Timeless Elegance: 26th annual President’s Ball

Gustavus loves traditions, including the annual semi-formal President’s Ball. The 26th annual President’s Ball will be held on April 4, 2009 at the Nicollet Island Pavilion in Minneapolis. Tickets, which include dinner, were sold March 4-18 for $30 at the Student Activities Office desk; round-trip coach transportation to the Pavilion was also available for an additional $5.

This year’s P-Ball was planned by sophomore Political Science Major Brian Krahulec and Sophomore John Rasmussen, the Campus Activities Board special events co-executives. “Preliminary planning began in the spring of 2008. This included deciding on a date, selecting a venue and hiring the band,” said Rasmussen.

Continued planning of the event did not commence again until after Winter Break, and since then there has been steady planning to create a successful President’s Ball. Krahulec and Rasmussen were in charge of every detail of the planning—from signing contracts with the venue to preparing the tickets for sale. They worked in conjunction with Assistant Director of Student Activities and CAB Adviser Andrea Junso and the rest of the CAB Special Events Committee.

The Nicollet Island Pavilion was chosen as a venue for its appealing location along the Mississippi River and its overall look. “It features an outdoor walking area with stunning views of the Minneapolis skyline,” said Rasmussen. This location coincides well with this year’s theme, “Timeless Elegance.” The theme was chosen from suggestions made by the CAB Executive Board and the CAB Special Events Committee. The theme chosen is then incorporated into the decorations, invitations and advertisements.

The event is expected to be sold out at 700 attendees, including President Ohle, who will be speaking. The three dinner options include pan-roasted turkey with an apple Riesling sauce, roast beef with bordelaise sauce and a vegetarian option of penne pasta primavera.

The night will have varied entertainment. “The Rockin’ Hollywoods will be performing from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. and The Quintessence will perform during the social hour between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. Swing Club members will also be giving a performance,” said Rasmussen.

The two dances performed by members of the Swing Club were choreographed by Junior French Major Rea Kadera and Junior Dance and Psychology Major Jill VanSdol. “The dance I choreographed includes Lindy Hop and Blues and has three couples,” said Kadera. The choreographers worked on creating their dances from December to February, auditions were held in December and practices started during January. The groups usually perform during the band’s breaks, so watch for them to see some great dancing and aerials.

Students can attend President’s Ball with a date or with a group of friends. It is a fun way to dress up, be social and partake in a Gustavus tradition.

Spring Break work trips head south

Spring Break work trips are in one of three locations: Beaumont, TX, Corpus Christi, TX or Pensacola, FL.

The Rockin’ Hollywoods will perform from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.
WEEKLY Safety and Security Report

Monday, March 9
A Gustavus employee reported the theft of personal belongings from the C. Jackson Campus Center in two separate incidents. Safety and Security was called for a medical assist at the Schafer Fine Arts Center.

Tuesday, March 10
Safety and Security responded to a medical assist at Rundstrom Hall.

Wednesday, March 11
A Gustavus student reported receiving a nuisance phone call. Safety and Security responded to a medical assist outside Alumni Hall.

Thursday, March 12
Safety and Security responded to a medical assist in the Norelius parking lot.

Friday, March 13
Nuisance phone calls were reported to Safety and Security.

Saturday, March 14
Two Gustavus students were cited by Safety and Security for liquor violations, underage; one of those students was also transported to Detox.
A student while on Campus Drive was cited by Safety and Security for underage consumption and a Social Host violation.
A non-Gustavus student was cited for a liquor violation of age/non-designated drinking area.

Tip of the Week:
Avoid Spring Break scams. By taking a few precautions, you can contact a reputable company and make travel plans that make sense for you.
Purchase the travel package from a company you know: always research a company first. Check professional associations such as the American Society of Travel Agents, the United States Tour Operators Association or the National Tour Association. Get it in writing: verify all arrangements in writing before you pay, including the total cost (taxes, fees and charges).
Read the fine print: watch out for travel opportunities that are “subject to availability” or that can’t be used during peak seasons.
Don’t feel rushed: don’t deal with companies that request payment in advance or rushed payments.
Beware of “free trip” solicitations or “too good to be true”: offers be suspicious of postcards, letters, bulk e-mails or phone solicitations. These offers usually don’t disclose the hidden fees involved.
Pay with a credit card: under a federal law known as the Fair Credit Billing Act, consumers have the right to file a written dispute with their credit card company if they are charged for products or services which they did not receive. Never give out your credit card to a company you don’t know.

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Letters to the Editor can be sent to letterstothedirector@gustavus.edu.
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many universities in the past,” said Fell. “She does many programs for students, having experience with college settings. “She does many programs for students, having experience with college settings. The students’ work schedule can be demanding. They wake up, get ready to work, arrive on the work site at 8:00 a.m. and continue until 4:00 p.m. The work, however, is part of the fun. “You do really get to know people, especially when you are working with them and you get to joke around with them,” said Matuseski. Working on the sites is as much of a cultural experience as anything else. “You meet a lot more people and a lot more interesting things happen to you when you are going and serving than when you [are] just hanging out and looking at the sights,” said Matuseski. “When we were in New Orleans, we could kind of tell how the homeowners actually lived.” Habitat for Humanity also requires that potential homeowners work on the project, giving students the opportunity to meet them and hear their stories.

