Student Senate co-presidential elections were held Monday, March 9 outside the Marketplace. Thirty-one percent of eligible voters (743 out of 2404) turned out. Candidates were Sean Tessmer and Nick Harper, Andrew Nelson and Emily Thayer and Matt Olson and Derek Holm. Also on the ballot was a measure to increase student activity fees by ten dollars, which passed with 74 percent of the vote.

Olson and Holm were elected co-presidents with 41 percent (301 votes), followed by Thayer and Nelson with 32 percent (239 votes) and Tessmer and Harper with 25 percent (189 votes).

“The competition this year was strong, and I think Matt and I really put forth a good, honest effort to get our voices heard and our faces out there for the students to decide,” said Junior Management Major and Co-President Elect Derek Holm.

Now that the election is over, Holm is excited to start working on policies. “There’s a lot the Senate can do as a whole, and I want to know exactly what students think needs to be addressed immediately. Our platform contains lots of great ideas, such as improving Senate’s financial situation or reworking the Dive. I’m really curious to hear what types of policies students want us to look at,” said Junior Management Major and Co-President Elect Derek Holm.

The pamphlets stated that candidates Emily Thayer and Andrew Nelson were from Minnesota, when, in fact, Thayer is from Wisconsin and Nelson is originally from South Carolina.

The Election Committee determined sanctions in response to this violation. “The sanctions we decided on were to have the Tessmer/Harper Campaign remove all posters from the Campus Center one day early, to not allow the campaign to distribute campaign materials in front of the Campus Center on election day and to send out an e-mail alerting the student body of the violation,” said Student Senate Election Committee Chair and Senior Accounting Major Andrew Evenson.

“I wish Matt and Derek luck and look forward to seeing what they do over the next year,” said Sophomore Religion and Political Science Major and Co-Presidential Candidate Sean Tessmer.

A bit of controversy occurred just days before the election when the Harper and Tessmer campaign distributed pamphlets on tables in the Evelyn Young Dining Room sometime on Friday afternoon without getting the proper approval from the Student Activities Office. Not only were the pamphlets wrongly distributed, but they also contained false information.

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“It is regrettable that the situation arose, but the rules exist to be applied equally to everyone. … It’s too bad that those problems even came about. I think it just distracted students from the real issues facing Gustavus,” said Junior Scandinavian Studies Major and Co-Presidential Candidate Andrew Nelson.

When asked if this violation affected the election results, Junior Political Science major and Co-Presidential Candidate Harper said, “It’s quite possible. I think Senate elections are too heavily influenced by voters being uninformed about the issues and critical matters. Too many students vote on who has the fanciest posters, or they vote for their friend or what a single, vague e-mail says. Too many voters fail to become informed of all the candidates, their plans and their qualifications.”

Also voted on was a $10 increase in student government fee. The yes vote garnered 74 percent of students, while 26 percent voted no. According to an e-mail sent out by Evenson, “This voter-approved recommendation will now be given to the Budget Committee of the college for consideration.”

This fee would provide Student Senate with an extra $25,000 to give to student organizations and pay for student services.
Two Gustavus students were cited for underage consumption by Safety and Security and the Saint Peter Police Department. They were also charged with failure to comply with a college official.

A student while in Pittman Hall was cited by Safety and Security for underage consumption of alcohol.

Monday, March 2
Lost keys were reported to Safety and Security.

Tuesday, March 3
Missing Weekly newspapers were reported to Safety and Security.

Saturday, March 7
There was a hit and run accident in Campus Drive parking lot N. One person was arrested for DUI, and the passenger was issued a citation for underage consumption.

Two students in the area of Sohre Hall were cited by Safety and Security for underage consumption of alcohol.

A Dining service employee reported that a gasoline can was discovered under one of the dining room tables.

A student was issued a citation for underage consumption from the SPPD. The student was also charged with failure to comply with a college official, simple assault and underage consumption.

A student while in Uhler Hall was cited by Safety and Security for underage consumption of alcohol. Another student was cited for a Social Host violation.

Tip of the Week:
Spring Break Parking: Vehicles left unattended on campus must be parked in the Campus Drive lot (gravel lot) north of Southwest Hall. In the event that this lot becomes full, park in the Bjorling lot (gravel lot) west of the music building. Any vehicle not moved to one of these two locations during spring break will be subject to towing at the owner’s expense.

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**WEEKLY Safety and Security Report**

**Sunday, March 1**
Two Gustavus students were cited for underage consumption by Safety and Security and the Saint Peter Police Department. They were also charged with failure to comply with a college official.

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Two Gustavus students were arrested by the SPPD for damaging vehicles in the Wahlstrom parking lot and underage alcohol consumption.

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A student was issued a citation for underage consumption from the SPPD. The student was also charged with failure to comply with a college official, simple assault and underage consumption.

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**Ying Quartet to perfom in Bjorling**

Kayla Timm  
Staff writer

On Saturday, March 14, from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m., the Ying Quartet will play in the Bjorling Recital Hall. The quartet is composed of siblings Timothy, Janet, Philip and David Ying. The Gustavus website says that “the Ying Quartet has earned high recognition for its brilliant string quartet concert performances.” Additionally, “the Los Angeles Times review raved that the quartet has come as close to the ideal as possible, delivering chamber music of astonishing and refreshing exaltation and exhilaration.”

Some members of the Gustavus community are very excited for the opportunity to have the quartet on campus. “I’ve been looking forward to bringing the Ying Quartet to the campus for a few years. I heard them play once and have had them on my short list for the Artist Series since that time,” said Al Behrends, director of the Fine Arts Program.

Gustavus’ Global Insight Program was the impetus for bringing the quartet to campus. “The Global Insight Program and its concentration on China this year provided the best opportunity to showcase this wonderful young quartet,” said Behrends. “Although the quartet [members do] not live in China, they do a great deal of traditional Chinese music, and I have asked them to program one half of this program with Chinese music.”

Senior English Major Maren Meyer is also eager to hear the performance. “As a violinist I’m very excited for the Ying Quartet. It’s nice that Gustavus is active in bringing in professional and semi-professional groups. I went to the quartet that was brought to Gustavus last year and think that there’s such a great dynamic between the string players in a quartet,” said Meyer.

The quartet’s performance is an event that several people think students should consider attending. “I suggest going to anyone [who] enjoys music,” said Meyer. Meyer and others are looking forward to seeing this talented group.

The concert is free for members of the Gustavus community.

