

The Record

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Students stand with survivors

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Sofia Zaracho for The Record

Members of the GC community hold candles to support domestic violence survivors.

More than 40 students, faculty, staff and community members gathered on Oct. 21 at Schrock Plaza for a candlelight vigil to honor victims of domestic violence and show support for survivors.

This event was organized in partnership with YWCA North Central Indiana and included a moment of silence, the lighting of candles and the reading of names of people who lost their lives because of domestic violence in Indiana.

"For a first year doing this event, it was a good turnout," said Patty Hartshorn, GC's director of health and wellness and Title IX coordinator.

Although hosting the event during fall break meant many students could not attend the vigil in person, they found other ways to show their support. Some students painted luminaries beforehand that were displayed during the event as a mark of solidarity.

"It gave them an opportunity to say, 'We are here, we stand by you and we are a light in the darkness for you,'" Hartshorn said.

The candlelight vigil brought together campus and community members to show the impact of domestic violence and remind survivors that they are not alone and support is available. The gathering was an opportunity to make GC's commitment to advocacy more visible.

"Goshen College is incredibly committed to our surrounding community," Hartshorn said. "It moves beyond a classroom topic to being a sharper reality."

Amy Hill, CEO of YWCA North Central Indiana, highlighted the impact of domestic violence across Indiana and the importance of connecting the right resources to the survivors. In 2025, 100 people

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GC students to vote in midterm elections

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Every U.S. representative and one-third of senators will be elected on Tuesday. Many state and local offices are also on the ballot, including the governor in some states.

The last midterm elections, in 2022, had a voter turnout rate of just 46.2%, meaning less than half of eligible voters cast their ballots. For contrast, the 2024 presidential election had a turnout of 63.9%, according to the University of Florida Election Lab.

Midterms can, however, have a large impact on the political landscape.

Voces Fuertes, Goshen College's immigrant advocacy group, stood outside the Westlawn Dining Hall and explained the importance of voting, even in local elections.

Ariana Montiel, a leader of Voces Fuertes, said, "Local elections are for like the school board and for judges. … It's important to have trust in the people who are leading these offices," she said. According to a Gallup poll, trust in local governments remains the highest of any level of government.

While 67% of Americans trust their local government and 59% trust their state government, only 37% trust the federal government in terms of handling domestic affairs.

About two dozen people registered to vote during the event, which the group considers a success. Montiel said, "It was honestly more than I had expected."

Mafe Aguilar Vargas is also a leader of Voces Fuertes. She said, "What's important to me is for other people to be able to speak about what they think is important."

"They should be able to speak even if I don't agree with them," Aguilar Vargas said.

Montiel agreed. "Advocating for people to state their mind and what they think is important," she said.



Peter Moser for The Record

The voting station at First Prestyterian Church in downtown Goshen.

The UF Election Lab reported that in the 2022 midterms, Indiana had the fourth-lowest voter turnout rate of any state in the nation, at just 37.48%. Around 67% of GC students are Indiana residents, raising the stakes for voter registration efforts at the college.

GC does not report statistics on voter turnout among its students. However, college students are less likely to vote than the average citizen. In 2024, the Tufts University Tisch College of Civic Life reported that 53% of eligible students voted.

The Voces Fuertes team urged people to vote in groups. "Don't go by yourself. Go in groups of three, four people. Make it fun!" Aguilar Vargas said.

Websites shut down after global web vulnerability

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Artificial intelligence recently uncovered a vulnerability that has existed for 22 years. Researchers have always known that PHP, a programming language for web development that powers over 70% of the world's websites, had weaknesses that could potentially be exploited.

The problem was that when the PHP system ran out of memory while processing a request, it could leave behind old information, such as passwords and personal data. Threat actors, who are people or other entitys with the ability to exploit a threat within cyber security, could potentially access.

Although this security risk was known for over two decades, it was not an imminent threat. Neither researchers nor threat actors knew how to use this flaw to their advantage due to the complicated coding and the effect it may have on existing websites.

It wasn't until recently that cybersecurity researchers at Wiz Research used AI technology to discover how this flaw in the PHP system could be exploited as well as how to create a patch that could be installed to protect their systems from this specific cybersecurity threat.

This discovery was scheduled to be released to the public last Wednesday, Oct. 21.

However, before researchers could share the specific flaw in the PHP system and provide a patch or software that could counter this flaw, two remote code execution vulnerabilities were leaked, allowing threat actors to gain full control of affected systems.

Paul Housholder, the director of ITS technical and business services, said, "Ideally the patches would have been released along with the description of the vulnerability at the same time and everybody could take some time to assess them and figure out the risk and put the patches in place."

"What happened Wednesday afternoon is that the Center for Internet Security Administration,

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Goodbye, Canadian genius

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Steve Shantz is celebrating both his 67th birthday and his retirement. Shantz, the facilities systems supervisor, will conclude his final day working at Goshen College on Friday after more than 20 years of service.

Shantz was recruited and hired to work at GC by Glenn Gilbert, former director of facilities, in 2006. Since then, Shantz has worked on a large variety of projects, the most notable being energy conservation through building automation. Shantz said that, despite increased energy demands, campus consumption has decreased by 52% in the last 20 years.

Gilbert explained that much of this decrease came from the implementation of variable frequency drives, a concept Shantz was ahead of his time in.

Shantz said that he only needed three lines of code to make motors run as slow as possible to meet their demands.

"I worked it out on the supply fans in the science building, and then I thought, 'I can do this with the exhaust fans,' and then I thought, 'There's two air handlers in the music center, and there's four air handlers in the church, and there's three air handlers in the library,'" Shantz said.

"It took a long time to figure out how to do it, but once I had these lines of code, it's like, 'Rubber stamp, rubber stamp, rubber stamp!'"

