The Scandinavian Studies Department will host its annual Yule Tide Breakfast Dec. 15 from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. in the Jackson Campus Center banquet rooms. Gustavus’ annual Yule breakfast is a traditional event that has been held since the mid-1980s. Each year the breakfast features traditional Swedish foods and a themed presentation. This year’s focus will be on the student group that traveled to Sweden for the January and Spring terms of 2009.

Last spring semester, Professor of Scandinavian Studies Roland Thorstenson led a group of students on a survey of Sweden and Finland. The travelers went as far north as Kiruna, the northernmost city of Sweden located 96 miles north of the Arctic Circle, to study the Sami, the indigenous people of Scandinavia. The group experienced reindeer herding firsthand, the traditional trade of the Sami, among many other unique activities.

“It was like a choose your own adventure book. We got to make the trip what we wanted,” Senior Scandinavian Studies Major Andrew Nelson said.

The students stayed in various school dormitories during the course of the five-month trip, including a Sami school at Jokkmokk, Uppsalas and Jonkoping. Among the memorable sights were the Swedish Parliament and ICEHOTEL, the internally famous hotel seasonally built of ice. Outside of Stockholm, the group stayed at Al Chapman, a youth hostel that was partly located in a large boat.

Professor of English Eric Eliason will be leading the Spring 2011 Semester in Sweden. “I think the value of study abroad is something I’m willing to invest my time and a chunk of my career in,” Eliason said.

Past participants of the trip all relate very positive experiences. “The things we got to do, looking back, it’s really mind-boggling. You wouldn’t be able to do them anywhere else,” Junior History and Scandinavian Studies major Valerie McClusky said. The atmosphere of Scandinavian culture had both familiar and foreign aspects for the students. Many found that leaving behind their student clubs and extracurricular activities was very liberating.

“Everything slows down. You have the time to have a coffee with a friend,” Junior Accounting Major Emily Bull said. “I had these expectations that [Swedish culture] wouldn’t be modern, but it’s really not that different culturally than here.” Senior Scandinavian Studies Major Kyle Sommer said.

“The people are so welcoming, they’ll invite you into their homes,” Bull said. Besides being a culturally fulfilling experience, the semester course also fulfills five Gustavus credits (NASP, NWEST, LAIR, SOSCL and a January Interim Experience).

“We’re a 24/7 learning experience in a whole new way, for five months,” Eliason said.

The program cost is very similar to a typical January/Spring on campus at Gustavus. Applications are due March 1, 2010 for the January/Spring of 2011. Only a small group of students will be accepted for the trip, so interested persons are encouraged to apply early.
Campus Safety

Monday, Nov. 16
Campus Safety responded to a medical assist outside Pittman Hall.

Tuesday, Nov. 17
Campus Safety officer responded to a medical assist in the music building.

Wednesday, Nov. 18
Campus Safety responded to the Market Place to take a theft report from Market Place staff.

Friday, Nov. 20
A Gustavus student reported a bag with a lap-top computer inside missing from a residence hall. A student reported that someone wrote an offensive comment on the message board on the door of her room in Sorensen Hall. Some suspicious activity was reported at the Lund Center.

Sunday, Nov. 22
Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at the International House.

Monday, Nov. 23
A Gustavus student reported suspicious activity which occurred Sunday, Nov. 22 around 2:00 p.m. in the Campus Center building near the Dive.

Sunday, Nov. 29
A student in Norelius Hall reported that her purse had been stolen outside her room.

Monday, Nov. 30
A Gustavus employee reported Gustavus owned keys stolen off-campus.

Tuesday, Nov. 30
Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in the Campus Center Building.

Wednesday, Nov. 30
Campus Safety was called to Norelius Hall for a drug equipment violation.

Friday, Dec. 4
Campus Safety was called to Nobel Hall as a student reported that his book was stolen.

Saturday, Dec. 5
A student in North Hall was cited for underage consumption.

Sunday, Dec. 6
A Gustavus student and two non-students were cited for underage consumption and one non-student was removed from campus while in Norelius Hall.

Falling Awake debuts Dec. 10

Dec. 10 through 13 the Gustavus Department of Theatre and Dance will present its Physical Theater Project Falling Awake. The play will be performed at 8:00 p.m. Dec. 10-12 and at 2:00 p.m. Dec. 13. Tickets are sold out. An extra performance Dec. 12 at 2:00 p.m. was added, and has also sold out. The performance will take place in the Black Box Theatre. Assistant Professor of Theatre and Dance Henry MacCarthy directs this production, which is an experimental piece.

“The play is really working from the body,” MacCarthy said. The play has no script and is acted using only body actions. “The department wanted to offer a space where we could focus on technique,” MacCarthy said. “It’s more experimental, and it’s very exciting.”

