As prices over $2.50. Melting polar ice caps. Rising temperatures. How responsible are we for these things? What can we do to slow them down or find solutions? How much oil is left, and do we have a fuel that can replace it?

All of these things are aspects of the ongoing energy debate, both in Congress and around the world. On October 2 and 3, Gustavus will host its forty-third annual Nobel Conference to discuss these issues and more.

The first speaker is the 1997 Nobel Laureate in physics and current director of the Lawrence National Laboratory, John Chu. In conjunction with Claude Cohen-Tannoudji and William Phillips, he received the Nobel Prize for the development of methods to cool and trap atoms through the use of lasers. Chu will be discussing the energy problem and what we can do about it.

Tim Robinson, the Director of the Nobel Conference, expects there to be about five to six-thousand people on campus for the conference, substantially more than the 200 people who attended the first conference in 1965. “It’s an interesting event; it attracts people from all over the Midwest,” said Robinson.

Groups of students and adults from Eau Claire, WI, Shawnee, KS and even Los Angeles, CA come to the Nobel Conference nearly every year.

Sophomore Liam Glover, a member of the Gustavus Greens, is excited for the conference. “[It will give] important information on the current energy situation,” Glover said.

Last February and March the Greens put on a program called the Energy Wars to raise awareness of energy consumption; another is scheduled for February through April of this year. Glover hopes that this conference further raises awareness.

“Not a lot of students are totally concerned and they need to do their part. One person can have an effect on energy consumption,” said Glover. He is especially looking forward to the discussion of alternative fuels.

Warren Wunderlich, the Director of Physical Plant, is also excited for the conference and what the future of energy holds. Gustavus is aiming to cut down on its energy consumption and become more self-sustainable, which includes moving towards fluorescent bulbs, increased motor efficiency and new, all-electric vehicles for the Physical Plant.
WEEKLY Safety and Security Report

Tuesday, 09/18
Safety and Security responded to a medical assist call at Pittman Hall. The individual was transported by ambulance to the St. Peter Community Hospital.

Wednesday, 09/19
Safety and Security responded to a medical assist call at Pittman Hall. The individual was transported by ambulance to the St. Peter Community Hospital.

An individual reported a set of lost keys to Safety and Security.

Safety and Security responded to a medical assist call in the Norelius Parking Lot. The individual was transported by ambulance to the St. Peter Community Hospital.

A student reported a set of lost keys to Safety and Security.

Thursday, 09/20
A student reported the theft of a bicycle seat and post from the bicycle rack on the south-side of Uhler Hall. Estimated replacement cost is $60.

Friday, 09/21
Safety and Security responded to a medical assist call at Norelius Hall. The individual was transported by ambulance to the St. Peter Community Hospital.

Saturday, 09/22
A student was cited for underage consumption in Norelius Hall and was later transported to DETOX. Another student was cited for underage consumption and fleeing a police officer.

Weekly Crime Prevention Tip of the Week:
September is designated as “Campus Fire Safety Month.” Since December 15, 2006, 94 people have died and many more have been injured in on- and off-campus fires. Most fatal fires involving college students have four common elements: missing or disabled smoke alarms, careless disposal of smoking materials, alcohol consumption and lack of automatic sprinkler systems.

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

If you are interested in publishing an ad with The Gustavian Weekly, please contact our Ad Manager, Ben Smith at admanager@gac.edu.

The Gustavian Weekly will publish 25 times throughout the 2007-2008 year: September 14, 19, 28, October 5, 12 and 29, November 2, 9, 16 and 30, December 7 and 14, January 18 and 25, February 22 and 29, March 7 and 14, April 4, 11, 18 and 25, May 2, 9 and 16.
Living the lesson of service

Gustie graduates are working to take their education and pass it on to the next generation in many of the country’s neediest neighborhoods.

Sam Grace
Weekly Staff Writer

At the end of the current academic year, over 600 Seniors will put on graduation robes for a second time and celebrate the completion of another stage of their lives. Some will take advantage of graduate school; others will simply move on to begin their careers and lead extraordinary lives.

Graduate Rachel Crane (2006) is no exception to the word extraordinary. Crane is currently spending her second year with Teach for America, a nationwide corps of college graduates and young leaders of all majors and interests.

Crane wakes up almost every day at 5:45 a.m. to catch the morning commute on the subway to her school in Brooklyn, NY. She spends time preparing her lessons and begins a busy day of teaching, sometimes dealing with some of the more disruptive middle-school students.

“We start out with a little demonstration of a hard-boiled egg being sucked into a Snapple bottle with a lit match,” said Crane in a recent article, “The students write down their observations and inferences, but many are requesting, ‘Do it again!’ I comply, and they are just as amazed the second time around.”

Teach for America (TFA) is a program specially designed for extraordinary college graduates interested in teaching at low-income public schools across the nation, both urban and rural.

“Teach for America offers an opportunity to teach against an injustice that faces our nation today,” said Matt Toppin, Senior Political Science and International Management major and recruiter for TFA.

“There are a lot of people that aren’t aware of this, but each and every day, lower income students aren’t receiving the same education as some of their peers in wealthier areas. There isn’t an equal playing field,” said Toppin.

According to Janine Wetzel, Recruitment Director for TFA, only 30 percent of students in low-income families will graduate from high school, and only 1 in 10 of those students will graduate from college.

“In our nation of great wealth and idealism, there are stark differences between the educational opportunities afforded to those in low-income schools versus those in high-income schools,” said Wetzel.

There are currently 5,000 corps members and over 12,000 alumni in the United States. Since 1995, 11 Gusties have spent or are currently spending two years teaching in rural and urban cities for TFA.

While TFA accepts students from all majors, the application process is very selective. Each year, only 25 percent of applicants are accepted into the corps, making the application process difficult. This insures that the people involved with the program have the dedication and fervor required to help students reach their full potential.

“I am applying, and I hope to get in,” said Toppin.

“I’d like to go to either Miami or Phoenix so I can possibly use my Spanish skills in the Hispanic population,” Toppin said.

Toppin understands that what he plans to do after graduation is not just a job, but it is a movement in America to change public policy on education.

“In order to achieve education and equality in America, we need that fundamental change in how the system works,” he said. “[TFA] needs people that are committed to making a difference, people that are able to work extra hours [with students], encouraging them, and being that support that they may not have.”

The deadline for applications is November 2.

Toppin encourages all seniors that are interested to apply, and for other students to keep an open mind for their future. Those accepted receive salaries and benefits from the school district they are placed in.

“Our world would be a much better place if we had the commitment and dedication that I know many Gustavus students have,” he said. “Education greatly determines life choices, especially careers. We can change this. We can change our nation’s greatest injustice.”

For more information on Teach for America, visit their website at teachforamerica.org.

News Editor: Jacob Seamans
Student Senate presidents pitch new agenda

Haven Davis
Weekly Staff Writer

Student Senate held its first meeting of the 2007 academic year on the evening of Monday, September 24. The announcement of the Presidential Items, given by co-Presidents Tony Spain and Chris Edelbrock, highlighted the need for Senate to be prepared for ‘the time of transition’ that the college is entering.

One facet of this transition is the proposed amendment to the Student Senate constitution that would change the presidential term from the current system-based on the calendar year to terms that align with the academic year.

The intention of this change is to ensure “a smooth transition from one administration to the next, and better communication with the majority of other student governments who already share academic year terms,” said Spain.