Shantz explained why this is so effective. "Power is proportional to the cube of motor speed, so if I can run it at one-half speed, it uses one-eighth the power — that's where the magic happens."

When Shantz isn't building projects on campus, he's building jovial relationships with his fellow faculty and GC students.

Justin Ramer, facilities office manager, spoke to both Shantz's skills and good-natured attitude. Ramer shared Shantz's favorite quote for a rainy day: "It's a good day for a duck."

Caoimhe Farrell, a junior communication major from Ireland, told her story of getting to know Shantz. "Me and my friends were leaving the dining hall one day and … we decided to play 'chicken' with a golf cart that was coming our way."

Shantz was the cart's driver and shouted at them in what Farrell's friends believed to be an Irish accent. Farrell continued, "I said, 'Are you Irish? Are you Irish?' and he said 'No, I'm Canadian.'" Ever since this incident, Shantz and Farrell have continued to bond over shared sarcastic quips toward each other.

Kate Roth, a senior music education major, got to know Shantz at Assembly Mennonite Church. Roth echoed the appreciation of both Shantz's sarcasm and positive demeanor. "He's always had something good to say about literally everything."

Shantz used to take trumpet lessons; he and Gilbert used to be part of a brass quintet. Shantz said, "I'm a dusty, rusty, crusty trumpet player." However, he continues to play with both Gilbert and Roth at special services at Assembly and in the Maple City Community Orchestra.

Gilbert said, "He can think through projects logically and, at the same time, he's more than just a computer geek. He also is perfectly willing to get his hands dirty and get down in the muck when that's necessary."

Outside of campus, Shantz continues to keep himself busy. He believes that land should be productive, either for food-growth or habitat — Shantz cultivates both. He has a personal vegetable garden as well as two onion and garlic-production gardens, both of which receive over 4,000 bulb plantations every year.

Shantz's age doesn't prevent him from gardening either. "How do you plant 4,600 garlics without bending over? I built myself a four-wheeled cart with … big bicycle wheels. There's this platform — 5 1/2 feet long, 2 1/2 feet wide — and I lay on it face down," he said.

Shantz also built a homemade telescope for night sky and solar eclipse viewings and collects candle scraps to melt and dip into new candles. Shantz gets the children from his church's Sunday school to engage in both of the previous activities as well as in harvesting his thousands of crops — a task they take to with vitality and complete in around 15 minutes.

Afterwards, Shantz said, "I have the great garlic challenge with the children. If they put a clove of fresh garlic in a s'more and eat it, they get a dollar — and they are all over it."

Shantz and his wife are both retiring. Shantz said that they hope to visit their grandchildren in Cleveland more often, go camping and visit Hawaii. He also wants to volunteer and continue his work on their property, including maintenance and invasive removal.

Shantz is grateful for GC and the impact he has been able to make. He said, "To have a really good place to work where you're supported … that's really, really nice."



Beka Youngberg for The Record

Thursday is Steve Shantz's 67th birthday.



FOR THE RECORD

Mackenzie Miller, a senior communication major most recently from Harrisonburg, Virginia, is executive editor of The Record. "For the Record" is a weekly editorial.

This midterm, we are seeing unprecedented spending. NBC reports that the 2026 election cycle has seen more spending than any other election to date.

On the fundraising side, Democrats are raising record amounts of money, due to enthusiasm around individual candidates. Meanwhile, Republicans are outspending these fundraising efforts though large donors, such as Elon Musk, and super PACs, according to NPR.

As the wealthy attempt to buy these elections, it is important to vote now, more than ever.

In recent years, I've heard frustration with voting and the candidates on the ballot. "What's the point of voting if it's just the lesser of two evils?"

With the electoral college and a two-party system, the odds you get to vote for a candidate that believes exactly what you believe is low. It is always going to be the lesser of two evils in a system that is built on colonization, white supremacy and misogyny.

It's easy to gravitate towards apathy — to believe that your vote doesn't matter. However, I believe that to live as good citizens, we have a certain level of social responsibility to participate in society.

For anyone who cares about the state of the society they live in, voting is a crucial step in seeking broader social change. Voting is not by any means the end all be all of being a good neighbor or seeking justice, but its importance cannot be diminished.

If you are able to question whether voting matters, and assume that — whatever the result — it will have no effect on you is a privilege. Millions of people in the U.S. are actively having their rights and autonomy stripped. People are fearing for their lives every single day and the influence of this midterm on their circumstances cannot be underestimated.

Voting makes a difference to your immigrant neighbour when their governor welcomes ICE into your city with open arms. It makes a difference to the trans kid down the block who can no longer receive gender affirming care.

It makes a difference for the disabled person who can't afford lifesaving healthcare because Medicaid won't cover it anymore.

It makes a difference to your friend's daughter who wants or may need an abortion, but it's now illegal in her state. She will be risking her life or risking arrest no matter what she does.

It is always going to be the lesser of two evils at the state or federal level, and voting is not a one-size-fits-all solution. Voting is the next step. The lesser evil still means less evil.

So vote. Vote for representatives who say they will listen to their constituents and then make them listen.

Vote for yourselves. Vote for your neighbor. Vote for the generations to follow.

And always follow your vote with action.

More information on voting in Elkhart county can be found at clerk.elkhartcounty.com.

The Record

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Welcome Plaza construction stalls

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Emerson Landis for The Record

The sun casts northward shadows over GC's new Welcome Plaza.

For many Goshen College business and communication students, the Newcomer Center is the most important building on campus. In September, it became hard to access without crossing through the Church-Chapel or Union buildings due to the construction of a new Welcome Plaza.

Students were alerted of the construction in an email from the office of the president on Aug. 5, while the work started on Aug. 10.

