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Leaders entertain hiring policy questions



Laura Miller, a first-year, poses a question to Jim Brenneman, GC president. Brenneman is joined by Carlos Romero, executive director of MEA; Bill Born, VP of student life; and Anita Stalter, VP of academic affairs, from left to right.

Photo by Lauren Weaver

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A crowd of more than 50 students and faculty gathered on campus Wednesday night for a question and answer session about Goshen College's hiring policy.

The event, hosted by Student Senate, brought a panel of administrators, including Carlos Romero, executive director of Mennonite Education Agency;

James Brenneman, GC president; Anita Stalter, vice president for academic affairs; and Bill Born, vice president for student life, to field questions.

Senate's goal for the event was to learn more about how students fit into the broader governing system of higher education, as well as how Goshen College and its president's council relate to the wider body of Mennonite churches and boards, specifically in discussions of sexuality.

The panel began by outlining Goshen College's relationship with MEA and the larger Mennonite Church. Romero described the relationship as one of "interdependence and mutual accountability." MEA is one of five program agencies that are part of Mennonite Church USA; the GC board is accountable to MEA, and MEA is in turn accountable to the executive board of MC USA. The Church is currently

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Bethel: changes to language, not policy

When Bethel College (Kan.)'s faculty passed a proposal for revision to discrimination language in their Human Rights and Affirmative Action Policies with a 29-5 faculty vote last Tuesday, some thought the action was a changed hiring policy to include professors of openly same-sex orientation. To clarify, the "We Support New BC Hiring Policy" Facebook page misinterpreted the meaning of the action, according to Lori L. Livengood, vice president for marketing and communications.

"The proposed revisions to statements in the faculty handbook reflect a clarification of discrimination language, not a change in hiring policy," said Livengood. "As the guiding principle for its hiring policy, Bethel College has historically sought full compliance with the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and its spirit of non-discrimination. The faculty's recent vote signals support for more precision within the institution's human rights and affirmative action statements and an attempt to more closely align that language with existing non-discriminatory practices in hiring."

BC's Board of Directors will meet this week to review the vote and may adopt the revised language.

A factory shift makes possible a college degree

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Placido Rodríguez begins his work day at Patrick Industries, a recreational vehicle company in Bremen, well before sunrise.

He drives from his home in Elkhart to stack drywall and wood panels, hour after hour, working to give his family a better life.

"I work a 10-hour shift with one 15-minute break and a half-hour lunch break," Placido Rodríguez said, "I have to wake up at 3:30 a.m., start at 5 a.m. and end at 3:45 p.m."

Meanwhile, his son, Alejandro, is sitting in a Climate Change class at Goshen College by 9 a.m., three mornings a week. Alejandro Rodríguez, a junior, intends to be a high school teacher, working with students for whom English is a new language.

Alejandro Rodríguez appreciates all the effort that his father and his mother, Evelia Rodríguez, have expended to provide him with opportunities that they never had. His mother, too, had labored at a factory, though she currently works at home.

"They have to get up at extraordinary hours of the day and when they come home they are



Alejandro Rodríguez runs in a cross country competition during September 2012.

Photo by Lauren Weaver

exhausted," Alejandro Rodríguez said. "Sometimes I feel that I should be the one working so they don't have to work at the factory any more. Every day when I come home and see my dad at the dinner table exhausted, I see the hard work he does for us. It makes me want to try harder in school so I can return the favor."

Alejandro Rodríguez said that he is always aware of the differences between the first and second generations of Latino immigrants.

"The biggest difference I see between my generation and my parents' generation is the education," he said. "They never

had the opportunity to go to school. Since they never got the opportunity, I can also see some of the small things they have missed out on like having the opportunity to be in a school club, band or sport."

Even though he is pleased to be able to attend a private college, Alejandro Rodríguez said that he, too, faces challenges.

"My biggest difficulty would probably be the economic problems with school," he said. "I can't live on campus because of financial issues, and so I have to stress myself to travel from

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Ecological stewardship committee looks to honor trees

One student will continue the work of another in an attempt to make GC a 'tree campus'

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Three years ago Joe Friesen, a 2010 graduate, started the process of applying for Goshen to become a Tree Campus, but was not able to finish before he graduated.

Members of the Ecological Stewardship Committee have decided to follow through with Friesen's efforts. Carina Zehr, a senior, will be taking the student leadership position on this initiative.

The Tree Campus concept is similar to the Tree City concept started by the Arbor Day Foundation.

In order to become certified as a Tree Campus, the school has to meet five standards. According to the Arbor Day Foundation website, these standards include: the formation of a tree advising committee, the development of a tree care plan, a tree program with dedicated annual funding expeditions, an arbor day

observation and the incorporation of a service learning project.

For Zehr and the committee, the aim of becoming a certified tree campus is "to create a community that values the trees that we have on campus."

The certification requires a care plan from the college, and the committee's objective not only strives to encourage a deeper appreciation for the campus trees, but also to create an opportunity to develop the sense of community on campus. Zehr hopes for Goshen students to become involved in volunteering and continuing to care about the campus trees.

The upcoming service learning project for this initiative will be held on will Friday, April 11th, helping the grounds department plant trees. The event will be taking place from 1-4 p.m. on campus.

An Arbor Day observance event will also be taking place in conjunction with the city on April 25th. The event is open to the campus community.

By becoming a Tree Campus, "Goshen students can become involved in the care of trees on campus and the campus can show to the broader community that we care about our trees," said Zehr.

For the RECORD

I signed GC Open Letter because I believe an inclusive hiring policy is right for Goshen College.

Homosexuality is a controversial topic in Christian circles these days, Mennonite circles notwithstanding. So it was only a matter of time before the topic came up on this Mennonite campus. As a liberal arts campus populated by critical thinkers, and as a Christian campus packed with compassionate peacemakers, it almost feels natural to entertain such a topic.

However, until professors and other faculty are allowed to openly share their experiences in same-sex relationships, I believe we fall short of being those things.

I expect that many people will agree to disagree regarding homosexuality in the Church. However, as it stands at GC, young and emerging Church leaders are not receiving the education they need to face this increasingly polarized Church.

