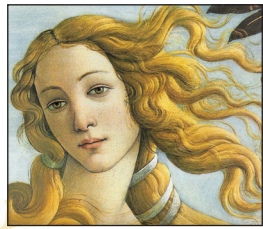


VENUSIAN TRANSIT

In June, Venus will pass between us and the sun, the last time it will do so until 2117.

▶ See page 9



ALL-CHIMESTEAMS

Sports editors Josh Yonker and Jess Koster choose Calvin's players of the year. See who made the cut.

▶ See page 14



AND WE'RE BACK!

Last week's spoof garnered some great responses. Read this week's editorial to get the scoop on the future of Chimes.

▶ See page 18



CHIMES

May 4, 2012

Volume 106 - Issue 28

CLUBS.CALVIN.EDU/CHIMES

All-campus lunch celebrates Bykers' contributions

BY ABBY ZWART
Editor in Chief

The Van Noord Arena was buzzing Wednesday afternoon as Calvin hosted an all-campus luncheon in honor of retiring president Gaylen Byker and his wife Susan.

All students, staff and faculty were invited to partake in the spread, which featured foods related to the various locations the Bykers have lived or worked — Lebanese lamb wraps and Texas sheet cake, for example. Off-campus students rejoiced at the free food, and dorm-dwellers were refreshed by a break from dining hall fare.

As the crowds filed in and were directed through the well-organized tables of food, videos played on the big screen. President Byker has been featured in many Airband productions throughout his 17 years here. He has played Elvis, Sonny to Shirley Hoogstra's Cher, ZZ Top, a member of The Village People, Jack from "Titanic" and an opera singer. The diners laughed along with the crowds of Airbands

past, taken aback at the sight of a usually-genteel Byker wearing only jeans and a vest.

When the videos wrapped up and the group settled in at tables and on the bleachers, a series of speakers filed up to thank the Bykers and share some of their favorite memories. Senior Dave Eberle, who has been mentored by President Byker, spoke of his respect for the president as a leader, teacher and role model. Junior Drew Sikkema, who has been in a Bible study Byker leads, also spoke. He admires Byker as a man of God who gets deep into the context and meaning of scripture while encouraging others to do the same.

English professor Nancy Hull came up to speak about Susan Byker, who has also spent 17 years serving at Calvin. She has been a large part of Calvin's Young Authors Festival, which is held for one weekend every other spring. Hundreds of elementary and middle school students flood the campus, and Susan was an organizer of the festival for many years, making sure each student was well cared for and valued. Hull mentioned Susan's endless



PHOTO BY ABBY ZWART

Wednesday's lunch honored the accomplishments of the Bykers, who have been serving at Calvin since 1995.

See "Lunch," page 3

Josh Garrels weaves story and song

BY WILL MONTEI
Staff Writer

To a full auditorium of applause, Josh Garrels walked on stage and began to carefully set up his little performing space. It was somewhat awkward how casually he went about his business like the audience wasn't there, and I became slightly worried that he wasn't going to be able to take control of the audience's attention. A one-man performance is difficult to pull off; sometimes a guitar and a voice are too dry and

empty to keep people interested. And for someone who was moved from the small Recital Hall to the CFAC auditorium, the expectations were even higher. But as soon as he sat down on his stool and picked the opening chords of "Beyond the Blue," my worries vanished. I didn't care that he didn't have a crew to back him up; his beautiful, soaring voice and confident guitar picking washed the room with full waves of sound.

The casual approach he began the concert with never changed. A couple songs in, he said, "I'm

the only one performing tonight, so I guess I've got time to tell a few stories." So in between almost every song, he told us stories like we were all sitting in a living room together.

Sometimes he told stories of his songs' origins, like "The Original Spacefan." He told the story of how his wife's father mended his relationship with her one week when they were visiting him. A few months later the father died. It was as if he knew he was going to die when no one else did, Josh told us. And then Josh started to play the song. Stories like that added depth to the song and the performance.

Other times, his stories had nothing to do with the music. He told us one story about how he drank four consecutive gallons of water to improve his complexion when he was a teenager. Later, someone told him that too much water was bad for him, which, he said, explained why he got cold and passed out for a few hours directly after. He then went on to tell us about further escapades with large volumes of liquid, involving a fruit juicer his mom bought, which had an opposite effect on his complexion.