Brian Mast, the associate vice president for facilities management, said that originally the plans were not to have construction during the school year, but the process was expedited after the June board meeting.

"It was introduced to the board as something we were working on, and the board got really excited and was interested in getting it done before Homecoming," Mast said. "It has been challenging."

The Welcome Plaza will feature a large seal of Goshen College, as well as a place to sit and a plaque thanking donors of the Connected Cause campaign. However, Mast said that its main purpose is to add a sense of grandeur to a campus arrival.

"We hope it will become a photo op for grads and for people who are on campus. I think it's also a resting spot for students and for people to gather for tours that are happening," he said.

"There's never been a sidewalk along the south side of the Union," Mast added. "So people cut through the grass, and that has bugged me for years."

The pavers that make up the floor of the plaza are not yet locked in place, which has led to some of them being stolen or rearranged. To Cynthia Good Kaufmann, the acting director of facilities, this has been a headache. "Please don't move my pavers."

The stones will be locked in place over winter break, as soon as the custom pavers inscribed with donor names and the medallion with the seal arrive. Until then, they will remain loose but walkable.

Next week, a stone veneer will be added to the walls of the plaza to improve aesthetics. Later, limestone lettering with the college's name will be added. The plaza will likely be closed off for this construction.

Liam Shaw is a junior journalism major. His path to Newcomer was severely affected by the construction while the plaza was closed off.

"I have two routes. I either go through the Church-Chapel … or the Welcome Center," Shaw said at the time. "It's inconvenient for my timing."

Mast acknowledged the burden the construction has put on students. He said, "In any construction project you're doing, you have to weigh … these factors, right?"

"It's a constant balance," Mast said. "There's some pain with that."

Although part of the Welcome Plaza will celebrate the Connected Cause donors, none of their donations have been used for the construction.

"We have donors that direct money to different projects on campus," he said. "The one that this one came out of is specifically for landscaping."

The Connected Cause campaign was a five-year fundraising campaign that raised $76.8 million for the college. The funds will be split throughout the college to help fund projects to better facilities, scholarships and more.

Approximately 4,500 households donated to the college during the event, about 800 of which were first-time donors. While the Welcome Plaza will not have space for all the donors, the goal is to include at least those who contributed the largest amounts.

Mast added that a single donor had provided the funds for the project, a late couple who had also helped fund the Music Center.

One of the next renovations to be completed on campus will happen in the Science Hall. "In a few months, we're going to replace the chillers on the roof," Mast said.

This project, just like the Welcome Plaza, will cause some burden to students. Ultimately, though, Mast said that students will see this as a net gain.

"That's going to be a big disruption, and we're going to have to close some sidewalks down to make sure that that happens," he said. "It is what it is."

The architecture and engineering firm Schmidt Associates, which also designed the Music Center, was in charge of designing the Welcome Plaza. Most recently, Schmidt Associates was in charge of renovating three different Ball State University dormitories.

DJ Construction was hired to build the project. They are best known for their work nearby with Goshen Health.

DJ Construction is a different company than Hayes Design, which installed the signs and maps earlier this year to mixed reactions. There will, however, be one map kiosk installed in the plaza.

EcoPax: adovocacy and fun

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Last weekend, Goshen College's EcoPax club hosted their second event of the semester. They watched "Kiss the Ground"; a documentary focused on regenerative agriculture that explores the imperative role that soil plays in human and planetary health.

This movie was particularly apt for the members of this year's EcoPax club. As detailed by Isaak Prince, the president of EcoPax, their goals are heavily aligned with environmental peace and promoting sustainable actions.

EcoPax has been the campus's student-led environmental and sustainability club for over 17 years. Jonathon Schramm, the faculty advisor for EcoPax since 2014, said, "To boil it down, the mission of the club is to help people on our campus connect to the outdoors and to the rest of creation, and to find better ways to care for it."

Schramm explained that some years the group has been more interested in outdoor activities that help people connect to the environment, such as going on hikes or bike rides together or playing broomball at Merry Lea in the winter. Other years, the group has focused more on activism around environmental topics and encouraging the campus to continuously act on their environmental and sustainability ideals. Other times, they've been interested in environmental information, exemplified by the movie showing hosted this weekend.

Schramm said, "EcoPax does a lot of things, and it depends a little bit year to year on what students want to emphasize."

Isabel Woodcox, a member of the leadership and planning committee of EcoPax, said, "Our goal is to help promote more sustainable actions on campus, like in students' everyday lives and then to make larger sustainable changes." She goes on, "Previously, they had worked to implement a full functional compost system across the campus."

While the college also has a sustainability committee, the previous director retired and according to Woodcox, the committee's meetings became less frequent. "That's how the compost system kind of fell apart, because the administrative structures in place to support what we were doing kind of fell out," Woodcox said.



Contributed by Dahlia Thut

Camila Pérez Diener, Sara Jacob and Ale Casco González on the Millrace.

However, she said, "We're still trying to get back to that point and do what we can in small ways to support students making sustainable choices."

Woodcox explains the sustainable actions they promote include minimizing food waste, taking a bus or biking rather than driving a car, and getting involved with places like Merry Lea "to help out with their various programs and their work in being connected to the outside world."

Although this year's club members are working hard to promote sustainable changes, they also want to emphasize their main goal of connecting people to the outdoors.

Prince explains, "If you think about the average college student, how many of them can say they've walked out onto a frozen wetland and played broomball? How many can say they've gone canoeing or planted a tree? Our goal is to try and expand that and offer new opportunities for people who typically might not have had them."

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The problem with politics

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Tom Leinbach for The Record

Over the past few years, I've developed a persistent fascination with politics. Every day, I immerse myself in all the news coverage and commentary I can get my hands on. When I pick up my phone, I watch video essays speculating on who will run for president in 2028, or CNN's analysis of the latest polling aggregates. I'd like to think that all this makes me a well-informed and responsible citizen.