At this parachurch organization, which trains young people to enter dialogues like these, we are denied the opportunity see how highly educated professors enter such discussions under the current employment community standards (the “hiring policy”).

GC’s students – and might I add, the Church – need the articulate voices of faculty and staff to model a healthy discourse

regarding homosexuality.

Because Goshen College is not the Church – we support it, we were started by it, but churches do not require anyone to pay five-digit fees annually to be members – it does not even seem relevant to consider the role of homosexuality in the Church on this topic. To me, updating the employment community standards should be a matter of maintaining the integrity of a campus that claims to support critical thinking and compassionate peacemaking.

Along those lines, I call upon GC’s board of directors to consider revamping the employment community standards at their regular meeting scheduled this summer. I ask that GC’s policies actively welcome the hiring of a faculty that reflects the diversity of students, and to compassionately welcome people who have experienced marginalization in the Church and in the world... even if it means being a “prophetic voice.”

Over the past year, The Record has reported the activities of people with varying opinions on this topic; it has reported on GC’s goal to become a Hispanic Serving Institution and this week, it reports that students facing racial microaggressions are speaking up in the form of a photo project. We strive to be a diverse campus – and steadily we are becoming more so. The student voices reflected in

The Record demonstrate that.

When GC Open Letter’s Facebook page chose to feature supportive Latino voices for changing the employment community standards almost two weeks ago, it was a step in the right direction. Anyone regardless of race, culture, gender, et cetera, can support inclusion and equality. Those voices made that point clear.

Therefore, I also call upon the signers of GC Open Letter to extend their advocacy and to ask GC policy makers to more actively and systemically seek to diversify our faculty and staff across all lines.

Where is my Black-and-male prof? Where are my other social minority profs?

During a conversation the other day about my post-college plans, I was encouraged to consider coming back to GC to teach sometime in the future. And I thought how unique it is that I can even consider that a possibility. Many people cannot.

Goshen, ask yourselves, who are the individuals on campus that cannot come back as employees to GC because of policies or systemic discrimination? Are you okay with that?

Quinn Brenneke, a senior, is the editor-in-chief of the Record. “For the Record” is a weekly editorial.

the Record

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Merry Lea Sustainability Semester changes

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The fall sustainability program at Merry Lea will arrive next year with a new name. Formerly known as the Sustainability Semester in Residence, the program is now called Sustainability Leadership Semester.

According to the Merry Lea website, the program has a focus in sustainable living, community engagement, health and leadership.

This opportunity is only available during the fall semester because it is the only time the weather is warm enough to allow students to live in Merry Lea’s sustainable housing.

During the semester, students earn 15 credits in classes such as Landscape Limnology and Faith, Ethics and Eco-justice.

The semester includes an eight-day canoe trip from Merry Lea to Lake Michigan. On the trip, students meet farmers and government officials and learn what their roles are in maintaining the watershed. Throughout the trip, the students sleep in tents and cook over a campfire.

Students also go on an overnight team-building trip to Deer Run in Allen County. While there, the students maneuver through the high and low



David Miller, an alumnus, poses holds a chicken in front of Merry Lea's egg-mobile. Photo contributed by Comm Mar

rope courses.

They also get to work in small groups with local organizations to arrive at a solution for a real sustainability-related problem.

Hannah Geiser, a 2012 graduate, said her favorite part of the semester at Merry Lea was “Fun Friday’s.” Fun Friday’s were focused on learning sustainable living skills that are used in everyday lives. These activities include food preservation, beekeeping, honey harvesting and bread and cheese making.

Tom Hartzell, Merry Lea coordinator for residential programs and environmental

science educator, said that many students say these activities are fun and educational.

Geiser said that she ate the best food of her life during the three months of the program and that she especially liked the beet burgers.

Geiser said that the main lesson of the semester for her group of seven students was summed up into one word: WRD. This stood for “water runs downhill.” One can only begin to imagine the fun and lessons these students learned during their semester at Merry Lea, especially with a motto like “WRD.”

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From ‘Goshen dating’ to wedding bells

Campus couples preparing to ‘tie the knot’ tell their engagement stories

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Wedding bells are ringing at Goshen College. This school year, there have been several wedding proposals – some in a romantic discreet setting, others in front of the entire student body.

Landon Slabaugh was very courageous to ask his girlfriend Emily Gibbs, a junior, to marry him in front of the entire school. At the spring semester Kick-Off, Slabaugh, also a junior, prepared a song to perform at the show with the assistance of his friends. No one was expecting the moment when all of the men’s significant others came on stage. It didn’t take long before Slabaugh had a solo part and got on one knee to propose. Gibbs had no idea what Slabaugh was going to do beforehand.

“I didn’t expect it at all actually,” Gibbs said. “I didn’t even know I was going on stage. All I knew was that Landon, Kolton [Nay], Brody [Thomas] and Nick [Schwartz] were singing something. They wouldn’t say what, so I figured they were up to something, but I didn’t think it would be that.”

Gibbs also liked the fact that she was proposed to in front of

many people. “The good thing about the engagement being in front of nearly the entire student body was that I didn’t have to tell too many of my GC friends about it since they were there,” Gibb said. “I liked that because I didn’t have to awkwardly tell people. Instead, everyone kept coming up to us, congratulating us and asking to see my ring.” And Gibbs couldn’t be happier about her ring. “He did a great job. It fits my style perfectly; simple but beautifully artistic.” As for wedding plans Gibbs and Slabaugh have decided that the wedding will be somewhere in Goshen in June of 2015.

Khavoir Dario Graham, a junior, took a more romantic and discreet approach to his proposal. Graham proposed to his girlfriend, Teagan Johnson, junior, on March 21. Johnson had no idea Graham was going to propose to her.

“I did not expect it whatsoever,” Johnson said. “He told me we were going to dinner with his bosses so he had me dress up in heels and everything and then had me walk across campus to eventually get to the spot where we first met. I jokingly complained most of the walk about how my feet would be killing me by the end of the night. If I knew what he actually had planned I would have shut up – and maybe worn different shoes.”

