

CALVIN COLLEGE



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Arts programs would be hit hard in recommended round of cuts

BY RUTHY BERENDS
On-Call Writer

The majority of the academic cuts recommended by President Michael Le Roy's cabinet are in the arts departments, according to Calvin's new prioritization report released to faculty and staff on Monday morning.

Specific programs that are candidates for reduction or elimination include art history, theater, music specialties and the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree.

The prioritization document says that conversations would continue with departments into the spring semester, and that final decisions would be made by the May faculty senate meeting.

President Le Roy said in an interview that Calvin is cutting back in certain programs in order to balance enrollment trends with faculty numbers and class sizes, hopefully making the arts programs more sustainable.

"I hope no one would interpret the decisions we've made as arbitrary decisions because we don't like something," Le Roy said. "It's quite the contrary. What we're trying to do in making these prioritization recommendations is sustain what we are trying to do."

The plans are not finalized, but leaders are approaching final

steps in the coming month and a half: hearings are scheduled for community members on Friday, then the planning and priorities committee will recommend cuts to Le Roy, who will recommend them to the board of trustees in January.

Dean of arts, languages and education Mark Williams explained how Calvin's current financial situation requires its administration to pay attention to unnecessary costs.

"We need to shrink the number of courses that we offer so that we are within our teaching budget," Williams said. "It's a delicate balancing act."

The cuts could include combining the B.F.A. with a Bachelor of Arts degree in art, turning the art history major into a minor and possibly linking theater, dance and music for arts performance and arts management degrees.

The art education program, which is currently run at a low cost because the faculty member, Jo-Ann Van Reeuyk, teaches courses as uncompensated overloads, would be reevaluated in 2015, if the report doesn't change

before the board of trustees approves it. If enrollment didn't reach at least five graduates per year, the program would be cut.

"These programs are being recommended for cuts because of low student-faculty ratios, low numbers of graduates over the past five years, and/or relatively low placement on the

started rising and then we would follow the enrollment trends again and add things."

Calvin's newly-formed Arts Council hired a consultant, Dr. Teresa Reed from the University of Michigan, to look at the arts programs and make recommendations for growth and improvement.

but said despite Dr. Reed's support of his idea to integrate a push for the arts into the strategic plan, it seems like it will not be accepted.

"I believe some of the people who are designing and overseeing the strategic plan don't want to mention specific programs because they're afraid that everyone will want to have their program mentioned," Fuentes said. "But the prioritization document is all the proof we need that the arts are in trouble."

The Arts Council has been working to build awareness of and interest in the arts programming at Calvin, according to the prioritization report. Because of the council's work, some flexibility will exist so that programs in the arts can rebuild their student enrollment.

Fuentes said he hopes to rebuild the arts programs by stressing their importance to Calvin's mission.

"We want to remind people that the arts are more than a pleasant relief from the troubles of the world," Fuentes said. "We're not just creating entertainment. The arts provide an essential way of knowing. And if we don't fully utilize it, we're missing out on a big part of our calling as an institution."



PHOTO COURTESY CALVIN.EDU

The newly formed Art Council will discuss "invigorated programming."

prioritization grids completed last year," according to the prioritization report.

But Provost Claudia Beversluis said she hopes the cuts will not last.

"The arts have been hurting nationally, so Calvin's not unique in that," Beversluis said. "But I would love it if we developed a stronger reputation for the arts and ... enrollment in the arts

Le Roy said hiring Dr. Reed points to the college's commitment to the arts.

"This is a sign we want invigorated programming in the arts," he said. "In general, I would say we continue to be very supportive of the programs that we retain."

Music professor David Fuentes made a case for support of the arts in the new strategic plan during Monday's faculty senate meeting,

Cabinet recommends cuts

BY RYAN STRUYK
Editor in Chief

President Le Roy's cabinet recommended cuts to several academic programs, a slightly smaller faculty and various other cuts across all divisions of the college in a report released Monday.

"[The cuts] are very difficult. This is hard for everyone involved," President Michael Le Roy said. "When I realized what we needed to do even 14 months ago, I believed that this stage of the process would be the most difficult."

Hearings for faculty and staff will be held on Friday morning and afternoon, in which people can voice concerns and alternate plans for cuts.

Some of the recommended changes include: reductions to arts programs and language programs, eliminating the curriculum center, increasing tuition for engineers and nurses, considering outsourcing the campus store, increasing the fee for wilderness orientation, increasing the rent in the Knollcrest East apartments, ceasing to fund several programs

with tuition dollars and cutting paper course catalogs.

The cuts are not finalized, but leaders are approaching final steps in the coming month and a half: the planning and priorities committee will recommend cuts to President Le Roy, who will recommend them to the board of trustees in January.

Students who are already enrolled in these programs would still be able to complete their degrees after the cuts are finalized, so the changes would happen gradually over the next few years.

One major recommendation is that Calvin cut its faculty from 291 members to between 270 and 275 members. But faculty reductions are nothing new to the college: Calvin has already cut its faculty from 326 over the last five years.

Provost Claudia Beversluis said most, but not all of the eliminations would happen through retirements or people leaving the college voluntarily.

"Since we only need to move 15 to 20 down, my guess is that most

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Departments may see tuition hike

BY BEN RIETEMA
On-Call Writer

Future Calvin nursing and engineering majors may be charged slightly more tuition than other students in the coming years, according to recommendations from President Le Roy's cabinet released Monday.

"There is renewed motivation to know exactly where all of our dollars are going," academic dean Stanley Haan said. "The idea is that where there are extra costs that are clearly identifiable and that benefit a small group, then that small group can bear the extra cost rather than have it be supported across the college."

For the nursing department, the extra cost stems from the required eight to one student-faculty ratio.

"There's tremendous cost built into both of those programs," Provost Claudia Beversluis said. "In the case of nursing, the cost is the student-faculty ratio that has to be maintained for clinical safety,

for the community work that we do and for accreditation reasons. They are the least efficient."

The plans are not finalized, but leaders are approaching final steps in the coming month and a half: hearings are scheduled for community members on Friday, then the planning and priorities committee will recommend cuts to Le Roy, who will recommend them to the board of trustees in January.

Nursing majors are already charged a \$1,300 fee per practicum course, which comes out to \$2,600 per year for juniors and seniors.

"We already charge them a fee," Beversluis said. "The nursing and speech pathology students both pay, but the fee doesn't cover the inefficiency for nurses. It's one way of recouping some of the extra costs. We're just exploring it."

The engineering department refused to comment about the recommended increases.

However, there has been pushback from the nursing department. A memorandum was sent to the office of the president regarding the proposed changes.

"This needs to be put in context of what is there," Cheryl Feenstra, department chair of nursing, said. "We don't think they are looking at the big picture."

The memo mentioned the fees already in place. It also said nursing costs are less than they would be because the nursing department uses 61 percent part-time instructors, who do not draw benefits and who are not paid as much as full-time staff.

The memo also offered several suggestions in lieu of raising tuition. One was to better utilize the fees already collected and another was to work with development to raise endowment funding.

Beversluis said the proposed changes would not affect current students and would still be a couple of years down the road.

"We need to be honest to incoming students," Beversluis said. "We wouldn't just slap it on incoming students. It

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SINCE 1907

Graphic design major added

BY LEAH JONKER
On-Call Writer

Late Monday night, faculty senate approved a new graphic design major, a change that could increase student enrollment by as many as 50 students per year, according to Russ Bloem, vice president for enrollment.

For years, students had been graduating with interdisciplinary majors that are very similar to the new graphic design major, but formalizing the major will attract new students.

"In past years, there have been many students who have chosen not to come to Calvin because there was no design major," said Jo-Ann P. VanReeuwijk, associate professor of art and art history.

"If half of these students were to apply to Calvin, and 20-25 percent of those would enroll, we would be looking at 45-50 potential new students per year," wrote Bloem in a letter to raise support.

"Our counselors attend about 225 college fairs and make over 400 high school visits per year and they estimate that at least one (often more than one) person will ask 'Do you have a graphic arts/design major?' at 7 out of 10 of these events," Bloem wrote. "This would total to 450 or more inquiries in a season."

Calvin is late in the game, having lost prospective students for years to competition schools such as Dordt College, Taylor University and Trinity Christian College, simply because of their graphic design majors.

"Trinity Christian College with only 1,369 students has more graphic design courses to offer than Calvin does with a student body of 4,000," said Frank Speyers, professor of art and art history.

This process was not simple, however. Since 1989, Speyers has pushed for the program's approval, but the need for the major was not acknowledged until this year.

"Over the last 15 years, an average of 3.8 students graduated with a business/ graphic design [interdisciplinary] major. In 10 years that number grew to an average of 4.5 students, and in the past five years the number has grown to 5.2," stated the report in the faculty senate agenda.

"They had a good proposal this year. It's been an ongoing

process, but this year there was a special need for it," said Mark Williams, dean of arts, languages and education.

Amidst the campus-wide budget cuts, this addition will not set the budget back.

"No new staffing is required, nor will there be any shifts in assignments. This major does not represent an expansion of the college's program offerings," the faculty senate report stated.

The new major is being added to the art department, but the required courses extend into several departments.

"The major is a collaboration of visual arts, communication arts and sciences, computer science and business," said VanReeuwijk. "It's a wonderful compilation of several departments."

"Because we're a liberal arts college, students are shaped to think broadly and have a variety of disciplines to draw from," said Speyers.

Of the required courses, only three are specific graphic design classes, each taught by Speyers.

"There are three levels to the major. Level one is the semantics — the visual parts of speech. Level two is the syntactic — how these parts of speech fit together. And level three is the pragmatics — students take on a real client," said Speyers.

Williams pointed out that the greater Grand Rapids area would be an ideal location and city for the new graphic design major.

"Grand Rapids is becoming a regional center for designers," said Williams, "so there's a job market out there for students."

"Design is a language, a visual problem solving," Speyers said, "and because our society is driven by images, there is a great importance for students to develop these skills. Design is everywhere."

TUITION: Proposed changes would affect future upperclassmen

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

would take a couple of years to implement it."

Beverluis also said the proposed changes would only affect students in their junior and senior year.

"Only about half of the students that start in engineering graduate in engineering," Beverluis said. "So we would give students time to commit to the

engineering program."

Students, however, are unsure about proposed changes.

"It all depends on how much tuition would rise," senior engineering major Grant Mathews said. "It's good they wouldn't make you pay all four years, but it seems like there would be hard feelings once you are committed to the program and the tuition rises."

Beverluis said that due to the

Curriculum Center may close

BY LAUREN DEHAAN
Local News Editor

The stand-alone Curriculum Center will be retired by next fall according to recent prioritization recommendations.

The center, which was founded in 1978, will be closed at the end of this academic year and its current library of resources and materials will be dispersed.