The presidential agenda also introduced the creation of a Student Leadership Organization. This group will seek to accomplish two things: the first goal being to increase communication among campus groups and organizations by bringing together “the biggest players in campus programming, education and legislation together to share calendars, resources and ideas,” said Edelbrock.

The second is to extend this increased communication beyond the student body to the faculty, administration and Board of Trustees. Another new proposal calls for the creation of a campus-wide community service day. In the past Gustavus has held “Give Day,” but this is now more closely associated to the Alumni office than with students.

The goal of creating a new community service day would be to provide a set time for sports teams, campus organizations, academic departments, the Dean of Student’s office and other groups of individuals to be involved in the community.

The eventual goal would be to make the day a fully institutionalized part of campus in the spirit of Nobel [Conference] and other campus-wide events, scheduling time to be set aside simply for service.

“This day would make a lot of sense with missions of the college, because service and community are two of our pillars,” said Spain.

Also discussed was the college’s pledge to environmentalism. Some of the issues that will be looked at include recycling, on-campus energy usage and the types of light bulbs used on campus.

Also, the Senate hopes to keep the proposed plan to buy one or more wind turbines for the campus, which is currently stalled due to the high demand for turbines.

Other issues discussed were the possibility of a 21+ dive night, a reworking of the campus website and the introduction of a fourth, smaller meal plan for off-campus students.

Among the proposals is a constitutional amendment and Gustavus "Service Day."
What does it mean to go Greek?

Luke Garrison
Weekly Staff Writer

E ach year between 10 and 20 percent of the Gustavus student body is active in a fraternity or sorority. Gustavus is one of the few schools in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) that even has a Greek system, so the question remains—what makes Gustavus different and why are students deciding to go Greek?

Junior Tri-Sigma sorority member Laura Danielson likens her choice to join the Greek system to shopping at a mall.

“It’s like going to buy a pair of jeans. I’ll go into the store, try a few on, there might be a few I like or none at all, but I wouldn’t buy [them] unless [they’re] the perfect fit.” There are certainly options to pick from, with five active sororities and four active fraternities at Gustavus.

A recent addition to the Greek system is the interest group that formed for the national Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) fraternity, the first national fraternity at Gustavus.

The Greek system at Gustavus is a mixture of national and local organizations.

In order to become a recognized national fraternity, the group must “go through a colonization process starting over fall break, where representatives from the national office come and initiate interested students into members,” said SAE interest group President Dave Christians, a junior Communication Studies major.

This is in addition to the Gustavus requirements which involve obtaining a faculty advisor, composing a constitution and having enough interested pledges.

Christians said he wants SAE to become recognized to “open up another opportunity for men at Gustavus to become a part of a group that really fits them—a good, warm, welcoming group of guys.”

If SAE becomes recognized, their first official pledge class will likely be next fall.

Recognized Greek Groups
Fraternities:
- Epsilon Pi Alpha (Eppies)
- Nu Upsilon Gamma (Greys)
- Phi Alpha (Alphs)
- Tau Psi Omega (Reds)
- Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE)
Interest Group
- Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) Interest Group
Sororities:
- Chi Kappa Chi (Chi Kapps)
- Delta Phi Omega (Deltas)
- Sigma Sigma Sigma (Tri-Sigmas or Sigmas)
- Theta Xi Gamma (Thetas)
- Zeta Chi Phi (Zetas)

So whether choosing to join a Greek organization is like buying a pair of jeans or not, most will agree with Junior Phi Alpha fraternity member Cameron Stromme when he says, “Come and attend as many pre-pledge events for students to gauge their interest, and students who decide to pledge then submit bid cards with their preference of organization, at which point the different Greek organizations try to match their interest with yours.”

With Gustavus being one of the few colleges, with a Greek system in their conference, Ruble said, “[The College] would really like to promote our Greek system to prospective students as something that truly makes us unique.”

This year’s pledging is already underway, with the last night taking place on October 1.

Any student with at least sophomore standing, a minimum 2.5 GPA and positive standing with the college is welcome to pledge to a fraternity or sorority.

The different Greek organizations typically hold pre-pledge events for students to gauge their interest, and students who decide to pledge then submit bid cards with their preference of organization, at which point the different Greek organizations try to match their interest with yours.

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First-years build up the Gustavus community

The Adirondack chairs on campus serve as a place to rest during the day.

Laura Hedeen
Weekly Staff Writer

After the St. Peter tornado of 1998, funds were never invested into reconstructing the faculty lounge, a place where professors from all disciplines had congregated for lunchtime camaraderie. Now most people “go back to their office or bring a lunch from home,” said Professor Aaron Banks.

In a study area of the relatively new Southwest residence hall, red granite closes off a space that could have been a fireplace, leaving a “cold feeling where it could have been warm and inviting,” said Banks. “A comfortable place for students to gather, hang out and talk about academics or just general life,” had instead been closed off by a rock wall.

From Banks’ perspective, it didn’t seem that any Gustavus resources were being spent on developing what he refers to as “hearth space.” In a college setting, where he sees students and faculty continuously “in a rush, sick or frustrated,” there is little time or place to sit and recharge. As Amy Pehrson from the Center for Vocational Reflection (CVR) articulated, it’s not often that we stop and simply “be still.” To Banks and Pehrson, hearth space seemed to be exactly what Gustavus students and faculty needed.

In the fall of 2005, Banks started to think about this absence in the Gustavus community. Drawing off ideas from a CVR faculty workshop that summer, he began to devise a solution.

Prior to the 1998 tornado, there were Adirondack chairs placed around campus for anyone to use. Banks decided to incorporate the reconstruction of similar chairs into a service learning project for his First Term Seminar (FTS) class, “Leisure Quest,” while also adding an aspect of mentoring and the concept of creating hearth space. It took another year to get his idea approved and to acquire the necessary funding, and the first batch of eight chairs was completed fall semester of 2006.

To date, four of these original chairs have survived vandalism, theft and everyday wear-and-tear. Another sixteen were built in the Lund Ice Hockey Arena on Wednesday, September 19, by his current FTS class and company—leaving a total of 20 Adirondack chairs on campus.

“It takes about $200 worth of materials, lots of effort and a team of four people to construct one of these chairs,” said Banks, which is where the mentoring factors in.

Each first-year student is paired with an upperclassman from one of Banks’ previous FTS classes, as well as two faculty members or administrators. “One of the faculty members is usually fairly handy,” said Banks, “and the other [is] interested in the project.” The diversity of the people involved impressed Banks, who recalled the involvement of practically “every director of all the major programs on campus.”

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans funded the production of all last year’s chairs, and they also covered much of this year’s costs with additional help from the CVR. The chairs are built from a kit and take only one evening to assemble. The participants also repaired and refinished the four chairs from last year. Eighty-five or more people were involved in the process, and each of their signatures can be found on the bottom of each chair.

This past Tuesday, September 25, the chairs were christened in a service on Eckman Mall with a homily by the FTS students, a blessing from Chaplain Rachel Larson, scriptural readings and incense.

The chairs represent different things to every individual. For Pehrson, they symbolize “community, legacy and the time that we all need to take to enjoy this life.” For Banks, the chairs were an opportunity to “give something back to the college and leave a mark.” For FTS student Amy Lynch, building the chairs was “a really good way to meet some of the faculty and older students,” and to generally feel more “oriented on campus.”

The chairs are intentionally not bolted down or chained together because it’s encouraged that students “pull one under a tree or make a circle with four other chairs,” said Banks. He believes that “99 percent of the people on campus respect and love” the new seating additions.

