Gusties gambling with lives

Drinking & driving on-campus

By Haven Davis
Weekly Staff Writer

Alcohol seems to be a permanent fixture on most American college campuses, and Gustavus does not appear to be an exception. The Gustavus community has always dealt with alcohol, but recently incidents of students driving while intoxicated (DWI) have added a new facet to the alcohol discussion among Gusties. DWIs are not entirely new to the Gustavus community: Safety and Security officer Dan Rosin, who is starting his ninth year here, estimates that he has seen “at least a half a dozen here on campus.”

Last year, according to Assistant Dean of Students Patti Kelly, there were three on-campus DWI occurrences. This, along with other increasing trends in alcohol use, is causing campus authorities to take a new look at how alcohol is being dealt with on campus. According to Rosin, Safety and Security does not actually give out DWIs to offenders on-campus. “We find it by more or less observing driving habits. If we smell alcohol or suspect they have been drinking, we radio for the police department, and they come up and conduct a further investigation.... The police department has the final word,” said Rosin.

The college can also become involved in off-campus DWIs. Even though these are not reported directly to the school, said Kelly, campus authorities can become aware of them through a variety of channels, including when they are reported in the newspaper. “The College reserves the right to take action for off-campus activities [and] get[s] involved in activities that put others in danger.... people who are driving while intoxicated are jeopardizing the well-being of other members of the community.”

However, even if the College does get involved in a situation concerning off-campus activities, the school may not take much disciplinary action toward a student. “Because we know that [DWIs] are serious matters and students are already going to be managing a number of things, we will coordinate our efforts with the community.”

Is Gustavus "Reconciled"?

Students continue efforts to bring Lutheran program to Gustavus

By Luke Garrison
Weekly Staff Writer

Last spring two Gustavus students created a coalition to turn Gustavus into the newest member of the over 300 Reconciling in Christ (RIC) institutions nationwide. The RIC program recognizes Lutheran congregations and institutions that welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. By joining the RIC program, Gustavus is registered as a school that doesn’t bar anyone based on their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Senior Political Science major Breton Harris, and Junior Communication Studies and Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies major Katie Mason, organized a petition that gathered 537 signatures and sent them to President Jim Peterson for review. “If it that was only the beginning,” said Harris.

Following their approval to move forward, Harris and Mason set out to form coalitions with various campus groups. Most notably of these is Student Senate, Queers and Allies (Q&A), and the Diversity Center.
WEEKLY Safety and Security Report

Saturday, Sept. 1
One student was cited for underage alcohol consumption and one student was cited for furnishing alcohol to a minor.

A student was cited for underage alcohol consumption and transported to DETOX.

Sunday, Sept. 2
Safety & Security responded to a call for medical assistance.

Friday, Sept. 7
A sexual assault on campus was reported to Safety & Security. The St. Peter Police Department is investigating.

Safety & Security responded to a report of marijuana smell in a residence hall.

A bicycle was reported missing from the bike rack outside of the Arbor View Apartments matching the description of a Raleigh blue-black-white Tara model mountain bike, woman’s frame, with a Kendra Tire on the rear and about 10 heart stickers on the handle bars.

A non-student was cited for underage alcohol consumption and transported to DETOX. A Gustavus student was cited for social host responsibility.

A student was cited for underage alcohol consumption.

Saturday, Sept. 8
A student was cited for underage alcohol consumption.

Two students were cited for underage alcohol consumption on the campus grounds.

A bicycle was reported missing from the bike rack outside of the College View Apartments matching the description of a Canondale F1500, 27-speed mountain bike, dark gray in color.

Published weekly on Friday, except during academic breaks, by the students of Gustavus Adolphus College.

Subscriptions are available from THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY, 800 West College Ave., St. Peter, MN 56082 for $35 per year. Single copies are available on campus for free.

Additional copies are available for a nominal fee and can be obtained by contacting THE WEEKLY office. Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the institution nor of its student body. The Editors assume full responsibility for editorial and unsigned material.

Letters to the Editor can be sent to weeklycommentary@gac.edu.

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Crime Prevention Tips of the Week:

1. Be aware! Recognize your vulnerability.
2. Report all suspicious persons, vehicles, and activities to the Safety & Security Department immediately, by using any campus blue light phone or by dialing 8888 from any campus phone.
3. Use the "buddy system" and watch out for your neighbor.
4. Keep your doors locked whenever you find yourself alone in a building.
5. Report lights that are out and any hazardous conditions immediately to the Physical Plant Office at x7504.
6. If you see someone being victimized, get involved and notify the Safety & Security Department.
7. Remember the location of emergency phones in academic buildings. Also, phones have been placed in various locations on campus.

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The Gustavian Weekly 2007-2008 Staff

Editor-in-Chief
Andrew Offerman
aofferman@gac.edu

Managing Editor
Hannah Wunsch
hwunsch@gac.edu

Managing Editor
Laura Groenjes
lgroenjes@gac.edu

Adviser
Ben Smith
bsmith@gac.edu

News Editor
Jake Seamans
jseamans@gac.edu

Variety Editor
Ally Pelton
apelton@gac.edu

Features Editor
Eliza Swedeborg
eswedeborg@gac.edu

Sports Editor
Andy Keenan
akeenan@gac.edu

Web Editor
Adam Bloom
abloom@gac.edu

Commentary Editor
Chelsea Becker
checker@gac.edu

Calendar Editor
Maggie Sotos
msotos@gac.edu

Photography Editor
Alex Stassen
astassen@gac.edu

Copy Editor
Peter Muellerieille
pmuellerieille@gac.edu

Copy Editor
Laura Oftstad
loftstad@gac.edu

Copy Editor
Augusta Voldstad
avoldstad@gac.edu

Copy Editor
Steven Bieloh
sbieloh@gac.edu

Copy Editor
Laura Oftstad
loftstad@gac.edu

Copy Editor
Augusta Voldstad
avoldstad@gac.edu

Copy Editor
Steven Bieloh
sbieloh@gac.edu

Copy Editor
Laura Oftstad
loftstad@gac.edu

Copy Editor
Augusta Voldstad
avoldstad@gac.edu

Copy Editor
Steven Bieloh
sbieloh@gac.edu

Business Manager
Brittany Anderson
banders@gac.edu

Graphic Designer
Jenna Seal
jseal@gac.edu

Office Manager
Raenelle Caswell
rcaswell@gac.edu

Adviser
David Kogler
“Senate’s responsibility will be to inform all Gustavus students about RIC to see how the campus feels about the program,” said Student Senate Co-President Chris Edelbrock. “This will be done through real discussion, [and] perhaps even a campus caucus, in hopes of bringing out all opinions on this matter,” said Edelbrock.

Queers & Allies (Q&A) member and Student Senate Co-President Tony Spain says Q&A’s biggest role will be to better educate Gustavus on the GLBT community and how it fits in with RIC. Spain said, “Although some Q&A members may even disagree with this movement for faith reasons, we all still believe it’s important to have everyone be more intentional about their feelings regarding the GLBT community.” He said, “Look for Q&A to promote RIC during our ‘Coming-out Week’ in the fall.”

Mason said the discussion phase of the RIC process is the most critical. “We must discuss this issue as long as it takes to gather Gustavus’ accurate opinion on RIC.” She added, “Regardless of getting RIC recognition, Gustavus must become more intentional about our stance on the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender community (GLBT) and investigate its relationship with faith on this campus.” Mason hopes all people will feel comfortable sharing their opinions, even if they may feel opposed to RIC. If discussions are in favor of RIC, the final phase of the movement would bring the case for RIC to the Board of Trustees for their approval. Many, however, are concerned about a potential negative reaction from Alumni stemming from an RIC approval. However, the Gustavus RIC coalition “hopes the focus can remain on the campus’ current desires and needs,” said Mason.

Harris and Mason also expressed a concern of their own for the RIC approval process in regards to the recent retirement announcement of President Peterson, who, to this point, has been instrumental in allowing the RIC initiative to take its course. “We hope any progress won’t be lost with whoever succeeds President Peterson, and that they will recognize the efforts and positive opinions of the current Gustavus community, if so determined, and give RIC its fair chance,” said Harris.