The Curriculum Center was founded in 1978 and is located in the lower level of Heiminga Hall. It provides education students, faculty and community members with K-12 instructional materials and resources.

According to Randy Nieuwsma, the director of the Instructional Resource Center, the cut was well deliberated.

"A lot of people had a lot of input in the decision," said Nieuwsma, "We have had lots of meetings about what we do and how it fits into the big picture."

According to Nieuwsma, the center has faced recent challenges with changes in the K-12 school system to more standardized testing and electronic textbooks.

"The standardized test has contributed to the closing of the curriculum center," said Nieuwsma. "It was inevitable but the recent financial problems have just sped up the process."

The center was founded so education students could have

all of their resources in one area.

"We will miss the place for the students to work," said Professor Ron Sjoerdsma, the education department chair. "It is hard to think about how we will do things differently."

Sjoerdsma agreed the recent shift in educational materials to electronic copies have changed the function of the center.

"The volume of checkouts are far less," said Sjoerdsma.

The center itself is located in an area of Heiminga that does not get much foot traffic.

"It is usually pretty empty," said Paige Deur, an education major who also works at the curriculum center, "but some people work there as a quiet place to study."

According to Ana VanLonkhuyzen, a sophomore education major, the center was an invaluable resource to those who use it.

"The help that we receive at the center is invaluable," said VanLonkhuyzen.

"It is a good resource but not a lot of people know about it," said Deur.

It is unclear as to where exactly the current resources will go if the prioritization report is approved and the center is closed.

"They will go away," said Nieuwsma. "We will see this operation happen at the end of May and we will have to get rid of it over the summer."

Possibilities include moving some materials the the library, of which the center is a subset, or dispersing them to relevant departments.

"Our teacher education department is distributed across departments so there isn't a natural other place to put these resources," said Nieuwsma.

According to Sjoerdsma, regardless of where the materials end up, the education department will feel the loss of the unified space.

"It will be very, very missed," said VanLonkhuyzen.



PHOTO BY LEAH JONKER

Graphic design major expected to draw 50 students per year.

PRIORITIZATION: Recommendations would cut faculty by 15-20

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

will be through natural attrition," she said. "If you had a strategy for using attrition in one year, that would seem kind of random. But over a decade, you can use attrition to reshape the faculty."

She said that all tenured faculty would keep positions at the college, but she could not rule out the possibility of not renewing the terms of some other faculty down the road.

The document also suggests increasing the number of classes at Calvin taught by part-time or adjunct faculty from 17 percent to 20 percent.

It also recommends moving the faculty-teaching ratio — different from the standard faculty-student ratio — from 14.5 to 1 to between 15.7 and 16.0 to 1.

Both Le Roy and Beverluis pointed out the inclusive process in which the cuts were proposed, which has been underway since last fall.

"We wanted it to be a participatory process," Le Roy said. "Participants in the process have helped us to see new ways to save money and use our resources more effectively. If we were just doing top-down cuts, you'd miss a lot and this process has shown us that."

Beverluis agreed that the process included many helpful points of view.

"Almost every office in the academic side and every department did an analysis of its costs and of

any data that we had," she said.

Some of the goals listed in the document not only continue to shrink the college's budget gap, but also start to chip away at the principal of the college's massive debt.

"It's really important," Le Roy said. "We've had some great donors step up and say they're going to help us with that. It's a really good sign. By 2017, it means we would have lower annual debt payments than we otherwise would have had."

Student senate forgoes Operation Christmas Child

Decision to refrain comes after two years of coordinating OCC

BY JERONICA ANDREWS
Staff Writer

Student senate has elected not to participate in Operation Christmas Child (OCC) following two consecutive years of participation.

Jerry Grieser, vice president of public relations for student senate, cited concerns raised by World Renew (previously known as Christian Reformed World Relief Committee) as a leading factor in discontinuing its OCC program.

"[World Renew] raised concerns about Operation Christmas Child's mission strategy," Grieser said.

Grieser said that World Renew felt that OCC was a band-aid approach as it fixed a symptom, but not a cause. Grieser added that World Renew prefers to see more sustainable giving options, such as raising money to purchase a goat, cow or well. Giving children toys doesn't really solve the real-life problems that they face, Grieser said.

Thomas E. McWhertor, director of constituency relations for World Renew, was unavailable for comment.

OCC is a ministry project organized by Samaritan's Purse International Relief. According to the organization's website, "Samaritan's Purse is a non-denominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world."

In addition to World Renew's concern, Grieser cited low student participation as another factor in the decision.

"Senate has only done OCC for the past two years and compared to the amount of work that we put into it, we had a fairly low

amount of students who donated shoeboxes," Grieser said.

"Because of World Renew's concerns and our own observations," he said, "we decided that our energies could be better invested in other areas of student need."

Grieser stressed that senate's decision to stop participation with OCC does not imply lack of concern for social issues.

"Student senate is concerned

questions student senate's decision to reallocate funds.

"I feel like student senate canceling Operation Christmas Child and giving their money to another organization is like taking the easy way out," he said. "Operation Christmas Child impacts more people in need globally than a student run organization such as the Social Justice Coalition. There should be a suitable replacement for not doing OCC than just giving money to another student organization."

Senior Carissa Van Hartsma hopes student senate will continue participating in a charity.

"It is important for student senate to take part in at least one charity for the year," she said. "If they are completely eliminating all their charitable activities then I think they need to re-think their goals."

Grieser added that future student senate participation with OCC will be a decision left to each year's senate.

Grieser said senate hopes to hear from students about ideas for future investments.

"We are very open to receiving more proposals or ideas about different social justice causes that we could potentially invest in," said Grieser.

This year's OCC will be sponsored by International Reconciliation Organization (INTRO), a student organization.

"INTRO has done OCC in the past and didn't have any other events planned for November so we thought we would take it on," said Ellie Hutchinson, a representative for INTRO.

For more information about getting involved with OCC contact INTRO representative Ellie Hutchinson.



PHOTO COURTESY SAMARITAN'S PURSE

Operation Christmas Child has given shoeboxes to more than 100 million children in over 130 countries since 1993.

about social justice and we recognize that there is student interest for various social justice programs," said Grieser. "However, given the evidence, we decided it would not be in our best interest to continue this program for a third year."

Grieser said senate has opted to invest elsewhere.

"Earlier this year, we allocated \$750 to the Social Justice Coalition for students to be able to spearhead their own service projects directly in Grand Rapids," said Grieser. "This was in response to a student proposal that we had received during Proposal Week."

Sophomore Michael David

Knollcrest East rent increases by \$250

BY LAUREN DEHAAN
Local News Editor

The cost of living in the Knollcrest East apartments (KE) will rise by \$250 per resident per year starting next year, according to a prioritization report released Monday morning.

"You have to make a hard decision, but this feels like a reasonable decision to me," said John Witte, dean of residence life, said.

The rise in price comes at a time when KE is so full they have had to assist students in finding alternative housing.

"We had the biggest demand for KE that we had ever had, at least in recent years," Witte said. "We had to turn a lot of people away this year."

According to Annie Mas-Smith, area coordinator for KE, the increase in price is unlikely to have an effect on the demand for the apartments.

"When you crunch the numbers, it isn't that big of an increase," Mas-Smith said. "I still have students emailing me wanting to live there."

The \$250 increase breaks

down to \$125 per semester, or about \$30 per month.

"I am OK with the increase," said Kara Suppan, a junior resident of KE. "A \$250 increase per year is not enough for me to get up in arms."

The price changes will remain fixed for the foreseeable future.

"We are not planning on going up every year," Witte said. "We have made a decision, and we will stick with that."

According to the new prioritization report, the increase in rent will raise around \$114,000 per year in revenue for KE.

According to Witte, many students choose to live in KE for the convenience of on-campus housing and the ease of not having to deal with a lease and utilities.

"I am an international student, so to get furniture and a lease on a house for two years just wasn't worth it to me," Paola Fuentes, a senior resident of KE said. "I am also living with two people who are going abroad, so it is a lot easier for us to be in the apartments."

The convenience extends to things like maintenance and no commitment to pay for the apartment if students have to leave Calvin for whatever reason or want to study abroad.

Potential cuts for language majors

BY LEAH JONKER
On-Call Writer

As the largest spoken language in the European Union, with 50 million speakers and more than 100 million speakers worldwide, German is the language of one of the driving world economies, according to Herman De Vries, professor of German.

Yet, Calvin's German major could be in jeopardy, according to recommendations from Le Roy's cabinet released Monday.

The German major, according to the prioritization report, is one of the majors in the category for reduction or elimination, while other languages — French, Japanese and Chinese — are in the category for reengineering.

"The faculty-teaching ratio for each program should approach 16 to 1," stated the prioritization report. "The [German] program does not have enough graduates to meet student-faculty ratios."

"What's challenging in this era is being bilingual is not something students are looking for. I wish more of them would," said President Michael Le Roy. "With current enrollment, it was pretty clear we

it wouldn't be fair not to offer this to prospective students."

German is one of the leading languages in the world, according to Roberts, so the elimination of the program would be eliminating student opportunities.

"By cutting the major, the many opportunities of the German language will not be offered, such as the off-campus Interim," Roberts said.

This year, the Interim to Germany celebrated its 40th year in existence, but now it is under threat.

"There has been a consistent demand for this upper-level travel abroad experience," De Vries said. "Nearly 1,000 alumni have taken part in the German Interim over the past four decades. Many went on to major or minor in German."

The cutting of the major could also affect the scholarly work of Calvin's professors, as they would fail to meet the prior standards.

"Professor Dykstra-Pruim has written two successful textbooks that have been used in 70 colleges including Harvard and Middlebury," said De Vries. "However, the quality of future work could be challenged."

"If I never have the opportunity to teach advanced students, I never have the opportunity to write for advanced students,"



FILE PHOTO

Calvin students visit Berlin Wall in Germany for Interim 2013.

weren't going to be able to sustain that."

Professors within the Germanic studies, however, were shocked to see their department in the report.

"We have a viable program," said De Vries. "Last year we had nine grads and 10 minors."

"The decision is not fully clear," said Corey Roberts, professor of German.

No plans are finalized, but leaders are approaching final steps in the coming month and a half: hearings are scheduled for community members on Friday, then the planning and priorities committee will recommend cuts to Le Roy, who will recommend them to the board of trustees in January.

If the board of trustees approves the plan in January, a final decision will be made on eliminating or reducing the major by May.

Regardless of the decision, current German majors will not be affected by this change.

"Current majors will be seen through until 2017," explained Pennylyn Dykstra-Pruim, professor of German. "Any student that enters Calvin with the opportunity of this major will have this option."

Though current students will not be affected by the possible loss of the major, prospective students will be.

"Graduates who can speak German have a leg up, since Germans like to speak German," said De Vries, "but

Dykstra-Pruim said.

In addition, the other world languages are under pressure, with the cabinet recommending that departments reengineer their programs in attempts to attract more majors.