Banks has set a goal of bringing 40 of these chairs to campus and leaving some sort of mark on everyone who takes the time just to sit during a moment of their day.
Taking education to the next level

Meet Your Fellow Gustie: Maika Leier

Sam Grace
Weekly Staff Writer

Ask Maika Leier who inspired her to be a teacher. You may be surprised.

“Education is my life,” said Leier, a Senior Elementary Education major. “My mom was a teacher and home-schooled me for a long time. That gave me a lot of inspiration to be a teacher.”

As a visiting prospective student, Leier decided to come to Gustavus after her host read her a children’s book entitled Click Clack Moo, which is about cows who type and use their skills to demand electric blankets from their owners. Since then, Leier has continued that tradition by hosting prospective students and making them feel comfortable in the Gustavus community.

“I love kids’ books,” said Leier. “Every time I have prospective students stay with me, I read them that book.”

“I think that Maika has had a huge impact in giving prospective students tours and by showing them the campus. She does it with a very upbeat and caring attitude,” said admissions counselor and Leier’s employer, Tom McHugh.

This year, Leier is preparing to student-teach seventh graders at Mankato East, as well as a sixth grade classroom at Lake Crystal Elementary School.

“I am very excited for it,” said Leier. “It’s what I’ve been waiting four years for.”

Leier is also applying for a Fulbright scholarship as an English teaching assistant. If selected, Leier will have the opportunity to teach in Hong Kong for an entire year.

“I’ll get to teach English, learn about literacy trends in Hong Kong and study children’s books,” she said. “It really want to go!”

In the past four years, Leier has been very involved at Gustavus.

“Every year I’ve done something different. I was in track my first year. Then I was a CF. I was also in a wellness program. This year I was a greeter, which is probably one of my favorite things.”

“Every year I’ve done something different. I was in track my first year. Then I was a Collegiate Fellow. I was also in a wellness program. This year I was a Gustie Greeter, which is probably one of my favorite things,” she said.

Senior Carlie Mauss has been a close friend of Maika’s for over a year.

“She is one of the most caring people I’ve ever met,” said Mauss. “Maika truly builds community with her encouraging words and her endless supply of hugs.”

As Leier begins thinking about her final year at Gustavus, she is reminded of memories from the past and is starting to look forward to the future.

“I’ve met so many amazing people at Gustavus,” said Leier. “In the future I see myself most likely teaching somewhere and getting my Masters in Language Arts.”

“They people here are amazing,” said Leier. “I really love being at Gustavus.”

Variety | Page 7
Saving the due date

Knocked Up comes to campus this weekend.

Tom Butala
Weekly Staff Writer

Okay. Let’s talk about romantic comedies very quickly. Think about a few you’ve seen. Now think about some of the things these movies have in common; they may include awkward sexual tension that ultimately leads to true love, grand gestures of love that bring the estranged lovers back together and Hugh Grant appearing foppish. Does your list mention a bunch of guys making a website that aims to document every nude scene in which every actress has appeared? No? Well, maybe it should, thanks to Knocked Up, the coming of age/romantic comedy showing in Wallenberg Auditorium this weekend.

Knocked Up (2007) is the most recent movie from writer/director/producer Judd Apatow, whose previous work includes 40 Year Old Virgin (2005). Like 40 Year Old Virgin, Knocked Up is a romantic comedy made for men. Grey’s Anatomy’s Katherine Heigl stars as Alison Scott, a rising star at the E! Network who lives with her sister and brother-in-law, played by Leslie Mann and Paul Rudd, who were both in 40-Year-Old Virgin. After Alison receives a promotion that puts her in front of the camera, she and her sister decide to celebrate by going out to a club.

At the club, Alison runs into Ben Stone, played by Seth Rogen. Ben is in many ways Alison’s polar opposite. He lives with a bunch of his fellow stoner buddies in a state of arrested development as they work on the aforementioned website. While Alison is gaining attention at a major television network, Ben is an immigrant who lives off damage compensation he received after a postal truck accident, and as a result eats a lot of spaghetti. Despite their differences, the two hook up, leaving Alison pregnant.

After Alison decides to keep the baby, the two attempt to build a relationship together, initially with great success. This central relationship is the movie’s greatest weakness, though there are some genuinely sweet scenes between the pair. The film gives us many reasons why the two shouldn’t be together, but few reasons for them to overcome these differences. Despite these complaints, the movie still works well as a romantic comedy.

The element that makes Knocked Up stand out is its character growth, something not usually seen in this type of comedy. Ben and Alison both deal with adulthood, and Pete deals with commitment and his self worth.

Ben’s growth is particularly well-portrayed. In an early scene with his father, Ben says that he is living his dream. As the movie progresses and Ben grows, we see him leave much of his dream behind in order to accept the reality of raising a child.

Although this may in fact be a rom-com for guys, I think the presence of a strong female lead and female perspective gives the movie universal appeal. Go see it tonight or tomorrow and see if I’m wrong. It’s showing at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. both Friday and Saturday in Wallenburg Auditorium.

Welcome Back Students!

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A new direction and a solid effort from Rogue Wave

Abby Travis
Weekly Staff Writer

After existing in the shadows of Nirvana, The Postal Service and The Shins at record label Sub Pop, Rogue Wave moved to Jack Johnson-owned label Brushfire Records for their new album, “Asleep at Heaven’s Gate,” which hit the stores on September 18.


Asleep at Heaven’s Gate is Rogue’s third album, preceded by Descended Like Vultures (2005) and Out of the Shadow (2003), which was written, recorded and produced almost entirely by Zach Rogue. Rogue Wave’s sound, comparable to that of The Decemberists and Death Cab for Cutie, has been heard in television dramas such as Heroes and Friday Night Lights as well as on the soundtracks of Napoleon Dynamite and The O.C.

Asleep at Heaven’s Gate moves Rogue Wave’s sound into a more mature style that has been developing through each successive album. Here they develop a more instrumental direction than in previous albums, which featured Zach Rogue’s vocals at the forefront.

Asleep at Heaven’s Gate displays another solid effort from Rogue Wave. Despite the somewhat inconsistent materials in tracks like “Christians In Black” and “Own Your Own Home,” are quite likeable in their own respects, but they fall short in comparison to the concluding tracks. The best of the central pieces, “Christians In Black” and “Own Your Own Home,” are quite likeable in their own respects, but they fall short in comparison to the concluding tracks.

While it was perhaps not the great success to Descended Like Vultures that the public had hoped for, Asleep at Heaven’s Gate picks up again after the temporary lull left in the wake of the first several tracks. A couple of songs, including “Phonytown,” venture into jam band territory. These tracks are strong, but the experimental quality could use more refinement. Even the last three tracks, “Fantasies,” “Phonytown” and “Cheaper Than Therapy,” overpower the dragging central tracks. The best of the central pieces, “Christians In Black” and “Own Your Own Home,” are quite likeable in their own respects, but they fall short in comparison to the concluding tracks.

Unfortunately, the first four tracks (“Harmonium,” “Like I Needed,” “Chicago X 12” and “Like I Needed”), are so good that they seem to dwarf a couple of the weaker songs that follow. Tracks like “Lullaby,” “Ghosts” and the ballad “Missed” are good in their own respects, but they fall short in comparison to other Rogue Wave productions. While none of these middle songs are poor in quality, they seem a bit commonplace compared to “Descended Like Vultures” and the rest of Asleep so good.