Look for discussions regarding RIC to take place on campus over the next few months.

For more information about RIC, visit the website of Lutherans Concerned/North America at http://www.lcna.org.

9/11 Remembered at Gustavus

The Gustavus College Republicans held a memorial for the victims of the terrorist attack on 9/11. Events began with the ringing of the chapel bells, then a candlelight vigil, a moment of silence, poetry and a few words by Sgt. John Moore SFC, who is with the ROTC program at Minnesota State University-Mankato. The College Republicans also planted flags in the shape of the Twin Towers on the Eckman Mall. College Republican President Carla Shutrop said, “We held this event to remember the tragedy of 9/11, those lives lost, and to pay respect on Patriot Day.”

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New year, new stadium, new era

By Amy McMullan
Weekly Staff Writer

After three years of planning, fundraising, and construction, Gustavus celebrated the completion of its new football stadium this past Saturday. In front of nearly 4,000 fans, the Gustavus football team kicked-off their season with a 34-25 win at the new Hollingsworth Field.

Athletic Director Al Molde had a few goals in building the new stadium. First, he wanted the new stadium to feel connected to campus and to be a family-friendly environment. The idea for a recessed field was important because it improves sightlines and also lets the fans feel as if they are “on top of the game.” Finally, he wanted the stadium to be multi-functional.

“His stadium will really serve the whole Gustavus community. Not only will all students have the opportunity to come watch a game here, but they will all graduate in this stadium as well,” said Molde.

Named after Coach Lloyd Hollingsworth, who coached Gustavus Football to eight MIAC championships on the previous field, Gustavus’ football stadium has gone through many changes since the Gusties started playing pigskin. Once named Hallander Field after its first Greens’ Keeper, Gustavus’ field has evolved with the sport, and now has artificial turf.

Director of Physical Plant Warren Wunderlich explained that this material will be much easier to maintain and more cost-efficient. Molde said that the artificial turf was chosen also because it is the current trend for football stadiums. Seven of ten schools in the Minnesota Inter-collegiate Athletic Conference currently play on turf, as well as many high schools.

But the new football stadium comes with a large price tag. The construction of the stadium, field and landscaping cost a total of $5.2 million. Of that, $4.6 million came from donors.

Wunderlich said the remainder of the cost was authorized by the Gustavus Board of Trustees.

After the opening week-end, there seems to be little controversy over the stadium.

Sophomore Jake Kruegel believes that “it was a very good investment, because it has already brought more people to the game and makes Saturdays on campus more fun.”

Sophomore John Deggerness said, “It’s a gorgeous stadium, and you could feel that people had a zest for football that we haven’t had at this school before.” Senior Music major Sam Eckberg said, “it was not a waste of money, [but that I wish] they would do similar things in other areas.”

So what’s next on the Gustavus agenda? The old stadium has already been torn down, leaving an open space for the new Social Science Center. Designs have yet to be considered, and construction won’t begin for another three years. “Since the renovation of Old Main,Anderson Social Science Center is far the least attractive building on campus,” said Wunderlich.

This is due in large part to the fact that the current SSC was originally built for a different purpose. “It was our library until 1972. It was designed as a library. There are some spaces, like the stacks, for instance, that are now offices, that were designed for a library and don’t work as well, or some might say at all, for their present use,” said Wunderlich last year.

“Parts of this story have been excerpted from last year’s “Campus Construction Zone.”

The Golden Gusties kicked off the year with a 34-25 victory against Willamette University, of Oregon, in front of nearly 4,000 fans. The opening was featured on KARE-11, the Star Tribune, and other local news media.

The new Hollingsworth Field is one step in the long-term plans for the campus.
What Safety & Security and CF’s have the authority to do

When it comes to campus authorities’ right to enter a student room in residential halls, Director of Residential Life and Assistant Dean of Students Charlie Strey said that “the College permits itself the ability to go into student’s rooms for very specific reasons. [First,] Health and Safety concerns, [second,] in close pursuit of a policy violation, [and third,] maintenance requests.” While the situation must meet certain standards before a campus authority can enter a room, both Collegiate Fellows (CF’s) and Safety & Security Officers can knock on a door or pursue a concern for any reason.

CF’s and Safety & Security have the same authority and instructions to address health and safety concerns when they may be occurring. If a student refuses to answer a door when a CF knocks, that CF does not have the authority to use a key to let themselves into a room. Once S&S is involved, though, they do have that authority.

“It’s all your property!” Lead Safety & Security Officer Mike English said. “We’re not going to be looking in closets. We’re not going to be opening doors. The only thing we’ll do is question what’s in plain sight.” This means that neither a CF, nor a Safety & Security officer, nor any other school authority has any right to look inside a fridge or a dresser without the owner’s consent.

“Staff members can [search a room] without a search warrant,” Strey said. “The thing that students misunderstand is that we can always ask, and if they want to cooperate and agree to [a search], that’s fine.”

Gustavus has its own system for issuing campus search warrants. “In the event that we are relatively certain that there is an illegal entity within a room, there is a procedure in place to get a college search warrant. There are two people on campus that can issue these warrants: myself and Hank Toutain. We use those very infrequently. Frankly, it’s been three years since the last one was done,” Strey said.

Along with increased DWIs, the blood-alcohol levels of students who have gone to “detox” have also been higher. Now the next step of college authorities is to now understand the nature of both of these increases. This semester, the Food and Health Committee of Student Senate might work with the Dean’s office and the Peer Assistants to get more information. The goal, according to Student Senate Co-President Chris Edelbrock, is to see if this is a national trend, a trend only at Gustavus, or simply a single semester that is abnormally high in violations. “How [to] approach this problem would be different for each of these situations,” said Edelbrock.

Once campus authorities have the authority to use force or effort we need to use the minimal amount of force or effort we need to use to control the situation,” English said.

“Excerpted from last year’s “The Skinny on Safety and Security” by Danielle Harms

Gustavus Adolphus College

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Get to Know Your Fellow Gustie: Matt Schueffner

Sophomore Matt Schueffner involves himself in many activities at Gustavus, including Gustie Greeters, Choir of Christ Chapel, and Proclaim.

By Erin Luhmann
Weekly Staff Writer

I have cracked my head open twice. I drove a car when I was two years old. I have swum in all of the Great Lakes,” said Sophomore Matt Schueffner. Well-practiced as a Gustie Greeter, Schueffner can create a convincing list of two truths and a lie. Before cracking this cunning icebreaker, take the opportunity to get to know a little more about the real Schueffner.

How did Schueffner choose to begin his year? As a Gustie Greeter - that hallmark of Gustavus spirit. As a first year Greeter, Schueffner divulged the source of his enthusiasm. He said, “I get to meet new people, give back a little bit to the Gustavus community, hopefully make some good memories for the first-years, and use up the vast amount of energy that I have sometimes.”

Schueffner said move-in day was the highlight of the Greeter season for him because “there was so much energy, and everything moved so fast. The excitement of it all made move-in day and Orientation a whole lot of fun.”

As he settles into his routine for the year, Schueffner anticipates Choir of Christ Chapel. This activity combines some of his favorite things: singing, traveling, Christmas celebration, and camaraderie.

Schueffner also feels a connection to the Christmas in Christ Chapel event held at Gustavus every winter. “The first time I went to a C in CC, I went to see my older sister perform in it. I feel like you don’t really realize how big and cool Christmas in Christ Chapel is until you’re actually a part of it,” said Schueffner.

Recounting a favorite memory of choir, he said, “Last year the choir took a road trip to Milwaukee, WI, which was a blast. The home-stays are the best part of the trip, because you get to meet some really cool people.”

Schueffner has pursued his ambition to travel in other ways as well. Through family trips, he has gotten a taste of England, France, Germany, Denmark, and Sweden. Aware of his good fortune, he said, “My family loves traveling. We try to do it as much as possible.” After visiting his sister during her six months abroad in Scotland, Schueffner is convinced that it is an adventure he must undertake before graduating from Gustavus.

Recognizing the hectic nature of his schedule, Schueffner makes time for Proclaim, which he described as, “a great time to take your mind off of school and focus it on something bigger.” He said, “It is great to get together with your friends and all those people, and sing, reflect, and have a great time with God.”

