Charting the College’s future:

**COMMISSION GUSTAVUS 150**

Luke Garrison
Staff Writer

"We are not where we want to be, but we are moving toward it," said President Ohle during his inaugural address. These words describe the purpose of a brand new initiative for the college.

**Called Commission Gustavus 150,** the plan will “chart the college’s future and prepare [Gustavus] to celebrate its sesquicentennial in 2012,” said Chairperson of the Board of Trustees Jim Gale.

“This is about building on our history, building on what we do well and our strengths and our core values, and asking where is Gustavus going to launch us. Provost Taylor admits that having the top priorities are,” said Taylor.

Taylor says that having the on-campus and off-campus community provide recommendations is especially important, but “[Gustavus] hasn’t fleshed out how that is going to work yet,” said Taylor.

Students on campus who know about Commission Gustavus 150 seem to be pretty excited about it. "I think it’s a good direction. Gustavus, I feel, has kind of been the same for the last three years, so I’m excited for a change. Unfortunately, I won’t be here to directly see it," said Senior Psychology Major Jessie Niles.

Commission Gustavus 150 is new to this college, but the format has been used by Ohle at the other institutions he has worked at and by a few universities across the country. “This model has been used at the Harvard Graduate School of Business as a case study on constituent-based planning, and while Ohle was at Wartburg College in Iowa,” said Taylor.

Called “Commission Wartburg,” the plan brought a variety of campus communities involved in Commission Gustavus 150 are certainly excited about the overall cost of the initiative.

“Typically when we’ve done a campaign here, you look at campaign feasibility, really coming up with a sense of how much are people going to give, what’s the scope of what we can think we can raise,” said Taylor. However, she reiterated Ohle’s message that Gustavus should not be thinking about money right now.

"With this, the President has made it very clear; we are not talking about [the campaign] this next year. These task forces should not be thinking about at what it’s going to cost, how much money we’ve raised in the past, not thinking about who would ever give this, because that of course stifles conversation. Money is off the table, which is fun," said Taylor.

The Board of Trustees will present its proposal for Commission Gustavus 150, based on the task force recommendations, at the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year. At that point, an aggressive fundraising campaign will begin, setting the stage for potential campus renovations and the celebration of Gustavus’ sesquicentennial in 2012.

President Ohle said, “We are not where we want to be, but we are moving toward it.” All constituencies involved in Commission Gustavus 150 are certainly excited for the initiative’s potential, but as Senior Computer Science Major Patrick Young said, “Hopefully we move forward doing so in a financially responsible manner.”
Thursday Nov. 6, The Center for Vocational Reflection will host its eighth annual Chill Out and Wellness Fair, focusing this year on “Healthy Lifestyles, Healthy Relationships.” The event will take place from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Banquet Rooms of the C. Charles Jackson Campus Center. It will feature student organizations and community resources that help students focus on relaxation.

“Nov. 6 comes around midterms, and that’s the time of the year when everyone starts to get stressed out, and everyone needs a chance to relax,” said Sophomore Political Science Major Rachel Schmitt, who is serving as a student intern at The Center for Vocational Reflection.

To help students relax, the event will offer free food, live music, chiropractors, free massages and more. Door prizes will be offered, with a grand prize of a free snowboard.

The event will also serve as a forum for student groups and community organizations that help students relax and stay healthy.

Schmitt mentioned that the Peer Assistants along with other wellness organizations from both on and off campus will be at the event.

“[We want] students [to be able to] take advantage of all of the resources that are out there, especially when it comes to stress management, healthy decision-making and just relaxing in general,” said Schmitt. The Center for Vocational Reflection (the sponsor of the fair) works with the campus community to help people discern their calling.

“It’s really tough to figure out who you are called to be when you are really stressed out. So, you need to be able to take some time to figure out what is important to you [and] what you value. ... You are here for a purpose, and it’s your job here at Gustavus to figure out what that purpose is,” said Amy Pehrson, assistant director of the Center for Vocational Reflection.

“We encourage reflecting deeply, asking the big questions [and] thinking about your life in a broad sense versus day-to-day,” said Schmitt.

Pehrson also emphasized that it is important to figure out who the world needs you to be, not just what you enjoy doing.

In addition to holding awareness events throughout the year, offering resources for the campus community, collaborating with other organizations and facilitating faculty development, the center also often works with students returning from study abroad trips.

“[We] help people who are returning, ... from study abroad to kind of process what that experience has meant to them,” said Chris Johnson, director of the Center for Vocational Reflection.

The Center for Vocational Reflection encourages students to come to their office—located on the second level of the Johnson Student Union—to visit their resource center, to learn about more upcoming events or just to talk.

### WEEKLY Safety and Security Report

#### Sunday, October 12
A student was cited for underage consumption, underage possession and giving false information to a college official.

#### Wednesday, October 15
Safety and Security officers responded to a medical assist at Confer/Vickner Hall.

A suspicious person was reported on campus. The person was issued a trespass warning and escorted from Gustavus property.

A student reported being the recipient of a nuisance phone call.

#### Friday, October 17
A bias incident was reported at the C. Charles Jackson Campus Center. Someone had made a swastika inside a restroom stall on second floor of the C. Charles Jackson Campus Center in the men’s restroom.

#### Sunday, October 19
A vandalism was reported at Pittman Hall. The glass in the back door of Pittman Hall was broken.

#### Monday, October 20
Safety and Security responded to a medical assist for a student near the Book Mark.

#### Tuesday, October 21
A student reported that political fliers were taped onto his door.

#### Wednesday, October 22
A Safety and Security officer identified two students suspected of using marijuana.

#### Thursday, October 23
A security officer responded to a medical assist.

#### Friday, October 24
Safety and Security processed four reports on lost keys as the result of an ongoing key audit.

A Gustavus employee reported the loss of campus keys.

### Tip of the Week
Did you know?
Up to 40 percent of campus residential fire death victims where alcohol impaired at the time, according to the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA). Could you escape under the influence? Chances are you know the answer.

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Revival of Tau Mu Tau Sorority

Kelly Nelson  
Staff writer

A n old face from the past recently rejoined the Greek community at Gustavus, as the Tau Mu Tau (TMT) Sorority is once again officially recognized on campus. After a comeback from the one returning member this fall to the twenty-two now active members, the TMTs had more recruits during this past pledge period than any other sorority on campus.

Dating back to 1904, the TMTs, originally nicknamed “The Mostest Tribe,” were the first sorority at Gustavus. The sorority was forced off-campus during the 2007-08 school year because they lacked a sufficient membership base. Senior Communication Studies and Studio Art Major Randi Dettling explained, “To be recognized by Inter Greek Senate you need ten members, and we had seven. Six of them graduated in 2008.” Dettling was the one returning TM this fall.

The comeback was largely a result of the efforts of Junior Nursing Major Kelly O’Brien and the commitment and time of TMT alumni. O’Brien’s mother is a class of ’81 Gustavus graduate and an alumna of TMT. “That is what sparked my interest of the sorority, and I was curious as to why I had never heard anything about it while I was at Gustavus,” O’Brien said. She pursued this interest last spring and contacted the then-president Amy Grandgenett, an ’08 graduate and psychology major, who informed O’Brien of the ten-member minimum requirement. O’Brien began to gauge the interest in some of her friends and received positive feedback, even though “a lot of girls were the types who would never consider themselves a sorority type of girl— including myself,” she said.