Johnson’s initial reaction when Graham went down on one knee “was a mixture.”

“I kind of thought how

embarrassing it would be if he was joking because people were passing by and had actually stopped to watch,” Johnson said. “Mostly I was dumbstruck. I couldn’t form many thoughts other than ‘is this actually happening?’ I must’ve said that about 20 times after it all happened.”

People have had various reactions to their engagement, Johnson said.

“So many people have told us not to rush marriage and to just enjoy life,” Johnson said. “That’s probably the most common thing for adults to say to us. It all comes from a good place, where they want us to travel and see the world and have experiences before ‘settling down.’”

Johnson said she won’t speak for Graham, but “I’m so crazy in love with him and he is my best friend in the world, so any experiences I have, I want to share with him,” she said. “Being a nursing student, I’ve seen so many people who were living life completely healthy and then they got sick and can’t do the things which they once wanted to do. Life’s short. I’ve found an amazing man who I love and maybe more importantly, with whom I have an amazing friendship.”

While the couple does not have any wedding plans yet, Graham talked about going to Johnson’s hometown to ask her parents for her hand in marriage.

“I talked to her family,” Graham said. “I went down to Indianapolis to ask for her hand in marriage and their



Emily Gibbs and Landon Slabaugh. Photo contributed



Khavoir Dario Graham and Teagan Johnson. Photo contributed

blessings when Teagan had a doctor’s appointment.” Johnson said, “If I was lucky enough to get him to propose, I’m not letting him get away. He’s with me forever.”

Goshen Skeptics: a community for discussing, asking questions

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Amidst tea, the occasional cake and good company, Goshen Skeptics meets every Sunday at 1 p.m. for discussion and questions. The original idea for Goshen Skeptics was to have a church-like experience without the religion, according to Petey Biddle, a junior. He co-founded the group along with Peter Meyer-Reimer, a sophomore, to provide a space on campus for those who identify as non-believers or nonreligious.

Goshen Skeptics was meant to be “a community of people who like the community they were able to find in the church, but didn’t believe so much in a divine being,” said Meyer-Reimer.

Goshen Skeptics began in the fall of 2013. The group tries to meet every Sunday at 1 p.m., at either Kenwood or Vita house. Anywhere from three to 20 people meet for Goshen Skeptics, which was formed to support non-believers on campus.

“As a non-believer, this community allows me to comfortably ask questions and discuss topics that I wouldn’t feel as safe asking in most religious settings,” said Biddle.

The skeptics meet for support, diverse opinions, and discussion about whatever might be on their minds that week.

“We just discuss everything,”



Peter Meyer-Reimer, Kate Yoder, Petey Biddle, Rob Lopez, Alex Pletcher, Jacob Martin and Jon Hershberger at Vita House for a Goshen Skeptics gathering. Photo by Lauren Weaver

said Kate Yoder, a junior. “It’s not just bunch of men bashing religion.”

The topics are diverse and the discussion is varied, but the members express their gratitude in finding a place that welcomes different perspectives about the human condition.

“I think it’s just the feeling I get from the discussion of taking time to think deeply in a

community of people that I feel comfortable with,” Yoder said, in response to why she choses to be a part of Goshen Skeptics.

There tend to be common threads of discussion across weeks, but not overall themes. Discussion topics may focus on the ethics of charity, nature of reality, Paul Keim’s work with words and the importance of puns and snacks.

Yoder described the meetings as a place where “we talk about things that you might discuss in a religious setting... in a non-religious framework.”

The discussion could stem from a Facebook post, an article someone read, or the book Yoder brings, Sum by David Eagleman.

“Skeptics is a way a community of people can come together and explore and explain

the world around us without the assumption of a divine being,” Meyer-Reimer said.

There is a Facebook page anyone can join to get updates and the group is always welcome to new members.

“While many of us are atheist or agnostic, we strongly encourage anyone who loves to engage in discussion to join us on Sundays,” Biddle said.

BRIEFS

United Club Week

Today, Mar. 3 at 9:30 p.m.

•Stories from LGBTQ Students and Community Members by SWAA and Advocates in the 3rd floor connector.

Friday, Mar. 4 at 6:30 p.m.

•Communication Barriers Between the Hearing and the Deaf by ASL Club in NC 17.

Saturday, Mar. 5 at 3 p.m.

•Around the World Trivia Game by International Student Club in the 1st floor Connector.

Academic Symposium

Goshen College’s annual Student Academic Research Symposium will be held at 12 p.m. this Saturday in the Church-Chapel. Students will present their research on various topics.

Goshen Graphix II

Goshen Graphix II, a student-created graphic novel and comic book, will be released this Friday at Better World Books from 6 to 8 p.m. The event will include brief presentations by Jessica Baldanzi (professor), Mandy Schlabach, Kate Friesen, Vic Garcia, Annabeth Tucker, Sam Smucker and Emma Gerig. The book was created through a graphic novel course last May term.

Pinchpenny books

Four students have released chapbooks through GC English department’s Pinchpenny Press. Lauren Treiber’s *There is a Famine in the Land*, Kate Friesen’s *Human/Animal*, Annabeth Tucker’s *At the Bottom of an Ocean of Sky* and Kate Stoltzfus’ *Lights in the Corner of the Dead* are now available to purchase for \$3.50 each or four for \$12. Email any of the authors to make a purchase.

Hour After

An Hour After will be hosted by CAC at 10 p.m. this Saturday in NC 19. Two student-led groups will share performances, as well as O’ Sister Brother, a folk band from Fort Wayne. A hot chocolate bar and other food will be provided. Reservations are not required.

Goshen Commons

Goshen Commons will host its second interactive community event at First Fridays this Friday. The event will be held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the north end of the Mill Race next to the brick Powerhouse building. For more information, contact lizlc@goshen.edu.