"Any major program with fewer than 10 grads per year was also scrutinized," explained Jolene Vos-Camy, professor of French. "French has averaged around 10 grads a year in the last decade, but our numbers were lower this past year, making us a target for reduction as well."

Both the Japanese major and the new Chinese education major will have to reengineer their programs in pursuit of strategies that will increase their number of majors.

With careful course scheduling, these departments are confident that they could save Calvin more money than possible elimination would save.

"We think that with our counter proposal of collapsing courses, combining classes and cutting about three or four courses, while still offering the same availability, will manage the major more efficiently and therefore save the college the same, if not more money," said De Vries.

Making cuts in any department is not an easy choice, Le Roy explained, but choices have to be made.

"Calvin has a strong representation in the languages and in the arts and we want to continue that: we just have to find new and better ways to do that going forward," Le Roy said.

GR increases tourism

BY VALERIE GREER
Staff Writer

Grand Rapids is the second largest city in Michigan, has annual attention from ArtPrize and has been crowned "Beer City USA" of 2013. These achievements bring more visitors and tourists.

Experience Grand Rapids (ExperienceGR), a program from the Convention and Visitors Bureau, strives to help those visitors have good experiences. Recently, ExperienceGR has decided to bring in a national hospitality program called Certified Tourism Ambassadors (CTA).

Lisa Verhil, visitor services manager of ExperienceGR and head of the CTA program, said the process began a year ago when ExperienceGR and the West Michigan Lodging Association wanted the program to be ready for ArtPrize 2013.

The program's purpose is to increase tourism in Grand Rapids by providing visitors with positive experiences. Verhil supports this purpose.

"We wanted our visitors to receive a first class experience with the people they encountered," Verhil said.

"Even people who thought they knew about Grand Rapids have learned things," she said. "Every CTA is challenged to assist at least one person who looks like they need assistance every day."

Verhil said the Grand Rapids

CTA website has features to keep employees aware of events and interesting facts about Grand Rapids.

"We all continue to [learn] with the 'Hidden Gems' that I update on our website for the CTAs," she said.

Several local restaurants, hotels, cab companies and businesses have decided to give their employees CTA training, Verhil said. Participants must attend the classes provided, complete assignments and pass a final exam. There is a \$35 application fee and a \$10 annual renewal fee.

Verhil said the program is also a great opportunity for those entering the hospitality field and has benefits for the employee. Those who complete the program receive a credential and are allowed to use the CTA initials behind their name.

The application brochure notes: "What separates Grand Rapids Tourism Ambassador from other training programs is that it's certification, not just training."

Verhil said there will have been 604 certified CTA members in Grand Rapids by the end of the year. She also said the feedback from Grand Rapids officials and the community is promising.

"It has turned into a 'club' with even the county commissioners and city police officers committed to the program!" Verhil said.

LGBT large portion of homeless youth

BY BEN RIETEMA
On-Call Writer

According to a recent report put out by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), between 20 and 40 percent of American homeless youth identify as LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender).

However, only three to five percent of the United States population identifies as LGBT, making LGBT youth a disproportionate amount of homeless youth.

Colette Beighley, director of the LGBT resource center at Grand Valley State University (GVSU), said family disagreements are the main factor in LGBT homelessness.

According to the report, 50 percent of gay individuals experience a negative reaction when they come out.

"We do know that one in four youth are asked to leave home when they come out," Beighley said. "That puts them in a very vulnerable situation of either couchsurfing or being on the street where they are in danger of violence and of engaging in underground survival economies."

Beighley said the plight of LGBT youth is exacerbated by the lack of organizations targeting LGBT individuals.

"It is very difficult to find places to stay," Beighley said. "We have no dedicated LGBT-safe facilities in Grand Rapids, and many of them are faith-based, which is not necessarily a friendly

environment for LGBT people."

To help LGBT homeless youth, Beighley said that the GVSU resource center has joined them with families that have volunteered to provide housing. However, there is no specific program or organization to send them to.

"It gets very tricky. LGBT youth are often underage,"



PHOTO COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

A large portion of homeless youth identify as LGBT.

Beighley said. "What we have done in the past is to connect these youth to families. They will take youth in and provide safe spaces for them. But there's no specific place to send them. We look forward to the day that we can have a space in Grand Rapids that is dedicated to serving LGBT youth."

Beighley added that homeless youth face more difficulties if they are persons of color or are non-gender-conforming.

"The more marginalized identity a youth holds," Beighley said, "the less likely they are to find a safe space if they are homeless, and the more likely they are to be in harm's way."

"For example, they may be gay, but if they are a person of color, that's one more difficulty that they are going to encounter. In addition to that, if they are non-gender-conforming in any way, that's one more strike against them, and they are more likely to be victimized in a shelter setting."

The NGLTF report also highlighted that LGBT homeless youth are at a higher risk for other things, such as mental health issues, substance abuse and sexual victimization.

"A study of homeless youth in Canada found that those who identify as LGBT were three times more likely to participate in survival sex than their heterosexual peers," the report said.

Although Beighley says there is a need for an organization targeting LGBT homeless youth, at the moment, such a place remains in the "dream stage."

"There are many of us who feel very passionately about this and have been in conversation about it for a couple of years," Beighley said, "but making it happen takes time—it requires [going through] a lot of state regulations."

GR to construct bikeway

New trail will connect existing paths

BY ANGELYN GROENBOOM
Staff Writer

A long-awaited bicycle route will be constructed next year on the west side of Grand Rapids. The route is approximately 3 1/2 miles and will link Kent Trails with the Fred Meijer White Pine State Trail.

The Seward Avenue Bikeway will connect existing bicycle paths and introduce new paths along popular streets in order to provide safe bicycle access to businesses and residential areas. The bikeway will also connect more than 190 miles of regional trails.

Running through the heart of the city, the bikeway will be constructed along Seward Avenue, connecting Wealthy Street to Riverside Park.

Tom Tilma, executive director of the Greater Grand Rapids Bicycle Coalition, reflected on the significance of the bikeway.

"The Seward Avenue Bikeway is one of the most important corridors in the City of Grand Rapids' planned network of 100 miles of bikeways," Tilma said.

He commented on the bikeway's main function.

"[The bikeway] fills an important gap in our excellent regional multi-use path system," Tilma said.

The Greater Grand Rapids Bicycle Coalition has been advocating for the Seward Avenue Bikeway as part of its mission of bicycle advocacy.

Tilma expressed excitement regarding the construction of the Seward Avenue Bikeway. He anticipates the bikeway will be another positive step in accommodating the increasing number of bikers in Grand Rapids.

"Our coalition's bike traffic counts have shown increasing

ridership from 2011 to 2013," Tilma said. "After the bike lanes were installed in 2012, bike traffic doubled from 2011."

The steady increase in bicycle traffic in Grand Rapids is one of the motives for the Seward Avenue Bikeway.

Tilma also discussed the wide range of individuals who will benefit from the bikeway.

The cyclists in that corridor are roadies cutting through the city, GVSU students going to class and neighborhood residents running errands," Tilma said. "This project will be used by people cycling for recreation, exercise and transportation."

The bikeway will include a variety of features, including new bike lanes, shared lane markings (sharrows), parking stations, a trailhead and a rest area.

Tilma discussed the innovative nature of the bikeway.

"The bikeway has a creative combination of multi-use paths, on-street bike lanes and shared lane markings," Tilma said. "There'll be a new bridge over Indian Mill Creek near Ann Street."

Several organizations and businesses have contributed funds to the project, including the Michigan Department of Transportation, Bikes Belong, Downtown Grand Rapids, Inc. and Freewheeler Bike Shop.

The Michigan Department of Transportation awarded the City of Grand Rapids with a \$619,514 grant Monday to help construct the bikeway. A federal grant also funded a significant portion of the project.

The construction of the Seward Avenue Bikeway is set to begin this spring.

Local nonprofit fights feline overpopulation

Carol's Ferals spays and neuters stray cats in GR

BY VALERIE GREER
Staff Writer

When Carol Manos got a local wild cat spayed to prevent her own cats from getting pregnant, she wasn't expecting it to turn into her life-long vocation.

But eight years later, Manos is the proud founder of Carol's Ferals, a local nonprofit organization whose mission is "to end feline overpopulation in West Michigan through community education and empowerment."

Manos' main method of ending feline overpopulation is through a procedure called TNR: trap, neuter or spay and return. Manos said this is a procedure in which feral, or wild, cats are trapped, fixed and then returned to where they were found.

"I don't want to just help one cat," Manos said. "My goal is to be preventive in ending overpopulation. So by fixing one, I circumvent many cats from coming into the world homeless."

Manos said Carol's Ferals wasn't created intentionally. After Manos bought a trap to catch and spay one local cat in the neighborhood, the community started taking notice.

"I bought my own trap, and someone found out that I had it and it just turned into this bigger thing," she said. "I started doing a lot of trapping myself, and I bought a couple other traps. People started giving me money here and there, although most of the money was my own in the beginning."

Eventually, the organization took off, growing larger and larger.

Started in February 2006, Carol's Ferals has spayed and neutered more than 7,000 cats,

but they did so in an orderly and loving way, Van Kooten said.

Manos said she enjoys helping the feline population as well as the community.

"People need help with this," Manos said. "I liked the way it made me feel, not just helping the animals, but because it's a 'good for the soul' kind of thing; there is a payoff."

In addition to TNR services, Carol's Ferals also has cats up for adoption, Manos said.

"Originally I just wanted to do TNR and it would be easy," Manos said. "But then you get the friendly kittens, and you get the friendly cats, and you don't want to put them back out there."

Manos said more than 500 cats have been adopted into homes in the past eight years.

Although offering adoption services takes a lot of resources, the effort is worth it in the end because they spread the word about TNR services, Manos said.

Carol's Feral's website and Facebook page are full of success stories from those who have adopted.

Emma Van Kooten found her dream cat, Marco, through Carol's Feral's. After finding Marco on a pet finder site, she set up an appointment with Manos to start the adoption process.

"There was a video of him lying in a sink and purring that absolutely melted my heart," Van Kooten said. "When I walked through the door to meet the cats, Marco was the first one to walk up to me. I knew it was meant to be."

Not only did Carol's Ferals help her find the perfect match,

but they did so in an orderly and loving way, Van Kooten said.

"It was obvious that the volunteers at Carol's were passionate about the work they did," Van Kooten said. "Not only was the facility well kept, but they knew each cat's name and each of their individual personalities—they really had a heart for what they did."

While Carol's Ferals has found success through adoption, Manos stresses the importance of TNR first and foremost.

"The goal is to stop the problem in its tracks," she said. "You can't adopt your way out of this overpopulation problem, but you can take preventative measures."

Manos said euthanization rates are decreasing, awareness is increasing and community among like-minded organizations is starting to form.