The unconventional style of the play required a great amount of effort from the actors, who come from diverse backgrounds. Some are theatre majors, and the rest are from various other departments. The students were informed of the play’s nature before auditions, so the final cast are all interested in the play’s style.

The play was not taken from a pre-existing script; the entire production is the product of those persons involved. Some of the content was incorporated during exercises and rehearsals where actors would experiment with their roles.

Though this is not MacCarthy’s first time directing a no-dialogue play, it is the first time he has done so at Gustavus. “Not all of us knew exactly how it would turn out. It’s been a learning experience. [The cast and crew] have worked very hard to make it happen,” MacCarthy said. The Department of Theatre and Dance has several exciting shows coming next semester. Past shows have sold out very quickly. Be aware of announcements and purchase tickets on campus or online.

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Correction:
In the caption for the article “An expression of culture and diversity” from the Nov. 20 issue, the pictured students are from the 2006 International Festival, not the 2008 event. The Weekly regrets this error.

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Letters to the Editor can be sent to letterstotheditor@gustavus.edu.

If you are interested in publishing an ad with The Gustavian Weekly, please contact our ad manager, Michelle Lien, at admanager@gustavus.edu
“Privacy” from page 1

“Over the past four or five years, we have taken several steps, one being allowing dynamic IP addresses, another being switching away from using the packet shaper, where we have intentionally said, ‘Privacy is a good thing, we try to not get in the way of how students are using the Internet that we don’t have to.’” Sommer said.

“We do, rather frequently get requests from copyright holders asking us to take note of people that have probably been downloading stuff that they own copyrights to,” Sommer said. “The RIAA will send us notifications saying, ‘This IP address is sharing this song. If we have enough data to say it was registered to this person and they were using it at that time, we’ll send off [a notification to the user].’” Oachs said.

“The College does not always know what computer was involved. ‘What we do know today is at 10 o’clock this IP address was used by this person,’ Sommer said. “We know for approximately the last week.” Oachs said.

“That’s how long we feel we need that information to, for example, warn people with viruses on their computers,” Sommer said.

“Sending notifications to the user is required by law,” Sommer said.

“[We receive] on average about five every couple of days,” Oachs said.

“Despite this high number of notifications, some students questions the legality of copyright holders to prosecute students.” Sommer said.

“There is probably nothing they can do. The amount of effort it would take to go after one specific person [would be] too much,” Watson said.

“We don’t go out of our way to fight the RIAA, but we are unlikely to fight a subpoena. If they have a legal subpoena from a judge, we are going to comply with that subpoena,” Sommer said.

“We did receive one big wave of actual legal subpoenas [a couple of years ago] because we don’t actually keep very much information on what people have been doing on our network, we were actually only able to tie the stuff to two people,” Sommer said.

“If you have pirated stuff and didn’t get it over our network, that’s none of our business. If you put it on our servers, then it becomes our business,” Sommer said.

“Students have varying opinions about the ethics of downloading music online. ‘I feel bad if it’s a new band, but if it’s an old one and they’ve already become successful, I don’t think it’s as big of a deal,’ First-year Drew Jensen said.

“First-year Jared Joseph says, ‘It’s just been very frustrating,’ One of the reasons the College has not been sending out sublicences is because the College does not have the bandwidth to do so.” Sommer said.
Gustie of the Week:

Kirstin Smedstad: Leading students through Habitat for Humanity

Katie Kaderlik  Staff Writer

Senior Nursing Major Kirstin Smedstad is full of life and wants to make a difference in the world. During her first year at Gustavus, she became involved in Habitat for Humanity by going on the Spring Break Work Trip to New Orleans, LA. This was a way for Kirstin to become involved on campus and meet new people. But most importantly, it helped her to feel connected to her uncle who passed away during the end of her high school career.

“One of my most memorable moments volunteering for Habitat was my sophomore year in Mobile, AL.”

-Kirstin Smedstad

Kirstin’s uncle was a general contractor for a large commercial construction company, and she felt connected to him because she was involved in something that he supported. After Kirstin’s first Spring Break Work Trip, she decided to become more involved in the program and in her sophomore year she was a group leader for the spring break work trip to Mobile, AL.

“One of my most memorable moments volunteering for Habitat was my sophomore year in Mobile, AL. When we arrived on site the first day there was only a slab of concrete. By the time the week was over the house was completely framed, ready for windows, shingles and siding. It is amazing how much can get done in one week if everyone has the right mindset and is putting their all into something they believe in,” Kirstin said.

During Kirstin’s junior year, she had the role of being the site coordinator for the trip to Beaumont, TX. “It was a huge undertaking because I did all of the planning for the trip! I was also on the Habitat Executive Board and was in charge of special events coordinating,” Kirstin said.

