

CALVIN COLLEGE



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Jonathan Eigege and Laura Sterenberg win student senate election

BY HAYLEY COX
On-Call Writer

After a record-setting race, senior Jonathan Eigege and junior Laura Sterenberg narrowly won the student senate executive team election today with 56 percent of the vote, despite technical setbacks for freshman voters.

"I'm thrilled that over 1600 students came out to vote, despite the difficulties," said future student body president Eigege. "That's a step up from last year, which was a step up from the year before."

"We are excited about the coming year and the opportunity to serve Calvin's student body," he continued. "We are well aware of the responsibilities that come with this privilege and will do our best to make sure that we lead a senate that is even more responsive to the needs of students than it has been historically."

His running partner and future executive vice president, Sterenberg, echoed his sentiments. "Jona and I have been very ready. It was all so fast and it was just amazing to work hard with an ultimate goal in mind, and then to see that goal fulfilled."

She is thankful for the whole process, including the technical

setbacks, which just "made the final result all the more gratifying."

This year's election boasted the largest student body participation to date, despite the technological problems. Jerry Grieser, current vice president of public relations, attributed it to the "high level of competition and high level of quality in each team's campaign."

Eigege saw the increased voter participation as proof that "there is still a sizable amount of the student body that believes in senate as a force for good."

"Our job this year is to continue to reclaim senate's legitimacy by producing good results," Eigege continued. "So that by this time next year even more students feel the need to vote and add their voice to choosing who leads senate."

Alicia Smit, current executive vice president, also praised the new executive team. "Jona has senate experience from his freshman and sophomore year, so he's familiar with the processes of senate. Laura has been involved all over campus and currently works for Knights 4 Life, so their skill sets match up perfectly."

Along with the new executive team, Laju Eresanara and Jonathan Manni were elected to the senate cabinet. Smit explained

that because a third person did not run for cabinet, "the new executive team will appoint someone." The incoming executive team will also determine who will serve in each of the three specific

DeVries, Jisoo Kim and incumbent senator Laura Steele.

"I am excited to serve again and to work with a team of people who think different ways," said Steele, who looks forward to to

credit their opponents.

"Maggie and Sam were the best team we could have run against," said Sterenberg. "Both teams worked hard, and though I'm certainly thankful for the outcome, I'm also thankful for how we go there."

Eigege echoed her thoughts. "Laura and I both have so much respect for them — the leaders that they are and the campaign that they ran. I think running against each other made both our campaigns more efficient and intentional. They had the backing of 45 percent of the student body who voted. That's massive."

Sam Schuiteman and Maggie Van Winkle congratulated their opponents. "Both teams ran a great race," said Schuiteman, "and we're excited to see what they do next year. Even though we were hoping for a different outcome, we are proud of our campaign, and we look forward to serving Calvin in whatever way we can."

Looking forward, Eigege commented that "the student body has put together a great team — we are looking forward to the things that we can achieve together."



PHOTO COURTESY JONATHAN EIGEAGE AND LAURA STERENBERG

Jona and Laura say they are "looking forward to the things that we can achieve together."

cabinet positions.

Next year's senators will be Griffin Brent, Joy Christopher, Andrew Darmawan, Ethan

passing down wisdom to next year's senate.

Amongst all the excitement, Sterenberg and Eigege were quick

Senior Carlos Erazo's Youtube channel addresses Salvadoran youth

More than 62,000 people follow Erazo's discussion, in Spanish, of religious issues relevant to teens

BY KATY GERBER
Guest Writer

For senior Carlos Erazo, an average week is not only occupied with college papers, readings and projects, but also with filming and producing a weekly video for his Youtube channel — one with more than 62,000 active followers.

When he was a sophomore at Calvin, Erazo decided to combine a lifelong interest in video creation and editing with a growing desire to connect spiritually with Spanish-speaking friends and family in his home country of El Salvador.

"I became a Christian in high school and grew up with mostly non-Christians," he recalled. "When I left El Salvador for the United States, I felt a burden for my friends at home who weren't Christian. I wanted to speak with them about what it means to be a Jesus-follower."

"At Calvin I read theology as a hobby, but for a lot of teenagers, theology isn't something they choose to go to. The church at home in El Salvador wasn't reaching my friends," he said, because his friends "didn't understand the religious talk and theological

language used."

The disconnection between Christianity and young people inspired Erazo to put his beliefs into action and create weekly Spanish Youtube videos which discuss Christianity in today's world. He published his first episode in 2011, calling his channel Proyecto GTG, meaning Project Glory to God.

More videos followed each week, filmed across Calvin's campus, highlighting topics ranging from pornography to dating to tattoos to homosexuality to evangelism: issues which Erazo knows are relevant to teenagers curious about living a Christ-like life.

Over time, this vision began to resonate with Youtube audiences beyond Erazo's friends. Proyecto GTG now has 62,974 followers. The most popular videos have more than 100,000 views, and the channel only continues to grow.

During the fourth weekend in April, Erazo and two fellow

Youtube speakers will fly to El Salvador to put on a show focusing on the intersection of the Gospel and social media, and they expect a large audience.

Despite this success, however,

what I have to say and responding to it, and the best part is those responses. They impact me and they move me.

"I had a mom email me once and tell me that her 14-year-old

has continued to inspire and encourage Erazo to continue the project and grow in his own faith.

"By God's grace the project has grown to what it is now. I've worked a lot," he said, but his success "is not all me."

"It's easy to become preachy, but I want to make sure that I'm always living out what I'm saying. The biggest challenge is to be genuine with both what I say and how I live. I have to ask myself if I'm following the Gospel and living into what I'm preaching. Like everyone else, I'm struggling to act out my faith every day."

As for the future, Erazo hopes that both he and Proyecto GTG will continue growing.

"Maybe someday Proyecto GTG will be full time, and I want to continue making creative, professional media with a message in the future. I want people to be exposed to the Gospel. That's the vision."



PHOTO COURTESY PROYECTO GTG

Erazo discusses topics including dating, tattoos, evangelism and pornography.

Erazo still remains deeply rooted in his initial passion to connect and speak to his viewers.

"It's sweet," he states. "I know there are real people listening to

son is watching. It's very humbling to hear that, and it snaps me into reality. People are watching and soaking up what I'm saying."

Being aware of his impact

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CAMPUS NEWS

Cello Cabaret promises unique concert experience

BY BETHANY COK
Staff Writer

The Calvin Music Department has concerts nearly every week, but few are as unorthodox and entertaining as Cello Cabaret. This Saturday at 3 p.m. in the CFAC Recital Hall, 20 cellists will be performing a repertoire that ranges from classical to rock.

According to John Varineau, the Calvin orchestra conductor, this is no run-of-the-mill performance.

"Cello Cabaret takes a cello recital, blows it up and turns it into an event," he explained. "It's like cello nerds gone wild!"

The cellists will be performing just under an hour-and-a-half of music, including both large ensemble pieces with all 20 cellos on-stage at once and pieces for smaller cello ensembles. This year's Calvin's Got Talent winners, Andrew Plaisier and Joshua Ruiter, will be playing a duet and performing in several of the ensemble pieces as well. The program will feature works in-

cluding arrangements of Strauss, Lady Gaga, the PianoGuys and Metallica.

"We tried to take people's favorite pieces from last year and include them, while also trying new pieces. We're building on the strong audience appeal of last year's Cello Cabaret,"

"We enjoy rehearsals because we can bounce ideas off of each other. Everyone has something to contribute, whether they are beginners or advanced musicians."

The 20 cellists who will be performing on Saturday represent a wide range of majors,

months ago.

"It's inspiring to see so many people with different interests come together because they love music and Cello Cabaret," said sophomore Angela Dieleman.

Marie Bloem, the principal cellist of the Calvin Orchestra, explained the vision of this group of Calvin cellists, who have nicknamed themselves "the Charming Cellos."

"We [the cellists] share a love for the great instrument that is the cello and are passionate about music and the way in which it brings people together, performers and audience members alike."

Admission to this event is free and tickets are not required. However, Bloem said that the cellists are expecting a crowd, so she suggested that anyone interested in attending the performance arrive early enough to get seats.

The Cello Cabaret promises to be an event filled with crowd-pleasing music, community and entertainment. With 20 cellos on one stage, one could hardly expect anything less.



FILE PHOTO

This year's event features 20 cellists, including the winners of Calvin's Got Talent 2014.

Plaisier said.

Junior Amy Tenney explains that, for her, a highlight of Cello Cabaret is being a part of the cello community:

from math and biology to speech pathology and English. Some performers have been playing the cello for nearly 15 years, while others started only a few

Student senate to replace handicap signs on campus

BY DANIEL PAULSON
Staff Writer

Over the next few months, the familiar handicap-accessible logo around campus will receive a facelift. The old logo, depicting a person in a wheelchair, will be replaced with a more active design.

Student senate is a big part of this push for the new logos.

Student senator Jonathan Manni explained: "Student senate, in coordination with the Campus Accessibility Advisory Committee (CAAC) and Mark Stephenson from the Christian Reformed Church Disabilities Office, is replacing all accessibility parking signage on campus. We are using new signs with the new accessible logo found at accessibleicon.org."

