

CALVIN COLLEGE



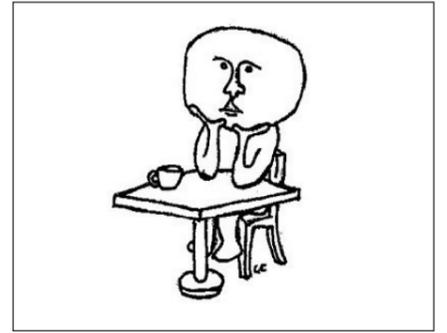
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Over the Rhine charms with a warm and intimate show

BY NICK KEELEY

Arts and Entertainment Editor

Twenty years after their first appearance at Calvin, Over the Rhine performed the first major concert of the year Saturday night.

Playing for a full house in the Covenant Fine Arts Center, Over the Rhine performed a nearly two-hour set full of lively guitar play, thoughtful lyrics and powerful vocals from lead singer Karin Bergquist and her husband Linford Detweiler.

I'll admit that I knew very little about the band that likens themselves to "Calvin's house band" prior to their latest concert. But from the opening "Laugh of Recognition" to their four-song encore, I found myself swept up by the charm and warmth of the married pair from Ohio and their slice of Americana.

The welcoming warmth of Over the Rhine's music largely stems from the beautiful themes and lyricism of their songs. The band's set was mostly centered around their new double album "Meet Me at the Edge of the World."

The songs from "World" do a wonderful job of inviting the audience into the lives of Bergquist and Detweiler with lyrics that evoke their roots, their marriage and "Nowhere Farm," their home

in rural Southern Ohio.

Songs like "All Over Ohio," which found the husband and wife duo singing about their connection to one another, and "Favorite Time of Light" beautifully capture an honest portrait of life that is refreshing to hear.

As great and lyrically-rich as Over the Rhine's music is, the performance of each song was amplified by Bergquist's amazing voice. Big and layered with experience and heart, Bergquist's vocals accentuated the honest and intimate nature of the lyrics wonderfully on songs like "I'd Want You" and "Trouble."

Bergquist and Detweiler, additionally, had excellent harmonization on songs like the titular "Meet Me at the Edge of the World," a song that Detweiler says stemmed from a time when "Karin was walking her dog."

The charm of Bergquist and Detweiler was also evident from their warm on-

stage banter. On several occasions throughout the night, Bergquist would ask her husband if he had something to say about

the band's innate likability and the overall warmth of the concert.

The other members of Over the Rhine, mostly com-

time between playing the guitar and the keyboard.

The Milk Carton Kids, an indie folk duo from California that also opened for Over the Rhine at Calvin in 2011, got the show going with their great harmonies and thoughtful lyrics, proving to be a perfect lead-in.

The duo additionally displayed their sharp wit and deadpan delivery through humor about grammar and onesies and quips like "there's no one way to raise a child — it's like eating a Reese's."

With both bands at the top of their game and their charm on full display, I couldn't help but smile and clap along with the audience throughout the night.

Over two decades into their career, Over the Rhine continues to put on memorable shows. If they are "Calvin's house band," then they are certainly a good one and one worth listening to.



FILE PHOTO

Over the Rhine performed to a sold out crowd at the Fine Arts Center on Saturday night, delivering exquisite music and deadpan humor.

a song, which he often did.

Bergquist also referred to her husband's appearance as "the likable villain look." The playful and sincere back-and-forth banter between husband and wife added

prised of guitarists and a drummer, also gave it their all, giving the songs a folk rock sound that is both calming and rousing. Detweiler additionally showcased his versatility by splitting

reer, Over the Rhine continues to put on memorable shows. If they are "Calvin's house band," then they are certainly a good one and one worth listening to.

Kenyan Calvin students respond to Nairobi terrorist attack

BY ALDEN HARTOPO AND CONNOR STERCHI
Campus Editors

Last Saturday's terrorist attack at Westgate Mall in Nairobi, Kenya left at least 61 civilians dead and has had reverberations across the world. Calvin students from Kenya have felt the effects of the attack.

Rosslyn Academy is an international Christian school with 640 students. For many students who attend the school, Westgate Mall is a popular destination for weekends outings.

"Westgate Mall is the mall that we all hang out at," said Ji Eun Lee, a Calvin sophomore who is a missionary kid who grew up in Nairobi. "At least every other weekend we would be there."

"It's like coming home and hearing on the news that Mall of America has been overrun by terrorists who are shooting people indiscriminately," said Joella Ranaivoson, a recent Calvin graduate who grew up in Nairobi and attended Rosslyn Academy. "That's the kind of madness that it was for four days

while the police tried to get control of Westgate."

In addition to local students, the mall is also significant for the international community living in Nairobi.

"The Westgate [shootings] especially affect the expatriate communities in Nairobi (of which there are many), because places like Westgate are frequented by expatriates, as well as national Kenyans," explained Ranaivoson.

Grace Thuo, a sophomore at Calvin, was born and raised in Kenya. Westgate Mall was a frequent hangout place for her family and friends. So when Thuo heard news about the attacks, she promptly called her family.

"When I wake up the first thing I do is check Facebook, and that's what happened — that's how I found out about it the first thing Saturday morning," Thuo said. "My first reaction was to call my family, because we always used to hang out there — that was our weekend spot — and that's where my brother goes to when he's out of school, so I was having a panic attack." Thuo's family was unharmed by the shootings, but news of the

tragedy still hit home.

"I started reading the news and

that. It just seemed like it was so put together when we were there,

was really hard."

At least two students from Rosslyn Academy were personally affected by the mall attack and lost immediate family members.

"A girl was going there to celebrate her birthday with middle school friends," Thuo said. "She got shot in the arm, and her dad got shot and died at the scene."

"There was another boy who suffered from a shrapnel wound and thermal wounds, his mother passed away from the grenades," Lee added.

But even more students could have been victims of the attack.

"There was a high school retreat happening the same week



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Terrorists attack Westgate Mall in Kenya. Many Calvin students have connections in the area.

everything was really surreal," Thuo said. "It didn't seem like that could happen to a place like

it was such a happy place. And so it didn't really seem like it was happening. The whole Saturday

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THE OFFICIAL STUDENT
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LEGE SINCE 1907

Enrollment shows a rise in international student body

BY JERONICA ANDREWS
Guest Writer

A quick search of students' last names reveals that "Kim" — a common Korean surname — is now the most common last name at Calvin, topping popular Dutch last names such as DeVries and DeYoung, a big shift considering Calvin's Dutch heritage.

Last year, a report by the Institute of International Education ranked Calvin College in the top 10 for number of international students in the state of Michigan, outdoing neighboring Grand Valley State University.

As of fall 2013, Calvin has more than 500 international students, roughly 13 percent of the student body.

This year Calvin enrolled 120 new international students, most of them Koreans who have grown up in different parts of the world.

Students and faculty have definitely noticed the rise in international students.

"When I first started here, I was usually the only interna-

tional student in my classes. Now there are at least two or three other international students," said Esther Hui, a senior from Hong Kong.

"It is nice to see the diversity

from Oregon.

Nunana Nyomi, associate director of international admissions, said the rise in international student enrollment has benefited Calvin's community.

leaders who work hard to stand out from their peers," Nyomi said. He also noted that the past two student body presidents were international students.

Nyomi made reference to Calvin's mission as a school.

"Here at Calvin, we want to reflect God's kingdom by celebrating diversity and welcoming people from all over the world," Nyomi explained. "We want to create conversations."

Nyomi, a 2008 Calvin alumnus, refers to himself as a "third culture kid" and said that he has seen a lot of positive change since he was a student at Calvin.

"Walking around the pathway and seeing people from different backgrounds is refreshing," he commented.

Barger said that the diversity of Calvin opens students to a picture of the diversity of the world and of God's kingdom.

"The growing diversity on campus is great preparation for life outside of Calvin and a mirror of God's kingdom," Barger said.



African students perform at Rangeela 2013.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CALVIN ANNUAL FUND

KENYA: Lack of attention concerning to some students

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

end," Lee said. "The fact that there was this high school retreat happening at this time was just a miracle, because there could have been so many more students. My sister could have been there."

Thuo's brother, who attends school in Kenya, has a friend who was in the mall during the shootings.

"His friend was actually in the mall, but he managed to escape," Thuo said. "But the things he saw, he couldn't even talk about it."

Despite the ongoing threat and hostage situation, the people of Kenya came together to support

of the United States reflected in the community of Calvin," said Hesel Barger, an adult learner

"The international students having crossed cultures to come to school here tend to be active

the Kenyan soldiers during the four-day standoff.

"The way that the Kenyan people really pulled together was really cool to see," Thuo said. "I saw pictures of this one restaurant called Mediterraneo, and they were taking pizza to the soldiers, and there were these other women who were taking hot tea to the soldiers as well. So many people were giving blood, so many students from Rosslyn were giving blood. That was really cool to see, but it was also really heartbreaking."

The lack of attention and a unified response to the Nairobi attacks from the Christian commu-

nity at Calvin was concerning for Lee. "I think the whole situation sheds light on me and it rebukes me as I came into this realizing that this is not personal for others, and that others were not personally affected, but I want you to respect it and I want you to care as a Christian community especially to have a brotherly concern towards us," she said. "But that makes me think of other things happening such as in Pakistan that also deserve attention and realizing that if it doesn't affect us personally it is hard to give attention to the matter. It rebukes me to pray about these things and be more attuned to these

things and it makes me rethink this whole idea of a Christian community. It is supposed to affect us in the same personal way that it has affected me, [since] we claim we are brothers and sisters in Christ."

Ranaivoson agreed. "Two suicide bombers killed 75 people outside a church in Peshawar, Pakistan on Sunday," she said. "Again, we have students here who were raised in Pakistan, who have family and friends there, who are dealing with this grief without the support of their community. We need to acknowledge this loss and stand with them in their grief. Kenya and Pakistan."

Students gather petition signatures for Kellogg's company

BY JERONICA ANDREWS
Guest Writer

Kellogg's, a local Michigan cereal company, finds itself in hot water following an August shareholders meeting in which the company's partnership to Wilmar International was questioned.

Singapore based Wilmar International is the world's largest processor and merchandiser of palm oil. It is also one of the largest oil palm plantation owners and the largest palm oil refiner in Indonesia and Malaysia.

Palm oil is the world's most edible oil, and can be found in hundreds of everyday products including soaps, cosmetics and margarine.

Kelloggs partnered with Wilmar International in a 50/50 joint venture late last year as an effort to gain foothold into China's cereal market by manufacturing and selling cereal and crackers.

In 2012, Newsweek ranked Wilmar International in the top 500 least sustainable corporations in the world, joining Exxon Mobil, Shell and British Petroleum (B.P.). Wilmar International made the list as a result of harvesting in rain forests through deforestation and partnering with farmers who also practice deforestation.

Environmental activists have accused Wilmar International of endangering humans by removing trees resulting in the removal of oxygen. Deforestation also destroys the natural habitats of elephants, rhinos, orangutans and the animal of focus, the endan-

gered Sumatran Tiger.

The World Wildlife Federations (WWF) has listed Sumatran Tigers as a critically endangered species with less than 400 remaining. The tigers are found exclusively in the rain forests of Sumatra, Indonesia, which is where Wilmar International and its partners harvest palm oil.

About a week ago, The Calvin Sustainability Coordinators (SCs) and the Environmental Stewardship Coalition (ESC) decided to get involved in a petition campaign. This involvement came about through West Michigan Environmental Action Council (WMEAC).

The campaign was first started by Forest Heroes, an online community that wants Kelloggs to end its partnership with Wilmar International until it ends its practice of deforestation. Forest Heroes is working towards 5,000 signatures. Cassidy Richard, a sophomore from South Bend, Indiana who serves as the Sustainability Coordinator for Shultze - Eldersveld voiced the importance of mutual respect.

"It's all about respect for the earth, for our fellow creatures, and for our brothers and sisters who call that forest home (referring to the indigenous people who reside in the respective forests)," Richard said.

Richard voiced optimism that Kelloggs would make a positive

change as she explained why she was passionate about the subject.

"We are in a great position here to make a change because Kelloggs' has time and time again been shown to be a great and

none of their product is harvested from deforested land."

There is still an on-going discussion as to when the petition will be passed to Kelloggs and if the petition would impact the ce-



PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Students plan to give petition to Kellogg's regarding their use of palm oil.

respectable company that makes wise and responsible decisions. Right now they're not making the healthiest decision, and we hope that if we let them know that we care about their actions, they will realize that they're going against this image that they have worked log and hard to build up properly." Richard said. Richard mentioned Kelloggs' competitor's effort to sustain the environment.

