J ust about any Gustavus student would testify to the stress of upcoming finals. With final exams beginning Monday, Dec. 15 and continuing until Thursday, Dec. 18, now is the time to buckle down and get things done.

For first-years, the finals portion of the semester is uncharted territory. “I’m pretty worried about [the tests] because I have never had finals before,” said First-year Mary Cooley. Other students share similar concerns, even those who have undergone the rigorous time of testing. “This semester is probably more stressful because I am trying to get into nursing… I am trying to get my grades up because it is the last semester that matters,” said Sophomore Allie Schulte.

Adding to the stress is the fact that most students have a difficult time starting early on studying. “I always say I am going to start looking over my notes, but it doesn’t happen,” said Schulte. She commented that she crams, which is something that many students can identify with.

“Three out of the four semesters so far, I’ve had to pull an all-nighter,” said Junior Psychology Major Emma Iverson. She explained that “part of it is procrastination, and part of it has been the classes I’ve taken.” She added that she was involved in a lot of activities, and the combination of all those things made studying more difficult. “I didn’t really have a choice but to stay up until 3:00 a.m.”

Many students take up residence in the library during finals week to study and prepare for exams. “It’s always exciting when you stay up and get things done,” said Kelly Nelson and Sophomore Communication Studies Major Marissa Schon, Junior Political Science Teaching Major Andy Haakeim, Junior Communication Studies Major Maggi Sotso, and Sophomore Emma Squire.

These tips include getting a lot of sleep, staying on top of daily work (then adding test preparation at least a week before the exam), avoiding talking to peers about the exam immediately before taking it (as it increases anxiety), asking for clarification for the professor if anything is unclear, using positive self-talk to calm fears and being aware of physical tension.

The final countdown

Kayla Timm
Staff Writer

I am Icarus performances in the Black Box

Andy Setterholm
Staff Writer

Tonight is the last performance of the Gustavus Black Box Theater of I am Icarus, a one act play written and directed by Senior History Major Maggie Sotos. The play is the first completely student-created production to be performed on campus this year and has been running since Wednesday evening. All performances have been sold out.

“I’m really glad the Theatre Department gave me an opportunity to do something like this,” said Sotos. The production was funded on a tight budget from the Theatre Department as part of a new class intended for Theatre majors. The set was constructed and costumes were designed within a $50 spending cap.

The show is performed by six actors: Senior Communication Studies Major Dave Christiansen, Senior Biology Life Science Teaching Major Andy Haakeim, Senior Biology Major Nathan Heggem, Senior Political Science Major Marissa Schon, Junior Communication Studies Major Kelly Nelson and Sophomore Emma Squire.

Three of the six performers are making their debut in Gustavus theater. “It’s always exciting when you can be a part of purely student-written and directed work,” said Heggem.

After being a stage performer earlier in her years at Gustavus, both in larger mainstage productions and with LineUs Comedy Troupe, Sotos has taken on more of an offstage role in recent works. I am Icarus was originally written by Sotos as an assignment and was influenced by the character of Icarus from Greek mythology.

The website also notes that one test will not “make or break” your Gustavus career. “Realize that it is a measure of how well you know the material on that day, not your worth as a person.” Compare yourself only to yourself and remember that your family and friends will always support you. Another thing to remember is that after finals comes Christmas Break—when all of the hard work is rewarded with time off.

Continued on page 2
The play portrays high school students in a story of unrequited love, infatuation and obsession when a young man experiences romantic feelings toward a young woman who happens to be dating his friend. The unpredictable love triangle is played out in a non-linear progression, which will keep audience members guessing.

“It's a show that I think a lot more people can connect to,” said Sotos. Whether a Casanova or a McLovin', many students can recall a time in high school or elsewhere that they experienced similar feelings as the woeful souls of Lu-cas and Maren, the show’s stars.

“Even though it's a specific story, at the same time everyone should be able to find themselves in it,” said Heggem.

Despite the setting, i am Icarus does not lack in theme or depth. The show is filled with symbolism right down to the characters' costumes. Costume designer and performer Squire hinted that the set and costumes may hold a slightly more symbolic element for each of the characters.

The show has taken on a character of its own and allowed for each actor to work with some personal interpretation in his or her role. “[Student productions] can turn out to be more of a collaborative process,” said Heggem.

After composing her longest work, Sotos watched as i am Icarus took shape. “I’m very pleased with how the actors have interpreted their roles,” said Sotos. Tickets for the show are free and can be reserved at the Theatre and Dance Office. The show will be performed at 7:00 p.m. each night Dec. 10-12.

Editor’s note: Maggie Sotos is the calendar editor for the weekly.
ADMISSION CONTACT CONTEST

Over winter break and Interim, encourage someone to apply to Gustavus or talk to someone who already has. The Admission Office wants your help getting applications and promoting Gustavus. As current Gustavus students, you are the College’s best ambassadors!