"All of the organizations are starting to get together," Manos said. "We are in a coalition called the West Michigan Network for Animal Protection."

Manos said the coalition's first event, "Share the Love," will take place on Dec. 14 at Delta Subaru located at 6025 28th St.

The coalition consists of six animal organizations: The Humane Society of West Michigan, Kent County Animal Shelter, C-Snip, Vicky's Pet Connection, Carol's Ferals and Reuben's Room Cat Rescue.

Manos is hopeful about the spread of TNR efforts and its benefit to the West Michigan feline population.

"Shelters are even starting to look at [their procedures] differently," Manos said. "Instead of just taking a feral cat, trapping it and euthanizing it, they're starting to trap, spay or neuter and put it right back where it came from."

Judge dismisses lawsuit regarding Google book scanning

Authors Guild claims Google Books violates copyright: protracted legal battle concluded by fair use ruling

BY JOHN MUYSKENS
Sci-Tech Editor

A judge dismissed a copyright lawsuit regarding Google Books on Thursday, Nov. 14. The Authors Guild brought the lawsuit against Google, Inc. in 2005, claiming that the company infringed copyright by scanning books and making them available for search without permission. U.S. Circuit Judge Denny Chin dismissed the case, claiming that Google Books falls under “fair use.”

In 2004, Google announced plans to digitize the collections of world-famous libraries. Initially Google Print, later Google Books, aimed to do for libraries what the Google search engine did for the internet — enable smarter, faster searching through vast amounts of information. Google co-founder Larry Page stated, “Even before we started Google, we dreamed of making the incredible breadth of information that librarians so lovingly organize searchable online.”

At its inception, Page considered Google Books’ impact on publishers and authors, however, he believed that the impact would be positive, helping “publishers and authors monetize that information.”

A press release from Google pointed out that, “For publishers and authors, this expansion of the Google Print program will

increase the visibility of in and out of print books, and generate book sales via ‘Buy this Book’ links and advertising.”

Google has scanned over 20 million books over the course of the program. Portions of these scanned books are available to

perfect. Blurred, distorted text often cannot be interpreted. One solution is reCAPTCHA, a program that crowd sources and crowd-verifies the deciphering of machine-illegible phrases. By making users solve a problem that is very hard for computers, the

that the reproduction fell under doctrine of “fair use.” Section 107 of U.S. copyright law protects such uses as “criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching ..., scholarship, or research.” It also lists four factors to consider when deciding a fair use case:

“(1) the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes; (2) the nature of the copyrighted work; (3) the amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole; and (4) the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.”

Chin believes that Google books has many benefits. He praises Google Books as a reference tool, enabling researchers of all ages to find relevant books. He also discusses its use as a tool for the digital humanities. Researchers using Google Books analyze the collective text of 10s of millions of volumes to gain linguistic insight. Using one such tool, Google’s Ngram Viewer, you can plot and compare the frequencies of various words and phrases over time.

Google takes careful measures to ensure that full works are not displayed. Full pages are never displayed in search results.

Rather, each page is divided into eight snippets. Only three snippets are displayed at a time, and one snippet from each page is blacklisted. In addition, at least one tenth of the pages of a given work are also blacklisted, ensuring that the whole work cannot be reproduced.

Overall, Chin writes that Google Books “... advances the progress of the arts and sciences, while maintaining respectful consideration for the rights of authors and other creative individuals, and without adversely impacting the rights of copyright holders.”

Paul Aiken, executive director of the Authors Guild, stated, “We disagree with and are disappointed by the court’s decision today. ... This case presents a fundamental challenge to copyright that merits review by a higher court. Google made unauthorized digital editions of nearly all of the world’s valuable copyright-protected literature and profits from displaying those works. In our view, such mass digitization and exploitation far exceeds the bounds of fair use defense. ... We plan to appeal the decision.”

Harvard head librarian Robert Darnton, in an interview with Motherboard, praised the decision: “My first reaction was delight. I think that his decision will expand fair use and the legal understanding of the communication of literature in the right direction.”



PHOTO COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Book scanners enable rapid digitization of the world’s libraries.

search and view on Google’s website. Google uses optical character recognition (OCR) techniques in its scanning process to translate images of book pages into digital text to enable search. OCR, however, isn’t

program simultaneously provides a convenient method to prove that a user is human, thereby reducing automated spam.

While Google reproduced copyrighted content without permission, Judge Chin ruled

Expedition uncovers hominid fossils

Rising Star Expedition uncovers cave containing trove of ancient remains, possibly from human ancestors

BY JONATHAN HIELKEMA
Guest Writer

About one hour’s drive outside of Johannesburg, South Africa lies a cave where a group of scientists has found over 1,000 fossils from early hominids. The scientists, part of a group called the Rising Star Expedition, have been taking considerable personal risks to retrieve the fossils.

Excavation began in late October 2013 after a single skeleton was detected at the cave site. Professor Lee Berger, who works in archaeology at Wits University’s Institute of Human Evolution, originally launched the expedition in order to recover this single individual. The effort began on Nov. 10. The team thought it was urgent that they recover the fossils as soon as possible due to their exposure to rain and accidental human damage. Andrew Howley, in the employ of National Geographic, has refused to give details about the cave’s topography or location because the site had been used for recreational caving and the specimens remain vulnerable.

Soon after the process of uncovering the fossil began, however, they discovered a huge trove of valuable material. The site has now been dubbed “the richest early hominid site in South Africa,” in the words of South Africa’s Mail and Guardian.

At the moment, researchers are reluctant to issue definite statements on the age or species of the finds, but Berger noted that they appeared to be from human ancestors. The team has now ceased excavations at the site, but the ongoing efforts to uncover and analyze the many finds will take decades. In an interview with the

Mail and Guardian, Berger said, “We don’t have anywhere near [all of the fossils]. We haven’t scratched the surface.”

In fact, Howley’s report from National Geographic claimed that the process of unearthing and analyzing these bones has been made far more complicated by additional discoveries. In the words of the report, “More bones is a good problem, but it’s still a problem. It’s no longer feasible to clear a few inches of dirt on every side and simply lift the fossil out.” Once all of the specimens are carefully taken out of the ground, they have to be analyzed, dated and identified. This process can take thousands of hours with even one skeleton, and the sheer size of the find suggests that this process will take an unprecedented amount of cooperative efforts from scientists.

According to John Hawks, an associate professor at the University of Wisconsin who is cooperating with the expedition, “If the team was to analyze the data in the ‘traditional way,’ which involved groups keeping the data to themselves and analyzing it using their data sets only, it would take more people than there are in the field” (Mail and Guardian). Evidently, the task calls for nontraditional methods, probably, according to Professor Berger, involving unprecedented use of advanced communications and scanning technology.

Now that the initial phase of the dig has stopped, the site has been sealed and security posted around it to protect the find. This discovery is one of the most exciting in the history of the study of human origins and evolution and will likely yield numerous revelations to scientists for years to come.



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NATIONAL C

Major comeback wins Calvin's second volleyball national title in four seasons

BY RUTHY BERENDS
On-Call Writer

It was a familiar scene: DeVos Fieldhouse full of Calvin fans, a volleyball national championship on the line and a major comeback leaving the bitter taste of defeat in the mouths of disappointed players.

But this year, the tables were turned when Calvin came back from a 2-0 set deficit Saturday night to defeat Cal Lutheran and restore to their palates the sweet taste of victory.

After Cal Lutheran won the first two sets 25-20 and 25-12, the Knights fought for the next three sets that would win them the NCAA D-III national title, triumphing 25-22, 25-17 and 20-18.

"Coming from last year, losing in five after winning the first two sets, I knew that we could do it," sophomore hitter Maggie Kamp said. "I never doubted that our team had it in us."

Despite the support of a

Calvin-dominated crowd, the Knights came out and immediately struggled to find their momentum.

But the 10-minute break after the second set seemed to help them regain their normal rhythm.

"The first thing I said to [the team] was we've been in this situation before, flipped and we can flip it back," Calvin's head coach Amber Warners said. "I think I'm kind of your normal pessimist in nature, and there wasn't one time I thought we were going to lose."

Senior setter Megan Rietema agreed that the break helped shift the energy.

"That re-gathering and being able to come out and play relaxed and play our game really helped turn it around," Rietema said.

And turn it around, they did. The Knights more than doubled their hitting efficiency from the second to the third set and cut their errors in half.

The final three sets would be a constant back and forth between No. 1 and No. 3 ranked teams, leading to a fifth set with seven total championship points.

"In the end it came to who

could put two points together. We slipped in the last millisecond, and that was all it took," said Cal Lutheran senior Kylie McLogan.

The energy from the crowd seemed to play a large role in the team's confidence, especially in the final set.

"The crowd didn't give up on us," Warners said. "I think they really helped us along when we were down by two [sets]."

Senior libero Kristen Zietse also acknowledged the support, but realized they couldn't rely on the fans to win them the game.

"Learning from last year helped a lot," senior libero Kristen Zietse said. "We had basically the exact same situation and we told our entire team [that] we love our crowd but we have to do this ourselves," Zietse said.

The game finally ended with Rietema's same left-handed swipe that won the national championship for the Knights in 2010 when she was a freshman.

Rietema and Zietse, the only two seniors on this year's team, were grateful to bookend their Calvin volleyball career with national titles, as well as end

together on the all-tournament team alongside Maggie Kamp.

"[Rietema and Zietse] have worked their tails off for four years," Warners said tearfully. "They're as good of people as they are talented. It's been a real joy to coach them."

Of the team's 62 kills, Maggie Kamp had 27 — 19 of which came in the final three sets, which she and Warners agree were the result of being "ticked off."

"I do play better when I'm pretty mad. After the first two I was pretty [ticked off], so I came back from the first two games and took it to them," Kamp said.

Rietema led the team with 49 assists, and she and Zietse each contributed to the team's defense with 23 digs apiece.

In the end, the barn-burning battle gave Calvin their 35th win of the season and a program to be proud of.

"I think anybody that knows our program knows that we kind of look at the winning as the extra icing on the cake, and it's the inner workings of our team that really make our program special," Warners said.



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Looking back at the 2013 championship season

BY JESS KOSTER
Sports Co-Editor

The Knights volleyball team came into the season ranked No. 2, even after losing a full rotation of graduating women. Senior libero (defensive specialist) Kristi Zietse, senior setter Megan Rietema and the other seven returning letterwinners were up for the challenge.

Calvin started out their season playing in a tournament at the University of Puget Sound against Wartburg, who was ranked 15th in the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Division III Top 25 poll. Calvin defeated Wartburg 3-1, led by Rietema with 12 kills and 32 assists. Next was Pacific Lutheran, who was 21st in the AVCA poll. The Knights beat Pacific Lutheran 3-2, coming back from a 0-2 disadvantage. Sophomore Maggie Kamp led the charge for the Knights with 18 kills. At the same tournament, Calvin played AVCA's ninth-ranked Puget Sound. Calvin defeated them 3-0, with junior Emily Crowe having 10 kills. Calvin defeated unranked Whitman 3-0 to finish out the tournament.