This website is part

of The Accessible Icon Project, a nationwide movement to "transform the old International Symbol of Access into an active, engaged image."

The Calvin Seminary parking lot already features the new signs and, after months of discussion, the replacement process is set to begin. Physical Plant is helping by

training student senate on how to replace the signs.

Student senate sees the logo change as a matter of principle.

"We recognize that images and ideas influence the way others see people," said Manni. "In the case of accessible signage, the new image places a focus on the individual as a person. The

old icon exudes a vibe of passivity, which doesn't do a great job representing individuals with disabilities. Additionally, we feel that the leaning-forward posture and motion explicit in the icon place an important focus on the individual."

Terminology is another important part of the conversation, as student senate promotes the use of words like "accessible" or "accessibility signage" instead of "handicapped," which can be seen as negative.

All in all, student senate sees this project as part of a larger goal to make campus hospitable for the entire Calvin community.

"In order to best represent students, we believe that every student should feel valued," said Manni. "Through this project and others, we try our hardest to better the perspectives that we as students have about each other."



PHOTO BY CONNOR STERCHI

The old logo will be replaced with a more active design courtesy accessibleicon.org

First-year student relaunches rowing club at Calvin

BY KELLE DRAGT
Staff Writer

After being discontinued in 2011, the rowing club will be making a reappearance at Calvin this coming fall. Freshman Kayla VandenBosch is the force behind the return of the club, which was originally established in 1999.

VandenBosch started rowing through the city of Grand Rapids her freshman year of high school. She is currently on the board of the Grand Rapids Rowing Association as a student member. VandenBosch used her connections with leadership at the Grand Rapids Rowing Association to gain access to their boathouse for Calvin's rowing club.

The boathouse is located on the Grand River, which is where the rowing team will be rowing.

"It's a beautiful view. That's one of my favorite parts about rowing is that you are so in touch with nature. You can hear it, you can smell it, you can see it. It's just all around you and you are not stuck in a gym, you are not stuck in a weight room, you're just seeing God's creation all around you."

VandenBosch believes everyone can benefit from rowing, no matter who they are. She says that the sport is focused more on a team than the individual.

"Not only is it really good for your health, for your body, but it's also really good for mental health. It really makes you strong in that way and it develops a sense of teamwork," said VandenBosch.

VandenBosch has held one informational meeting about the club already and is willing to have another meeting if more people express interest. Thirty students

showed up to the first meeting. VandenBosch also has about 60 people on her master list that have expressed interest in joining the rowing club.

"I've had a number of people come up to me and say that this rowing club, that I don't even know has been accepted yet, is already such a huge blessing in my life. That just makes me so excited for what the rowing club can do for Calvin," said VandenBosch.

The large number of people that have expressed interest in the club provides VandenBosch with hope for the future. She sees the club prospering and continuing on for many years to come. Although the club hasn't officially been accepted as a Calvin club, VandenBosch hopes the club will be accepted soon. She won't be granted funding until this coming fall at the earliest.

"A lot of people with injuries can't play a lot of sports, and their trainers will tell them to row and that's the only thing they can do. I think that Calvin needs to provide that outlet because it's hard to find a place to row. You need the connections. I want to be that connection."

There will be a few learn-to-row days this spring to raise awareness about the future rowing club. Everyone is invited to attend and you don't have to be a part of the rowing club to go. The dates are yet to be determined, but VandenBosch will post more information in Student News.

"I want to get seniors out on the water," said VandenBosch, "because I want them to be able to take something out of this in their last semester and be able to apply that to the rest of their lives and to future institutions that they're at."

Biennial Festival of Faith and Writing gathers 2,000 writers and readers

BY CONNOR STERCHI
Campus News Co-Editor

Last week from April 10-12, the population of Calvin College increased by nearly half when the campus was inundated with about 2,000 readers, writers, panelists, authors and speakers from around the world for the biennial Festival of Faith and Writing. Despite the daunting logistics, the event was a success, according to English professor Dean Ward, one of three professors on the festival planning committee.

"It really seemed to go smoothly," Ward said. "In terms of the logistics of it, I can't think of any significant problems that we ran into."

Social media played a significant role in this year's festival, allowing attendees to converse and exchange thoughts, quotes and reflections about the sessions.

"It's a writing and reading conference, so many of our attendees are introverts," said Beth Heinen Bell, program coordinator for the festival. "They do solitary work ... so three days of constantly being 'on' gets exhausting. ... People [are] able to share the ideas and the quotes that they're hearing, but they're not necessarily having to do that publicly in a way that is draining. So social media really functions as a way to keep the education going, to continue to share those thoughts and ideas ... and also the fact that we have

many concurrent sessions, you're able to glean at least a little bit from the sessions that you weren't able to be at."

The unseen and untold stories that took place during the three-day event are what really make the festival exceptional, said English professor Debra Rienstra, one of the professors on the festival planning committee.

"People have asked what was special or different about this one," Rienstra said. "I think the answer to that is a hundred

We engineer this big party, but then it's the stuff we don't engineer that's really neat — the students who come away with little author crushes."

For Rienstra, another meaningful aspect of this year's festival was its exhibition of authors and genres that aren't typically in the limelight.

"I think for me some of the most exciting moments were the G. Willow Wilson sessions," Rienstra said. "I thought she had marvelous things to say about fantasy and superheroes and

Gene Luen Yang, author of the graphic novel "American Born Chinese," addressed the intersection of art and faith in his opening plenary lecture, "Is Art Selfish?"

"I thought Gene Yang's plenary was fantastic," Rienstra said. "It was just perfect for our audience. Once again a person who is a wonderful artist in a genre that we are just sort of getting to know at a festival and we're pretty excited about."

Preparation for the festival was not a halfhearted undertaking. The three-day event took

in preparing and managing the festival, Ward said.

"The student committee is great," Ward said. "This is nothing new. This has been the case for as long as we've been using the student committee. The student committee is one of the best things about Festival — for the festival governance, for the festival committee and for the students. It's a great thing all around."

At various time slots during the festival, attendees had a wide array of authors and speakers to choose from. But the multiplicity of options did not seem to diminish attendance at lesser-hyped events, Ward said.

"One of the things you worry about is those times when you got some big names up, the Anne Lamott interview or something like that, and then there are six or eight other sessions going on at the same time," Ward said. "But all the reports I heard is that there were good crowds in all the sessions."

Overall, the festival committee is pleased with the festival and is already looking forward to Festival 2016.

"At this point it's just a lot of gratitude," Ward said. "Gratitude for the gratitude, because there are so many people spontaneously saying 'thank you' when I'm walking around campus."

The festival committee already has at least eight authors who have expressed interest in participating in Festival 2016.



PHOTO COURTESY CALVIN.EDU

This year's Festival of Faith and Writing brought in around 2,000 writers, readers and aspiring authors, including Gene Luen Yang, Anne Lamott, Peter Orner, Christine Byl and Rachel Held Evans.

things that we don't necessarily even know about. Conversations and encounters people had. And that's the most wonderful thing.

genres that have not necessarily been taken very seriously, but she does take them seriously, and there are a lot of people who do."

two years of recruiting, planning and preparing by committees of students and professors. The student committee was instrumental

Wake Up Weekend to feature vegan and animal rights advocates

BY JOSEPH MATHESON
Editor in Chief

This Friday and Saturday a succession of events, including talks, demonstrations and meals, will highlight animal advocacy and vegan cooking.

Together, the events, which will take place on Calvin's campus and 106 South Division, are a part of Wake Up Weekend, which according to its website is "an annual grassroots celebration of animal-friendly advocacy, art, food, education, music, philosophy and religion."

The weekend is sponsored by a host of organizations, including the Calvin College Office for Multicultural Affairs, Calvin Students for Compassionate Living, the Calvin College Office of Community Engagement, Bartertown, CVLT PIZZA and Vegan Grand Rapids.

Among the many headliners, Jill Fritz, Paul Shapiro, Charles Camosy and Steve McMullen will speak on topics including banning wolf hunting in Michigan and the connection between the pro-life and pro-animal movements. There will also be an art exhibit, a cooking workshop with noted vegan blogger and Calvin alumnae Sarah McMinn, a potluck on Friday and a chili cook-off on Saturday (both vegan).

Friday night at 7:30 p.m. in the Commons Annex Lecture Hall, Charles Camosy, a professor of theology at Fordham University known for his interaction with Peter Singer on the connection between faith and morality, will give the 7th annual Animals and the Kingdom of God Lecture on the similarities between the pro-life and pro-animal movements.

"It is clear that Christians are called to live out our lives of non-violence and concern for the marginalized and vulnerable in all circumstances," said Camosy. "And it is difficult to think of a marginalized population subject to more violence than non-human animals."

Preceding him at 3 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. are Jill Fritz and Paul

Shapiro, of the Humane Society of the United States.

Shapiro, the vice president for farm animal protection, echoes Camosy's sentiments as he discusses how he became involved in animal advocacy.

"Whether it was on the playground between kids or it was in human-animal relations, the 'might makes right' mentality

hardly anyone with less power in society than animals."

Shapiro's talk will focus on the legislative and cultural progress made by the animal advocacy movement.

