The indoor track team is sending junior Nicole Michmerhuizen to the national championships in Naperville, Ill. She is running the 5,000-meter run. She is ranked fourth in the nation for D-III in this event. She qualified for the 5,000-meter and the 10,000-meter in the outdoor season last spring.

5. The All-MIAA teams were announced in February. For women's swim: Samantha Klaassen, Elizabeth Counsell, Kristy Kinzer, Michaela Rookus, Sarah Roth, Erika Waugh and Kathryn Wrobel. For men's swim: Johnson Cochran, Caleb Meindersma, Andrew Mitchell, Mark Rushlow and Travis Vincent. For women's basketball: Carissa Verkaik and Kayla Engelhard were named first team, Julia Hilbrands was named second team. For men's basketball:

Tom Snickers and Bryan Powell were named first team, Tyler Krus was named second team.

4. The men's basketball made it to the NCAA tournament for the first time in seven years. Unfortunately, due to the NCAA rankings, the higher-ranked Knights were given an away game at the lower ranked Rose-Hulman Engineers. The Knights proved it to taking the game with a 20-point advantage.

3. Two women have been named MIAA MVP. The first was diver Sam Klaasen. This was Klaasen's third time being named MIAA's Most Valuable Diver and the seventh time in the nine year history of this award that a Calvin diver as received this award. The other woman to receive the award was Verkaik for the women's basketball team. She is the first women's basketball player in MIAA history to win the award all four years of her college career. In fact, there has only been one men's basketball player to receive the award four times, that being Calvin's Mark Veenstra from 1974-1977.

2. The men's lacrosse team has had five games already and they were able to score the first goal in their first game. This historic first varsity goal was scored by junior Casey Harless. They were able to record a win in their fifth game of the season against Defiance, 5-4.

1. Calvin won three MIAA championships this month: men's basketball and women's swimming being won outright and women's basketball being shared with Hope. This is the men's first MIAA championship since the 2009-2010 season. The women's swim team is on a eight-year win streak. Women's basketball team has won a portion of the last three titles.



CALVIN.EDU
Carissa Verkaik

Knights schedule

Friday, March 8

Women's tennis v. Davenport at 4 p.m.

Indoor Track & Field Championships at North Central University

Saturday, March 9

Men's LAX v. Elmhurst at GRCHS at 1 p.m.

Men's basketball at UW-Stevens Point at 8 p.m.

Tuesday, March 12

Women's LAX v. Alma at Davenport at 7:30

Wednesday March 13

Men's tennis v. Cornerstone at 4 p.m.

Men's LAX v. Hope at GRCHS at 4 p.m.

Thursday, March 14

Women's LAX v. Hope at Davenport at 7:30 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 disorder

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.”

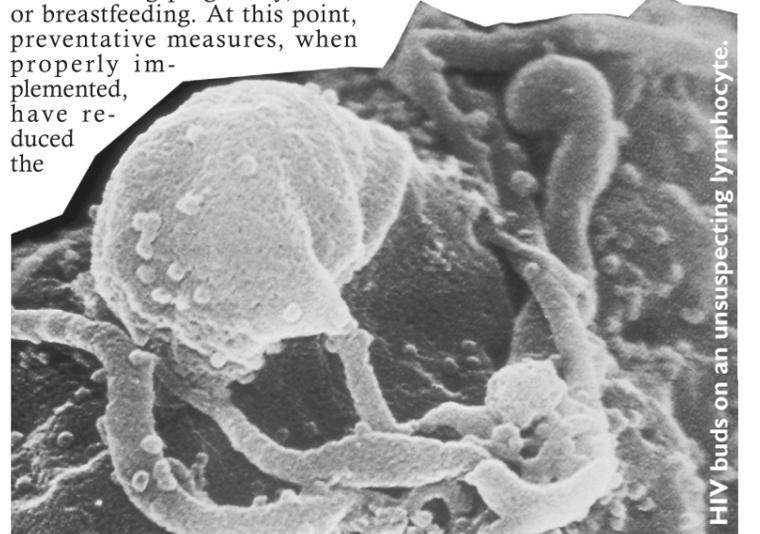
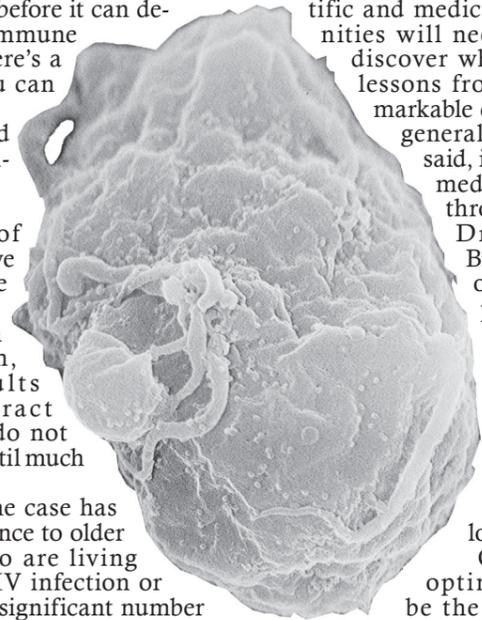
One reason this might have worked was cited by Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, cited here in the New York Times: “That goes along with the concept that, if you treat before the virus has had an opportunity to establish a large reservoir and before it can destroy the immune system, there’s a chance you can withdraw 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

