As Gustavus seeks to elect a replacement for President Jim Peterson, many are left wondering how big of a salary the new president will expect to receive.

“Compensation will not stop us from getting the best possible successor of Jim Peterson,” said James Gale, chair of the board of trustees, which will ultimately decide not only the new president, but also his/her salary. Peterson currently has an annual salary of over $300,000, a lower salary than presidents of some similar institutions in Minnesota, such as those of Carleton and Macalester.

“We plan to negotiate with the new president and compare what our peer colleges are paying their presidents,” said Gale. “It’s all just part of the conversation. We don’t have unlimited resources, but I do not think that compensation will hinder the board from getting the best possible person for the job.”

The salary debate also has a direct effect on students, who desire a good president who will lead Gustavus in the right direction.

“$300,000 is a large sum of money,” said Matt Heider, a sophomore English and philosophy major. “I don’t think that the new president’s salary should increase. Gustavus is primed for development, so once it grows the way I think it will, then the salary should increase.”

Other students like Sophomores Chelsey Cook and Bill Klein would like to see an increase in the president’s salary.

“By raising the president’s salary, we would be taking a step in the right direction,” said Cook. “[Students] don’t want to have a less qualified president.”

“I think that the current salary is a little low considering all that Peterson has to do,” said Klein.

Overall, most students just want to look past the salary issue and get the best possible person for the job.

“College presidents do a lot of hard work and they deserve to be compensated, but at this point our next president is going to be responsible for helping us grow. We need more building projects, especially a new residence hall,” said Heider.

“The president does a whole lot more than we can see him do,” said Cook. “He puts in a great amount of work.”

As the board comes closer to making their decision, Gale is confident that they will find the best possible replacement for Peterson, while also providing him/her with an appropriate salary.

“We are going to pay a very nice compensation package within a reasonable package for the next president. We do not expect to hire a president that views Gustavus as a commodity.”
WEEKLY Safety and Security Report


Monday, 11/26
Safety & Security was requested to conduct a welfare check on a student.

Friday, 11/30
A student outside of Norelius Hall was cited for underage consumption of alcohol.

Saturday, 12/1
A student while in Norelius Hall was cited for underage consumption of alcohol.

Tip of the Week:
Don’t walk away from your backpack, laptop or other valuable items in a public area, ever. Even if it looks like no one is around, it only takes a few seconds for a thief to grab your valuables and walk away.
Important work in the Center for Vocational Reflection

Who am I and why am I here? What does my life mean and what is my place in the world? How can my life make a difference and how can I contribute? These are the questions that the Center for Vocational Reflection (CVR) wants you to be thinking about, both during your time at Gustavus and in the future.

The CVR is a relatively young program at Gustavus. Started in 2001, it was one of the first programs like it in the country. Now it is one of only a few dozen in the entire nation. The purpose of the program is to get students, faculty and alumni to “intentionally think about life as a calling to make a difference,” said Chris Johnson, Director of the CVR.

They want you to “live and work on purpose,” think about what you are doing and why you are doing it, rather than to simply be busy all the time. By doing this, they hope that you will develop values for yourself through your own unique experiences.

The CVR is not just interested in your career path; it is interested in everything that makes you who you are. Vocation involves paid work, volunteer work, spending habits, life as a student, life in the residence halls and extra-curricular activities. These things all help mold people’s lives and shape their values. The reflection part involves looking back on experiences and determining what values you’ve taken from them. They want you to find deeper meaning in your life.

At its inception, the goal of the CVR was to “influence the entire campus,” said Johnson. Over the last six years, the program has done just that. The CVR has developed, co-sponsored and coordinated nearly 400 programs on campus, touching the lives of about 37,000 students, faculty, staff, administrators and friends of the college. These programs involve bringing guest speakers to campus, sponsoring January Interim classes and offering off-campus retreats.

The majority of activity involving the CVR goes on outside of the office. However, inside the office, students and faculty can have one-on-one or group conversations with people who work there, use the resource library or simply socialize.

Most of these options are for students; however, the CVR also works with the faculty. The CVR encourages professors and work study supervisors to come together to provide mentorship. “Many students report at the end of college that one of their most important relationships was with their work study supervisors,” said Johnson. They also encourage professors to teach the importance of certain classes to students when they are registering in regards to fitting study abroad programs into their college lives.

In the end, the CVR has been somehow touching all of our lives on campus. Much of their work goes on behind the scenes; however, the CVR is extremely important in making the campus open and helping students find out who they are.

So when you have some free time, stop in and talk to them about your “purpose in life—” they’ll be more than happy to listen and discuss.
Moot Court: to detain or not to detain?

Professor Alisa Rosenthal’s Constitutional Law class held a mock Supreme Court hearing December 4 to consider the case of al-Marri v. Wright. The case covers the Constitutional question of whether the President can detain a resident alien who has been declared an enemy combatant.

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Steven Palmer
Weekly Staff Writer

Financial aid, for many Gusties, is an important component in their ability to attend college. Some students, however, do not fully understand the process behind the money—where it comes from and how the college decides to use it. A number of recent endowments and gifts to the college this fall from various alumni will fund financial aid, scholarships and new campus initiatives.

Endowments are funds controlled by an institution: money primarily intended to be invested, with the original amount remaining intact. This allows long-term growth and provides a stable base of funds. These are often used to fund scholarships and provide money for departments on campus. Many donations go into the general pool of Gustavus’ endowment. “The College’s endowment is currently $114 million dollars. Our current spending rate is 4.5 percent, and we will stay there in the immediate future,” said Associate Vice President for Advancement Teresa Harland.