"Nestle, for instance, made a commitment to only purchase their palm oil from responsible suppliers who make sure that

real producer, but Richard hopes for the best.

"I believe in power in numbers, and never before have I been so involved in a group so big that really had the potential to do such great things."

Richard encourages fellow Calvin students to get involved by signing the petition on www.forestheroes.org and to keep an eye out for events by the SCs and ESCs in relation to Kelloggs venture. They will be helping out with getting signatures at ArtPrize this weekend.

New ballroom and social dance club holds first meeting at Calvin

BY MATTHEW SCHANCK
Guest Writer

On Thursday, Sept. 12, the Ballroom and Social Dance Club held its first meeting of the year inside the main dance studio in the Spoelhof Fieldhouse Complex. This was a major change from the last two years when the club opened the year with a swing event on commons lawn called Fall Back into the Swing of Things.

The club opened this year with a lesson in the cha-cha. Many of the students came into the lesson without any previous dance experience, which made club president Lauren Cremean excited for this year. Dance Guild held an informational meeting at the same time as the club's first lesson, causing leadership to worry about a small turnout.

"I was surprised by the turnout we had," Cremean said, smiling.

Fall Back into the Swing of Things was the main way to let people know about the club's existence besides word of mouth.

"The first meeting was successful because people who have been coming for a while brought new people with them," Cremean said. "It was great to see the classes interact and build a community."

Club leadership has undergone a number of changes. Cremean said that leadership is getting stronger this year.

Club vice president Mackenzie Buehler was one of the major changes in leadership. She has already come up with ideas for the upcoming year, in-

cluding plans to hold a shoe drive and a ballroom-themed movie night.

Club leadership plans on start-

ing up ballroom dance competition training in February and March. The training's purpose is to send dance couples to a com-

petition in Valparaiso, Ind.

The club leadership wants to focus more on people learning to enjoy the art of ballroom dancing. Cremean says that ballroom etiquette, particularly leads and follows in dancing, is an important life skill that they want to teach the students.

Fall Back into the Swing of Things was postponed because club leadership was working on scheduling the Jazz Cross-Winds Ensemble for the event. Cremean said another reason for postponing the event was the change in club leadership.

The Ballroom and Social Dance Club holds lessons at 7:30 p.m. every Thursday in the main dance studio in the Spoelhof Fieldhouse Complex.



Ballroom dance routine from the last Dance Guild performance.

PHOTO BY ANNA DELPH

Calvin students from Colorado speak out about flood

BY AVERY JOHNSON
Guest Writer

Although it may seem far away and at times easy to forget amidst busy schedules, the recent flooding in Colorado has had a widespread effect.

For students who have family struggling to leave their homes, it is not easily forgotten. Leah Jonker, Catherine Johnson, Ben Rietema and others have had their lives upset by the destruction the flooding has caused.

Jonker stressed that the reason this flood was so devastating was that this is not normal for the area. Her mother was a witness to the rising water level of the creek near their house. Because her house is on a hill, Jonker's family was stranded until they could be airlifted out.

Valleys near their house turned to lakes and the creek swelled to 30 times its normal size. As a result of the flooding, Jonker's family is expected to be without a home for the next six months to a year.

"It didn't just wipeout my hometown — it hindered my family from living," Jonker said.

Johnson, whose family lives near Boulder, described how her family tried to prevent water from

seeping through a window into their basement.

They were able to funnel it out until it became too much; they were forced to tear out carpet, remove wallpaper and move furniture to prevent damage.

She says that her home came through the floods relatively unscathed, but others, such as a friend in the downtown area, were not so lucky.

When describing her friend's experience, Johnson said, "She said Boulder Creek looked more like a raging river ... she said lots of people were just standing outside looking at their city in awe. This never happens in Boulder."

Rietema says that his own home was "remarkably unharmed," but his father's rental properties did not come out untouched. In the rental houses he owns, there was as much as five feet of water in the basement.

He spent most of a day draining the water before the rain resumed and it flooded again. His tenants will not be able to move back in until renovations are finished.

Two recurring themes in these accounts are the desire to be able to help and frustration over how easily these events can be forgotten.



Jamestown, Co., cut off by the Colorado floods, which have affected families of students at Calvin.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

"Hearing about the floods and being in Michigan when I felt my dad could use help was pretty tough," said Rietema. "I work for my dad over the summers on these properties, and to see them and my hometown inundated with water, well, that was heartwrenching."

"Some of this damage isn't

going to go away for quite a long time, even though media attention immediately turns to the next disaster," he continued.

Despite the worry that the flooding has caused, there is still hope. There are accounts of neighbors sharing resources and helping each other in their isolation. Even at Calvin, the students

from Colorado said they have noticed a bond forming — each of them understands what the other is going through and they support each other through this time.

Even though the students cannot be home to help their families, there is encouragement and hope among the Calvin community.

Student rep for provost office added to committee

BY LAUREN DEHAAN
Local News Editor

A student panel will be consulted at the end of the search process for a new provost, President Le Roy told Chimes Monday.

Student senate considered pushing for a student representative on the committee, which currently has no student, but senate said the student panel will be enough to communicate the student voice.

The new provost will replace Claudia Beversluis, who completes her term next June. The job of the provost is to oversee all faculty, research and classes at Calvin.

A student panel will be asked to meet with the final candidates for provost and give the search committee feedback from a student's perspective.

Le Roy said that students sitting in search committee meetings and pouring over resumes is not going to add as much value as bringing them in later in the process.

"It seems like students do best at that latter stage where they can interact. That was where I think the most value is added by students," Le Roy said.



Claudia Beversluis is finishing her final year as provost at Calvin College.

PHOTO BY RICK TREUR

According to David Kuenzi, student body president, a student panel at the end of the process will provide a voice for the student body.

"We believe that this advisory group is exactly what the student body needs and it is absolutely adequate in conveying student opinion on this issue," he said.

Le Roy also said that multiple students will provide a broader student perspective than one

student on a committee.

"When you have a single student, it puts a lot of burden on just them to represent all students," he said.

Kelly Organ, the student representative on the presidential search committee that hired Le Roy, said that she thinks student input should be considered throughout the process.

"I personally think that an end-of-the-process panel discussion

with students runs the danger of making the student voice a rubber stamp, and not much more," she said.

But Le Roy explained there are many aspects of the search process that are tedious and require a certain amount of experience — something for which students are not necessarily prepared.

"I want people on that committee who are experienced at hiring. That's not to say that's the

only valuable thing that's brought to a process, but we want to pull students in at a point when they will have the most value," Le Roy said.

"The role of the provost is a role that does affect students, but by and large it affects faculty," said Kuenzi. "So yes, I trust that the committee will consider the student panel and pay attention to [their feedback]."

The hiring process for any high level position consists of many steps in which student input is valuable, argues Organ.

"There is simply far, far too much that happens over the course of months of meetings, readings, discussions and prayer that can't be covered in one late-term event," she said.

Student senate stands by their decision to not push for a student representative on the provost search committee.

"In dealing with this preliminary decision making process, I don't think it's a battle we want to fight," said Kuenzi. "We have a lot of things we value in representation and in our fierce pursuit of improving student representation, but fighting to have a student in the preliminary process of the search is not our battle."

Vibrant faith witnessed by Ghana semester

BY REBEKAH COGGIN
Religion Co-editor

Grand Rapids may be overflowing with churches, but have you ever seen a local congregation break into a sweat from dancing so passionately? How many local churches invite different denominations — or even different religions — to join in their worship? How often do you see your friends joyfully dancing down the aisles to present tithes at the altar?

For sophomore Anthony Greco, these things happen weekly, most of the time all wrapped up in one three-hour (minimum) service.

Along with 17 other Calvin students currently on the Ghana semester abroad, Greco is encountering Christian faith in a country that does not distinguish religion from other aspects of life.

“[Religion] permeates all aspects of their being,” explained Stephanie Sandberg, director of the semester in Ghana program. “The (Christian) students at the University of Ghana gather on the playing fields to pray every early morning and every evening. The Islamic students practice their prayers diligently five times per day.”

Sandberg said Christianity is the main religion in southern Ghana, where the Calvin students are spending their semester. Here the prosperity gospel and Pentecostalism thrive, along with other denominations common in the U.S., including widespread Catholicism.

However, many denominations in Ghana match those in Grand Rapids in name only. In Ghana, charismatic practices and beliefs about spiritual warfare create significant differences between Ghanaian and American churches.

“For one, they actually take the Holy Spirit seriously,” said Greco. “Miracles. Prophecy. Speaking in tongues. Physical manifestations. Deliverance. Healing. The Spirit is truly at work in most churches in Ghana.”

Sandberg noted that the Christian churches in Ghana hold some marked theological differences from reformed churches in Grand Rapids.

“The Ghanaians believe that Christ truly is an intercessor for us, between good and evil ... Christ is a warrior of good for us, our savior truly in this regard,” Sandberg explained. “Sin is not sin in the reformed perspective. Instead it is evil that is working upon us, trying to cause us harm and Christ will rescue you if you call out to be rescued and to have those evil spirits lifted from you.”

African worship also invites far more movement than worship in American culture. Greco describes this in his blog about worship in Liberia, similar to Ghanaian worship.

“Dancing. Shouting. Singing. Sweating. Jumping. Kneeling. Giving,” were a few words Greco used to describe Ghanaian worship.

“Dance and drumming are huge parts of African life and upbringing, so this is in every part of their religious practice,” Sandberg said. “It’s not just singing — it’s dancing and waving your hands and moving your body to the music in praise of God. There is a

high level of ecstasy in it.”

Ghana’s three main faiths are Christianity, Islam and traditional religion, but intermingling between religions is common because of their importance on cultural values.

“Christianity and Islam are at peace with one another here — there is no fighting,” Sandberg said. “You might be Pentecostal and still participate in some traditional religion for healing or for knowledge about the future or in making a decision.”

In comparing his experience to some American churches, Greco said American churches are thorough in knowledge of theology, but he feels that this is the extent of their worship.

“What is this knowledge without a response? Learning of God should inspire us to praise Him,” Greco said in his blog post. “After a year of struggling to find true praise in Grand Rapids, a city filled with churches, here it was in one of the most materially poor nations of the world. They are praising God so ardently despite such massive material needs.”

Furthermore, Greco thinks an over-emphasis on knowledge steals attention away from the Holy Spirit, an entity that is emphasized in Ghanaian Christianity.



Calvin sophomore, Katy Gerber, currently in Ghana, dances with a young Ghanaian boy. PHOTO CREDIT COURTNEY SELVIUS

“At Calvin, I feel that the academic mindset has permeated so deeply that any supernatural encounter is viewed with complete skepticism,” Greco explained. “I lament that and wish for more acceptance for the power of the Spirit at Calvin and within the CRC.”

Calvin’s students in Ghana will no doubt have a different view of worship upon their return to America. Both Greco and Sandberg think the church of America can learn from the worship style of Ghanaians.

“I would love to see Americans churches as a whole learn from the Ghanaians’ style of worship,” Greco said. “They praise God so

passionately in their churches. I find American praise music to be very focused on the congregation or the band, while often missing the entire point of the song. It often feels very dead. Ghanaians have the ability to let go of everything and give their physical and spiritual all in worship.”

Sandberg also reflected on the worship style of many American churches.

“Our churches are pretty ‘dead’ in terms of movement. I always hope that I can get Americans to move more in church — to recognize that the body is a huge part of worshipping God,” Sandberg said.

Jubilee applications are open

BY SARAH STRIPP
Guest Writer

The Jubilee Fellows Program, an internship program designed for 12 rising seniors interested in ministry, is accepting applications now through Oct. 7.

The program includes a three-credit course taken during the spring semester of a student’s junior year, a 10-week ministry internship during the summer at various locations across the country and an on-campus service project during the fall of senior year.

Kary Bosma, program coordinator for the Jubilee Fellows, talked about the driving force behind the program.

“The Jubilee Fellows program provides a unique opportunity to learn about the church and appreciate why all of us, as Christians, are called to serve the church.”

She said the program aims to give students a better sense of their calling and provides them with a hands-on experience in a church to explore this calling more fully.

“That kind of experience is hard to find on your own,” said Bosma.

This exploration begins with a class that the Fellows take together during the spring semester. Former Jubilee Fellow Nicole Schmitt said she enjoyed being around a group of like-minded

people with similar interests and passions, which made it easier to connect and grow together as a group.

“It is a very intentional, community-oriented class,” said Schmitt, “and provides really



8 of the 12 Jubilee Fellows from 2013 gather before spreading across the country for summer. PHOTO COURTESY OF LINNEA MCLAUGHLIN

good shepherding in areas that are hard to navigate as well as really good fellowship.”