Tuition

In an email to students last week, the GC President’s Council announced new tuition, room and board rates for the 2014-15 school year. Next year’s rates will be \$29,700 for tuition, and \$9,700 for room and board, totaling \$39,400 for the school year. The cost reflects a 3.8 percent increase from last year but is the lowest percentage increase for the college since 1999. In citing reasons for the rise, the Board said the cost reflects campus improvements and technology upgrades, as well as higher operating expenses with faculty and staff salaries, health care and transportation costs. For more information about financial aid options or FAFSA, contact the Financial Aid Office.

From DEGREE, page 1

home to school. I also have to balance cross country and track with homework.”

Alejandro Rodríguez is one of the top runners at Goshen College. He finished eighth (9:25:82) in the 3,000 meter run at the Defiance College Winter Open in Ohio last month. In cross-country, he was the third Goshen runner across the line at the NAIA Great Lakes Challenge in October.

Placido Rodríguez is pleased with his son’s accomplishments.

“I am really prideful because I can see the work that my wife and I have put into his studies,” he said. “We are overall very happy to see him moving ahead.”

Placido Rodríguez came to the United States from Mexico City in 1974, arriving in California to pick grapes. Ten years later, Placido Rodríguez moved to Elkhart County.

He said, “I didn’t like the way things were going in California so I talked to one of my friends that had a son here in Elkhart County. He helped me to find a home and a job.”

Many Hispanic immigrants who move to this region rely on friends or family to find work and a place to live “That’s why people come to Elkhart County,” Placido Rodríguez said.

However, life wasn’t necessarily easy when Placido Rodríguez arrived. To add his struggles in the new place, he

missed his wife, who remained in Mexico.

Placido Rodríguez said, “Whoever loves his family lived a difficult life and whoever didn’t love his family had it easier. I was always wondering what was happening back home.”

So he traveled back and forth to Mexico until his family came to Elkhart County 18 years ago, in 1995, when Alejandro Rodríguez was three years old.

Placido Rodríguez remembers how his first job in Elkhart County lasted only a few months because it was too far away from his house. He could not afford to commute to the job.

“I found a job close by and with the money I saved, I bought a car,” he said, “That job was hard because of the working hours; I worked early in the mornings starting at 2 a.m. so I had to wake up at 1 a.m. When I was done, I was really sleepy and I had difficulties staying awake on the road.”

Elias García, a Goshen resident who also immigrated from Mexico and now works in a factory, said, “To find a job is not easy for us, and the restrictions are getting bigger with the new immigration. Now it is harder to work because they need to verify the documents. They check more deeply than they used to do some years ago.”

Most members of the first

generation of Hispanic immigrants in Goshen have been working in RV factories, like Lippert Components and Forest River.

“Most of them are working around that industrial area,” said Rocio Diaz, the multicultural outreach community liaison at Goshen College.

With the money generated from the first generation, the second Hispanic generation has an opportunity to receive higher education. Like Alejandro Rodríguez, the children of factory workers can attend college to pursue professional careers.

“You can see the new Hispanic generation working at the health centers, in schools... We now have degrees,” García said. He is a graduate student at Ivy Tech Community College.

In the U.S., Hispanics constitute about 17 percent of the total population. In Goshen, the Hispanic community represents a bigger share, at 28 percent.

Most of the Hispanics in Goshen, about 80 percent, come from Mexico. The rest have roots in Central or South America.

“In Goshen, there are people from many different places such as Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Honduras, El Salvador, Venezuela, Guatemala, Colombia, Peru and Ecuador,” Diaz said, who noted that Goshen College compiled a detailed portrait of the Latino community in the book

“Latinos in North Central Indiana: A Demographic Profile.”

Diaz estimated that about three-quarters of Hispanics in recent years arrives in the country without documents, which makes their stay more difficult. One of the biggest challenges, she said, is the entry to higher education.

“My job is to inform the Hispanic population of the many opportunities they have to improve their lives through obtaining a higher education,” she said. “I try to guide both parents and sons and daughters about the benefits of studying at Goshen College. The lack of experience makes them scared of a new situation.”

“They have many possibilities but they do not have the mentality of (automatically) going to college . . .,” Diaz said. “And that is something that has to change in the next years.”

“The other problem is the language,” Diaz says. “There are still many Hispanic people that do not know how to speak English.”

This is now changing, thanks in part to language courses offered through schools, libraries and elsewhere – and to differences in generations. Alejandro Rodríguez sees a big difference in the opportunities open to him because of his facility with English.

“I feel like I have more rights in the community than my parents because I can speak English,” he said.

From Q&A, page 1

debating the acceptance of same-sex individuals and, according to several policies, Goshen College and its president are held accountable by larger church boards to “not allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance that violates the ethics espoused by MC USA.”

Brenneman voiced the need to start with this background in order to show the complex nature of the college’s accountability in regards to any possible change, including the hiring policy.

“When we want to work through a significant change on campus, that affects the rest of the denomination that sponsors us,” Brenneman said. “When you become a president of a Mennonite institution, you’re buying into a whole congregational model of living together in relationship with each other. Sometimes that can be very frustrating depending what the decision is, but we love the notion of community and group discernment.”

Students were invited to submit questions to the Senate, which were then answered by the panel. Questions ranged from personal opinion and support for current LGBTQ students on campus to conversations within the wider framework of the Mennonite Church.

When the panel was asked if personal opinion affects the hiring policy, Romero spoke about the need to stay away from personal opinion in his role as a denominational leader.

“While we are in the midst of this conversation, there is significant siding and stress and possibilities of groups leaving the denomination,” Romero said. “This leaves those in leadership



Jim Brenneman, GC president, addresses a crowd of students and faculty that gathered in AD 28 last night for a question and answer session regarding GC’s hiring policies as they affect people in same-sex relationships.

Photo by Lauren Weaver

positions to be in mediator positions to allow people to talk to each other. Because conversations are so polarized, if I am out there stating my personal opinion, that will only add to polarization.”

Born believes that his obligation is to work hard to create a safe space where many different voices can be heard on campus.

“This place and many other small faith-based colleges are unique in that they are great spaces for difference of opinion and engagement and conversation,” Born said. “Student Senate has been able to raise the issue [of the hiring policy] and engage the board formally for the last

two years.”