Calvin then played four conference games, which they won 3-0 each time.

Next was the Wittenberg Fall Classic, where they played sixth-ranked Washington-St. Louis. Calvin won 3-0, led by Kamp with 16 kills. Calvin then defeated Heidelberg and Mt. St. Joseph 3-0. To wrap up the tournament, Calvin played eighth-ranked Otterbein, beating them 3-0. The team was led by Kamp and Rietema who had 11 and 10 kills respectively. During their run, Calvin moved up in ranking to first in the AVCA poll.

Calvin came home to host second-ranked Hope. The Knights beat the Dutch 3-0, led by

Kamp with 16 kills. Zietse had 21 digs. Calvin had six more conference matches, all of which they won handily.

Calvin proceeded to host the Midwest Fall Classic with Hope College. Calvin first faced Mount Union, who was ranked seventh in the AVCA. Calvin won 3-0, led by Kamp with 14 kills. Next at the tournament was Wittenberg, ranked 13th. Calvin won 3-0, with 12 kills from Kamp. The next day, Calvin played sixth-ranked Elmhurst, led by Zietse with 12 digs and Rietema with 29 assists. Next was 15th-ranked University of Chicago. Kamp had 15 kills with an attack percentage of .517.

Calvin then traveled to Hope, where they lost their first and only game of the year 3-2. Kamp had 16 kills while freshman Laura Danhoff had 15 kills. Calvin finished up the MIAA season winning three more regular season games before heading into the conference tournament.

Calvin had the privilege of hosting the conference tournament this year and defeated St. Mary's in the first round 3-0. Calvin then played Hope in a five set match which Calvin won 15-7 in the final set.

Calvin won the first round of regionals handily against Penn State-Behrend. Calvin then faced Mount Union and Wittenberg again, winning both games 3-2.

Calvin then moved onto quarterfinals at Hope. They won the first round 3-1. Calvin then played Emory in the semifinal round, winning 3-0. Calvin moved onto the finals where they defeated California Lutheran University 3-2 in a come-from-behind victory.



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CHAMPIONS



PHOTOS COURTESY CHANTELE YAZZIE

Looking ahead to the 2014 season

BY JACOB KUYENVOHOVEN
Sports Co-Editor

With Calvin just finishing up the celebrations from winning their second national title in four years, is it too early to look to next year and hope for more? Maybe, but that's the standard that the team has set for their fans over the past few years, so let's take a look at what next year has in store for the Knights.

Calvin will graduate just two seniors, setter Megan Rietema and libero Kristen Zietse. However, these losses will definitely be significant, and that is an understatement. Rietema was a two-time first team All-American and was named National Player of the Year this past season, while Zietse was a three-year starter who anchored the back row.

In order to maintain last year's success and make another run at a national title, the Knights will need some players to maintain their stellar play while others will need to step in to new roles. Calvin's outside hitter Maggie Kamp was named a first-team All-American, and in her upcoming junior year she will again be in the conversation for National Player of the Year. Emily Crowe, a middle hitter who will be a senior, is another returning All-American who will bolster the Knights' offense. Laura Danhoff, a sophomore-to-be middle hitter who was instrumental for Calvin in her first year, hopes to continue to elevate her play to All-American status as well. Stacey

Kamp and Ellie Diepersloot, two players who gave the Knights big performances time and time again despite not being the team's first options, will both return as well.

A big adjustment the Knights will have to make is having their hitters not hitting the sets of an unanimous All-American for the first time in their careers with Rietema's departure. Sophomore Jamie Kooiman served as the backup setter this past year while also playing in the back row, and will likely step into the full-time setter role next year. With Kooiman's move to setter, Elise Biesboer will likely inherit the libero job while Kielley Lemkuil, who saw playing time on defense down the stretch in Calvin's title run, will likely become a starter. It is certainly possible that freshmen recruits could play significant roles as well.

It is nearly a sure thing that the Calvin vs. Hope games in 2014 will be just as exciting and intense as they were this year. The Dutch lose two starters, but bring back two All-Americans, outside hitter Jenna Grasmeyer and setter Lauren Hazekamp, as well as their entire back row. Both Calvin and Hope will again be in the running for the national title, and Kamp vs. Grasmeyer is likely a showdown between the two best outside hitters in the nation. It should again be mandatory viewing for Calvin sports fans.

Kamp, Crowe All-Americans, Rietema Player of the Year

BY JACOB KUYENVOHOVEN
Sports Co-Editor

The Calvin volleyball team added a couple more accolades to its belt this past month as three players gained All-American recognition, as well as senior Megan Rietema earning AVCA National Player of the Year honors.

Rietema is no stranger to Division III awards, as she was the NCAA freshman of the year her first year and has been a first-team All-American the past three years, while being named first-team All-MIAA all four years. A versatile threat on offense for the Knights who stuffs the stat sheet (she averages 9.8 assists, 1.9 kills and 2.6 digs per set), Rietema was the centerpiece of Calvin's attack. With her securing the title of National Player of the Year, a Calvin athlete has now won that award three out of the past four years (Rebecca Kamp in 2010 and Lizzie Kamp in 2012).

Joining Rietema as a first-team All-American for the first time in her career is sophomore outside hitter Maggie Kamp. Kamp had a breakout year taking over as Calvin's first option on offense, leading the Knights with 4.1 kills per set and a .318 hit-

ting percentage. She also piled up 29 service aces on the season. Kamp was also named first-team All-MIAA and was the conference's player of the week three times. She is one of only five underclassmen named first-team All-American.

Also receiving All-American accolades for the first time in her career is junior middle hitter Emily Crowe. Crowe thrived in Calvin's offense in 2013, averaging two kills per set and hitting an efficient .311. Her biggest contributions were on

defense, however, as she averaged a block per game and was one of the main reasons Calvin was able to hold its opponents to negative hitting percentages in many key sets during their title run.

Chimes

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23 Nov

CALVIN COMEBACK! Volleyball wins the national championship over Cal Lutheran despite going down 2-0: 20-25, 12-25, 25-22, 25-17, 20-18.



23 Nov

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Cross country disappointed; women finish seventh, men 27th

BY ANDRE OTTE
Staff Writer

The 2013 NCAA national championships ended in disappointment for both the men's and women's cross country teams this past weekend.

Neither team accomplished all of the goals that they set for themselves at the beginning of the year, but the teams were humble in their defeats and also in the individual victories that were won.

An underlying theme of the day for the Knights was perspective.

At the annual banquet held the evening after the national meet, coach Al Hoekstra addressed his athletes and their families, saying, "It would be crazy of me to sit here unhappy as a coach right now. The coaches of 400 other D-III teams would be thrilled to be in the position I am in right now."

Despite the lower finishes than were desired, the women placed

seventh and the men 27th. All of the coaches reminded their athletes how blessed they are to be at a place like Calvin where success seems to come so regularly.

The majority of the men's team came away from the meet with

the race."

The first finisher for Calvin was junior Josh Ferguson, who described his first national meet experience similarly.

"I went in expecting to feel uncomfortable, but it was dif-



PHOTO COURTESY CALVIN.EDU.

Men finished 27th at nationals. Jeff Meitler says, "This meet was just as tough as everyone said it would be."

another perspective as well.

"This meet was just as tough as everyone said it would be," said sophomore Jeff Meitler. "It really is hard to understand what it is actually like until you get into

ferent that anything I've ever done. Everyone is there because they earned it and that makes it tough," he said.

Freshman Zac Nowicki, senior Philip Spitzer, Jeff Meitler,

junior Steven Haagsma, senior Sam Kerk and junior Jacob Kuyvenhoven were the other finishers for Calvin, who will return five of the top seven next year.

"As a team, we had a good learning year. Experiencing this meet will help us a lot coming back next year," said Ferguson.

The women's team was led by freshman Cassie Vince with her 23rd place finish, giving her All-American honors.

In 48th place was senior Nicole Michmerhuizen, the second Knight across the finish line.

Junior Kimby Penning, senior Alyssa Oram, sophomore Sara Danner, senior Rebekah Folkema, and freshman Lauren Brink rounded out the top seven.

"It's an honor to be an All-American and see my work pay off, even if its not exactly the finish that I wanted," said Vince. "I already can't wait to get back out there. Today is definitely fuel for me and the rest of us to go to work again."

"It takes strength to make it all the way to the end," said coach

Brian Diemer. "This makes it more amazing what Cassie did because it's especially tough for a freshman to make it all the way through."

Nicole Michmerhuizen finished out her Calvin cross country career with her best ever finish at the national meet.

She has been a strong leader on the course for the Knights over the past two years.

At the banquet she told her teammates that she was saddened to think that she had run her last race in a Calvin cross-country uniform because it meant that such a great and impactful portion of her life was over.

Diemer said that it is very important to take the positives from the season.

"Now both teams have a thorough understanding of how much we need to lean on each other. It's not always accurate to measure the success of a team based on their nationals finish. You have to keep in mind all of the individual success that have taken place throughout the season," he said.

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SUDOKU

King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Crony
 - 4 Light (Sp.)
 - 7 Summary
 - 12 Carte lead-in
 - 13 "A Chorus Line" song
 - 14 Entertain
 - 15 Energy
 - 16 Good product, idiomatically
 - 18 Recede
 - 19 Be frugal
 - 20 Record
 - 22 Id counterpart
 - 23 Loathe
 - 27 Possessed
 - 29 "Clue" item
 - 31 Cavalry unit
 - 34 Guiding principle
 - 35 Goes over the books
 - 37 Weeding implement
 - 38 Brewery output
 - 39 Med. plan option
 - 41 Creche trio
 - 45 Eucalyptus eater
 - 47 Heavy weight
 - 48 Duke Ellington classic
 - 52 Clear the

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- 9 Scoundrel
- 10 Fool
- 11 Em, en, o, —, kue
- 17 Recognize
- 21 Psalm group
- 23 Seraglio
- 24 Mimic
- 25 Pirouette pivot
- 26 Conclude
- 28 Suitable
- 30 "The Name of the Rose" author
- 31 Bill
- 32 Regret
- 33 Praise in rhyme
- 36 Not barefoot
- 37 Empty
- 40 New Zealand native
- 42 Cornered
- 43 Overcharge
- 44 Smaller map locale
- 45 Dangling
- 46 21-Down member
- 48 Turf
- 49 Exist
- 50 Erstwhile M&Ms color
- 51 "— impossible"