But realistically, most of this self-inflicted barrage of information has virtually no bearing on how I live my life. Do I really need to be aware of the exact odds of a Senate race three thousand miles away? And if not, why do I keep coming back for more?

In truth, all the polling data and punditry I indulge myself in isn't information. It's entertainment. When my friend and I compare our predictions on whether Texas will "turn blue" this year, we're not engaging with the political process so much as we are enjoying a performance or a spectator sport.

As a musician, actor and human being, I must admit I love a good show. But as a citizen, I worry that not only myself, but my fellow Americans are becoming so steeped in the spectacle and speculation around our elections that we are losing sight of what they're actually about.

Every new poll sparks a wave of analysis: what does this mean for the candidate's chances, or for the future of the party? Does this reflect a larger shift in the electorate? Could the poll be wrong, and if so, how wrong?

It's not just the polling data, either — the scandals and controversies that plague every campaign can feel more like the latest gossip on a soap opera rather than serious news. (Can you believe what Amy Acton's mom said about her?)

And with the simultaneous rise of online sports betting and prediction markets, the spectator sport metaphor seems particularly apt. Guessing which side will win, and by how many points, is half the fun. We even have commentators telling us which "star players" to watch on the big night.

The media coverage is only half the picture. Instead of delivering coherent policy solutions to improve their constituents' lives, elected officials feed on the fear and frustration of an exhausted electorate to keep winning votes.

Candidates campaign on whatever makes them look good and their opponents look bad. Actually addressing the challenges everyday Americans face is secondary. In fact, many shrewd politicians manipulate the "media circus" to distract us from their mistakes and misdeeds.

This problem certainly isn't new. Long before candidates campaigned as much on TikTok as on broadcast TV, observers in decades past have groaned about tabloid newspapers and 24-hour cable news channels turning news into entertainment.

Perhaps the drama of politics is an inevitable product of democracy itself, where capturing the attention of the masses by any means possible is the pipeline to power. But it's something that has only gotten worse in recent years, especially after a certain former reality TV host burst onto the political scene over 11 years ago and who hasn't stopped demanding our attention since.

In fact, it's exactly this toxic environment that allowed someone with no prior governing experience to ascend to the nation's highest office in the first place, and to later regain it even after being cast out in disgrace. In a political culture where making waves is more effective than making a difference, should we really be surprised that the loudest, brashest and most incompetent spotlight seekers rise to the top?

Although many have contributed to this style of politics, few have embraced it quite like President Donald Trump. Purging the government of experienced professionals and stacking the Cabinet with Fox News anchors and unqualified yes-men, building an extravagant triumphal arch and a ballroom almost as big as his ego, starting an expensive, illegal and bloody war against Iran to distract from his past crimes, and constantly bragging about it all to anyone who will listen — these are the acts of a shallow and self-centered man who truly lives by the phrase "style over substance."

I am reminded of Mark Twain, who coined the phrase "Gilded Age" as a critique of the corruption of late 19th-century politics. To gild an object is to apply a thin layer of gold to its exterior, hiding the true nature of the object underneath. In today's Washington, a thin layer of glamour and glory conceals a rotten core of incompetence and waste.

These are the consequences of shallow politics. When politicians, the media and voters turn away from good governance in favor of attention-grabbing antics, our democracy simply cannot function. We need to demand better, both from our media and from our elected officials. Stay informed on the issues and policies that affect you directly.

Support quality journalism, especially publications that operate independently of big corporate owners. When heading to the polls, both this week and in the years to come, vote for candidates that understand the issues and have a clear plan to actually solve problems, not just look good long enough to get reelected.

I'll still be staying up late on Election Night next week to enjoy the show. But once the final votes are tallied and the victory speeches are done, keep paying attention: not just to what politicians say, but what they do. That is what keeps democracy alive.

Ezra Tice is a first-year from Goshen, Indiana. He plans to double major in sociology and music and minor in political studies. He sings in Vox Profundi and chamber choir, and is in the fall play, The Metromaniacs.

For $48, you can be stupid


Tom Leinbach for The Record

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On Oct. 2, Goshen College rolled out the latest step in their modernization of education — a $38,784 campus-wide yearly subscription, $48 per license, to BoodleBox, a software that combines about 40 AI models into one center for "learning."

We have known for a long time that generative AI does not benefit our brains. Dozens of studies, such as a June 2025 study done by MIT, have shown that use of generative AI models is directly linked to loss of critical thinking skills.

What separated early humans from the rest of the beasts of the world wasn't our ability to grab onto things —— countless species do so all the time, but I don't see any orangutan-built skyscrapers —— it was our success in thinking critically.

In the MIT study, researchers found that people who used AI regularly had far less brainpower when compared to those who didn't. According to the study, "LLM users consistently underperformed at neural, linguistic, and behavioral levels." And for what? AI helps answer the questions in school, but what do you do when you enter the workforce having learned none of the information?

Sci-fi works from the past portray artificial intelligence as something that does humanity's menial tasks, freeing humans to pursue art, science and anything else we could dream of. The artificial intelligence we got stuck with does the opposite.

Since the rollout of ChatGPT at the end of 2022, quality essays, drawings and basically everything humans could make became subject to scrutiny purely because of a chance it was made by artificial intelligence.

AI companies said everything is easier with AI, and they aren't wrong. Since its adoption, online art became easier to steal, people became easier to scam and privacy became easier to threaten —— all from the use of AI. The CEOs of the companies behind it became superstar billionaires, and funded campaigns to keep them that way —— the Earth be damned.