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While it was perhaps not the great success to Descended Like Vultures that the public had hoped for, Asleep at Heaven’s Gate displays another solid effort from Rogue Wave. Despite the somewhat unremarkable central tracks, Asleep includes plenty of new, mature material for any fan to love. Asleep at Heaven’s Gate brings us several of Rogue Wave’s best songs thus far and a newer mature sound that promises a more complete and innovative future.

Noble service for Nobel speakers

Andrea Janney
Weekly Staff Writer

For many people, fall means cooler weather, leaves changing colors and visits to apple orchards. Here at Gustavus, it also means that the annual Nobel Conference is quickly approaching. From October 2 to October 3, the campus will be crawling with visitors and students with een joyingab reak fr omelas.

The conference attracts about 7,000 visitors annually and provides an excellent opportunity for students, faculty and the community to learn more about current issues presented by Nobel laureates and renowned researchers.

This year’s conference, “Heating Up: The Energy Debate,” focuses on the growing energy crisis and potential energy sources of the future. In addition to the learning opportunities that accompany Nobel, a select group of students are offered the chance to host the conference’s speakers. Most of the speakers have traveled long distances to attend the conference, and it’s up to the student hosts to make sure the speakers’ experiences here at Gustavus are positive ones.

The duties of a student host aren’t easily defined, but they generally include anything that will make the speaker feel at home. That includes picking the speakers up from the airport, guiding them around campus and being there to assist with anything else they may need.

Student hosts are selected from a list of students that have been recommended by Gustavus professors to the Nobel Committee. Once the committee has made its decisions, the students are approached by faculty requesting their participation in the program, which is an opportunity most students don’t refuse.

Student host Emily Pelton, a senior chemistry major, agreed to participate in the program because she “thought that being a student host for this year’s conference would be a great opportunity,” and that she “would be able to experience Nobel in a whole new way.”

Senior Chris Ward, a biology education major, also didn’t hesitate to accept the invitation to become a host primarily because he “respected the professor who asked,” and the professor thought he might have an interest in the speaker’s topic of presentation.

Pelton is hosting Jim Hansen, director of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies in New York, and Ward is hosting Lee Rybeck Lynd, a professor from the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth College.

As a private liberal arts college, it’s not unusual for Gustavus to offer unique opportunities to students, and the student hosting program is no exception. Not only are the students able to present their respective topics, but they also get to personally meet the speakers. Beginning with the very first conference in 1965, Nobel has been responsible for bringing countless opportunities to Gustavus. Students can look forward to the many opportunities that it will continue to bring for years to come.
A pair of two-wheeled troubadours and their six-stringed music machines will appear at Gustavus’ Courtyard Café this Friday, September 28, at 7:00 p.m. They are Shannon Murray from Bemidji, MN, and Dave Cuomo from Brooklyn, NY, and their stop at Gustavus is part of their Respect Yr Mamma Bike Tour. Both are folk-punk singer-songwriters who entertain their audiences with their stories, contagious energy and fiery, socially conscious lyrics.

This is the second bike tour for Murray, but she hasn’t always toured on bike. “I had been touring a lot by car, nine months straight,” said Murray. “It was frustrating. I felt like I was contradicting the message.”

This led Murray to do her first bike tour, the brainchild of fellow folk musician Adhamh Roland, which went from St. Louis to New Orleans. After the success of the first tour, Murray joined forces with Cuomo. Their stop at Gustavus is a bit over the halfway-point for the tour, which will cover over 1,200 miles and at least 15 communities.

“It’s definitely really tiring, but you get in front of a group of people and there’s so much energy. It’s recharging,” said Murray.

Beyond limiting their own environmental impact, Murray and Cuomo also hope to inspire the people they meet along their journey. “I think that seeing people doing it, it normalizes such crazy radical shit. It makes people realize that it’s possible,” said Cuomo.

“Shannon is a combination Ani DiFranco and Ellis: a little more folky than Ani, but angrier than Ellis,” said Junior Communication Studies major Lauren Fulner. Fulner is the treasurer for the Gustavus Greens, the student organization sponsoring Murray and Cuomo’s visit.

Fulner said that attending the concert would be beneficial for the whole Gustavus community, “especially with Nobel coming up and with the environment becoming such a pressing issue.”

In addition to the concert, Murray and Cuomo plan to talk in different classes about art as activism, bicycling as activism and other forms of environmental activism.

“I’d like to pursue bringing more artists like these to campus, and not just musical artists, but artists that do social activism,” said Murray. “I think the idea of art and the idea of activism go hand-in-hand.”

Along the way, Murray and Cuomo will be doing other types of tours as well, but the college visits may resonate most with Murray’s past. For a while, Murray was at Wichita State University studying the clarinet. “I was in activist groups on campus, but I was struggling to express myself,” said Murray. Then she saw a female activist in concert for the first time, and her plans changed.
We are only the stories that we tell

She hit the road and set out to become an activist singer-songwriter. “Song-writing was a way to put everything together,” said Murray. Don’t miss Shannon Murray and Dave Cuomo in concert at the Courtyard Cafe this Friday. You never know what you may discover.
**Men’s Soccer undefeated in MIAC**

The Gusties look tough early in the season and the senior leadership and experience doesn’t look like it’s backing down anytime soon.

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Eddie Fahey  
Weekly Staff Writer

The Gustavus men’s soccer team continued its dominance this past week-and-a-half by posting wins in all three matches they played. The Gusties hosted MIAC opponent Concordia on Saturday, September 15, and wasted no time in revealing the superior offense that has propelled them past their opponents all year.

Gustavus chalked up two goals in the first eight minutes of play. Senior captain Mike Butterworth started it off with an excellent cross into the box where a crashing Senior Tim Gendron directed the ball into the back of the net before the diving Cobber goalkeeper Kirby Johnson could grasp his hands on the ball.

The pressure did not stop there, with great control of the ball in the Cobber zone, Senior Matt Strom served up an assist to streaking Ryan Beduhn who put a head on the ball, finding the corner of the net. The Gusties never let up as they outshot the Cobbers by 20 and controlled the corner kicks 12-2. First-year goalkeeper Luke Strom recorded his second shutout of the season by denying the Cobber on both shots on net.

The next day was no different. Continuous pressure and relentless defense led to a late first half goal for the Gusties, which turned out to be the game winner. Fancy footwork by Sophomore Fraser Horton opened up an opportunity for him to cross the ball from the corner where Butterworth put a head on it, finding the upper corner. With only two shots on goal, Luther did not give the Gusties much of a fight. Luther’s lone scoring opportunity, off of a free-kick just outside the box, found the far post before Senior Gustie goalkeeper Trevor Brown gobbled it up, along with his fifth consecutive shutout, which is the longest streak since the great Andy Moulton posted 11 consecutive shutouts. The Gusties finished off Luther when first-year Max Malmoquist found Junior Benny Eriksson on a break away, which was Eriksson’s first collegiate goal. Horton said about the defensive effort, “They are really playing solid ball, keeping us in games and giving our offense more chances to strike.”

The Gustavus defense has only allowed two goals all year, which ranks in the top ten in the nation, with a .25 goals against average.

The team that stood out most in the crosshair of the Gusties was arguably our MIAC rival, the Johnnies. This game would prove to be as tough as in previous years and one of the hardest battles of the season. The first half was a gridlock that neither team won. Sophomore Bret Vander Streek and Senior Dane Obermeyer kicked off the second half with a nifty goal that proved to be the game winner and Obermeyer’s first goal of the year. Then the Gustie defense went to work, stopping every attack and counter-attack that the Johnnies could muster. Senior Jack Underwood said, “The defense really made a statement in shutting the Johnnies out. They have always been one of our toughest opponents every year and we really made a statement.” Even though the Gusties were outshot, which is not in the norm for a team that put so much of its focus on defense, the superb play from Brown gave the Gusties a chance to come out of this game with a win, an overall record of 7-1 and a record of 3-0 in the great MIAC.