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

If you are interested in publishing an ad with The Gustavian Weekly, please contact our ad manager, Christine Wicker, at admanager@gustavus.edu

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**SUBMITTED**
SART provides outlet for those in need

Kevin Matuseski
Staff writer

Si
tual assault is a topic that makes some people uncomfort-
ate. It happens on many college campuses across the U.S.,
and Gustavus is no exception. Sexual assault is often a hidden
problem, something that goes on behind the scenes, but sexual
assaults are more common than one might think.

If you are not a victim, you might believe it rarely happens,
and if you are a victim, you might feel alone with nowhere to
turn. The study “The Sexual Victimization of College Women,”
funded by the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics
calculated that over the course of a five-year college career, between
1/4 and 1/5 of college women will experience rape or attempted rape.

As part of Gustavus’ college-wide initiative for risk reduction, the school has organized the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). This team is made up of adult faculty and staff members from different offices around the Gustavus campus. Members consist of Patty Dawson from Health Services, Sara Sletten from the Community Service Center, Andrea Junso from the Student Activities Office and Jason Stratman from Environmental Health and Safety.

SART is a newly implemented response system that helps organize professional resources in a way that better serves the needs of students. It was developed to provide greater awareness and access for reporting sexual assault and violence on the Gustavus campus. The network of diverse and strong individuals on campus allows for more students to be aware of services on campus allows for more students to be aware of services that pertain to sexual assault. As an advocate through Crime Victim Services, I think SART simply adds to a culture that seeks to end sexual assault and violence on the Gustavus campus.

SART was created for anyone—anyone from a family friend to a stranger—or even someone who is just being pressured into unwanted advances. It happened on many campuses across the U.S., and Gustavus is no exception.

Prevention and risk reduction focuses on the potential perpetrator, and risk reduction focuses on the potential victim. The following are some risk reduction tips from SART:

- Meet new acquaintances in public places; use the “Buddy System”; if you feel you are being pressured into unwanted sex, say something as soon as you can; familiarize yourself with security services available; if your date doesn’t listen to you, leave; convey strongly that you expect your rights to be respected; make known your sexual limits; don’t tag keys with easy-to-decipher labels or locations.

Remember that regardless of how many risk reduction tactics sexual assault survivors may attempt, nothing they do or say excuses the assailant.

If you or someone you know is a victim of sexual assault, SART encourages you to contact a SART member directly, or call Safety and Security (58888). You can call Safety and Security 24 hours a day and ask to speak with a SART member. Safety and Security does not ask callers for any information unless they need to leave a phone number so a SART member can contact you.

For students who may not be comfortable using the on-campus SART resources, Gustavus has developed collaborative working relationships with local off-campus resources, including Crime Victim Services, Inc. (24 hour crisis hotline: 1-800-630-1425, or www.crimevictimservices.org) and the St. Peter Police Department (507-931-1550).

The SART team’s goal is to provide as many options as possible to get students the help they need.

Senior Political Science Major Laura Danielson said, “I think SART is a great resource for the Gustavus campus. The network of diverse and strong individuals on campus allows for more students to be aware of services that pertain to sexual assault. As an advocate through Crime Victim Services, I think SART simply adds to a culture that seeks to end sexual assault and violence on the Gustavus campus.”

SART offers confidential resources for victims of sexual assault.
Where is Africa?

Dana Jackson

Author Jan Dunlap will speak and sign books at the Lind Interpretive Center from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Monday March 16. Tickets are available at the St. Peter Community and Family Education Office.

Ally Billion

Senior Communications Arts/Literature Teaching Major Rebecca Schulz talks to APM about adding classes on Africa.

Jenny Seamans

Managing Editor

Gustavus will welcome Jan Dunlap, the author of a new series of murder mysteries, on Monday, March 16. Dunlap will be talking about her most recent book and her life experiences and signing books.

The first book in the Birder Murder series is called The Boreal Owl Murder. It is part of a series of books about avid bird watcher Bob White, who stumbles over bodies as often as birds. He is a Bob White, who stumbles over the world of murder mysteries after a life full of twists and turns. After graduating from college in Denver, CO, she got married in California and later moved to Minnesota, where she now resides. After college, Dunlap attended graduate school and received a master’s degree in theology. She then published her first book, Purpose, Passion, and God: Awakening to the Deepest Meaning of Life.

In the 1990s, Dunlap concentrated on raising her four children and writing a weekly newspaper column titled Trust Me. This column focused mainly on comedic stories of her life and her family. After working in a high school career center for six years, Dunlap decided to return to graduate school and get her master’s degree in English. While she was there, she realized that she had both talent and passion for teaching composition.

Her love for writing was not the only thing that made this novel possible. Her husband and son have been bird watchers for quite some time, which led to the use of the not-so-common hobby of her main character. The book took four years to complete and should be interesting to talk about.

Those interested in bird-watching, the outdoors, murder mysteries or related are encouraged to attend. Dunlap will speak and sign books in the Lind Interpretive Center from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tickets are available at the St. Peter Community and Family Education Office.

Where is Africa?

Within the history department, we are well aware where we have weaknesses and we have ongoing discussions about what our curriculum should look like. Should our curriculum include so much European history? Should it include so much African history? The history department is really committed to broadening our curriculum,” said Sojay Rao, an assistant of history professor. “The question is about how we do that. Should we add a position to our department, or does it mean we have to take something away?”

For now, the students advocating for more classes are looking to see if students are interested. “We are trying to have a survey to see if students would be interested in taking classes on Africa,” said Schulz.

Some students have already expressed an interest. “I think it would be good if we did offer more classes on Africa. It gives us an opportunity to expand our knowledge. I think it would be good, since we are a liberal arts college and it would give us more options,” First-year Melissa Bardal said.

Some students also expressed disappointment that Africa has been left out of the Gustavus curriculum. “I think that’s sad that an entire region of the world is basically ignored by the classes offered at Gustavus. It makes no sense,” said Sophomore Religion and Political Science Major Sean Tesmer.

Rebekah Schulz talks to APM about adding classes on Africa.
Gustie of the Week:

Virgil Jones: Building a better community at Gustavus

By all appearances, Virgil is another over-involved Gustavus administrator, spending long hours hard at work and working closely with students. But there is more to Virgil than meets the eye. “I’m a champion of the underdog, and part of that is because I’m so competitive. I don’t know if a lot of people know that about me. Most people think I’m super laid back. And I am. But I like to win,” said Virgil.