 “[Kirstin] is a leader not only in her classes, but also on campus.”

-Jenn Syverson

This year Kirstin is one of the co-presidents for the Executive Board and will be going on the Spring Break Work Trip to Miami, FL as a group leader.

 “[Kirstin] is a leader not only in her classes, but also on campus. She has a huge heart and is always willing to help,” Senior Nursing Major Jenn Syverson said.

Habitat is a Christian-based organization that relies on volunteers to build houses. Families that receive a Habitat house have to go through a long application process, and once they are approved they are required to work on other homes that are being built or restored. The required hours are called sweat equity hours. Owners of a Habitat house still pay regular bills, but their mortgage is greatly reduced.

“It is cool because the homeowners work on their homes or other homes, it also allows the volunteers to talk with them and learn about their story. All around everyone benefits, and it is a really well thought out organization,” Kirstin said.

“It is important for students to volunteer with Habitat because it allows them to gain real life skills, meet new people and understand that we have all been given a great gift.”

-Kirstin Smedstad

A typical day on a work trip involves working on a site from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on projects like roofing, framing, painting and many others. During this work time, students have an opportunity to get to know some of the owners and learn more about them. One of the highlights of participating in a work trip is learning about the owner’s experience and seeing the difference you are making, while working alongside them.

“It is important for students to volunteer with Habitat because it allows them to gain real life skills, meet new people and understand that we have all been given a great gift coming to Gustavus and getting a great education, having a home to live in, food to eat and clothes to keep us warm during the very winters on campus,” Kirstin said.

The applications for this year’s Spring Break Work Trips are due on Dec. 11 and it is an opportunity to volunteer.

“I like Habitat because it is a great opportunity to be involved with something that I truly believe in. I love the mission of the organization and what it stands for. I love the ability to meet other students and travel to different places both around the St. Peter area and the throughout the U.S.,” Kirstin said.

Kirstin is passionate about helping others, which is reflected in her choice of study: nursing. She has always known that she has wanted to be in the medical field, and when she was younger she wanted to be a neonatologist, but realized she would like to have a more personal and caring relationship with patients, which led her to choose nursing as her major.

“At some point in my nursing career, hopefully sooner than later, I would like to go to Africa and spend at least a month volunteering in a rural clinic or hospital. It has always been a dream of mine to volunteer in an area that so greatly needs our help,” Kirstin said.

Since her first year at Gustavus, Kirstin has worked for Habitat in New Orleans, LA. Mobile, AL and Beaumont, TX. This year she will be working in Miami, FL.

After receiving her nursing degree, Kirstin hopes to go to Africa and spend a month volunteering in a rural clinic or hospital.

Since her first year at Gustavus, Kirstin has worked for Habitat in New Orleans, LA. Mobile, AL and Beaumont, TX. This year she will be working in Miami, FL.

Since her first year at Gustavus, Kirstin has worked for Habitat in New Orleans, LA. Mobile, AL and Beaumont, TX. This year she will be working in Miami, FL.
Despite initial apprehensions, The Blind Side turned out to be an inspirational and compelling film with a cast that delivers an outstanding performance of this true story.

Submitted

2009 Firethorne release party is a success

Lindsay Leilivelt Features Editor

Last Tuesday marked the release of the 2009 fall edition of Gustavus’ literary magazine Firethorne. The Courtyard Café was host to students involved with, published in and fans of the publication.

Many students read their work aloud and discussed the inspiration and themes involved.

“The best part of being on staff is reading all the submissions. Some are great, some are terrible. But there’s always at least one that really makes me admire the artistic ability of Gustavus students,” Senior English Major and Firethorne Prose Editor Ryan McGinty said.

Each edition includes works of poetry, prose and art by students of the Gustavus community. Each section (poetry, prose, art) is comprised of a section editor and several section assistants. All submitted work goes through a complex and time-consuming process in order to decide what will be published.

“All submissions are judged anonymously. The managing editor goes through the painstaking process of coding everything. They then send each anonymous submission to its respective section editor [poetry, prose or art],” McGinty said. “It’s the section editor’s job to distribute submissions to their assistant editors. After everyone has a chance to read everything, we hold section meetings. Here, each editor gives a thumbs up, thumbs down or neutral to each piece. If it’s a unanimous vote, we scrap it or publish it. If there is dissection regarding a certain piece, we argue until we reach a majority vote.

“Students can submit their work to firethorne@gustavus.edu.”

This semester, we received over 300 submissions from over 60 students. This is a great credit to the large number of students on campus who are interested in the literary and graphic arts,” English Major and Managing Editor Abby Travis said. “Students who submitted are from over 20 different majors; many people think that a literary and arts magazine caters to only the humanities, but this is entirely untrue. Even some of our staff members are from majors beyond the humanities.”