Schmitt added that she appreciates the wisdom of the professors.

Senior Kellan Day, former Jubilee Fellow, also reflected on her summer internship experience.

“My summer as a whole was the best summer of my life,” Day said. She said she valued both the variety of experiences she got to have working in the church as well as finding community in the place she was working.

“My church community — Salem Lutheran [Spokane, Wash.] — not only enveloped me in hospitality and support, but

truly poured themselves out in every way imaginable,” said Day.

Josiah Gorter also found his summer internship key in being able to discern his own calling. Over the summer, he described how he began to see his place in church ministry.

“I grew more and more used to working in the church and I really liked the idea of doing that in the future,” Gorter said. His experiences in Sacramento, Calif. allowed him to meet new people, experience new ideas and learn about the church’s role in a community.

“I learned things I never would’ve otherwise learned,” said Gorter.

Todd Cioffi, director for the Jubilee Fellows program, spoke about the vision for the program.

“[It] provides those within the community a focus and a fine-point which allows them to pull things together about their own faith and development, their sense of interest in the church and service and in the the world and service.”

Cioffi added that this does not just benefit the 12 Fellows, but it impacts both their relationships with friends and fellow students at Calvin as well as the clubs, organizations or ministries in which they work.

“It re-energizes their way back in and impacts programs they start or get involved with; their passion spills out,” said Cioffi.

Bytwerk invites prayer

BY ERIN SMITH
Guest Writer

Sharon Bytwerk, Calvin’s coordinator of spiritual direction and prayer, has invited Calvin students to join her in taking an hour from busy schedules to pray and rest.

Throughout the semester, she will hold prayer groups every Tuesday and Wednesday from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Chapel undercroft in order to bring students closer to God and closer to each other.

“My hope for the groups is one, honor God; two, establish good friendships,” Bytwerk said.

She believes that commitment to regular prayer is important in maintaining a faithful and healthy lifestyle.

“By establishing groups that covenant to meet regularly, we may more easily keep ourselves faithful to our Lord and deeply at peace, even in stressful times,” Bytwerk said.

Past participants in Bytwerk’s spiritual direction groups have noted the small number of students that attend the groups, despite the positive impact the group meetings have on participants’ lives.

Madeline Hamacher, who attended the groups for two years, commented that the group’s unpopularity may be because it is an introverted activity on a college campus that focuses on extroverted activities.

“The focus isn’t about external stimulations: What’s happening? What are we doing? It’s about being. What are our

deeper thoughts?” Hamacher said.

Laura Bratt, another two-year participant, attributes the unpopularity of the group to the required vulnerability.

“We aren’t used to participating in conversations and being expected to voice our thoughts and feelings about our faith,” Bratt said. “Spiritual direction involves talking about what you are struggling with, which for the average college student is really hard. Nobody likes to admit they are struggling, especially Calvin students who are supposed to have it all together.”

Hamacher emphasized the importance of active involvement in the group.

“Unless you’re really putting your mind and your heart into it, then it probably would be boring,” Hamacher said.

Despite the group’s low attendance, Bratt and Hamacher both talked animatedly about the positive influence Bytwerk’s prayer groups had in their lives. Beyond accountability to pray, the group fosters a community of friendship among the students. Through vulnerability and openness, these relationships mature.

“To successfully admit to a group and to God what is going on in your life takes courage and then to go on and be expected to pray out loud to God and ask him what he is trying to tell you through this is another difficult step,” Bratt said.

Although Bytwerk encourages students to commit to attending the prayer groups on a weekly basis, she said that newcomers are always welcome.

“ Right now, you’re sort of in this bizarre situation where as soon as you sit on the couch, you’re supposed to have lost connection with all of your other computing platforms.”
Gabe Newell, “Valve announces SteamOS” ”

Valve announces SteamOS, plans to invade your living room

Maker of *Half-Life* and *Portal* to release a Linux-based operating system complementing game retail platform

BY JONATHAN HIELKEMA
Staff Writer

On Monday, Sept. 23, Valve announced the impending release of SteamOS, an operating system that will deliver the ability to play games from the company’s Steam platform to what the company calls “living room machines.” It will soon be available for free download for users and free licensing by hardware manufacturers. The move is seen as an attempt by the famous developer and publisher to secure their market position in the face of continuously declining PC game sales. A statement released on the company’s Steam website said: “We’ve been working on bringing Steam to the living room; we’ve come to the conclusion that the environment best suited to delivering value to customers is an operating system built around Steam itself.”

Steam’s current customer base is estimated to be about 50 million customers, whose purchases make up over 75 percent of PC games sales according to IHS Screen Digest, a consultancy whose statistics are widely cited in reports about the company. Steam’s servers host about 2,000 games, available on Windows, Mac and Linux platforms. This new software will be based on the Linux operating system, whose source code is freely available for adaptation by its user community. Valve recently ported the Steam client application to Linux

before this release. Company founder Gabe Newell delivered a speech to a Linux development conference last week, saying, “Right now, you’re sort of in this bizarre situation where as soon

think the fragmentation around the physical location or in terms of computation is necessary or desirable for software developers or consumers” (BBC). Valve has promised that ma-

to the same local network. The company’s announcement page also promises a feature called family sharing, which will allow different members of a family to play games from each other’s

platform” that will empower its users to make modifications and additions to the system’s capabilities.

In addition to this operating system, many analysts have noted that the company has been implying that it will produce its own hardware, reportedly called Steam Box. Gabe Newell reported to Kotaku writer Jason Schreier that this year will see the release or at least the announcement of such a device, which has provoked considerable excitement in the gaming community. However, this so far hypothetical device has also attracted some skepticism. Forbes analyst Erik Kain argues, “If, as many predict, [dedicated] consoles are in their last generation, it may be the right time to plant this kind of seed ... but the long, long view is risky and shrouded in the fog of uncertainty.”

No matter the outcome of Valve’s efforts, they are joining a movement toward upsetting the settled market for dedicated game consoles. With a number of other devices, like the Ouya and Sony’s Vita TV (the latter of which is only slated for a Japanese release at this point) entering the fray, there is much uncertainty as to what the future of television-based gaming will look like.



FILE PHOTO

SteamOS paves the way for Valve’s widely rumored “Steam Box” taking on the Ouya and PS Vita TV.

as you sit on the couch, you’re supposed to have lost connection with all of your other computing platforms. We really don’t

chines running SteamOS will also be able to play Windows and Mac games by streaming the data from a computer connected

profiles with minimal hassle. The company’s rhetoric also promises that the OS will be a “collaborative many-to-many entertainment

release at this point) entering the fray, there is much uncertainty as to what the future of television-based gaming will look like.

BY NATHAN MCREYNOLDS

OBSERVATORY CORNER

Sunset times for Sept. 27 - Oct. 3:
7:29 PM - 7:17 PM

Calvin College’s observatory will be open from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. this week.

There is a possibility of clouds on Tuesday night, but the weather is supposed to hold up for the rest of the week. Over the summer,

the observatory remodeled the viewing system inside the dome. Now, in addition to the regular eyepiece, there is a camera displayed on a monitor by which the observer may look at the sky. This camera is now able to make fainter objects,

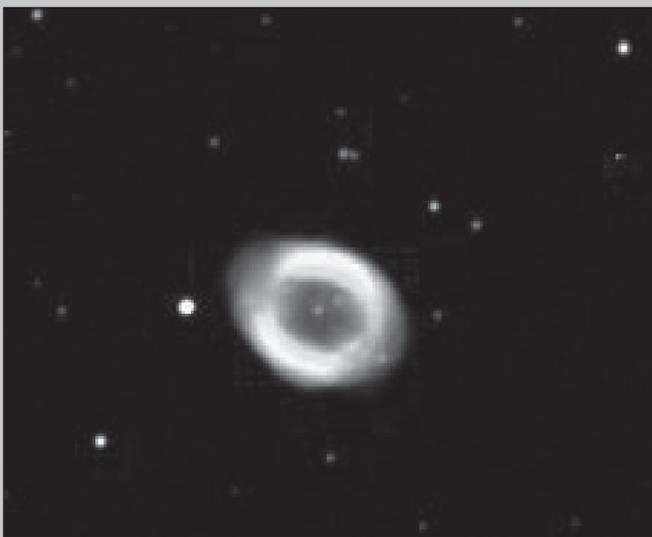


PHOTO BY BINNY CHUNG

such as nebulae and globular clusters, more clear. This has been an issue in the past, as viewers attempting to see objects such as the Ring Nebula are barely able to see what looks like a smudge on the eyepiece. Now the nebula can be seen in greater detail, including the remnant star in the center of the ring from a supernova that created the nebula.

If you want to see Venus and Saturn through the telescope, come early (around

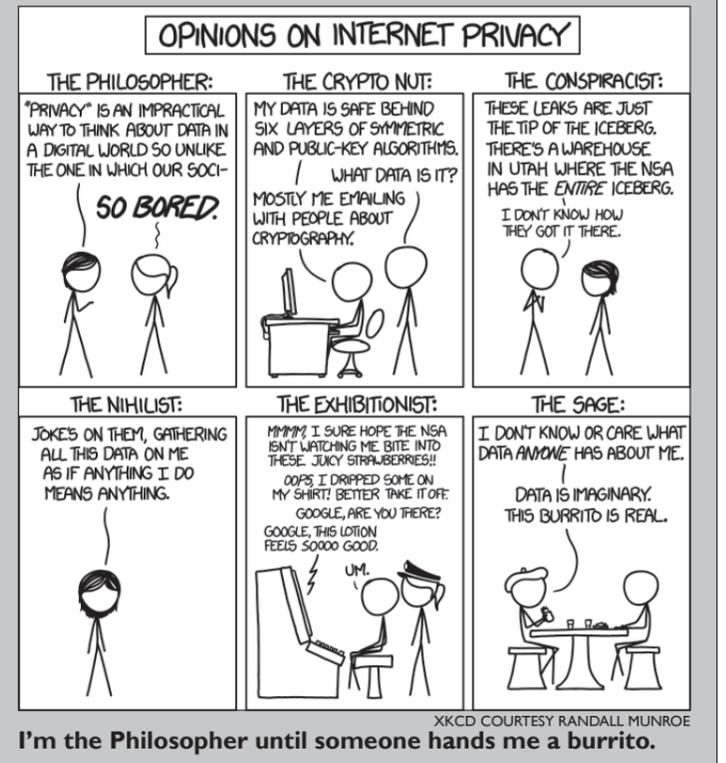
8 or 8:30 p.m.). Venus should be rising higher in the sky each night as it reaches the point of greatest elongation, when Venus is in a position far enough away from the sun, but not directly in front of or behind it, that Venus

is at its highest and brightest point in the sky.

Due to its position between Earth and the sun, Venus has phases much like the moon, so viewers will notice the planet’s irregular shape.

Check out other late night objects that were

previously difficult to see by looking through the new camera. The Great Cluster of Hercules (M13) can be seen in greater detail. This globular cluster is a group of stars that form close to each other; the result is a region of space filled with millions of tightly packed stars. These stars have formed so close to each other it is difficult to differentiate them from one another and the whole area appears as one large celestial object.



Science Division Seminars

The Church, the Environment and Creation Care in Romania and Eastern Europe — Steve Michmerhuizen, M.S., Field Director, Christian Reformed World Missions Romania, Targu Mures, Mures, Romania — Fri. Sept. 27 SB 010 at 1:30 pm.

Cold atom optical clocks: keeping time to 17 digits — Nathan Lemke, PhD, Physics Division, Argonne National Laboratory — Tue. Oct. 1 SB 110 at 3:45 pm.

Untitled Computer Science Talk — Nicole Hilsenhoff, from Epic — Thu. Oct. 3. SB 110 at 3:30pm.

Untitled Math Talk — Kate Ardinger, HwaPyeong Kim, Nick Visser — Thu. Oct. 3. NH 276 at 3:30 p.m.

REFUGEES IN WEST MICHIGAN

BY NATHAN SLAUER
Staff Writer

Everyday I act based on the assumption that I will be able to return to my home. Every time I drive to Calvin, work or a friend's house, I do so with the understanding that I will be able to return my car to my garage. When I decide that I would rather eat a homecooked meal than at Knollcrest or Commons, I have the option of joining my parents for a freshly made lunch or dinner. My home, beyond granting me material comforts, provides me with a place that I assume will keep me safe, warm during the winter months and filled with family members who share my language, cultural understanding and religious tradition. I am tremendously fortunate to have all of the benefits of a home, yet I find myself taking these benefits for granted while there are millions of individuals across the globe who can't go home.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimates that 16 million people currently hold a refugee status globally. Refugee status is defined as someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war or violence. Refugees typically flee their home countries due a well-founded fear that their particular race, religion, nationality or political opinions will mark them as potential targets, especially during a time of conflict between different ethnic, tribal or religious groups. These people lack something so fundamental to human existence as feeling safe in their own home.