“ The Bible is a beautiful foundation for a sexual ethic, but we absolutely must acknowledge when we are no longer simply reading Bible verses.

Becca Bosslet, “Sermon’s sexual ethic” ”

FROM THE EDITOR



I’m a collector of quotations. Cliché for an English major, I know. But one that’s stuck with me since early high school has to do with beauty, a subject that never ceases to fascinate me.

Emerson says, “Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us, or we find it not.”

There are so many ways I could organize and discuss the idea of beauty. The word is used in so many contexts and with varying levels of depth and complexity. An easy way for me to wrap my mind around the subject is to think about visible and invisible beauty.

Visible beauty is what we probably think of first. We see beautiful people, beautiful

art, beautiful nature. There’s the elegant way a thin, tall tree clears its throat quietly to interrupt a panorama. Or the way that in winter, everything takes on a sharp outline against the carpet of snow, the reverse of a pinprick flashlight in the dark. We see beauty when someone waits far too long to hold the door for us. Or when we let our roommates eat that last piece of coffee cake or when we buy a blue shirt because it’s the same color blue as the sky in that painting we saw in a textbook.

Invisible beauty is beauty of the spirit, perhaps even the fruit of the spirit. It’s the love we have for each other and the joy we take in the little things and the peace we hold on to in busy times. It’s patience when we’re frustrated, kindness when it won’t be reciprocated, and belief in the goodness of people. Faithfulness to our values and loved ones, gentleness in manners, and self-control when we’re anxious — these are all manifestations of beauty. You can’t take a picture of invisible beauty, but when friends picture you, these things will come to mind.

I think Emerson, while a gifted naturalist with a keen eye for visible beauty, is primarily speaking of invisible beauty when he says that we are always on the hunt for striking things in life. He knows that it’s human nature to search for people who bring us peace, who are faithful, who love us, and who demonstrate patience and self-control.

But, he says, we can’t find that unless we’re first willing to acknowledge it within ourselves. “We must carry it with us.” This is the part I love best. If I don’t know what it looks and feels like to have patience or joy, I’ll be hard pressed to find those things around me. It’s like trying to read before you know the alphabet.

I’ve used this quote for years to inspire me to look inward

when I get discouraged. It reminds me to take notice of little movements inside myself, to be mindful of my mood and attitude.

Recently, though, I’ve been thinking beyond the quote. There is a responsibility, it seems to me, to share beauty once I’ve found it. If I only live according to Emerson’s mantra, I’m living a quintessentially selfish life. To only gather up all of the beauty I can find, both in myself and then in the world around me, is to live in a way that is not beautiful to begin with. Once I discover something delightful, it’s up to me to find a way to share it.

How do we share beauty? Just live that fruit of the beautiful spirit. Display love, joy and peace. Share patience, kindness and goodness. Have faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Other people, whether you’re aware of it or not, will notice. They’ll learn about beauty through you. You never know who’s watching.

~ajz

Letter to the editor

Dear Editor,

Kudos to *Chimes* for its “financial troubles” analysis of Feb. 28, by Ryan Struyk and Abby Zwart. President Michael LeRoy, in his first year, doesn’t deserve to inherit this mess involving a reported \$6 million debt-payment gap. After receiving his task force’s report, he concluded: “We built more building than we raised funds for.”