Once they were guaranteed enough pledges to revive the sorority, the TMT alumni began collaborating to plan the pledge period. According to O’Brien, the alumni did a lot of work during the summer, and TMT alumni from ten different years returned to help. “Our alumni base is unlike any other. … After Kelly and several others expressed their interest in becoming TMs, our alumni re-organized their summer and fall schedules to make this effort really happen,” Grandgenett said. “It was the ultimate sacrifice for us and the other dedicated alumni. … Countless trips around the cities, state and down to St. Peter left us beyond broken[en] and exhausted. However, we all knew it was worth it. This sorority is not something that comes and goes during your college years; rather, it’s an extended family that is always there when you need them.”

O’Brien now serves as co-president along with Dettling and is excited to have the ability to create a fresh face for the sorority while maintaining its traditions. “Our philanthropy is suicide awareness and prevention,” Dettling said. In the spring, TMT hosts a suicide awareness and prevention week. The sorority is also working on random new ideas for this year, including a Starfish Project, which will send school supplies to South Africa, and a project to send letters and packages to soldiers in Iraq.

“We want to be able to be seen in the community again,” said Dettling. “We are going to do a lot on campus and off campus with our community service events, which will help with our image on campus.” O’Brien said.

In addition to their philanthropic efforts, TMT also values its small size and plurality within the group. “The sorority has always emphasized the strength of women and independence—but bonded,” Grandgenett said. This has been one theme unique to the organization since its founding. “We have always been known for our widespread talents within the group. Each person brings [her] unique contribution to the table, with the end result being a well-rounded, cohesive unit of strong and independent women,” she said.

In looking toward the future and whether or not TMT is here to stay, Sophomore Management Major and new member Niki Hendrickson believes that TMT can continue to recruit year after year to keep the sorority small, but recognized. “I hope that next year more of my class will want to join … [so] keep a steady number, but keep us small … twenty-five or so. After time we will be [well-known] and girls will want to join in their first years.”

Grandgenett expressed both pride and faith in the membership and the sustainability of the organization. “It is my hope that we have selected compassionate and driven individuals [who] will not only assist us in maintaining a healthy level of membership on campus, but will continue to uphold our values and join our dedicated alumni in making the world a better place.”

Gustavus’ oldest sorority, the Tau Mu Tau’s, had only one active member prior to this year’s pledge period.
Gustavus to host AdriAnne

Charles Owens
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Nov. 5 at 8:00 p.m. in the Courtyard Café, seventeen-year-old singer-songwriter AdriAnne Lenker will perform a concert. The Campus Activities Board (CAB) is sponsoring the event.

Sophomore Communication Studies Major Lacey Squier was involved in bringing Lenker on campus. “Her sort of music is kind of like Sheryl Crow mixed with Rachel Yamagata mixed with Jewel mixed with Liz Phair. She has a spunky style, but it’s not too edgy,” said Squier.

Lenker has been performing since she was 14 and has released an album along with a live DVD of a performance in Minnehaha, Minn., where she lives and writes music.

Lenker has ties to the Gustavus community through Junior CAB member Rea Kadera. “Rea said, ‘I have this friend. Her name is AdriAnne. She’s a great performer. I’d like it if she could come.’ So we all listened to her music on her MySpace,” said Squier.

Though Kadera has personal ties to Lenker, CAB has worked nearly a year on trying to bring her on campus. “Rea was in contact with AdriAnne, and Adri-Anne agreed to do [the] concert. So after a lot of back and forth, after OK, how much is this going to cost? and when we’re going to have it and making sure when she’ll arrive and when she’s going to make her sound check … this has been going on since last spring. It’s an on-going thing, but everything is getting locked down … with any other artist we’d have to go through an agent,” said Squier.

Kadera knows Lenker through her best friend from high school, who was an audio engineer and her dad helped her along the way,” said Kadera.

Lenker’s music has been influenced by the same musicians she’s been compared to, and also by her family. Her father is a musician and taught her how to play guitar when she was younger. He occasionally co-writes songs with her and plays in her backing band. “Music is huge in her life, and her dad helped her along the way,” said Kadera.

Though she is young, Lenker has received positive reviews from both fans and critics. Tim Cain, from Herald and Review, said “I saw her perform in Chicago with an audience largely consisting of musicians. She held this group of professionals enraptured, and we all found one thing unbelievably and asked each other the same question as one voice: ‘Is she really 14?’ Apparently so, and she’s a little like Jewel, except tougher, and a little like Liz Phair, but not quite as edgy. She writes a heck of a song.”

“She’s young—seventeen—but she has a very adult voice—wonderful voice,” said Kadera. “This is what she’s doing for her life. That’s all she cares about, and that’s all she does.

Gustavus Breast Cancer Benefit

The DeltaPhi Omega sorority sold “Save Second Base” t-shirts throughout the month of October to raise money for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Andy Setterholm
Staff Writer

The Delta Phi Omega sorority will host its tenth annual Breast Cancer Benefit Lunch in the Jackson Campus Center on Sunday, Nov. 2.

The event will include a lunch and a silent auction in support of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and will conclude the sorority’s Breast Cancer Awareness month. All proceeds from ticket sales and the auction will be donated to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

“This is our biggest event as a sorority,” said Senior Chemistry Major and Delta Emily Degnan. “It is really important to been hosted on campus by the sorority,” said Senior Chemistry and activism.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month has recently been recognized as the largest grassroots Breast Cancer Foundation, recognized as the largest grassroots breast cancer survivors and activists.

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Breast Cancer Benefit Lunch in the Jackson Campus Center on Sunday, Nov. 2.

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Staff Writer

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In addition to the banquet and the auction, the benefit lunch will also include three speakers, all of whom have personal experience with fighting breast cancer. Two of the women are survivors of the disease, and the other is currently battling the condition. The event will feature about 50 donations from local businesses and philanthropists, are given directly to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

“We raised $6,000 last year,” said Junior Psychology Major and Delta Jessica Stinson. “This is what she’s doing for her life. That’s all she cares about, and that’s all she does.

Breast Cancer Benefit Lunch in the Jackson Campus Center on Sunday, Nov. 2.

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Delta Breast Cancer Benefit

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the Book Mark on Friday the 31st.

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The Book Mark now carries High Efficiency Laundry detergent!
Small bottle with big savings! Only $0.99 cents a wash.

2x still have the powder soap for those who wash off campus in a regular washer.

Still needing a Textbook for Fall Semesters?
2x are beginning to turn in full books. Please purchase or order the books you still need in the upcoming week.

Come in and check out the new styles of 2nder Armour.
Some pink for the ladies and some azo styles for everyone.
Senior Luke Garrison makes the most of his time at Gustavus

Even if you don’t know Luke Garrison personally, you’ve probably seen him around campus. Luke was recently elected co-president of Student Senate, but during his three years here at Gustavus, he has been involved in many other student activities and organizations. Odd’s are that any student who is relatively active in the Gustavus community has come into contact with Luke at one time or another.

Luke is a senior communication studies major, and anyone who has seen his daily schedule can say that he is getting the most out of his tuition money. His involvement in student organizations and other extracurricular activities far surpasses the average Gustie, and he enjoys every minute of it.

“I’ve never been a straight-A student,” said Luke. “I get mostly As and Bs. What really brings me joy is outside of the classroom.” Still, even a student organization giant needs to start out small. “In my first semester I only did choir. I just wanted to meet more people. After that, the people I knew in one group would suggest another group, and I’d join that one.” Here’s just a sampling of the hats that Luke has worn in the course of his college career: host of a campus radio show, communication studies board member, Peer Assistant, Gustie Greeter, student ambassador to alumni events, Dancing with the Profs participant, member of the cross-country team, rugby player and staff writer for The Wazzy.

Luke can certainly be proud of every one of his accomplishments. “You know, some people are afraid to use their time, but I think you can always structure your time to allow whatever you want to do.”