Perhaps even more disheartening is that the global refugee crisis does not seem to be getting better. Except for North

America and Australia, each continent holds one or more major refugee-producing country, meaning that the refugee crisis continues to be truly international in scope. Adding to the ongoing conflict present in the top five highest refugee-producing countries (Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia, the Dominican Republic of the Congo and Myanmar) are recent conflicts that have risen in countries such as Mali and Syria. According to the UNHCR, the combination of ongoing and newly created conflicts caused the annual refugee production rate to increase to the point that a new refugee is produced approximately every four seconds.

Once a refugee has escaped the conflict present in his or her home country, their journey to create a new home does not become much easier. Many refugees must start their new life in their host countries completely devoid of material possessions, knowledge of the language in their host country, a support network of friends and family or even people from a similar ethnic background. In the U.S., 10 national agencies known as "volags" provide refugees with basic resources and services such as food, housing, clothing, employment, counseling and medical care for up to 90 days, but afterwards the refugee is on his or her own to pass the citizenship test, find a more permanent place of residence and employment. Everyday, refugees have to relearn how major institutions such as government and school function, and must adjust to an entirely new culture. For a refugee, learning the language of their host country is of the utmost importance so that they may perform the basic tasks of reading and writing and to attain higher paying jobs. Some refugees with advanced degrees in fields such as engineering, computer work or medicine will often find themselves searching for low-income jobs due to the language barrier. As a student at



PHOTO COURTESY OF WEST MICHIGAN REFUGEE EDUCATION AND CULTURAL CENTER

WMRECC executive director Susan Kragt, center, works with refugees in West Michigan.

Calvin, I struggled immensely to learn Spanish over a long period of time in a college classroom; I can only imagine how difficult it must be for a refugee to find the time to become proficient in a new language while working long hours and, in some cases, taking care of a family.

As a college student, I look at the global refugee crisis and

understand how one could find it overwhelming. It would be easy to say, "what could I possibly do to help? I can barely keep up with my classes!" and walk away without giving the matter a second thought. While I understand why someone might be intimidated by an issue like the global refugee crisis, I encourage a feeling of hope instead.

Susan Kragt, the executive director of the West Michigan Refugee Education and Cultural Center (WMRECC), an organization designed to help refugees in West Michigan learn language and cultural skills, says that anyone who wants to combat the global refugee crisis can do "two things: learn something and do something." According to Kragt, Grand Rapids "is a place with such a rich history of welcoming refugees. I think a lot of it is because manyfolks in the area of a real connectedness to their family's immigration story." Each year 3,000 refugees choose to resettle in Michigan and 600 of these resettle in Grand Rapids. The reason that a relatively large number of refugees choose Grand Rapids is its perceived welcoming attitude as well as its support network of government and non-profit organizations such as WMRECC, Literacy Center of West Michigan, Bethany Christian Services and Lutheran Social Services of West Michigan. Given its rich refugee community and support network, Grand Rapids holds ample opportunity to "learn something and do something" in regard to refugees.

Taking the time to follow the news regarding a large refugee-producing country or attending

an event like Calvin's recent play "Grains of Hope," which presented the narratives of many refugees who came to West Michigan, does much to increase one's awareness and understanding of the state of refugees. Volunteering as an English tutor for an organization such as WMRECC once a week, serving part-time in a resettlement agency, helping a refugee family move into their home or finding work all are ways that one can do their part to combat the global refugee crisis.

As someone who worked at WMRECC this summer, I have found working with refugee students a challenging but immensely rewarding experience. Everyday I read or wrote with my students, brought them on tours of museums, businesses and college campuses around Grand Rapids, or attempted to keep up with them in a game of soccer. And yet, as much as they have learned a few skills from me, I think I learned far more from them by simply listening to each of their fascinating tales of resettlement. Even if you find yourself unable to spend the time or energy to learn more about refugees or volunteer for a non-profit like WMRECC, everyone can take the time to simply talk with a refugee and ask about their story. This simple act of showing care for one's situation might not reduce the number of refugees being produced each year, but it will help bring someone closer to that vital feeling of being at home.

LEARN & something

Organizations that work with refugees in West Michigan

West Michigan Refugee Education and Cultural Center
(westmirefugee.org)

Bethany Christian Services
(bethany.org/grandrapids/refugee-services)

Literacy Center of West Michigan
(literacycenterwm.org)

Lutheran Social Services of West Michigan
(lssm.org/refugee)

DO something

“Breaking Bad” and “Modern Family” take home top Emmy honors

Surprise winners and memorial tributes dominate Neil Patrick Harris-hosted 65th Emmy Awards

BY SIERRA SAVELA
Staff Writer

Last Sunday CBS hosted the 65th Primetime Emmy Awards to honor those who make television's greatest shows possible.

This year's show was hosted by “How I Met Your Mother's” Neil Patrick Harris, who started off the night by attempting to binge watch every television series at once.

In a room with approximately 50 TVs on the wall, Harris sat in an office chair, spun in circles and carried a conversation with various characters. He then announced he was ready and marched onto the Nokia Theater stage.

He began with a speech honoring television's latest and greatest.

“This past year, in my opinion, has been one of the greatest in television history,” he said.

This speech was suddenly interrupted by Jimmy Kimmel in the audience letting Harris know, as a past host, that he was rooting for him. Soon Harris was joined onstage by four past hosts including Kimmel, Conan O'Brien, Jane Lynch and a tap-dancing Jimmy Fallon.

They all gave him advice, encouraged him to do a song and dance like his Tony's performances and all argued over whose year was best.

Harris sent the former hosts to their seats only to be interrupted once more by Tina Fey and Amy Poehler who sat in the front

row, holding popcorn, wearing 3D glasses and asking Harris to take his pants off and twerk ... he didn't.

The actual giving of awards

for “The Big Bang Theory.” Julia Louis-Dreyfus won outstanding lead actress for “Veep.” Her speech mirrored her character, Vice President Selina Meyer,

speech. She won outstanding supporting actress for “Nurse Jackie.”

“Thanks so much ... um ... I gotta go. Bye,” Wever said.

She hurried off the stage as the crowd roared with laughter. And that was all, plain and simple.

But of course the night could not have gone without a song and dance from Harris. The host sang a song with Nathan Fillion and Sarah Silverman about reaching the halfway point of the show.

Those nominated in the category of outstanding choreography had choreographed dances to different television show's theme music.

Dancers danced to themes from “Mad Men,” “Breaking Bad,” “Boardwalk Empire” and dance fought to “Game of Thrones.” The theme songs eventually remixed and evolved into Daft Punk's “Get Lucky” when the choreographers filed onto the stage as the 20 some dancers dropped to the floor, ending with a big finish. Derek Hough took home the Emmy for his work on “Dancing with the Stars.”

“The Daily Show with Jon Stewart” has consecutively won 10 Emmy awards for outstanding variety series. “The Late Show with David Letterman” in 2002 was the last time anyone else went home with this Emmy. However, this year the winning streak was finally broken by none other than “The Colbert Report.”

Stephen Colbert accepted the

award on the show's behalf.

“I personally have to thank my friend and my brother, Jon Stewart,” Colbert said. “Jon never told me how good this feels, actually.”

And the night moved on to honoring drama. Anna Gunn took home an Emmy for outstanding supporting actress for her role as Skyler White in “Breaking Bad,” and Bobby Cannavale won outstanding supporting actor for “Boardwalk Empire.” Nominated for the first time, Jeff Daniels won for outstanding lead actor for “The Newsroom” and Claire Danes for outstanding lead actress for “Homeland.”

Presenting the last award was a flustered and casually dressed Will Ferrell. Trailing behind him were two kids in soccer jerseys and one wrapped in a blanket. One whispered something in his ear. Ferrell shook his head telling him no, he could not play angry birds. He explained to the audience that Helen Mirren and Maggie Smith had dropped out; he was called 45 minutes prior and had dealt with a soccer game, a child's birthday party and a nut allergy.

And the award that ended the night, for outstanding drama series, went to “Breaking Bad.” This was its first award for this category. The cast swarmed the stage and Vince Gilligan, the show's creator, accepted it.

“It could have been any of them, even some that weren't nominated in this golden age of television that we feel so proud to be apart of,” Vince said.



FILE PHOTO

commenced with Fey and Poehler literally crawling up the stairs to present the first award. The night was filled with presenters such as Matt Damon, Zooey and Emily Deschanel, Kerry Washington and Jon Hamm.

Throughout the night, actors paid tribute to those who died this past year. Jane Lynch spoke about her “Glee” co-star Cory Monteith and a teary-eyed Edie Falco honored her on-screen life partner James Gandolfini, who played Tony Soprano.

Some of comedy's winners included Tony Hale, winning outstanding supporting actor for HBO's “Veep,” and Jim Parsons, winning outstanding lead actor

while her co-star Tony Hale stood behind her, holding her purse and reminding her to thank her family.

“Modern Family” took home its fourth consecutive Emmy for outstanding comedy series. Steve Levitan, the creator, thanked those who shaped him as a comedy writer.

“None of us grew up feeling like winners,” Levitan said. “So thank you to the bullies, to the popular kids, to the gym teachers ... without you we never would have gone into comedy.”

But what is being hailed by Harris and those all over the Internet as the best speech ever is Merrit Wever's acceptance

Netflix wows with “Orange is the New Black”

Prison-set dramedy based off of memoir by Piper Kerman

BY ANNEMARIE BYL
Guest Writer

Netflix's fourth installation of their original series “Orange is the New Black” turned out to be wildly successful. This unexpected hit is based on the memoir of the same name by Piper Kerman, a white woman who served jail time for a crime she committed 10 years prior.

This “dramedy” allows us to sneak a glimpse into a world that most know nothing about: women's prison. Created by Jenji Kohan (“Weeds”), “Orange” is a mix of highly developed characters and the complicated highs and lows of living out a life in prison.

The show's main character, Piper Chapman, is an engaged 20-something-year-old who goes from a comfortable life of soap-making at Whole Foods to bathroom stalls without doors and questionable prison guards. It takes Piper through the process of learning how to manage prison life and in the long run, finding out who she is.

Her life is turned upside-down by the 15 month jail sentence that comes when a former lover — a drug smuggler and a woman — is caught and outs Piper for carrying

drug money for her 10 years ago.

The most challenging thing for Piper is the toll it takes on her recent engagement with Larry Bloom, her longtime boyfriend who was unaware of Piper's shady past.

It becomes evident that Piper

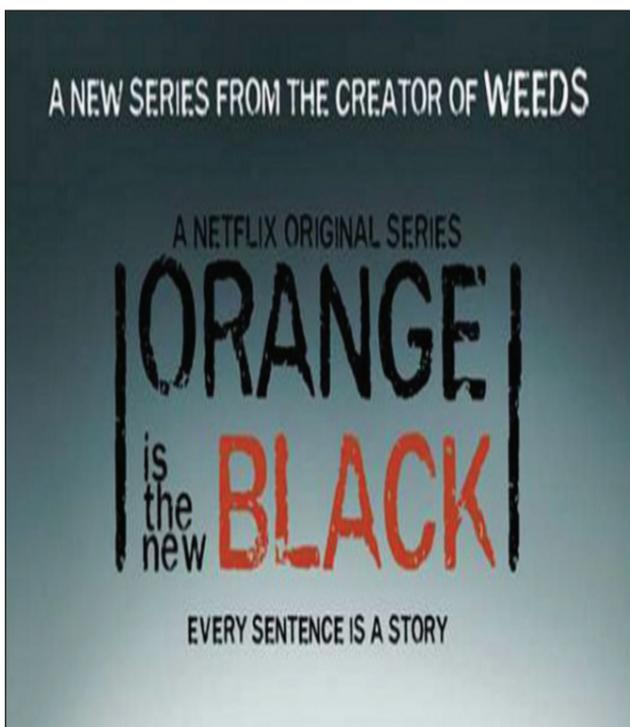
same prison. Their relationship develops throughout the show, making it messy with the fiancée.

The show keeps us on our toes with multiple storylines, including a forbidden romance between an inmate and a prison guard and flashbacks of Alex and Piper's relationship — how it started and panned out.

There are deeply rich and developed supporting characters as well. The show dives into these other characters' pasts and explores what landed them in jail. The show gets you to fall in love with all of them, from the redneck converted Christian who gunned down abortion doctors to the transgender ex-fireman who struggles to make peace with his/her wife and son.