Get New Applicants

$250 prize*

Category Rules:
1. Talk to a high school senior—sibling, neighbor, church member, or friend—or potential transfer student from another college and encourage them to apply to Gustavus. Tell them what’s great about your college experience.
2. By February 2, register your name and this student’s name and phone number with the Admission Office (e-mail admission@gustavus.edu, call 1-800-GUSTAVUS, or stop by our office).
3. If this student applies anytime between December 12 and February 2, you’ll be included in the drawing.
4. Connect individually with as many prospective students as possible. You can enter the drawing unlimited times and in each category.

Talk to Existing Applicants

$125 prize*

Category Rules:
1. Talk to an existing applicant who you know (who applied before December 12). Tell them why you enrolled at Gustavus.
2. By February 2, register your name and this student’s name and phone number with the Admission Office (e-mail admission@gustavus.edu, call 1-800-GUSTAVUS, or stop by our office).
3. Any Gustavus student who registers their contact with a prospective student will be eligible for the drawing.
4. Connect individually with as many applicants as possible. You can enter the drawing unlimited times and in each category.

Pick up Gustavus applications, viewbooks, t-shirts, or other materials to give prospective students. Stop by the Admission Office in the Jackson Campus Center.

* One $250 credit and one $125 credit will be applied to two different students’ Gustavus accounts and can be used for tuition, books, added meal plan, or any other charges that can normally be applied to a student account. Any prize money remaining in the account on May 31 will be applied to the next academic year or refunded (for graduating seniors only). Taxes must be taken from the prize before being applied to a student’s account. Winners will be randomly selected and contacted on February 2. Before a prize is given, we will verify that the current Gustavus student made individual contact with the prospective student.
Gustie of the Week:  
Senior Rhea Muchalla spreads social justice

During her time here at Gustavus, Rhea has been a member of the I Am We Are social justice theatre group, the Zeta Chi Phi sorority and the Womyn’s Awareness Center (WAC). Rhea is also a vocal member of Gustavus’ active political and social community.

“I Am We Are has been one of the most important groups I’ve been a part of in my life, period,” said Rhea. “It’s a great way to get out a message of social justice in such an artistic way that communicates a lot of meaning. It uses shared experiences to increase awareness.”

As an active member of the WAC, Rhea is an editor for Heterodoxy, Gustavus’ bi-yearly collection of prose and poetry written by, for and about women. “Men can contribute to it and read it as well, but it’s really a publication that’s based on women’s issues,” said Rhea.

Rhea will also co-produce this year’s performance of Eve Ensler’s *The Vagina Monologues*, a sometimes funny, always thought-provoking show that spread social justice in such an artistic way to get out a message of social justice.

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Continued on page 5

Senior Rhea Muchalla embraced the opportunities Gustavus provided by getting involved in on-campus programs that work with issues of gender, diversity and social justice.

Ethan Marxhausen  
Staff Writer

Diversity, equality, social justice: most people know what these words mean. The college environment is a great place to be active in these important issues. For Rhea Muchalla, a senior gender, women and sexuality studies and philosophy major, Gustavus has provided an opportunity to get involved in these important issues of gender, diversity and social justice through a variety of on-campus programs.

Ceramics class  
Shakes(pees) it up

Kelli Ludwig  
Staff Writer

The goal of the curriculum at Gustavus is not only to teach its students the essentials of many subjects, but also to prepare students for future careers. Some students in Professor of Art and Art History Nicole Holland’s Handbuilt Ceramic Sculpture course have begun learning an important lesson for their futures in art.

At the beginning of fall semester, four students were asked to create a sculpture to be installed in the Shakespeare Pit on campus for an extended period of time. The students considered temperature, environment and the use of space when creating these individual sculptures. They also publicized and learned how to discuss their work.

The purpose of this assignment was two-fold: first, for the students to do something that they will often run into as future artists; second, to create something that connects art to the rest of campus. The students worked all semester and are happy to have their projects completed and on display.

Nov. 17 through Nov. 24, Senior Studio Art Major Annie Pearce displayed her cluster of 200 handmade flower sculptures over the sewer grate. Pearce chose this design to represent the romance and love of Shakespeare and because she loves what a rose represents for her: beauty, love and elegance. “I love that the flowers can turn the outside: ‘a black hole, essentially,’” Pickford said. The greatest challenge for her was the time it took to get all of the pieces put together. However, she said she learned that “it is possible to do the unimaginable. I never thought I could do it all.”

Dec. 1 through Dec. 7, Sophomore Paul Bakalich had his own sculpture displayed in the Shakespeare Pit modeled after the Shakespearean play *Macbeth*. He tried to exemplify the darker, bloodier, vengeful side of Shakespeare.

The hardest part of the project for Bakalich was trying to fill the vast amount of space available. “I’ve never worked on such a large scale before, and even now I still don’t think it’s quite enough,” he said. For him, working with new elements and in a new style was challenging but expanded his art skills.