The men play this Saturday at Carleton and home against Buena Vista on Sunday at 4 p.m.

The two teams are not near the top of their conferences, but the Gusties are not underestimating their opposition. “Every team we play is a challenge and must be taken seriously.” said Junior Flynn Stewart-Franzen.

Carleton is currently second to Gustavus in the conference and the showdown this weekend could very well decide the regular season champion of the MIAC.

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**Sports Editor: Andy Keenan**

**SPORTS SCHEDULE**

**Friday**
- Volleyball vs. St. Thomas - 7 p.m.

**Saturday**
- Women's Cross - Country @ Griak Invitational
- Men’s Cross - Country @ Griak Invitational
- Football @ St. Olaf - 1 p.m.
- Men's Soccer vs. Carleton - 1 p.m.
- Volleyball vs. Bethel - 3 p.m.
- @ Carleton - 1 p.m.
- Men's Soccer @ St. Olaf - 1 p.m.
- Football @ Griak Invitational
- Men's Cross - Country @ Griak Invitational

**Sunday**
- Women's Soccer vs. Buena Vista - 4 p.m.
- Men's Soccer vs. Bethel - 3 p.m.
- @ Carleton - 1 p.m.
- Men's Soccer @ St. Olaf - 1 p.m.
- Football @ Griak Invitational
- Men's Cross - Country @ Griak Invitational
- Women's Cross - Country @ Griak Invitational

**Gustavus continues to roll through MIAC competition**

Senior outsider hitter Jennifer Thelemann leads the team in kills (190) through 15 matches this season.

"It's really exciting to not only have a group of talented athletes but to also have a great group of friends." - Junior middle hitter Britta Bolm

Despite their struggles with inconsistency, a common challenge for any team early in the season, the players are confident that they will mature to a level beyond their competition. From the sidelines, their team chemistry is apparent in the players’ willingness to sacrifice their bodies for the ball and their ability to laugh off the occasional, comically uncordinated play.

"It's really exciting to not only have a group of talented athletes but to also have a great group of friends," said Junior middle hitter Britta Bolm. "We're all playing so well together and having fun doing it. I think that's a large part of why we are so successful." How might one account for the team’s proven ability to pull through with a win? Let their defensive statistics speak for themselves. Junior libero Emily Klein broke a defensive record in their game against Augsburg College. The Gusties took revenge with a 30-29, 30-27, 14 game, but kept their fans on their toes.

In response to Klein’s impressive performance, Bolm said, "She’s a great asset to our team. We all look up to her because she’s a hard worker and hustles to the ball.” What speaks even louder than Bolm’s coordinates performance is her ability to pull through with a win? Let their defensive statistics speak for themselves. Junior libero Emily Klein broke a defensive record in their game against Augsburg College. The Gusties took revenge with a 30-29, 30-27, 14 game, but kept their fans on their toes.

"It's really exciting to not only have a group of talented athletes but to also have a great group of friends.” - Junior middle hitter Britta Bolm

Thelemann, Kron and Klein have the Gusties in contention for a MIAC title.

"It’s really exciting to not only have a group of talented athletes but to also have a great group of friends." - Junior middle hitter Britta Bolm

Pairs with some big blocking, their defensive tactics affect all aspects of their play. "When we get a big defensive play, it motivates me to capitalize with an equally exciting offensive play,” said Senior outside hitter Jennifer Thelemann.

In anticipation of their match Wednesday, September 19 against St. Olaf College, Burtzel said, "This is going to be one of our most intense matches, since St. Olaf is a big rival. I think there will be some very big defensive plays that will lead to an all-around successful offense.”

The girls all seem to be on the same page as competitive focus goes. Our Gusties took the Oles in four games and continued to defend their home court against Northwestern College and Buena Vista University this past weekend. Hone in on your Gustie spirit this Friday night by cheering on the team as they take on long-time rival St. Thomas.

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**STANDINGS**

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**Erin Luhmann**
Weekly Staff Writer
Men’s and Women’s cross-country teams optimistic about remainder of season

Ryan McGinty
Weekly Staff Writer

The Gustavus Men’s cross-country team is off to a great start this year, having placed fourteenth out of 27 at the recent St. Olaf invitational. Dan Foley was the top Gustavus finisher in thirty-fifth place. “St. Olaf wasn’t necessarily right where we wanted to be place-wise, but it was a good start to a promising season,” said Foley.

Many have marked this a year of rebuilding because of the large number of new runners. Despite the team’s abundance of new blood, Foley is confident. “This year we have a good mixture of experience and untapped potential,” he said.

With a solid performance under their belt, the team looks to the rest of the season with conviction. “There’s no reason why we shouldn’t be able to challenge some of the best teams in the MIAC and the region this year,” said Foley.

The women’s cross-country team is, similarly, in fantastic shape. At the St. Olaf invitational the team placed seventh out of 25 teams. Senior Laura Edlund was the fastest Gustavus runner, finishing in sixteenth place at 23:22, a personal record for her.

As with the men’s team, the women have a handful of first year runners, but Edlund, is not discouraged by this. “The [first-year] women have really stepped up and filled the places we needed on our roster.”

It is good to see that all members on the team are doing their part. Certainly, the loss of last year’s all-star Hailey Harren was a notable blow to the team, but both veterans and newcomers seem to be pulling their weight.

The team’s captains are the glue holding the women together. “Our captains Maari Hanson and Sarah Bernhardson are great runners who have been able to bring the returning team and [first-years] together in and out of practice,” said Edlund.

Both teams this year seem to be dependent on the combination of talented new runners and seasoned upperclassmen. The two must work together if they are to have a successful season.

Both teams’ next big meet is the Roy Griak invitational, hosted by the University of Minnesota. It’s the largest cross-country race in the country, with almost 100 men’s and women’s teams in attendance.

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*Limited Time Offer*
The Gustavus football team rolled over Hamline this weekend, bolstering its record to 3-0, a mark they haven’t reached since 1999. This weekend Gustavus will travel to Northfield to take on rival St. Olaf in the team’s first real test this season. Above, Senior linebacker Jared Sieling (far left), Sophomore tackle Christian Vanek (middle) and Sophomore linebacker Tony Palma (far right) apply pressure to the Hamline quarterback this past Saturday.

Craving delicious homemade food?

Nobel Conference Deli Menu

**Tuesday, October 2**

Hot Entrees:
- Chicken and Sausage Jambalaya
- Creole Roasted Potatoes
- Spinach and Artichoke Casserole
- Oven Roasted Vegetables
- Spicy Orange Tofu
- Linguine in Roasted Red Pepper Sauce
- Cajun Chicken

Soups: Creamy Chicken Wild Rice & Vegetarian Chili

Salads: Classic Potato Salad & Fresh Fruit
- Po’ Boy Sandwich: Barbequed Pulled Pork

**Wednesday, October 3**

Meatloaf
- Au Gratin Potatoes
- Savory Vegetable Pie
- Roasted Green Beans and Bell Peppers
- Four Cheese Cavatappi
- Tofu Triangles in Triple Pepper Sauce
- Chicken in Herb Wine Sauce
- Soups: Ham & Bean; Tomato Basil & Feta
- Po’ Boy Sandwich: Roast Beef
- Salads: Garlic Lovers Pasta & Greek Salad

The Co-op Deli also has Fair Trade and organic coffees, fresh baked muffins, scones, cookies, dessert bars, cakes and pies. Our to-go case features dozens of delicious salads, entrees, spreads and pre-made sandwiches for a quick, delicious and healthy lunch or supper.