However Schueffner goes about his day, he now serves as another familiar face on campus. “I like the oriental food (eaten with chopsticks) and Bosco Sticks. I always come at the wrong time for those, so I never get them.”

As for favorite study places, he is hoping to branch out this year. “I will try out a few new places, like the Den, the Courtyard Cafe, and Waldo’s. River Rock is amazing as well,” he said.

In the next five years, Schueffner envisions his life as simple: “I can maybe see myself working close to my home, skiing in Colorado, and traveling a lot.”

The time has come to test your intuition about Schueffner. He admitted that he has not swum in all of the Great Lakes, but who is to say that it is something he will not eventually accomplish? Content with the present, Schueffner said, “These are the best years, and they go by fast.”
Mike Domitrz is returning to campus to give his ‘Can I Kiss You?’ presentation at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 20, in Alumni Hall. Domitrz’s appearance on campus has become a tradition ever since the Peer Assistants saw him speak at the National Peer Education Conference in 2003. After seeing Domitrz perform, they invited him to Gustavus for the whole campus to hear his views on dating and relationships. So what is it about Domitrz’s presentation that keeps Gusties wanting him to return each year? It’s everything from his personality to his attention-grabbing presentation. “His words are moving and send out a good message about respect. You leave feeling motivated, and everyone can get something out of it,” said Peer Assistant Jason Pitt. Students leave with this message: ask before you act. Sophomore Rea Kadera had an experience with this when she was mid-kiss with a guy. She pulled away quickly and asked if he wanted to be kissed. “After an awkward pause, he finally answered, ‘Absolutely!’ I felt much more confident with my rash decision thanks to the ‘Can I Kiss You?’ presentation,” said Kadera. Domitrz’s presentation does not vary from performance to performance, but that’s because his polished routine ensures that he gives his best performance every time. He feels consistency allows for a flawless performance almost every time. For those upper-classmen that have already seen it, it’s good to see it again. It’s strongly recommended for first-years, as well. “It was informative—something you don’t find at school assemblies. Go to it,” said Junior Rian Pfund.

The event is sponsored by the Peer Assistants. Other groups, including Safety & Security and The Dean of Students, will donate money to help put on the event. If you still need more convincing, then maybe knowing free t-shirts will be given to the first 100 people at the door will do it.

Teatro del Pueblo is coming to Gustavus in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month.

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Gustavus Diversity Center and the Orgullo Latino Association (OLAS) are hosting a non-profit Latin American theatre company entitled “Teatro del Pueblo,” an artistic group passionate about promoting Latin American culture in communities across the Midwest. They will be performing Echoes from the New World at 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 21 in the Courtyard Café. Echoes is the story of two sisters who are transported back in time and encounter important events in the history of Latin America. “I think it is both educational and fun,” said Junior Stephanie Mejia, treasurer of OLAS. “It promotes pride and talent, not just in the Latino community, but the entire community as a whole.”

Cheryl Hastings, the Administrative Assistant in the Diversity Center, also commented on the value of this performance. “It offers a glimpse into life that you and I may not know. It will certainly offer [students] a bigger perspective,” said Hastings. “It’s going to be a first for me as well.”

Throughout the show, the audience can expect to see a wide variety of skits along with great music. Also, the performance is not just in Spanish. In fact, it is mostly bilingual to assist the audience in learning more about Latin American culture. At the end of the performance, there is a short discussion so that the audience has an opportunity to learn more about Latin America. But keep in mind, “It’s a comedy show,” said Mejia. “They don’t just throw facts out. I think that Gustavus promotes diversity by bringing these types of shows in.”

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Sponsored by the Office of International Education
The Gustavus Community Service Center (CSC) was just a closet at one point in time. But, thanks to Gustavus students from the past who took the initiative to get out in the community and try to make a difference, the CSC is now receiving support from about 900 student volunteers per year. As opposed to storing buckets and mops, the CSC is home to many program coordinators, student staff, and several professional staff members who keep the Center alive and growing every day.

This year there is a new face in the CSC. Sara Anderson, a Mankato State University graduate, is the new Administrative Assistant and is excited about working in a place where so many students volunteer of their own free will. “At a lot of other colleges, you don’t see as many students volunteering unless it is required for a class,” said Anderson. “At Gustavus, it is nice to see so many students are willing to volunteer just for the sake of bettering a community.” Right now, 40 percent of the Gustavus student body volunteers in the Community Service Center, but there is always room for more.

Aside from new faces, there are new programs being implemented at the Center this year, including Trips and Activities Group (TAG) and various after-school clubs. TAG is a program designed to get kids to come play sports or games after school at the St. Peter Community Center in hopes of guiding them away from adolescent troublemaking.

CSC-sponsored activities at South Elementary and North Intermediate Schools are adopting a variety of themes this year. According to program coordinator Kari Lipke, after-school clubs are taking on new looks and are hoping to expand to both schools. “Movin’ and Groovin’” is one theme that was implemented last spring. “It is a program to get kids away from the screens (television, computers, etc.), and get them to participate in physical activities. It is basically another Physical Education class after school,” said Lipke. “Also, Story Book Club will be replacing Great Books this year.” In this group, students of North Intermediate School read certain novels and take part in a discussion led by Gustavus volunteers.

The new programs are exciting, but do not forget about favorite activities from previous years. The CSC offers programs for volunteers with just about any interest. There are groups like Big Partner/Little Partner, Habitat for Humanity, Pound Pals, Wednesday Friends, Hoffman Center, Gustie Buddies, Elders, Amigos and Study Buddies. Study Buddies, along with most of the other programs, takes place at convenient hours for Gustavus students, so even the super-involved can volunteer! Students can also sign up for one-time volunteer opportunities and receive a list of community service events through e-mail.

The Gustavus Community Service Center is located in the Campus Center, across the hall from the Career Center. Stop by anytime between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., and you will be cheerfully greeted by the CSC staff, who will help you find ways to participate that fit your schedule and interests. Volunteering boosts your résumé and leaves you feeling like you have made a difference in your community.

Volunteering is not only a challenging and rewarding experience, but it can also be enjoyable and fun. Sophomore Katie Peterson, a volunteer for the program Pound Pals, goes down to the Kind Vet Clinic in St. Peter and plays with the animals a few times per month. “Playing with all the cute animals is a great stress reliever, and it reminds me of my pets I left at home when I came to Gustavus,” said Peterson. Volunteering at Gustavus is an experience for everyone. It may look like a janitor’s closet, but there is a lot more going on at the Gustavus Community Service Center than meets the eye.
The odds of getting even

This weekend’s campus movie Ocean’s 13 shows the difference between getting rich and getting revenge.

By Tom Butala
Weekly Staff Writer

Some movies are made to tell a story or convey a message, and some are made because movie executives like to make lots of money. In the case of Ocean’s 13, it appears that neither of these reasons led to its creation; it seems like this movie was created because the cast had fun making the last two and they wanted to continue. Maybe the movie executives thought it could make them some money, so they let it happen.

If it weren’t for such camaraderie, Ocean’s 13 would be a mess. The main plot, concerning George Clooney, Matt Damon, and Brad Pitt as they work together to sabotage the opening of a casino owned by Al Pacino’s character, is alright, but things get a little weird when you get beyond the big picture.

The movie’s writers worked hard to find a part in this heist for each character, but this leads to some very weird situations, such as Don Cheadle dressing up as an Evel Knievel-inspired stuntman, Matt Damon using a prosthetic nose to seduce Al Pacino’s right-hand woman, and some of the lesser members of the cast using special dice that respond to radio waves which would seem more at home in a Roger Moore-era James Bond film. There is also a secondary plot that involves a couple obscure members of the group starting a reform movement in a Mexican playing card factory, despite leading to a strike, mostly leads to confusion.

The reason that Ocean’s 11 worked so well was not just that it had so many stars and that they were up on the screen lookin’ good, but that they also all had an important role to play. Ocean’s 13 could not find things for all its characters to do, and the movie suffered from it. But if you’re looking for an entertaining movie to kill some time, you could definitely do worse. The price is right. This movie will be showing at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. in Wallenburg Auditorium.