There is, however, a balanced mix of work and play. Evenings are free for the groups to sightsee or do as they please. Coordinators of the trip also allot a free day so students might have the chance to do a little relaxing or exploring. The group going to Corpus Christi plans to go on a dolphin watch, the Beaumont group looks forward to a canoe trip and the group going to Pensacola is partaking in one of most popular Spring Break pastimes: beach day. “Yes, you are working, but it’s also a trip,” said Hoel. “Two favorite parts of [the trip] would be going and meeting fantastic people from Gustavus who I wouldn’t have had the chance to meet before, as well as working with great people you get to help… out. It’s also fun to hang out in warm place. It’s a fun time for just hanging out and doing some hard work,” said Lucas Neber, a junior environmental studies major. “[It’s] exciting to take a break from school. I really have fun, I really enjoy construction, I have fun hanging out with awesome people from Gustavus. We have a lot of fun together, I really do view it as a break.”

The students are loading up vans early Saturday morning and heading out on an estimated 25-hour trip to the South. With any luck, loading the vans shouldn’t be too difficult, as students are encouraged to pack light. “We are telling students to bring one small bag and one [pair] of work clothes… Those clothes are going to get very dirty at the end of the week,” said Hoel. When they get there, students will stay in various work camps or at churches. Meals are often provided picnic-style by various churches, and “businesses are really grateful that you are there, so they donate and give you discounts,” said Hoel. The entire trip costs about $300. Although Hoel admits that “you come back exhausted,” the trip is worth it. “It’s a really great way for students to give back to the community during break. You see progress and it is amazing,” said Hoel. “I really like the idea of vacationing with a purpose. It is an opportunity to go and see places you haven’t seen before, but also help people who need help, to contribute and do work in some way,” said Matuseski.
Meet Oren Struck. He hails from St. Peter, MN, and plans on majoring in management. He participates in intramural sports, likes to work out and enjoys photography, fishing and camping. He also spent almost an entire year in Iraq fighting with the United States Army. 

Oren became involved in the military after choosing to come to Gustavus. “I really liked the overall atmosphere when I visited … [and] after visiting, I realized I really wanted to come to school here, but the cost of attending [Gustavus] is ungodly expensive,” said Oren.

Fortunately, Oren found a way to attend school and serve his country. “Soon after I visited, an Army recruiter happened to come to my house. I listened to what he had to say, and I guess I just couldn’t turn down the opportunity to serve my country [in] a time of war. All the money for college was also a great incentive.”

His family was supportive of his decision, as his father is a Vietnam War veteran. “After joining, I was the fourth generation on my dad’s side to serve in the military,” said Oren.

Oren started school at Gustavus in the middle of the semester. He finished an entire semester’s worth of coursework before leaving for training at the end of November.

After spending two months training in North Carolina, Oren flew to the Iraq on February 2, 2008. He left Iraq at the beginning of November 2008, spending about nine months in Iraq total.

“I was at a small, isolated camp in the middle of nowhere about 80 miles north of Baghdad. The nearest town was called Mushkadiyah. We were maybe 15 or 20 miles from the Iranian border. My four-man team was fortunate enough to live in an underground bunker, so we were relatively safe from incoming rocket attacks. Being underground also kept the temperatures cooler,” said Oren.

While in Iraq, “on a typical day, I would wake up around 5:00 a.m.—that’s when the temperature was the coolest—to go for about a three mile run. I’d shower after I ran, grab breakfast and then head out to our vehicles to get them ready for our mission that day,” said Oren.

Waking up that early wasn’t the only difference for Oren. “We would usually leave on our missions between 7:30 and 9:00 a.m., depending on the type of mission and the area where we were going. Some days we would be back for lunch; other days we would just bring snacks along to eat, or the Iraqi people would often feed us lunch,” said Oren. “Depending on our schedule, we would either go back out to continue our mission after lunch or we would basically be free to prepare for the next day’s mission.”

Of course, it wasn’t all just work for the soldiers. “After I was done writing up the report from our mission, I would weight lift in the afternoon or evening, depending on if I had any other work I needed to complete,” said Oren. “We also filled our free time with sipping non-alcoholic beers around a campfire, reading, playing beach volleyball nowhere near a beach, playing catch with a baseball or football, playing darts, going out and shooting all of our weapons at the range, playing cribbage, etc.”

“He works harder than anyone I know and succeeds in all that he does. [He went] to Iraq with the U.S. Army, while still continuing his education, working and still finding plenty of social time.” —Jordan Smith

Oren also took an online college course and an online language course while in Iraq.

Now that Oren is back, he’s had time to readjust to a slower-paced life.

“It is great to be back. I really missed just being a ‘normal’ college-aged kid,” said Oren. “I really came to appreciate all of the everyday luxuries most people take for granted, such as running water, wearable weather, being able to talk or hang out with friends whenever you want, an everyday sense of safety, the immense freedom that Americans enjoy and even just being able to choose what clothes you want to wear.”

His experiences in Iraq helped shape who he is today and influence his everyday life. “I feel like I matured quite a bit during my time in Iraq. You can really learn a lot about yourself when put in treacherous situations, and you realize that you can make vital decisions in times of chaos,” said Oren.

His days in Iraq are not over, though. “I was just given the opportunity of going back to Iraq next February [2010] or waiting until 2011 and going to Afghanistan,” said Oren. “I’m still trying to decide which route I’m going to take.”