"Our laws are a reflection of our societal values," he said, "and it's critical that our legal code ensures protection from abuse for animals who stand at our mercy."

ing it once again illegal to hunt wolves in Michigan.

Fritz describes deciding to become an animal advocate in the late 1980s after reading a pamphlet on the fur trade.

"I'll never forget that it described how foxes on fur farms are killed by electrocution — I'll spare you further details, but it's horrific," she said. "It was a total

we're fortunate to have some very strong animal cruelty laws and in fact the strongest animal fighting law in the country, but we do have a ways to go on issues like wildlife protection," she said. "So I hope that people will learn how important it is for all of us to speak up for wildlife!"

On Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at 106 S. Division, after brunch at Bartertown and CVLT PIZZA, Sarah McMinn, a Calvin grad and author of the vegan cooking blog The Sweet Life, will be hosting a cooking workshop on making classic recipes vegan.

At 3 p.m., Calvin economics professor Steve McMullen will be giving a talk on the relationship between capitalism and consumerism and violence to animals in modern society, in which he proposes that animal advocacy needs to understand the economics behind modern industries.

"We can be far more effective advocates if we understand well the economic context of animal industries," he said. "At the same time, I think economists need to think seriously about the hard ethical questions that arise within market economies."

Although McMullen is critical of the way capitalism and consumerism currently result in dire consequences for animals, he sees a solution within capitalism.

"What I advise is conscious consumption — ideally vegan diets and lifestyle — and political support for animal welfare initiatives and regulation," he said. "I want to help people envision a better capitalism, and then move toward it."

The weekend also includes a talk by Bryant Terry, noted author of "Afro-Vegan: Farm-Fresh African, Caribbean, and Southern Flavors Remixed", on Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

The weekend will culminate with a vegan chili cook-off at 5 p.m. at 106 S. Division and a reception for an art exhibit showcasing animal artifacts curated by Calvin art professor Adam Wolpa and GVSU art professor Brett Colley.

PHOTO COURTESY WAKE UP WEEKEND

This weekend's event will include Steven McMullen, professor of economics at Calvin College.

was so offensive to me that I knew from a fairly young age that I wanted to defend those who couldn't defend themselves," said Shapiro, "and of course, there's

Jill Fritz, Michigan senior state director, will be discussing the recent lifting of a hunting ban on wolves in Michigan and efforts to replace the hunting ban, mak-

epiphany moment." Since then, she has been pushing changes in legislation across the country, including in Michigan. "Here in Michigan,

The National’s distinct style wows

The band performed in the Van Noord Arena on April 12

BY BEN RIETEMA AND LEAH JONKER
On-Call Writers

With lights aflutter, a wandering lead singer and enough electric guitar reverb to kill a small mouse, The National put on a booming show this past Saturday night in the Van Noord arena, having performed on “Saturday Night Live” only a month before.

“Of the bands Calvin has had, The National is of higher acclaim with a bigger reputation,” said senior Trent Heille. “Having them perform at Calvin shows that we can get bands of that caliber and not just the rising bands.”

The last band of this caliber to play at Calvin was Fun., who had also performed on SNL before the show.

Formed in Cincinnati, Ohio, The National has since moved to Brooklyn, New York to focus on their music. Recently, their hit song “Lean” was featured in the latest Hunger Games soundtrack.

“After the release of their fourth album, ‘Boxer,’ their popularity really took off,” said Heille. Another of their songs, “Fake Empire,” was featured in Barack Obama’s 2008 campaign video.

Through their six albums, The National have explored issues of loneliness and self-loathing. In their newest album, “Trouble Will Find Me,” they have touched issues of faith.

“They’re spiritual without being exclusively religious,” said Heille. “No one seems to affirm their

faith, but you can definitely see them struggling through it. There is a lot of doubt in their lyrics.”

Audience member Bridget Waldron said she found Matt Berninger, the lead singer of The National, to be an interesting character, especially when he voyaged out into the audience, trailing his microphone cord over the crowd.

“He’s such a weird guy,” Waldron said. “Very twitchy. I

the most dominant feature. The baritone drives home the melancholy trombone.”

The band My Brightest Diamond opened the show with an enthusiastic and powerful vocal performance, but lead singer, Shara Worden, didn’t finish her show there. Worden returned to the stage twice, wrapping up the show with The National in an acoustic encore.



Matt Berninger leads The National during their show at Calvin.

wasn’t sure if he was going to do the microphone thing. I saw him in Detroit last summer, and he did it. But he did it here and visited every corner in the auditorium.”

Kai Koopman, a Calvin senior, said Berninger has a distinct style, both musically and in his personality.

“I’ve come to know the band through various friends,” Koopman said. “So I was a little familiar before buying a ticket. It’s a band that takes a little while to get into. They come on more slowly. The leader’s voice — that’s

“It was really cool that Berninger came out with the other performer,” Devon Early said. “The times when he was up there solo, he looked uncomfortable, but when My Brightest Diamond came out he looked genuinely happy and more comfortable. The acoustic set at the end with her was killer.”

Nevertheless, the band, Berninger in particular, resonated with audience members.

“I love that guy,” senior Nate Hansensaid. “I want him to tuck me into bed and sing me to sleep.”

Festival brings Hollywood to Calvin

BY NICK KEELEY
Arts and Entertainment Editor

While Calvin College’s biennial writer’s conference is typically comprised of speakers from all over the literary world, this year’s Festival of Faith and Writing took a detour to Hollywood.

Randy Testa, the vice president of education at Walden Media, and Luke Schelhaas, a writer and co-executive producer of the CBS series “The Good Wife,” were among the 120 presenters who came to speak at this year’s festival. Documentary filmmaker Raymond Singer, whose screenwriting credits include Disney’s “Mulan,” and National Book Award winner James McBride, who announced earlier this week that he is set to produce an adaptation of his novel “The Good Lord Bird,” also spoke at the conference.

Testa, whose studio was responsible for such book-to-film adaptations as “The Chronicles of Narnia” movies and “Holes,” presented a talk on the power of Lois Lowry’s acclaimed young adult novel “The Giver,” which is being made into a film that will be released this August. Festival goers were given an inside look into the making of the film, including a brief clip featuring behind-the-scenes footage and commentary from Lowry herself.

In his presentation, Testa talked at length about the themes of “The Giver,” such as the importance of wisdom and memory and “the revelation of community as spectacle.”

Testa also addressed the controversial nature of the novel,

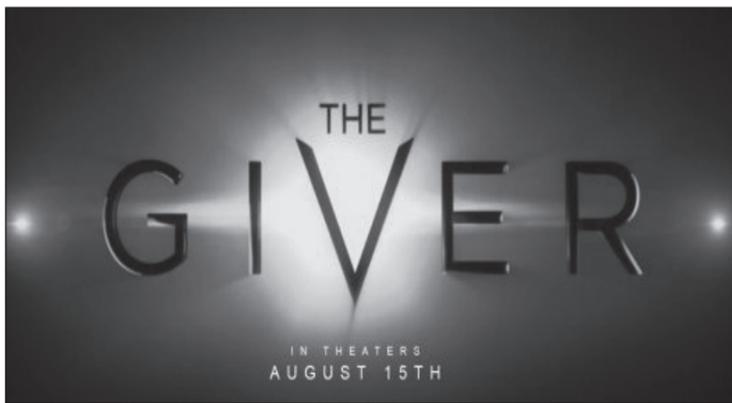
referring to “The Giver” as “one of the most frequently banned books in the world.” The novel’s Christian themes were additionally discussed, with Testa arguing that the book “explicates the spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood” and that it addresses “conversion and grace.”

Schelhaas also looked at the role of Christianity in storytelling, focusing instead on what it is like for a Christian to be a TV writer in Hollywood. Schelhaas, who joined the staff of “The Good Wife” in its current season

shows to be evil.” Schelhaas also stressed that “it isn’t just Christians who are trying to be responsible TV makers.”

Schelhaas, who stated that an off-campus semester program in Los Angeles during his time at Dordt College was what convinced him of staying in Hollywood, additionally went into great detail about the process of making a single episode of television.

According to Schelhaas, a typical episode of “The Good Wife” is hashed out by a team



and has written for shows like “Smallville,” “Touched by an Angel” and “Law and Order” in the past, sees Hollywood as a “great place to live” and somewhere that is not “a hostile place to Christians.”

Schelhaas additionally addressed the topic of whether it is okay for Christian screenwriters to write something that they don’t believe in. According to Schelhaas, even though he has struggled with writing heavily violent and sexual scenes in the past, he believes that he “can depict evil as long as it

of writers over a period of two to three weeks. From there, the episode undergoes roughly 10 different drafts, with notes incorporated by the producers, the studio and CBS. In all, Schelhaas stated that an episode takes up to “six to 10 weeks of work.”

Schelhaas, who currently has a pilot for the USA Network and a feature film called “Lockport” being considered for development, argues that “anyone with an interest in film and television should move to Los Angeles.”