“His drive to win is just one of Virgil’s hidden aspects. As a young man, Virgil experienced what he calls “a family tragedy.” His mother was unable to take care of him and his younger brother, so Virgil moved in with a foster family. The compassion his foster mother showed him has had a huge impact on Virgil.

“Even though they had so little, they gave me four things: a roof, food, clothes and love,” Virgil said. “[For me, my foster mother represents] compassion, for all the things she did for me that she didn’t have to.”

Another hero for Virgil is his grandfather, who raised 12 children while working as a maid.

“My grandmother definitely represents perseverance and hope. She had so little to work with; but she honored her responsibilities as a mother and did what she could to support her family,” said Virgil.

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- Jill Suurmeyer and Sexualities Studies and Philosophy Major Rhea Muchalla

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The Gustavus Dance Company will perform its annual spring dance concert this weekend, which is entitled Range of Motion. Performances are Friday, March 13 and Saturday, March 14 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 15 at 2:00 p.m.

The dance concert involves 28 students in eight dances. Unlike the student-led Shared Space show in the fall, the spring dance concert is choreographed by Gustavus’ faculty choreographers: Michele Rusinko, Melissa Rolnick and Cynthia Gutierrez Garner.

The concert involves a wide variety of students, not just dance majors. “We have all kinds of students who are in the show, majors and minors, people who have been dancing all their lives and who love to dance but who are not minors,” said Melissa Rolnick, visiting assistant professor of theatre and dance.

All of the students spent “huge amounts of time” on the dances, said Rolnick. “On the average, I would say each piece rehearses at least four hours a week starting often times in the fall.”

In addition to a diverse group of student performers, the concert includes a wide variety of pieces. “Often in dance concerts, there will be a thematic idea, and many pieces will be similar, but in this particular concert, each piece has a little world that it’s creating—a different flavor, different style, different music. I think audiences will find it very interesting in that way,” Rolnick said.

Included in the show is one piece, “Alpaca Dreams,” that was created by guest choreographer Charlotte Adams from the University of Iowa. Every year, the Theatre and Dance Department tries to bring in a guest choreographer.

Students felt that working with Adams was a worthwhile experience. “Working with guest artists is a huge privilege because we get so comfortable with the faculty here,“ said Senior Sociology and Anthropology Major Ryan Mather, who is also a performer in the concert. “Having someone completely fresh teaching us something—it’s really a fun experience. It’s intense, and it’s difficult to get through the rehearsal process, but it’s really rewarding in the end.”

Another unique piece in the concert is called “Ball Strategies.” “For the first section of it, there’s no music, and the dancers keep their rhythm [by] bouncing playground dodge balls. They’re in tennis shoes, so the percussiveness of their feet on the stage also helps keep the rhythm, but they never count out loud. They only use sounds made with either their bodies or with their objects to keep the time, and it’s incredible,” said Senior Dance and Biology Major and performer in the concert Christine Dornbusch.

All the dancers in the concert are members of the Gustavus Dance Company. Students must go through an audition process to be a part of the company. “There are auditions in the spring of every year and [first-year] auditions in the fall for the company,” said Emily Bulling, a senior English and dance major. “In order to be in the concert, you have to be a member of the company. Auditions are held for the pieces that will be in the concert in the fall.”

Those involved believe that people should attend the concert for several reasons. One is “to experience a different art form, because a lot of people in college and at Gustavus haven’t really experienced...[dance] in concert, and I think it’s a totally different atmosphere. It shows you the different ways to express yourself, and one of those ways is through movement,” said Jenny Broman, a junior management and communication studies major.

Another reason for attending is the fact that “the dance part of the Theatre and Dance Department doesn’t have a lot of opportunities to showcase what they’ve been working on so hard...I think the arts are a hidden gem among the Gustavus campus community,” said Dornbusch.

Tickets are available at the SAO desk or by calling 507-933-7590. They are free for the Gustavus community, $7 for adults and $5 for students and seniors.

Becky Krocak
Copy Editor

The Gustavus Dance Company performs spring concert Range of Motion

Senior Dance and Biology Major Christine Dornbusch will perform a solo piece, “Planting Forget-Me-Nots,” in the Gustavus Dance Company’s spring concert, Range of Motion.

WAIDNE SCHMIDT

Senior Dance and Biology Major Christine Dornbusch will perform a solo piece, “Planting Forget-Me-Nots,” in the Gustavus Dance Company’s spring concert, Range of Motion.
As the guitar-playing and singing half of the blues-infused rock duo the Black Keys, Dan Auerbach is used to singlehandedly carrying the melody during a performance. His solo debut Keep It Hid and the March 7 concert at First Avenue in Minneapolis were his chance to step out of the spare drum-and-guitars attack of the Black Keys in search of more melody and soul.

The Black Keys' latest album, Attack and Release, showed signs that Auerbach and drummer Patrick Carney wanted to expand their sound palette. It was bound to happen, after four albums consisting of only guitar and drums. However, something about the album felt a bit off—I wanted more raw, lo-fi wailing. So it made sense to me to hear more sonic exploration coming from Dan Auerbach's solo album, Keep It Hid, released this February.

Because I had not been to a concert since August, I was itching for some loud guitars and flashing lights and felt very content walking into First Avenue. A packed crowd was already milling about as the opener, Those Darlins, began. Although they were a bit like a gimmick band, they were self-aware enough not to let their odd lyrics and honky-tonk monotony get old. They weren’t some- thing I would go out of my way to listen to, but they were definitely entertaining and held my interest.

The second band, Hacienda, was a perfect fit for the show. Hacienda played blues rock with a clear southern influence, but managed to have a sound distinct from the other bands of the night. With the exception of some spotty vocals by their bassist, they sounded tightly rehearsed, and I was definitely excited to hear them perform behind Auerbach.

Then Auerbach took the stage, and the mood of the room changed immediately. Having seen the Black Keys twice, I am accustomed to being immediately pummeled by Auerbach’s unctouchably heavy guitar tone and Carney’s furious drumming, so it was off-putting but enjoyable to have the show start with the slow, finger-picked ballad “Trouble Weighs a Ton.” Auerbach’s amazing voice was on full display here, a feature that one can sometimes miss while listening to the Black Keys.

Then the full band lit up the room when it started the stomping, fuzzed-out, riff-oriented “I Want Some More.” The show was perfect—the sound was perfect, the lights were perfect and the band was perfect. I preferred the more rocking songs of the night—the slow soulful songs were great, too, but I think I was pining to hear the Black Keys.