The acting in the show is top-notch. The cast is full of B-list actors who all do a convincing job in their roles. Taylor Schilling (Piper) plays a very convincing fish out of water and Laura Prepon (“That ‘70s Show”) gives a very different but compelling portrayal of Alex, Piper's former flame.

Netflix has already renewed the show for a second season.



FILE PHOTO

cannot hang on to her old life as well as she thought she would be able to. Her friends and family do not understand what life is like for her inside the prison walls and she has a hard time dealing with the very different worlds, especially when she realizes that Alex, the very woman that got her into this mess, has been placed in the

Interview with Switchfoot

Drummer Chad Butler talks about the concert

BY ABBY PATERNOSTER
Opinion and Editorial Editor

At this point it is “old news” that the award-winning Christian rock band Switchfoot will be returning to Calvin on Sept. 28. This concert, however, will be anything but familiar.

The concert, part of Switchfoot's new tour, will begin with a full showing of the band's new documentary, “Fading West,” after which the band will answer questions from the audience. The band will then wrap up the show by playing a full set, which will include songs from the album they will be releasing on Jan. 14, 2014. I had the opportunity to interview Chad Butler, drummer and founding member of Switchfoot, to hear more about the concert, the band and their new album.

According to Butler, the film was intended to document the band's “dream” world tour — performing concerts at all of their favorite surfing locations while searching for inspiration for new songs. Butler expects the film to be accessible to longtime, recent and future fans as it is not just about Switchfoot, but about music, surfing and relationships.

Simply watching the trailer reveals all these elements, especially the raw human emotion that Butler says is present throughout the film. Butler says the band was surprised at the level of difficulty of being on this particular world tour, as the band felt the pull of wanting to be at home with those they love in the midst of pursuing musical dreams.

In regards to balancing family and work, Butler said, “We have a lot of questions and not

a lot of answers. How can I be a father and play in a rock band? There is no model, no blueprint for how to do this.”

The highs and the lows of being on the road have all been captured on film and the band members made a very conscious decision to not cut the personal, relational scenes.

“It will surprise people how honest the film is,” Butler said.

This honesty and vulnerability will continue throughout the concert, not only as a part of the question-and-answer session following the film but as a foundation for the live performance.

The set will be a blend of old favorites and new songs from the album “Fading West.” Butler described the old songs as “re-invented” and “stripped down,” which he says is part of the band's effort to fulfill the desire expressed by many fans for them to do an acoustic tour.

“People have been asking us for years to do an acoustic tour and that's a side of our music we haven't really leaned into in public before,” Butler said.

Switchfoot has now been together for 17 years and “Fading West” will be their ninth album. Butler says this is an exciting event for the band as “most bands don't have this kind of longevity.”

He attributes the band's endurance to the strong friendships they have off stage, calling the other band members his brothers.

This brotherhood moved back to their home community in San Diego to open their own record label, lowercase people records, in 2009. Butler says the band has “deep roots” in San Diego and working on records through their own label “has been, for us, incredible freedom.”

CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

9/17/13

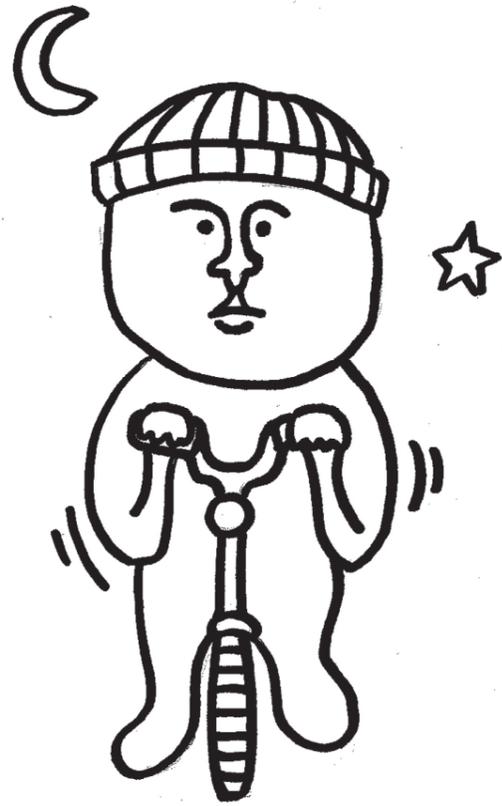
A student reported that they had a pair of khaki shorts and underwear stolen from their unlocked locker in the men's pool locker room at the Venema Aquatic Center. The complainant did not have any suspects in mind, but thought the incident might have been a prank as no other items were stolen.

9/20/13

Campus safety took a report of the larceny of a locked bicycle from the bike rack outside of the Schultze-Eldersveld residence hall. The bike was a black Trek men's mountain bike. The cable lock that had kept the bike secure was cut. The victim was encouraged to also report the theft to the Grand Rapids police.

9/21/13

Campus safety was advised of damage to the Calvin College sign located west of the south bound lanes of the East Beltline. Unknown vandals threw rocks through the Plexiglas sign, causing significant damage to it. There were no known suspects for this incident. Physical plant was advised of the damage so the sign could be repaired.



Super Crossword FOR THE BIRDS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sagan or Sandburg
 - 5 Swarm sound
 - 9 Montana city
 - 14 Monterey Mrs.
 - 17 '58 Pulitzer winner
 - 18 Piece of fencing?
 - 19 He was "The Thing"
 - 21 Pipe part
 - 22 WREN
 - 25 Brooding-nagian
 - 26 For — (cheaply)
 - 27 Comic Costello
 - 28 — Na Na
 - 29 Mascagni opera
 - 30 Poet Wilcox
 - 33 Lohengrin's bird
 - 37 African antelopes
 - 39 LARK
 - 44 "The Optimist's Daughter" author
 - 45 Bonanza material
 - 46 Coveleski or Musial
 - 47 Vichyssoise veggie
 - 49 Tip one's topper
 - 51 Long-tailed parrot
 - 54 Sanford of "The Jeffersons"
 - 56 Scandinavian city
 - 59 Griffon greeting
 - 61 Fool
 - 63 Missouri airport abbr.
 - 64 Valuable instrument
 - 66 Stowe sight
 - 67 Screen-writer Nora
 - 70 Elf
 - 72 Dash
 - 73 Sarah — Jewett
 - 74 Inland sea
 - 75 QUAIL
 - 78 Depravity
 - 79 Easy stride
 - 80 Bit of gossip
 - 81 Parenthesis shape
 - 82 Physicist Fermi
 - 84 Corset part
 - 85 Alfredo ingredient
 - 87 British big shot
 - 89 Monsarrat's "The Cruel —"
 - 90 Tulsa commodity
 - 91 Cheat at hide-and-seek
 - 92 Preposterous
 - 95 Sweetheart
 - 99 Turn over
 - 101 Darjeeling dress
 - 103 Invasion
 - 105 Frankfurter's field
 - 106 Rent
 - 109 CRANE
 - 113 Church official
 - 114 Oriental staple
 - 115 Big rig
 - 116 Channel
 - 117 Actress Hagen
 - 119 Plutarch character
 - 122 Tole material
 - 126 Be important
 - 127 PARTRIDGE
 - 133 Actor Novello
 - 134 Kindle
 - 135 Heart burn?
 - 136 Time for a sandwich
 - 137 According to
 - 138 German port
 - 139 Racing legend
 - 140 Guy Fri.
 - 3 "— Man" ('84 film)
 - 4 Not as fatty
 - 5 Neighbor of Ger.
 - 6 Prosperous times
 - 7 Non-non-chalance?
 - 8 Nil
 - 9 Crank's comment
 - 10 Swiss canton
 - 11 Explosive initials
 - 12 Golfer's gadgets
 - 13 Avoid
 - 14 DUCK
 - 15 Toomey or Philbin
 - 16 Iowa city
 - 20 Musty
 - 21 Japanese religion
 - 23 Hard on the eyes
 - 24 Astrology term
 - 31 Brown or Baxter
 - 32 Vno center
 - 34 Corduroy ridge
 - 35 Writer Rogers St. Johns
 - 36 Formerly known as
 - 38 Moro of Italy
 - 39 One who no's best?
 - 40 Distinctive period
 - 41 — room
 - 42 Singer Elliot
 - 43 Bete noire
 - 48 Adorable Australian
 - 50 Tenor Corelli
 - 52 One of the Judds
 - 53 Tolstoy title start
 - 55 Coalition
 - 57 Play ground?
 - 58 Bedding
 - 60 At large
 - 62 Word with dog or state
 - 65 "Never on Sunday" star
 - 66 Good-humored
 - 67 Amatory
 - 68 CARDINAL
 - 69 — Dame
 - 71 Anaconda, for one
 - 74 As well
 - 76 Pursues
 - 77 Coffee pots
 - 83 Ring counter
 - 86 Andretti or Cuomo
 - 88 Fiber source
 - 91 Swamp stuff
 - 93 "Death of a Salesman" son
 - 94 Pad
 - 96 Ryan's "Love Story" co-star
 - 97 Bud
 - 98 Fluffy female
 - 100 Crime writer Colin
 - 102 PC key
 - 104 SHAEF commander
 - 107 "The March King"
 - 108 Whole
 - 110 Stamping ground
 - 111 TV award
 - 112 Strauss city
 - 113 Debonair
 - 116 — coffee
 - 118 Energy source
 - 120 One of a pair
 - 121 South Seas novel
 - 123 New Mexico resort
 - 124 John of "Roots"
 - 125 Expected back
 - 128 Bossy's chew
 - 129 Sugary suffix
 - 130 Guys
 - 131 College growth
 - 132 Empower
- DOWN**
- 1 — Grande, AZ
 - 2 FBI workers

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King Crossword

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56					57			58				
59					60							61

ACROSS

- 1 U.K. TV network
- 4 King (Latin)
- 7 9-Down, for one
- 11 Came to earth
- 13 Corroded
- 14 "— Lang Syne"
- 15 Assess
- 16 Chatter
- 17 Note from the boss
- 18 Rosemary's partner?
- 20 Bound
- 22 Tiny legume
- 24 Fasteners
- 28 Graceful animal
- 32 Otherwise
- 33 Furniture brand
- 34 Reverence
- 36 Mischievous Norse god
- 37 Dynamite constituent
- 39 Authorize
- 41 Slow crawlers
- 43 Eg. and Syr., once
- 44 Ardor
- 46 Rosters
- 50 "Scat!"
- 53 Freedom, for short
- 55 Willy Wonka's creator
- 56 Chess piece
- 57 Victory sign
- 58 On the Mediterranean
- 59 "— Karenina"
- 60 Roulette bet
- 61 Explanation
- 7 Home of the Buccaneers
- 8 Regret
- 9 Shade provider
- 10 Tokyo's old name
- 12 Suburb of Phoenix
- 19 Conger, e.g.
- 21 Will Smith biopic
- 23 Carte intro
- 25 Winter forecast
- 26 Jab
- 27 Use a teaspoon
- 28 Traps
- 29 Related
- 30 Catherine
- 31 Ram's mate
- 35 Ostrich-like bird
- 38 Bullring bravo
- 40 Crony
- 42 Spirited attack
- 45 Told a whopper
- 47 Beauty pageant ID
- 48 "The Cosby Show" role
- 49 Cabbage salad
- 50 Hot tub
- 51 — Solo
- 52 Possess
- 54 Foundation

DOWN

- 1 Homer's imp son
- 2 Mediocore
- 3 Metropolis
- 4 Tatter
- 5 And others (Latin)
- 6 Three-masted sailing ship

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“ We feel like the standings will be close all the way through the end of the year.

Jake Hoogstrate, “Golf second, first” ”

Golf second, first at Jamborees

Calvin in position to make a run at another MIAA championship

BY JACOB KUYVENHOVEN
Sports Co-Editor

The Calvin College men's golf team continued their recent stretch of strong play at the third

and fourth place in the MIAA standings, five strokes behind the leader Hope. Previous leader Adrian did not perform well and dropped to third.

Junior James Van Noord had a great round to lead the Knights

Sept. 13 when they won the second MIAA Jamboree, but they still managed to hold together and finish second as a team. Sophomore Justin Crow, senior Jake Hoogstrate and freshman Brad Smith completed Calvin's four scoring golfers.

“We survived a tough day and a great score from Hope,” commented Hoogstrate, who was happy the damage wasn't worse. “James came through with a great round when we needed it.”

The Knights were back in top form on Saturday at Alma College's Pine River Country Club as they tied for first place. Crow had a big day to lead Calvin by tying for individual medalist honors with a 72, senior Mark Allen shot a very solid 73 and Van Noord and Hoogstrate followed with scores of 77 and 78.