-Luke Garrison

“Most college students require plishments, but there is one particular organization that he feels especially close to. “I definitely put most of my effort into GAC TV. It’s like part of my schoolwork.” Any student who has attended a campus movie in the last two years can probably recognize Luke as the co-anchor for GAC TV news, which plays before each weekly showing. “I’ve been involved with GAC TV since it started two years ago. It’s definitely made a lot of progress since then,” said Luke.

Luke plans to use his experience at GAC TV and his skills in communications and journalism to land a career as a TV reporter someday. “It’s a really competitive field, but I think I’ve done enough here to make it,” said Luke.

Although Luke’s daily schedule may drive some college students insane, Luke survives. “I only just started using a planner this year. Coffee is my best friend,” said Luke. “You know, some people are afraid to use their time, but I think you can always structure your time to allow whatever you want to do.”

Most college students require a “chill out” time in their daily routines, and Luke is no exception. Although he enjoys keeping busy (he spends an average of five hours a day on extracurricular activities), he has developed his own techniques for staying sane. “I spend an hour running every day. That’s my de-stressor,” said Luke. “I also try and find a half-hour or so to just sit on the bench on the top of Old Main hill and relax.”

Luke didn’t always have the infectious Gustie enthusiasm that he does now. In fact, at the end of his first semester he felt out of place and transferred to Iowa State University. “It was bigger, my brother went there and it had a journalism major, which was what I was looking for,” said Luke. “But I realized Gustavus really was the place for me.” Ever since then, Luke’s goal has been to epitomize the Gustie spirit and “be the best representative of the college [that] I can. I know what it was like to not feel at home here, and I just want people to love it. I want to be a person that people can talk to.”

Luke still has one year left with us here at Gustavus, and he still feels he has work to do. “It’s like a cycle, fresh every year. The students here learn from people who are older than them, and then they teach the students who are younger than them.”

“I know I’m going to leave here knowing I’ve spent my time well. When you start here, you know your general interests, but you really can’t find out everything you’re interested in until you try stuff,” he said.

“At the end of the day, are you really going to remember a lecture or a TV show that you watched in your dorm? No, you’re going to remember the organizations you were involved in and the people you met. You’ll remember how you made a difference.”

Senior Communication Studies Major Luke Garrison has made the most of his time at Gustavus by being involved in many activities including the communication studies board, Peer Assistants, Gustie Greeters, Dancing with the Profs, cross-country team and the rugby team.

Ethan Marxhausen

Staff Writer
Gustavus students take back their time with help from the CVR

Amara Berthelsen
Staff Writer

Last Friday, the Center for Vocational Reflection (CVR) enlisted 33 Gustavus students to hang nine-inch wall clocks around their necks that said, “Is it weighing on you? Take back your time.” The students wore the wall clocks in observance of national Take Back Your Time Day, which, according to the official website, is a “major U.S./Canadian initiative to challenge the epidemic of overwork, over-scheduling and time famine that now threatens our health, our families and relationships, our communities and our environment.”

This initiative supports paid vacation time and encourages over-worked Americans to relax, spend time doing things they love and cut out the things that they don’t. Take Back Your Time Day at Gustavus didn’t advocate for paid vacation time, but it had the same goal at heart—encouraging Gusties to relax and think intentionally about how they spend their time.

According to the CVR, the weight of the wall clock around a student’s neck along with the clock’s caption, “Is it weighing on you? Take back your time,” symbolizes the constant pressure of our time on you. Take back your time,“ the wall clocks in observance of national Take Back Your Time Day at Gustavus didn’t advocate for paid vacation time, but it had the same goal at heart—encouraging Gusties to relax and think intentionally about how they spend their time.

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In addition to the clocks, the CVR conducted a survey that asked students to share their schedules and answer a few questions in exchange for a free Take Back Your Time t-shirt. Out of the 57 students surveyed, 37 consider the demands on their time “just right,” 19 consider themselves “too busy” and one considered him/herself “not busy enough.” These students were also asked what they wished they had more time to do. The most common answers were to spend time with friends, sleep, relax, study/do homework and work out. “I would really like to take back some time for myself to actually get out and exercise. I always have the best intentions to do so, but the time I finish all my homework and other commitments, all I want to do is sleep, and I don’t get enough of that as it is. This year I have been realizing that spending some time relaxing and hanging out with friends is just as important as doing homework, so I have been taking back time in that way,” said Carissa Keith, a junior religion major.

Other Gusties talked about taking back their time as well. Katelyn Johnson, a junior communication studies major, said, “I’m doing a great job of taking back my time, if I do say so myself. . . . I was hyper-involved during my sophomore year, and it was really stressful. On a typical Wednesday, I was in meetings and rehearsals from 4:30 to 11:00 p.m. . . . With the help of professors, family and friends, I have learned to cut back, to say ‘no’ and to make intentional time for the people I love and the activities that I enjoy. I don’t have it down to a science, but I am absolutely loving junior year because I’ve taken back my time and found a balance between studying, socializing and involving myself in extracurricular activities.”

Senior Communication Studies Major Luke Garrison said, “I try not to be involved with anything I’m not passionate about, and I do what I really enjoy, like make friendships and spend time with the people who are important to me. When things get busy, it is easy to let those things get lost in the shuffle, but I always try to make sure that they come first.”

The take back your time message reached across the Gustavus community. “I was walking to the Caf for lunch, and a woman walking next to me said, ‘You’re the second person I’ve seen wearing a clock. What’s it all about?’ So I explained that it was from the CVR to draw attention to Take Back Your Time Day. ‘You’re supposed to think about how you spend your time,’ I explained, ‘and if you want to spend that time on something else.’ The woman paused for a moment, then said, ‘I watch too much TV.’ I was a bit taken aback, but responded with ‘Yeah, see, maybe you could use your time in a way so fast.’”

“Activity doesn’t necessarily mean productivity. Everyone should be intentional with their time, whether it’s studying, going to meetings, spending time with friends or doing nothing. People—Americans, in particular—associate ‘doing nothing’ with laziness, but rest is so important to having balance and sanity in your life. We should realize that it is ok to not always ‘do’ and [sometimes] just ‘be’,” Johnson said.

The Center for Vocational Reflection encouraged students to consider their health, relationships and environment by challenging them to take time for themselves and relax by doing things they enjoy.

God’s Words for a Life of Virtue, Love, Grace and Truth.

The mistake a lot of leaders makes is in forgetting they’ve been appointed and thinking they’ve been anointed.

“If today you will be a servant to these politicians or people and serve them…you will always be a servant.” 1 Kings 12:7

Hold dear in your heart the teachings of the Bible. For scripture of yesterday is today in thought, word and deed. It is not generational, but everlasting.

Friend in Christ, Tommerdahl@iol.com

The Rattles

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Five horror flicks you should see this weekend instead of Saw 5

As the Halloween spirit makes its way again, so do the gory films. This Halloween our reviewer recommends sticking to the classics and avoiding clichés like Saw 5.

1. The Shining
   A struggling writer takes a job house-sitting at a secluded hotel in the mountains of Colorado. Shortly after he and his family move in, strange events begin to happen, and a blood-spattered past is brought to the present.

2. Evil Dead
   A group of college-aged kids take a trip to a friend’s woodlands cabin for a weekend away. At night, while joking around, they stumble upon a tape recording of an old professor who predicts an ancient incantation that brings unspeakable evil upon the college crew.

3. Halloween (the original, not the Rob Zombie remake)
   A psychotic killer, locked up since his youth, escapes on All Hallows Eve and goes on a bloody rampage in a small Midwestern town.