Back on the Gustavus campus, Oren has returned to old hobbies. He spends his time lifting weights, watching The Office and going on midnight runs with his friend, Junior Communication Arts/Literature Teaching Major Kevin Matuseski.

“The best thing about Oren is his care for other people. I think soldiers in the military can be stereotyped as ‘hard’ individuals who are just trained to do their duty. By all means Oren was the first and foremost about the people around him: his friends and family,” said Matuseski. “While he was in Iraq I would get Facebook messages from him asking me how my life was going. While he was being surrounded by bombs and gunfire, he made sure to ask me about how my job was going at the YMCA. That’s the kind of care you wouldn’t get from many other human beings.”

Oren is known and “precipitated for his caring personality and his up-for-anything attitude. “He goes out of his way to help you with whatever you need, no matter what it is,” said Sophomore Health Education and Physical Education Major Andy Sharp.

Oren stays involved in community both on- and off-campus.

He runs a landscaping business with a fellow Gustavus student, Junior Geography and Management Major Jordan Smith. “You may see us embellishing the properties of various homeowners within the St. Peter and Mankato area anywhere between the end of March throughout October,” said Oren.

“Oren seems to find a way to make anything and everything he does fun for him and the people around him,” said Smith. “He works harder than anyone I know and succeeds in all that he does. [He went] to Iraq with the U.S. Army, while still continuing his education, working and still finding plenty of social time. He knows how to manage his time well. … He always strives to get the most out of life.”

He also said at his parents’ place of business, the Traverse de Sioux Garden Center, whenever he has the time.

He’s not your typical Gustie, and that’s exactly what makes him stand out.
Patricia Kirkpatrick to read at Gustavus
Katie Kaderlik Staff Writer

Patricia Kirkpatrick is a poet and a professor from Hamline University, where she teaches in the Masters of Fine Arts Program while balancing her position as the poetry editor for the Water-Stone Review. Kirkpatrick is a talented poet who has published a collection of her work in her book Century’s Road. She will come to Gustavus to share her work in the form of a poetry reading on Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lind Interpretive Center.

This event is sponsored by the English Department. Each year, the English Department decides as a group which authors to invite to share their work with the Gustavus community.

The department chose Kirkpatrick in part because “we want to give students a sense of different cultures,” said Associate Professor of English Joyce Sutphen.

Kirkpatrick will be reading a selection of her poems that have been influenced by her past experiences. “I think coming of age during the Vietnam War and trying to come to terms with being a woman in this culture influenced not only what I write but my decision to be a writer,” -Patricia Kirkpatrick

“I think coming of age during the Vietnam War and trying to come to terms with being a woman in this culture influenced not only what I write but my decision to be a writer.”

Patricia Kirkpatrick

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2 Peter 1-5

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Variety
Variety Editor | Jenny Behan

Watchmen doesn’t translate
Ethan Marxausen Staff Writer

How seriously can one take a superhero movie? With the success of The Dark Knight last year, it seems like a timely question to ask. Christopher Nolan’s work on The Dark Knight has redefined what a superhero movie can be, and it has turned the comic-book-to-film adaptation into its own unique art form, full of expectations. It is for this reason that Director Zack Snyder’s Watchmen felt like a step backward for the freshly appreciated superhero genre.

In case you didn’t know, Watchmen is based on the highly acclaimed graphic novel of the same title. This graphic novel (a.k.a. a novel written in the form of a comic book) has been a cult classic since it was published in 1986. Its film adaptation has been surrounded with intense speculation, most prominently from people who read the book, which has the honor of being included on Time Magazine’s list of the 100 Greatest Novels of All Time.

The poetry reading will include a selection of poems chosen by Kirkpatrick, cookies and a question-and-answer session at the conclusion of the reading.

“I often listen to poetry as listening to music: some of it is going to right past you; some of it is going to affect you whether you understand or can interpret it,” said Kirkpatrick. All are welcome to this free, special event to hear Kirkpatrick present her work.

Into this epic mindfreak of a story, audiologist Zack Snyder, a self-proclaimed “commercial” director who is most famous for his work on another graphic-novel-to-film adaptation, 300. In 300 Snyder used slow-motion, color tinting and lots of special effects to give the film a pseudo-graphic novel look and feel, a style that I will refer to as the “Snyder Effect” from here on out.

Now, take the Snyder Effect template and put in it a film that actually has an interesting and complex plotline. It’s like listen- ing to Rage Against the Machine and Beethoven at the same time: it just doesn’t mesh. In Watchmen, Snyder puts his 300-like techniques to work once again, giving the film an overall feel of being directed by a hormone-jacked teenager who plays too many violent video games.

Many Snyder-esque motifs that audiences were introduced to in 300 are repeated in Watchmen, namely the huge zoom-outs, the exquisitely slow and ridiculously close-up-violence and the very R-rated sex scene which succeeds in grinding the entire movie to a halt and being really, really awkward.

While I realize and appreciate that Snyder probably thought it would be a great idea to adapt what some people consider to be the greatest graphic novel of all time using his trade-mark graphic-novel-to-film approach, it is the very reason why Watchmen failed. After all the surrounding the film’s release, I wanted a film that I could enjoy and respect, but instead I got an over-stylized, self-indulgent action flick that at many points threatened to parody itself beyond all recognition.