Super Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Joe of "Raging Bull"
 - 6 Boss woman
 - 13 Gabs with flirtatiously
 - 20 Routinely
 - 21 Explorer Leif
 - 22 Carolina of fashion
 - 23 Bought brass and bronze?
 - 25 Swallow greedily
 - 26 Selected passages
 - 27 Mediocre grades
 - 29 Field marshal Erwin
 - 30 Took a chair
 - 31 Where a beautiful woman swims?
 - 34 Jay-Z hit, e.g.
 - 37 Moon of Jupiter
 - 40 Restroom, for short
 - 41 City in central Sicily
 - 42 "Alas, it's true, Ms. Bergen?"
 - 47 Autumn chill
 - 49 Dolled (up)
 - 50 Library of Congress ID
 - 52 "Hawaiian Favorites" singer
 - 57 "Yer darn —!"
 - 58 Show off parquet work?
 - 62 Ocean Spray flavor prefix
 - 63 Take — (chance it)
 - 65 Oil qty.
 - 66 "... some kind of —?"
 - 67 Ruminant's chew
 - 68 Guthrie launches a Jedi master into a somersault?
 - 73 Addenda to ltrs.
 - 74 Blind as —
 - 76 Hesiod's H
 - 77 Like Carroll's "borogoves"
 - 78 Part of TLC
 - 80 Tinkerbell's ancient milky gem?
 - 84 "The Raven" maiden
 - 86 Blasé feeling
 - 87 Yemen port
 - 88 Sugar quantity
 - 90 During each
 - 92 Maneuver to avoid a traffic jam doesn't work?
 - 96 Hot tub locales
 - 100 Succor
 - 102 Beaverlike rodent
 - 103 Driver's peg
 - 104 Inundate
 - Liotta's bucket?
 - 108 Size up from medium: Abbr.
 - 111 Actor Brando
 - 112 Big drink
 - 113 Recurring melodic fragment
 - 118 Scale ranges
 - 120 What each of this puzzle's eight longest answers is a 93-Down of
 - 123 Least nice
 - 124 Hit from behind
 - 125 Rainer of film
 - 126 Classifies
 - 127 Myopic cartoon guy
 - 128 Rocker Bob
 - 5 Prefix with red
 - 6 Pal of Ernie
 - 7 Savings plans, briefly
 - 8 Jazz poet Scott-Heron
 - 9 Cato's 1,150
 - 10 Withdrawn from people
 - 11 "True Blood" co-star Stephen
 - 12 Adams of photography
 - 13 "Evita" role
 - 14 Title king for the Bard
 - 15 Strong rival of Sparta
 - 16 — l'oeil
 - 17 Homily
 - 18 Spur
 - 19 Simmered Spanish dish
 - 24 Decided to enter
 - 28 "My Gal —"
 - 31 Dandy fellow
 - 32 GI's address
 - 33 Popular Irish ballad
 - 34 Spellbound
 - 35 Like the conga drum, ethnically
 - 36 Destine
 - 38 Manipulate
 - 39 Fishing stick
 - 43 "— girl!"
 - 44 1986 book by rocker Turner
 - 45 Sassy talk
 - 46 Big inits. in fashion
 - 48 Many a sharable PC file
 - 51 Soft as a — bottom
 - 53 Ending for Rock
 - 54 Like the United Way and NPR
 - 55 Locale-specific regulation
 - 56 Meal bits
 - 58 "What's the —?"
 - 59 Molokai or Maui: Abbr.
 - 60 Penny-pinch
 - 61 Municipal pol.
 - 63 Certain female opera solo
 - 64 Writer Dahl
 - 67 Snug eatery
 - 69 Not a bus.
 - 70 Ms. Zadora
 - 71 Size that's the opp. of 108-Across
 - 72 — clubs (certain card)
 - 75 Capote, to his buddies
 - 79 Kourmikova of the court
 - 81 Quick bark
 - 82 Berlin article
 - 83 Yoko —
 - 84 Sticking by
 - 85 In addition
 - 88 35mm camera type
 - 89 Maui paste
 - 91 Impassioned
 - 93 Letter shuffle
 - 94 Hwy. crime
 - 95 Old religious scandal inits.
 - 96 Gallery in western CA
 - 97 Sites
 - 98 Big arteries
 - 99 California county
 - 101 Bad: Prefix
 - 105 Capital of Delaware
 - 106 Bee cluster
 - 107 Pied —
 - 109 Fish parts
 - 110 Come after
 - 113 — concern
 - 114 "— I" ("Me too")
 - 115 Take — at (insult)
 - 116 Hit with a zapping gun
 - 117 — and terminator
 - 119 Aves.
 - 121 Lyric-penning
 - Gershwin
 - 122 Tripod piece

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Stories of spiritual intimacy and healing offer humor and hope

‘But Now I See’ is directed by Dave Ellens and runs until Saturday, Dec. 7 in the Lab Theatre

BY GABE GUNNINK
Staff Writer

Imagine standing amidst an idyllic worship scene with your hands idly at your side. You don’t feel a connection — only an unwelcome skepticism and jealousy of those who do.

This is the place where Dave Ellens’ play “But Now I See: Stories of Spiritual Intimacy and Healing” was born. Following in the footsteps of his two previous plays about intimacy, “But Now I See” delves into issues of intimacy with God and will ask just what it is that fervent worshippers have.

When asked what sparked his pursuit of this topic, Ellens said, “I think over the years I have had a lot of barriers that have come up spiritually that have made me feel not as worthy of God’s love ... and a lot of that has to do with the way that people talk about their relationship with God. It has often been very distancing to me.”

So Ellens set off to traverse this distance. He sought out and sat down with dozens of individuals from the Calvin community to discuss how they connect with God. But Ellens noted, “It very quickly morphed into people talking about pain ... feeling like they’re in the wilderness.” The

question became “Where is God when it hurts like hell?”

In the play, this thorny question is navigated by six remarkably different people, including an athlete who was abused as a child, a woman seeking hope after the death of her husband and a survivor of a 106-foot free-fall who is trying to make sense of this “miracle.” What’s most miraculous is that this diverse chorus of voices comes entirely from our own Calvin community. These voices, Ellens says, are “honest in ways I’ve never heard before, and balanced with an astonishing sense of humor.”

The verbatim style of theater employed means that the initial interviews are transcribed word for word, clipped down and shuffled together into a compelling script to be performed by actors. In Ellens’ production, these ac-

tors will be Calvin students and alumni, making “But Now I See” a play truly about, by and for the Calvin community.

In discussing why this Calvin-centric quality was important

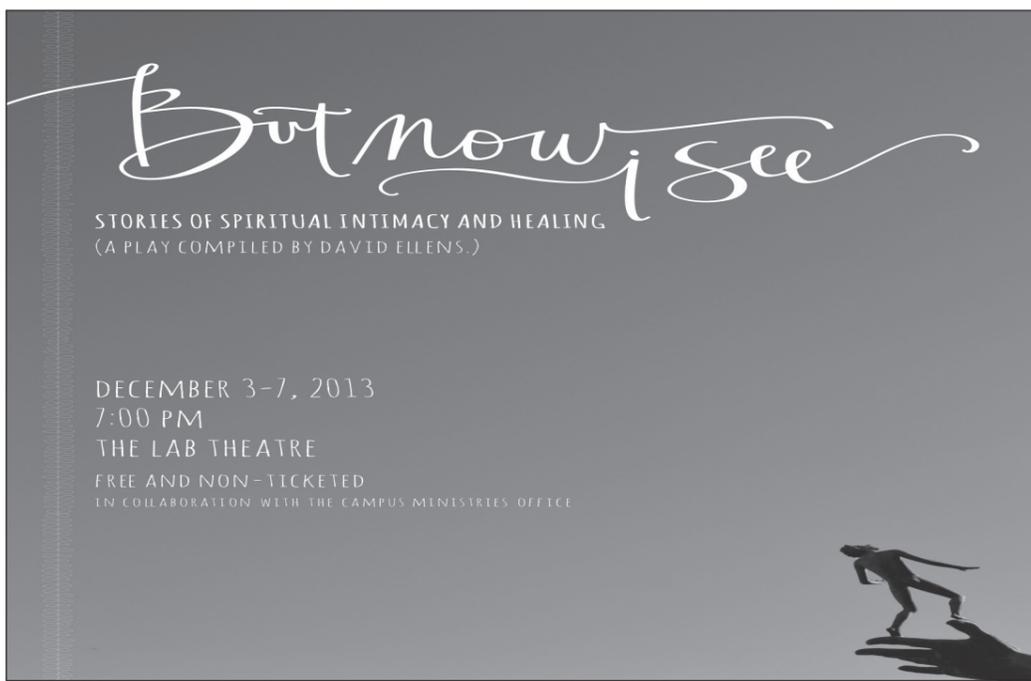
or who sits next to you in class. There’s a heightened sense of immediacy. This isn’t some random ‘other.’ This is us.”

So, when you attend the play, he advises, “Try to check yourself

treat them as sacred. Hopefully you’ll walk out of the theater and have the courage to talk about it.”

Intimacy with God is something we all wrestle with, and perhaps the only way to better understand it is to deconstruct that image of the idyllic congregation and begin to see ourselves as a community that is wandering together through the wilderness, seeking God’s light in our dark places. “But Now I See” is about finding that light and about providing a hopeful and humorous roadmap through that wilderness.

“But Now I See” will be showing in the Lab Theatre Dec. 3 through Dec. 7. All showings will be at 7 p.m. and will be free and non-ticketed. Each production will be followed by an optional talkback with Dave Ellens and a member of campus ministries.



FILE PHOTO

Disney returns to its classic roots

‘Frozen’ highlights: catchy songs and beautiful animation

BY CHRISTIAN BECKER
Staff Writer

For better or worse, Disney is certainly not what it used to be. While the company canned its 2-D animation department recently, it has also acquired the likes of Pixar, Marvel and Lucasfilm over the past several years, leaving one to wonder if the “Mouse House” would ever go back to its roots. With “Frozen,” the latest animated feature from Disney, they come closer than ever to recapturing the magic that put them on the map, reminding us of the classic films we know and love.

“Frozen,” which is loosely based on “The Snow Queen,” is the story of Elsa (voiced by Idina Menzel of Broadway fame), a young queen who is run out of her own kingdom by the townspeople because they believe her powers of snow and wind manipulation to be evil. Now her sister, Anna (Kristen Bell), must journey out into the snowy mountains in search of her so she can return order to the kingdom they have recently obtained.

The only thing I really knew about this movie before going in was from an animated short that was placed in front of a film I saw over the summer that featured Olaf the snowman losing his nose. It was funny and all, but it never got me excited to see the actual film. I just thought it was something cute that I would pass by on my way to see “Catching Fire.” Little did I know I wouldn’t only be entertained by this charming picture, but enchanted by it.