Lone Bellow impresses

The concert featured great harmonies

BY KATIE SALYER
Staff Writer

I was slightly worried about this concert. Not to say I had heard bad things about The Lone Bellow; they seemed decent from what I had listened to online, but nothing exceptional. No one knew of them. They had no opener. And to top it all off, they were rescheduled from an original Friday night performance due to a Michigan snowstorm so large it received a nickname reminiscent of an amusement park ride. Now they were playing on an easily overlooked Tuesday before break. All the signs were pointing towards a disappointing night.

Thankfully, the signs are sometimes very wrong.

Though lacking an opener, the band warmed the audience up quickly and brought vivacity to a crowd over hung with mid-week gloom. Their foot-stomping, hand-clapping Southern sound filled the Covenant Fine Arts Center with an inviting life.

The Lone Bellow is composed mainly of three vocalists who also play mandolin, electric guitar and acoustic guitar. Each vocalist is just as good as the others and they harmonize so well together that goosebumps became a common occurrence. The band pulled in the audience with their rich tones and tight harmonies. The conviction in their voices brought renewed vigor with each song. It did not

seem possible for their heart and emotion to continue for the entire concert, but it drove the band from the first chord to the encore.

The Lone Bellow has an incredible presence on the stage that welcomes their audience into the joy and pain they share so willingly with a crowd of strangers. I clapped until my hands hurt and whooped and gasped my way through their musical dramas. When the song was full of the excitement of life, the audience smiled right along with the band as they radiated their way through their performance. And when the song was mournful and required a gentle ear and spirit to hear, the audience swayed with empathy to the sorrowful harmonies.

A truly good band understands that emotions are found not only in the chord progressions, but in the rests between notes. The Lone Bellow reeled in the audience with careful but authentic emotion and then would masterfully wait in silence before resolving the chord. In these moments you could feel the audience collectively hold its breath, waiting on tiptoe for the resolution. The band had the crowd wrapped tightly around its finger.

They finished the encore with an unplugged guitar and microphone, letting their voices ring out with the audience singing and clapping along. By the end of the night the audience had become part of the performance. No one had simply watched and listened to a good band. They had participated in a work of art.

WGN debuts new series

BY ROSELLE PAZ LANDOY
Staff Writer

Set in Salem, Mass., in the midst of a witch panic, the pilot episode of “Salem” features Shane West as John Alden, a young man who has quite a reputation in the town. John is the son of the very first person to set foot in Salem. Unlike the rest of the town, John does not believe witches are a concern, but he is surprised when he finds out he was wrong.

“Salem,” which is WGN America’s first original scripted series, is not kidding around. There are definitely several characters, major and minor, and scenes that leave a person shuddering at the creepiness — like an old hag who controls and ruins a young woman as she feeds off of her. And humans with a pig, stag and wolf head upon their own as they perform a ritual too disturbing to describe to summon some creature. And do not get me started on the odd human/creature/thing that is shown more often than I would like.

The set up of the show is great. The town itself is eerie, dirty and surrounded by woods, which makes it the place perfect for dark magic. In the middle of the town is a stage-like structure where people are displayed and punished for their sins. It is also where people are coaxed into revealing whether or not they are witches by various ways like crushing a person under a basket of rocks — the number of rocks and the weight

of the entire thing slowly increasing as the person is questioned.

Moreover, the characters are very interesting and many of them are quite mysterious. As the episode went on, I felt as if each character revealed something about him/herself that adds a little more personality to the already twisted atmosphere. Secret witches, ruthless pastors, devious maidens and an angry, hard-headed soldier (see Shane West’s character) are just a few that show up in the pilot. It also definitely helps that the acting is on point, with each actor and actress giving a little more creepiness and mystery to each of their characters.



Ultimately, “Salem” requires a liking to scenes that will make one jump, quite possibly yelp, or cringe in your seat. It is interesting since the plot is actually relatively different from other shows that have come out so far this year. Overall, “Salem” is definitely a good show to watch if you are into the creepy, toad-coming-out-of-a-person, scary old woman kind of show.

“ Every single person on the team knows what our ultimate goal is for the season.

Grant Van Putten, “Baseball in spotlight” ”

Baseball in national spotlight

Calvin's team featured on ESPN2's nighttime talk show

BY BRIAN EXNER
Staff Writer

After a walk-off win with a steal of home against Albion was posted to YouTube, Calvin



PHOTO COURTESY CALVIN.EDU

Van Putten's steal landed him on Olbermann.

Baseball gained attention from the MLB FanCave and even-

tually ESPN. The play was also featured on ESPN's Keith Olbermann Show on April 15 and continued to circulate around the country on several different news programs.

Junior Grant VanPutten stole home to give the Knights a win, but he wasn't thinking about the fame when he made the play. “I had no idea at the time it would be this huge — I was just excited to have pulled off the victory.”

His teammates also recognized that while the play and attention are exciting, there are bigger goals at hand. VanderWall made his teammates refocus on the task at hand. “As fun and crazy as all the hype has been, every single person on the team knows what our ultimate goal is for the season.”

All of the excitement seems to have helped the team find their zone. “It helps swing the momentum in our favor,” said Peter Cupery, “As a team, we seem to be playing with more confidence.”

The Knights find themselves continuing to play well as they sit in second in the MIAA with a conference record of 12-8, and 18-12 overall.

Gaining national attention in such fashion is good PR for the program, and coach John Sparks acknowledged that in an interview.

The video displays the hustle and competitiveness instilled in each member of the team. Coach Sparks believes that the attention should be handled humbly. “Anytime you get publicity, you want to handle it in a modest way and realize that it is ultimately the Lord that gives us the gifts — the speed and ability.”

The Calvin Knights swing back into action on Thursday, opening a four-game series with Trine. With two MIAA series remaining, the Knights have an opportunity to capture a place in the MIAA tournament with a couple wins in a row.

Golf fourth at MIAA

Team wrapping up their spring season

BY JACOB KUYVENHOVEN
Sports Editor

The Calvin College men's golf team finished up their brief spring season on Saturday, April 19, placing third at the MIAA's final NCAA Spring qualifying tournament. The Knights ended the three tournament competition in fourth place.

Calvin shot 315 at the first tournament, 321 at the second and closed with a 314 on Saturday to give them an overall score of 950. Regular season champion Hope also won the spring season with a score of 919. Trine and Adrian finished second and third, respectively.

Junior James Van Noord and senior Jake Hoogstrate led Calvin at the first tournament last weekend, both finishing with a score of 78. Senior Ross Ryzenga led the team in the second tournament with a 77 and Van Noord shot a 73 during the final round on Saturday to finish in eighth place overall as an individual. Ryzenga also shot a 76 in the second round, which gave him a team-leading 153 for the weekend.

The Knights also went to compete at the Steve Tyler Memorial Invitational under the guidance of

volleyball coach Amber Warners on Monday. They shot 319 and finished in third place as a team, with Van Noord again leading the team with a 77. They were only one stroke back from Cornerstone

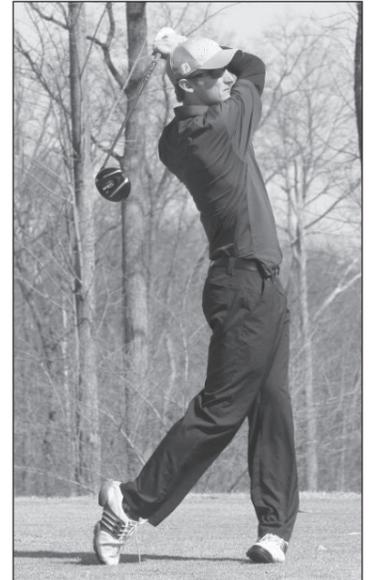


PHOTO COURTESY CALVIN.EDU

Senior Jake Hoogstrate shot 78.

and four back from Hope.

Calvin is scheduled to play in the Calvin Cup Alumni Tournament on May 3 at Watermark Country Club to finish up their season.

Time for top amateur athletes to receive their due

NCAA not fair to highly marketable, unpaid college athletes who make them millions of dollars

BY JACOB KUYVENHOVEN
Sports Editor

Imagine this: You are an absolutely brilliant young engineer with an amazing brain for design and mechanics. You created your own software before you hit puberty. You took apart a computer and put it back together in the first grade. You won every science fair and science olympiad event you entered all throughout middle and high school. Videos of you explaining theories and theorizing yourself were put online and watched by thousands of people.

Within a week of your high school graduation, you are approached by several high-profile engineering firms who all offer you positions with them for upwards of \$750,000 yearly. The position offer two years of guaranteed employment and the option for two more years if you are performing up to standards. After that, you can offer your services to the highest bidder as a “free agent.”

You would take this job, right? There is no way you would decline it in favor of going to college, even if a prestigious university offered you a full scholarship. It would not make sense for you on a financial basis, and someone of your ability would not really gain that much from a college education, anyway.

But there is a problem. You are not allowed to take the job. You are still considered an “amateur” by the (fictitious) National Collegiate Engineers Association, so you have to go to college. You will give conferences and speeches for which the university will charge \$50 a ticket, but you will not see any

of that money. Your face will be on university billboards and advertisements, but you will still eat in the dining halls and write 100-level papers. Does this sound fair to you?