First-year Timothy McComas-Buza reads his short story “Glass and Cold Silver” at this year’s Firethorne Release Party.

Submitted

2009 St. Lucia Court

Last Thursday, the Festival of St. Lucia was held in Christ Chapel. The St. Lucia Court consisted of Sophomores Colleen Peterson, Mary Dierkes, Anna Swenson, Whitney O’Connell, Jennifer Fox (not pictured) and Rebecca Holub.

Each of these women was voted into the court by the sophomore class, and in the end Jennifer Fox was crowned this year’s St. Lucia.

Submitted

Based on the extraordinary true story

Submitted

申报

 Despite initial apprehensions, The Blind Side turned out to be an inspirational and compelling film with a cast that delivers an outstanding performance of this true story.
Christmas in Christ Chapel: a liturgy of letters and carols

Lindsay Lelivelt
Features Editor

Last week was host to one of Gustavus’ finest traditions—Christmas in Christ Chapel. This year’s service was centered around various letters reflecting on the importance of Christmas.

Members of the Gustavus community read letters from the likes of Garrison Keillor, Joyce Sutphen, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, various prophets and apostles.

Gustavus Choir, Choir of Christ Chapel, Lucia Singers, the Gustavus Symphony Orchestra and the Christ Chapel Ringers all performed various Christmas songs. Senior Nursing Major Mariah McGill performed a solo dance to the song “Child of Peace.” Senior Music Major Dan Braun accompanied on guitar.

Assistant Professor of Religion Mary Gaebler reads a letter by humorist and radio personality Garrison Keillor.

Associate Professor of Music Patricia Snapp conducts the Lucia Singers as they perform “Silent Night.”

All the musical ensembles join together for the final piece “O Come, All Ye Faithful,” as the congregation joins in singing along.

Associate Professor of Music Greg Aune conducts the Gustavus Symphony Orchestra as well as the congregation as Christmas in Christ Chapel begins.

The Christ Chapel Ringers perform during an assembly hymn.

The Choir of Christ Chapel, as led by Professor of Music Patricia Kazarow, performs during the service.

Senior Nursing Major Mariah McGill performs a solo dance to “Child of Peace,” as choreographed by McGill and Theater and Dance Department Instructor Jeffrey Peterson.
Giving this holiday season

Editor | Steve Palmer

Always happy to receive them for you. Baking is super easy, and if I might even bake bread one receives cold hard cash (as personal effort and sacrifice goes so much more meaningful when meaningful, and in fact gifts are working a job allows. But gifts of mediocre comics in the world thing about them was greater and for years. I could tell that some-

--

commentary

I love giving gifts any time of year, but during the holidays I feel like giving also brings a special opportunity to express value and thoughtfulness. I should qualify this by saying I don’t often give monetary gifts, what with tuition and living costs leeching what little fiscal flexibility working a job allows. But gifts do not have to be expensive to be meaningful, and in fact gifts are so mediocre comes in when personal effort and sacrifice goes into creating the gift that when one receives cold hard cash (unlike as it is to receive cold hard cash).

If you’re ready this holiday season, I might even bake bread for you. Baking is super easy, and whether you make cookies, brownies or bread, everyone is always happy to receive them (warm, if possible. Yum!). I’ve had to learn how to bake and cook for myself this year, since I don’t have a meal plan. I’ve learned and been humbled by a lot, but I am saving money. Some meals end up being just plain white rice, but even that’s warm and delicious if you make the way you like it. When I tell that to my parents, they get a little worried, but then they’re more inclined to stop by the grocery store with me before I come back to Gustavus.

I was relating some of my new cooking experience to my grand-parents over Thanksgiving while asking for some new recipes, and they had a different response than I would have expected. My grandmother’s ears seemed to perk up at the word of “just rice for dinner,” and she began to tell a story.

When my mother was a kid, my grandparents used to have just rice for dinner once a month. Back then, just as today, poverty reduces most meals to “just rice” in this world, and they would try to educate their children about the poverty outside the United States through a food about a good about eating.

Now, I eat just rice to save myself a few dollars every now and then, and they were saving money too, but they saved the money so that they could give it to local food shelters. In a family of six, if they had one rice dinner a month, they could save up quite a bit of money to send off over a period of time.

The kids grew up, and the tradition sort of died down. However, in the last few years, my grandmother has started it up again, but instead of seeing it as a way to educate their kids about poverty, now she sees it as an amazingly simple way to raise money for local food shelters. Apparently, the idea initially spread around our church in Minneapolis, and our little congregation ended up sending about $10,000 to local food shelters. From there, the idea has been taken to churches, synagogues, college campuses and other organizations throughout North America, and it is now beginning to crop up in Europe as well. If you’re interested in the idea, go to www.RiceDinner.org, and there is a YouTube video you can find as well.