4. Dawn of the Dead (again, the original, not the remake)
   The zombie epidemic has transformed most of the human race into bloodthirsty drones. A group of survivors barricade themselves up in a suburban shopping mall in an attempt to survive.

5. The Descent
   A woman grieving over the recent loss of her husband and child embarks on a cave expedition with a group of friends to get her mind off of the tragedy. Soon after entering the cave, the group discovers that they are not alone.

Learning while serving

Gustavus’ core values of excellence, community, justice, faith and service are prevalent throughout the campus. Recently, the handbuilding ceramics class has brought one of these values—community—into the classroom.

On Thursday, Nov. 20 for the first time at Gustavus, this group of students will be selling ceramic serving vessels in a silent auction, and all proceeds will be donated to the St. Peter Food Shelf.

“I’ve always wanted to do service learning in the classroom. People are always asking me to do a sale of the students’ work, but I’ve always wanted a reason first,” said Nicole Hoiland, a visiting professor in the Department of Art and Art History and the professor in charge of the event. Donating to a good cause seemed to be the perfect reason for Hoiland.

Of the twelve students enrolled in the class, each is working hard to make a variety of serving dishes, from platters to bowls to pitchers. Thus, the students are “serving” the community on “serving vessels.”

Before starting this process, Hoiland wanted to make sure that the students would be up to the task of creating an item ready for sale after only one month of class. The students have found the task difficult, but have also been very ambitious.

“This is all very new to us, and we’re doing things we’ve never really done before, but it’s great to be making something for someone else. It makes me reevaluate my work, and work harder on it,” Senior Art Studio Major Erica Larson said.

“We’ve never had a value put on our work before. It will be really fun to see what our work is worth!” Emily Pickford, a senior art studio major, said.

The road toward the finished product has been long, but Hoiland is confident that the auction will be a success. “Many people have the use for household ceramic items like this. If they are donating to those in need at the same time, they will be more likely to want to buy these pieces,” said Hoiland.

In the end, the goal is for “students to understand that what they make through art can be used to do good in the community,” said Hoiland.

It seems to already have had an effect on the students. “I like ceramics because we are turning an object like clay into a piece of art. This time our art is used to give back to the community and I think it’s great,” Annie Pearce, a senior art studio major, said.

The class will be having their “Pieces of Industry” silent auction in the lower level of the C. Charles Jackson Campus Center on Thursday, Nov. 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
The Ride is Almost Over

After months of riding a turbulent political roller coaster, the general election is finally in sight. Whether you’re a Democrat, Republican or something else, there’s just one thing left to do:

Among clanking plates and a hum of conversation, DFL State Representative Terry Morrow and Republican challenger Mike Bidwell debated issues last Wednesday, Oct. 29 in the heart of the Gustavus campus: the Market Place.

Bidwell is a Gustavus alum and Morrow is a professor at Gustavus and the incumbent candidate.

The state congressional race is just one of many on the ballot this year. In St. Peter and across the country, political events are a constant reminder of the history-altering day approaching.

Next Tuesday, Nov. 4, Gustavus students have the opportunity to participate in the democratic process and cast their vote.

Political pundits on each side of the partisan aisle are predicting this may be the most significant election of our lifetimes.

So Gusties, next Tuesday grab your I.D. cards, turn that 360 off, save the Facebook stalking for later and get to the polls to earn that “I Voted” sticker.

How the U.S. presidential election works

The U.S. Constitution sets out the rules and Congress and the Supreme Court have spelled out a few more rules. A few parts of the process are customs that have evolved over the course of U.S. history.

1 Who votes
   - All citizens 18 or older who are not convicted felons can vote in presidential elections; must register to vote in their state of residence
   - People unable to reach the polls on Election Day can vote by mail

Since the 1960s, between 49 percent and 63 percent of eligible Americans have voted in presidential elections.

2 Popular vote
   - "Winner take all" in all the states but Maine and Nebraska: presidential candidate with largest popular vote gets all the state’s electoral votes

Because of this rule, the candidate with the largest popular vote might not win the electoral vote that happened in 1876, 1888 and in 2000.

3 Electoral College
   - "Electors" are the 538 officials who cast the votes that elect the president and vice president
   - Number of electors for each state is proportional to the state’s population

4 Electoral vote
   - To be elected president, a candidate must get 270 electoral votes

If no candidate gets 270 electoral votes, the House of Representatives chooses the president from the top three candidates; the 1800 and 1824 elections were decided this way.

Political parties

- Not provided for in Constitution; governed by state and federal laws
- A new party can get its candidate on ballot by collecting a certain number of signatures specified by state law
- Until 1832, president and vice president were sometimes of different parties; today they are always from the same party

Democratic Party was founded by Thomas Jefferson in 1792

Republican Party was born in the 1850s by anti-slavery activists

President
   - Must be U.S. born, 35 or older when elected and a U.S. resident for 14 years
   - Serves for four years can be re-elected once

Vice president
   - Becomes president if the president dies, resigns, is removed from office by Congress or becomes disabled

HIGHEST POPULATION California 54 electors
LOWEST POPULATION Wyoming 3 electors

House Candidates Debate

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The national economy is in crisis, health care costs are skyrocketing, unemployment is increasing and college is more expensive than ever. And guess what? Each day we are 24 hours closer to graduating and losing the protection of a parent’s health insurance, entering the workforce, paying off college debt and facing dozens of other political issues in our daily lives.

Senior Spanish and Political Science Major Erica Koos said people should take advantage of their right to vote because “every government decision that is made will affect every person in the country in some way or form. Vote in order for your voice to be heard.”

“Every vote counts because if you look at prior elections, [many were decided] by a small margin,” Senior Political Science Major Katie Rose Kammerude said “If you don’t care because you don’t think your voice counts, that’s not true.” Use your voice. Vote on November 4.

The Basics:
When are the elections?
Tuesday Nov. 4, 2008
Voting Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Where do I vote?
Most Gustavus students will vote at the Community Center, which is just down the hill at 600 South 5th St.

How can I get there if I do not want to walk?
Vans will be leaving from Three Flags all day offering complimentary rides to and from voting sites.

How do I register to vote on Election Day?
If you are not currently registered to vote you can do so at polling locations on Election Day.

If you’re a Gustavus student living on campus, it is simple. Just bring along your Gustavus student identification card. The college has provided a student housing list to election officials.

Otherwise, the most common methods you can use are:
- A valid Minnesota Driver’s License, a learner’s permit, a Minnesota ID card, or a receipt for any of these containing a valid address in the precinct.
- A voter registered in the same precinct as you who can confirm your address with a signed oath.

If none of these things work out, then you need a photo ID and a bill addressed to the voter at your residence in the precinct.

Am I eligible to vote?
You may register at the polls if you meet all of the following requirements:
- Must be a U.S. citizen
- Must be at least 18-years-old on Election Day
- Must have resided in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding election day ***Note: if you are a Gustavus student who is not originally from this state, you can still vote here if you have been attending school this semester. ***
- Must have completed any felony conviction or had it discharged
- Must not be under court-ordered guardianship where a court has revoked your voting rights.
- Must not have been found legally incompetent by a court.

*For more detailed election regulations visit www.sos.state.mn.us
I know, right?

Blood cell phones

Author Robin Browne of the website Alternatives explains in a July 2008 article how tantalum is comprised of two minerals: columbite and tantalite. The combination of these two elements is known as coltan. An astonishing 80 percent of our world’s coltan is mined in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. This extraction and mining of this element has fueled vicious civil wars in the Congo since 1996. All parties involved in the mining and sale of coltan are also part of this civil war.