I am distressed to hear about damaged staff morale and possible 10 percent budget cuts. Missing from the *Chimes* account is the 16-year administration of President Gaylen Byker on whose watch those construction and investment decisions occurred. We need him to give his perspective on what happened. Welcome too would be a hefty cash donation.

Tom Ozinga, ‘60
CAS emeritus

Sermon’s sexual ethic problematic

BY BECCA BOSSLET
Staff Writer

In the LOFT sermon on Sunday, Pastor Mary explained what Biblical sex was and was not in a sermon titled (although not quite about) “What if it’s True That Sex is for Marriage Between a Man and a Woman?” Pastor Mary began with some really interesting and thought-provoking descriptions of what a Biblical sexual relationship looks like. As she described it, sex is for both procreation and unity and is both communal and personal. Pastor Mary also affirmed that the Christian ethic of sex is not a negative one but instead a joyful, positive one.

This beginning was wonderful, but, after providing a picture of how the Bible describes the joys of sex in a vaguely defined appropriate context, the sermon quickly shifted to the standard discussion of the horrible consequences of sexual activity outside of the current American evangelical picture of appropriate sex. Specifically, Pastor Mary defined sex as activity that leads to an orgasm, which is why oral sex is not acceptable outside of marriage. Although the sermon started by saying that we needed to look at the Bible as a great place of a Christian sexual ethic, the jump to oral sex as the line that should not be crossed by unmarried people and the explanation of the consequences of sex were not Biblically grounded and quite problematic.

Pastor Mary invited eight people to the front and gave them all pieces of duct tape. The students then stuck the duct tape to each other and quickly the duct tape lost its stickiness and some ripped into many pieces. Holding up the mangled, ripped, ruined duct tape, Pastor Mary declared, “This is what [unbiblical sex] can do to your soul.”

The duct tape analogy went no further. This is a problem. Presumably, the person having sex either loses their ability to “stick” to something else, either other people or God; Pastor Mary did not clarify. Their soul becomes broken, mangled and as worthless as a duct tape that cannot stick to anything. The worth of their soul is destroyed.

This concerns me because I have never seen this analogy used to describe any other sin besides sex. This also does not fit with Pastor Mary’s statement later in the sermon that “purity is not based on your genitals but on who you are with Jesus Christ.” Sin is a problem, whether it is sexual sin or not and the implications of this duct tape analogy can contribute to our Christian cultures Gnostic attitudes towards sex.

The only truly redemptive picture of sex (defined as ‘orgasm’) that Pastor Mary painted was not even a married, heterosexual couple but a nun. The nun was described as in an ideal model because she could truly love everyone more. Although this would perhaps make sense if American Christianity held up Paul’s advice to the unmarried Corinthians as the sex ethic we embraced, few churches today portray marriage as a second best to singleness that is best suited only for those with issues of “control.”

Pastor Mary’s implicit definition of sex as any time an orgasm happens left masturbation shrouded in a cloud of guilt (although, according to her, this guilt should just be shaken off if the masturbation is not a habit) and neglected to truly separate masturbation and pornography. Also, her insistence that sex must always be unifying and procreative in its proper form outlaws birth control, a problematic implication.

Clearly, Pastor Mary was limited in her sermon to the brief time available during LOFT. Yet despite this, I think that given the challenging nature of this topic, avoiding callous and overused analogies to explain an oversimplified and problematic notion of purity and worthiness is a real problem.

Christians often act as though the picture of sex that they present is easy, simple, and an obvious reading of the Bible. But, despite the unhesitant jump from the beautiful picture of sex that the Bible presents to an extra-biblical duct tape analogy amongst Evangelical circles and an overconfident declaration that the line between physical intimacy and sex is an orgasm, Christian circles do not have all the answers either. Pastor Mary is certainly not the first, nor the

last, to use these analogies and common definitions. Yet I hope that Calvin, as a Christian institution, will question some of these extra-biblical aspects of modern Christian culture and help develop a more robust discussion on what exactly a Christian ethic of sex looks like.