As a college student, I don’t dream about giving money to charitable organizations; my time and labor, but probably not my money. Why? I think this idea is so novel and brilliant that I can even make a way to give money, even if I don’t send off hundreds of dollars. Even if I set aside just $10 a month, that ends up being $120 by the end of the year, and that’s a sizeable gift I really feel tough a rice dinner.

Now, am I saying we all should choke down rice for one meal to feel good about ourselves later? If you want to think so, I guess I cannot stop you, but especially during periods of economic recession food shelters get hit very hard in the winter, and although you may want to feel good about giving something, there are people in this community that need to eat. The Rice Dinner Project is totally non-profit, meaning that you don’t have to send my grand-mother your money so she can divvy it out to food shelters and take a cut. You pick the food shelters, and 100 percent of the money goes to the organization you choose. Because of this, the Rice Dinner Project doesn’t know how much money is being raised or how many people are involved. We just know there are A LOT, and the number is growing.

So if you’re looking for some easy charitable giving this holiday season that you can really feel good about, give the Rice Dinner Project a try. And if you hate rice, it’s OK; you don’t actually have to eat it to send money to a food shelf!

Emperor Norton’s Patent of Nobility

Get Rid Of Slimy comics (G.R.O.S.S.)

Steve Palmer

First of all, the strip is incredibly well written. Where most comics use each panel to set up the punch-line, in Calvin and Hobbes, the entire strip is a punch-line. The dialogue is witty consistently, and the art and expressions of the characters are always perfect. This, along with Calvin’s many fantasy worlds (Spaceman Spiff, Stupendous Man, Tracer Bullet), is probably what appealed to me as a child. Stories woven into the strip were always hilarious (the series where Calvin gets a haircut was always a favorite of mine, as were the Get Rid Of Slimy GirlIs Club—G.R.O.S.S.). Many other aspects of the strip, however, were not subtle or not in my perception at the time, but I can still tell shaped the way I think. These other influences of Calvin and Hobbes are what I think are the most useful parts of the strip.

Looking back, Calvin and Hobbes is in many ways critique of modern media and society through a child’s eyes. It uses the innocence of childhood to make observa-

A child, I spent many hours in the summer, after school, before bed, or pretty much any time, riling through my many well-loved, ratty and frayed Calvin and Hobbes books. The ram-bunctiousness of childhood, culture, and what a positive influence it has on the point of comic, which is to make you laugh. He artfully combined the philosophical musings with the physical comedy of

barreling down a hill in a craxy wagon. These strips inevitably end with the pair manacled in a tree or soaked in a pond following an epic crash—perhaps representing death and the march of time? The wonder of the stars and the universe is also visited frequently. One particular favorite of mine involves Calvin’s teacher. Mrs.

Wormwood accuses Calvin of wasting time by drawing stego-

sassuars in rocket ships. Calvin proclaims himself to be an artist on the “cutting edge of the avant-garde,” being objectified by society, being objected to.

Continued on page 9

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Editorial Commentator

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Continued on page 9

Editor | Steve Palmer

Page 8

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Letter to the Editor

I would like to respond to the photo and caption in last month’s issue titled “Interpretive Center adds solar panels.” It was great to point that out, but the small caption didn’t answer any questions I had regarding the panels. So, I went to talk to Jim Dorrington, who is the director of the Johnson Center for Environmental Innovation. He is currently working on building the other panels that will be installed outside the Johnson center. All of the energy needed to supply the building will not be supplied solely by the solar-thermal panels. Several more panels would have to be added for that to happen, but what a great start to being more sustainable! The research being conducted will demonstrate the performance of each type of panel installed. (There will be two different types of solar-thermal panels installed). This provides great research opportunities regarding alternative energy right here at good old Gustavus. Katie Winkelman ‘11

J-TERM IMPELLING

Hours and hours of constant free time! Plenty of hours to undergo various self-improvement projects, read that book you’ve been putting off and finally spend some time with your favorite hobbies.

C IN CC

Great show, but everyone was captive to it for a week. Also, trim a half hour from the run time.

J-TERM IMPELLING

Hours and hours of constant free time, confronting the icy abyss that buffets your window night and day, all the while not leaving your room.

A different approach

How-are-you-good-how-are-you-good

Susan Kranz

Staff Columnist

It’s been a few weeks since I encouraged you Gusties to find your intentional flailing, your activity that shakes up your bones and awakens your soul. Friends, it is now time to do the same with words! Picture this: it’s midnight and you exit the library doors. The cold air makes your eyes water, beginning the formation of what will most likely be a giant eye-bagger that you’ll discover in the mirror as you brush your teeth. An acquaintance happens to be walking up the ramp, right where you’re headed. “Hey! How are you?” they ask as you walk by. Well? What do you say?