Cellular-News asserts that “Coltan is mined by hand in the Congo by groups of men digging basins in streams by scraping off the surface mud. A ton of mud yields only one kilo of coltan per day.”

Where does this coltan go after it is extracted? In 2000, Global Witness followed the process of mining this deadly rock. It reported that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is as vast as Texas, California, Montana, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada and Colorado combined. Within this huge area there are only 300 miles of paved roads. One must travel a 40-mile footpath in order to reach one of the many mines. Every day, porters carry 50 kilogram backpacks of this valuable and weighty rock across this treacherous path only to be met at the end of the trail at gunpoint by government soldiers who refuse to offer reimbursement for their deadly trip. A lucky few might make up to five dollars a day for this arduous work.

The global demand for coltan increased when cell phones and other electronic manufacturers discovered that this element could be used to make the products on which we depend. Browne explains how tantalum capacitors are essential to the miniaturization of our cell phones and various other gadgets.

The Global Witness program reminds Americans that more than two billion people on our planet own cell phones. Can you imagine that all of those little phones laid end-to-end would reach almost halfway to the moon? We can’t even calculate how many phones are already buried in landfills or forgotten about in our homes.

The main area where coltan is mined also contains the Kahuzi Biega National Park, home of the Mountain Gorilla, according to Cellular-News. The ground has been increasingly cleared to make way for the coltan mining industry. Not only are gorillas experiencing food loss, but also habitat loss. The miners illegally kill these beautiful creatures in order to feed the armies and miners. Tragically, the number of gorillas in the DRC has declined by 90 percent in the past five years due to our world’s demand for tantalum.

This problem is extremely far away from home, which may make your role in this fight confusing. When your cell phone dies or you acciden tally break it and need a new one immediately, recycle your old one! Recycling cell phones not only protects our lands from the hazardous chemicals, but can also reduce our role in this horrible mining war in the Congo. Not only are porters being dreadfully mistreated, but gorillas are dying at an increasing rate due to our world’s never-ending need for tantalum. Today, there are cell phone companies that refuse to use tantalum from Africa because of this horrible situation. You can call your phone company and ask if a) your cell phone can be recycled, and b) if your phone contains tantalum, where it was mined? If we recycle our cell phones and reuse the element, our world’s demand will decrease, hopefully resulting in an Africa without wars over this deadly rock.

On the lighter side…

It’s official: I’m in love with Regina Spektor

Maggie Sotos
Staff Columnist

Dear Diary,
The feelings have been getting stronger no matter what I do. The last few weeks have grown simply unbearable. I wake up with sweaty palms, a palpitating heart, and my mouth dry. Song lyrics swirl around in my head with no means of escape. I’ve been in denial long enough, and I can’t lie to myself any longer.

Diary, I think I’m in love with singer/songwriter Regina Spektor.

I know it sounds crazy. I mean, I never thought I liked the whole “Alternative, Indie-Rock” scene. That’s not who I am! Well, at least I thought that’s not who I was. Golly, I don’t even know anymore!

I’m so scared, Diary, what does this mean? I’ve been a straight-up Ben Folds, Coldplay, Jason Mraz, Maroon 5 girl most of my life. I mean, sure I flirted around with the idea of Sheryl Crow and Melissa Etheridge a couple of times, and when I was in college I “experimented” with the Imogen Heap CD Speak For Yourself! And yes, I listened to Enya whilst enjoying a long, hot bubble bath. Who doesn’t?

But this is different; this is stronger. When I picture my life in the next few years, I don’t see any of those other artists on my shelf or in my iTunes library. I somehow instinctively feel they are passing fads. Yet I can see myself with Regina posters hanging on my wall even when I turn 40. During class I daydream about settling down and raising my kids on Regina’s catchy, anti-folk beats. I am thinking about kids here! Even when I was head-over-heels for Howie Day back in ‘04, I never saw it lasting long-term.

And looking back, I knew at the time that James Blunt’s song “You’re Beautiful” was a one-hit wonder. But Regina’s got me thinking about the future.

Oh man, what will my parents say? They raised me on their favorites like Elvis, the Beatles and Who. How could this have happened, they’ll ask themselves.

Oh but Diary, how can anyone NOT love Regina? She writes all of her own songs and lyrics, she’s got gorgeously curly hair, and her outfits are all so funky. She’s everything a modern musician should be, but never is. Plus, she’s so interesting! She’s a Russian Jew from Soviet Moscow, and she’s only 28! And did you know that she has pioneered a vocal technique called the “Glottal Stop”? And her videos are horrifyingly addicting. I think I’ve watched “Fidelity” about twenty times already.

Feist and Bjork have nothing on this chick.

Last night I was hanging in my room in my suit, listening to an old mixed CD. A song by Cherry Poppin’ Daddies came on. But I used to love this group when I was a teenager ... or at least I thought I loved them. Looking back, I wonder if I just listened to them because all of the other girls did. But now it did nothing for me, Diary. Nothing. I wanted so badly to feel that way again; I replayed the song over and over. I made myself listen to it. It was horrible. The whole time all I could hear was Regina singing, “Hey remember that time ... ?” and smiling at me with her enormous smile.

Finally, I went to the bathroom and cried, I felt so dirty.

But then, as it were planned, another old favorite came on. The 98’ song, “True to Your Heart” began to play, and Nick Lachey’s poppy 1998 voice washed over me like a cleansing life-force. He’s right, it must be true to my heart! I realized that having a wide musical variety and taste is not sinful, listening to music I don’t love is the real sin. I’m a person with multiple dimensions, and maybe it’s OK if my musical preferences don’t fit neatly into one single genre, like punk or pop or jazz or hip-hop. Sure it’s scary and new, but it’s also authentic and honest.

So from now on, Diary, I will be honest with myself. Maybe I will list Regina under “My Favorite Music.” I guess you can call me a Regina fan. Or should I say, a “Spektor-tator”? Hehe ... hehehe ... ohh. What a horrible attempt at humor. Well, at least I can live with things about me will never change.

Oh, Regina! I hope they build a statue of us ...
The Rogness Rant

If Obama wins: A satire

Kavan Rogness

Staff Columnist

Note: The following is a satire. The intent is to lampoon conservative fears of an Obama victory. Please do not take this seriously.

It has been three years since Barack Obama was elected, and his 2012 reelection campaign has prompted many to look back upon the last three years to explore the changes that have taken place. Indeed, the changes have been vast, causing many to call these years the Second American Revolution, as the entire sociopolitical landscape of this nation has shifted.

The most notable change has perhaps been the installation of Islam as the national religion. While many were skeptical about Obama’s status as a Muslim, he soon “converted” in the eyes of the media after his ascension to office and led the charge in making Islam an officially recognized religion. While a few conservative groups or any other religion has been outlawed, reports of discrimination have been filtering into the media.

This shift in national religious thought has led to a marked shift in global relations. America’s relationships with the largely Christian Europe have cooled, and relations with Israel have become particularly tense. Israel is now concerned that America, once its greatest ally, will no longer stand with it in the likely impending Iran/Israel conflict. After Obama’s withdrawal of troops from Iraq, Iran quickly took over the fledgling democracy, further prompting concerns of a Middle Eastern terrorist state. While the UN condemned this invasion, no action was taken as the region was greatly destabilized by the withdrawal of American presence.

Tensions with the UN stemmed from the American withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan as well. The Taliban has resumed its oppressive rule in that country. Critics of Obama have criticized him heavily for meeting with the leaders of the governments of Iran and Afghanistan, accusing him of wanting them to establish diplomatic ties with oppressive or terrorist regimes. Obama declined to address such criticisms.