This can be seen in the character of Dr. Manhattan. In the story, he acquires godlike powers, making him all-knowing and all-powerful. Some of the side effects of this are his glowing blue appearance, his buff physique and his nudity. Almost every time we see Dr. Manhattan, he is butt naked. It makes it kind of hard to take a guy who is supposed to be God on Earth seriously when he is constantly exposing himself.

Things like this would not ruin an otherwise good movie by themselves, but the problem with Watchmen is that they are part of a greater effect by Snyder to take an epic story and stylize it out of all recognition– making it a parody of itself.

Watchmen is certainly successful in creating some unforgettably well-done visuals, it ultimately falls under its own weight as a result of Snyder’s effort to remove all elements that remotely resemble realism and drama through an array of stylistic liberties.

What would happen if a Hollywood producer said to a 15-year-old kid, “Hey kid, here’s 50 million bucks. Go nuts and make a superhero movie”? The answer: Watchmen.
Morton will teach in the in the Department of Biology and will serve as the Director of Science Initiatives next year.

“I am so pleased that the provost has agreed to stay on and work administratively in the area of science initiatives,” Ohle said.

What is a provost?

The provost is a relatively new position at Gustavus, created after extensive campus-wide collaborative efforts in 2006. The search committee’s description of the provost said that “while provosts are a strong, faculty role in a culture of shared governance, most faculty members had come to recognize that their interests would benefit from a more powerful academic leader who could act both as faculty advocate and counselor on academic matters.”

Originally defined as an administrator designated to oversee academic programs and strategic planning for the college, the search committee’s description said, “The provost will assume primary responsibility for coordinating long-range and short-term planning for the college and also dedicate a portion of his or her time to advancement and development efforts.”

Proving questions surrounding Morton’s resignation led the Faculty Senate to pass a resolution on March 11. Faculty were notified in a message sent by Professor of Psychology Mark Krueger that, “after substantial discussion by members of the Senate and the faculty,” the Faculty Senate passed a resolution stipulating three things.

First, the resolution expressed a commitment to the position of the provost as originally defined, and accurately appointed Morton specifically in that role. Thridly, it called for an inquiry into her resignation.

“We strongly urge that her resignation not go forward and recommend that the faculty and the Board of Trustees promptly examine the circumstances that have led to her resignation,” the resolution said and was endorsed following a ballot vote at the faculty meeting.

“One of our major concerns,” Ohle said during a question and answer period during the faculty meeting. “The major change is that the institutional strategic planning belongs to the president. That is the change in scope and role,” he said.

Ohle explained in an e-mail interview that the provost’s “role and scope” as provost, many faculty members wondered how the provost’s “role and scope” had changed and under who’s authority.

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“Our whole is to ask what those changes are and how they came about,” Professor of Mathematics Halpierin said at the faculty meeting.

According to article VIII, section 25 of the college’s bylaws, only the Board of Trustees can constitutionally alter the provost position.

“The provost’s ‘role and scope’ as provost,” many faculty members wished to take strategic-planning responsibilities away from the president’s job description and into the president’s office.

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Resolution Calling for a Presidential Performance Review and the Provost

“On behalf of the faculty, the Faculty Senate wishes to express our strong confidence in the leadership of Dr. Mary Morton and our profound confidence in the administration of Academics Affairs at Gustavus Adolphus College. The Senate whole-heartedly endorses the Provost’s move, the position description for the provost, and Dr. Morton in that role. Dr. Morton has offered a vision of shared leadership that resonates with the history and mission of the college and the faculty.

We strongly urge that her resignation not go forward and recommend that the faculty and the Board of Trustees promptly examine the circumstances that have led to her resignation.”

Results: 133 for the resolution, and 6 against the resolution.

Resolution Calling for a Presidential Performance Review of President Ohle:

In accordance with Article VIII, Section 1, of the Constitution of Gustavus Adolphus College, the faculty respectfully requests that the Board of Trustees conduct an immediate performance review of President Ohle that includes confidential interviews with all Vice-Presidents and any other constituencies that the Board deems appropriate.

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March 20, 1815
My dear Miss Featherbottom,
I hope this letter and my addresses find you well. The weather here at Pembercross Grange has proved most pleasant. Merry old Mrs. Dashlewood has been at the snuff again, and Lord Hawthorne of Sussex County has been visiting us here in the country for the last nine weeks. Have you heard the recent news that Miss Elizabeth Wickley and her cousin Mr. Charles Woodhouse are to be married at the end of the month? It has caused quite the scandal, as prudence would dictate that Mr. Woodhouse see through his recent courtship with the young Miss Margaret Halifax of Netherport Estates. But Miss Wickley, it is rumored, is worth twenty thousand pounds a year, and her family owns a cottage in the Moorelands. Mr. Woodhouse—so the example—has a shilling to his name and is rumored to have sold many a good lady’s reputation in London.

The Gustavian Weekly
Steve Palmer
Staff columnist

S
omewhere around this column there is a picture of a table. Take a look at it. This table was created by someone who, upon completing and inspecting his or her handiwork, proposed its manufacture and sale.