I’ll bet my left foot that it is one of the following: “Good,” “Busy,” or “Tired.” Am I right or am I right? But why is this?! How can I be so conflicted in my answer? Am I right or am I right? But I’ll bet my left foot that it is one.

“Hey, DaBruzzi, how was school today?” “Fine.” “Busy.” This is a cliché word. It is like a dry sponge. It relies solely on its outer shell that we can somehow recognize as something, but it’s contents are lost. It is begging for more, to be filled, saturated, expanded, but falls flat. It lacks depth and character. You are saying nothing when you say you are “good.” “Busy.” This is a cliché word. It is like a flowery doormat. It relies on its own existence, something better. It exists in this word and has a purpose, but when used too often it becomes just like any other. It is complex but without substance. When, really, are we ever not busy? When we’re sleeping? We need to realize that life itself is overwhelmed. Let’s get over ourselves. We are saying nothing when we say we are “busy.” “Tired.” This is a lazy word. It is like an old dog, it knows nothing else but to slumber. It is something to say when we’ve got nothing else to say. It is the easy way out. But again, we are saying nothing when we say we are “tired.”

I think we all, myself included, need to acknowledge this verbal repetitiveness. It’s easy, it’s fast, it’s speaking something. The sad part is, there is most likely truth in this response. You or I may very well be good, busy or tired. It is the automation of this response, a sort of quick conversational reflex that gets me wondering: why do we always, among the thousands of words within our minds reach, grasp solely those three? Are “good,” “busy” or “tired” the only way we can define our lives at that moment?

Surely not! Let me, kind Reader, take a look at what these words mean.

“Good.” This is an empty word. It is like a dry sponge. It relies solely on its outer shell that we can somehow recognize as something, but its contents are lost. It is begging for more, to be filled, saturated, expanded, but falls flat. It lacks depth and character. You are saying nothing when you say you are “good.” “Busy.” This is a cliché word. It is like a flowery doormat. It relies on its own existence, something better. It exists in this word and has a purpose, but when used too often it becomes just like any other. It is complex but without substance. When, really, are we ever not busy? When we’re sleeping? We need to realize that life itself is overwhelmed. Let’s get over ourselves. We are saying nothing when we say we are “busy.” “Tired.” This is a lazy word. It is like an old dog, it knows nothing else but to slumber. It is something to say when we’ve got nothing else to say. It is the easy way out. But again, we are saying nothing when we say we are “tired.”

I think we all, myself included, need to acknowledge this verbal lethargy. This accepted and unquestioned routine of how we communicate how we feel. We need to take each prompt as an opportunity to honestly express ourselves. We need to wake up our vocal chords, just like our bodies, and get out of the habit of saying nothing when we say we are “tired.”

“Hey, DaBruzzi, how was school today?” “Fine.”

Eye on Gustavus

What’s up and what’s down this week at Gustavus. (and what’s ish-don’t-think-so).

Plenty of hours to undergo various self-improvement projects, read that book you’ve been putting off and finally spend some time with your favorite hobbies.

J-term impending

Hours and hours of constant free time! Plenty of hours to undergo various self-improvement projects, read that book you’ve been putting off and finally spend some time with your favorite hobbies.

C in cc

Great show, but everyone was captive to it for a week. Also, trim a half hour from the run time.
The Calendar Page is considered editorial. The opinions expressed herein are not the opinions of The Gustavian Weekly, and therefore are not admissible in a court of law, especially in cases concerning manslaughter and attempt to conceal the crime.

**Friday, Dec. 11**

**Holiday Sale at the Book Mark**

**The Book Mark**

All Day

The Book Mark is making it easier to obtain what we want without putting in a year’s worth of work. Way to undermine the whole naughty and nice list, Book Mark.

**Paper Chains and Candy Canes -The 12 Days of Wellness**

**The Counseling Center**

All Day

S & M for beginners.

**Daily Chapel**

Christ Chapel

10:00 a.m.

God and Santa: they both see you when you’re sleeping, both know when you’re awake and both know when you’ve been bad or good … and have you ever seen them in the same place at the same time? Think about it.

**Weekend Movie - Love Happens**

Wallenberg Auditorium

7:00 & 10:00 p.m.

Yes, but only after years of paying for her food, consoling her after the guy she actually has feelings for dumps her and after you’ve finally worn her defenses down and she realizes that you’re “safe,” then, then love happens.

**Michael Johnson in Concert: Four Decades of Music**

Bijorling Recital Hall

8:00 p.m.

Four Decades of Music? No thanks, I have finals next week.

**Physical Theatre Project**

Anderson Theatre

8:00 p.m.

Beats the crap out of last year’s “Metaphysical Theatre Project.” Last time I pay ten bucks to stare at an empty stage.