Ocean’s 13 combines all aspects of crime, comedy, and thrill.

Matt Damon, George Clooney, and Brad Pitt star in Ocean’s 13, showing at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights in Wallenburg Auditorium.
Who will follow our leader?
News of President Peterson's plan to retire was met with sadness by members of the Gustavus community. Following the announcement a committee was chartered which will work to find Gustavus' next president throughout this year.

E. Swedenborg
Features Editor

This past Sunday two weeks after President Peterson announced his plan to retire, the end of this school year, the Board of Trustees chartered a search committee. Composed of Gustavus staff, students, faculty and members of the Board, the committee will be responsible for the hunt for Gustavus' next president.

Peterson, who finished his fifth year as Gustavus' president this spring, cited two main reasons for the timing of his retirement. The first reason he gave is more personal; Peterson wishes to spend more time with his wife and family. “We live apart most of the time, so it will be nice for us to spend more time together and have two pretty special grandchildren that I would like to spend more time with,” said Peterson.

The second reason had to do with the stage of planning currently in progress at Gustavus. “We have a terrific leadership team in place, and we have a plan that's emerging now, the Strategic Plan, so we have our directions set,” said Peterson. He added that the Strategic Plan, which is currently a statement of values and directions for the college, will turn into a campaign at some point, but this process is likely to take four or more years. “It's probably best for someone new to come in now and for me to decide to leave in another year or two,” said Peterson.

The timing of Peterson's retirement will affect what the search committee looks for when reviewing candidates. “We will be looking for someone who will be excited to come to a college where we have a team of leaders in place,” said Jim Gale, the Chair of the Board of Trustees. "We are very happy with the direction of the college, and how is this president going to bring out these values? Our selection for president will say something about who we want to be for the next five to ten years.”

According to Gale, the search process will begin with the committee discussing more in-depth what it is looking for in a new president. “We're going to be definitely advocating for student involvement at that point to give the candidates exposure to the student body and also to get feedback from the students,” said Student Senate Co-President Tony Spain. "What do we value as a college, and how is this president going to bring out these values? Our selection for president will say something about who we want to be for the next five to ten years.”

Gale expressed the importance of not only looking toward Gustavus' future, but also looking back and celebrating Peterson's legacy. "Jim has been a good friend to us,” said Gale. "We have all very much enjoyed working with him on a personal level. He has done a fantastic job for us, so the prospect of him not being here is, of course, going to create a certain amount of sadness. There certainly will be opportunities this year, probably mostly in the spring, to celebrate with Jim and Susan and to thank you. I expect that student involvement in that in that will be a appropriate as well. It is certainly the Board's intention, and I expect that it is the intention of folks from other constituencies as well, to celebrate the contributions and the legacy of Jim and Susan and, in the process of doing that, look back at the good years and look forward to the future that is possible because of what Jim and Susan have done here.”

Peterson, however, is not yet ready for goodbyes. “I'm proud of the positive direction and positive momentum that we are experiencing right now and that we are moving some of the planning initiatives forward. I hope and I think that there are a lot of people who are strongly focused on the future. That momentum is critical.”

I’ve talked to that I have a whole year left, so let's focus on the things we have yet to do and keep moving. We will worry about saying goodbye at the end of the year.
Hollingsworth Hustle

Arlt and Sieling lead the Gusties to a decisive 35-24 win over Willamette in their first game in the new Hollingsworth Field.

Andrea Keenan
Sports Editor

Head coach Jay Schoenebeck's fourteenth season at the helm of the Gustavus Adolphus football program is arguably more pivotal and thrilling than any other autumn spent upon the hill. The Gusties finished last year's campaign on a four game winning streak and ended their season with a 6-4 mark, good enough to earn a fifth place finish in the MIAC.

This past spring's graduation ceremony saw 17 seniors walk through with diplomas, 10 of whom started for the Gusties last season. The biggest blow suffered was undoubtedly on the defensive side of the ball, where they lost eight key contributors, including All-Conference linebacker Adam Muron, their entire defensive secondary, and emotional leading defensive linemen Nick David and Kory Wernerskirchen.

This season has brought in a slew of new facets to the Gustavus attack, most notably a run-and-gun style of offense designed to score points and let the most athletic players on the field win the game for the black and gold. Back for the Gusties is Senior quarterback Jordan Stolp, who is entering his fourth year as the Gustavus starting quarterback, a rarity in NCAA football. Also returning is the entire offensive line from last season, most notably All-Conference second team selection Jared Thelemann, along with Seniors Ian Ruppel, Mike Johnson, Andy Klaers and Junior Mike Klayum.

"With a quarterback returning for his fourth season as a starter and a veteran offensive line to go along with athletes like Chad Arlt and Tom Johnson and Mitch Anderson, we definitely have the types of tools to make a legitimate run in the MIAC," said Coach Schoenebeck.

Anchoring the defense will be two-time All-Conference linebacker Jared Sieling, a preseason All-America candidate along with Senior defensive ends Blake Theisen and Patrick Riordan.

Along with a new offense and a pair of new coaches, the biggest addition to the GAC football program has to be its new $4.6 million stadium. It was christened this past Saturday with its first game against the University of Willamette.

"We are extremely proud of what we have here [the new stadium]. Both as the head coach and an alum, it's overwhelming how much effort and support people were willing to give in this effort," said Schoenebeck. "It says a lot about us as a community, and the stadium is a reflection of the entire campus."

The stands were flooded with just over 4,000 people; beginning with former Gustie defensive back Brian Evans' deep, baritone voice belting the American national anthem, Saturday evening was one for the record books.

After a tough first half, the Gusties trailed 7-6 going into halftime. A Mitch Anderson kick return to the Bearcats 33 set up a touchdown pass from Stolp to Junior Chad Arlt on the next play to put the Gusties up by a touchdown. Stolp then completed touchdown passes to Junior John Retka and Arlt once again on consecutive drives, and Anderson bustled off a 12-yard touchdown run, his second of the contest. Anderson carried the ball 24 times for a total of 152 yards to go along with those two scores in the game. Willamette scored a touchdown late in the game, but it just wasn't enough as the Gusties won in their inaugural showdown on the new Hollingsworth field 35-24.

"We are a young group with a lot of potential, and I thought we handled ourselves like veterans on Saturday," said Gustie defensive coordinator Brian Bergstrom. "I thought Willamette was a very good football team that fought hard all day. It's a credit to our guys that they found a way to get it done against a good team."

Sieling led all defensive players with 14 tackles, and Junior linebacker Peter Keegan added nine stops of his own in addition to recovering two Bearcat fumbles. Stolp went 22-42 for 296 yards and three scores, but the real story of the game was Arlt. The Junior from St. Michael caught 15 passes for 221 yards and two touchdowns, a performance good enough to earn him co-offensive player of the week in the MIAC. Arlt broke the school record for catches previously held by Ryan Hoag and came seven yards within breaking the school record for receiving yards in a single game.

"I thought we played [well] for the first game," added Junior cornerback Isaac Perry. "Our offense played great and so did the defense. Our downfall was the big play and we need to work on that aspect in order to beat the good teams in the MIAC."

This Saturday, Jordan Stolp, Chad Arlt and the rest of the Gusties look to continue in their winning ways as they head to St. Paul to take on a St. Thomas team trying to recover from an uncharacteristic 0-2 start. St. Thomas beat the Gusties in week two with a score of 21-7 in Gustavus' home opener a year ago. Dating back to last season, the Gusties are 5-0 in their last five games.
STANDINGS

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Cross-country: 2006 success builds hope for 2007

Men’s cross-country heavy on underclassmen; Women look to seniors to lead

With the momentum of last season’s success behind them, the men’s cross country team looks to the upcoming season with anticipation. The team brought a successful end to last year’s season by placing eighth in the Central Region and fourth among the MIAC schools. This was just two short weeks after the team placed eighth in the conference tournament. All of these achievements made last season the team’s most triumphant since 1997.

It may be too early to tell what the team is looking like this year. Eleven first-year students join the team this year, and much of the team’s success will depend on their ability to adjust to the intensity of college level running. Some of the up-and-coming first-years have shown great potential already. Coach Friedrich hopes to employ the skills of several of them on this year’s varsity roster, including: Nick Ross, Jeremy Kuhn, and Dan Grannes.