Indeed, the best parts of the show were those that came closest to emulating the energy of the Black Keys. These songs left me enthralled but hoping that Auerbach will come back to the cities with Carney in the near future—or maybe the big concert at Gustavus? Think about it.

Musician Dan Auerbach broke away from the Black Keys and released his solo album in February 2009, which he performed last Sunday at First Avenue.

NEW OFF CAMPUS STUDENTS HOUSING - FALL 2009

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Campus Activities Board
A new immigrant groups settle in Minnesota as they did in St. Peter, the face of the Minnesota is evolving and diversifying. When Gustavus first assumed its hilltop perch, Minnesota’s Somali population was dominated by northern European immigrants like the school’s Swedish found- ers. The stereotype that this is a state full of WASPs no longer tells the complete story. As Gustavus students interact with the surrounding community, they have become involved with a variety of recent immi-grant groups.

“Our whole mission here at Gustavus is to create an open and understanding environment, and I believe that understanding others and their cul-tures is a necessary step,” said Sophomore Psychology Major Marni Kyllo.

Through the Big Partner Little Partner mentorship program, Kyllo meets regularly with a local Somali student. “The respect that I have for my little partner and his family comes from just getting to know them and gaining a little understanding of where they are coming from, which I believe everyone can benefit from no matter where you’re from,” Kyllo said.

Outside of Somalia, Minne-sota now holds the largest popu-lation of Somali people outside of Africa to study Somali culture or Sudanese culture or to gain insight into what’s going on,” Douglas said. “There’s a whole local way of learning about for-eign cultures in a service learning capac-ity.”

Douglas’s students regularly tutor immigrants in English, and recently members of his World Regional Geography class helped to raise money for a benefit aiding two Mankato Su-danese families who lost loved ones in car accidents.

“Somalis are not the only African immigrants to settle in Minnesota in the last decade. In addition to Somali refugees, a significant population of Nigerian Sudanese refugees have settled here as well,” said Senior Brianne Gustafson.

According to data from the Minnesota Foundation, in 1990 fewer than 5,000 Minnesota residents were born in Africa. Ten years later, the population surpassed 34,000. In 2003, the Census found that 13 percent of Minnesota’s foreign-born resi-dents were from Africa, which is a higher percentage than any other state in the country.

In addition to African immi-grants, a thriving Latino presence is maintained in Minnesota. “There is a lot of opportunity for growth,” said Sophomore Social Studies and Latin American StudiesMajor Elizabeth Culver. “Every emigrant to the United States is con-sidered a new immigrant. It is an important part of the endeavor. [Ultimately cultural voice to campus. Inter-national and Cultural Education tries to bring a broad range of perspectives to the campus. “We want to internationalize the campus. By working with students, attending classes with them, and connect-ing with them through activities at Gustavus, students learn how to work and communicate better with people of different back-grounds,” Anderson said.

Douglas hopes that in the fu-ture, Gustavus will expand the opportunities students have to work with a diverse set of people with varied backgrounds, especially recent immigrants. While Douglas recognizes a stigma is often attached to recent immigrant populations, like those from eastern Africa and Latino countries, he sees little worth in dwelling negatively on the state’s new neighbors.

“Whether you like them or not, they’re going to be here,” Douglas said. “We need to internationalize the campus. By working with students, attending classes with them, and connecting with them through activities at Gustavus, students learn how to work and communicate better with people of different back-grounds.”

A lot of the Latino little partners that we have need a big partner more than your average St. Peter family because of socioeco-nomic situations we have,” Munoz Pineda said. In addition to the benefit to the students, though, he sees a mutual ben-eft to the big partner. He be-lieves that the program is con-sisted of people. Everybody has a role and a partner. The program is designed to focus on a “reflection of one’s own values and one’s own culture that actually becomes the focus of the endeavor.” Ultimately you help yourself by learning about another culture.

While service learning is a developing component of a Gustavus education, volunteer work has a long history here. Many on-campus organizations work with immigrant populations. Once a week Gustavus students work with Latino students in an after-school mentor-ship program called Amigos. Junior Spanish Major Liam Glover co- coordinates Amigos.

Amigos helps students work with people of other cultures and ethnicities challenges the stereotypes may hold toward others.

“It teaches you not to judge immigrants as a group, just like we can’t judge Ameri-cans as a group, like we can’t judge Latinos as a group, it teaches [you] — to look beyond stereotypes and get to know them,” Glover said.

Given the opportunity to form relationships with re- recent immi-grants, Glover is con-sistently pleased with what he finds. “Most of the immi-grant population are just awe-some people,” Glover said.

In addition, Big Partner Little Partner (BPLP) pairs special ef forts into matching Gustavus students, many with a back-ground in speaking Spanish, with Latino students. Junior Psychology Major Jorge Munoz Pineda is the La-tino Communication Coor-dinator for BPLP. He helps other
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Shine on. A feminism for all of us

Paul Huff
Staff columnist

About a week ago, as part of an advertisement for The Vagina Monologues, I noticed the Women’s Awareness Center was selling T-shirts that read “This is what a Gustavus Center was selling T-shirts that noticed the Womyn’s Awareness..." I no longer think of the Womyn’s Awareness as being a part of the gender equality movement. The Gender Equality Movement is about opening a dialogue between the sexes so we can challenge and better ourselves. With these strategies, we can all unite to eliminate the corruption of the past. Some scholars argue that it is only a matter of time before gender inequality disappears.

Tackling the beast

Are we guilty of privilege?

Kevin Matsukesi
Staff columnist

I hear it from time to time. I'm not sure. People say, “I don’t have any money.” The funny thing is I have heard people say these words while holding a Starbucks White Mocha Frappucino or sitting back watching a fifty-inch television screen. I have seen people buy plates of food from the Gustavus Market Place, eat half of the food and then plop the rest on the carousels to throw away. Here at Gustavus it is easy to take our privilege for granted. I admit that I am also guilty of this infraction. Lately, though, I have been stepping back and noticing all the privileges we have at Gustavus that others across the world will never have. It is frustrating to hear, “I do not have anything.” But when you know there are others in the world who really do not have a cent, and are sleeping on the streets instead of a cozy Gustavus dorm room.

Everyone has to find his or her own way to deal with privilege, but we can do something. It can bring happiness and fulfillment to recognize the amount of potential we have. Therefore, we need to step back and be aware of our privileges. Take note of the advantages that we have and others do not. If we do this, it might be depressing at first, and there might be a little guilt involved, but it is inviting to know how much opportunity our privileges give us. We must take advantage of our cozy beds, convenient exercise facilities, delicious food and prime education, but we must also know that these advantages are not universal throughout the world. Everyone has to find his or her own way to deal with privilege, but there is always an opportunity. It could mean sipping an extra dollar at the local Applebee’s or helping build a house with Habitat for Humanity. Privilege gives us these opportunities, but it is time to get excited about them.