October Harvest Fest

Thursday-Sunday October 4-7

Our October Harvest Fest spans four days this year, coinciding with River Crossings: art fair in motion October 6-7. It begins on Thursday evening with the Chamber of Commerce’s Girls’ Night Out and culminates on Sunday evening with the Edible Art Show we’re co-sponsoring with the St. Peter Arts Center. This year’s festivities are sure to bring out the foodie in you, so don’t miss a minute! For more information, visit www.stpeterfood.coop or stop by the store.

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Changing the conversation

Walking a dangerous line

Chelsea Becker

Commentary Editor

On September 21, 2007, the Editor-in-Chief of The Rocky Mountain Collegian, the Colorado State University newspaper, printed this four-word column in the opinion section: Taser this: F**k Bush.

This column gained national attention and has sparked various reactions, ranging from outrage to support. On the CSU campus, it caused the College Republicans to spearhead a movement calling for the resignation of the Editor-in-Chief, David Mc-Swane. University administrators are currently looking into the matter.

I have to wonder which part of this column caused the controversy. Is it the fact that he used a curse word against our president? Or is it that he openly expressed his hatred for our Commander-in-Chief? I suspect it is a little bit of both. This is worrisome, because it illustrates a trend that has been with every issue. It is now problematic to engage in negative discourse relating to our president or our government.

Many individuals are currently label negative speech as “un-patriotic” or “un-American.” Some even state that it should be outlawed.

I pose this question: is the U.S. Constitution “un-patriotic” or “un-American”? Of course not! So let us direct our attention to a little thing called the First Amendment. It embodies the “right to free speech.” It allows any citizen to get up on their soapbox and say (almost) anything. This includes the freedom to condemn as well as praise our government and its leaders. By no means is this freedom absolute, but it is close to it.

Now that we all know that I have retained the freedom to say almost whatever I want about the government due to First Amendment protection, the question becomes whether I should be able to without judgment. To this, I answer a resounding: Yes! If we are able to offer our opinions about our government, we are able to make changes when necessary. Our opinions carry the ability to improve our nation. By using our voices, we gain the ability to (to borrow the now-removed slogan of the U.S. Army) “Be all [we] can be!”

My role at The Gustavian Weekly is to print opinions, plain and simple. However, The sole purpose of a commentary section is to voice the views of the people. Our opinions carry the ability to offend, and thus, I walk a dangerous line. It is not my job to censor or discourage opinions, yet I do not intend to make the mistake that CSU’s Editor-in-Chief made. The commentary section is available as a public forum, but it is not a forum to be abused.

In regards to the text of Mc-Swane’s statement, I do not agree with his use of profane language or the decision to print it without explanation. Yet, I applaud his decision to express his feelings in a public forum. The sole purpose of an opinion/ commentary section is to voice the views of the people. I only wish he had done so in a more educational, less contentious way.

Quote of the Week

“I don't know how I'm going to feed myself.”

R. J. BOLLARD

a student at the University of Washington, who stated that, after buying the video game Halo 3, he had only 73 cents left to his name

Editor's Note

Many of the citizens of the United States have reached an entirely new level of laziness and complacency. Unfortunately, Gustavus is not immune to this disease. I came to this sobering realization after contemplating numerous discussions held in my classes throughout the first few weeks of school.

Men and women of action formed this country; it didn’t appear by some stroke of divine intervention. It is on hardwork that the American Dream is based, the idea that it is possible to work yourself out of a bad situation and into a good one.

Unfortunately, many of my peers have decided that instead of being people of action, it’s time to wait around and let good things fall into their laps. Although the cliché “good things come to those who wait” is appealing, it doesn’t always apply to making a difference in society.

Similar to the United States of America, Gustavus Adolphus College is not a perfect place. There are plenty of problems within and institution throughout the world. However, these problems don’t always resolve themselves. People need to take action to fix these problems.

 Plenty of people are quick to criticize, but very slow to act. Many of my peers are extremely apt to bring up problems in today’s society or issues that currently confront Gustavus. However, if this college is going to start improving its weak points, we need more people to pick up their feet and start acting. There is nothing wrong with rolling up your sleeves and not only asking difficult questions, but working to find answers as well.

Many times, the administration or organizations at Gustavus come under fire for matters they think have been resolved. In these cases, they seem extremely happy when these issues have been brought to their attention. This criticism allows them to do better and make improvements.

The Gustavian Weekly is proud to offer a forum that allows for communication among the different facets of the Gustavus campus. Letters to the Editor are always welcome and can be sent to LettertotheEditor@gac.edu.

Thus, fellow Gusties, this is a call to action. Whether you decide to use the Weekly as your forum or choose another method, please become people of action. Our world is filled with too many people waiting for change to happen just because they are unhappy.

Weekly Watch

Nobel Conference:
Finally, two days of relaxation (via educating ourselves about alternative energy, of course.)

Power Outages On Wednesday: Caused mayhem and widespread panic...or perhaps just a few tardies.
Erin Ge
Weekly Staff Columnist

In the past, gender roles and their associated behaviors were very well defined and widely known. As we have progressed toward a more gender equitable society, however, these roles and behaviors have become less distinct. Equal opportunity employment and education are now considered the norm, and even athletics have found a level playing field with the introduction of Title IX. I find it interesting, however, that some of the small, everyday interactions between men and women have experienced less change.

For example, who is supposed to pay for a date? Though I find fewer people immediately answer that it is the man’s responsibility to pay, it still seems to be the prevailing idea. I can recall many occasions where I have had a meal or gone to a movie with a member of the opposite sex and later been asked by friends if it was a date. Even after I answer ‘no,’ I am still questioned on the matter of who paid. If he paid, I’m told, it was a date. Therefore, if we each paid for ourselves, or if I, the female, paid, it’s not considered a date. First of all, I am telling them that it was not a date (I think I would know), but apparently it’s not my opinion that matters in making this distinction. Secondly, why is it not considered a date if the woman pays? I personally think that it makes much more sense for each person to pay for themselves or to alternate paying from one date to the next. If both people are college students, let’s face it: they’re both poor. The only way they’ll be able to continue to afford going out is if they split the tab.

I’ve always been confused by those who are offended if their date pays. If the woman pays or offers to pay, does the man really feel emasculated? If the man pays, does the woman really believe that he is chauvinistic? I think people need to take a step back, relax and stop looking for a fight. Most likely, the other person is just trying to do something nice for a person they like. Just say thank you and move on.

Door-holding is another practice that originated as something a polite man did for a woman. It can be a very nice gesture, but it should have some limits. When walking from the campus center to the library, there are three doorways one must pass through. As I made this small journey one day, a kind male student took it upon himself to hold all three of them open for me. At the first door I was grateful and thanked him, but as I progressed through doors two and three I began to feel a bit guilty and awkward, especially since the poor guy had his arms full of books. Between doors one and two I had slowed to say hello to a passing student and thought the polite co-ed would continue through the second doorway without me, as I had dropped a considerable distance behind. After realizing he was waiting for me at door two, I rushed over to the door as fast as my book-laden backpack would let me.