After the tournament Hoogstrate had positive words about where the team is headed going into the second half of MIAA tournament play.

“We're pleased with our position, but our main goal is to win the league,” he said. “We feel like the standings will be close all the way until the last tournament of the year. If we can put four scores together like we did at Lenawee last week, we can put ourselves in great position.”

The team will have two chances to do so this upcoming week on Sept. 23 at Kalamazoo Country Club and Sept. 28 at Trine's Zollner Country Club. The season finale for the Knights will take place at Calvin's own Watermark Country Club on October 7.



PHOTO COURTESY CALVIN.EDU

Senior Mark Allen came up big for the Knights.

and fourth MIAA Jamborees, finishing second with a team score of 309 on Wednesday and tying for first on Saturday with a score of 300.

These results put them in sec-

ond Wednesday at Olivet College's Bedford Valley Country Club, finishing as the individual medalist with a score of 71.

The rest of Calvin's squad wasn't as sharp as they were on

Soccer improves to 5-1-1

BY JESSICA KOSTER
Sports Co-Editor

The women's soccer team took on the Belles of St. Mary's last Wednesday, finishing in a draw with neither team netting any goals. Calvin had a 21-9 shot advantage and had 13 shots on frame. The Knights had two major shots on goal in the closing minutes of the game.

The Knights had three shots on goal in the last 10 minutes of play with a shot by first year student Kailey Jo and two shots by senior Kelly Koets. St. Mary's goalie Chanler Rosenbaum was able to deflect a shot over the crossbar and push one past the far post.

Calvin outshot the Belles 7-0 in the two overtime periods but were unable to net a goal. Senior keeper Ashton Hearn had four saves in the goal.

On Saturday, the Knights hosted Albion. Calvin won 5-1. They got off to a quick lead with a goal by senior Heidi Scholten in the second minute of the game. Koets tapped in a cross from sophomore Paige Capel in the 22nd minute.

Sophomore Taylor TenHarmsel scored back to back goals less than three minutes apart. The first was a pass off sophomore Jenna Bouwer and the second off a pass by Scholten.

The Knights led 4-0 at the half with a 14-0 shot advantage. Calvin added a fifth goal with Scholten crossing a pass to Bouwer to set her up for her first goal of the season. In the 83rd minute, the Britons

scored their only goal when they caught freshman goalkeeper Emily Lawson leaving the box.

Calvin outshot Albion 26-6. Lawson recorded three saves for

the Knights in relief of Hearn.

The Knights will look to continue their strong stretch of play on Saturday the 28th when they host the Kalamazoo College Hornets at noon.



PHOTO COURTESY CALVIN.EDU

Heidi Scholten paced the Knights with a goal and an assist.

Midseason Report

BY JACOB KUYVENHOVEN
Sports Co-Editor

Last fall was something of an unprecedented sports season for the Calvin College Knights. The women's volleyball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's soccer and men's golf team all won MIAA titles, making

teams head into the Jamboree on Sept. 28 as favorites. The Calvin men will look to capture their 27th consecutive MIAA conference championship.

Women's Soccer: This nationally-ranked squad is currently 2-1-1 in MIAA play and was picked in the preseason as the favorite to defend their MIAA title. Excluding a loss at Alma, where Calvin has not won in the



PHOTO COURTESY MLIVE.COM

Calvin looks to continue its MIAA dominance this fall.

for a total of six titles. Is this success possibly repeatable in 2013? It actually might be. Let's take a look at how those same six teams are doing so far this year.

Volleyball: Calvin is currently ranked No. 1 in the nation and recently completed a three-set sweep of rival (and No. 2 team) Hope. While the conference competition will remain tough, this team will be setting its sights on a national title with an MIAA title being left as a bit of a foregone conclusion.

Men's and Women's Cross Country: Both of Calvin's cross country teams were the top MIAA squad at the large season-opening Knight Invitational with the women's team taking first overall. Both

last three years, the Knights have looked very strong and will be among the favorites come time for the MIAA tournament.

Men's Soccer: After an 0-3 start that was largely the product of a tough non-conference schedule, the team has gotten back on track with consecutive wins, including a 5-1 win over nationally-ranked Hope. They will also figure to be a favorite to win the MIAA tournament.

Men's Golf: At the time of this writing the Knights sit five strokes behind Hope in the MIAA standings with four tournaments played and four tournaments remaining. The team has a couple first-place finishes to its name and a balanced, formidable squad, so it's certainly possible they could again end the season on top of the standings.

Upcoming home events

Oct. 2- Women's Golf MIAA Tournament #3 at 1 p.m.
Oct. 2- Women's Soccer vs Olivet at 4 p.m.
Oct. 5- Volleyball vs Alma at 1 p.m.
Oct. 5- Men's Soccer vs Kalamazoo at 2:30 p.m.
Oct. 7- Men's Golf MIAA Tournament

Final at 1 p.m.
Oct. 8- Women's Soccer vs Alma at 4 p.m.
Oct. 9- Men's Soccer vs Alma at 4 p.m.
Oct. 11/12- Volleyball Midwest Tournament
Oct. 12- Women's Soccer vs Trine at noon
Oct. 15- Volleyball vs Trine at 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 15- Men's Soccer vs Hope at 7 p.m.



“ What makes Calvin so unique is its insistence on the expansive narrative of Reformed theology: that God created it all, and all of it matters.

Kyle Luck, “Keeping core coercive” ”

FROM THE EDITORS



This fall, President Le Roy announced a search committee for a new provost, and one thing stuck out to us — there is no student representative on the committee.

Instead, Le Roy said that he plans to hold a student panel at the end of the interview process with the top two or three candidates.

And student senate — a group that says student governance and representation is a cornerstone of their agenda this year — has said they are “completely satisfied” with having no representative.

While we commend President Le Roy for adding a student panel to the process, our staff doesn’t think that’s enough: we urge President Le Roy to add a student representative to the provost

search committee.

First, we’d like to explain how important this is to students. The provost is arguably the second-highest ranking person in the college — the top dog for all faculty, all research and all academic courses at Calvin College.

She’s pivotal in academic strategic planning and she’ll be critical in implementing the new core curriculum. She’s also the one who will tell each student to move his or her tassel over at commencement.

That’s why we’re disappointed that the student voice will not be included on the committee to choose the next provost, but instead marginalized into an isolated panel.

So what can a student on the committee contribute that a separate student panel cannot?

First, the students on this panel

won’t be engaged in — and won’t shape — the months of conversation about what Calvin needs in a provost right now. If students on this panel have just one interview with the top candidates, the input they give will be limited and not rooted in those months of conversation.

Second, there will be no one on the committee to push for this voice after the student panel leaves the room. We doubt that anyone’s vote will be swayed by the opinions of students who have not seen the full picture, were added in the 11th hour and are not in the room for the final call. We’re afraid that this panel is more of a tokenization of a student voice than a worthwhile pursuit of the student perspective.

Third, forming a separate student panel deprives the committee of the unique voice of a student. Le Roy said he wants a committee of experts on hiring. But a student should be on the committee not in spite of their different perspective on hiring, but because of their different perspective on hiring. In deliberation, it’s important to value difference. A student would encourage the

committee to think differently and stress issues important to the student body.

Of course, we do see one major advantage to a student panel: it will involve more students than just one in the process. But Le Roy’s rationale — that it’s hard for one student to represent the entire student body — is a dangerous argument to make. If we don’t think one student on a committee is effective at providing a student voice, it gives reason to take student representatives off almost every committee at Calvin.

And there’s precedent for having student representatives on committees for big issues: there was a student on the search committee that chose President Le Roy and students sit on almost every governance committee in the college.

Now normally we would look to student senate to thrust the student voice into the middle of important conversations like these, but student body president David Kuenzi told us Monday that he was “completely satisfied” with the current plan, which he calls “absolutely adequate.”

We were surprised to hear

student senate balked on this issue. They really have taken student representation seriously this year, including a push for a second representative on the core committee, but we think they are dropping the ball here.

This case is a textbook example of the student voice being marginalized exactly because it is the student voice: because a new provost isn’t important to us, because we can’t understand the complexity of the situation or because the place where we add the most value is tacked on as an afterthought.

We believe the place the students add the most value is with their own seat at the table — not all the seats at the kids’ table.

We urge President Le Roy to give students a representative on the provost search committee.

Ryan Struyk, Editor in Chief
Joseph Matheson, Print Editor
Jess Koster, Managing Editor

Ex-convicts hurt by box option

Why ban the box legislation is beneficial to Michigan residents

BY NATHAN SLAUER
Staff Writer

Ex-convicts seeking to find employment after being released from prison must contend with “the box” on most job application forms, which asks: “have you ever been convicted of a crime?” Banning employers from including this question box would likely reduce Michigan’s recidivism rate and therefore should be considered a viable strategy for alleviating Michigan’s overpopulated prison system. Besides this, “banning the box” on job application forms would help create a more just system for ex-convicts.

The presence of the box on job applications directly violates the federal government’s Equal Opportunity Commission’s ruling, which states that it is illegal to screen out potential employees unless their offense pertains directly to the job being applied for. Apart from the fairly clear legal case against the box, there remains a strong economic case against the box.

Prison overcrowding continues to pose an economic burden on Michigan taxpayers. The Pew Center estimates that Michigan’s prison population hovers around 51,544. It costs \$207 per day to house each of these inmates, which comes out to an annual cost that approaches a billion dollars (one fifth of Michigan’s total budget). Michigan’s costly prison population remains high in large part due to its consistently high rate of recidivism.

The box virtually eliminates the chance that ex-convicts will find a job when released from prison. Without the option of finding legitimate work, ex-convicts are faced with the choice of either attempting to live off the goodwill of their families and non-profit organizations, or returning to criminal activity to make ends meet. Given that over 30 percent of Michigan’s approximately 11,000 ex-convicts recidivate within two years of their prior conviction, many ex-convicts take the latter option.

Doing away with the box would have the effect of allow-

ing more ex-convicts to make it from the initial application stage to the interview stage of the job application process.

Although employers may still decide not to employ an ex-convict due to their past criminal behavior, ex-convicts would at least be given the possibility to convince employers that their character and job skills are sufficient for employment. Increasing the level of economic opportunity available to ex-convicts would help reduce Michigan’s high rates of recidivism and prison overcrowding, therefore reducing costs for Michigan’s taxpayers.

Opponents of “ban the box” legislation frequently claim that the passage of such bills would prevent employers from conducting a thorough investigation of

are allowed to make it to the interview stage during the job application process, they are unlikely to win out over applicants without criminal backgrounds. That doesn’t mean they should not at least be given equal opportunity to find employment.

As far as workplace safety goes, there seems little to reason to fear that employers could not use good judgment during the interview process to select which candidates held the appropriate character and job skills to successfully function in the job setting. The fear that all ex-convicts will pose a danger to their fellow employees or will act improperly in the workplace, which the existence of the box suggests exists

The box virtually eliminates the chance that ex-convicts will find a job when released from prison.

their future employees, discriminates against those without a criminal record during the job application process and creates a harmful work environment.

The first of these concerns can be easily dismissed as “ban the box” legislation does not remove the right of employers to look into the background of job applicants through background checks or through questions during the interview process, but defends ex-convicts’ right under federal law to receive equal consideration with other job applicants.

Those who claim that “ban the box” creates discrimination have the situation backward. “Ban the box” legislation does not seek to discriminate against non-criminals during the job application process, but rather aims to eliminate de facto economic discrimination against the formerly criminal class.

In reality, even if ex-convicts

among many employers, is based on unfair and often inaccurate negative judgment of an entire class of people without deeper personal investigation of individuals.

The legal status of the box remains shaky under federal equal opportunity law and there is a potential that the box will be banned simply on legal grounds. If not, the case for the entire state of Michigan joining Detroit, Kalamazoo, Muskegon County and Saginaw County, which have already banned the box, remains strong as doing so would help to lower Michigan’s recidivism rate and prison overcrowding. Michigan taxpayers could look forward to seeing ex-convicts successfully reenter society and contribute to the local economy rather than paying for them as they return behind bars.

Auschwitz reflections

BY CHRISTIAN BALCER
Staff Writer

Hell-on-earth doesn’t appear the way most would think it does. The day was nearly cloud-free. Leaves were changing colors. Buildings stood in distinct rows. Visual deception soon led to unimaginable truth.

“Arbeit Macht Frei” reads the sign arched over the entrance to the Auschwitz concentration camp. Work makes one free. In reality, the only things setting one free were death and the eventual Soviet Liberation.