The team still has some seasoned veterans, though. “Our men should be led by Chris deLaubenfels, Dan Foley, and John Leaf. All three have shown tremendous dedication to this program, as well as serving as a great example for our younger runners,” says coach Friedrich.

The competition this year is looking relatively similar to past years. St. Thomas, Macalester, Bethel and St. Olaf will be the closest competitors. The team’s first big meet is the St. Olaf invitational on September 15. With last year’s star runner gone, it’s time for others on the team to step up and continue to achieve the excellence that they are capable of.

This year’s women’s cross-country team is in a similar situation to the men’s. Last year’s season proved extremely successful. The team placed fourth at Conference and eighth at the Central Region Championship. The team’s now graduated all-star Hailey Harren won conference, regions, and achieved All-American by placing 8th at NCAA’s. This year without their star athlete, winning is going to be more of a ‘team effort.’ “Losing Hailey completely changes the outlook for our women’s team. We could rely on her to win and give us a huge boost. Now we must be a much deeper team from top to bottom,” coach Friedrich said.

If this is indeed a rebuilding year, the team is certainly not without the tools needed to construct a sturdy house. Coach Friedrich explains, “Our women’s team should be led by seniors Sarah Bernhardt and Laura Edlund. Bernhardt was seventh in conference last year, and Edlund has been a top runner since her first year.”

If the team is to survive this year it will also have to use the talents of rising stars such as Brooke Beskau, Megan Lundgren, Kate Reins, and Kathy Westergren. Coach Friedrich hopes they will all contribute to give the team its needed depth.

Even with the absence of Harren, Coach Friedrich is optimistic. “St. Thomas, Carleton, St. Olaf, and ourselves should be battling at the top of the conference.” Again it’s up to both the leaders of the team and the incoming first-years to do their parts in order to ensure a successful season.
Men’s soccer has pieces in place for a NCAA run
A strong contingency of returning players makes the Gusties a formidable MIAC threat

Edward A. Fahey
Weekly Staff Writer

The Gustavus Men’s Soccer team is coming off a season that ended unsuspectingly in the early stages of the NCAA tournament, when they fell 0-1 to a tough Wartburg team after a hard-earned record of 18-3-1. Although last season ended before Tim Gendron would have liked, Gendron “the Samurai” forecasted the team “would continue its amazing run and gel as a team.” The men enter this season ranked eighteenth in the NCAA.

Expectations are high, pressure is on, support is present once again, and the defending MIAC co-champions and MIAC tourney champion are hungrier than ever. Although many key components from last year’s dominant system were lost due to graduations, Senior Captains JT Johnson and Mike Butterworth feel “the team is just as solid as last year, if not more balanced due to the seemingly never-ending, talented depth on the roster.”

Senior Ben Heupel added that, “the depth of our roster supplies us with fresh legs throughout the entire game. Opponents get frustrated when reserve players enter the game with quicker legs and just as much talent on the ball. We can run them into the ground.”

Joe Hartwell, assistant varsity coach, reinforced his players’ statements by explaining that he sees “a lot of potential and room to grow for a team already performing at a great level.”

The Gusties have a tough schedule ahead facing UC-Santa Cruz, a nationally ranked team, and the always-competitive MIAC conference. Butterworth stressed that the team “will take one game at a time and improve what we need to improve before we enter the next match.”

Vander Streek scored the lone goal for the Gusties this weekend from a nice ball slide through the defense by Obermeyer. The Gusties are currently 4-1 with a national ranking of 13th best, and trust is a huge key to our success.” It was unanimous among all the players that they are looking forward to another great showing of the best soccer fans the MIAC has to offer. “I feel like we give them a boost of energy and urgency when we strongly encourage them from the sidelines” said Junior Andrew Krech, an enthusiastic fan.

Gustavus got off to yet another hot start on their first road trip of the season by defeating the Simpson Storm 3-0 in the first match followed by a 4-0 man-handling of the Grinnell Pioneers. The Gusties spread the ball around well, keeping Simpson on their heels. Mike Butterworth kick-started the Gusties with a goal, served up by Ryan Beduhn from the corner, which was followed with goals from Johnson and Sophomore phenom Bret Vander Streek in the second half to put the dagger in the Storm.

As for the Grinnell Pioneers, they all got free tickets to the Mike Butterworth Show. Butterworth, nicknamed “Butters” for his smooth moves on and off the field, slashed through the Pioneers defense with the aid of Johnson and Obermeyer, who each collected assists on the way to Butters’ four well-earned goals. Butters was named to the d3kicks.com National Team of the Week for his performance.

The Gusties then headed out of town once again to compete against St. Norbert and UW-Oshkosh. The men came out with another solid win before taking their first loss of the young season to UW-Oshkosh, falling 0-2.

“Both matches were well played, physical, and emotionally demanding due to the high defensive pressure on both sides of the field.” explained Johnson.

Vander Streek scored the lone goal for the Gusties this weekend from a nice ball slide through the defense by Obermeyer. The Gusties are currently 4-1 with a national ranking of 13th best,
Despite only two seniors, the Gustavus Volleyball team strives for the top spot in the MIAC.

Erin Luhmann
Weekly Staff Writer

I t is always hard to let go of summer, but for Gustavus Women’s Volleyball players, the onset of their fall season is more than a fair trade. In addition to intense practices and free cafeteria meals, this year’s pre-season consisted of some solid first-year integration. Senior Co-Captain Andrea Kron said, “We’ve got a really solid group of returners this year that have seen a lot of playing time in the past seasons. But going along with this experience, we also have five new players on our team. Tryouts this fall were the most competitive that I’ve seen all four years I’ve been here, and I think these new players will add a lot of value to our team.” Their team chemistry solidified during a day at the ropes course in New Prague, the perfect lead into their season.

Their preseason tournament was held in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, where they went on a four-match winning streak. Eau Claire was their first opponent, a contestant that they eliminated in three games. From there, beat the University of Wisconsin-Stout, University of Minnesota-Morris, and University of Wisconsin-River Falls in ambush fashion; only three games apiece. Assessing their overall performance, Coach Kari Eckheart said, “It was fun to see the first-years and veterans come out and play very well that first weekend.” Senior Co-Captain Jennifer Thelemann, along with Junior Bridget Burtzel, were named to the all-tournament team.

As mentioned before, this year’s team is under the dynamic leadership of Jennifer Thelemann and Andrea Kron. “I expect to go to nationals and to win a conference championship,” said Thelemann, when asked about her goals for the season. Confidence is a key tactic that these captains can engrain in their team mentality. Senior Lindsey Kolden said, “With their talent, I’m confident they’ll attain great things this season.”

This past weekend Gustavus hosted the Gustavus Classics, a tournament that attracts some quality opponents. The Gusties started out strong against Martin Luther College with a brief showcase of their talent. Nebraska Wesleyan, however, proved to be stiff competition, bringing an end to the teams winning streak. To finish the tournament, the team won its match against Saint Scholastica in three games and lost to Viterbo in four games. Kron received recognition by being named a member of the all-tournament team.

Reflecting upon the weekend, Theleman said, “Losing helped us see what we need to work on as a team. Our defensive specialists worked really hard in the back row, but we still need to work on ball placement when attacking from the front row.”

Looking forward, the women play their first conference game against Augsburg on Wednesday, September 12 and Bethany Lutheran on Friday the fourteenth. Make sure to keep tabs on these athletes, because they will be representing Gustavus in a big way.

Defensive specialist Andrea Smilanich will be an integral part of the Gustie attack this season.

HEAD GYMNASTICS
COACHING POSITIONS

Ground MAGA/USAG gymnastics club, located 40 minutes southwest of Minneapolis is looking for head coaches. We offer a competitive salary with benefits.