Dec. 8 through Dec. 14, Mai Yang, a junior art studio major, added an assortment of shapes—triangles, circles and rectangles—in the shape of a wavy river into the Shakespeare Pit. The river is meant to point in the direction of the pit to attract attention to it. “I never go there myself. I just want to make the campus want to see it,” said Yang.

This was a new project for Yang, but she really enjoyed the experience. The hardest part for her was all of the work and time she put in during the semester-long process.

Senior Art Studio Major Emily Pickford displayed her work with Yang on Dec. 8 through Dec. 14. Her sculpture was based on the work of Andy Goldsworthy, who emphasizes the use of natural materials and recreating the natural world. Pickford created the illusion of nature with a series of 680 small rocks in varying colors. A black rock started in the center, and the colors faded into pink on the outside: “a black hole, essentially,” Pickford said.

The greatest challenge for her was the time it took to get used to the new materials and glazes. Her greatest lesson over the course of this project was learning how to plan her time more productively and efficiently. This project will be on display through the end of the fall semester.

Each week from the end of November through December, a different ceramics student displays his or her work in the Shakespeare Pit, much like that of Sophomore Paul Bakalich’s (pictured above).

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**OPERATION GREEN SANTA**

**Green Santa**

*buy-back campaign to benefit* RecycleMania *A Gustavus Program*

Our goal is to buy back as many books as possible at the highest prices possible. The more books we buy back the more we will be able to donate to a great cause. Giving you the highest prices and giving back to the community is a win, win! Sell your books back and support our efforts.

Cash for your books, books for a cause.

**Sat,** Dec 13 9 to 4:30  
**December 15-18**  
**Mon-Thu** 8:30 to 4:30  

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**Alice Muninckx**
Oh, how the righteous have fallen

Ryan McGinty
Staff Writer

Although Righteous Kill stars two very talented actors, this flick fails to live up to the great reputations developed by them in the past.

Al Pacino did it. There. I saved you from wasting an hour-and-a-half of your life on Righteous Kill, the worst movie of the year. You’re welcome.

Righteous Kill comes from director John Avnet, the man responsible for perhaps the worst movie of last year, 88 Minutes. Needless to say, I wasn’t expecting much from his newest venture. Despite my low expectations, I tried to go into this movie with an open mind. It didn’t help.

The movie stars Robert DeNiro and Al Pacino as two gray-haired New York City police officers trying to solve the case of a serial murderer known as the “poetry killer,” named for his practice of leaving poems on the bodies of his victims. The story is told in a series of flashbacks. DeNiro’s character confesses to being the poetry killer in the present, but, of course, it isn’t as simple as that. The ending presents a plot twist so predictable I myself am embarrassed for screenwriter Russell Gewirtz (surprisingly, the writer of the excellent Inside Man). At one point near the beginning of the movie, Al Pacino literally says, “I am the killer,” and the audience is still expected to wonder who the culprit is. I have little to no respect for filmmakers who treat their audience as complete idiots.

Righteous Kill is essentially an amateur cop thriller with two legendary actors in the lead roles. It might have held some water if DeNiro/Pacino had delivered performances worthy of their own names. Unfortunately, they ended up playing caricatures of their former selves. It’s heartbreaking to see two of the most incredible actors of their time fall this far.

I have trouble finding anything praiseworthy to say about this movie, other than the fact that it stars two actors who are responsible for some of the greatest movies of all time (i.e. The Godfather, Taxi Driver, etc.). The plot is disjointed and ultimately pointless; nearly everything that happens is a cliché, and the acting is shoddy at best.

Here’s the best piece of advice I can give you: do not go see this movie. Do not waste your time. You’d be better off sitting in your dorm room doing absolutely nothing. Instead, watch The Godfather: Part II and see both DeNiro and Pacino in two of the best performances ever captured on film. Remember a better time, and forget Righteous Kill.

I give the movie 1/3 stars, but only out of respect for the work DeNiro and Pacino have done in the past.

“Gusto” from page 4 raises awareness about women’s issues. Performances will be the last week in February. Rhea is also Gustavus’ sole representative to the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (NARAL), a position that allows her to provide information about political candidates’ positions on abortion issues to both the WAC and the Gustavus community at large.

As vice-president of Zeta Chi, a sorority that focuses on issues of diversity, Rhea has had the opportunity to be a part of an active, accepting community that strives for ethnic and gender equality. “It’s a great opportunity to develop real sisterhood bonds,” said Rhea, “and it’s an extraordinary group because we appreciate each other’s uniqueness. It’s a place where we can really care about diversity.”

As active as she has been on campus, Rhea got a chance to take her commitment to women’s rights to a global stage when she traveled to Bangladesh to put together an expose on the role of women in Indian society. In her paper, she specifically cited the use of dowries, a monetary gift which a bride’s family usually gives to the groom’s family before a marriage can take place.

“I did a paper on the dowry situation [because] it’s really causing a lot of problems there,” said Rhea. “When such importance is placed on a dowry, it devalues the women. It turns them into a commodity and a burden for their families. It really creates an environment that promotes open violence and hostility towards women.”