Sociologist Robert Max Johnson explains that “political competition, women’s individual efforts to support their own organizations, men’s remoteness from and unwillingness to defend past practices, women’s collective efforts to influence policy, the cultural weight of accumulated past changes and other strands will all continue to work toward ‘gender equality’.” With the help of all of you GEMs, equality will soon be a reality.
Andrew Evenson
Staff columnist

SATURDAY, MARCH 28 – 8:00 a.m.
Click, beep, beep, beep, beep! Slap! [Wait 7 minutes] Click, beep, beep, beep! Slap! Continue this process until 10:00 a.m.
Go to bathroom, look in mirror and ponder how hair and face can be so destroyed by pillow, get dressed in loose-fitting comfortable clothing, and leave Southwest dorm room.

Walk across chilly campus, consciously walking in a cool way, avoid deep water or mud and abandon cool walk to move across slippery ice by method of grand-mother waddle.
Reach back door of Campus Center, give obligatory acknowledgment to people I know, walk up stairs, grab most recent issue of THE GUSTAVIAN WEEK – NO WEEKLY!!!

This is the tragic story of how I came to realize that someone made a decision to censor campus news in order to present progressive students and their friends and university an unspeakably clean but incomplete image of Gustavus. We don’t know for certain who removed the Weis, Lyn, but some people suspect it was someone connected to the Gustavus Adolphus College Administrations Office. Whoever decided to enact this censorship should be ashamed. The situation left me feeling like Zen-golfer Ty Webb in the film Caddyshack who said, “This isn’t Russia. Is this Russia? This isn’t Russia.”

THE WEEKLY’s front page story that week was about Case Day and how different groups felt about it. This story was actually printed in the front page story, but I would challenge them to think of a more talked about piece of news on campus that week. No one personally never participated in the event, but everywhere I turned I was talking about it with students, coaches, faculty and staff. Like it or not, Case Day is a phe-nomenon in Gustavus culture, and any prospective student who chooses Gustavus will be confronted by it in the future. One ship of campus media only leaves those high school students less informed as to the community they could possibly be a part of.

As a private college, Gustavus has a legal right to censor anything it wants to on campus. However, I believe this censorship gives a bad image to current students who feel that Gustavus is not longer the educational center of open discussion they once believed it was.

Whomever removed the issues may or may not be concerned about the current increase in students transferring away from Gusta-vus college, which I think on student expression is not the way to attract new students and retain current ones.

Student expression does not only occur at Gustavus, which is probably why I got 2,400,000 results when I Googled it. Some New Mexico students were even suspended for protesting censorship of their school newspaper, so make sure to interest-gate the Office of Admissions if I disappear from campus.

Our private Catholic college in suburban Chicago also recently censored its school newspaper because the paper attempted to report on an alleged federal lawsuit against a university trustee. Will even bigger issues be censored in the future by the college’s administration? How can students know they will be informed about the big stories on campus? Gustavus is a wonderful school with a variety of experiences to offer students, and it should not limit its greatness by clamping down on student expression.

This brings me to my theory about the two faces of Gustavus. There is the face that students see on campus every day, and then there is the face when the college is holding alumni or prospective student events. I believe the everyday face of Gustavus is beautiful, though it isn’t perfect, and yet its imperfections can sometimes add to its character and beauty.

Removing campus newspapers, offering better food selec tion in the Market Place, only showing people the shiny new buildings and offering lavish banquets are examples of how these visitors to the college are not receiving the full Gustavus experience. Why can’t people accept Gustavus for what it is? Warts and all! Prospective students are looking for an active and engaged community, not a Disney utopia.

America is still a country where liberty and freedom are at the core of societal values. Should these not also be at the core of Gustavus’ values? How can we claim to value justice when we censor honest student expression?

John Stuart Mill put it best when he said, “We can never be sure that the opinion we are endeavoring to stifle is a false opinion; and if we were sure, stifling it would be an evil still.” My hope is that the only day the one face of Gustavus present will be an honest one, because after all, “this isn’t Russia.”

Offering perspective
Amazon is killing the book

Greg Boone
Staff columnist

Before I explain how Amazon is killing the book, or at least how it is trying to, I should admit one thing: I have never actually used a Kindle (Amazon.com’s software and hardware platform for reading electronic books), and I may come off as a total luddite for the argument I am about to put forth.

This is ironic, considering my last column was about a new social network called Twitter, a rapidly growing web service some say is destroying our ability to communicate in-terpersonally, instead focusing our attention on 140 characters of the mundane reality of daily life rather than the important or worthwhile issues of the day (an argument, by the way, with which I am vehemently disagreement). But I stand by my reactionary and possibly hypocritical view when I express my skepticism of the new digital book reading mechanism available from Amazon.

A friend of mine comes from the same sentiment that drives me to prefer the archaic and antiquated technology of vinyl albums instead of the new-fangled digital formats. While I think there is a place for digital formats, I doubt that the digital album will ever kill the album. It is convenient to have a digital copy of an album to keep on my iPod and computer, but I and many other vinyl enthusiasts will continue to buy albums because of the aesthetic appeal of the commodity or object of the music. Likewise, no matter how convenient or inexpensive a Kindle may make reading—the five or six books you pack on your transpacific flight to study abroad for a semester could fit conveniently onto the small, electronic reading machine, which, unlike paper, does not tear easily when packed incorrectly, nor will it carry the dis-tinct marks of moisture damage if it gets a little damp from sitting in your backpack while you walk to class in a rainstorm—people will still want the tactile object of the book.

It all has to do with a thing called the consumer society. When a consumer buys his or her favorite book or album, there is a certain expectation that there will be some kind of object attached to it. People want to know that the simple misuse of a deleted key can’t erase their entire music library. People en-joy having books on a bookshelf where they can see them and enjoy the cathartic page turning that comes with finishing each chapter, and the final relief of closing the book and taking that deep reflective breath when all your hard work and effort finally pays off. But there is something more, something about the size and shape of the book, the design of the cover, the smell of the fresh pages (or the distinctly different smell of an old book) and the sound of the binding cracking just slightly when you turn to the first page and read the first line; it is the ex-perience of reading that compels book buyers ev-erywhere.