After spending four months amid millions of starving people in India, I almost forgot that conspicuous consumption of ridiculous things by clueless people with too much money still occurred and was considered the norm. Reminding me of my naiveté, SkyMall shopping magazine pokéd its ugly head out of the front seat pocket on my flight from Chicago to Minneapolis on Dec. 18, 2008. Our group engaged in some hearty chuckles at the useless junk wares contained within.

SkyMall Magazine is an extreme example—full of hilarious but there is also a note of absurdity within it that could very well be the brain fever taking. But the doctors promise the leeches will help if the hourly bloodlettings do not. Thus far they have removed over two pints of bad blood. My darling, this separation is driving me to desperation. But never fear! Soon we shall settle your dowry and be married. I haven’t much to my name, and my father’s death from diphtheria has burdened my back with debts. But I am a gentleman of cunning, and we shall soon amass great fortunes and be wed.

I beseech you, reply by courier at once, or I shall throw your wretched body into the Thames.

Dreaming of your knickers, Edward William Darcy III

The street children are saving up for a night sweat alarm

Meet Basho the Sumo Wrestler Table: weighing in at 38 pounds, Basho is crouched and ready to tackle any stray caper or morsel of brie that comes his way.

THE WAYS THINGS HAVE CHANGED

On the lighter side... Dirty 19th Century Love Letter

Seymour Deering
Staf columnist

Dirty 19th Century Love Letter

Dearest Miss Featherbottom,
I yearn to clasp your hand in mine and dance a minuet, a waltz or a quadrille (it is the latest ballroom fashion from France!). When next I call upon you at Barrington Manor in Yorkshire, we shall sit and talk for hours of nothing but land ownership and the conditions of the roads. Then, whilst we are alone (with me, you, your parents, your cousins and your governess), I shall ravish you with my eyes, mentally removing your petticoats, and I shall not cease until I reach your decency skirt. Finally, after twenty or so minutes and with the help of your dressing servants, your whalebone corset will drop to the ground. Perhaps the increase of oxygen flow to your brain shall set you in an amorous mood, my darling.

In my head now, I hear you calling me an assortment of vile names, such as “rogue,” “rascal,” “good-for-nothing,” and “ne’er-do-well.” And never fear, my pet, for if your feminine sex proves too weak to stand against the overpowering passions of the moment, my agency shall provide you with the finest fainting couch in Christendom. I also will revive you with exotic and pungent smelling salts from the Far East. I hope you do not consider my feelings immodest or my words lacking in propriety. It could very well be the brain fever taking. But the doctors promise the leeches will help if the hourly bloodlettings do not. Thus far they have removed dollars a day and half of India’s children are malnourished, we Americans can sit and peruse Roombas (vacuuming robots), debating if we would rather have a Snuggie or a Skymall. For example, in SkyMall, one can buy a pop-up hot dog cooker with special slots for the bun and franks. A toaster for hot dogs. Who would buy this? “Prettyhotdoglady” from Bor ing, Oregon (hot dogs are apparently an important part of her life), says it is the “best kitchen appliance I have ever bought!” in her review of the toaster on the SkyMall website. One of the best parts of the toaster, she says, is that it “comes with that new car smell.” Also, in case you were tempted to do so, she warns against “sticking your fingers in the holes. It’s hot, trust me.” Thanks, prettyhotdoglady.

Other transgressions of SkyMall include a watch-like device that serves as a Night Sweat Alarm. The site explains it as such: “When it senses perspiration, it vibrates and sounds an alarm so that you can wake up and remove blankets or take other corrective action.” It’s only $199.99 to buzz you at the middle of the night because you put too many blankets on and couldn’t tell that you were sweating. Deal! The “AS SEEN ON TV” icon accompanied some of the goods in SkyMall. This adds a definite air of credibility—because if something was on TV it has to be good. SkyMall still sells formerly seen-on-TV-but-clearly-fraudulent “Body Toning System,” otherwise known as the “belt that suppos edly builds muscle but really just jiggles your stomach fat.” There were infomercials on TV for this a few years ago, commercials audacious enough to show people in jogging gear suited up with the belt on in the grocery store buying ice cream.

SkyMall is still a bit audacious to think they work, or at least has found a demographic unlikely enough to buy the “Body Toning System.” Our group laughed at the SkyMall magazine, but I think in a way it was sort of bitter, resigned laughter. I guess the knowledge that suckers will pay any price for anything, no matter how stupid, isn’t a new revelation. But in that context, flying from India to the U.S., from the “developing” to the “developed” world, it was especially sad to see SkyMall. You could get angry and frustrated, but that is just futile, because this sort of thing comes with being human. I suppose you could say that not buying these objects of claptap could be considered enough, but I wish there was something more proactive to counter this naked idiocy. I can laugh at it, at least. I hope you can laugh at it, too.

The Gustavian Weekly
Maggie Sotos
Staff columnist

The street children are saving up for a night sweat alarm

Meet Basho the Sumo Wrestler Table: weighing in at 38 pounds, Basho is crouched and ready to tackle any stray caper or morsel of brie that comes his way.

The Gustavian Weekly
Steve Palmer
Staff columnist

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Meet Basho the Sumo Wrestler Table: weighing in at 38 pounds, Basho is crouched and ready to tackle any stray caper or morsel of brie that comes his way.
The Gustavus community is just that: a community. Its parts are made of an array of faculty, students, staff, and administrators. These parts need to work together, talk to each other, and, at times even argue with each other in order to produce the strongest community possible. However, this fragile tradition may be at risk. Gusties, it’s time we paid attention.