But the people fought back. QuitGPT, a viral movement started in late 2025, proved that not only did we have the power, but that the people didn't want an AI model controlling everything they did. Two and a half million people canceled their ChatGPT subscriptions, costing OpenAI hundreds of millions of dollars. On Feb. 28, cancellations jumped almost 300%, and one-star reviews for ChatGPT on the app store grew eightfold, according to LumiChats, a platform similar to BoodleBox.

From then on, fewer and fewer people used AI. The anti-AI movement went from small groups of rebels to a bona fide army. Anti-AI sentiments brought communities together and strengthened human connection, something desperately needed in the modern era.

Goshen College is trying to take that away.

Yes, BoodleBox is optional. For now. In an email to students on Oct. 21, the GC Service Desk said that BoodleBox can help you with numerous things, such as clarification for difficult concepts, summarization of readings, role-playing conversations and more (notably all of which can be done by a newfangled invention called "people"), but the final example of what the site can do is the most disturbing.

"Complete course assignments that require the use of Boodlebox." This puts GC students in between a rock and a hard place: submit to Sam Altman and his cronies — use BoodleBox to do the assignment and help destroy the environment, or take the zero, waiving your grade for the sake of morals.

What can we do? Colleges across the nation have spent so much time helping us to stick together as a community. Nearly the entirety of campus life is built around getting students to interact with each other — from nearly an entire week of pre-class activities and ICC for first-years at GC to a very public dining hall and so much more.

Not only that, but GC in particular has been a model for standing up to injustice, shown in 2010 when they played "America the Beautiful" in place of the national anthem. Fox News put us in the spotlight, calling us "un-American."

Did we flinch? Did we run into the shadows, capitulating to their demands? No, we did not.

We held our ground, saying in an online fact sheet that, "Our Christ-centered core value of compassionate peacemaking seems to be in conflict with the anthem's militaristic language."

Yes, we did this to protect our name as an institution, but also to shelter those GC students who were from countries that had possibly been affected by the United States' near-constant willingness to show off the rockets' red glare.

I cannot believe that was the same school that rolled onto its back as soon as the AI trend got big.

So why bend a knee now? Maybe it is because of the immense utility generative AI provides. I will not ignore the usefulness of a chatbot. If I need an answer right now, I can pick up my phone and ask Google, and it will give me an answer that is probably correct, one that would have taken me a fair few minutes to find on my own.

But that's just it. I saved a couple minutes, and ignored all the people around me who could have helped. Plus, I gave money to the company who has placed massive, unsightly noise generators in impoverished neighborhoods, turning their water into brown goop, and to the CEO who, according to Reuters, sexually assaulted his sister.

I understand why some people want to use AI — and it would be mostly valid if the way it was powered wasn't actively killing us. For a college as concerned about learning, culture and the environment as GC is, it is a mystery as to why they are pushing its antithesis on everyone.

To everyone reading this: cancel your subscription to all AI models if you have them. Get rid of any AI apps you may have. Encourage your friends to do the same.

And to the college, end the contract with BoodleBox. Fight the tyranny those 40 AI models help support. Grow a spine again.

If you want to create a community raised in culture for service, step away from artificial intelligence, and push for the real thing instead.

Adam Sherrill is a sophomore broadcasting major with a theater minor. He enjoys photography, specifically trains, bugs and cars.

Men's basketball: onward and upward

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Kahmi Bracey for The Record

Marcus Northern takes a shot against opponent.

As the Goshen College men's basketball team prepares for the upcoming season, Dwight Gingerich, the head coach and athletic director, is focused on improvement, team chemistry and building on the experience gained last year. Finishing 9-19 overall last year and 2-16 in the conference, they are looking for improvement in both areas.

Gingerich said one of the team's biggest goals is to improve every day at practice while continuing the progress the team made last season. They have several returning players, so he believes that the team is in a better position at the beginning of this season than last season.

Gingerich said, "I'd like to think that we could pick it up where we left off … We lost some major contributors so you know hopefully some of our new guys will pick up the slack in that area."

Although the team lost leaders, Gingerich emphasized the importance of building and creating a positive culture this season. He said the team wants to hold each other accountable while continuing to stay positive during the difficult moments in practices and games, and that it will build a competitive and resilient group of players. "We want to be highly competitive. We want to be resilient. We want to be compassionate for each other," Gingerich said.

The team has been preparing in the offseason with some conditioning. It has helped players get ready and in shape for the season. Because many of their players are international students, they weren't able to spend time all together during the summer. Therefore, they had to do their own workouts at home. However, some local players were able to make it to workouts in the summer. Once school started and the whole team was here, Gingerich said they showed strong effort and made lots of progress during their pre-season workouts and conditioning.

Gingerich described this year's team in these three words: smart, hard-working and caring. He believes that those qualities will be very important to how this team meshes together while blending their returning players with their five new additions. These new additions are Goshen High School graduate Levi Sawatzky, Ali Gningue from Harry S. Truman College in Chicago, Seydi Thiombane from Los Angeles, Langa Ntiwane from South Africa, and Dom Bonner, a transfer from Marian University who will have to red shirt this season because of interconference transfer rules.

With nine returning players, Gingerich believes that this new team has plenty of players capable of contributing. "We're gonna need to rely on that core early, then try to bring the other guys along," he said.

Another important part of the team is their coaching staff. Gingerich praised his assistant coach, Erik Bowen, for his passion and intensity during practice and games. He also praised Bowen for his knowledge of the game. Bowen played previously at GC's conference opponent Grace College. Gingerich spoke on the experiene he brings from playing in the Crossroads League conference and how that has been a big contribution to the team. "He knows the conference well," Gingerich said, "He's highly competitive and brings that."

On Oct. 24, the men's basketball team took on Warner University from Florida, losing a thriller 78-81. Kevin Cota tied his career high points scoring 20 in their home opener. Senior Marcus Northern was recognized for reaching 1,000 career points the previous year and he now sits at 1,033 points in his career.