I recently purchased David Foster Wallace’s bible-sized Infinite Jest, not only because I want to read it, but because of how it looked sitting there on the shelf at Magers and Quinn, weighing in at a hefty 1079 pages, and how it felt to hold the nearly four-pound masterpiece in my hands, running my fingers over the cover and appreciating the simplic-ity of the design even on one of the most complicated books ever written. The book’s existential qual-ity (aside from its sheer volume) is why I bought it instead of borrowing it from a library.

This is a reason the word “volume” can be used to describe a book. According to Oxford—where the source for all English etymology—the word has its roots in Latin and Old English identifying written works, spe-cifically “a roll of parchment containing written matter,” and has an obsolete meaning denoting the “size or extent” of a book (the meaning that led to the physics definition “amount of space an object occupies”). It is difficult to imagine separat-ing this word from its origin by ditching the printed book and
The conservative conscience

The re-energizing of conservatives

Sean Tessmer

Staff columnist

The 2006 and 2008 campaigns were devastating for conservatives, but not surprising. Conservatives were extremely angry with Bush throughout most of his presidency. He did little to progress the conservative ideals of limited government, fiscal responsibility and secure borders. Instead, he presided over a giant increase in entitlement spending (Medicare-Part D), allowed illegal immigrants to cross our borders at will and expanded government intrusion in programs like No Child Left Behind.

Many conservatives will tell you that they preferred Clinton’s time with Newt Gingrich as Speaker of the House. However you put it, the conservative movement is none too happy with the president and presidential contenders. With the seemingly hopeless situation in Washington, with the White House and both houses of Congress in the hands of liberals, you’d think that conservatives would be down and kicking themselves, perhaps even deeming their philosophy dead in America. Many commentators have taken this position over the last couple of months. I’m here to tell you that the conservative movement is far from dead. It’s just a little sleepy.

With Ron Paul’s candidacy, the country saw a re-awakening of conservatism—the likes of which we haven’t seen in a while, especially among college-age students. The response to this has also re-energized conservatives in Congress, such as Senator Mitch McConnell, Representative Robert Goodlatte and Senator Jim DeMint. These people are reinvigorating the conservative movement and are coming up with plans to implement their ideas.

Nowhere is this seen in more detail and by more people than at the annual Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) in Washington, D.C. The conference took place the last weekend of February and had conservative activists, politicians and young people come together and discuss what must be done to bring conservative principles back to government. This year was the second year I’ve gone, and I have to admit, I was blown away. There were so many great speeches and interesting ideas from everyone there that I couldn’t even begin to explain or cover them all.

The speakers presented a few especially great ideas. Ron Paul talked about his bill that would remove social issues, such as same-sex marriage and abortion, from the Supreme Court’s jurisdiction. This bill was extremely interesting to me, and if it ever got passed I wonder what the eventual court battle would look like, or if somehow Ron Paul found a way around this obvious problem. Mitt Romney talked about the troubles that the economy is in and how the Obama economic plan will make things worse. It was a common thread throughout the conference that the spending proposed and passed by the Democrats is a bad idea. Conservatives at the conference proposed a couple of smaller spending proposals that would create more jobs than the Obama plan and cost less money. Most of these proposals included tax cuts, usually corporate or capital gains tax cuts, so that companies have more money to pay more workers, or at least have money to keep paying their workers.

The biggest draws of the conference were Newt Gingrich, Ann Coulter and Rush Limbaugh. Newt Gingrich was good. He didn’t break ground on anything new, but it’s clear that he’s in his element when he’s coming up with strategies to beat the Democrats. He’s a much more gifted opposition leader than majority leader. Ann Coulter was herself, making brash comments that few other people would ever make (probably out of a sense of decency and decorum). There were people who waited over an hour to see these two speakers.

The final speaker was the most motivational, the most gifted and the most apparently speaker: Limbaugh. I spent three hours in line to see him and ended up about fifty feet away. The speech energized everyone and was incredibly well done. He used no teleprompter, just a basic outline on the podium, which is probably why he spoke for an hour-and-a-half. Limbaugh was incredible at working a room. After the conference, Limbaugh challenged Obama to a debate, with no pre-written questions or strategists, just one-on-one debating. As of the time this article was written, Obama has not yet responded. The conference was really one giant political science nerd’s dream—at least one with a conservative viewpoint.

The biggest surprise was a 13-year-old child prodigy. He’s written a book already and knows more about politics than most 40-year-olds. In fact, it sounded like a 40-year-old talking with a 13-year-old’s voice and body. It was extremely creepy. These people make me feel like I’ve done nothing with my life. On the flip side, at least there are no child prodigies within politics now. Maybe there is a future for the country. And it just shows that the conservative movement is far from dead, and is able to reach much younger constituents.

Letter to the editor

“Amazon” from page 11

switching to Kindle-esque readers for consuming books.

This is not to say that Kindles have no place in our culture. I am sure I would have much preferred taking one electronic reader with six books on it with me to China, rather than six 500-plus page novels, for example, but there needs to be some way of preserving the book for those of us who enjoy the tactile, physical experience of reading over and above the consumption of information. Perhaps the publishing industry can come to a compromise similar to one the recording industry has innovated, where the book comes with a download card for one complimentary electronic book download. A solution like this allows people like me to adopt new technologies while still honoring the consumerist desire for commodity. Plus, it would make preserving those first editions much easier.

Regarding the article titled “Smoking debate on campus,” I would like to say that a campus-wide ban on smoking would be hypocritical and wrong. As mentioned in the article, those who smoke make the decision to do so and often try to show respect for those who don’t, which I believe is sufficient enough.

But to ban smoking from Gustavus entirely invoked thought in me about the drinking policy here as well, since smoking and drinking can be relatively compared. If one chooses not to drink, he or she can file his or her housing application for a substance-free environment, attempting to stay away from alcohol entirely. This would imply that substance-free students don’t want alcohol in or around their area of residence. If the school were to enact a policy on smoking restrictions, the only logical option would be to try to follow the same scheme that we’ve implemented for those trying to stay away from alcohol, which is to allow certain areas for smoking whether it is indoor lounges or certain areas outdoors, just like how we have sanctioned different areas for those who don’t drink.

I discerned from the article that a substantial issue that non-smokers had with smokers was their exposure to secondhand smoke. I would assume that most substance-free students are not completely free from interaction with those who are drunk on the weekends (and possibly weekdays). To accommodate everyone’s rights and ideals, if a smoking ban or restrictions were to be instated to reduce secondhand smoke, then it would only make sense to attempt to prohibit drunken people from being around or near those who don’t wish to affiliate themselves with alcohol in any form. Since the latter will probably not happen, this is why I feel it would be wrong to enact a ban.