Students also asked what concerns panelists had about keeping or changing the hiring policy.

Brenneman said that, as someone who has dedicated his life to the denomination, it is important to look at the big picture.

“If we can find a win-win on this, with the process at the denominational level that somehow allows for variance, that invites some patience,” Brenneman said. “It’s worth the wait if we can stay with this body that we’ve connected to for about 120 years.”

Brenneman sees enough happening in the church right now that’s moving conversations forward and he believes it is the “slow, methodical, careful, excruciating process that has kept the peace of the Mennonite church intact.”

Yet while change takes time, individuals can still attempt to spur those changes.

Brenneman said, “There’s nothing that keeps individuals from being prophetic or congregations from being prophetic, but institutions by their varying nature take time to get to the places the individuals are.”

Golfers hit green, continue season post-winter

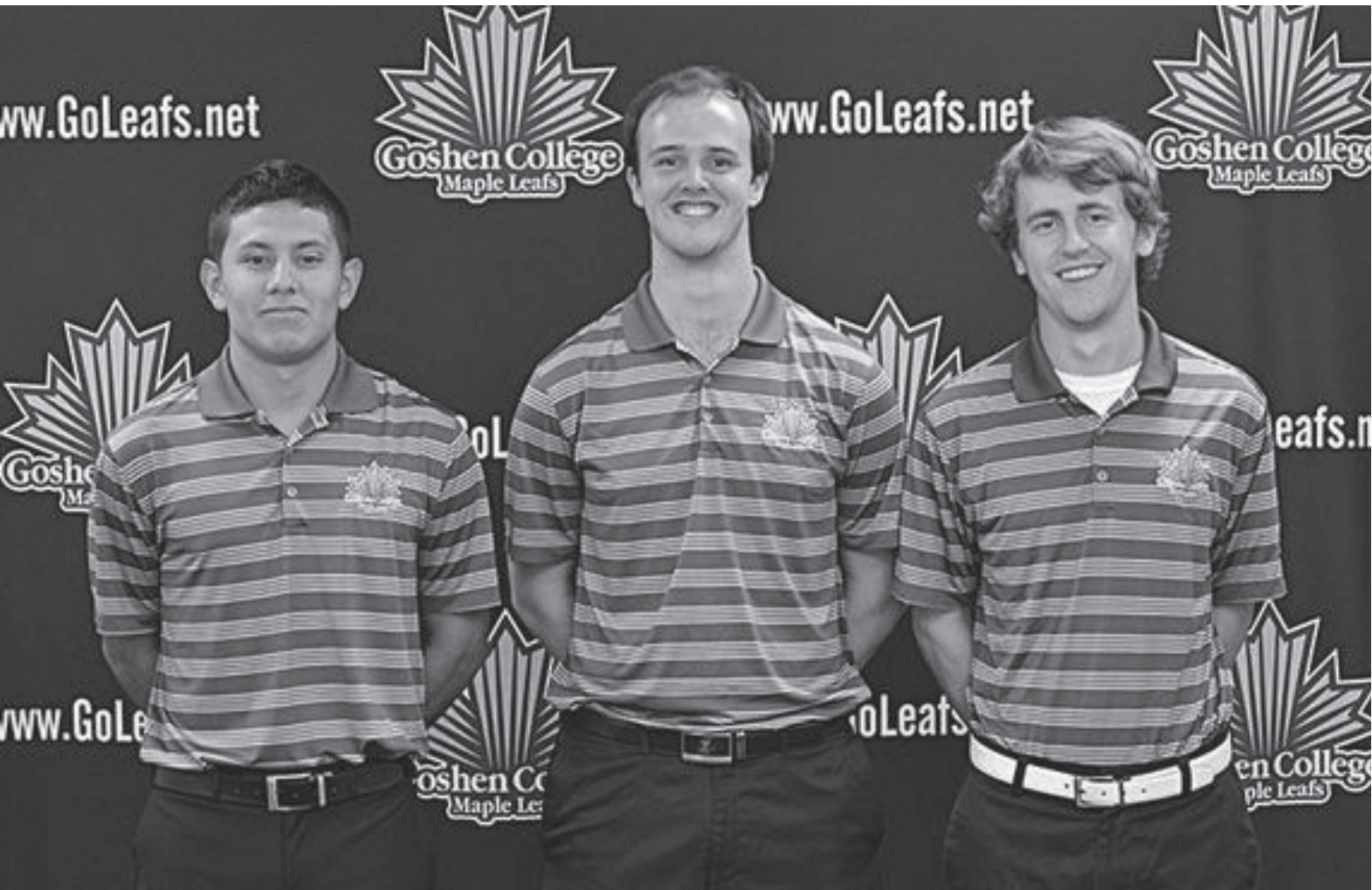
Goshen's three golfers traveled to La Porte, Ind. on Monday

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Nearly two months ago, the GC athletic department announced plans to drop the men's and women's golf programs after the 2013-14 season. While the women have not fielded even an individual golfer in the last two seasons, the news came to the men in the middle of a unique season setup. Within the Crossroads League, golf is one of two sports where teams can play in both the fall and the spring; it is, however, the only sport in which the regular season begins in August and finishes on the final day of April.

After an early-spring season schedule filled with poor weather and postponements, the Maple Leafs' first action since October came Monday at the Purdue North Central Invitational, hosted by Briar Leaf Golf Course in LaPorte. Goshen's three-man team is one short of the four players required to receive a team score, so the Leafs did not figure into the team totals.

Over a total of 54 holes, the team totaled 264 strokes, which was their highest cumulative score of the season. The previous high, 256, was also carded in northwest Indiana, at Crown Point's Whitehawk Country Club last August 28. In both cases, the weather was somewhat short of ideal; high temperatures soared



Alejandro Genis, Ben Pollit and Brian Charles cumulatively scored a season high.