Contact Beth Simon
wbcsimonsn@gmail.com
612-210-2794

Erin Luhmann
Weekly Staff Writer

Despite only two seniors, the Gustavus Volleyball team strives for the top spot in the MIAC.
A word from our adviser…
Our role as advisers

David Kogler
Assistant Director of Admission

On my desk, I have two mugs. One is labeled “Editor-in-Chief” (my role when I was a Gustavus student) and the other says “Adviser” (my role now along with being an Admission Counselor). The puffy-eyed adviser mug, a gift from the Gustavus staff, carries the additional caption, “I’m not responsible for this.”

This is truly for the Gustavus community, this is true. The Editor-in-Chief of The WEEKLY and his staff have the final word on the content of the paper. As the adviser, I’m not present on production nights. I have no prior review. I see the paper on Friday mornings like you do.

The (much-more-than-not) happy result of this policy that makes The WEEKLY entirely student-run, student-written (with very few exceptions, like this commentary), is the publication of a publication that meets the students’ needs as they define them and the promotion of the college, community, and as an educational endeavor.

The students decide who, what, and how to report, the students decide what’s interesting and appropriate—each decision being an important lesson, even if we sometimes disagree with the judgment. And, with this freedom, the staff of The WEEKLY has an incredible responsibility to be ethical, accurate, and responsible.

I believe each weekly staff member is acutely aware of this responsibility. The cartoonists and not day we educate one another formally and informally. We formally meet in classrooms, for review, their opinions. The editors informally talk with each other in the Market Place, post opinions over parts of this text, random thoughts on our phones.

Since there are few formal educational programs for journalism at Gustavus, the weekly staff relies on their informal education: peers guiding peers, faculty and other employers providing assistance, readers making suggestions, and occasionally outside experts being on campus (like John Biewen ’83, radio documen- tarian and guest of the Gustavus Media Board last spring). I’m very proud of The WEEKLY staff. They produce a paper that provides better coverage, reporting, and design than some professional newspapers. They publish issues a year while also being researchers, varsity athletes, senators, and managers. I’m proud to be their adviser and to be able to provide my informal feedback. I hope you enjoy The WEEKLY too. If not, page 2 of this issue—as usual—lists the names and e-mail addresses of the students who have the assignment.

As the 117th edition of Gustavus’ student newspaper begins, appreciate Tom Wexly ‘71, my predecessor, for his conversations, for its opportunity to educate, and for allowing all of us to exercise our role as advisers.

2007-2008 GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY Editorial Policy

The Following are the Editorial and Advertising Policies of THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY.

PURPOSE: THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY is a student-run, written, and produced campus newspaper that attempts to bring the community comprehensive coverage of the news and events affecting our campus. The WEEKLY is not only an extra-curricular activity, but also a service to the College community in general and the student body in particular. The editors invite interested students to become involved in the production of THE WEEKLY. Interested students should contact the editor-in-chief.

CONTENT: The editors reserve the right to make any and all decisions and editorial changes on newspaper content with the decisions being olds to the editor-in-chief. Assigned articles and photographs will take precedence over freelance material. Security reports will be published in cooperation with Safety and Security and with every effort to ensure confidentiality. The WEEKLY will strive for balanced coverage of campus life, but realizes the limitations imposed by student life, deadlines, and the availability of reporters, photographers, and sources. Suggestions concerning THE WEEKLY’s content, format, story ideas, or general improvements are welcomed through campus mail from faculty, administra tors, and students.

EDITORIALS: The calendar page is considered editorial. The opinions expressed therein are the opinions of the calendar editor(s) only. The WEEKLY Editorial is a periodically printed opinion section, intended to address campus and outside events deemed consequential. The opinions expressed in this section are of the WE- KLY Editorial Board only.

STAFF WRITING: THE WEEKLY will attempt to produce the most journalistic, well-written, and informative articles possible. The editors and community should be aware, however, that THE WEEKLY is a college newspaper and a training ground for students. The staff aims to meet professional journalistic standards but cannot reasonably be expected to succeed in all situations. Constructive criticism can help us learn from our mistakes, while ridicule is of little value. Cognizant of the potential for conflict of interest in a small student body, THE WEEKLY will strive for objectivity in its reporting. Writers with a special interest in a particular organization will not write articles relating to that organization; otherwise, an editor’s note following the article will disclose the writer’s involvement. The staff and editors will attempt to be responsive to the columnists and cartoonists to their topics but not necessarily all of the comments on issues affecting the College community and encourage others to do the same. Accordingly, THE WEEKLY encourages the submission of letters to the editor.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Space will be provided for letters to the editor. Letters will be printed as submitted unless the editors choose to delete words or portions that are in poor taste, libelous, or unnecessary to convey essential meaning. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (typed and double-spaced). The editors may condense longer letters. Letters must include the author’s name, signature, and telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. All letters received over e-mail will be verified, and must include the author’s name and telephone number. The author’s name will appear with the letter unless circumstances warrant its absence. This decision will lie with the editor-in-chief. Statements of fact and opinion in letters to the editor, editorialists, and commen- taries are the responsibility of the authors who write them and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of THE WEEKLY staff, the College, its faculty or staff or the student body. Letters must be received by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to publication.

COLUMNISTS AND CARTOONISTS: The content of the columns is presumed to be the opinions of the columnists and not necessarily that of the editors. The content of the cartoons is also presumed to be the opinions of the cartoonists and not necessarily that of the editors. While the editors respect the rights of the columnists and cartoonists to express themselves, they reserve the right to refuse any type of advertising. The WEEKLY will not accept advertising that promotes alcohol or the sale of alcohol, promotes an event where the primary activity is alcohol consumption, or encourages the excessive use or abuse of alcohol. The final decision of the intent of an advertisement’s content belongs to the editor-in-chief.

ERROS: All factual errors brought to the attention of THE WEEKLY staff will be corrected in the following issue. All corrections for any particular section will be printed on Page 2 of the newspaper.

ADVERTISING: The deadline for ads is 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to publication. Ads are only for the printed edition and no ads will be placed on the online edition. Display ads cost $7.00 per column inch with reduced rates for larger ads and regular advertise- ments. Campus advertisers will receive a 25 percent discount. THE WEEKLY’s advertising produc- tion staff works and designs all advertisements, and will include any content desired by the advertiser. Camera-ready or personally prepared ads are also accepted. Advertising will be accepted from campus sources, local businesses, and national advertisers. THE WEEKLY reserves the right to refuse any type of advertising in order to protect readers from fraudulent claims, maintain a high level of journalistic integrity, adhere to college guidelines, and best serve the WEEKLY’s primary audience. With this in mind, THE WEEKLY does not accept advertising which, in its view: degraded either sex; contains attacks of a sexist, religious, personal or reli- gious nature; makes exaggerated or deceptive offers; is of unusual layout size; or, may be confused with regular news material in appearance. THE WEEKLY will not accept advertisements for: term paper or research services, abortion referral services, personal ads involving dating, political cam- paigns supporting or opposing a particular candidate. Advertisers are required to pre-pay until they have established credit with The WEEKLY. An advertiser is considered to have established credit when four prepaid ads have been placed and payment has been received and cleared. The Editor in-chief has the final decision on any and all advertisements.

ONLINE EDITION: THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY is pub- lished online and updated with every issue. It is the responsibility of the web editor to decide which articles are published online. No advertising will be placed on the web site. All decisions regarding layout and content of the online edition will be decided by the web editor, managing editor, and editor-in-chief.
The impact of reason
You live in the wrong state

Louis Vander Streek
Weekly Staff
Columnist

This is most certainly true if you enjoy having the best political climate that has come along in years. There are now nine Republican candidates in the Presidential race and eight Democratic candidates. All seventeen of these individuals have spent days and weeks in certain areas of the Midwest garnering support for themselves and their platforms. Iowa is the center of the political world right now, and for good reason. These candidates have been to the State Fair giving soap box speeches, have spoken extemporaneously in rural towns off of back porches, and have attempted to interact with as many Iowans as possible this summer. Literally every day there is a candidate from one of the two major parties in some part of the state. If an Iowan has not seen or heard a candidate in person at this point, it is not from lack of opportunity as these candidates have criss-crossed the state.

All of this is done in preparation for a good showing at the Iowa Caucuses. Top-tier candidates will attempt to point to a decisive victory, while a lower-tier candidate might only point to a better than expected showing to boost his or her campaign. This process puts much power in the hands of Iowans, as they are the ‘first in the nation.’