First of all, did anyone notice that unexpected email, concerning the fact that at the end of this year Provost Mary Morton will, “relinquish her position and return to the classroom.” In this year Provost Morton is instrumental in that the Gustavus community has identified injustices, wrongs to rise. I am sure each of you know all those big signs and excitement for Commission Gustavus 150? Well, Provost Morton is instrumental in that too. Provost Morton is integral to our faculty and our continued academic excellence. This seems like quite an important issue, so why aren’t the students buzzing about this just as much as the faculty? After all, the students should be extremely concerned with the college’s academic integrity and the office that keeps it at a high level of excellence (one of Gustavus’ pillars, by the way). Let’s not forget that the degrees we receive from Gustavus have very strong reputation of Gustavus. That is, with your Gustavus degree comes the Gustavus reputation. We need to know that we are from a school that puts academic first. We need to know what is going on in the office that ensures this academic integrity. We need to know what’s going on with our provost.

At a faculty meeting last Wednesday, the faculty passed a resolution citing that they “strongly support Provost Morton resignation not go forward and recommend that the faculty and the Board of Trusts promptly examine the circumstances that have led to her resignation” and overwhelmingly vote on the faculty’s recommendation. A second resolution passed overwhelmingly demanding an immediate resignation of the Provost by the board of trustees, including a special confidential stipulation in regards to the Vice Presidents’ testimonies. In addition, senior Chris Edelbrock estimates only two non-tenured faculty spoke out at Wednesday’s meeting. What is happening to our community?

Gustavus students should be aware that there are a number of things they can do to demand more transparency from the current administration, the board of trustees, and President Ohle. Call, email, go to the office; tell your parents to write, call or stop by; have alumni you know to write, call or stop by; ask to have a meeting (or two) with your president, adviser, provost or college president; write a letter to the editor, petition, protest, sit-in...raise your voice.

Gustavus Adolphus College is a strong institution because of its emphasis on community and dialogue. This dialogue is being threatened by the unesi- ness, insecurity and fear that is censoring many members of this community, which includes us, your column writers. This does not bode well for demo- cratic dialogue and Gustavus’ future.

I know, right? Paying it forward

I recently asked a professor if he planned to give anything for Lent. He explained he did not plan to, but then asked, why do something as well? In addition to honoring the Christian tradition and sacrificing something, take action and do something to better the world? I absolutely loved this idea, and the wheels in my brain began to spin.

Perhaps pay for the person’s food behind you in line at the Market Place. Try washing your roommates’ dishes. Help an elderly person with gardening, grocery shopping or cooking. Visit the nursing home and play cards or talk with the residents. Leave your change in the soda machine for someone else. Turn a penny on the ground heads up. These are just a few ideas for you to start paying it forward and brightening another day.

This is a great concept that can be used during the 40 days of Lent and throughout the entire year.

I found a website titled In Line Behind Me: Sometimes it just takes a cup of coffee to change the world. The woman who started this movement enjoys brighten- ing others’ days by purchasing coffee for the person behind her in line. As she drives away from the drive-through window she usually hears a horn beep or sees lights flash as a way of saying thank you. After pur- chasing a few hundred cups of coffee for strangers, she was ap- proached by a woman in tears. The woman thanked her for her kindness and explained she was on her way to an important doc- tor’s appointment. The act of purchasing her coffee improved her day immensely. A simple task like this is feasible for you, and it is rewarding for both you and the person you help.

Haley Joel Osment’s character in Pay It Forward creates the three-person system. You help three people and do something big which they cannot do themselves. Do not ask to be paid back in return. Ask them to simply pay it forward and the three people will each help three others. The numbers multiply very quickly, and before you know it, you are part of a posi- tive and helpful movement.

Human beings are creatures of habit. Too often we focus on ourselves and what we need to do to get ourselves through the day. Although it may be out of habit for you to help another person, the realm of possibili- ties exists in each of you, within your imagination. As Osment’s character states in the film, “Some people are too scared to think things can change and be different, that the future can come up.” Each individual on this campus can make a difference and help those in need. Help three people and ask them to pay it forward. I encourage each of you to dream big and start small.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Gustavus Administration,

I was told that the Gusta- vian Weekly has been pulled from the shelves because of a controversial article on Case Day and how it coincided with Scholarship Day. Now, that I can understand. You don’t want to drive away propies that may end up going to Gustavus college some day. But what I can’t understand is that the paper remained unavailable after that weekend. Almost everyone on campus has heard of Case Day. There have been controversial pieces in the paper before. So why is it wrong for the student body to be able to read an article that points out the consequences of excessive drinking and students’ takes on that day? Pulling the paper off the shelves is unfair to everyone else who cannot even read it this week. I know that the main articles are still online, but what about the Calendar? What about other Letters to the Editor?

Andrew Bryz-Gornia, ’11
**Friday, March 20**

**Announcement:**
Submissions for Firethorne due, so enjoy this Haiku:

*Submissions are due to the Firethorne today (Turn in your stuff, dork).*

**Men and Women’s Golf at Jekyll Island Invitational**

All Day
If we lose, we can always beat them at the Mr. Hyde Invitational.