No, not really. And this illustrates the problem with forcing basketball prodigies to attend at least a year of college and football prodigies at least three (and hopefully, it will make people think before they criticize players for leaving school to go pro early). If this happened in any

In addition to depriving athletes of the option to go pro early, universities make a ton of money off the unpaid players. And if an organization or school is going to make millions of dollars for charging high admission to games that feature athletes and using their likenesses in advertising, the athletes should receive some of that money. I see this as more of a fact than an opinion. If an organization did this in any kind of business practice not related to college athletics, they

no denying this is true for many college athletes. It is probably true for that baseball player at Georgia Southern and that distance runner at Minnesota. But using the same rationale for top NFL and NBA prospects that are already celebrities, like Johnny Manziel and Jabari Parker, is borderline ridiculous and seems like satire. These guys could make thousands of dollars just signing a couple autographs if they wanted. Their universities are not doing them any favors.



FILE PHOTO

It is hard to think Texas A&M should have much leverage with Johnny Football when he is the superstar.

other profession, it would be seen as incredibly unfair. I am not someone who emphasizes capitalism and American principles above all else, but I still believe that if you offer a service that people are clearly willing to pay for, you should be allowed to enter that market.

would be sued.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) likes to hide this practice and diminish it behind the shield of statements like “these are students first and athletes second” and “their scholarships are compensation enough.” There is

The falseness of the NCAA's vision is further exposed by what is happening on the playing field right in front of our eyes. This year's final March Madness game was between a team that performed so poorly in the classroom they were put on probation a year ago (Connecticut) and a team al-

most entirely comprised of freshmen looking to enter the NBA as soon as possible (Kentucky). Can anybody look at this matchup and still believe the NCAA's claims about the virtues of “student/athletes”? At the top level, the only reason these athletes are in school is because they are forced to be there.

And yet, the view that college athletes should receive compensation is still unpopular. SportsNation polls have repeatedly yielded results saying the majority of people do not want college athletes to receive compensation, and state that the idea of “amateurism” is still a priority for them. This has to be evidence of the widespread ignorance of the situation we have here.

Now, this is not to say that college athletes should have a set salary. I agree with the statement NCAA president Mark Emmert gave, saying that college athletes are not employees of the university. But if Nike wants to give a college athlete a shoe endorsement, they should be able to accept it. If an athlete wants to make money off their name at a public conference or autograph session, they should be able to do so. You could make a very strong argument that if a team makes it to a final four or a national championship, earning their school millions of dollars, they should get a cut of that money. If this is not feasible — if keeping college athletes unpaid is so important to the NCAA — at least give them the option to go straight to the pros from high school.

There is no need to sensationalize this — there are bigger problems in the world. But it is still quite odd to me that everyone seems OK with the NCAA making piles of money off people who are completely unpaid, all the while acting outraged when anyone questions these practices. I hope it will not be too long before they get what has been coming to them for quite a while.

Meijer Gardens announces summer concert series

The record-setting 30-act lineup includes Carlos Santana, John Legend and Phillip Phillips

BY GRACE RUITER
Local News Editor

Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park’s summer concert series will feature a record-setting 30 different acts this year. The lineup for the series features a number of popular performers, including John Legend, NEEDTOBREATHE, Phillip Phillips, the Barenaked Ladies and the Beach Boys.

Meijer Gardens president and CEO David Hooker told MLive.com that organizers originally hoped to book 25 different acts for the concert series, but when the opportunity arose to book more, they said yes. Hooker said he felt confident that, based on previous seasons, the concert series could support a few more acts.

The concert series, which is held in the outdoor amphitheater at the gardens, kicks off June 1 with 10-time Grammy Award winner Carlos Santana and wraps up on Sept. 7 with popular country artist and nine-time Grammy Award winner Sheryl Crow.

Eighteen of the acts will be performing at the gardens for the first time, including veteran R&B performer and songwriter John Legend and the Barenaked Ladies, a Canadian pop-rock group.

“We target 25 because if we tell our guests that, we feel very confident we can deliver,” Hooker told MLive.com. “We’ve con-

firmed 30 that we judge to be real solid artists we want to play in the amphitheater.”

The concert lineup has already generated a lot of buzz among locals. Many are especially excited about John Legend’s June 18 performance. Legend stands out to Calvin junior and musician Jenny LaJoye because he appeals to a broad audience.

“He’s a classic. He’s got a killer voice, and he grooves like nobody’s business on the piano. He’ll satisfy the singer-songwriter type and the critical musician.”

LaJoye also encourages concertgoers to check out the less well-known John Butler Trio, as well as music veterans like Ray LaMontagne:

“Look [John Butler Trio] up on Youtube. He’s such a great guitar player. He shreds on an acoustic like nobody’s business. Ray LaMontagne is another absolutely classic singer-songwriter.”

However, LaJoye says she is most excited about seeing Nickel Creek, which just released a new album after a 7-year hiatus.

“They’re rootsy, organic, experienced, brilliant and some of the best musicians you’ll ever encounter. The skill level and creativity is ridiculous,” LaJoye said. “I will spend an irresponsible amount of money to see them perform live.”

Tickets for the concert series go on sale publicly on May 10. Prices vary depending on the popularity of the performer. Prices for specific concerts can be found at <http://www.meijergardens.org>.



FILE PHOTO

Ten-time Grammy winner Carlos Santana will kick off the concert series on June 6.

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HIV treatment for newborns nearing clinical trial

BY NATHAN SLAUER
Staff Writer

On April 23, 1984, Dr. Robert Gallo and a team of colleagues discovered that human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) contributed to individuals receiving autoimmune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). As the 30th anniversary of this discovery took place this week, Dr. Gallo and fellow scientists claimed that two recent cases of apparently successful HIV/AIDS treatment on HIV-infected babies suggest that a functional HIV/AIDS cure may be in sight.

One prominent HIV case, which recently captured the attention of media outlets and scientists alike, concerns a baby girl born with HIV in Long Beach, Calif. The girl received high doses of three drugs — AZT, 3TC and nevirapine — four hours after she was born. Eleven days after, no traces of HIV could be found in the girl’s body, according to Dr. Deborah Persaud, the physician who led the testing.

When clinical researchers in Boston on March 5, 2014, for the annual AIDS conference heard of the Long Beach baby case, they compared it to a similar case that occurred last fall in which doctors used aggressive drug treatment to make a Mississippi baby’s HIV go into remission. In response to these two cases, attendees of the AIDS conference announced their intention to hold a clinical trial to test 60 HIV-infected babies with the same prescriptions given to the Long Beach and Mississippi babies.

Prior to the clinical trial’s occurrence, some scientists are already convinced that the two recent HIV-cases serve as compelling evidence that using drug therapy virtually at birth can kill

HIV before it establishes a permanent hold in the body.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, executive director of the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases, described the cases as “huge proof ... that you can cure someone if you can treat them early enough.”

Other scientists are less optimistic, calling for more evidence that the two cases are not mere flukes. “We want to be very cautious here,” said Dr. Katherine Luzuriaga, an HIV/AIDS expert who helped treat the Mississippi baby. Instead of calling the case a complete success, Luzuriaga calls it a “remission because we’d like to observe the child for a longer time and be absolutely sure there’s no rebound.”

Skeptics also point out that even if HIV can be suppressed at birth, there remains no proof that similar drug therapy could be used to treat HIV-infected adults.

Dr. Gallo argues that even if a complete HIV cure cannot be found, it may not matter if scientists can learn how to prevent HIV from taking hold at birth or how to suppress HIV for the length of an average human lifespan.

“If you say to me [we have found] a virological cure — no virus left, no viral gene left in the body — this is extremely difficult. There are two reported cases in the world right now and, honestly, it’s not even possible to conclude in those cases, although it’s likely,” said Gallo.

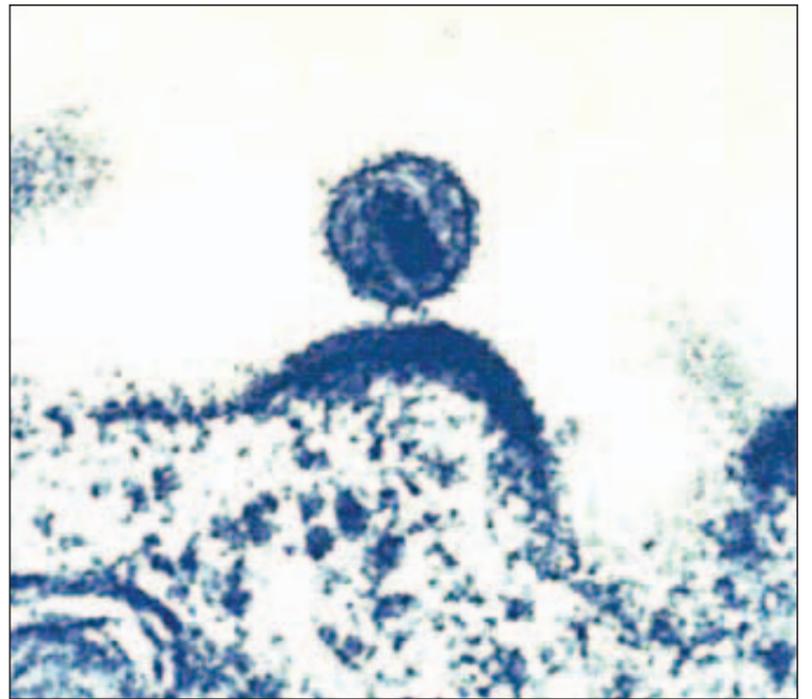
“Now how about functional cure, where the person lives a completely normal life span? Even in the best-treated people today there’s some evidence for an increased incidence of some cancers like lymphoma. Let’s say we get rid of all those increased frequencies. And [patients] don’t ever have to take the medicine

again. Is that achievable? And the answer to that is: I think so. If you say, ‘Put a date on it,’ I can’t. But you can see real possibilities because some of the drugs available now, and some that are just coming out, are truly, amazingly more efficient.”