Rhea submitted her paper to the Radical Philosophy Association and was subsequently invited to present her findings at the group’s national gathering in San Francisco.

“It was great to come back from San Francisco to a community that was interested in what I learned there,” said Rhea.

Rhea is currently applying to graduate programs to earn a doctorate in feminist philosophy, and she feels that Gustavus has prepared her for a life of activism in the post-graduate world.

“I feel I’ve learned how to challenge it to be the best it can be. I got the opportunity to interact in meaningful, challenging ways with other community members.”

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

We are apt to forget, during the pressures of the day, that God’s love is personal, unconditional and constant.

“And when you draw close to God, God will draw close to you”

James 4:8

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

Friend in Christ, Tammydeth@iac.com
‘Tis the season...

to sing and be merry, and this past weekend Christmas in Christ Chapel delivered plenty of music to the campus, with a dash of merriness to top it off. In five performances from Dec. 5 through Dec. 7, the annual Christmas concert combined the efforts of the Christ Chapel Ringers, the Gustavus Choir, the Lucia Singers, the Gustavus Symphony Orchestra, the Choir of Christ Chapel and countless individuals who worked together to create the artistic celebration.

This year’s service, entitled “Joyeux Noël,” honored France’s Christmas history. The French theme was incorporated throughout the performance, from songs sung in French to anecdotes of Lyon’s Festival of Lights. Months of preparation culminated in the night’s finale, a stirring rendition of “O Come, All Ye Faithful.”

“On the last verse every senior around me was balling. It was a momentous occasion.”

‘Tis the season...
Dear Materialism,

I am on to you, dude. We are getting close to Christ-mas, and I am aware of your plans. I refuse to let you tell people, “If you buy a Hum-mer, everyone will bow down to you.” or “Nintendo? Get with the times; PlayStation 3 is where it’s at!” Stop right now. You have turned this country into a giant money-spending machine.

I saw what you did on Black Friday, your day of rampant. I almost threw up when I saw you drive people to take a hu-man life for the sake of your pleasures. You thought you could get away with it, but CNN told me everything. What does Wal-Mart have that is more valuable than human life? You have gone too far, my foe!

Materialism, it is your fault I spent my last paycheck on a state-of-the-art back massage, it is your fault my ‘91 Ford Tempo is no longer a sweet ride and it is your fault I have trouble seeing the television unless it is bigger than 57 square inches. Everyone seems to enjoy the movie How the Grinch Stole Christmas. The honorable people of Whoville might say, “We don’t need all those materi-al pleasures to have a merry Christmas.” Unfortunately, you fire right back with your smart-)<p>

Tackling the beast

Dear Materialism

Your ways swindle us into thinking we need to buy your happiness. Must I win some-one’s love with the money I spend? You surely make it seem that way. I have spotted your presence all over society. Watch your De Beers diamond commercials. ‘The man says: Yeah... ...I just want to buy my girlfriend a super expensive diamond; otherwise, the guy who “went to Jared” might steal her away. I don’t think so, bub. Alicia Keys scoffs at the people who “need three dozen roses, and that’s the only way to prove you love them.” Ms. Keys and many others cast a keen eye on your brainwashing tactics.

OK, I admit that as adults we are old enough to decide for ourselves whether or not we should buy into your offerings. But it really clogs my chimney when you start targeting chil-dren. You’re using your evil spirit into my sister’s Barbie dolls. “I like shopping,” she says. You are conditioning our young to calculate how much money you spend before they even know how to tie their shoes. There is a web-site called Kidswireless.com where you are encouraging us to buy our little ones cute Disney cell phones. You force us to raise materialistic children. I know we live in a slightly more materialistic world than the hunters and gatherers. At certain times, I can relate to your values, and I confess that when I wake up on Christmas morning, the sight of Santa’s contribution fills me with joy. I want to give my kids and receive gifts, but we must not get carried away. How about you ease up a little and promote other values. I hear love is a pretty sweet gift to receive on Christmas (it’s a little abstract, but hey, it’s free).

Sincerely,

Kevin Matuseski

Staff columnist

The Gustavian Weekly

The Unfairness Doctrine

I spent my Thanksgiving break doing what any responsible college student should be do-ing—ignoring homework for a couple days and enjoying the things in life that one should be thankful for. Though ignoring my work is now completely stressing me out, I was glad that I took time to ponder the people and gifts in my life this year. This year, I added an unexpected item to my list of things to be thankful for—conservative talk radio.

Normally, I don’t think of it much. I really only listen to conservative talk radio when I’m driving somewhere with my dad. It’s a good bonding device.—Rush Limbaugh will mention the recent outrages of some leftist group, and Dad and I can have an entire con-ver-sation about it. This could soon change, however. I was perusing the Internet on Nov. 26, 2008, when I came across a story about how some Democrats, including House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, are try-ing to reinstate the so-called Fairness Doctrine. This policy was put in place in 1949 by a TRC abolished in 1987. Essentially, the Fairness Doctrine dictates that equal radio airtime must be given to both sides of controversial issues. In other words, there would have to be just as much liberal content as conservative content, and, to achieve that, current conservative content would likely have to be elimin-at-ed in order to make for equal time for the opposite side.