Much of Europe’s recent history is based on World War II. I had done the readings, visited Budapest’s Jewish Ghetto and spent time in prayer. However, there is no preparation for seeing remnants of such evil.

I saw what remains of the Nazi attempt to wipe an entire people from the face of the planet. I saw the places that brought death, backbreaking labor, starvation and mental, physical and emotional humiliation. I saw the denigration of humanity.

I walked within feet of a firing wall where hundreds of prisoners were executed. I walked underground into the dimly lit gas chamber and crematorium. I walked the barracks where sickness and disease ravaged defenseless and over-crowded populations.

Behind viewing glass are mounds of human hair that had been shaved off the heads of prisoners as they arrived. Suitcases with names scrawled on the front pile to the ceiling. There are pots, pans, clothes, brushes, glasses and shoes all in separate spaces but pulling at the same heartstrings.

Traversing the hallowed grounds of Auschwitz and Birkenau brought a strange feeling over me. Juxtaposed before me were a beautiful mid-September day and the earthen graves of more than one million innocent people. It was sickening to think of the pure evil that manifested itself just a generation earlier in the place where I stood.

The horror, sadness and degree of hate are far too much to grasp for one who has not experienced it. The more I learn about the Holocaust and Nazi death camps, the less I understand. It is not that I am above understanding

Auschwitz and Birkenau or that it is above me. No, it is beyond me.

I will never comprehend what motivated an ideology targeting a single group of people for extermination. I will never know how fellow human beings could kill systematically and in such mass. I will never be able to answer the simple question, “Why?”

Many scholars, historians and survivors have asked a different question, “Where was God?” William Styron suggests the answer is another question: “Where was man?”

How God’s omnipresence and the Holocaust go together is something else I’ll never understand. We can and should question God, but I’m not interested in putting Him on trial. I want to view Auschwitz not by examining how Christ exists in evil, but how we manifest Christ in the presence of evil.

Neither the beliefs nor actions of the Nazi party resemble anything Christ-like. I have yet to hear of an SS Officer, camp doctor or executioner who displayed Christ-like character. Until we exhibit Christ in the face of evil, events similar in ideology to Auschwitz will continue to take place.

Think for a moment. Can we stop the gang violence that haunts the streets of Grand Rapids? Can Calvin College be the place where members of the LGBT community are free from hate? Can we reach around the globe and support the victims of Darfur even though we are half a world away? What would the world look like if we constantly exhibited Christ’s grace and left the judgment to Christ himself?

The world is at our doorstep and demands action. Nazi hatred started with small stipulations and grew into Auschwitz. We can wage love and change the way future generations think.

Contrary to the darkness of its past, the sun still shines at Auschwitz. We do not remember so as to not forget; we remember so as to not repeat. I don’t imagine a perfect world, for we are too fallen to bring it about, but I do imagine a better world.

We must give the lives of every different ethnicity, religion and class the love, respect and dignity it was denied during the Holocaust.

Christ is love. Love is life. Life is beautiful.

Student senate promises changes this year

BY DAVID KUENZI
Student Body President

Student senate will never be thought of the same after this year. Student senate is aspiring to something great.

You may have noticed our new logo floating around campus. We didn't make that change because we had nothing else to do. The logo we had, the symbol of the London Underground, had been around for over 15 years and we believe students associate that logo with a certain image of senate. So changing our logo wasn't an accident — it was absolutely deliberate. The new logo represents the radical change student senate is making. Let me explain.

This is our 95th year in existence. Originally, student senate was created as a disciplinary council — a sort of student police. This role has, of course, been modified in many ways.

Throughout time senate has served the needs of the student body. This took different forms. For instance, making chapel optional, paving the way for what is now the Service-Learning Center and starting weekend programming were all the results of student senate.

Now you know who we were. Let me tell you who we are.

We are a collaboration of passionate individuals. We are a group of people who believe that an organization like student senate has the ability to do something great for Calvin College. We believe that the student body deserves something bigger. We believe that there is more to be achieved.

So we're doing it. We're setting our goals high and trying to see how much good this organization can do in a year. And this isn't just about us, this isn't just about the students, this isn't even just about Calvin College, this is also about

the community and about showing that we, the student body of Calvin College, can be something more in this world. This is about taking the next step. We are doing things that will shape the culture of this college, that will shape the culture of Grand Rapids and that will ultimately shape cultures that extend far beyond this place.

We are engaging in conversations over policies that Calvin has had for years. We're talking about Calvin's marijuana policy and its tobacco policy. We're talking about the socio-economic structure of Calvin College and of our community — where it's weak and how it can improve. We're taking on initiatives that matter. We're making this campus more handicap-accessible, opening the door to a group of people who may feel that, at Calvin, the door is closed. We're rethinking traditions that have made it impossible for students to have a common workspace on Sundays or late at

night. We're making sustainability at Calvin College more than an academic buzzword — we're making it a reality. We want to give you an actual student union. We're maintaining and improving things like the bike program and student governance. We want to expand student governance, ensuring that the voices of actual students are in the rooms where decisions are being made. And we're listening.

We've created focus groups that involve students from almost every part of Calvin's extremely diverse community. We're in the process of creating a statistically significant poll, giving us real information about what you want. We are doing things that will shape the culture of this college, of Grand Rapids and of cultures beyond and student senate will never be thought of the same after this year.

We want to shake it up and get things done.

I'm sure that to many, these claims seem too extraordinary, too lofty. I'm sure they seem unlikely and far-fetched. I'm sure that many will find them stupid. However, I must disagree. These claims are attainable — they are within our grasp. These are the claims that student senate must make and these are the claims you must hold us to. We are setting the bar high because we know this is where it can be set.

I believe that we can be agents of change now. I want to see that potential become reality. I want to make real change in this world and I believe it be done right here, right now, by us.

This is an extraordinary year for Calvin and for student senate. However, without the student body — without your ideas, without your enthusiasm, without your feedback — student senate can do nothing. Join us in creating something great at Calvin College.

Core cuts would undercut Christian values

BY KYLE LUCK
Staff Writer

Most college students don't want to be formed by their education — we want to consume it. Course catalogs (appropriately named) provide us with myriad possibilities. During lectures, we collect trendy ideological accessories; we dress our identities in words like “pacifist” and “feminist” while most of us are too privileged to know what those words mean, let alone how they might begin to shape our everyday lives. Let's face it: many of us aren't learning — we're shopping. And we're demanding that the university bow to the mantra of modern students (or risk decreasing enrollment): “Let me make up my mind for myself.”

So the initiative to cut Calvin's core curriculum actually makes a lot of sense. Core gets in the way, takes time and undermines the modern tendency to make education a commodity that students are at liberty to use any way they desire. Thus, as state schools and universities offer better prices and increased academic freedom, schools like Calvin are becoming less and less relevant. In a world where the customer is always right, it seems the “liberal arts” may be doomed to failure. At a school where the student is

always right, core doesn't work.

But Calvin is not just another “liberal arts” school — we are a Christian college, and because of that we cannot separate ethics from political science or theology from business. Such separation (or “specialization,” as it's often called) produces pastors who are unable to articulate the political significance of the Eucharist, political “imagination” that are invariably anchored to realist presuppositions and businesses that exploit their workers “unto the Lord.” What makes Calvin so unique is its supposed rejection of this separation — its insistence on the expansive narrative of Reformed theology: that God created it all and all of it matters.

But I am worried that cutting core at Calvin will only increase the dangerous distance between students and this narrative — the very narrative that makes our education coherent. For while the modern university would have us believe that we can know without narrative, Calvin College has called us to claim our identity as a storied people under the lordship of Jesus Christ. It's the reason why we talk about God all the time. It's why our mentors use words like “discernment” and “vocation.” It's why our professors lead us in prayer before class.

At Calvin, your education belongs to God.

Moreover, the argument that students should have the freedom to take the courses they “want to take” seems to underwrite the notion that education has everything to do with ideas and nothing at all to do with shaping desire. But if education is really “about what we love,” as James K. A. Smith has argued, then don't students need requirements like core to get in the way of our consumerist tendencies? Don't students need courses, professors and church communities to shape us into the people that we would not otherwise “pick and choose” to be?

Don't get me wrong: curriculum is but one dimension of this many-sided conversation. And if core gets cut this spring, I'm not under the impression that Calvin will become an overnight bastion of secularism devoid of the resources necessary for providing students with a holistic education. Still, I'm worried. I'm worried that this debate is, at least in some respects, a microcosm of the broader temptation to overhaul education for students who would rather buy academic degrees than reinforce a way of life.

If this is the case (though I hope it isn't) then I pray Calvin will discern accordingly. Who knows? Maybe it's a good thing that core is a little “coercive.”

TOMS not as helpful as possible

BY PETER WIDITZ
Guest Writer

I remember when I first saw a pair of TOMS shoes — I wasn't sure what they were. At first I thought the shoes were a westernized version of foot binding. Thank goodness I talked to a friend who then explained to me that the shoes were not bandages, but a canvas shoe.

I then learned the story behind the shoe and the company's pledge to give a pair to an impoverished child with each purchase made. TOMS represents a type of marketing I call “movement marketing.” The company represents a trend that many young people have jumped at and will continue to be successful the more evangelistic the supporters become.

The target market for this company is clearly high school and college students, as stated by CEO of TOMS and self-proclaimed “Head Giver,” Blake Mycoskie. People want to become a part of something larger than themselves and TOMS provides an avenue through which they

can join a growing, global movement.

All of this sounds good and even looks good, but there are some pitfalls that are easy to fall into. A common reason why people choose to buy the shoes is so they can give a pair of shoes to an impoverished child. Based off of pictures and videos of the shoe delivery trips it is clear that the places TOMS distributes shoes are in areas with harsh climates.

I have to admit that any shoe is better than none, but is there a better shoe that could be distributed for these impoverished individuals? Many of us have heard of Samaritan's Purse, but a less known organization is Samaritan's Feet. This charity has claimed to have distributed millions of pairs of shoes and utilizes 70,000 workers for their organization.

The key difference between Samaritan's Feet and TOMS is that TOMS is a profit centered business and not a charity. Many feel that since they bought a pair of TOMS shoes they have made a difference in the world and supplied a shoeless child with

footwear. While this is true, their impact could have been bigger. The cheapest pair of TOMS adult-sized shoes is \$54. TOMS mostly gives shoes to children, who have smaller feet that require less material for a shoe, making these shoes cheaper than the adult-sized ones. The market value on children's shoes is \$38, so TOMS is retaining at least \$16 for each pair of shoes given away.

Charities such as Samaritan's Feet receive donations from major companies and wholesale discounts when purchasing shoes, so each dollar given goes much farther.

However, I feel that the biggest issue of all is that TOMS teaches the wrong message about giving. When one tithes, the gift is given without the expectation of receiving anything in return — it is a sacrifice. TOMS' marketing ploy has the potential to train people to expect something in return for their gifts, which is not how sacrificial love works. We must be careful in what we give and who we give it to so that our sacrifice can be utilized wisely and effectively.

Don't bury talents

BY MATTHIAS STRUBLE
Guest Writer

At a place where most students have some sort of faith in God, it would not be difficult for someone to ride out their four years at Calvin without accepting any challenges to their faith. Coming from a public school, I had to defend my faith and beliefs daily in the face of numerous challenges. The only solace for me in high school, after a long day of debating Bible verses with my teachers, was the short bus ride home and the Bible study time my family had every night before bed. Coming to Calvin, I expected many things: rest, peace of mind and, most of all, comfort. “Finally,” I thought, “I will no longer have to argue about God and Jesus and the Bible; I'm going to a place where everyone will understand me and my beliefs.” Fortunately, I had no idea that Calvin College was not that kind of place at all.

Those of us who are familiar with Matthew may recall the famous parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30). In this parable, Jesus related the story of a master who had entrusted his servants with his wealth. To one servant, the master gave five bags of talents, to the second two bags and to the third, one bag. The first two servants went and immediately invested the master's talents and doubled their money, while the third servant, with only one bag of talents, went and hid the money in the ground. Upon his return, the master was delighted with the first two servants and furious with the third, even though the third servant had diligently and earnestly kept his master's money. Why was the master

furious with the third servant, even though he had kept his master's money in pristine condition? My religion professor gave me the answer, saying that, in the context of the parable, the bags of talents were the servants' faith. While the first two servants fully utilized their faith and prospered, the third servant maintained the status quo, burying his faith in pristine condition.