Photo contributed by Sports Information Dept.

into the 90s on both days at Whitehawk, while early tee times Monday found the thermometer struggling to crack 50. As he has at each meet this season, Ben Pollitt, a junior, paced the Leafs, firing an 80 over the par-72 layout. Alejandro Genis, a sophomore, carded a 90, with classmate Brian Charles four shots behind at 94. In all three cases, the

individual scores were the highest of the season to date, something that could well be expected based on early-season rust – the Leafs had not played competitively since October 4, and the last event in which all three golfers completed their rounds was September 27. After the cancellation of Indiana Wesleyan's spring invitational last weekend,

Goshen's final golf season has only four spring events. The first was Monday's invitational; the team will not compete again until April 17 in Jackson, Mich. The Leafs' own home meet will follow on April 20, with the Crossroads League team championship set for April 29 and 30 at Indianapolis's Broadmoor Country Club. With the team incapable of

posting a complete collective score, a Goshen player would have to win the individual conference championship to qualify for the national tournament. Last season's low round at the tournament was a 68; in 2011, the last year in which an individual medalist is named on the conference website, two 71's and a 70 took top honors in the three-round event.

Bull tradition 'runs' in the community

From the sports desk



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I am one of the participants who experience six minutes of terror every morning of San Fermín, a festival that honors the saint of the region in my hometown of Pamplona, Spain. San Fermín takes place annually from July 6 to 14. Around two million people visit Pamplona during this week to participate in the most popular event of the week, the Running of the Bulls. In Spain, we call them *encierros*. I always felt impressed by the beauty of the bulls running with the *mozos*. Once I was old enough to run and keep up, I immediately took that opportunity to join our tradition. A lot of people wonder what

the purpose of the running of the bulls is; honestly, it does not have any purpose. However, it is a tradition that makes my hometown different from all other cities. Every day during San Fermín, thousands of people go downtown to participate in a unique experience. First, the runners gather together in order to ask for protection. This is done by going to a statue of San Fermín and singing this saint's representative song three times. The event begins at 8 a.m. when the first firecracker is lit to announce the release of the bulls from their corral. A second cracker signals that the last bull has left the corral. Six fighting bulls and six oxen run to the arena (*plaza de toros*) and at the same time people try to run with them, taking the risk of being hit by one of these bulls. The usual hustle and bustle of the streets comes to a halt for a period of time to allow the bulls to run with the participants, who are dressed in white and red. During that week, I wake up at 6 a.m. every morning to get ready for the run. A well-balanced breakfast always helps me start the day better. Once my morning routine is complete, I head downtown and get myself warmed up for the run. This takes about 45

minutes. The warm-up is a crucial part of my day because there is such a high risk of getting injured or even dying during the run. I have to give 110% every race. I would be lying if I said I didn't get nervous, though the nerves don't hit me until about 7:50 a.m. when we take our spots. This is also the time when a wave of regret comes over most people. I always try to learn from veteran runners; watching them maneuver through the streets and dodge bulls are some skills that I try to imitate. When it is time to run with the bulls, my thoughts cease and everything is silent. There are thousands of people but I can only see twelve huge bulls running for me. The moment when the bulls are next to me is simply amazing. The adrenaline comes to my body and I run faster than I ever have before. It is a sprint, so you cannot continue this pace the entire race, just several hundred meters. In 2013, I lived one of the scariest moments of my life in those streets because I lost my right shoe when I was next to a bull. When I finish running and am out of danger, I feel happiness and the power of being able to run with 12 bulls. This past year, one of my



Zak Roberts of West Virginia and Luis Perez Lerchundi take a photo 20 minutes before the Running of the Bulls in Pamplona, Spain. Photo contributed by Luis Perez Lerchundi.

closest friends from West Virginia came to Pamplona to participate in the Running of the Bulls. He was amazed by this event and he always says that it is an

experience he will never forget. In my opinion, running with the bulls is an experience that, if done properly, everyone should try at least once in their lives.

The life of a lilac

JODI WOOD

Contributing Writer

I love spring! Even more than the promise of warmer weather, I cling to the lessons I've learned through the accessories adorned by this wonderful season.

The most difficult spring of my life was 2001, when on May 1, my young dad lost a 16-year battle for his life and was Promoted to Glory.

It would take a year's worth of *The Record* publications to convey what a treasure he was.

Spring's unearthed grieving quickly transforms to celebration, though. For just as he taught me such valuable lessons in life, dad's passing also brought lessons equally as important.

Several of these lessons, oddly enough, I've gained through the short but sweet spring season of my favorite flower, the lilac. The day we laid Dad to rest, I passed a lilac bush that was almost void of any live blooms. Finding a couple, I inhaled deeply that wonderful fragrance. I had missed most of their season in the worries

and trauma of having a parent sick and hospitalized long distance.

I wondered to God why this sweet flower had such a short season. In His answer was a reminder, a challenge and a beautiful comfort.

God reminded me that my dad was much like the lilac. His season on Earth was very short, but amazingly fragrant. He challenged me to be the same—a fragrant, pleasant presence in the life of others.

Finally, God comforted me with the fact that on that day, just as I had caught the chance to breathe in the incomparable scent of my lilacs before they were gone for another year, God had destined me to be my father's daughter—to be so privy to the wisdom and love that this short-seasoned man had to offer. What a beautiful comparison for comfort in such a dark moment!

After this seemingly endless winter, I am once again anxiously awaiting the arrival of the lilac blooms, ever mindful of the lessons I've found in the wake of their aroma.



Jodi Wood, an AVI employee who works at the Leaf Raker, anticipates spring's arrival.

Photo by Lauren Weaver

Are we Christ-centered enough?



The Goshen College Church-Chapel, where students are encouraged to share opinions during chapels and convocations.

Photo by Lauren Weaver

What are we missing? What holds us together?

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This week is United Club Week, a time when we look for things we share in common. Yet as a campus we're in a pretty strong climate of disagreement. In some areas, it seems like we separate ourselves along ideological lines that can't be crossed. We are a

diverse community, yet in many ways the diversity we celebrate divides us.

But is that the kind of place Goshen College should be? We live and work on a small campus, so when we disagree, it's sometimes hard to go through the day without facing those with whom we disagree. That's a healthy way to keep conflicts in perspective, but if the conflicts become the sole drivers of social interaction and conversation on campus, life can become

pretty difficult.