It’s a really cute idea. It re-minds me of a seesaw on the playground during recess. On one side of the seesaw is the fat bully weighing it down, mak-ing it so high for the other kids. Therefore, the recess monitors throw a bunch of skinny kids on the other end so that it bal-ances out. The seesaw achieves equilibrium, and voila, we have fairness. Three cheers for the Fairness Doctrine! Huzzah! Huzzah!

Unfortunately, we do not live in a cute little word of seesaws. We live in a world that is dis-tinctly not cute. Calling it the Fairness Doctrine is an attempt at making this policy much more fair to liberal content. Does this policy really advocating, it not fairness? I could go for the obvious First Amendment argument and show how this policy is tantamount to censorship—ships, as it gives the government involved in the editorial level. This aspect strikes me as ex-traordinarily dangerous, but I’m not going to dwell on it. If you want to hear more on that angle, take a listen to Rush Limbaugh or Sean Hannity. My concern in this scenario is more economic.

Radio is not a resource like water. It’s not something that everyone deserves equal ac-cess. You have even infused your spirit into my sister’s Barbie dolls. “I like shopping,” she says. You are conditioning our young to calculate how much money you spend before they even know how to tie their shoes. There is a web-site called Kidswireless.com where you are encouraging us to buy our little ones cute Disney cell phones. You force us to raise materialistic children. I know we live in a slightly more materialistic world than the hunters and gatherers. At certain times, I can relate to your values, and I confess that when I wake up on Christmas morning, the sight of Santa’s contribution fills me with joy. I want to give my kids and receive gifts, but we must not get carried away. How about you ease up a little and promote other values. I hear love is a pretty sweet gift to receive on Christmas (it’s a little abstract, but hey, it’s free).

Sincerely,

Kavan Rogness

Staff columnist

The Gustavian Weekly

The events of this year’s Black Friday cast a disturbing shadow on this holiday season.

The Rogness Rant

Ergo, the talk radio is largely conservative because there is more liberal-leaning content. Why? These media offer a neutral level of objectivity, but by and large, radio is a private industry. Ergo, the industry is arguably the only one that is not allowed to further agendas that promote censorship and intrusions into industry. It would be a very dangerous precedent to set. Fairness on the radio is not legislatiating airtime—it is letting demand dictate airtime. Advertisers pay money based on the current model. If the Fairness Doctrine were reinstated, radio stations could lose advertising revenue that is based on political bias. To me, this is extraordinarily danger-ous. The government should not be able to regulate an industry based on ideological stances. Even if liberal hosts dominated talk radio, I would not like the idea of such government in-trusion into private American industry. It would be a very dangerous precedent to set. Let’s make sure that politicians like Speaker Pelosi are not able to interfere with the radio industry. We need to ensure that such government interference does not affect the economy, how is it fair to destabilize an already struggling industry.
knowledge of his or her gift. Its appeal, therefore, lies in its ability to deceive and be destroyed. Wrapping paper has no intrinsic value. Why is it, then, that we are willing to spend $4.99 a roll for this stuff?

The colorful Christmas covering may seem harmless, or even friendly, but do not be fooled by its festive façade. Its innocence is as frigid as its necessity. I certainly don’t intend to undermine the element of surprise, but there’s got to be a better, less wasteful way. For that, I propose the **Weekly Wrap**—a convenient wrapping alternative that can be made out of this very newspaper (after you’ve read it in its entirety, of course).

Armed with the power of a glue stick, you too can fight the forces of paper waste. Just follow the simple instructions below to turn your copy of the *Weekly* into a snazzy holiday gift bag:

1. Glue two sheets of newspaper together.
2. Cut a one-inch strip of paperboard and glue it along the entire top edge of the newspaper.
3. Fold the top edge of the newspaper down over the paperboard, and then fold it over again so that the paperboard is wrapped inside. Glue it down. This will form the reinforced top edge of the bag.
4. Choose a box that is of the same size you would like your bag to be. Some particularly convenient box sizes include those of Graham crackers, breakfast cereals and the like.
5. Align the top (reinforced) edge of the newspaper with the top edge of the box. The length of the newspaper should only extend a few inches beyond the length of the box, so you may need to cut a few inches off the bottom of the newspaper.
6. Wrap the newspaper around the box as you would a Christmas present, leaving the top end open. Seal it with glue.
7. Reinforce the seams with Scotch tape as necessary.
8. Cut a piece of paperboard the same size as the base of the box. Glue it inside the bottom of the bag for structural support.
9. Cut two, 1/4 inch strips of paperboard, and staple the ends to the bag to form handles.
10. Fill the bag with holiday joy, and bequeath it to a deserving recipient.
11. Wash the ink off your hands, and repeat.