**How to Get Into Law School**

2:30 p.m.
Lie, cheat and steal. Or take the Elle Woods route and scent your application.

*And here are some upcoming events to watch for! ...*

**Saturday, March 28**

**The Bernice Jones Festival**

All Day
Area student musicians perform in this annual music competition. It’s like Woodstock, but with a purpose.

**Fish Frye Performing Live! Richard’s Restaurant and Pub**

7:30 p.m.
One of the only bands you can have during Lent.

**Tuesday, March 31**

**Softball vs. University of St. Thomas (Double Header).**

4:00 p.m.
Hehe. ... Head.

**Wednesday, April 1**

**April Fool’s Day**

If you get a call saying a family member or significant other is dead, check that it is real before throwing yourself off a cliff.

**Pathways in Communication Careers**

3:00 p.m.
With a special speaker exclusively for gags and mutes.

**Self-Defense with the Sigmas and T.M.s**

6:00 p.m.
You’re cornered down a dark alley; there’s no way out. But you’re prepared. You whip off your clothes, slather yourself in olive oil and wrestle your assailant to the ground! Thank God the Greeks taught you to fight.

**Poetry Reading**

7:00 p.m.
It’s B.Y.O.B.C.G.S.O.S. (Bring Your Own Berets, Cigarettes and General Sense of Superiority).

**Tuesday, April 2**

**Announcement:**
Grad Finale Pick up your cap and gown, lest you be remembered as that schlub who walked across the stage in Bermuda shorts and a trucker hat.

**Sorority Progressive Dinner**

5:00 p.m.
Make sure and judge the sisterhood by the quality of their character, not their entrées.

**Amnesty International Meeting**

6:30 p.m.
Darfur can’t save itself, so buy a T-shirt.

**Friday, April 3**

**Gustavus Jazz Lab Band at Eau Claire Jazz Festival**

All Day
Our lab band is so good, I jazz right in my pants every time they’re next to me.

**On-Campus Movie, Gran Torino**

7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
I bet Clint Eastwood talks about himself in the third person. Example: “Clint Eastwood wonders why critics did not dig this movie.”

**Gustavus Choir Home Concert**

7:30 p.m.
It will be good wholesome fun, like playing a board game with the Zac Efron (only our gay male singers don’t pretend they are straight).

**Saturday, April 4**

**Volleyball Tournament**

All Day
I can just see next week’s headline: “Four dead in horrific spandex accident.” Let’s hope they don’t print the pictures.

**The Second Youth Sustainability Confabulation**

10:00 a.m.
“Confabulation” is a real word, although it sounds more like a machine made by Willy Wonka.

**Baseball vs. St. Olaf (Double Header)**

1:00 p.m.
The two games will no doubt be separated by a Northfield Malt-o-Meal snack party.

**President’s Ball**

5:00 p.m.
That’s what Monica Lewinski said. ...

**On-Campus Movie, Gran Torino**

7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
No thanks; when it comes to old, leathery-skinned monsters terrorizing kids, I prefer Jurassic Park.

**Monday, April 6**

**Moovin’ n’ Groovin’**

2:30 p.m.
‘N I un’stand havn’ n’ originl n’mes is importan’, but come n’!

**Russian Movie Night**

6:00 p.m.
In Soviet Russia the movie watches you! Then it decides if you need re-educating in Siberia.

**Tuesday, April 7**

**January Interim 2010 Information Fair**

4:00 p.m.
To everyone who’s actually planning that far in advance: stop making the rest of us feel bad!

**Holocaust Survivors To Tell Their Stories**

7:00 p.m.
The Pickle lacks both the clout and the annual income to get away with a Holocaust joke, so I won’t attempt it.

**Wednesday, April 8**

**Special Screening, The Rescue**

5:00 p.m.
But any child who needs rescuing can simply call Bernard, Bianca and the other mice in the Rescue Aid Society.

**Sit Down with the Sigmas**

6:00 p.m.
They’ve already tried Stand Up with the Sigmas. After Stand Up, Sit Down, we’ll FIGHT FIGHT FIGHT with the Sigmas.

**Q & A Meeting**

9:15 p.m.
Maybe R. Kelly will come this week. After all, I hear he’s Trapped in the Closet.

**Thursday, April 9**

**Gustavus Greens Meeting**

8:30 p.m.
Attending this week will be several of our Greenest citizens: The Jolly Green Giant, Kermit the Frog, Cynthia McKinney of the Green Party and Othello who is Green with Envy.

**Fellowship of Christian Athletes**

9:00 p.m.
But what if God really wants the other team to win? Do you still pray before taking the field?

The Pickle can’t wait to flaunt it all this Spring break.