Back in America, Obama’s election coincided with the widespread election of Democrats to offices across the nation. This has given Democrats an unprecedented control over Congress, particularly after the 2010 success of their party. Republicans lost numerous seats, largely due to their former association with the Bush presidency.

Once such unprecedented control of the government by one party was achieved, change swept the political landscape. Conservative critics of the new “economic redistribution plan” immediately labeled the system communism, generating a large outcry from the right. The reforms have passed anyway, creating a system that many Democrats predict will lead to a “Obamatopia.” While the wealthy now complain about the reduction of their previously massive fortunes (indeed, being a billionaire is now illegal), which has angered Oprah, once Obama’s greatest supporter), the numbers of those living in poverty have nearly been reduced to zero.

While many have hailed Obama as a national hero, others have been rather critical. The largest such faction has found its headquarters in Alaska, home to the controversial conservative leader Governor Sarah Palin. Many people belonging to this conservative movement have flocked to Palin’s state. Alaska has remained more conservative than any other state in the Union and has earned a position lauded by conservative bigwigs like Ann Coulter and Rush Limbaugh as the “Last True American State.”

Indeed, there have been rumors that Palin intends to launch an Alaskan revolution in which Alaska would secede from the United States and become its own nation. In this scenario, many believe that Sarah Palin would become President of the new Alaskan America, the rumored title of the nation being developed on a website of websites. Reports have surfaced that Palin has used her close ties with Russia to gauge international opinion on such a movement. Likewise, Texans are closely monitoring this movement, and should it be successful, Texas may secede as well. Mexico is reportedly in favor of such a secession. There is no word yet on whether the two fledgling nations, should they form, would unite into one nation, or if they would create diplomatic or economic ties.

The America of 2011 is vastly different from the one in existence when Obama was elected in 2008. The event was hailed as “The Beginning of Change.” Indeed, change has been swift and extends further than any thought possible. Obama’s opponents claim that since McCain, perhaps it said best before his death in 2009: “Like it or not, you can’t deny the power of Obama.”

Learning from the left

Why Obama?

Sean Maertens

Staff Columnist

Today, I will establish several solid reasons why voting for Barack Obama is the best choice for Americans in this upcoming election. Up until today, I have written about reasons why voting for a McCain-Palin ticket would be a terrible choice for Americans. So today, let me offer you reasons why I believe an Obama administration would be best for our country.

Barack Obama has been able to change our collective level of expectations in a presidential candidate. He is an individual who has been able to garner support and endorsements from a diverse group of people because he brings something different than “politics as usual” to the table. Not every Democratic presidential candidate has been endorsed by a group of people that ranges from Oprah Winfrey to Susan Eisenhower to Colin Powell. That is because a candidate this uniquely equipped to be president doesn’t come around often.

The most notable endorsement Barack recently gained is that of Colin Powell. Colin Powell recently endorsed Obama for President, further hampering McCain’s argument that Obama is too inexperienced to be President. If Colin Powell, a moderate Republican, a former Secretary of State and a friend of McCain’s, considers Obama to be a better choice for President, what does that say about McCain?

Barack Obama is seeking to lower the taxes of 95 percent of Americans. Any family with an income under $250,000 would receive a tax break under an Obama Administration. Those making under $250,000 would have their Bush tax cuts repealed. During these tough economic times Barack Obama is working to give a hand to the hard-working families of America that are struggling to make ends meet.

Barack Obama is also working towards improving the current U.S. healthcare system. Under Barack Obama’s plan, if you like your current health insurance, nothing changes, besides the fact that your costs will go down by as much as $2,500 per year. If you don’t have health insurance, you will have a choice of new, affordable health insurance options. Obama would accomplish this by importing prescription drugs from other developed nations and by establishing a National Health Insurance Exchange, which will provide a range of private insurance options as well as a new public plan based on benefits available to members of Congress.

One of Barack Obama’s top priorities is making higher education more affordable in America. Obama will create the American Opportunity Tax Credit, a tax credit that will pay for the first $4,000 of a college education. Recipients of the credit would have to perform 100 hours of community service. Let’s see, $4,000 divided by 100 hours comes out to $40 per hour. That sounds like an excellent way to engage students in the community and help pay for college! There’s a feeling in the air that history is about to be made. I’m not talking about electing the first African American President in U.S. history, either. I mean that we’re looking at a candidate in whom we see as a nation and dreams and dreams for the future and know that they’re in safe hands.

As cheesy as that sounds, it’s something that I genuinely believe. Obama is a person that is seeking to unite our nation and forge a better tomorrow for everyone.

This can only happen if we as a nation are ready to accept this opportunity to move beyond our differences and instead seek out our similarities. If we can accomplish this, then I believe that we can move past these last eight years. Is there really any single better reason to vote for Obama’s change campaign than that?

The choice for the U.S. President this Tuesday is clear. If you want a President that’s going to turn the page on these last eight years, you should cast your vote for Barack Obama on Nov. 4. There will be vans at Three Flags taking people to the polls all day on Tuesday, so there is no reason that we can’t take 15 minutes out of your day to change the direction of this country. Join Obama in creating a better tomorrow by voting for Barack Obama on Nov. 4—it will be the best 15 minutes of your day.

McGraw
Letters to the Editor

Many Communication Studies students, especially those interested in the forensics program, know the dedication and commitment to the student academic experience in forensics. As former members, we prided ourselves on being a comprehensive team that valued both individual speaking and debate. Mr. Harper’s comments about forensics as “impractical” do not make sense to those of us who participated and continue to participate in the activity. Not all events in forensics are memorized; in fact, there are a few limited preparation events. Many events develop the students’ extemporaneous skills, including extemporaneous and impromptu. These events help students develop argumentative skills, including communication analysis and persuasive speaking.

In the collegiate forensics world, comprehensive programs are a dying breed. It takes a significant amount of time and financial support to successfully compete in both individual and team events. Under the leadership of Professor Kristoffer Kracht, the forensics team has reached new heights over the course of our time at Gustavus, the team transformed from a locally regionally competitive team. The team succeeded as a comprehensive team, placing second at the Pi Kappa Delta National Tournament in both 2005 and 2007. The Gustavus Forensics Team has been successful as a comprehensive team, this fall winning both the Kansas State and Widvey Comprehensive Excellence award at South Dakota State University’s tournament.

As forensics alumni, we are disheartened by the negative comments regarding Professor Kracht and the Gustavus Forensics team. We see this kind of commentary as dismissive of the hard work and dedication of those students who have competed and continue to compete for the Gustavus Forensics Team.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Kuehl, All-American 2005, '07
Andrea Carlile, All-American 2007, '07
Brittney Lovdahl, All-American 2008, '08

As the Nicotoll County representative to the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, I write to urge voters to vote “Yes” for the Outdoors and Heritage Amendment (Measure 6). This amendment will provide steady funding to ensure safe drinking water sources, protect wild life habitats, preserve our natural areas and protect our outdoors and cultural heritage. It will dedicate three-eighths of a penny from the state sales and use tax (for every one-hundred dollars) for the next 25 years, and is supported by organizations such as Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever and the Sierra Club, as well as the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council. How’s it will appear on your ballot on Nov. 4.

“Clean Water, Wildlife, Cultural Heritage, and Land Trust Fund’ The DNR has a 2-year budget of $1.5 billion. There is no lack of funding for environmental projects. The level of de-flict for this bill is unbearable. This is not about Minnesota’s outdoor heritage; millions of dollars will go to “art” and theater organizations, too.”

Phil Cleary ’11

I feel the need to respond to the mischaracterization of my opinion which appeared in the Oct. 17 issue. I will attempt to respond to both a constructive and clarifying way.