Whether the stories fit with the song or not, they added to the concert. Stories are such an integral part of folk music, and by sharing his stories with us it felt like he was inviting us deeper into his life and music, adding to the "living room" vibe.

He ended the show with "The Resistance," a freak-folk hip hop song. He asked the fifty-somethi

See "Garrels," page 17

Prof of the year named

Stehouwer receives K4L association's annual honor

BY ALLYSA METZNER
Staff Writer

A dreary Monday morning quickly turned to celebration for professor R. Scott Stehouwer, who was named Professor of the Year by the class of 2012. After a singing group of students interrupted his psychology class, a surprised Stehouwer declared: "I am sure there are fellow colleagues of mine who deserve this award more than I, but I cannot think of any."

This informal speech was met by laughter as an audience of family and friends crowded in to offer their congratulations.

Founded in 1998, the Professor of the Year is selected by the graduating class of students. Stehouwer is the first psychology professor to be chosen.

"For once in my life, since the age of about 12 months, I was speechless. When much to my surprise I discovered I was named Professor of the Year for 2012," he says.

Having graduated from Calvin in 1974 with a bachelor's of psychology, he then went on to earn a master's in 1977 and Ph.D. in 1978 in clinical psychology at Wayne State University. But Stehouwer confessed he never really liked school and wanted to get done with it as soon as possible.

"My wife literally pulled

me through German and math at Calvin," he recalls.

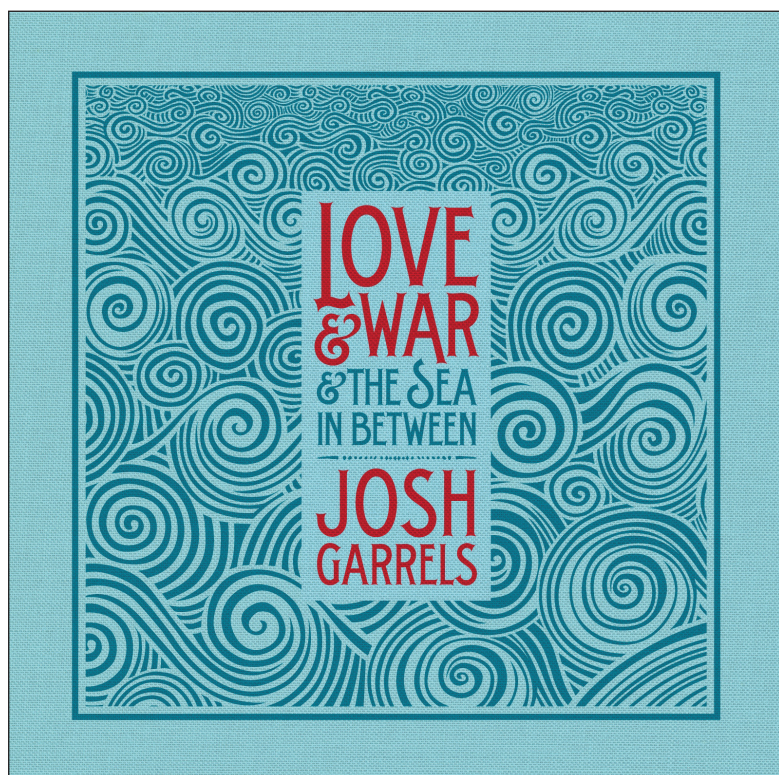
However, after teaching a class at Wayne State University, Stehouwer found he really enjoyed teaching. By the time he came to Calvin, his love had been cemented.

"I came to Calvin intent on staying probably two years. However, I was bitten by the teaching bug; I wanted to stay, and fortunately Calvin was willing to have me," he said, reflecting on his journey. "It has been a genuine joy to be in the classroom at Calvin for 34 years now. I have always tried to teach well, and I have always been learning from students both inside and outside of the classroom," Stehouwer said.

It is because of such enthusiasm for his students that Stehouwer is such a great choice for this award — it is no secret that Calvin students are happy to have him.

"He's the most entertaining professor I've ever had," senior Mark Oldenburg said. Senior Kelly Johnson added, "It's about time he won it."

Contemplating what his reputation will look like in the future, Stehouwer said "I like to think that in the end, my legacy will live on not in some great building or statue, but rather in the lives of people with whom God has seen fit to allow me to have some part in influencing." And it is through statements like these that Stehouwer demonstrates a character truly deserving of the title "Professor of the Year."



FILE PHOTO

Garrels' brand of Christian music strays from the CCM norm.