On Wednesday, the Maple Leafs defeated the Judson University Eagles on a score of 94-70. Northern scored 22 points, Cota and Braden Allen both scored 15, with Sawatzky scoring 13.

Men's soccer get their hands dirty



Bontrager Creative for The Record

Roberto Sanchez-Brito looking to steal the ball.

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The Goshen College men's soccer team hosted the Grace College Lancers on Oct. 17. The Lancers defeated the Maple Leafs 5-0 in a Crossroads League battle at the John Ingold Athletic Complex.

Following the Oct. 17 game, in response to frustration with the officiating, A few Goshen players threw dirt at the officials as they both left the complex.

Goshen head coach Dan Sullivan said, "Due to a series of events, the officials and our players were all leaving at the same time, and, due to the nature of the game and how it ended, at the time I just remember thinking, 'That's probably not good,'" Sullivan said. "I was not physically present — I was far enough away to what was happening that I didn't know what was going on. There was just a lot of movement as the players and the referees were leaving the complex."

"Obviously now as more information has come into me, it's just a pretty high level of frustration and disappointment in the way our team reacted," Sullivan said. "Regardless of how a game gets called — whether you agree with the officials rulings or whether they blow the whistle in your favor or not — that's not an 'okay' to act inappropriately."

Sullivan said, "Everybody [on the team] shares the pain of recognizing that a mistake was made." He said that extra running has been one of the consequences for all members of the team. "And then, when there are situations where individual players are acting more egregiously or out of line, the more individual punishments come in and typically, those consequences revolve around playing time and whether or not they see the pitch again."

At least two players were suspended for the final two games of their season. The formal misconduct report is said to still be ongoing.

When Goshen received word of the incident, the athletic administration took rapid action to prevent further transgressions. Chad Coleman, associate athletic director, said, "We want everybody to set an example for everybody, knowing that there are consequences for actions if you instigate or perpetuate a problem, or you're contributing to it as a fan or athlete."

"We try to put a point of emphasis on champions of character for the season with athletes because we had some incidents during games last year where fans got into it a little bit too much," Coleman said.

Sullivan is optimistic about moving forward from this incident. "Certainly, when something like this happens, and an entire team has to pay the price for a few individuals' misdeeds, it can certainly create some tension in the group, but it's also an opportunity for the troop to rally around each other and hold each other up," Sullivan said. "We're all gonna make mistakes, so the question is how we respond and grow from those mistakes. Some of the guys can take it personal, or some can take it as an opportunity to help their teammates."

With reporting by Anton Alstrom-Brookhyser

Paid for by More Than Just Stories

THE GRATITUDE letters

NEW EPISODE | THURS, OCT. 29

Caoimhe Farrell has a thank-you to deliver.



Caoimhe, a junior from Galway, Ireland, reaches out to a former track coach with a letter of appreciation.

It's never too late — and always a good time — to say thank you



Hosted by Jen Shenk,
GC Campus Pastor

New episodes every other Thursday

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MORE THAN JUST stories

One of five storytelling projects from **More Than Just Stories**. Also listen to **Just Stories**, with GC professors Rob Brenneman & Regina Shands Stoltzfus.

From **SECURITY**, Page **1**

the National Security Agency and Cloudflare started seeing attacks using that vulnerability about the same time that the patches were released," Housholder said.

With this recent discovery, concerns about national cybersecurity threats increased, with the federal government recommending the immediate shutdown of many services across the world until a counter solution could be implemented.

Many government services, as well as Goshen College websites such as Moodle, GCOnline and MyGC, were included in this temporary shutdown.

"We were able to utilize AI to speed up our response," Housholder said of the influence of AI on technology systems like the PHP.

"AI has sped up the process of finding vulnerabilities. It has assisted with the process of creating patches for those vulnerabilities," Housholder said. "Al also assists threat actors with the development of tools that take advantage of the vulnerabilities. AI can assist all these functions at a faster speed than we ever could have imagined before."



Illustration by Levi Friesen

The PHP vulnerability caused websites to shut down globally.

Alex Dugger, the content production manager for More Than Just Stories, mirrored Housholder's feelings. Dugger said, "AI has made everything in the industry move faster for better and worse."

Something that Dugger noted was that the patch that was released last Wednesday only applied to the newest PHP versions 7.4 through 8.5 although this vulnerability has existed since PHP version 5.4.

"There are softwares out in the wild that have never been updated to PHP 8 that are using unsupported versions and there is no fix," Dugger said. "That is still a major concern."

With many other vulnerabilities turning up, the data systems team has been actively working to restore all services to the previous state along with multiple new protection updates.

The most recent update from Housholder was that the data systems team was able to find a solution that secures the PHP on the GC apps.

As a result, GC custom-built services are now back to being accessible on and of campus.

From **VIGIL**, Page **1**

died as a direct result of domestic violence, and this year the state is on track to exceed that number.

Organizers encouraged attendees to listen to survivors, offer support and help them connect with the right resources.

Autumn McCully, a vice president of YWCA North Central Indiana, highlighted that raising awareness is central to the organization's mission.

"Just really being present and standing with victims and letting them know that there is a place, there is somebody who cares," McCully said.

McCully emphasized that the YWCA offers more support than emergency shelter. Its services include support groups, counseling, classes, help obtaining protective orders and safety planning. The YWCA encourages students who may be experiencing abuse or know someone who is to speak up without fear of any judgement.

"When they come to us, all we are going to say is, 'We believe in you and how can we help you?'" McCully said.

The event also connected with Prevention Intervention Network, a student-led organization on GC campus. PIN promotes education, awareness and action around interpersonal violence.