Firstly, I did not say that “diversity must revolve around ‘facts’ and ‘truth,’” but that in- tellectual diversity does. “Who is to say which facts are true and which are not?” Facts, by definition, are true. Someone cites something from a book written by someone who may or may not be a scientist (or have a Ph.D.) does not make it leave the realm of conjecture. I do affirm that “individuals should be able to take information from multiple sources and draw their own conclusions,” and that there should not be “others do their thinking for them,” and I’m happy that we can agree on this point. Given the chaos and complexity of knowledge that has biased misinformation, propaganda and shrouded falsehoods, and a pool that doesn’t allow one to choose the pool without. It seems to me that this is how I differ from some on this campus. I think (for example, in the political realm) statements like “Barack Obama is a Muslim” and “John McCain is bigoted” don’t belong here.

Finally, I don’t mind being the thorn in the DNR’s side. I think rooting out all the false things that engender hate and intolerance between us.

Phil Cleary ’11

There has been a lot of talk about the White Heterosexual Coalition and the arts coalition, but the political nature of the arts application that has been floating around Gustavus in the last week. To clarify the intent of the arts application, the arts coalition sponsored an arts scholarship that brought together a very specific group that has tradition ally been “left on the curb” by other diversity initiatives and to do so in a socialistic manner. The discussions sparked as a result of this has been positive, and would not have happened were it not that try and organize a formal discussion, where attendance would be minimal at best. The organizers of this scholarship decided the most effective way of creating discourse about this would be to do something that would get people talking about their issues with their friends and in several smaller, more manageable sizes.

Therefore, the reason for offering a scholarship like this is not to attack any individual or group of people, but to provide a way for people to learn about and be exposed to the diversity initiatives and to continue to explore the relationship between political and cultural. To see who has endorsed and continue to compete in the Nicotoll County (Oct. 17). While intellectual diversity is definitely something that should be promoted on campus, the decision of whether to proceed with the arts coalition application is very much in the hands of the individuals involved, this scholarship application does not justify the means. This does not mean that non-profits get tax handouts, and not truly a Christian college due to my personal religious one. I hope in the future they behave as such.

Paul Huff, ’11

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Paul Huff, ’11

There has been a lot of talk about the White Heterosexual Coalition and the arts coalition, but the political nature of the arts application that has been floating around Gustavus in the last week. To clarify the intent of the arts application, the arts coalition sponsored an arts scholarship that brought together a very specific group that has tradition ally been “left on the curb” by other diversity initiatives and to do so in a socialistic manner. The discussions sparked as a result of this has been positive, and would not have happened were it not that try and organize a formal discussion, where attendance would be minimal at best. The organizers of this scholarship decided the most effective way of creating discourse about this would be to do something that would get people talking about their issues with their friends and in several smaller, more manageable sizes.

Therefore, the reason for offering a scholarship like this is not to attack any individual or group of people, but to provide a way for people to learn about and be exposed to the diversity initiatives and to continue to explore the relationship between political and cultural. To see who has endorsed and continue to compete in the Nicotoll County (Oct. 17). While intellectual diversity is definitely something that should be promoted on campus, the decision of whether to proceed with the arts coalition application does not justify the means. This does not mean that non-profits get tax handouts, and not truly a Christian college due to my personal religious one. I hope in the future they behave as such.
Friday, October 31

On-Campus Movie, Hancock
7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
Will Smith as an alcoholic superhero? Well, that’s about as believable as the premise of I Am Legend.

Topsy Turvy Mouse
8:00 p.m.
It’s a play about humiliating photos of naked men in sexually degrading positions. So ... Abu Ghraib or Rush Week?

Saturday, November 1

Surplus Furniture for Sale
8:00 a.m.
Make sure you stop by: I’m donating the futon on which I lost my innocence. Try and guess which one it is!

On-Campus Movie, Hancock
7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
Will taught me how the Men in Black got “Jiggly With It” in Miami. Let’s hope his life lessons continue to be that inspiring.

OctTUBAfest
7:00 p.m.
It’s clever, but about 24 hours late. Dang-er!

Men’s Hockey vs. Lake Forest College (Parents’ Night)
7:05 p.m.
If it’s Parents’ Night, keep your eyes peeled for Sarah Palini; I hear she’s a hockey mom.

Dancing with the Profs
7:30 p.m.
I want to see Hank Toutain break-dance ... and not break anything.

Co-Ed Haunted House
8:00 p.m.
As frightening as Marla Weiner’s rendition of “Colors of the Wind.” MySpace it now if you don’t believe me.

Halloween Pridefest
Morson Ario
7:00 p.m.
Cayer than Dumbledore.

Topsy Turvy Mouse
8:00 p.m.
These actors must be caught between Iraq and a hard place.

Sunday, November 2

Announcement:
Daylight Savings Day. This is the one where you gain an hour of sleep. It’s like Father Time giving you a hug and an extra hour for the hang-over.

Breast Cancer Benefit and Silent Auction
11:00 a.m.
I for one want to help the Deltas save Second Base. I will personally assist in examining the sorority sisters. It’s always good to lend a helping hand ... or two.

Sacred Space
8:00 p.m.
To give a sense of scale, this space is as sacred as Jodie Foster’s dressing room on the set of Silence of the Lambs. So, we’re talking pretty damn sacred here. ...
After a potentially paralyzing injury last fall, Sophomore Andrew Valen has found another way to contribute.

“W hen one door closes, another one opens.”

This is the statement Gusta-vus Adolphus College student football coach Andrew Valen keeps in mind when he thinks about the events in his life this past year.

On Sept. 10, 2007, Valen played in what was his last game of football vs. Bethel Uni-versity in Gustavus’ brand new-stadium. Valen dropped back to throw a pass but decided to run instead. During this run, he had a helmet-to-helmet collision with a Bethel opponent—a typi-cal incident in football—but an incident nonetheless that pre-ceded drastic results.

Valen, recalling the hit, said, “I ended up hitting the guy and getting back up. It was actu-ally kind of fun at that point; I thought it was, at least. Then I got up, kept playing, played six more plays and realized my neck was hurting a little bit.”

The little bit of hurting in Valen’s neck ended up being a tremendous amount of pain the morning after the game. About a week and a half later, after taking some precautionary med-i-cal steps, Andrew learned that he suffered from two fractured vertebrae. The MRI showed the C4 and C5 vertebrae in his neck were completely cracked.

Doctors urged Valen to im mediately have surgery done following the results of the MRI. He had cervical fusion performed on his neck, which meant that certain sections of his spine was fused together. Part of the procedure included taking bone from his hip and putting it into place in his neck.

Because the injury was so serious, doctors advised Valen not to play contact sports, meaning he would never play football again. After hearing the disappointing news from the doctor, Valen admitted, “I was in shock at first, definitely. It was something I never thought I’d hear. I thought the last time I’d play football was going to be my senior year, whenever that time is. I’d never had a problem with injuries, never missed practice and this was just something I never saw coming.”

As heartbreaking and even angering as it was for Valen to hear he wouldn’t be able to participate in football, he came to realize how lucky he actually was. Doctors told Valen that if his vertebrae had shifted only two millimeters more, he would have been paralyzed for the rest of his life.

Following the news and trau-ma of surgery, Valen bounced right back. Instead of staying home for four weeks, which was typical for that type of surgery, he came back to Gustavus after one week of being home. Being back into the routine of school helped keep him mind off things, and he was surrounded by people who cared about him.

Looking back on the expe-rience, Valen believes that it was the support of family and friends that helped him get through surgery and continue on at Gustavus.