This type of thing has happened to me several times, and I wonder: why does the person feel the need to wait? I know that he or she is just trying to do me a favor, but I end up expending more energy trying to rush to the door than I would have if I had opened up the door myself. I have heard several stories of friends who have tripped and face-planted in their attempts to shorten the amount of time the door-holder has had to wait. That just leaves both people embarrassed and ends up wasting more time and energy than if they had entered the doorway separately. From a logical standpoint, I feel that unless the person is only a couple of steps behind you or has their hands full, go ahead and let them open the door by themselves. In the end, it will cause less trouble for everyone.

Though these customs stem from a desire to be polite, they have become a bit antiquated and should be re-evaluated to reflect the current culture. For instance, the practice of the man putting his coat over a puddle so the woman can walk across without getting her shoes wet seems silly these days. Her shoes may be dry, but if it’s her husband she’s walking with, the culture of that time would dictate that she be the one to wash that coat when they get home. Perhaps, as a whole, we just need to think about the things we do and why we’re doing them. I’ve heard that’s what college students are supposed to do: think. Who knew?
Gustavus has a diversity problem. While the admissions and other administrative offices are doing everything they can to improve ethnic diversity, another brand of diversity is on the loose and out of control: intellectual diversity.

Diversity is, or should be, a practice of understanding and learning from a population made up of students from a wide variety of backgrounds and perspectives. Instead of practicing diversity, many Gusties find their own niche on campus and stick themselves inside it. They leave that niche just once each semester for a student involvement fair, to try to bring others in but usually just spot their shadow and turn back in terror. Occasionally this Groundhog Day-style ceremony will result in some new members, but usually only in the fall when the first-year students are still looking to find their own niche.

This is not to say that the Student Activities Office should sponsor more student activities fairs; quite to the contrary, the student organizations should make a more intentional effort to broaden their focus to include a wider array of students in their organizations.

The political organizations should work together to promote political debate and activism on campus. Instead we constantly see the Democrats and Republicans at each other’s throats, spreading half-truths about each other. Campus politics becomes a CNN-style shouting match about who is right and who is wrong. The only way they can settle their differences is by creating a new student organization: one consisting of the few members of each organization who are open-minded enough to find some common ground among the various agenda promoted by political organizations on campus. Absent-minded politics becomes an infectious virus that spreads to weekly commentators who do not understand their opponent’s viewpoint enough to make a respectful critique.

These are just a couple examples of how students could use their organizations to learn about each other and create a more diverse membership. If student organizations are more intentional about informing and reaching out to those who don’t necessarily fit their niche, we can focus on the things that bring us together instead of those that drive us apart. Students will also have a more firm grasp on exactly how one group differs from the next and the campus dialogue will trend more positively.

Some might point to events like the recent Progressive’s Progressive Dinner—one night—where several progressive organizations banded together for a progressive dinner one night—as an example of diversity in action. While this particular event was a great event on many levels and stands as a sign that organizations are willing and able to collaborate and produce events, it is not enough.

This event, and those of its kind, are simply collections of similar organizations. These sorts of organizations are all unified to promote a singular, in this case politically progressive, agenda.

An exemplary event to compare this with which is the Building Bridges Conference. Both events combine the talents and strengths of different student groups. Last year’s Building Bridges Conference involved more student organizations, academic and administrative departments and individual participants than any other student-led event on campus.

The conference was designed to engage a broad audience and appeal to almost any student on campus. While the prime organizers for the event were prominent members of specific student organizations, they worked together to reach out to students who may not have otherwise cared.

Not every event hosted by every organization can or should be on the same level of engagement as the Building Bridges Conference. Nor should student organizations give up their identity in the name of diversifying their mission; however, an intentional effort should be made to break the barriers that keep students in their niches. It is time for students to stop ignoring one another and start building bridges together.
Everyone loves Reagan

Liberal curse words

Andrew Evenson
Weekly Staff Columnist

A ttention liberals! Pick up your tax-hike pitchforks and socialist torches; there’s a new conservative columnist on campus, and I’m ready to debate! (Sorry about the witch hunt reference, but I want to prepare for the worst). College campuses around the country are known for being hostile to conservative ideas, but I believe that with a little help, Gustavus can do better. My intent in writing is to open up the discussion of our generation’s most critical issues and to present an argument that may challenge your own opinions. Referring to the slogan of Fox News Channel, let us keep Gustavus “fair and balanced.”

Okay, so don’t tell me a few of you didn’t get a little flash of anger in your eyes when I mentioned the often hated and rarely respected Fox News Channel. This brings me to my first point. In liberal circles there are definitely what I like to call Liberal Curse Words: corporations, tobacco, Wal-Mart, trickle-down effect, family values, McDonald’s, guns, pro-life, free market and oil (the equivalent of the f-bomb). These are just a few of the loaded words or phrases that, if said in her presence, would make Hillary Clinton want to give you a spanking and send you to bed without supper. Hopefully, with a little persuasion, you will come to realize that these are all part of what makes America great!

Let us begin with one of the biggies: corporations. I know it might be hard to swallow, but big corporations benefit all Americans. These “evil” corporations provide millions of jobs and produce the things we want and need in an extremely efficient manner. Wal-Mart has one of the most genius inventory systems in the world, and it is able to help consumers purchase products at lower prices.

Of the industrialized nations, only Spain has higher corporate taxes than the United States, yet the Democrats in Congress want to increase those taxes. This will almost assuredly result in the loss of many jobs and will hike up the prices for consumers like you and me. We should all want corporations to make record profits because that means they will invest in new jobs, new products and new markets.

McDonald’s is a corporation that many people seem to despise. I’m going to let you in on a little secret: McDonald’s doesn’t make you fat! Only you have the power to make your self fat (and to prevent forest fires). In this case, McDonald’s is no guiltier than my grandma’s mashed potatoes and her cheesy potatoes.

Fast food establishments provide food for nearly 100,000,000 people a day at cheap prices. By the way, McDonald’s developed and remains a majority stockholder in the environmentally responsible Chipotle, but for some odd reason no one blames the business that constantly produces burritos that contain about 1,000 more calories than a hamburger.

If you liked my first two points, you are going to love this one! Oil is cheap, efficient and in vast supply. You might say “But Andrew, I am now spending over three dollars a gallon for gas!” I would reply, “If you think that is expensive, maybe you should stop drinking that Dasani bottled water that costs $6.88 per gallon.”

This is amazing when you think about how much work is involved in making gasoline than in making water. When adjusted for inflation, gas today is 77 cents cheaper than in 1992 and 91 cents cheaper than in 1981. A lot of politicians want you to think that we are running out of oil, but there are tar sands in Alberta, Canada, that could alone supply the United States with oil for a hundred years! When we do start to run low, prices will rise, giving entrepreneurs incentive to find alternative sources of energy. Thank God for capitalism! Feel free to send your favorite oil company a thank you card.

Now that wasn’t so bad, was it? I don’t have the space to discuss each and every one of these topics, but discovering all of the truths of the universe takes time. Luckily, you now have me to lead you to the conservative Promised Land!

So my advice to you is: eat a hamburger, buy a DVD at Walmart, fill up your car with gas, smoke a cigar and start living the American Dream!

MCT Campus

On the lighter side...

Our legacy: childhood cartoons

Maggie Sotos
Weekly Staff Columnist

M y grandmother used to praise the Great Depression as the sculpting force of her generation. She said cleaning someone’s house for a quarter and eating the approximate equivalent to 100 calories a day “built character.” For a long time I looked upon our generation with a mix of disgust and despair, the former because we continue to watch television shows like MTV’s “Engaged & Underaged,” and the latter because we do not have a common “character building” element in our past. I feared perhaps we lacked that event. But, oh, then I realized our saving grace: our childhood cartoons.