If the upcoming HIV clinical trial affirms drug therapy’s usefulness in treating HIV at birth, it could benefit the approximately 250,000 babies born HIV-positive every year.

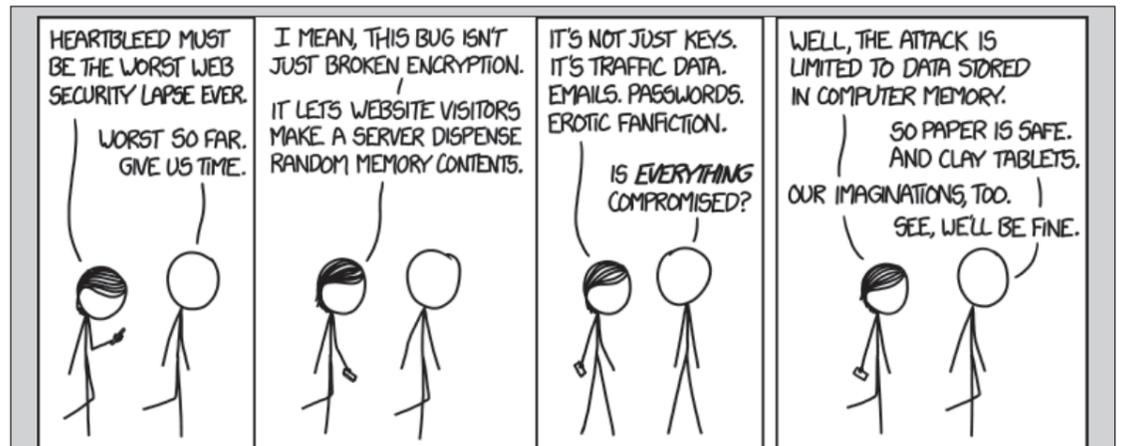
“Just the fact that we’re even mentioning the word ‘cure’ in terms of HIV is very exciting,” said Dr. Jeffrey T. Kirchner, director of the Comprehensive Care for HIV program at Lancaster General Hospital.

“It lends additional hope that people are working toward a cure for a disease that’s been around for 33 years now.”



FILE PHOTO

Infant HIV suppression does not necessarily imply a cure for adults.



XKCD COURTESY RANDALL MUNROE

I looked at some of the data dumps from vulnerable sites, and it was ... bad. I saw emails, passwords, password hints. SSL keys and session cookies. Important servers brimming with visitor IPs. Attack ships on fire off the shoulder of Orion, c-beams glittering in the dark near the Tannhäuser Gate. I should probably patch OpenSSL.

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From the Editor



This Wednesday was Honors Convocation, an opportunity to recognize the achievements of students, including myself and 60-odd honors graduates, who have shown academic excellence.

Certainly academic excellence deserves recognition, but the most important feature of the honors program at Calvin was not explicitly mentioned Wednesday night: community.

Honors programs can be a way to bring students passionate about intellectual growth together, and in my experience this motive tends to produce better scholars and people than simply the drive to do more work and get a fancy medal.

I entered high school from a lifetime of being homeschooled, which made it difficult for my high school to

place me in appropriate classes. Specifically, honors classes were restricted to students from approved feeder schools, which I was not. In retrospect, this didn't affect my academic career at all, but many of the people who later became my close friends were in those honors classes I wasn't in.

Perseverance and a steady supply of caffeine may help one's academic success, but it is an involvement in communities of intelligent, respectful, courageous and wise people that helps one become a better person. Academic programs are hardly the only examples of communities formed for the purpose of character formation, of course, but if we want to take our personal growth and success seriously, our communities are key.

~jdm

Senate Corner

We would like to extend congratulations to the new student senate! All candidates campaigned very well and it was an extremely competitive race. This year's elections also saw one of the highest voter turnouts senate has had, with about 1,600 students voting.

Applications for governance committees are available now! Applications are accessible via Google Form. For more information, contact Connor Schmidt at senateprep@calvin.edu.

Sitting on a governance committee, you will have

a voice equal to faculty and staff and have the opportunity to make long-term decisions for the college.

Student senate will be changing some of the disabilities signs around campus to an updated version. The new version from Gordon College has already been adopted at Calvin Seminary and depicts the person in a wheelchair as active and on-the-go.

Our hope is that this will be one of the steps that Calvin makes towards increasing access for people with disabilities. Our hope is also that by showing depictions of people with disabilities as active, the psychology surrounding people



with disabilities will start to change. We will be installing these signs in the parking lots over Academic Advising break.

Don't forget to connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and our website!

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ACROSS

1 United nations

5 Half (Pref.)

9 TV overseer (Abbr.)

12 Pearl Harbor site

13 Former mates

14 Carte lead-in

15 Honesty of purpose

17 Charged bit

18 Sudden rush of wind

19 Glossy alternative

21 Earth tone

24 Apiece

25 Hammer's target

26 As one

30 Web address

31 Melodic

32 Anger

33 Individuality

35 Error

36 Very dry, as champagne

37 Cock and bull

38 Figure of speech

40 Suitor

42 - canto

43 Nightstick

48 Ailing

49 Love god

50 Facility

51 Crafty

52 Info on a notarized document

53 Oodle?

DOWN

1 Cranberry territory

2 "7 Faces of Dr. —"

3 Discoverer's cry

4 Bat

5 Vast areas

6 Way out

7 Encountered

8 "Moby-Dick" narrator

9 Popular country singer

10 Coagulate

11 Walking stick

16 Bear hair

20 Performance

21 Burden

22 Give a darn

23 Backwoods dweller

24 "Zounds!"

26 Hit the horn

27 Yoko of music

28 Great Lake

29 Agents, for short

31 Hitched a ride

34 To and —

35 Pasta toppings

37 Has permission

38 Sacred Egyptian bird

39 Farmer's home?

40 Rorschach picture

41 Differently

44 401(k) alternative

45 Fond du —, Wis.

46 G8 member

47 Foundation

Super Crossword

NINETEENTH HOLE

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119									120										121	

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We Are Calvin

Seven stories from

Asians,

Hispanics/Latinos,

Africans &

Native

Americans

in the Calvin Community

BY KATRINA PARSONS,
LAUREN DEHAAN AND
JOSEPH MATHESON

Online Editors & Editor in Chief

When we at Chimes read through the Multicultural Affairs Committee's (MAC) recent State of the Campus report, we were shocked by the statistics and surprised that we hadn't heard them before. Even after we printed our articles, there was still disappointingly little discussion in the broader Calvin community about racial diversity.

Students from the United States who are African, Hispanic/Latino, Asian and Native American (AHANA) make up 13 percent of the student body this year, and the retention rate for AHANA students is 58 percent — seven percent lower than the retentions rate for the entire student body. The numbers for faculty and staff are worse: just under 10 percent of faculty and only 6.5 percent of staff are AHANA, as of November 2012.

Despite these sobering statistics, the Calvin community as a whole spends little time addressing diversity concerns. The MAC report also noted that less than half of faculty report having attended one diversity-themed event in the past year, despite it being a requirement to attend at least one a year. Student body

participation is likely much lower.

These facts certainly point to a problem of diversity at Calvin, but a bombardment of statistics tend not to inspire people to build relationships. Those 13 percentage points are our coworkers, our neighbors. Those statistics have faces and those faces have stories.

The lack of diversity at Calvin has been a topic of serious discussion at the administrative level, and while that discussion is important for effecting institutional change, Chimes is concerned that the stories of students and faculty who live and work at Calvin have not received the attention they deserve.

We know that majority groups can feel defensive when they hear stories of discrimination that minority groups face, and we want to be clear that our purpose is not to accuse, but to illuminate. We want to start difficult but important conversations that result in true reconciliation and healed relationships, which is impossible without honestly discussing together areas that we still have to improve.

We're grateful for these thoughtful and articulate reflections that turn the discussion from an abstract administrative concern to a discussion of individual experiences at Calvin. As with any time someone is sharing their personal story, we encourage readers to listen diligently.

Daniel José Camacho

2013 GRADUATE

I don't blame the ones who leave and I never hold it against them. I, myself, contemplated transferring during every semester that I attended

Calvin because I wanted an education that would both respect my faith and allow me to study broadly. And for the most part, that's what I received. I found professors and staff who nurtured me intellectually and spiritually. Yet, in the process, I also ended up learning what it meant to be a student of color at a very white Christian college. I stayed

interacted with Latino people apart from those who provided services to them. It was hard to sometimes feel commodified, like a little bit of flavor being used to spice up somebody else's main dish.