I'm not arguing for an end of arguments. Personally, I have deeply held beliefs about issues this campus is facing that I don't want to give up. I am sure many of my classmates and friends are in similar situations themselves.

I think there is a better way to approach issues we face in the public square than the way we do now. Three questions occur to me: What do we share? What makes Goshen College special? Why did we all come here, anyway?

The core values statement comes to mind. Many of my classmates say that it's one of the things that made Goshen College sound inviting, the right place to be. I've always thought of it as though each of the core values is like a spotlight from a different angle, lighting up the different sides of the unique, special Goshen College experience.

So what's so important about these core values? Every student here can be a passionate learner, a compassionate peacemaker, a

global citizen, a servant leader. I believe those are things we can share with assurance. But are we Christ-centered enough?

With faith, we often find it easier to look for differences rather than similarities. In a way, that's fine. Diversity in belief is part of what makes Goshen College an interesting place. Yet one thing can't be ignored: we, as a college, are "led by Christ in our search for truth." At least that is what our first core value says.

And speaking of faith, I've been talking to some of my fellow students recently. Many say that faith is a difficult thing for them to measure. For some, faith means receiving spiritual nourishment from a weekly visit to church, from Chapel services or simply sharing community together. Others told me they see people often claiming faith, but not acting upon it. They argue that our most heated disagreements stem from that lack of acting.

It's easy to imagine what things would be like if we were not Christ-centered, or "searching for truth," as our core value explains. We would see each other as people in ideological opposition, as opposing camps, rather than fellow students. We would be led by the variety of forces that come into play that turn us from fellow passionate learners and compassionate peacemakers into political enemies who can't talk to each other. Boundaries like race, age and social standing would start to matter.

But that's not who we are. It's not who we want to be. Because when we lose Christ-centeredness, we lose everything that makes Goshen College special.

As Easter approaches, maybe it's time to consider this question on a deeper level: Are we Christ-centered enough?

B-Fast Gigz | Phil Scott



Vegetarians: Crazy? Or simply misunderstood?

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Jantz asks, Yoder answers.

Q (MJ): On a scale of one to dead animal, how ridiculous is vegetarianism?

A (KY): I think it's pretty reasonable, actually. I usually go around sneering at any being that is part of the meat-eating process, including the animals themselves. Sure, cow, you might not want to be eaten, but you're just part of the system.

Q: Do you eat fish? Jesus ate fish.

A: Well, if you take a post-modernist, gender-inclusive, Freudian approach to reading the Bible, you'll see that Jesus didn't actually eat "fish."

Q: You say you don't eat animals, but do you eat animal crackers?

A: If I received a nickel



Animal crackers: a gateway to violence?

Photo by Maria Jantz

for every time I was asked that question, I'd have 20 cents - still not enough to buy a bag of animal crackers. But no, I would never eat an animal cracker. Would you eat a human cracker? It's just a slippery slope from there to cannibalism.

Q?: Fair point, fair point, I wouldn't eat a human cracker. But it's not like animals have feelings.

...Yoder asks the questions now.

Q (KY): So, what's your favorite method of killing cute animals,

like wombats and ferrets?

A (MJ): I prefer machetes, personally. Although a car isn't a bad instrument of death, either. Roadkill soufflés are quite tasty.

Q: Would you consider yourself a sort of Grim Reaper of the animal kingdom?

A: I see myself as more of a Darth Vader, really. Or maybe Lord Voldemort.

Q: Do you have a nose?

A: Yes.

Profs say the darndest things



"A good way to test for a patient's pain response is a nipple twist... Oh no, I'm going to be in The Record again."
-Gail Weybright



"Stop twerking and pay attention!"
-Colleen Geier



"Everyone must touch themselves, then they are free to go."
-John Ross Buschert



"She's so ratchet."
-Christine Noria



"People! The Writing Center is a good idea and I hear they have a candy jar in there."
-Duane Stoltzfus



"All of the male frogs sing to persuade the women of their sexiness."
-Jonathon Schramm

E-mail us the out-out-context professor quotes you hear
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The dregs of winter



This sodden t-shirt is representative of much of the detritus being revealed around campus: both undesirable and unexpected.

Photo by Reuben Ng

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For those of you who know me, you are probably aware of my seemingly unnatural affinity with winter. Winter, apparently, is not a particularly well-appreciated season; not even here in Goshen, where we seem to have one or more annually.

I, however, have always been a fan. That point aside, I recognize at least one unpleasant aspect of winter and that is the sad nature of its demise.

Summer, a respectable yet unbearable season in its own right, has a dignified end. Gradually the heat recedes without any particular fuss until one morning, frost is glimpsed on the grass and it is clear that fall has slipped into the air unnoticed.

Winter is a different story. It struggles to hold onto its domain. Horrible discoloured snow banks and chunks of depraved ice persist, seemingly into mid-June. An old friend of mine rightly termed this seasonal flotsam and jetsam "the dregs of winter."

I distinctly recall a winter that I experienced in middle school or perhaps early high school. In late fall, an unfortunate deer met its untimely end directly opposite of our middle school in clear sight of everyone and everything including our bus route. The body was briefly visible on the grass between the sidewalk and road, but was shortly covered over by snow.

For more than three months the frigid corpse remained unnoticed. Then spring arrived. Before our very eyes, the sad remains of this animal were uncovered day by day as rising temperatures and rain released it from an icy tomb.

This, my friends, is the danger. For months now, road kill has been steadily collecting and now it is ready to make a final bid for attention.

Of course, on campus this has not posed any real danger. The few dead squirrels I've seen over the past years appear to have succumbed to "natural" causes - or at least ones not involving longboards or golf carts.

But the melting snow on campus is beginning to reveal unsettling discoveries.

Chief among these are fruits, predominantly oranges - although I did see a partially eaten apple. These can be found in various stages of consumption and decomposition, sometimes peeled, sometimes whole.

But far from just fruit is being revealed.