Growing up in youth group culture and attending Calvin, I have become increasingly wary of times when Christians begin by claiming that their opinions on sex are all based in the Bible. The Bible is a beautiful foundation for a sexual ethic, but we absolutely must acknowledge when we are no longer simply reading Bible verses.

This acknowledgment that every Christian of every nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, gender, marital status, etc. bring a different perspective and outside knowledge to the Bible is essential and also beautifully humble. Acknowledging the brokenness of our own interpretations and turning to our communities is a helpful beginning.

This also helps prevent us from spreading twisted, bad ideas in the name of the Bible. As American Christians, we are fine saying that a soul is twisted, ripped, and as worthless as unsticky duct tape because of sex and judge people according to this standard, “hating their sin” with a passion. Yet our hate of other sins stops extremely short of claiming that it makes our souls twisted, ripped and worthless. Often, people respond to this by saying that we need to simply raise the bar on other sins as well. That being said, I’m uncomfortable extending permission to Christians to treat all sins in the same dysfunctional way many of our communities treat sex.

I love what Pastor Mary said about sex being both personal and communal. She also brought up the procreative and unifying aspects of sex which are also both important and valuable parts of sex. Let us acknowledge when we can what culture we are adding to our conclusions. Let us openly admit that our answers are far from perfect and extremely flawed. Only then can we start having healthy conversations about things like a Christian sexual ethic.

‘The Bible’ accurate

BY CONNOR STERCHI
Staff Writer

On Sunday, March 3, the History Channel premiered the 10-part miniseries, “The Bible,” which goes through the historical events of both the Old and New Testaments. Five parts will cover the O.T., and five will cover the N.T. The premiere on Sunday, which included the first two parts of the series, dealt with familiar events and characters from Genesis and Exodus — the Flood and Noah’s ark (flashing back to creation and Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden), Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Lot, the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, Moses, the Exodus and the Ten Commandments. Notably missing from the episodes were Jacob, Esau and Joseph, although understandably, as it is a hard task to cover the entirety of the Bible — more than 4,000 years of history — in 10 hours of film.

But overall, the series did a good job of staying close to the biblical narrative. It is refreshing to see something edifying come out of Hollywood that does not attempt to mock, twist, or distort the sacred scriptures. History Channel’s “The Bible” presents the historical events from the Bible as real history, not allegory or fables. On the ark, Noah tells his children about the historical reality of the creation of the universe in six days, and the Fall from the Garden of Eden when sin entered the world through Adam and Eve’s transgression of God’s command to them.

The Bible is often treated by secular society and academia as if it were a mere collection of myths and fables. And the historical events of the Bible are often treated by Christians as allegorical or metaphorical, even though Jesus himself attests to the historicity of all the Old Testament events (Matt. 12:39-40; 19:4-5; 23:35; 24:37-39; Mark 12:26; Luke 17:28, 32). These events really did happen — these are not mere tales or stale stories from Sunday school, but rather, true and miraculous historical events that were “written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope” (Rom. 15:4, NASB). These are stories that testify to the astonishing work of God throughout history, and how he has remained faithful and true, and at work in the history of the world. The biblical narratives are powerful chronicles which encourage, strengthen, and edify us as Christians.

Although it is no substitute for the good book itself, History Channel’s “The Bible” does a fine job of bringing the biblical narrative to film, much like “The Ten Commandments” and “The Passion of the Christ.” While the History Channel rendition does not exhibit the same stellar cinematography and authenticity of “The Passion” (in which the actors spoke Latin, Aramaic and Hebrew), it is still a noble effort to bring the Bible to film. I am excited to see how the rest of the series will pan out, and I hope it stays faithful to the biblical accounts. I recommend “The Bible” series, and encourage you to watch the remaining eight parts, which will conclude on Easter Sunday with Revelation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must include the writer’s name and class. Letters received without a name will not be printed. The editors reserve the right to edit any letters. The length of the letter should be no longer than 250 words; longer letters may be shortened at the editor’s discretion. The deadline for all letters is 5 p.m. on Tuesday for print on the following Friday. Send letters to chimes@calvin.edu with “Letter to the Editor” in the subject line, or send your comments through our website: www.calvin.edu/chimes.

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PHOTOS BY
ALDEN HARTOPO

A stylized icon of a maple syrup bottle with a red maple leaf on the front, set against a light green background.