Jessie Doig
Staff Writer

Pictured above is Valen celebrating with the team after their overtime win two weeks ago against Carleton.

“The one reason I wanted to leave Gustavus was because I didn’t think I would be able to be around football anymore, but the coaching staff here was incredibly helpful making me get back into doing things with the team.”

Following his surgery, the Gustavus coaching staff immediately took Valen in and set him up as a contributing student coach. Head Coach Jay MI. Molde was the head coach there from 1987-1996 and the support of family and friends that helped him to get through surgery and continue on at Gustavus.

Continued on page 15

From trauma to teacher

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Led by Junior rover Joe Welsh, who had six tackles to go along with a pick and a pair of pass deflections, Gustavus’ defense held the Knights 80 yards below their nearly 400-yard season average. Sophomore linebackers Paul Stommes and Dustin Kammerer led the team in tackles with nine and eight, respectively.

This past weekend, Gustavus hosted their first-place Augsburg, and the Gustie faithful saw another white-knuckle affair. Gustavus opened the contest with an eleven-play drive in which they kept the ball on the ground for ten of the plays, capped off by a one-yard run for Roy Wilson, who was far from finished. In 28 carries, the Totino-Grace product rushed for a school record 258 yards, including a crucial 81-yard touchdown scamper in the third quarter that proved to be the decisive score as the Gusties upset the Auggies 34-31.

“We’re going to treat this just like any other week. We’re not going to let that distract us from doing our job,” said Schoenebeck. “Bethel is a good football team we’re preparing to win this game no matter our position in the conference. We’re trying to play our best football.”

The week following, they hosted the teams of the Cereal Bowl (St. Olaf and Carleton) at home against current MIAC leader Concordia. The Cobbers led the Gustie defense early on, but a meager 58 yards and only one first down on the ground proved to be the deciding score at the end of the first half. The Gusties held their opposition to 12 points in the rest of the game, capping off the MIAC Championship.

Schoenebeck credited Valen for handling such a tough situation so well and believes the sophomore has shown great leadership and knowledge as a coach on the team. “We wanted [Andrew] to stay involved with the team because he is a man of high integrity and character, which is the type of person that we need in our program,” Schoenebeck said.

Today, Valen is on the sideline coaching the Golden Gustie offense. He is now in his second year as a student coach and hopes to coach throughout his four years here at Gustavus.

Valen admitted he never thought that he would get into coaching but realized how much he wanted to stay involved with the sport. He came to view coaching as another opportunity to be a role model and learn another aspect of the game. “It’s a lot of fun to just be on the other side of things. Being a player for so long and now being a coach makes it interesting to see how much work actually goes in to behind the scenes,” said Valen.

Early this September, the Gustavus JV football team traveled to Bethel for their first game of the season. Valen was in tow, carrying out his duty in calling offensive plays during the JV match-up.

Emotions have come full circle for Valen, as he realized from the sidelines that it was only a year ago that he was playing out on the field against the exact same Bethell opponent. “I watched the [Bethel] kid that I hit play. He’s fine and I’m happy for him. But it’s definitely weird that it was only a year ago that I was in pads playing, and now I’m calling plays for JV. It was special being involved with that game, but a little frustrating, too, I think,” he said.

Valen’s frustration in not being able to play has been countered by how rewarding it is for him to be a coach. He is able to contribute to the improvement of his friends in the game he is so passionate about.

His teammates enjoy having him out on the field, too. He’s positive and also inspiring for the Gustie men that continue to have the opportunity to suit up and play. “It means a lot for us to have him out there. We wear the AV sticker on the back of our helmets to remind us that any play could be our last,” said Junior receiver Ben Brandt.

Valen believes he has learned a lot from his experience. “This happened for a reason, and the is something better to come. I’ve learned to have confidence and willpower and not to let something take you down,” he said.

Valen’s positive attitude with regard to tackling life’s challenges is definitely inspirational. You can’t help but take notice of when you see him roaming the Gustavus campus. Through all he’s dealt with, Andrew Valen is still a smiling kid with the capacity to open many, many doors in his future.

“Football” from page 16

“We need to keep doing what we’ve been doing in focusing on one game at a time, one practice at a time. The last three weeks have been a good example of what we need to do against good opponents and that’s what its going to take to do the rest of the way,” said Defensive Coordinator Brian Bergstrom. “Everyone is aware of whats going on. Our challenge is not to worry because its really out of our control.”

This Saturday, the Gusties travel to Arden Hills to challenge Bethel, one of the five other teams tied for second in the conference.

Friday 10/31

Men’s Hockey
vs. St. Norbert’s College 1 pm @ All Seasons Arena in Mankato

Saturday 11/1

Swimming
@ MIAC Relays 11 am

Football
@ Bethel 1 pm
Men’s Soccer
vs. St. Thomas 1 pm
Women’s Hockey
@ St. Thomas 1 pm
Volleyball
@ St. Mary’s 3 pm

Cross-Country
@ MIAC Championships 3 pm

Men’s Hockey
vs. Lake Forest 7:05 pm @ All Seasons Arena in Mankato

Check out MountKato.com for other Season Passes and information.
As the current standings read, Gustavus sits in a five-way tie for second place with a record of 5-2 (3-2 in MIAC), with their first legitimate chance at a conference title in quite some time. Gustavus’ football team has not won a MIAC Championship since 1987, before roughly half of the student body was born. Coach Denny Raarup’s team went a faultless 10-0 that year en route to the 22nd such title in school history. The Gusties finished second only once in the time between, in 1998, coach Schoenebeck’s fifth season at the helm.

These current Gusties have won their past three games, and with only three games left to be played, there is an understandable air of excitement in the locker room.

“There is lots of excitement in the air, because we as a team know that it is possible,” said Junior tailback Ray Wilson. “We just have to stay focused, not get satisfied, and take it one game at a time.”

Two Saturdays ago, the Gusties completed the most thrilling victory in the program’s recent history, a 30 to 29 overtime win over the 22nd ranked Carleton Knights on their home field. For Gustavus, the win came down to extraordinary special teams play, highlighted by Senior nose guard Brian Berglund. Responsible for the blocking of two consecutive extra points (one with four seconds remaining in regulation, the other in overtime), Berglund was named as the MIAC Special Teams Player of the Week.

“Our special teams came up big and they are owed a lot of credit,” said Sophomore linebacker Zach Lundquist.

Junior quarterback Jordan Becker also came to play that afternoon, completing 17 of his 31 pass attempts, including four third down passes longer than 8 yards, for 203 yards and a touchdown without throwing an interception. Becker also ran for 41 yards and a touchdown on his way to being named the MIAC Offensive Player of the Week.

Senior wide receiver Chad Arlt added to his illustrious list of accomplishments with eight catches for 109 yards. That puts his career total at 204, making him one of only six MIAC players in conference history to reach that total. No other Gustie is on that list.

Arlt also caught a 24-yard pass from Becker in overtime to set up a one-yard fumble recovery by Sophomore offensive lineman Chris “Dirty” Martinez, out of the hands of Senior running back Adam Lukes. Senior kicker Jake Holsten tacked on the third extra point of his career, giving the Gusties their second consecutive victory.

Continued on page 15

Nine Gusties were inducted in the Gustavus’ Athletic Hall of Fame this past weekend. Pictured from left to right: Tim Schwartz, Andy Micheletti, Steve McDermott, Ginny Schaefer, Sarah Edmonds Harris, Sue Erlundson Breckner, Mary Sutherland Rjerse, Heather Thorson Kittleson and Milt Brostrom

Senior halfback Ray Wilson leads Gustavus in rushing with 413 yards.