However, this status may be under fire from other states that want to become as relevant in the run up to the 2008 Presidential election. Already states such as California and Minnesota have changed their primary date to February 5, or ‘Super-Duper’ Tuesday. Other states are even more ambitious. The Associated Press has reported that Michigan lawmakers have decided to move up their primary election to Jan. 15, and South Carolina has moved theirs to Jan. 19. This would then force New Hampshire, the state that possesses the first primary status in the nation, even earlier than normal, as New Hampshire state law requires its primary to be at least seven days before that of any other state’s primary. New Hampshire had previously scheduled its primary for Jan. 22, and in order to remain first, the state would need to move its primary to Jan. 8. This move would have an impact on the Iowa caucuses, which are currently scheduled for Jan. 14. Traditionally, Iowa has held its caucuses eight days before New Hampshire’s primary, meaning that if all of the states are to keep their pledges and traditions intact, then the Iowa Caucus will be held on New Year’s Day.

Is this system broken? The answer is a rather simple yes. How to fix it and how broken it is, though, are much more difficult inquiries. Solutions have been bandied about, most without enthusiasm or staying power behind them. The parties are in precarious positions in relation to the states. There are rules and penalties when it comes to primaries and caucuses, but some states are willing to flout these in order to become more politically relevant earlier in the election cycle. These states run the risk that they will be stripped of their delegates to the party’s national convention, which will not be held until August of 2008. States view this as an acceptable loss, though, as they anticipate candidates to be forced to make a good showing, regardless of delegates. Many Democratic candidates have pledged to skip the ‘rogue states’ in attempt to restore calm to the process. Of course, such action is nearly required among the lower-tiered candidates, whose limited funding is already being stretched thin in places like Iowa and New Hampshire.

Another idea, called the Rotating Regional Solution, would still protect Iowa and New Hampshire as firsts, but would divide the rest of the nation into quad- rants that would then vote for their primary on their respective dates spread across the year. The ordering of the regions would be random at first, but would then follow in a rotating manner in subsequent election cycles. Again, this would all rely on the states to comply with such an order, unless the action was taken on a national legislative level. “The Regional Presidential Primary and Caucus Act” has been brought before Congress, but even if adopted, it would not take place until 2012. Is more legislation and bigger government really the answer here?

Iowa and New Hampshire will end up being their respective ‘firsts in the nation,’ both states have too much to lose not to hold on to these positions. Constant criticism is given to these two states as well as Nevada and South Carolina (the traditional first four) in choosing candidates for the rest of the nation. Iowa may lack the racial diversity found across the rest of the nation, and it might not share the same interests as the coastal states, but this does not mean that it isn’t a good test. Iowa forces candidates to organize at a grassroots level. It forces them to relate to an average citizen who isn’t attending a $250 plate fundraiser. And most of all, it forces them to have staying power in a state that is being constantly bombarded by ads, phone calls, and visits and that is no small task.

Notes from a skeptic
Internet relationships best left offline

Erin Ge
Weekly Staff
Columnist

Let me tell you a story. For first-year orientation this year, a group of students charged with teaching the first-years about the dangers of partying. The profile was during the Open House, but only intended to be shown to Gustie, and not just the few who were in on the joke; over 150 people decided they want- ed to be Sloan friends. First of all, the completely inap- propriate amount of personal information on Susie’s profile shows that she is either ex- tremely stupid or extremely naive. Second, her profile picture shows her as someone who drinks irresponsibly and is so proud of this fact that she’s advertising it. What baffles me even more is that Susie is not even a real person. She’s not a girl from your 9 a.m. class or someone who lives down the hall from you. She is a complete stranger; yet, so many people still want to be her friend. I find it hard to be- lieve that all of these students are just so extremely shy that they can’t even make the effort to walk away from our computer screens and outside our doors to meet someone new?

A friend of my family got married last summer to a woman he had met online. Now, I’m not saying that some of those online dating services are necessarily bad; I’ve heard some positive stories about them. He, however, met his wife in a chat room, and af- ter talking for a few months, they decided to meet. Even here it might not be so bad of a story; at least he had met her in a public place so that he wouldn’t be trapped if she turned out to be a fifty-year- old woman convinced that the 25 year age gap between them didn’t matter, or looked a little too similar to someone he had seen on COPS the night before. The story goes, however, that before meeting this mystery girl, he did go on a little jewelry shopping. This allowed him to, upon setting eyes on this woman for the first time, get down on one knee and ask her to marry him. To be per- fectly honest, she could still have been a crazed criminal just waiting for him to take the initial meeting should probably be launched on the Facebook network like any other real profile.

Now here’s where things get ridiculous. Students had started ‘friend finding’ through Facebook. Gustie, and not just the few who were in on the joke; over 150 people decided they wanted to be her Sloan friends. First of all, the completely inappropriate amount of personal information on Susie’s profile shows that she is either extremely stupid or extremely naive. Second, her profile picture shows her as someone who drinks irresponsibly and is so proud of this fact that she’s advertising it. What baffles me even more is that Susie is not even a real person. She’s not a girl from your 9 a.m. class or someone who lives down the hall from you. She is a complete stranger; yet, so many people still want to be her friend. I find it hard to believe that all of these students are just so extremely shy that they can’t even make the effort to walk away from our computer screens and outside our doors to meet someone new?

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This profile included highly detailed, compromis- ing contact information along with a profile picture displaying the student (let’s call her Susie) passed out after a night of partying. The profile was only intended to be shown to first-years in the presentation during the Open House, but in order to create it, the profile had to be launched on the Facebook network like any other real profile.

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Basically, I just really don’t understand what people are thinking when they go online to find relationships. I think that most of Susie’s friends will find their friendship with her a little one-sided (being that she doesn’t actually exist), and let’s just say that my family friend’s marriage is not what I would call healthy. So while the Internet may be a good way to keep in touch with people you have actually met in person, in my opinion, the initial meeting should probably remain offline.
I was very disheartened when I came to discover the morning of September 11th, Patriot Day that the flags on our campus were not being flown at half-staff. I found this to be disrespectful to all those who lost their lives in the 9/11 attack, to all of the servicemen and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice, to those currently serving, and to those who have served. It was ordered by Governor Pawlenty on September 10th that all United States and State of Minnesota flags be flown at half-staff in honor of Patriot Day. It was only after several conversations with multiple students that the administration took action to correct this. Even though Governor Pawlenty signed the order with at least 24-hour notice, our school did not make any effort to comply until after 1 p.m.

While this is an issue that has stirred many emotions among students, it also served to point out that there is a need for better communication between staff and the student body. Without clear lines of communication, there is far too much room left for misunderstanding and incorrect assumptions. Above all, as a country we need to remember this day is not at all about politics, it is simply to remember all of those lives lost and the tragedy that took place. For all that those sacrificed, I do not think it is too much to ask to simply show respect and fly the flags at half-mast in their honor.

Carla Shutrop ’09
Chair of the College Republicans

Learning from the left

GOP's stance on gays poisons the party

The recent political scandal regarding Senator Larry Craig hasn’t gone away quite like Republican Party leaders wanted it to. GOP leaders seemed to have handled the situation in as unobtrusive a way as possible, getting Sen. Craig – potentially a major liability in the ’08 elections – to resign. Then Sen. Craig had the audacity to claim that not only was he innocent, but that he was rethinking his decision to resign! The subsequent furor from Republican leadership persuaded him to rescind his comments regarding his resignation, and he promptly resigned on Saturday. The Republican Party may be facing similar problems in the future however, as more of their members could be “outed;” the blogosphere has recently listed several more closeted Republican legislators and staffers by name. Ever since the Republican Party courted the Religious Right during their rise in the late 1970’s, they have been allies on various social issues. As a result, the Republican Party has culturally and legislatively demonized gay men and women since the 80’s. This has resulted in the creation of a strong antigay voice throughout the party, ranging from bills proposing to remove sexual orientation as a protected status in hate crime and housing/job discrimination legislation to preventing a gay couple from adopting children and a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage.