**Letters to the Editor**

I appreciate Andrew Evenson’s article about why schools need voucher systems, but I feel he didn’t do a good job explaining what voucher systems are. In a voucher system, the parents of a student would have a “voucher” to present to a school that their child wants to attend. The school then takes the voucher and sends it to the local or state government, and the school receives an amount of money for the voucher. The more vouchers a school collects, the more money it receives. Therefore, theoretically, “good” schools will have more students enroll and will collect more money, while “poor” schools will have fewer students enroll and collect less money.

Evenson mentioned that a problem with increased funding is that bad teachers are paid too much. Here is a theory of why this may happen: once a teacher reaches tenure (anywhere between two and six years), he/she is no longer under constant scrutiny to ensure that the students are learning and that the teacher is doing a good job. Therefore, as long as the teacher is not guilty of “gross incompetence, insubordination or immoral acts” or is not a victim of budget cuts, he/she is allowed to teach at that school for as long as it is desired. This can cause tenured teachers to refuse to keep lesson plans updated, which ends up hurting the students. So, I propose that our schools focus on ensuring that all teachers are successful in helping students learn, instead of just the recently hired teachers. This may not be the best method, but it is potentially a wiser way to help out the students and schools.

Information from “Teachers, Schools and Society,” a required text for EDU-230.

Andrew Bryz-Gornia ’11

Gustavus Students and Staff,

In Jan. 2008, I had to the opportunity to travel to the Fiji islands. While the country is home to amazing beauty, it is also home to extreme poverty. With a military coup running the government and no economic growth, many islanders are in desperate need.

In the capital city of Suva, I was able to meet with a young man named Jacob who started his own home- less shelter. While he provides citizens with food and shelter, he told me how beneficial computers would be. Individuals could develop personal skills on the computers and become more employable, combating the extreme unemployment rate. I am asking you to donate a used laptop computer to this project. I have found a group from Red Wing that is traveling to Fiji this spring and will safely deliver the computers to Pastor Jacob. If you or anyone you know are updating your laptop this holiday season, it would be greatly appreciated if you could donate your old one. It does not have to be new or fancy; it just has to work. You would be making a world of difference. Feel free to contact me for any more information. E-mail: khallora@gustavus.edu.

Thank you so much. I really hope you consider donating to this cause.

Keevie Halloran ’10

On Dec. 7, 2008, our institution once again chose to dishonor our veterans and disrespect our country by not lowering our school’s flags to half staff on Pearl Harbor Day. We are disappointed that our college continues to behave in this manner, and we are asking the administration to act responsibly and appropriately in the future with regards to this matter.

Respectfully, Ethan Marshauzen ’12

Marlo Thayer ’12

Osa Donovan ’12

Kyle Johnson ’12

Brock Tidstrom ’09

Sean Tessier ’11

Phil Cleeary ’11

Garrett Koren ’09

**The Book Mark**

Saturday is Student Appreciation Day. Open 9 to 4:30 for your shopping convenience. FREE gift wrapping, cookies, cider and door prizes. The Christmas sale will still be going on. Hope to see you there!!

The Book Mark will be Closed from December 20th through December 28th. We will have short hours of 9-2 on December 29 through December 31. Closed for New Years from January 1 through January 4th.
**Friday, December 12**

**On-Campus Movie, Righteous Kill**
7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Look, Deniro and Pacino both proved in *The Godfather* that hits on Talita, Barzinni and Moe Green are legitimately righteous kills.

**i am Icarus**
7:00 p.m.

Because when else will Emma Squire get to portray the Female Greek Chorus?

**Rock 4 Tots**
8:00 p.m.

That’s a pretty accurate description of what I received for my Christmas Day gifts when I was a toddler—a rock.

**Michael Johnson 40th Anniversary Concert**
6:00 p.m.

If I had a dollar for every year Michael Johnson performed, well golly, I’m almost halfway to a WHAM scholarship right there!

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**Saturday, December 13**

**Reading Day**

Do romance novels count as “reading”? Because I have been reading a lot about Duncan and Abigail. He is a straight-laced sea-captain with a laminated personality. Abigail is a hot-tempered baron’s daughter who will have her breast over the cover of the book, while Abigail is a drooling toddler—a rock.

**Textbook Buy Back**
8:30 a.m.

Mace and P. Diddy said that the more money we have coming in, the more problems we see. Well then, I guess that means after I sell back my books for comically low prices, I shall experience little to no problems. Thank you for the consolation, boyz.

**Christmas at the Cox House**
1:00 p.m.

This Christmas, I want cox in a box.

**Benefit for Pat and Russ Stevenson**
3:00 p.m.

They have bingo! Oh, and just FYI, four corners is making out third base.

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**Sunday, December 14**

**Textbook Buy Back**
8:30 a.m.

What? Six cents back for every dollar I put in? I thought the inequality bake sale was in November!