**Saturday, Dec. 12**

**Holiday Sale at the Book Mark**

**The Book Mark**

All Day

If you thought the economy couldn’t get worse, now they’ve started selling whole days!

**Stockholm Area Event**

Stolholm, Sweden

12:30 p.m.

At first it may seem scary, but if you spend enough time at it you’ll eventually learn to love it.

**Weekend Movie - Love Happens**

Wallenberg Auditorium

7:00 & 10:00 p.m.

… To attractive people.

**Skitishh Concert**

Courtyard Cafe

7:30 p.m.

Or at least it would be, but recently the band has been experimenting with Ritalin.

**Physical Theatre Project**

Anderson Theatre

8:00 p.m.

Physical theatre? Oh, man. The ghosts in Anderson must be so pissed!

**Sunday, Dec. 13**

**Brassworks!**

Bijorling Recital Hall

1:30 p.m.

- Overheard from a revolutionary Mesopotamian sword maker. 4000 B.C.

**Physical Theatre Project**

Anderson Theatre

2:00 p.m.

As opposed to the non-physical kind of theatre, where the director isn’t allowed to hit you when you mess up a line.

**The Gustavus Chamber Singers in Concert**

Bijorling Recital Hall

7:30 p.m.

Out of all the things they spend time in, concert is definitely their favorite.

**Monday, Dec. 14**

**Holiday Sale at the Book Mark**

**The Book Mark**

All day

Get your parents presents here, then have Gustavus send your parents the bill. Mwahahah!

**Cocoa and Holiday Cards -The 12 Days of Wellness**

**Peer Assistant Office**

6:00 p.m.

…”Three bone pins a-pinning, two latex gloves and some morphine in an I.V.!”

**Juggling Club**

**The Dive**

7:00 p.m.

The only things I want to juggle right now are that four-page reflection, French test and ten-page term paper.

**Tuesday, Dec. 15**

**Holiday Sale at the Book Mark**

**The Book Mark**

All Day

Around Christmas, broke college students have the option of buying their friends a crappy coffee cup from the Book Mark or stealing money to buy them something good. Either way somebody’s getting mugged.

**Last Day of Classes**

In your face

Woo!

This wouldn’t be the first time I’ve been told I don’t have any class! Ba-da-bing!

**Semester in India Information**

**Linner Lounge**

5:30 p.m.

Before you go abroad, learn the Hindus and Hid-dont’s.

**Meditation with Bhante Sathi**

**Linner Lounge**

7:00 p.m.

Why settle for meditation when you can come to MAX-itation. Reach a higher conciseness, and then base jump off of it!!

**Beauty and the Beast**

**Ordway Performing Arts Center**

7:30 p.m.

If you stop and think about it, Disney was really teaching us that bestiality was ok. Or, in the case of the little mermaid, half-bestiality.

**American Scandinavian Yule Tide Breakfast**

**Banquet Rooms**

8:00 p.m.

Excuse me, I think you mean Scandinavian American, Racist.

**Wednesday, Dec. 16**

**Holiday Sale at the Book Mark**

**The Book Mark**

All Day

“With these low, low prices you can bet our products won’t remain stationary!” – overheard from a Book Mark vendor shortly before he was tried and executed for punning.

**Reading Day**

**Your Local Library**

All Day

Most of today will be taken up by the execution of that Book Mark employee. Not that the execution takes a long time. It just takes a while to transport him from the pun-itationary.

**Prepare Ministries**

**Linner Lounge**

7:00 p.m.

Meeting canceled due to lack of preparation.

**The Shady character wishes you a happy whatever!**

The Gustavian Weekly
Making a splash

Craig Nordquist
Staff Writer

The Gusties Women’s Swimming and Diving team has made quite a splash in the first half of the season, arguably putting up its best start since it last won the MIAC Championship two years ago.

The team’s latest effort at the Falcon Invite earned the squad a second place finish in a talented field of nine other schools.

“We have a lot of solid swimmers,” Senior Maggie Hansvick said. “We’ll be set if we can improve on the little things. If we do that, times will take care of themselves.”

Gustie Senior Carrie Gundeerson and first-year Carley Mosher won two of the four MIAC Swim Meet of the Week awards so far this season.

“I’ve been pretty impressed so far this season by our performance,” Mosher said, who broke the Lund Aquatorium record in the 200 Backstroke against St. Olaf last month. “Everyone is always [thinking] positive and pushing others to train hard.”

The Gusties started the season with respectable finishes against Div. II teams Mankato State and St. Cloud State, and more recently knocked off MIAC rivals St. Olaf and St. Ben’s to cement their status as one of the frontrunners for the Conference crown.

“We didn’t know what to expect coming into the year because other teams will be doing work in the whole way through, but our team has come together with very positive and pushing everyone to a level they’re capable of in order to finish the season strongly,” Hansvick said.