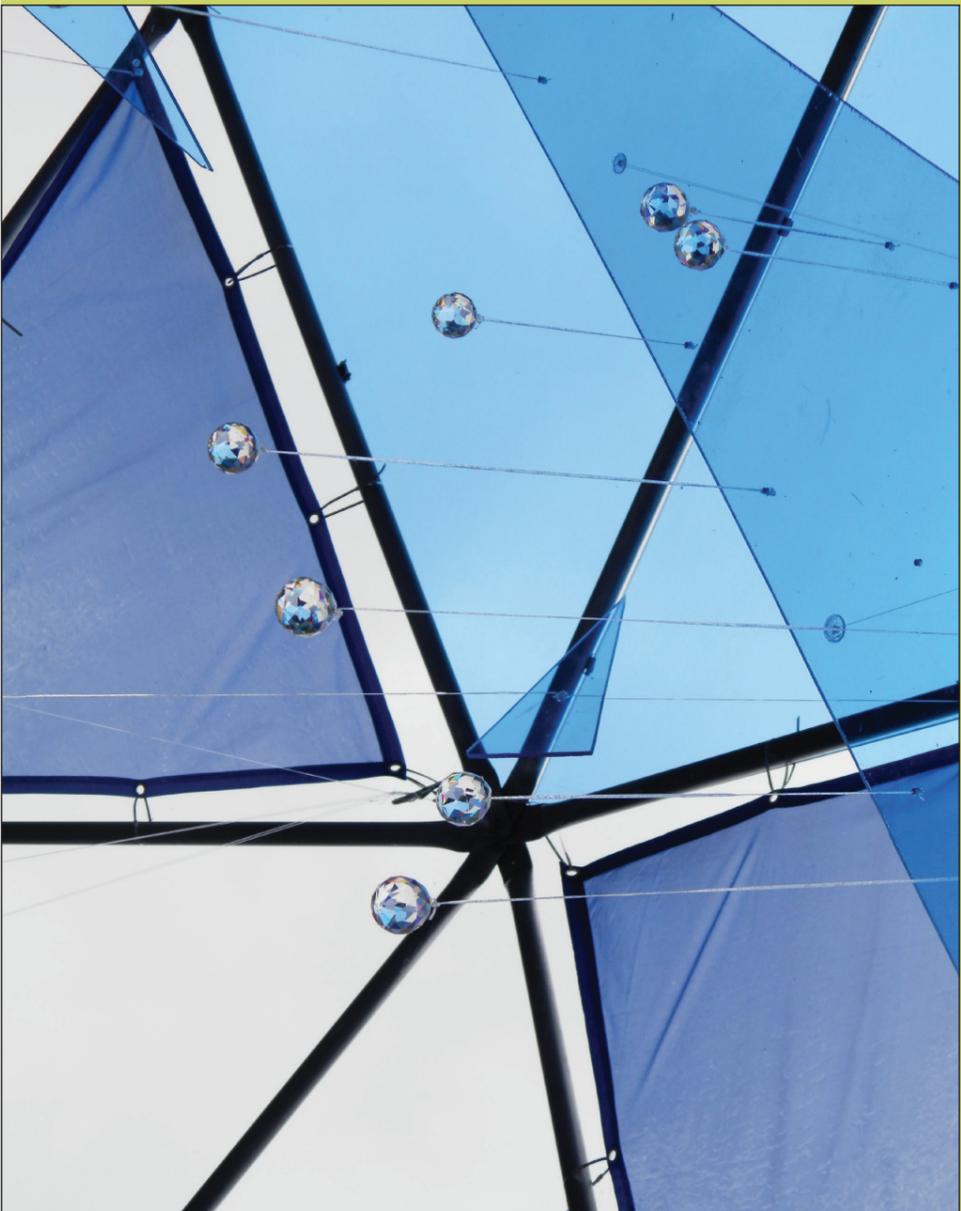
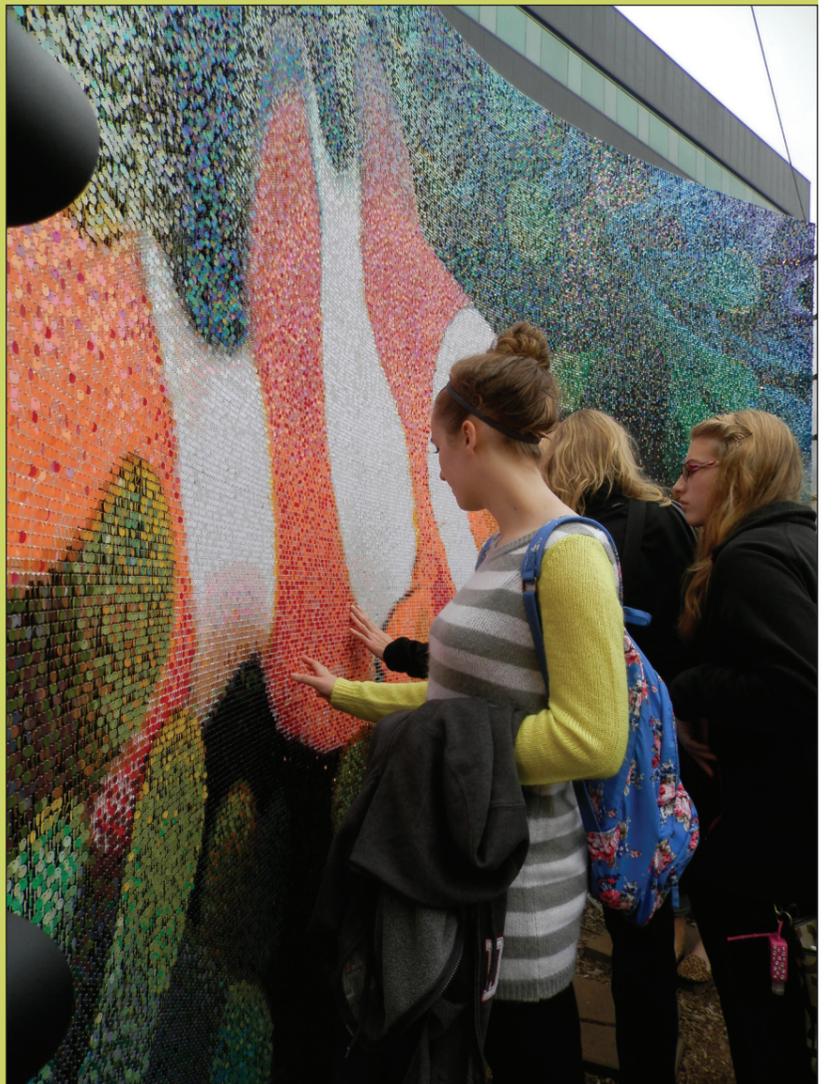
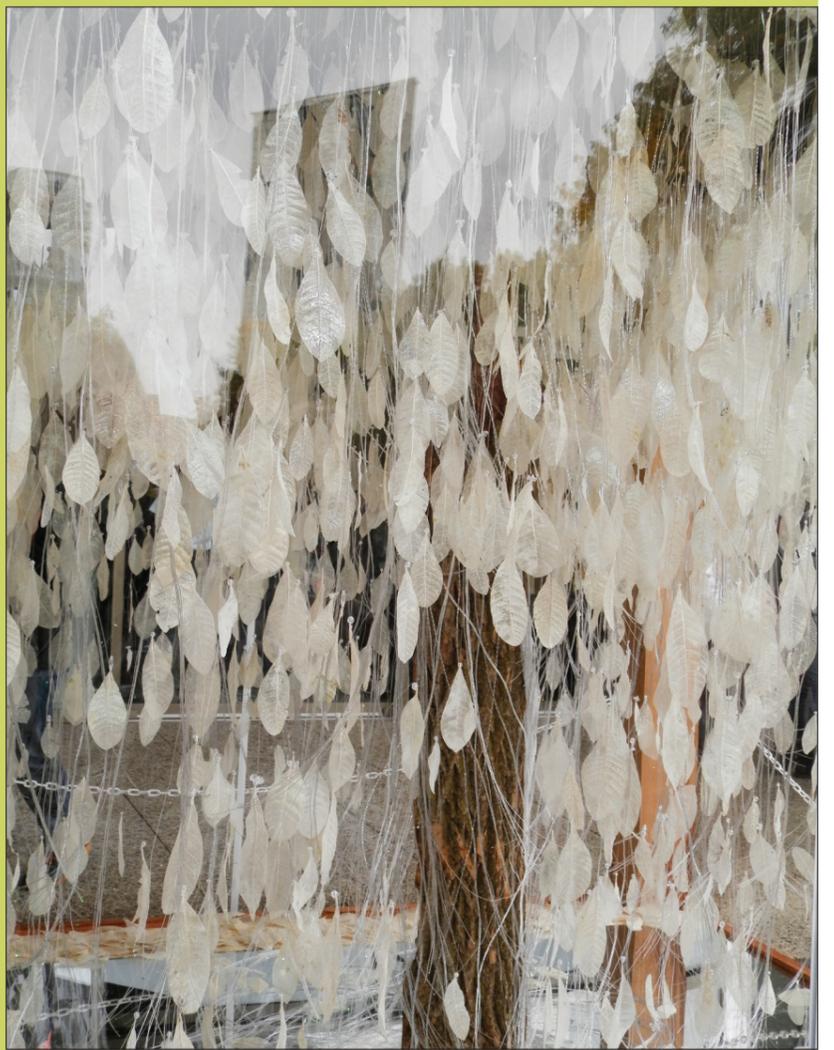
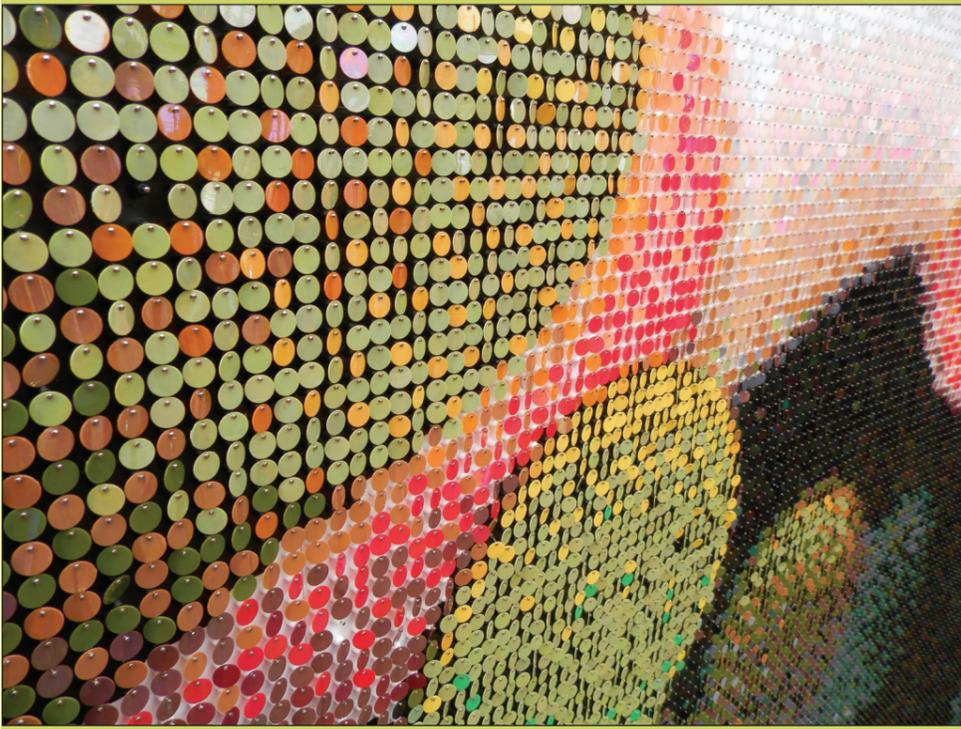
I do not want to bury my faith. When each of us came to Calvin, each of us carried our own bags of talents left to us by parents, grandparents, mentors, friends, etc. Those of us seeking comfort, to maintain the status quo, have buried our talents. I know that in my first year I put my one bag in the ground and called it good. My life, my faith, was supposed to stay the same from the first chapel I attended to the day that I was buried next to my bag of talents. Calvin College, however, thought differently.

During the course of my first year, I found myself repeatedly digging my bag up, spending some talents and, just as I got ready to lower it back into the hole, I would open it one more time and use it again. The classes here, the people here, simply would not allow me to rest in that shallow grave next to my faith. I sought the status quo and instead found a world where I could look into the sky and ask, aloud, if there was a God; if Hindus, Muslims or Christians, or all three, could go to heaven; if there even is a heaven. I do not have answers for those, but I thank God every night for that uncertainty because every time I invest my faith and discover more about myself and the world, I can feel my bag get a little fuller — I can feel my faith growing.

We can invest or preserve our talents; I strongly discourage people at Calvin, and in general, from choosing the latter.

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