**Christmas at the Cox House**
1:00 p.m.

Next year the hens will host.

**Mankato Children’s Chorus Winter Concert**
3:00 p.m.

If those little scamps don’t sing the fun version of “Rudolph,” I’ll put coal in all of their stockings ... while they’re on their feet.

**Writing Center Tutoring in the Library**
6:00 p.m.

They’re gonna learn me too right gooder!

**Johnny Butters’ American Narcissism**
7:00 p.m.

The biggest narcissist since my own reflection.

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**Monday, December 15**

The Beethoven Skyline Tour
7:00 p.m.

Mankato was actually deaf in real life. Maybe listening to the artists featured at this concert will make you want to be deaf.

**Hey Gusties! Coming up …**

**Saturday, December 20**

**Nordic Skiing at CCSA Season Opener**
All Day

The meet is in Ironwood, Michigan. The name alone makes me picture some cold, lonely stretch of the Iditarod with nothing around but snow and frostbitten limbs discarded by the side of the road. GOOD LUCK!

**The Nutcracker in Bjorling Recital Hall**
2:00 p.m.

How many men have ever watched this ballet without wincing at the title?

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**Sunday, December 21**

**Women’s Basketball at Wartburg College**
4:00 p.m.

By this time in the holiday season, I’m too bloated from ‘s’mores to get up in the morning. My hats off to our Gustie athletes!

**Thursday, December 25**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS!**

Oh man, it must suck having your birthday be on Christmas; you only get half the gifts.

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**Sunday, December 28**

**Men’s Basketball at University of Puget Sound**
5:00 p.m.

Hey, while you guys are down there, tell the Californians to try separating church and state. Tell them it’s super fun, and it means full freedoms for 10% of the tax-paying population.
### MEN'S BASKETBALL

**SCHOOL** | **MIAC** | **PTS** | **O'ALL**
---|---|---|---
**ST. THOMAS** | | | 3-0
**GUSTA VUS** | | | 2-0
**ST. JOHN'S** | | | 2-0
**BETHEL** | | | 2-1
**HAMLINE** | | | 2-1
**CARLETON** | | | 0-2
**AUGSBURG** | | | 0-2
**ST. MARY'S** | | | 1-1
**ST. OLAF** | | | 1-1
**CONCORDIA** | | | 1-2
**MACALESTER** | | | 2-5
**ST. MARY'S** | | | 0-7

**MEN'S HOCKEY**

**SCHOOL** | **MIAC** | **PTS** | **O'ALL**
---|---|---|---
**GUSTA VUS** | | | 3-0
**MACALESTER** | | | 2-0
**ST. BEN'S** | | | 2-0
**ST. THOMAS** | | | 1-1
**ST. KATE'S** | | | 1-1
**CONCORDIA** | | | 1-2
**HAMLINE** | | | 0-3
**BETHEL** | | | 0-3
**AUGSBURG** | | | 0-3
**ST. MARY'S** | | | 0-3
**CARLETON** | | | 0-3
**ST. MARY'S** | | | 0-3

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

**SCHOOL** | **MIAC** | **PTS** | **O'ALL**
---|---|---|---
**GUSTA VUS** | | | 3-0
**MACALESTER** | | | 2-0
**ST. BEN'S** | | | 2-0
**ST. THOMAS** | | | 1-1
**ST. KATE'S** | | | 1-1
**CONCORDIA** | | | 1-2
**HAMLINE** | | | 0-3
**BETHEL** | | | 0-3
**AUGSBURG** | | | 0-3
**ST. MARY'S** | | | 0-3
**CARLETON** | | | 0-3
**ST. MARY'S** | | | 0-3

**WOMEN'S HOCKEY**

**SCHOOL** | **MIAC** | **PTS** | **O'ALL**
---|---|---|---
**GUSTA VUS** | | | 3-0
**MACALESTER** | | | 2-0
**ST. BEN'S** | | | 2-0
**ST. THOMAS** | | | 1-1
**ST. KATE'S** | | | 1-1
**CONCORDIA** | | | 1-2
**HAMLINE** | | | 0-3
**BETHEL** | | | 0-3
**AUGSBURG** | | | 0-3
**ST. MARY'S** | | | 0-3
**CARLETON** | | | 0-3
**ST. MARY'S** | | | 0-3

**MEN'S SWIMMING**

**SCHOOL** | **PTS** | **O'ALL**
---|---|---
**ST. OLAF** | 11 | 8
**HAMLINE** | 8 | 9
**ST. THOMAS** | 7 | 8
**GUSTA VUS** | 6 | 7
**CONCORDIA** | 6 | 7
**BETHEL** | 6 | 7
**AUGSBURG** | 4 | 5
**ST. MARY'S** | 3 | 4
**CARLETON** | 2 | 3
**ST. JOHN'S** | 0 | 1