Among other things, I've taken distinct note of a waterlogged t-shirt (pictured), hair ties, and various candy wrappers. A snow bank just north of campus melted to reveal part of a car bumper. Several days later, a pizza crust emerged from the same drift. Elsewhere, a stick of chapstick surfaced, and I noted a crushed fork near a campus sidewalk. Perhaps most disturbingly of all, I witnessed an intravenous drip bag lying in the sodden grass near the Dining Hall.

With the rapidly warming weather, I caution all of you. Do not hasten to go forth, frolicking in the sunshine and balmy climate. Danger lies afoot...literally. The last thing you'd want to do is kick off your shoes and step straight into the mouldering remains of a grapefruit from late November.

The harsh grandeur of winter departs, and in its wake the festering beginnings of spring are taking shape. Thus is my warning. Take heed.



The Black Student Union and the Latino Student Union joined together to present the Microaggression Project last night at 6:30 p.m. in NC 17. The event was centered on the theme, “We too are Goshen.” Students from both clubs took pictures with microaggressions they have experienced before the event and posted the pictures around campus. There was discussion about the presence of microaggressions and how society can eradicate them.

Photos contributed by BSU and LSU

Goshen Monologues to share stories of women

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Every woman has a story. On Tuesday, Goshen Monologues will seek to share those stories, written by women, told by them, and for them.

Goshen Monologues, a script of stories submitted and performed by Goshen College faculty, staff and student women, will make its debut at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Umble Center. Whether by group performance or a monologue, the project seeks to address the stages of womanhood, such as the experiences of gender awakening or confusion, as well as physical and mental abuse. The Monologues not only address the darker realities that society imposes upon the female gender, but also celebrate the joyful and encouraging moments, as themes of friendship, rediscovery, and

independence are explored.

Lauren Treiber, a senior, organized the project. She thought of the idea last May and contacted a dozen women to form a planning team who could help “get the project off the ground.”

The Monologues began with a call for submissions from all women on campus, an encouragement to submit anonymous letters that told stories and experiences of womanhood in various forms – as poetry, fiction, letters to younger selves or others. By the end of fall semester, the project had almost 50 submissions. Treiber then turned the letters in a script.

“To make [the letters] into a script, I know that these stories stand perfectly well and in a very strong way on their own,” said Treiber. “But I wanted to structure it in a way that was visually interesting. Rather than watch one woman recount a memory, you watch the scene happen instead. I didn’t make any additions, but I edited for anonymity, clarity or length.”

The Monologues will be performed in five chapters: parody, body, assault, relationship and identity. Women from the GC community were invited to perform the Monologues; almost 40 elected to be in the cast.

“To have another set of women tell the stories out loud adds another layer,” Treiber said. “Because even though it isn’t [the tellers’] own story, pieces of it are they own. The women found roots in each story that are their own.”

Through their performance, the Monologues reveal the complex yet beautiful nature of womanhood in the intimate experiences of the women in the community.

Said Treiber, “Because this project is in its first year, almost anything that happens seems revolutionary. I’ve had the immense pleasure of being in every step of project – from idea to a workshop to a pile of letters on my desk, to a script to a cast.”



Goshen Monologues members rehearse their first act on Tuesday.

Photo by Abby Deaton

The Marriage of Figaro sings again



Performers in The Marriage of Figaro rehearse in Umble Center last Wednesday, Mar. 26.

Photo by Brett Conrad

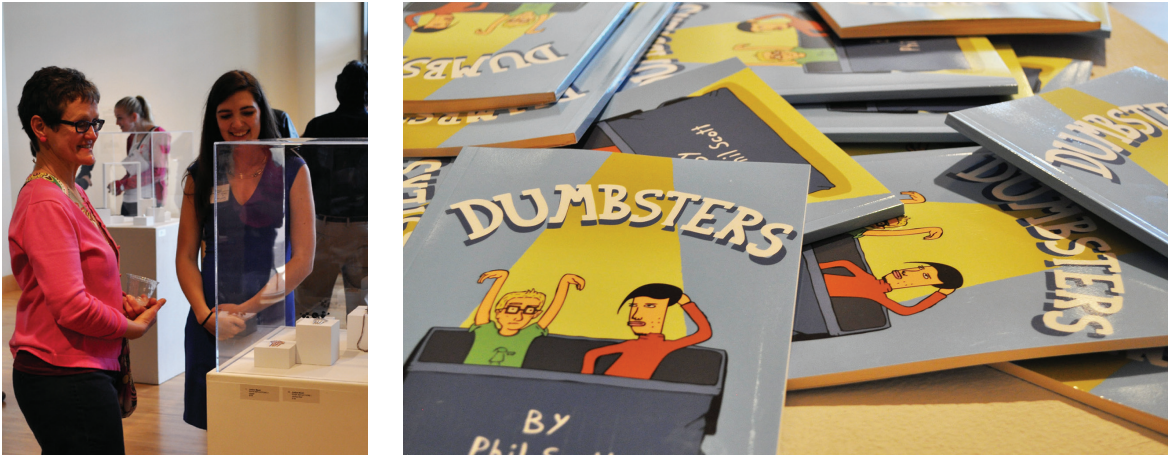
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Goshen College’s production of Mozart’s timeless play, The Marriage of Figaro debuted in Umble Center last weekend. Presented by both Goshen College’s music and theater departments, this program features a total of six acts and a 15 minute intermission after the second act. The Marriage of Figaro incorporates music sung in both English and Italian (with

super titles for clarity).

This 18th century comedy staged in 21st century New York City, captures the light-hearted festivities of a wedding. If you haven’t had the chance to see this production, there are two opportunities left to do so. The remaining performances will be on Friday at 8 p.m., and on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$7 for students and employees, and \$12 for adults. Tickets may be purchased either online or at the Umble Center box office before the show.

Seniors hold art exhibit



Four art majors debuted their senior shows, a culmination of their work from the last four years, last Sunday at Hershberger Art Gallery. All four exhibited in different mediums: Phil Scott in comics; Justine Maust in jewelry and photography; Erin Iverson in photography; and Corey Roth in fantasy paintings.

Photos by Lauren Weaver