The awkwardness continued when people asked "what" I was, when white people tried to act "gangster" around me, when they asked if I was an "illegal," when some international students didn't understand why I wasn't more grateful, when I was surrounded by enthusiasm for concerts and events that didn't connect with me, when I heard the annual backlash from white students during UnLearn Week who claimed that they were being oppressed. I learned the art of laughing it off because I didn't have enough time to cry.

The worst part is that I thought there was something wrong with me. When I addressed an incident in which a student drew swastikas on my dorm floor, I was met by silence or made to feel like the problem. I was too sensitive. I was too angry. I learned how the Christian virtues of love and patience could be used to paper over wounds and justify inaction.

Microaggressions, paternalisms and cultural appropriations were not limited only to a handful of "conservative" students making jokes in dorms or "progressive" students loving the poor in Africa. I also witnessed people of color slighted by a high-brow intellectual racism that kept diversity concerns at arm's length.

I share my story as someone who loves Calvin. It enriched my faith and gave me amazing friends and mentors. It opened my path to graduate studies. I also share my story as someone who has been hurt and seen others hurt at Calvin.

How can Calvin improve? There is a rich legacy of faith and a reformed identity to uphold. Yet, there are requirements and barriers for people of color at Calvin that make this feel like a one-way street. Is there a way for us to honor Calvin's heritage and reformed identity while also making room for diversity and transformation?



Calvin. As a second-generation Latino with darker skin, my desire to leave was largely due to my experiences of racism and cultural isolation. Every time another friend, staff member or professor of color left Calvin — which was far too often — it rippled through my world like a small shock wave. There were already few people I could identify with.

So why did I stay? The short answer is that I felt God calling me to be at Calvin. I had decided to go to

because I felt called to witness in this environment and to make this a better place for all students who would come after me.

During my first year, I remember an orientation event held at chapel in which we, as an incoming class, were asked to find two or three students from another culture to interact with. Not a terrible idea in principle, except that I was clearly outnumbered, felt cornered and felt objectified by students not shy to share with me that they had never

Rachel (Rae) Mason

SENIOR

Most wouldn't expect this from me. My time here at Calvin has been filled with knowledge, fun, pain, growth and everything in between. As a student of color I have felt neglected, singled out and misunderstood one too many times. When deciding to attend Calvin, I figured I'd have a great experience because I was going to be a part of a thriving, inclusive, God-fearing community. Yet from the first day of my freshman year, my experience has often been otherwise.

I remember stepping onto this campus, and one of the first questions I was asked was, "So what country are you from?" Not even a "hello," or "hi, what's your name?" — just an assumption that I was from a different

country, even though I'm from a small suburb in Illinois. From that point on, I was wary of calling this place home. I sometimes felt like an outcast in my dorm because I was the only African-American on my floor. It seemed like only my suitemates wanted to get to know me. I tried to participate in events, but it never felt like I was wanted or could fit in.

In the classroom setting I always get excited when I'm not the only person of color in the room, which is very rare. There have been numerous occasions when the matter of race or injustice has been raised and eyes divert to me. I am not the spokesperson for the people of the African-American or AHANA communities, but it sometimes seemed that way during many class discussions.

There was an incident when a faculty member told me that I would have a better chance of getting a job after graduation because I was a black female —

never a word about my gifts, skills or talents, but rather just my skin color and gender. Comments like these make me feel like just another number at this institution.

It is not welcoming when I constantly get unwanted hands in my hair, or when my fellow classmates ask me if I'm from the "hood," or if I can teach them how to "twerk." My hair is not an exhibit; just because I'm African-American doesn't mean I was raised in the hood; and, yes, I love to dance, but I can do more than "twerk."

I have thought about transferring many times. Even though I have been able to thrive in various leadership roles and participate in many activities that have challenged my faith, I have still felt like an outcast at Calvin. The main reason I am still here is because I have a strong support system, especially from the faculty and staff of color at this institution. Without their wisdom and support, I can't say that

I would've stayed or thrived here.

This is my life at Calvin. I love this place and what it has to offer; that's why I'm still here. But I want my fellow classmates, as well as faculty and staff, to understand my position as a student of color and realize there must be a change in some areas and how we interact in this community. Not just for me, but for others like me and the others to come.



We Are Calvin [too]: Stories from AHANA students, alumni and faculty

By Tonisha Lynn Begay

In my three years at Calvin, I've had 29 white professors and only one professor of color. These numbers aren't too surprising in light of the recent State of the Campus report by the Multicultural Affairs Committee (MAC) which highlighted the fact

that "no faculty of color have ever retired from Calvin and few have been tenured." The retention of faculty and staff of color is significant because it directly correlates to the experience and retention of students of color. Low retention rates for faculty of color reveal racial injustices, policies and practices that are still deeply embedded within Calvin's struc-

ture and suggest the need for further change.

A growing number of students, staff, faculty and alumni of color, along with white allies, have organized to address these concerns. Our movement aims to make Calvin a more welcoming environment for people of color. This includes telling our personal stories. Many of us have found a tension between

grace and truth here at Calvin College. Grace can be used to veil truth in a way that allows inequalities to persist. Our understanding of any authentic form of grace and reconciliation stems from truth. Grace without truth isn't really grace; love without truth isn't really love. As Desmond Tutu said, "True reconciliation exposes the awfulness, the abuse, the

hurt, the truth."

We want to be clear, the stories here come from a place of love; we love Calvin College, we love the people here, we love the work God has done and is doing here. God's work is not done at Calvin; we have a long way to go to become the reflection of God's kingdom we are called to be.



Kathryn Knox

JUNIOR

Being a student of color here at Calvin has not been easy. I came to Calvin freshman year, from a predominantly white high school full of upper-class families who did not fully understand me, hoping for a place where I could fit in among my Christian brothers and sisters. Sadly, I found the opposite.

Living in the dorms freshman year, there were times when I honestly felt like I was an animal in a zoo. I was insignificant enough for some to easily ignore and exclude me from social life and intriguing enough to others that they couldn't wait to ask the most insulting and ignorant questions possible to entertain themselves with my reactions and appease their curiosity.

In one instance, a minstrel-like drawing of a black man was put on one of the doors of my hall for sheer comedy without regard for the offensive history of these images. No action was taken. No one even

batted an eye.

Aside from the ignorance that I encountered in my dorm, I experienced similar, if not more, examples of frustrating behavior and intolerance among the staff and professors in the classrooms. I had professors singling me out for my "non-traditional" views on things because of my different background; students stopping me after every class that had to deal with

Living in the dorms freshman year, there were times when I honestly felt like I was an animal in a zoo.

some aspect of race to express their sorrows for "being more privileged" than me; professors who were intolerant of my faith as a Pentecostal and made jokes to belittle our practices; and people in places of power at Calvin enforcing their views on issues of faith without any consideration of my own values as a non-CRC student.

Sadly, faculty and staff of color are in short supply at Calvin and are often in positions where they are strategically hidden from the public eye and cannot be beneficial and present for the students,

or they are recycled and swapped around in diversity roles like the Multicultural Student Development Office (MSDO) or in Pre-College Programs with positions that involve recruiting minority students for Entrada. Don't misunderstand me; people of color in these positions are beneficial because they are good resources for AHANA students. However, this strategy deprives white students at Calvin from being

able to engage with faculty and professors who have different backgrounds and stories to share that might aid in Calvin's mission to make our community more culturally aware. If we continue in this cycle, we will never reach this goal.

This piece is only a snippet of the stories that I have to tell about the injustices I have experienced here. I love Calvin and I wouldn't trade my experiences for anything. I could even say that I have experienced more good days than bad; however, my love for this school does not excuse or negate the fact that students in my position have to suffer injustices everyday based on a physical identifier. I am Kathryn, and I am Calvin too.

Bianca Edwards

SOPHOMORE

I was so excited to come to Calvin, especially after experiencing Entrada (the summer scholars program for minority high school students). Although my family was against me coming to Calvin because of my background and for financial reasons, I was convinced that Calvin was the perfect fit for me. And that is still the case: I couldn't picture myself being in another college, even though I am pressed daily to consider a more diverse community.

I will never forget the day a professor made me feel uncomfortable in front our whole classroom. We did an exercise called "Privilege Walk." All the students stood shoulder to shoulder in a line. He directed us to "move forward a step if your parents are paying for your college education." After a few similar statements I knew that

the exercise was a demonstration of race and white power based on the fact that I was only moving a few steps forward while others ahead of me were far beyond my reach. At the end, the professor handed a candy bar to whoever got closest to him. I wasn't even close to getting that candy bar. I felt that instead of students trying to understand what the professor wanted to show us, they focused on who was left behind. I could feel my

It is extremely hard to emphasize to people at Calvin that we must talk about race and ethnicity to become cross-cultural.

face getting hot, and I was so ready for it to be over. I talked to the professor about it afterward, and he apologized, but I still wanted to be completely done with the class. This is not the only time that I have been confronted by uncomfortable situations at Calvin, but this is one that impacted me a lot.