The candlelight vigil was intended not only to remember those who died but also to offer hope to survivors and encourage continued activities against domestic violence. The YWCA encouraged attendees to share information about their services with anyone who would benefit from their support.

Rose Snyder, a sophomore sociology major who attended the vigil, said, "I think that the fact that we got so much publicity shows that the media is listening to Goshen College and what we are doing, and I think that hosting a candlelight vigil was really powerful."

More information and ways to support survivors of domestic violence can be found from YWCA North Central Indiana. Additional campus resources are available through the Title IX office.

GC highlights AI in convo



Caoimhe Farrell for The Record

Wednesday's panel speaking on AI.

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Students, faculty and staff of Goshen College gathered on Wednesday at the Church-Chapel for a convocation titled "GC's AI Task Force: What We've Learned, Where We're Going."

The convocation took the form of a panel discussion which was moderated by dean Ann Vendrely. Faculty panelists were Michelle Blank, the senior director of the Academic Success Center, and Roy Jackson, an associate professor of education. Timothy Okiror, a sophomore computer science and engineering physics major and Shalom Teferi, a junior biochemistry and molecular biology major, represented students.

Vendrely opened the discussion by asking the panel how they felt about AI a year ago versus how they feel about it today. Teferi said that she was intrigued a year ago and now she is cautious. Jackson has experienced the opposite, claiming that a year ago he was very cautious and is now optimistic. Okiror claimed to be "much more uncertain" and is now curious. Blank claimed to previously be intrigued, but believes it is now normalized.

Jackson explained that the CORE 110: Academic Voice: Speaking and Writing course, which he teaches, now has an AI unit. He also has just finished his dissertation and believed that his experiences with AI brought up questions about privilege.

"It's very common for people in theses and dissertations to hire editors to edit their work, and that comes with economic privilege," Jackson said. "And here is a tool that changes the playing field for those who don't have economic privilege in life."

Reflecting on her experiences on AI, Teferi explained that in her physics course, if she gets a detail wrong, it can lead to wrong answers and confusion. She has used AI to learn. "Professors have limited time, and there is only so much effort they can put into each student. So, one thing I have used AI for this year in that class is [mapping out] my thought process," she said.

Blank said, "Claude and I are very well acquainted. ... I think I've been surprised about how reluctant students have been because they've not known where the line is," she said. "Some are like, 'Oh, we're not allowed to do that' because I think there has been a misunderstanding about using it for things we are getting graded on and using it to help you practice because we definitely want practice — that's where learning happens."

Okiror highlighted the ethical issues he has been facing with AI. In particular, he claimed to have issues with privacy. "Claude has access to my calendar and my emails, so sometimes I have conflicts when Claude is able to see personal emails that I have sent out — maybe to professors or other people with personal information like bank statements," he said. "I was a bit surprised when I saw a notification on my calendar for a meeting with my family that I had not scheduled at all."

Reflecting on the implementation of AI, Raj Biyani, GC's chief innovation officer and AI advisor for the task force, said, "There is no one-size-fits-all dictated-from-the-top policy, but, rather, the faculty are using a process of discernment."

He explained that professors have different levels of comfort when it comes to implementing it into their classrooms. For example, Regina Shands Stoltzfus, a professor of peace, justice and conflict studies, adopts a "Low Tech, No Tech" policy, in which students write their notes by hand on paper in CORE 192: War, Peace and Non-Resistance. Rob Brenneman, professor of criminal justice and sociology, implements a no tech policy for PJCS 220: Inside Out: Masculinity and Justice. On the opposite end of the spectrum, Alysha Liljeqvist, associate professor of business, teaches students how to use AI in BUS 344: Digital & Social Media Marketing.

"That right there is Goshen College, where we are being very deliberate about what are the skills that we want the students to develop in terms of mental faculties, and what are the scenarios we want them to then use AI as a tool," Biyani said.

Natalie Neufeld, a sophomore nursing major, was dissatisfied with the convocation. "I think that it felt like an inaccurate representation of what Goshen College students feel in regards to AI," she said.

Neufeld feels that AI is having more negative effects at GC than positive, especially due to the fact that there are so many issues in the world right now. "I think that it's short-sighted to say that, because bad things are happening in the world environmentally, this is just one of those things, and we can't focus on all of them because I don't think that that's a productive viewpoint," she said.

On a positive note, Neufeld appreciates the fact that GC is actively thinking about AI. "I'm glad it's not ignored because I think there's a lot of harm in that because then it goes unregulated and uncoached," she said. "If we tried to push it under the rug, then the use would be still happening but slightly worse."

Kelsie Hankins, a senior psychology major, said that her professors have altered their approach to AI this year. Last year, her professors didn't condone its usage, but this year they have a more lenient approach. "In our senior psychology research class, we had a meeting over how to use it to find references instead of having to go to the library for books or having to use EBSCO or Google Scholar," she said.

Hankins believes that the convocation could change people's opinions on AI at GC. "Maybe people who are super pro AI would now become a little bit more cautious of what information they're giving it and how that could maybe impact them negatively," she said.

Looking to the future of AI at GC, Vendrely said, "The task force has done its work and the next stage is being handed to the AI oversight group."

Dorms: a germaphobe's worst nightmare

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As spooky season comes to a head, let us keep our wits about us as the scariest time of year looms ahead: flu season.

In my college career, I am learning to be a professional in more ways than one — professional journalist, sociologist and broadcaster. I have also found that I'm a professional hypochondriac and a people watcher. Unfortunately, these two do not go well together.

In the last year, I have witnessed personal horror after horror: hand-sneezers and shower-haters and sink-refusers — oh my!

A low moment was when I witnessed a floormate nearly leave the bathroom with their toilet germs unrinsed, then turn around to wash their hands solely because they realized I too was in the room and they could not get away with peeing and fleeing.