Almost all of us have experienced the magic that was a Saturday or Sunday morning on the couch with a bucket of left-over KFC watching our favorite adventures on the tube. Who hasn’t fallen under the enchanting spell of Carmen Sandiego, Power Rangers or Ghostwriter? These programs gave us unforgettable moments, like the look on the contestant’s face in Legends of the Hidden Temple when he/she won some lame prize for running through a life-threatening obstacle course.

“Congratulations, Johnny, you jumped over the molten lava pit and survived!” However, I’m afraid you suffered third degree burns on your torso and chest. But still, enjoy this Ouji Board!

Not all the shows were so special. Who can forget the short-lived Virtual Reality Troopers, an abysmal bastardization of the Power Rangers. The leader of the Power Rangers was a floating head named Zordon, and they invoked mystic animals of yore with impressive Power Morpher. One lightning bolt and a quick montage later—BAM! Go go, Power Rangers, ready to serve up some sweet martial arts justice, encouraging kids everywhere to be as one with their body and spirit.

All of these adventures in one little show. The V.R. Troopers, by comparison, had a dog. I think it talked. Awkward.

But our generation also had Ghostwriter, which taught children the importance of literacy skills (because you never know when a freaky floating bubble is going to come around and leave a message for you in a book or on a wall). Maybe you’ll even solve a crime, if you look for the clues in the right places! How sweet is that, kids? And of course, who could forget the crazy misadventures of the Magic Schoolbus, with Miss Frizzle, Liz the Lizard, Arnold, Ralphie, Dorothy Ann, Phoebe, Carlos and the whole gang! Where else could you learn about the human body, space and dinosaurs in such an entertaining way?

What do these punks got nowadays? Pokey-mart? Blues Clues? Pishaw! No, the golden age of cartoons was our time, my friends. Our past has shaped us into the people we are nowadays?

Pishaw! No, the golden age of cartoons was our time, my friends. Our past has shaped us into the people we are nowadays?
This day in history:

1791 – Mozart’s last opera, The Magic Flute, is performed. He tragically dies before completing its highly anticipated sequel, The Enchanted Recorder.

Homecoming Court Nominations
Beware, newly nominated king and queen; keep your eyes peeled for a Proletarian uprising. I saw Kirsten Dunst in Marie Antoinette, I know how this stuff goes down.

Holy Communion
10:30 a.m.
You can drink wine on a Sunday morning without being labeled an alcoholic? I’m there!

Women’s Soccer vs. Buena Vista
2:00 p.m.
Next week, Soccer vs. Mal Vista.

Monday, October 1

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TIM O’BRIEN!
When born, I bet his mother said, “Wow, now that was a heavy thing I carried!”

Women’s Golf at Best Western Riverport Classic
All Day
The most classic thing about Best Western is probably its inability to keep up with Motel 6.

GRE Prep Session III
6:30 p.m.
Standardized testing is overrated. Come on, Harry Potter didn’t get too many OWLs, and he has a greater net worth than you ever will!

Nobel Conference
All Day
I’ll pass. My interest in science extends as far as Deloreans that go 88 mph through time.

Hillstrom Museum of Art Exhibit Reception
6:00 p.m.
Dude, you call that art? Watch R. Kelly’s Trapped in The Closet: now that is art.

Meditation
7:00 p.m.
Close your eyes, breathe deeply and try not to get too bored. This strategy is also effective during sex.

Nobel Conference Concert
8:00 p.m.
In the dance piece, watch global warming expressed through poetry that is the human body in motion. I really want to see how they portray greenhouse gases.

Prepare
7:00 p.m.
They say it doesn’t matter what I wear, as long as I come to Prepare. So, who dares me to show up naked?

WAC Meetings
8:00 p.m.
My mother actually told me “Heterodoxy” sounded like a type of pest control. Well, if you count men as pests . . .

Friday, September 28

This day in history:

1967 – The first episode of Star Trek: The Next Generation airs. Faithful viewers cite this as the one and only reason they did not go out and socialize that night. No one is fooled.

Fireside Chat
11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
Just like the FDR days, minus the polo and funny glasses.

Volleyball vs. St. Thomas
7:00 p.m.
Next week, Soccer vs. St. Jerry.

Campus Weekend Movie, Knocked Up
7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
Starring Nicole Richie.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo in Concert
8:00 p.m.
Forget their dozens of Grammy nominations; go see these guys because they have been on Sesame Street, man!

Saturday, September 29

Men and Women’s Cross Country at Griak Invite
All Day
Griak? Sounds like a dwarf character from Lord of the Rings.

W. Soccer at Carleton
1:00 p.m.
Just to clarify, the Carleton women soccer players could be playing on Ivy League soccer teams if they wanted to . . . they just didn’t want to.

Volleyball at Bethel
3:00 p.m.
We’ve got a five-game winning streak; Bethel’s got Jesus’ approval. Who will win?

The 2007 Welsh Weekend of Song
7:30 p.m.
What are they going to sing; Wale songs?

Sunday, September 30

This day in history:

1830 - State of Belgium is created after its separation from the Netherlands. I bet the Netherlands would have put up more of a fight if they’d known what amazing waffles they were losing.

Hillstrom Nobel Conference Session
All Day
It would be awesome if during the interview the career center advisors began literally mocking the students. That would, indeed, build up one’s self-confidence.

U.S. Peace Corps Information Session
7:30 p.m.
Kind of like in the movie Kinsey, but with Kari Lipke instead of Liam Neeson.

Quotes of the Week:

Greg Boone: “If you ever want to break into my house again, we should hang out.”

Monica Ramos: “Oh no, it’s getting cold outside . . . and by ‘cold’ I mean ‘dark!’”


Holy Communion
10:30 a.m.
You can drink wine on a Sunday morning without being labeled an alcoholic? I’m there!

Women’s Soccer vs. Buena Vista
2:00 p.m.
Next week, Soccer vs. Mal Vista.

Monday, October 1

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TIM O’BRIEN!
When born, I bet his mother said, “Wow, now that was a heavy thing I carried!”

Women’s Golf at Best Western Riverport Classic
All Day
The most classic thing about Best Western is probably its inability to keep up with Motel 6.

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6:30 p.m.
Standardized testing is overrated. Come on, Harry Potter didn’t get too many OWLs, and he has a greater net worth than you ever will!

Tuesday, October 2

Nobel Conference
All Day
I’ll pass. My interest in science extends as far as Deloreans that go 88 mph through time.

Hillstrom Museum of Art Exhibit Reception
6:00 p.m.
Dude, you call that art? Watch R. Kelly’s Trapped in The Closet: now that is art.

Meditation
7:00 p.m.
Close your eyes, breathe deeply and try not to get too bored. This strategy is also effective during sex.

Nobel Conference Concert
8:00 p.m.
In the dance piece, watch global warming expressed through poetry that is the human body in motion. I really want to see how they portray greenhouse gases.

Wednesday, October 3

Nobel Conference
All Day
You want to see some hilarious attempts at science: try watching the CII students fulfill their lab requirement. It’s like watching fish attempt to breast feed: they simply weren’t built for it.

Volleyball at Carleton
7:00 p.m.
1 will say this for Northfield: when the wind comes from St. Peter, our campus smells like cow dung. For Carleton, it smells like cookies from the Malt-o-Meal Factory.