John Galt ‘11
### CALENDAR

* The Calendar Page is considered editorial. The opinions expressed herein are not the opinions of THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY, but the expressions and opinions of an immature mind. Readers are advised that none of these rants are to be taken seriously.

#### Friday, March 13

**On-Campus Movie, Seven Pounds** 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. 
Yeah, that’s about how much Lindsay Lohan gained after coming back from the plastic surgeon.

**Gustavus Idol** 7:00 p.m. 
Idol worshipping at a Lutheran school? May the mighty hand of Yahweh smite us in our beds.

**Range of Motion: The Gustavus Dance Company in Concert** 8:00 p.m. 
Bring your helmets if they perform the “Safety Dance.”

**Karaoke Night** 9:00 p.m. 
You could play Bob Dylan with the tape slowed down and no one would be the wiser.

**Grilled Cheese and Hot Dogs — Sponsored by LineUs** 9:00 p.m. 
Perfect, since the members of LineUs are wiener and make cheesy jokes.

#### Saturday, March 14

**Building Bridges Conference All Day** 
Sure to be more popular than last year’s Burning Bridges Conference. No one wants to come back after that.

**Special Spring Olympics All Day** 
For those of you interested, they need volunteers. Please call 507-386-5673. The rest of you selfish, low-life bastards can go to hell.

**Men’s Volleyball Tournament** 8:30 a.m. 
With more unsavable spikes than the Stock Market.

**Breakfast with the Easter Bunny** 9:30 a.m. 
You can have scrambled eggs with the bunny himself... but you shall have to find them first. And look out—the others are competitive.

**Erik Mahon Senior Trumpet Recital** 1:30 p.m. 
Let’s hope he doesn’t blow.

**The Amazing Race** 5:30 p.m. 
Hitler believed this was the Aryans.

**On-Campus Movie, Seven Pounds** 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. 
This title could pertain to any of the following:  
• My dog’s weight on the moon. 
• Prof. Bob Douglas’ beard. 
• Amount of excrement created from a Chipotle burrito.

**St. Peter Area Children’s Theatre presents The Boxcar Children** 7:00 p.m. 
It is a story about homeless children with no jobs and no insurance. Hey, that’s just like life after graduation.

#### Sunday, March 15

**Gustavus Wind Orchestra & Vasa Wind Orchestra in Concert** 1:30 p.m. 
If their lips get chapped from playing, they can always use Vasa-line. Get it? Hehe. Ugh, I need a drink...

**Range of Motion: The Gustavus Dance Company in Concert** 8:00 p.m. 
The “range of motion” pertains to the dancers; your job is to remain quite still.

**Jose Cole Circus** 2:00 p.m. 
Nicollet County Fairgrounds

**A Raisin in the Sun Deports** 4:45 p.m. 
The story of an African-American family struggling with racism and bigotry in the inner city. I wonder why our theatre department doesn’t put it on...

**Sacred Space** 8:00 p.m. 
If mortals have “personal space,” does God have “sacred space”?

#### Monday, March 16

**Announcement** 
Youth Sustainability Writing Competition Deadline. The topic is the sustainability of corn. The challenge will be to sustain anyone’s interest.

**Movin’ n’ Groovin’** 2:30 p.m. 
This could also describe my father at wedding receptions after a glass of champagne.

**Book Talk** 7:00 p.m. 
Author Jan Dunlap will be speaking on her new novel, The Boreal Owl Murder. I’m sure Hedwig and Pigwidgeon will read it avidly.

**Peace Studies Scholarship Information Night** 7:30 p.m. 
I dare someone to start a hate riot, just for the irony.

**Open LineUs Rehearsal** 9:00 p.m. 
LineUs. Unplugged and wide open.

#### Tuesday, March 17

**St. Patrick’s Day** 
Don’t drink too much or you might end up on the front page of THE WEEKLY.

**The Philosopher’s Guild** 3:30 p.m. 
Come on over! As Camus would say, don’t be The Stranger.

#### Wednesday, March 18

**Mom, Dad ... I’m a Philosophy Major** 6:00 p.m. 
What? Oh my God. ... What will the neighbors say? And here we were thinking we were raising an accounting major! We should have seen the signs; you were reading Jean-Paul Sartre in middle school when the other kids were reading R.L. Stine. How long have you been interested in... that... subject? Sweetheart, have you ever tried NOT being a philosophy major?

**Study Break with the Deltas** 7:00 p.m. 
A “study break” implies you have been studying.

**Sigmas and SAE Coldstone and Board Game Night** 7:00 p.m. 
For some reason I picture a nasty Hungry, Hungry Hippo showdown between Laura Danielson and Scott Broady. Game on, tigers.

#### Thursday, March 19

**Theta Dinner** 6:00 p.m. 
It will be hard to find your way to dinner through all the haze... ing. See what I did there? I made a pun! Hehehe...

**Amnesty International Meeting** 6:30 p.m. 
The Watchmen effectively proved that the only way to maintain world order and peace is via localized nuclear holocausts.

#### Quote of the Week

**Jill Suurmeyer:** Let’s all get naked and point out each others’ flaws.

**The Pickle wishes a top o’ the mornin’ to ye’**.

**Russian Tea** 4:00 p.m. 
Tea as black as Stalin’s soul...
High expectations follow Gustavus closely

With a devastating combination of youth and experience, the Gusties bring a wealth of talent to the diamond this spring

Tony Davis
Staff Writer

The Gustavus Softball team takes to the field for the first time this weekend for double-headers against Buena Vista University (IA) and UW-La Crosse at the Rosemont Softball Dome. Coming off a strong 30-8 season last year, the Gusties look to build on their success with hard work and dedication. Only three upperclassmen started last season, leaving the door wide open for improvement this year. Senior superstar Rachael Click returns for her senior season after an incredible 2008 campaign. Click led the MIAC in many batting categories, including batting average (.560), RBI (50) and slugging percentage (1.055). However, Click is quick to admit it is all about the team for her senior season after an impressive first few years of the season will be spent on the road at neutral sites, including a trip to Arizona for Spring Break. Upon their return, the Gusties will try to continue their dominance at home after going 14-0 on campus last year.

As usual, the first few weeks of the season will be spent on the road at neutral sites, including a trip to Arizona for Spring Break. Upon their return, the Gusties will try to continue their dominance at home after going 14-0 on campus last year.