I don’t want you to get the wrong impression about “Frozen.” This isn’t some groundbreaking cinematic feat. To be honest, it’s really just typical Disney storytelling, but done

to the best of the studio’s ability. You’ve probably seen the structure of story and characters in films sometime before, especially if you’ve seen “Tangled.” There are obvious similarities to past works of Walt Disney Studio, but that shouldn’t stop you from enjoying the beautiful animation, comical and heartfelt characters and the catchy songs that are some of the more memorable ones to come out of the Disney canon in quite sometime. Particularly



FILE PHOTO

consider yourself a sensitive moviegoer. I was at first irritated by the foolish decisions Anna makes throughout the course of the story, especially in the beginning when she interacts with a guy, but these character choices really fit her need for Elsa in her life as an older role model. As Anna travels to the top of the mountain in search of her sister, she is accompanied by a young ice worker named Kristoff and a talkative

the song entitled “Let It Go,” which I predict will be recognized for a few awards down the road. I was impressed with how well these characters grew on me and how believably they interacted with one another. The relationship between Elsa and Anna doesn’t have much development, but it’s done to a point where it’s heartbreaking to see when one hurts the other, emotionally or physically.

There are moments between the sisters that may require a box of tissues to get through, if you con-

sider yourself a sensitive moviegoer. I was at first irritated by the foolish decisions Anna makes throughout the course of the story, especially in the beginning when she interacts with a guy, but these character choices really fit her need for Elsa in her life as an older role model. As Anna travels to the top of the mountain in search of her sister, she is accompanied by a young ice worker named Kristoff and a talkative

snowman named Olaf, who seems to be unaware of the fact that if he lives to see summer, he will melt. Silly? Yes, but it makes for a great song. “Frozen” is safe, fluffy entertainment for kids and adults who are die-hard Disney fans looking for a good time at the movies. It paints us a frosty looking image of the importance of family, responsible uses of power and what true love really looks like. “Frozen” is the perfect film to watch with your family this holiday season.

to him, Ellens answered, “This could be somebody who lives on your floor, who teaches you,

at the door. Enter the space and say, ‘I am ready to listen and to listen well.’ Listen to the stories and

Cult anime still delivers

‘Akira’ was originally released in 1988

BY JONATHAN HIELKEMA
Staff Writer

Katsuhiro Otomo’s pivotal anime film “Akira” has reached the 25th anniversary of its release. In commemoration of this event, translation and dubbing giant Funimation has commissioned a new American home release and limited theatrical run.

Even two and a half decades past its initial release, Japanese culture and American anime fan subculture remains shrouded in this film’s shadow, making it an essential artifact of global culture in addition to a truly great film.

The story recounted in the film, which is based on a voluminous manga series completed only two years after the adaptation was released, cannot be easily summarized in a paragraph or two.

Broadly, however, it follows the story of Neo-Tokyo, rebuilt after the original was decimated by a huge explosion in 1988. Thirty-one years later, the city is preparing for the 2020 Olympic games and dealing with a rash of youth crime, mass protests, pollution and general stagnation.

Into this morass step Kaneda and Tetsuo, two childhood friends and members of a petty biker gang. After Tetsuo has an explosive run-in with a strange psychic child, he is whisked away for medical testing, beginning the city’s long and horrific slide into apocalyptic chaos.

Especially in its final act, “Akira” is a phantasmagorical spectacle of a movie; its scenes of grotesque mutation, citywide destruction and everything in between are exquisitely animated. It set a new high bar for animation quality in Japan. Beyond that achievement, however, it has left its mark on almost all anime production since, especially in depictions of organic

and technological interaction.

On television, the most prominent vector for this film’s influence is “Neon Genesis Evangelion,” another apocalyptic animated work which ignited its own obsessive fan movement less than a decade after the release of “Akira.”

Similarly concerned with the blurring line between organic and synthetic and a clash between different generations, the show recasts many of the more universal concepts of the film and puts them in a more personal light.

“Evangelion” is only the most obvious example of this film’s persistent influence in Japanese filmmaking, manga and television industries. While depictions of widespread urban destruction have been integral to Japanese culture since the American nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki — Godzilla being the most prominent early example — “Akira” left such a distinctive stamp that one cannot help but recall it when watching any such scenes staged after 1988.

The film also became a surprise cult hit in the United States. Bootlegged copies became staples of underground college film showings, and its notoriety spread from there. Landing in America at the apex of Japanese economic prosperity and power, it helped the nascent Western anime fandom form and grow, especially among young men.

While “Akira” has been a cornerstone of anime culture since its release, it has been widely recognized for its beauty and quality as a work of art as well. Blazing the way for more sophisticated animation filmmaking in Japan and priming a receptive audience in America for more Japanese films and shows, it stands as one of the most important artistic works of the late 1980s, no matter the medium. Everyone is duly encouraged to see it at least once.

“College is our life for the time being but our greater responsibility is to be formed as Christians, not [primarily] as college students ... Advent offers a chance to realign life to Christ — something that often is not the reality.”

Kellan Day, “Refocus the Christmas season”

Students refocus the Christmas season on Advent

NATHAN GROENEWOLD
Religion Co-Editor

It's crunch time. Finals are less than a week away, and that term paper due two days ago has not yet hit the printer. Your calendar is full, and adding one more event is, well, unimaginable.

But not for a few students. In fact, the busyness is a central reason why a few students on campus have added an event — or rather, a season: Advent.

Senior Sarah Stripp was counting down the days to Dec. 1, the start of the four-week Advent period leading to Christmas. She said the season takes her focus off pressing deadlines and all the baggage that comes with Christmas, not to mention exams.

“Christmas often gets dominated by other activities,” Stripp said. “Advent is a season of expectation, preparing for the incarnation.”

Senior Kellan Day, who shares Stripp's excitement, said Advent never used to be a “conscious thing” for her.

She said the season was often only associated with purple candles and perhaps a few extra

church readings, and she did not understand its full meaning. Now, the season is much more for her.

“[Advent is about] being pregnant with hope,” Day said, an odd statement to make if one doesn't have an understanding of a few ideas behind Advent. “What does it mean to be pregnant with hope?”

John D. Witvliet, director of the Institute for Christian Worship, helps to unpack this strange question.

“Advent is a season of longing,” Witvliet said. “It focuses on both Jesus' first advent in Bethlehem and his second coming at the end of time. Advent hinges on an analogy: just as the people of Israel waited for the Messiah, so too we long for the return of Jesus as Messiah.”

Day said a large part of Advent is about re-enacting this period of longing and hope for the Messiah, just as Mary longed for the birth of Christ. Day attends worship each week at Grace Episcopal Church, where the entire service is structured around Advent.

Both Stripp and Day welcome the season as a time to refocus.

“Advent orients my life around the incarnation,” Day said, “and that's always how it should be.”

Day said that a college student's identity can quickly become wrapped up in day-to-day busyness and stress.

“College is our life for the time being,” Day said, “but our greater responsibility is to be formed as Christians, not [primarily] as college students. ... Advent offers a chance to realign life to Christ — something that often is not the reality.”

Day reflected on what it looks like for her to observe the season of Advent, beyond attending weekly worship services.

“It means intentionally engaging the people around us with prayer and service,” Day said.

She meets throughout the week with friends to read through scripture corresponding to the lectionary, the Advent readings followed throughout the church's history. She also sets aside time

to pray for vows she has made in the past, praying for the people



FILE PHOTO

Dr. Witvliet hopes focusing on Advent will give students a sense of longing for the full coming of the kingdom Jesus will usher in.

she has committed to support at weddings and baptisms.

She encourages students to do what they can to observe Advent. She said a quick search on “Advent lectionary” or “Advent devotions” can bring up some helpful resources.

Witvliet said observing Advent can go far beyond prayer and scripture reading.

“My advice to students would be to think in ‘an Advent way’

about your studies,” Witvliet said. “So much of what we study across the curriculum at Calvin — across our study of history, culture, literature and the arts — focuses on persistent injustice, conflict and violence. This is material not just to master for a final exam. Rather, it should awaken in us all a sense of longing for the full coming of the kingdom Jesus will usher in.”

Both Day and Stripp stressed that the season is not merely about the readings (liturgies) or the prayers, but about the expectation and wonder surrounding Christ's

birth, the incarnation. “Liturgy leads us to the kingdom coming,” Day said, “but Christ shatters that too!”

Stripp was visibly excited as she spoke about the wonder of the incarnation, a word many hear and simply move past.

“Do you know how long I've been waiting for Advent?” she said. “It's insane! God became a baby!”

Revival sparks at Calvin

Students join with Dégagé homeless ministry

BY MATT SCHANCK
Guest Writer

A revival movement has started at Calvin College. Members of the revival have hosted Bible studies, discussions and community outreach events in partnership with Dégagé, a downtown homeless ministry.

The members of the revival meet in junior Stephen Tubergen's apartment on Sunday evenings.

“It is like a Bible study about how we apply the word and a big sharing of testimonies,” Tubergen said.

The Sunday night meetings are not the only events connected with this movement. There was an outdoor on-campus worship event in early October and an event in early November called “The Send” in the CFAC auditorium.

The group is not restricted to Calvin students, junior Jeremy Smith said. It also includes members of the Grand Rapids community.

Our goal is not very showy, Smith said. He said it is best described by a Greek phrase.

“Our motto is Pleroo Ekballo,” Smith said, “which means to fill up and to lead out with an irresistible force.”

“We see that [filling up and pouring out] through physical healing, sharing experience[s], through random personal prayers, through everyday conversation,” Smith said.

“We have some of our brothers and sisters going out into Grand Rapids,” Smith said, “[to] love on the people in the community ... [who] don't have a home to go to.”

Freshman Anneri Vermeulen, acting on the group's purpose, serves at Dégagé Ministries, a community organization on Division Street designed to help the poor by providing a place where they can work to get food and other services.

The movement for revival is not just isolated at Calvin, Vermeulen said. There are small revival groups all over West Michigan.

“It's interesting that so many

pockets of people are praying for a revival,” Tubergen said.

What makes the difference now is that all the groups have begun unifying for a revival and then going out and serving together, Vermeulen said.

This is also true at Calvin, and the group's goal is to unify them, Smith said.

One of the other groups at Calvin is led by freshman Randall Foreman. At LOFT on Nov. 25, during a time of testimony, Foreman shared the story of how his Bible study group got started.

“I felt God called me to start a group where we just sat and talked about Jesus,” Foreman said.

The group is held in the Noordewier basement meditation chapel. When he started it there were only a few people, but it has since grown to 40 people.

But some may wonder why Calvin College needs a revival. Smith sees the revival as an extension of students' Christian calling.

“Why wouldn't we want to see God to continue to grow and mature his saints,” Smith said, “to encourage the good news and spread it?”

For those in the group, such as Tubergen, Smith and Vermeulen, this has been an experience of growth for them as well.

“In doing a lot of this,” Tubergen said, “it has put the Gospel to the forefront of my life and I feel like I have gained a lot of boldness to share it.”

“I've always thought that Jesus was number one in my life,” Vermeulen said, “but I realized that he wasn't. Through this I have learned how to put him back up there.”