While this certainly has benefited the party thus far, it has had some unintended side effects that may give some party leaders pause as they look ahead to the 2008 election. For starters, this modern day witch-hunt that seeks to find closet gays has forced four closeted House members to resign due to scandal since the 1980’s. In addition to this, several other Republican legislators could be ousted from their position because of recent headlines. Rep. Patrick McHenry’s recently reported connection to a gay escort service in Virginia as well as his connection to a triple-murder suicide that involves several gay supporters of his has put him under the gun. Even should these reports prove untrue, they could still jeopardize Rep. McHenry’s chances of being reelected in the conservative tenth district of South Carolina, where he resides.

Sen. Minority Leader Mitch McConnell has also been cited in many blog sites as a closeted gay. McConnell has consistently refused to show his Army discharge papers from 1967. But recently, thanks to a Freedom of Information suit, the contents may finally be brought to light. The fact that McConnell was discharged from the Army after 10 days has long been attributed to rumors that he fondled another soldier. Should this hold true, as various sources and some Kentuckian officials from Fort Knox, McConnell’s training ground maintain, it could prove to have an even more grave effect on the Republican Party than the Foley scandal. While the loss of some party members undoubtedly is a tough pill to swallow, the last and most potentially disastrous consequence for the Grand Old Party as a result of these scandals is the loss of credibility with the public.

When Watergate broke out in ’72, the scandal that resulted created a huge shift away from the Republican Party. In that election, the Democrats gained five seats in the Senate and an astounding forty-nine in the House. And while these recent scandals aren’t on the scale of Watergate, the loss of credibility and respect for the GOP was ultimately their undoing in the subsequent elections.

So while this marriage of the Religious Right and the Republican Party has seemingly been a match made in heaven, creating a party that supports “family values,” the Republican Party’s consequent claims to a higher morality has made them vulnerable to charges of hypocrisy when ever a member fails to maintain up to the rhetoric. Without a doubt, the irony of losing credibility with gay sex scandals can’t be lost on the party that has demonized gays for decades.

Regardless, time will tell how much of an impact these scandals will have in the future. On top of the war in Iraq, healthcare, etc., scandals like these that discredit the Republican Party could further shift independent and GOP leaning moderates toward the Democrats in much the same way that the Foley scandal did in ’06. Not that the GOP is going to get much sympathy for their losses, at least not from me. I’ve found that my thoughts on the matter are summed up in the second half of Galatians 6:7: “For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.” Since the GOP has been sowing this brand of hate and fear mongering across the political landscape for decades, I’d have to surmise that they have only begun to get their just desserts.
Reducing the "carbon footprint" of travel

While travel can be costly to our pocketbooks as well as the environment, seeing sights such as this is worth the cost.

On the lighter side...

My fort is superior to your fort

Over the bed as a canopy. The bed is not lofted, nor do the draperies cover more than a few feet on the ceiling. This serves as a pleasant decoration, a candy; no functional purpose is met in this arrangement. Yet this pathetic excuse for a tent was referred to as a fort in our conversation.

To this I give a firm and dismissive, “Fishaw.” You have no idea what a fort is until you have seen the one situated at my conscience. It is unparalleled in its practicality and convenience. Unlike the amateur forts of my youth, this fort does not take up the entire room. Although large forts are flamboyant and will not be practical for long-lasting; walking upright becomes too difficult, and if many blankets are used, the chances of a collapse increase several fold. It is always heart-breaking to come back into one’s room and discover that a section of fortification has fallen down, thus ruining the overall effect. The causes of the collapse could be the undoing of a knot, a slight breeze, or perhaps a sibling who simply wanted their Afghan back. The point is that large, multi-sectioned forts are not advisable for us serious fort-dwellers.

So go forth, ye lesser mortals, to erect your creations.

However, that kept me from feeling carefree.

I enjoyed the drive—the stunning views of the Rockies, the classic rock stations that fuzzled and changed every three hours—but thoughts of the ridiculous amount of fuel we were pumping into the atmosphere tugged at my conscience.

I am not alone in my efforts to reduce my carbon footprint. Many fellow students, friends, and family members are also trying to make their travel more environmentally responsible. However, I don’t regret the road trip, because I fell in love with Colorado, and I realized that it was a place I wanted to treat with respect. Ideally, that’s how all travel should be.

Is there anything more liberating than hitting the open road? This summer, I drove 80 miles stretched out in front of me, music blasting, and the promise of impromptu detours through quirky little towns, I should have been overcome with a sense of reckless abandon.

My boyfriend and I were heading to Colorado with a trunk full of camping gear, a cooler full of snacks, and a tank full of gas. It was this last item, however, that kept me from feeling carefree.

The television is also viewable from over the bed as a canopy. The bed is not lofted, nor do the draperies cover more than a few feet on the ceiling. This serves as a pleasant decoration, a candy; no functional purpose is met in this arrangement. Yet this pathetic excuse for a tent was referred to as a fort in our conversation.

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* 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, September 14**

**This day in history:** 1917 -- Russia officially claimed as a republic. If this event had not happened, Chekhov would not have written *The Cherry Orchard* and we wouldn't have had the privilege to read it and pretend we like it. Oh well, freedom comes at a price.

* Van Training 8:00 a.m.*
  For extreme fans of *Little Miss Sunshine*, this session is a must. *Let’s just hope the hot nihilist is the instructor.*

* Volleyball @ Bethany Lutheran 7:00 p.m.*
  The game takes three hours, since every Bethany point is followed by extensive thanksgiving prayers and shout-outs to Jesus.

**Saturday, September 15**

**This day in history:** 668 -- Roman Emperor Constans II is assassinated while taking a bath. It’s like *Psycho*, and I bet the emperor was at the Normus Bateus Motelus.

* Women’s Cross Country at St. Olaf Invitational All Day*
  Our Lutheran, liberal-arts college of white blondes and a lion mascot shall beat your Lutheran, liberal-arts college of white blondes and a lion mascot.

* Hillstrom Museum of Art Exhibit All Day*  
  “The Art Students League of New York” this week, and next year they’ll be back with, “The Waitresses/Busboy League of New York”.

* Comedy Sportz 9:00 p.m.*
  The GAC Improv Troupe LineUs tried imitating this pattern and spelling its name with a ‘z’, but it’s members lacked the street cred to pull off ‘LineUz’.

**Sunday, September 16**

* Women’s Soccer vs. Luther 2:00 p.m.*
  Funny, I always thought it was ‘Superman vs. Luther.’

**Monday, September 17**

**This day in history:** 1787 -- The United States Constitution is signed by several upper-class, white men: a sort of precursor to the current U.S. Supreme Court.

* Daily Chapel Celebration 10:00 a.m.*
  I wouldn’t call 10:00 a.m. Monday-Friday a ‘Daily Celebration’ as much as a ‘Daily Siesta.’

**Tuesday, September 18**

**This day in history:** 1831 -- Englishman Richard Cobden establishes the Anti-Corn Law League. Bunions and Callouses everywhere rejoice.

**Wednesday, September 19**

* Water Aerobics 12:40 p.m.*
  Not recommended for toddlers.

* Study Abroad Return Dinner 5:30 p.m.*
  I think most of them are just grateful to have toilet paper again; dinner’s a bonus.

* Volleyball vs. St. Olaf 7:00 p.m.*
  The referees must have a tough time differentiating the pale, white ball from the St. Olaf athletes.

**Thursday, September 20**

**This day in history:** 1863 -- Jacob Grimm of the Grimm Brothers dies. His funeral gets ugly when nemesis Hans Christian Andersen and posse crash the funeral. Rumor has it all parties flee *Into the Woods*.

* Teachers Talking 12:30 p.m.*
  If a teacher’s talking alone in the forest, will a Republican student still feel oppressed?

* Yoga 12:40 p.m.*
  This and brussel sprouts are the top two causes of student flatulence on campus. The third is when girls do it to prove that, yes, they do actually fart. Rumor has it they also burp and poop, though the jury’s still out on the last two.

* Can I Kiss You? 8:00 p.m.*
  No, Mike Domitrz, but a foot rub and some paraffin wax would be amazing if you’re in the mood.

**Total Conditioning 12:40 p.m.*
  Following Total Lathering, Rinsing and Repeating.