I also can never grasp

why people don't come to the Multicultural Student Development Office (MSDO) events and why they think it is only for students of color when the acronym clearly states MULTICULTURAL. It is extremely hard to emphasize to people at Calvin that we must talk about race and ethnicity to become cross-cultural. I couldn't tell you how many times people at Calvin asked me if I was black, and when I told them that I was Dominican, replied, "oh, I didn't know you were biracial!"

Calvin wants to be diverse, but I see little effort to try to engage with the people at Calvin who give the college the LITTLE diversity that it has. I really love it at Calvin, and I always defend it when others speak badly about it. I just wish Calvin would love me and acknowledge that I am here too. I am not just a demographic to add to the school. I am a person of color, who wants to feel welcomed, and a person who earned her right to be here at Calvin, just like everybody else.





RaeAnna Hudnell

ON BEHALF OF HER SISTER
RAENOSA HUDNELL, CALVIN
GRADUATE

Once during my time at Calvin I was walking from my dorm past the smokers pit and heard someone comment, “I hate black people.” Automatically I felt uncomfortable, because I was outnumbered, and didn’t know if anyone in the smokers pit would try anything. Some people in the group told the commenter to stop. But the person who made the comment continued, saying “Well, they are stupid anyways.”

I knew one of the people in the smoker pit — they actually were one of my friends. I asked them to tell me who made the comment, but they refused. I told my

RA, but I did not want anyone to be confronted because I did not know specifically who made the comment.

In our dorm, there was a theme: “Open door, happy floor.” So I usually left my door open. Once when I was doing my hair, three white floormates stood in the doorway and asked if I was ready for dinner. I was, but then one of the girls commented, “Are you sure you are ready, because you don’t look like it.”

She made a comment about weave and then she said, “Aren’t you surprised I know what you are doing?” She said it like I was an exhibit and like I was doing something so completely weird, when I was just doing my hair. She made a big deal out of it and it was in front of those other girls. After that, I decided to keep my door closed because I did not want that to ever happen again.

Victor Hugo Perez

My decision to attend Calvin was made easy by the Entrada program. I fell in love with the people and the environment I found at Calvin during that one month. As much as I loved the program, however, I feel it left me with a false impression of what Calvin was really like in terms of its diversity and atmosphere.

Something that struck me was how much I felt like I didn’t belong, or I just couldn’t relate to many of the Calvin students. I come from a poor background, so going to college was always talked about in my house. I realized that I came from a different background than most people going to Calvin, but I couldn’t understand the people I met who behaved totally differently from how they actually were outside of Calvin.

We live in a society in which we are constantly told how to conduct ourselves and what is appropriate for each situation. An experience I had in one of my classes quickly reminded me of this. I was asked to answer a question about the readings, so in my mind I said “no problem,”

and answered the question. To my surprise everybody started laughing, including the professor. At this moment I’m sitting back thinking I must have answered it wrong — why else would everybody be laughing? The professor finishes laughing and moves on to the next question, so I stop him mid-question and ask, “So was that answer right?” He says, “Yeah, that was the right answer.” I realized that they weren’t laughing at my answer but instead at the way I said it, because of my tendency to talk with a thuggish accent at times. This experience discouraged me from speaking in class for a time.

At first, I decided to try speaking more like the people I chose to go to school with, but then I snapped out of it and decided I should just talk and not worry about what people think. I have always been a very independent person and wanted to forge my own path, but I felt pressured to fit in and go with the flow.

People may want to believe that racism isn’t prevalent in our society or here at Calvin, but it is. It has simply taken on new forms. The way I speak and dress comes from the people and culture I grew up with. Unfortunately, people are trained to look down on people that look or talk like me.

Dr. Randall Jelks

FORMER FACULTY MEMBER

I was fortunate to have been hired by Calvin in 1992 and spent 15 years working in its vineyard. I was tremendously blessed to have come to a history department in a liberal arts college with world-class scholars.

However, like so many minority faculty members all over the country, I held two jobs. I was both a teacher and the director of academic multicultural programs. When I arrived, I set out to do two things: build academic programs that challenged the intellectual moorings of the faculty to learn more about people who lived in Grand Rapids and from other parts of the world. Wittingly and unwittingly, white supremacy and missionary paternalism were the twin evils I sought to challenge on campus.

In terms of students, I sought to build the minority student population up by building its esteem, knowledge and skills. I listened to student concerns and took a posture that we had to build programs that nurtured them. We accessed grants from the state of Michigan to hire a retention specialist in Student Academic Services and start the Mosaic floor. I set out to make the Entrada Scholars Program a stellar program by getting a grant from the Ford Foundation.

Finally, we sought to transform student life in every way. All students can blame me for putting a cross-cultural requirement in Calvin’s core requirements, which I thought was necessary for most Calvin students who were from parochial backgrounds and did not appreciate the beauty of all God’s people in a non-paternalistic way.

However, with all these accomplishments in addition to the first book, an award winning one, published on African-American history in Grand Rapids by the University of Illinois Press, I was denied the opportunity to be a full professor.

Truth be told, I was not a Calvin College product; I was too much the child

of the civil rights movement and Black Power movements from New Orleans to the south side of Chicago. I was politicized in ways most people who worked at Calvin never quite understood. My abilities to lead and think critically were never formed by the conservative dictates of the Christian schools, the

remain proud of. Notwithstanding, I am grateful for all the opportunities that Calvin and I mutually gave to each other.

In closing, here’s what I wish to impart to Calvin’s minority students. Back in the day, I would tell all minority students to act as though you own the joint and take advantage of every possible opportunity the college makes available to you. Don’t type cast yourself because others are. Build community with one another proudly. Be proud of where you came from and do not let anyone dis’ your hood or your set

of experiences, intellectually or personally. Finally, it is not your responsibility to teach the college about your particularities, it is the college’s job to teach all students about the experiences of all kinds of people.

As always, I am
Randal Maurice Jelks

it is not your responsibility to teach the college about your particularities, it is the college’s job to teach all students about the experiences of all kinds of people.

college, the seminary or the Christian Reformed Church — I was outside its orb. I was an ethnically black outlier.

Ironically, I felt deeply hurt leaving the college because I made lifelong friends at Calvin and taught a superior set of undergraduates, who I



By Tonisha Lynn Begay

If Calvin is serious about our mission to “equip students to think deeply, to act justly and to live wholeheartedly,” and if Calvin is truly guided by a vision for the kingdom of God and renewal, Calvin’s administration, faculty, staff and student body will acknowledge the experiences of people of color at Calvin and actively work toward addressing Calvin’s problems of systemic and individual racism. This begins by listening to the stories of those affected by the sin of racism here on our campus. True narratives of people of color here on campus include joy and pain, love and hate, trust and mistrust, acceptance and suspicion, exclusion and embrace. Our narratives can-

not be used to justify the sinful actions (and inactions) of our institution. Calvin needs to press on toward a movement of justice and love that isn’t just talked about but lived out daily. We can’t stop at peripheral change — our sin is deeper than that.

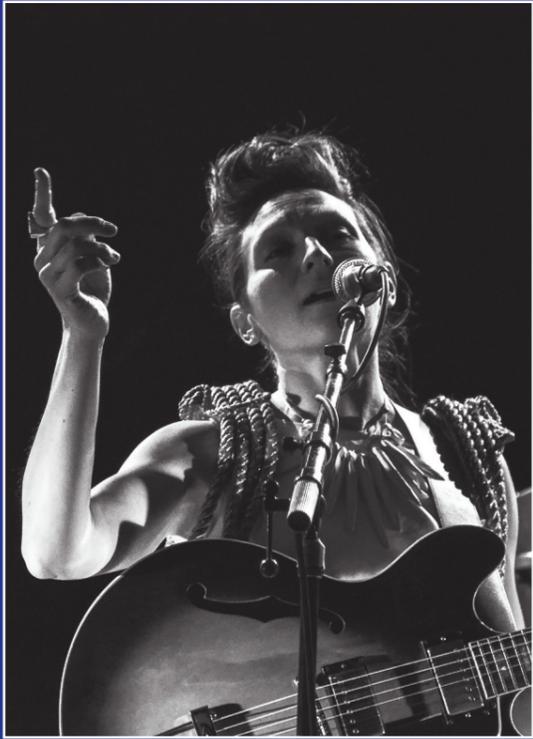
We want Calvin to pick up our responsibility for adequately equipping its students, faculty, staff and alumni, as well as its faith and academic communities with the tools necessary to fight racism. That burden should not be placed on the single first-year student of color in her classroom or the only student of color on his dorm floor. Calvin needs to take anti-racism seriously and extend it beyond rhetoric, the FEN document and UnLearn week

and into the classroom, the dining halls, concert venues, service-learning activities, sports events, residence halls, faculty meetings and the fields of academia.

We pray these stories will illuminate the need for change at Calvin and spark discussions about anti-racism throughout every square inch of Calvin.

We invite Calvin’s community to engage in dialogue about these stories and this movement at a forum which will be held in the Chapel on April 28 at 6 p.m.

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The
NATIONAL
 with
**MY BRIGHTEST
 DIAMOND**
 and
**THE LONE
 BELLOW**
 photos by
JAMES LI