“We need to focus on putting work in the whole way through, because other teams will be doing the same thing,” Hansvick said. “All of our hard training will pay off in the end.”

Mosher notes that another key to putting up a solid team effort is continuing the strong bond that has developed between the women on the team.

“We cheer a lot more than other teams, so there’s always plenty of support and involvement with our teammates,” Mosher said. “You really push yourself harder knowing that your team is there watching and supporting you.”

Hansvick agrees that the team has come together with very minimal conflict due in part to realizing the importance of working toward a common objective.

“We’ve been good at understanding that we have a common goal—to swim fast as a team,” Hansvick said. “The swimmers genuinely like their teammates and really want to do well for each other.”

The team is excited about its high number of top-tier swimmers at this point in the season, but realizes that it is their performance at Conference that will define their season.

“We have a lot of people in the top times already, which is really great,” Hansvick said. “But it’s the times at Conference that get us [the title].”

The Gusties will begin the second half of the season strong.

With only five meets left until the Conference Championships, Hansvick stresses that hard work will be the key to finishing the season strongly.

“We need to focus on putting work in the whole way through, because other teams will be doing the same thing,” Hansvick said. “All of our hard training will pay off in the end.”
Checking in

Despite breaking a 50-game Conference winning streak this past weekend, the Gustie Women are ready to rebound this weekend against St. Olaf

Seth Wisner
Sports Editor

The Gustavus Women’s Hockey team is looking for a quick turnaround after a tough weekend on the ice. On Friday, Dec. 4, 2009 the Gustie women saw their 50-game winning streak in Conference play come to an end at the hands of St. Thomas on their own ice. The loss was the first in just under three years of Conference play.

“St. Thomas has been our biggest rival so far. We broke a 50-game winning streak we had within the Conference. That’s something I look back on with a lot of regret and don’t have as much insight on our record we had set for the last three years as some of the upperclassmen. That’s really disappointing and takes a shot at our reputation,” First-year forward Lindsey Hjelm said.

The Gusties were able to rebound with a 2-2 result against St. Thomas on Saturday night.

“We lost our first and tied our second... You could say our team is working through a rough patch,” Junior defender Kirstin Peterson said. “We showed a lot of character by coming back on Saturday.”

The Women’s Hockey team had extremely high expectations for itself with a strong recruitment class and an NCAA Quarterfinal appearance last season. Meagan Wanecke, first-year forward, was optimistic for the team’s opportunity to get better and reach the expectations by the end of the season.

“I think we haven’t fully reached our expectations. We definitely have the potential to get better,” Wanecke said.

Hjelm added to Wanecke’s optimism. “I knew Gustavus was going to be a really serious program, and we definitely have high goals for the season. Even though we have two disappointing losses on our record, I think we are looking to make a lot of headway coming up with St. Olaf,” Hjelm said.

However, even with the optimism on the team, the Gustie women know it will be a difficult season with many tough opponents left on the schedule.

“We’ve had everything handed to us in the past, and this year we are going to have to prove ourselves. We will have to be that much better to beat everyone in the MIAC,” Peterson said.

After the St. Olaf series this weekend, the Women’s Hockey team will look forward to a trip to Europe over Christmas Break to play the Swiss National Team.

“It will be a nice change of pace for games, but everyone will still be working hard and having the same attitude. It will be a great opportunity for some team bonding,” Hjelm said.

Despite the team’s youth, having only two seniors on the team, the Gustavus Women’s Hockey program has consistently been a major force in the MIAC. “I think our team chemistry is growing. As a [first-year], I think I am learning the systems and learning how to play with each other,” Wanecke said.

“We have a word that we choose for every MIAC Conference series. Our last two words were ‘confidence’ and being ‘assertive.’ Each week we try to build off of those words. Communication is really huge for our success,” Hjelm said.

Hjelm has also enjoyed the increased work ethic by the team in general.

“All the girls have previously been captains. It makes the team a lot more dominant, allows potential leadership to come through and adds strength to our team. Everyone here wants to play and excel. We work hard and put in the extra time to get better,” Hjelm said.

After the trip to Europe over Christmas Break, the Women’s Hockey team will play UW-Stevens Point on Jan. 9, 2010. “We play Stevens Point right when we get back, and we haven’t beaten them in two years. As far as the MIAC, we have to win any game from here on out to get where we want to be at,” Peterson said.

The Gustavus Women’s Hockey team will face off against St. Olaf at home on Friday, Dec. 11.

Next Game:
St. Olaf
Date: Friday, Dec. 11
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Don Roberts Ice Rink

Sophomore forward Alyssa Gaulrapp battles three St. Thomas players in the Women’s latest home game this past weekend.