It astounds me that my classmates, my peers, my fellow functioning-adults have such a disregard for their own health let alone the health of others. The more I think about it, the worse it gets. Picture this, one unwashed sneeze into your hands to immediately touching shared surfaces — dining hall appliances, technology, library books, etc. — everything you've touched has in some way or another been touched by your classmates' inner fluids.

My personal fixation is doorknobs — everyone touches them. After all that I've witnessed, I simply can't bring myself to make contact.

If you were to ever watch me open a door, you'll notice that I never touch the knob with my whole hand. For any who are looking for any tips and tricks for avoiding the germ-pools of doorknobs, these are my personal favorite techniques that I've found bring peace of mind:

Sleeve over hand — this provides an impenetrable force between you and the germs that live on a doorknob, a super easy method to use in winter.

Open with wrist — this requires some hand gymnastics by contorting your arm to slip your hand past the doorknob and using your wrist to push down the handle, this is a less beginner-friendly method and may lead to some wrist bruising.

Heel of hand — this is a last-ditch method for if you have no sleeve and no way to stick your wrist/arm in. This requires maneuvering the angular bone of your wrist to open the door without needing to wrap your hand around the cesspool of a knob.

As we move into winter and seasonal allergies ramp up, I urge you to wash your hands after blowing your nose and implore you to direct your sneezes towards your elbow.

If you ever find yourself disregarding sinks or wiping snot on any surface and think, "I hope nobody's watching," know that I always am.



Beka Youngberg for The Record
Rose is haunted by Alina's spooky sneeze.



Comic by Levi Friesen



Comic by Levi Friesen

Crossword

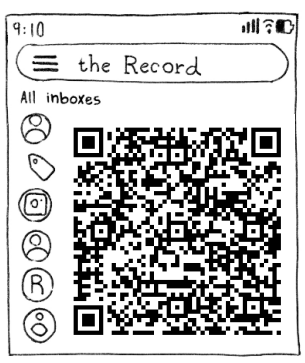
■	■	1	2	3	4	■	■
■	5					6	7
8					■	9	
10			■	11	12		
13			14	■	15		
16		■	17	18			
19		20					■
■	■	21				■	■

ACROSS

1 Prefix for drama class codes
5 Fan of the Starship Enterprise
8 Playing music at a function
9 Home of Nashville and Memphis
10 Electric guitar companion
11 Religious branch
13 U.S. space organization
15 Three letters on a baseball scoreboard
16 Home of Dallas and Houston
17 Pheasant farm in Bremen, IN
19 Was
21 Rays' World Series outcome

DOWN

1 Voyages
2 Rooster's mate
3 Line graphs of the heart's electrical activity
4 Home of Anchorage and Fairbanks
5 Discount department store chain
6 Scratched
7 Go in
8 "Divine Comedy" author
12 Deepest Great Lake, pluralized
14 I __ __ in love with you
18 @@@
20 Home of Chicago and Springfield



Scan here for the answers to this week's puzzle:

Cryptic Corner

Puzzle by John Eash-Scott

Only a true spy can decode the message

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

YUXIMGWQQ NDQIQDE

Clue: L=x

Debuting a new perspective

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After eight years of work, Roy Jackson, associate professor of education, has published his fiction coming-of-age novel, "Reel Around the Fountain."

On Friday, Jackson and Jessica Baldanzi, chair of the English department, gave a presentation on their recently published writing projects as part of the Faculty Scholars' Series hosted by the dean's office.

"Reel Around the Fountain" is set in the 1980s and follows a working class family navigating a world of religious and family trauma. The family is trying to take agency in their lives while lacking trust in the systems around them.

During his presentation, Jackson emphasized the importance of writing his entire book in the second person and shared some of his personal research on the subject. He noted how people sometimes use "you" instead of "I" when telling traumatic personal narratives as a form of trauma response. Second person also allows the readers to connect with the characters at a deeper level.

"It forces the reader to have a closer intimacy with a character because they are sort of experiencing it through this work of 'you'," explained Jackson.

After beginning the project in 2018, Jackson completed most of the writing over the following three years.

Despite facing numerous rejections from publishers, he eventually found Lethe Press, a small publishing company that published his novel this past summer after several years of extensive editing and shortening.

Baldanzi presented her recently published poem, "Respects," which came out in the North American Review this past summer. For a more detailed look at this poem, read "Baldanzi printed in prominent publication" from The Record's Sept. 10 issue.

During the presentation, Baldanzi shared multiple drafts and early versions of her poem from 2024-2025, including a draft from a poetry writing workshop she attended in June 2025.

One of the editors at this workshop pointed out in her draft, how Baldanzi switched from using mostly "I" to "you" toward the end of her poem. While the "you" didn't make it into Baldanzi's final draft, the appearance of second person in her writing process provided an example of the concepts Jackson presented on.

"I had not even noticed I was using 'you' instead of 'I,'" Baldanzi said. "I love that it is something I noticed partly because of what Roy said in this presentation."

"I just love the way Roy and I were both kind of doing our own halves of the presentation, but we ended up overlapping in a lot of ways we hadn't realized until we saw each other's presentations." Baldanzi said.

Jackson's novel, "Reel Around the Fountain," can be found at major retailers like Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and Walmart. It can also be found in the Harold & Wilma Good Library.

Copies of Baldanzi's poem, "Respects," can be purchased through the North American Review and from Baldanzi, who has a few copies in her office.

Both faculty and students are encouraged to attend the Faculty Scholars' Series, with the next session scheduled for next month, featuring Breanna Nickel, professor of Bible and religion.



Beka Youngberg for The Record

It took Jackson eight years to publish his novel.

The Art Box

Fall faces

A photo essay by Sofia Zaracho



