The idea of the group is not aiming to create a one-time experience with the Spirit, Smith said.

“We all deal with struggles we don't want to talk about,” Smith said. “Temptations are all around us. We need to continue to be filled.”

Congratulations, Chimes staff.

Thank you for your outstanding reporting on the stories of LGBT students at Calvin.

We are a congregation of 1300 people downtown who affirm your work and believe in what you are doing.

Your courageous feature transcended what people may expect from a college newspaper. You have encouraged us all to listen when others tell their stories—empathizing with their struggles and loving them more deeply in the name of Jesus Christ. Bless you.

—your brothers and sisters in Christ at Westminster



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“ We pray that this group will catalyze that transformation at this college, in this city, in this state and in our world.

Joe Mohan, “Revival group” ”

Letters to the Editor

LGBT feature lacked stories of deliverance

Dear Editor,

I read with interest the stories of eight LGBT students (Nov. 15 Chimes) and then the thirteen letters of uniform support (Nov. 22 Chimes). Nowhere did I read any stories of Calvin alums and students who have wrestled with unwanted same-sex attraction and have been delivered from it.

I personally know of at least four former LGBT Calvin folks who have been delivered from their unwanted same-sex attrac-

tion through the power of Christ working in them. They have incredible testimonies. Calvin should hear them.

I know Calvin is a tolerant and loving place that is open to all points of view. I've read numerous accounts of many who tell of the painful realities of living LGBT beyond their college years. As one Calvin alum told me, “my family and friends lovingly ‘loaded me on the train throwing flowers behind me,’ and when I arrived at that place called the LGBT experience, it felt like I was in a prison camp. I was experiencing other wound-

LGBT feature provides vital insight for futher discussions

Dear Editor,

“Sometimes I believe in as many as six impossible things before breakfast” (“Alice in Wonderland”). Here are three of mine following Chimes' recent LGBT feature:

I believe that in every dorm, classroom, college division and decision-making body, our first impulse regarding sexual difference will be to listen to and love LGBT students, acknowledging the diversity of who they are. There will be no more slurs ever again. We will never

Article about Professor Fuller unnecessary and unhelpful

Dear Editor,

I am an avid Chimes reader and I thoroughly enjoy browsing the latest campus news. The sensitivity and thoughtfulness of the recent LGBT feature impressed me. However, the article last week describing Professor Fuller's temporary leave was gravely disappointing. Chimes attempts to be an informative source of news, but this overstepped the line. My concerns encompass the detrimental effect on the professor and the Calvin community, as well as the lack of truly informative content.

We enjoy freedom of speech,

try to legislate the messiness of life with statements written out of fear and a desire to keep the lid on things. We will instinctively know Ryan, Eden, Richard, Kris and friends are not things.

I believe that as we take the Princeton Review survey, students will give their best answer to the question about equal treatment of sexual minorities. Students will answer honestly and Calvin will make it off the “LGBT-unfriendly” list. Oh, and the list itself will become obsolete.

Third, I believe there will be a kind and non-threatening conversation in the CRC. The newly

but such freedom demands responsibility to decide which stories to publish. Here, it appeared no thought was given to potential ramifications on Professor Fuller's future career or private life. Even if his temporary leave arose from completely harmless circumstances, publicizing it so ambiguously will permanently shadow his name with wild, and probably unfounded, speculations. The story lacks any substantial content, merely quoting the email received by affected students and reporting that no official was comfortable commenting. Theories of misdemeanors were left to the reader's imagination.

I question the decision to even

Revival group seeks to combine faith and works

BY JOE MOHAN
Staff Writer

Calvin Revival was a movement started when a group of four guys felt the Holy Spirit lead them to organize a worship event by the sand volleyball courts between Rooks-VanDellen (RVD) and Schultze-Eldersveld (SE) on Oct. 12 of this year. About 50 students showed up and when it started raining, the group went to the SE basement to continue praising God. We could feel the leading of the Holy Spirit there and did not want this to be a once-in-a-while “spiritual high.” So, a Facebook group was created which was intended to be a place where people can inform their brothers and sisters in Christ about other spiritual opportunities available either on campus or off campus, ask for prayer and encourage each other.

One of these opportunities is serving ice cream to our homeless brothers and sisters at Degage Ministries in downtown Grand Rapids on Tuesday nights from 7 to 8. Others include prayer groups that meet on campus, groups who go to local churches during the week for worship and house worship held by upperclassmen in the area. We also fellowship through our meetings on Sunday evenings when the leaders of Calvin Revival meet

to share testimonies of God's work in their lives and through them, uplift each other, rest and enjoy each other's company as the body of Christ and then go to Evensong at Cornerstone University. By “leaders” we mean people who are committed to doing God's work in their daily lives and want a community of like-minded individuals.

Calvin Revival is a movement that came out of the Holy Spirit's leading and empowerment. It includes people from different walks of life within Calvin and outside of the Calvin community. Members of our group are involved in other prayer or spiritual accountability groups within Calvin College. The ultimate aim of the group is to glorify God, not the Revival movement. To clarify, the Gospel is what drives this group. The motto of the group is “pleroo ekballo” which in Greek means “to fill up” and “to lead one forth somewhere with an irresistible force” respectively. When Jesus charged the Apostles with the Great Commission, he “ekballed” them to “go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” In other words, Calvin Revival meetings are for our brothers and sisters in Christ to be poured into spiritually on Sunday evenings, so that they

ed people seeking love through same-sex relationships that were ultimately not fulfilling, but then Christ parachuted in and lifted me out.”

Calvin, please do not confuse “compassion” with “enabling.” Christ can and does heal from any number of issues: lust, adultery, pornography, drug addiction, alcohol, post-abortive guilt, etc. I know change is possible because Christ has changed me. Christ calls us to share our stories of deliverance and move from “cope” to “hope.”

Glenn Bulthuis, '77

appointed synodical committee to give pastoral guidance regarding same-sex marriage (of which I am a member) will be wildly successful in helping the churches navigate a gracious path despite our differing theological orientations. We will fully hear the voices of sexual and ethnic minorities, there will be deep unity and everyone will love us.

I know irony doesn't read well in print, but I am British! I sincerely hope these are not impossible dreams.

Julia Smith
Sexuality Series Director

publish the piece. The students affected were notified — that's enough. The publication ignited speculation and gossip even outside the college community. I was sorely disappointed to read this. Concluding with, “Future developments will be posted as Chimes learns more,” this college newspaper article felt more like a tabloid piece in People.

As a supportive Chimes reader, I ask that you not only neglect to update us with future developments, but that you think carefully before publishing other similarly insensitive, insubstantial articles.

Jedidiah Bell, '15

Change is possible through the Holy Spirit

Dear Editor,

A couple lines stood out to me in Ryan's Story: “Speak with love. Silence doesn't count as being welcoming.” I agree that silence is not the answer — on either side. That being said, I would like to share a small portion of my story. In high school, I was sexually abused by my friend's mom. This went on for three years and at the time, I felt like a willing participant. I loved her, needed her and even felt like I couldn't live without her. Thus began several years of unwanted same-sex attraction. It was like I wanted to repeat the past, even though I had been taken advantage of in such a horrible way. I was constantly aware

of the battle between my flesh and the Spirit. I questioned God in why I had to suffer so much. I finally told my accountability partner at college and slowly began confiding in others — friends, mentors and even my pastor. Their love, encouragement and prayers, as well as endless nights of crying out to God, helped me continue on the journey of healing. I never let what happened to me or my unwanted same-sex attraction become a part of my identity, but because of it, I have a deeper reliance on God. He hears our prayers. I just wanted to encourage those with unwanted same-sex attraction that, through the power of the Holy Spirit, change is possible!

Rachel Kieda,
Grace Bible College alumna '12

Sexuality discussion should include stories of change

Dear Editor,

I struggled with unwanted same-sex attraction during my time at Calvin and beyond. I listened with interest to both Wes Hill and Justin Lee talk about their journey with unwanted same-sex attraction and their faith. While they came to different conclusions as to how to live their lives (Wes will remain celibate, Justin has not ruled out the possibility of a life partner), I was discouraged to hear Justin say that 99.9 percent of homosexuals who want to change, can't. (You can hear these speakers by logging in to livestream.com and choosing Calvin.)

I was discouraged because I know that to be false; as I am a life that was changed by the power of

LGBT feature should prompt us all to listen better

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to personally send my thanks to all involved in bringing about the recent article with the stories of our LGBT brothers and sisters. I hope and pray that what they have written will touch hearts and stir others to tell their stories. I hope it will also help people know how to

the Holy Spirit and deliverance! I would like to encourage Calvin to add this dimension of conversation into the ‘Sexuality Series’ and into the ‘Chimes LGBT articles’ as it would be good for students to know ... I wish I had known then what I know now! (You shall know the Truth and the Truth will set you free; we know that with God ALL things are possible!)

My prayer for anyone who struggles with unwanted same-sex attraction is that “the God of hope will fill you with all joy and peace as you TRUST in Him, so that you will overflow with HOPE by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Romans 15:13).

Thank you for an opportunity to weigh into this discussion with another perspective.

Catherine Griffin, '87

listen and love better.

As a part of the LGBT community myself and as a freshman, it is so great being at a school where this sort of thing is being published and read. I hope maybe some day my story can be heard by more people and that I can better learn to listen also. Thank you so much! Much love!

Samuel Gould, '17

FROM THE EDITOR



If there's one thing that never changes in life, it's that it's always changing.

We as college students are in a pretty significant season of change in our lives, and Calvin College is in a pretty significant season of change right now too, with recommended cuts being announced this week.

For me personally, I'm headed off to Washington, D.C. for my spring semester, and then I'm getting thrown out into the big bad world after graduation.

I've written in this column before about how the key to transitioning through change is acknowledging the loss, and one way we do that well is distinguishing between our roles and ourselves.

Most of us wear many hats over the course of a day. One minute I'm Ryan Struyk, the editor in chief. The next, I'm Ryan Struyk, the student. In some conversations more recently, I've been Ryan Struyk, the kid who came out in Chimes. But not too many people know Ryan Struyk.

That's the difference between role and self.

There's something about who we are as people that is distinguishable from what we do. Our identity shouldn't be rooted in something that can change at the red pen of a professor or the whim of a supervisor.

The more we distinguish our hats and ourselves, the more we can maintain stability when roles end and the more we can remain level-headed when we receive praise for the job we do while we wear our hats.

When I as a student get a bad grade on a paper, I know that who I am doesn't change. When another student is yelling at me in the hall about an article we published, I know that Ryan Struyk isn't threatened (although Ryan-Struyk-comma-editor-in-chief might be.)

We have to be careful not to separate our roles and selves: who we are should fundamentally shape what we do.

But distinguishing them helps us navigate through change — both good and bad.

~rjs



Congratulations on winning nationals!