One match-up sure to make that task a challenge will be the team’s first home game of the season against the University of St. Thomas on March 31. St. Thomas went 42-5 overall last season, while dominating MIAC schools with a 22-0 conference record.

“I’m excited to see how everyone has developed and the outcome of our hard work.”

-Rachael Click

Senior Rachel Click will play an integral role in the Gustavus success again this season, leading a team that has deep playoff aspirations.

Staff Writer

with a devastating combination of youth and experience, the Gusties bring a wealth of talent to the diamond this spring.
Determined Gusties pave uncharted path

In its inaugural season, the Gustavus men’s volleyball team has enjoyed its share of success.

Lauren Bennett
Staff Writer

Volleyball was created by William G. Morgan for the men of the YMCA in Massachusetts in 1895. Since then it has developed into a worldwide recreational and competitive activity. Currently, many volleyball leagues are primarily for females, but the men on the Gustavus Club Volleyball team are changing that, at least for our college community.

Founded by Senior Major Chew Vang and Senior Captains Jens Hagstrom and Scott Slarks in the fall of 2007, it has become an incredibly popular activity on campus. But the captains are interested in coming out for the team next year,” said Melville.

“The guys have worked really hard all season and have improved exponentially since the start of the Northern Intercollegiate Volleyball Conference (NIVC), which includes six schools from the MIAC. The season, which starts in October and ends in April, competes in tournaments every weekend.

“We have competed in tournaments in the following locations: Stout, Mankato (three tournaments), Eau Claire, St. John’s and Carleton,” said Hagstrom. “Our next three tournaments include the MIAC championships here at Gustavus on Saturday, March 14 from 8:30 a.m to 3:00 p.m., our NIVC Conference tournament at NDSU on March 28-29 and the Men’s DII National Tournament in Kansas City, MO.”

These tournaments are the final push for the men to show their talent.

“There is stiff competition, and we have been able to compete against these top teams during tournament play,” said Hagstrom. The Gustavus men are currently 7-7 and are looking for big wins this weekend. The team is serious and has improved immensely since last season.

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The Gustavus men’s volleyball team is now coached by Senior Captains Jens Hagstrom and Scott Slarks. The team has practice twice a week, and to prepare for the tough competition, it scrimmages the women’s volleyball team.

Currently, the team consists of seven seniors, three juniors, five sophomores and three first-years. Since it is a club sport, the team can only bring twelve or thirteen of their top players to competitions, but it is always looking for new interested players.

“We have a wide range of talent and skill level and are currently looking for anyone interested in coming out for the team next year,” said Melville. The team is not only looking to expand its player base, but also its fan base and its popularity on campus.

With the Tommies scheduled to visit Gustavus for the first time in three years, expect the Gusties to rise to the occasion. The team is serious and has improved immensely since last season.

“They have always been a big rival for us, and for a couple years now Gustavus has been the only conference team to give them a loss, so it will be nice to continue the tradition,” said Senior outfielder Emily Klein.

Don’t, however, expect St. Thomas to be the only squad Gustavus gets amped up to play. Other conference games should continue the tradition, said Se-

With most starters returning this year, a MIAC title and a spot in the regional tournament may both be in reach. “We all need to utilize our individual talents and combine them into a unified team effort,” said Click. This central theme defines the mentality for the softball sluggers, leading to the season slogan “We Not Me, Gustavus Softball, One Dream.”

Beginning this Saturday, look for Click and company to take the first steps toward making this dream of success a reality.

Junior John Lecy and the Gustavus’ Men’s Volleyball team will host a tournament this weekend in Lund.

Softball from page 14

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“All we need to do is to keep what we’ve been doing, and we should have no problems.

“Don’t, however, expect St. Thomas to be the only squad Gustavus gets amped up to play. Other conference games should draw intrigue as well, including games against rival St. Mary’s, up-and-comer Augsburg and Hamline University.

“I would say that the team that I am looking forward to playing this year is Hamline,” said Klein. “We ended up splitting with them during the season last year, and they beat us out of the tournament, so some revenge is in order.”

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A t the heart of Gustavus’ athletic program lies a talented group of dedicated student athletes competing at an exceedingly high level. Due to factors completely out of their control, the Gustavus gymnastics team does not enjoy the same coverage or notoriety that the majority of Gustie athletic programs do.

Because gymnastics is much more of a specialized sport, there is no other MIAC school that participates in the sport aside from Hamline. Due to that fact, the Gusties are forced to compete in the Wisconsin Inter-Athletic Conference, along with the Pipers and fellow Minnesota school Winona State.

“One big thing for us are the ten seniors we have on our squad. They bring a lot of experience and have been huge,” said Senior Captain Cat Osterhaus. “Because seniors make up a majority of our line-up, we have much more confidence and the leadership and positive spirit they supply only adds to our cohesiveness.”

Solid performances have been a staple of this team all season, as they won four of their six dual meets while finishing in the middle of the pack in all other events.

A week ago, the team competed in its final competition of the season in Winona at the WIAC Championships. Gustavus finished sixth overall with a score of 179.400, five points behind event leading and conference powerhouse UW-LaCrosse.

“We really pulled it all together in the last meet. We really gave it our all and no one gave up,” said Head Coach Kris Glidden. “There is a huge sense of team with this group and with their experience, we expected more, to which they delivered. There was an intense sense of wanting and you could really tell in their routines.”

On March 20 and 21, six of Gustavus’ finest gymnasts will compete at the National Division III competition, which will be held at Hamline University. A smaller squad consisting of the six seniors who won the right to compete at the National competition are preparing for next weekends events. Aryn Bell (vault), Laura Hansen (beam), Meghan Johnson (beam), Jess Dolan (floor) and Christine Askham (all-around) will represent the Gusties proudly.

Hansen was honored by the WIAC at the end of last month for her performance at the Best of Minnesota meet.

“The national meet is such an unknown. The scoring differences between here and out east are, on paper, usually 3 to 5 points higher, but at the national meet the western teams win,” said Glidden. “We need to hit our routines, need our best possible routines in order to perform at our peak.”

At the national meet, the first day is the most crucial. Only the top 14 competitors move on to the finals out of the initial 56, leaving the brunt of the importance on Friday’s events. No matter what the outcome, the Gusties have each other behind them.

“We care so much about one another, selflessly, knowing competition is bigger than just ourselves- its really about the team,” said Osterhaus. “We have such a deep sense of pride in each other as well as the program. We are so proud to represent Gustavus.”