***Special thanks to Mr. James Freethly, Miss Chloe Radcliffe and Miss Emma Squire for their delightful contributions this week***
Sports Editor | Andy Keenan

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The Gustavian Weekly Sports Schedule

continued from page 12

Baseball

vs. River Falls        L 1-2

Women’s Hockey

Men’s Hockey

vs. St. Mary’s     W 9-0

Men’s Tennis

Women’s Tennis

Softball

vs. Otterbein 10 am/12 pm

Men’s Tennis

Women’s Tennis

Softball

@ NCGA Championships 3/21

The Gustavian Weekly Sports Schedule

FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY

GOLF

vs. Buena Vista 7 pm

GYMNASICS

vs. St. Scholastica 10 am

BASEBALL

vs. Luther 1 pm

SOFTBALL

vs. North Central 10 am/12 pm

vs. Calvin/Redlands 10 am/12 pm

MEN’S HOOP

vs. Otterbein 10 am/12 pm

WOMEN’S TENNIS

vs. Williams 1 pm

vs. Buena Vista 10 am/12 pm

@ Drake/Williams 10 am/12 pm

Other highlights from the Conference meet included a Gustie sweep of the podium in the women’s shot put event by Senior Lisa Brown, Lundstrom and Sophomore Sam Brodrick. Junior Diana Scott qualified for Nationals with her team record performance in the women’s long jump, and Sophomore Janey Heland placed second in the long jump. Junior Kelly Nelson took home third place in the pole vault and Senior Laura Lynch leaped to a third place finish in the triple jump. Sophomore Megan Landgren scored in five events.

On the men’s side, both the 4x200 relay consisting of Geyen, Junior Cole Carlson, Sophomore Matt Leeb and Freshman Matt Dvorak and the 4x400 relay of Carlson, Geyen, Sophomore Colby Citrowske and Leeb set new school records en route to all-conference honors. Also garnering all-conference honors was Junior Max Hanson with a third place finish in the 600-yard dash. Junior Brian Anderson put up a solid fourth place effort in the shot put.

“This was really an enjoyable team to coach, and we had great leadership by our senior captains [Elizabeth] Pringle and Geyer, said Head Coach Tom Thorkelson. “The team had a solid work effort and was really fun to be around.”

Geyer credited the solid performances of both teams this season to the sheer number of key contributors on both squads.

“Team depth is essential to the success of the team,” said Geyer. “Good individual performances help, but team performances are the ones that help most.”

Coach Thorkelson said that the determination of his athletes really shined in the workouts.

“The workouts this year were the same, maybe a little harder, but these teams did them at a much higher intensity than in previous years,” said Thorkelson. “That’s what really makes the difference; these teams did all of their workouts with 100 percent intensity.”

Geyer pointed to the Baradash training trip that the team took over touring break as a big reason for the team’s chemistry.

“This was the best team chemistry that we’ve had in my four seasons here,” said Geyer. “Everyone on our team realized early on that they’re not running for themselves; they’re running for everyone [on the team].”

Lundstrom was content with the showings of both teams from the indoor track season and has high hopes for the upcoming outdoor track season.

“We’re looking to keep improving as a team; we improved a lot this year [during the indoor season],” said Lundstrom. “Hopefully we can step it up and compete with St. Thomas in the outdoor season.”

Jottings

- After defeating UW-Superior 2-0 last weekend in the national quarterfinals, the 15th ranked Gusties will travel to Lake Placid, New York to take on UW-Stout this Friday at the historic Herb Brooks Arena. Gustavus has competed against Stout once already this season, a 6-5 Gustie victory at their house on November 7th.

- Gustavus Senior skier Kelly Chaudoin ended her collegiate career on a high note with a 30th overall finish nationally in the 15K freestyle race. Chaudoin leaves as the most successful skier in Gustavus history after qualifying for the NCAA two years in a row as well as being the first Gustie to win a CCSA race.

Seniors... Graduation is just around the corner. To assist you, an event called Grad Finale will be held on Thursday, April 2nd from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Heritage Banquet Room. At this time, you will be able to pick up a cap and gown and order your graduation announcements. You will have a chance to visit with the alumni office, your senior class rep. as well as jostens about a class ring. Tickets for Commencement weekend will also be available. Mark your calendar NOW!!
Trio of Gusties perform well at the highest national stage

Juniors Kaelene Lundstrom and Diana Scott along with Senior Tyler Geyen competed last weekend at the NCAA National Indoor Competition

Craig Nordquist
Weekly Staff Writer

The Gustavus Men’s and Women’s Indoor Track teams finished their respective seasons with successful individual showings at the MIAC Championships, which translated to success in their overall finishes for the season.

The women’s team finished second in the conference due to a strong showing by Junior Kaelene Lundstrum that earned her the title of Outstanding Women’s Field Athlete of the meet, while Senior Tyler Geyen led the men to an eighth place finish at the meet.

“Everyone worked really hard this season, and our teams did really well,” said Lundstrum, who won the conference title in the pentathlon and later finished fifth in the event at Nationals. “We were really strong in the field events, and our runners did well, too.”

Geyen won the 55-meter hurdles at the Conference Meet, and later put on an All-American-worthy performance at the National Meet with a fourth place finish in the event.

“The workouts this year were the same, maybe a little harder, but these teams did them at a much higher intensity than in previous years.”

- Head Coach Tom Thorkelson

All-American-worthy performance at the National Meet with a fourth place finish in the event. “I definitely pushed myself harder this season and was really thankful for the opportunity to run at Nationals,” said Geyen, who broke a 23-year-old Conference meet record in the process of winning his title. “Racing in the finals at Nationals was surreal. I ran a perfect race and didn’t hit a single hurdle.”

Lundstrum broke her own school and conference record in the pentathlon at the Conference meet by winning each individual event of the pentathlon. Lundstrum also tied the meet record in the high jump. Her success was achieved despite missing a month of training while studying abroad in South Africa and Namibia.

“I was not sure what to expect, being gone for [January Interim Experience] and...