**WOMEN'S SWIMMING**

**SCHOOL** | **PTS** | **O'ALL**
---|---|---
**ST. OLAF** | 11 | 8
**HAMLINE** | 8 | 9
**ST. THOMAS** | 7 | 8
**GUSTA VUS** | 6 | 7
**CONCORDIA** | 6 | 7
**BETHEL** | 6 | 7
**AUGSBURG** | 4 | 5
**ST. MARY'S** | 3 | 4
**CARLETON** | 2 | 3
**ST. JOHN'S** | 0 | 1

**MEN'S HOCKEY**

**SCHOOL** | **PTS** | **O'ALL**
---|---|---
**ST. OLAF** | 5 | 11
**HAMLINE** | 8 | 13
**ST. THOMAS** | 9 | 17
**GUSTA VUS** | 6 | 12
**CONCORDIA** | 6 | 12
**BETHEL** | 6 | 12
**AUGSBURG** | 4 | 10
**ST. MARY'S** | 3 | 9
**CARLETON** | 4 | 10
**ST. JOHN'S** | 1 | 2

**WOMEN'S HOCKEY**

**SCHOOL** | **PTS** | **O'ALL**
---|---|---
**ST. OLAF** | 5 | 11
**HAMLINE** | 8 | 13
**ST. THOMAS** | 9 | 17
**GUSTA VUS** | 6 | 12
**CONCORDIA** | 6 | 12
**BETHEL** | 6 | 12
**AUGSBURG** | 4 | 10
**ST. MARY'S** | 3 | 9
**CARLETON** | 4 | 10
**ST. JOHN'S** | 1 | 2

**Men's Basketball**

- @ St. Mary's: W 81-62
- vs. Augsburg: W 75-40

**Women's Basketball**

- vs. Bethel: W 6-0
- Women's Hockey @ Bethel: W 2-3 OT

**Swimming**

- Junior Carrie Gunderson was named the MIAC Swimmer of the Week for her performances in the UW-River Falls Falcon Invite held at the University of Minnesota. Gunderson swam the fastest conference times of the season in both the 500 and 1650 Freestyle, the latter of which she won by more than 30 seconds. - Gustavus' Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving squads both performed well at the Falcon Invite. The men finished second, 249 points behind first place Luther College, propelled by stellar performances by First-year Josh Seaburg and Senior Kevin Horn. The Gustie women finished in fourth place, paced by Gunderson, First-year swimmer Dajana Vidovic and Sophomore Anike Erickson.

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The new face of Gustavus Football

Minneapolis Washburn coach Peter Haugen has been named the 17th head coach in the history of Gustavus football

Andy Keenan
Sports Editor

The Gustavus Adolphus College Athletic Department officially announced Peter Haugen as the new Head Football Coach for the Gusties, replacing the retired Jay Schoenebeck. Haugen has served as the head coach at Minneapolis Washburn High School for the past 15 seasons, transforming a struggling program into one of the most heralded in the metro. He comes to the hill with an 111-44 record overall, including an astounding 76-8 mark in the Minneapolis City Conference, as well as 11 city championships. His influence in Minneapolis stretched further than the football field, as he saw his players succeed in the classroom and in the community.

“It’s fair to say that Coach Haugen is one of the most well-known and respected coaches in the metro, as well as across the Minnesota State High School League,” said Athletic Director Al Molde in his formal presentation of the new coach.

“We look forward to his implementation of success and are confident that the plan he brings will see results. ...As we stand here in the [Gustavus] Hall of Champions, I look forward to shaking this man’s hand in time, as he adds to our distinguished history of excellence.”

A 1991 graduate of Bethel University, Haugen was a three-year starter at tight end for the Royals, as well as the starting goalkeeper on the ice and the crouching backstop for the baseball team.

He recognizes the importance of collegiate athletics and comes into this position with a heralded stance of returning the program to where its traditions started.

“I expressed interest in this job 9-10 weeks ago when it was posted because I was aware of the longstanding tradition this school has, as well as the reputation of the league. I wanted to get back into college football, to work with great student athletes on such a scale. It’s a very humbling opportunity,” said Haugen. “The athletic tradition Gustie to have played for coach Haugen. “The athletic tradition Haugen leaves Minneapolis Washburn after 15 years at the helm.

The other candidate interviewed for this position, former offensive coordinator Tom Brown, will reportedly step down from his position to take on more of an administrative role. Reportedly, the fate of the remainder of the coaching staff will be decided in time, but most indications point toward their return.

“We had a wonderful opportunity that we had such outstanding candidates to choose from,” said Gustavus President Jack Ohlman. “When we know one candidate so well, when he has been such an integral part of this team for as long as he has, it made for a very tough decision.”

Haugen will officially take over the position in the second week of January, after seeing his work at Washburn through. “We are going to have a focus on where we are heading with a great respect for the past.”

- Peter Haugen

Haugen returns a host of strong underclassmen and talented receivers, and three of the starting offensive line.

“We are going to have a focus on where we are heading with a great respect for the past.”

- Peter Haugen