Other donations to the school, however, can be used to set up separate endowments. Discussing recent donations, Harland mentioned a “million dollar pledge commitment by a set of parents, Robert and Karen Moe, to help the Kendall Center For Engaged Learning—for faculty-student research and faculty development.”

“We also recently solicited gifts for scholarship endowment—a definite need of the college. That is a priority that [the] office continues to ask donors to support, because we need to continually make Gustavus accessible,” Harland said.

To many, the state of the endowment is an important indicator of where the college stands. “The endowment reflects the fiscal health of the institution. The message I’m trying to say to everyone is that the price for Gustavus might be high, but it’s reduced by the endowment and everyone benefits from it. We want to say that the 114 million is good, but not where we want to be,” said Thomas Young, Gift Planner for the Office of Advancement.

Besides scholarships, endowments are used for a wide variety of other initiatives. In the arboretum, a new project is being paid for by generous contributions to the college. The Coneflower Prairie Project will expand the prairie space in the arboretum and throughout campus.

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"What we tried to do is encourage giving—we offered a chance for a personal connection. You can adopt a species, and your name will be near that one in the Arb. All donations are important," said Johnson-Groh. Overall the prairie project will cost $550,000.

"Next fall, planting will begin and we will have a prairie on campus," said Johnson-Groh.

"Other recent gifts to the school include one from Walter L. Youngquist, class of ’42. Youngquist previously started two endowment funds for the geology department. However, this fall he gave donations totaling $500,000 to the college. Of that money, $200,000 will go to the Robert Eric Youngquist memorial fund, a special scholarship endowment specifically for students with physical and mental challenges. The fund is named in memory of Youngquist’s son. The rest of the money established a new memorial fund in honor of his father.

Brad Nuss, class of ’97, also gave a pledge of $100,000 to the school. Nuss donated after graduating with a degree in management, calling it “the right thing to do.” The donation came in response to the matching gifts challenge—a fund created specifically for matching donations over $1,000.

"Endowment is the number one priority of this school," said Harlan. "We’ve got a decent endowment, at $114 million, but to do the kind of work that we want to do for students, for faculty, for programming [and] for curriculum, we have to move that 114 to 300."

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Cindy Johnson-Groh, who is involved in the project, said, "The first big chunk [for the Coneflower Prairie Project] was a matching grant from the Schmidt Foundation of up to $200,000." Gifts from alumni also play a large part in the project. "We hope to raise a total of $400,000 for the prairie with the matching grant.

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Jump, Jive, Wail

Weekly swing nights are wildly popular among Gustavus students

Marlene Kvitrud
Weekly Staff Writer

"We're fools whether we dance or not, so we might as well dance," said Sophomore Spanish major Liam Glover, quoting a Japanese proverb. The Gustavus Swing Club members continue to follow this proverb every week as they swing their bodies to wailing music pumped through the speakers in the Dive.

Besides loving to dance, Gustavus students attend Swing Night to take a break and socialize. "Wednesday Swing Nights allow me to break away from the homework for a bit and enjoy some great company," said Sophomore Lisa Julin.

Glover said he enjoys Swing Night because "No experience is necessary! Swing Night is a place to learn wonderful social skills you can carry with you the rest of your life."

Swing Night is held from 9:00-11:00 p.m. every Wednesday night in the Dive. For the first half hour, the Swing Club Leadership circle—comprised of twenty to thirty Gustavus students—provides lessons. Kirsten Ruser, a senior Biology major and member of the Swing Club Leadership, said, "We make sure to teach both a beginning lesson and a more advanced one, so that there is something for all levels."

In addition to Swing Night, the Swing Club organizes and performs at various events. Glover said the Swing Club hosts at least two dances (one with a live band), instructs competitors in the Dancing with the Profs event and offers lessons on different Social Dance styles in the spring for the President's Ball.

Swing Night is a great outlet for students of any dancing ability to learn the technicalities of swing dancing. So check out this great campus organization every Wednesday night in the Dive.

St. Lucia Court

Gustavus Adolphus College celebrated its sixty-seventh annual Festival of St. Lucia on Thursday, Dec. 6.

This year’s St. Lucia is Sophomore Katelyn Johnson.

The five women are chosen based on academic achievement, spiritual leadership, and service to the College and others as part of a tradition that dates back to 1941.
Meet Your Fellow Gustie: Katie LeBlanc

Kelli Ludwig
Weekly Staff Writer

She can be seen in the Peer Assistant office, studying and sipping on coffee at the River Rock Café in St. Peter or at the Vagina Monologues event this spring.

Senior Katie LeBlanc is a Sociology and Anthropology major, but she also has minors in English and gender, women and sexuality studies. The Peer Assistants are a great support for LeBlanc. She said the group has been a “strong base to get a lot of things done.” Plus, along with the support of the Womyn’s Awareness Center on campus and her friends and family, she has accomplished a lot during her four years at Gustavus.

One of her first great achievements was developing “heterodoxy” with her friend, Senior Barbara Guy. This is an informal collection of literature, art and photography that celebrates womanhood and the female experience. “It was a great first change for me to make, and it’s been so much fun to watch it grow,” LeBlanc said.

LeBlanc also helped create the Vagina Monologues, an event which will come to campus in February. A theatrical production of a collection of stories and experiences from over 300 women, the Vagina Monologues raises awareness for the violence and mistreatment of women everywhere and help raise funds for a women’s organization of choice. In past years, proceeds were given to the Katery House in Minneapolis and to CADA in Mankato.

When asked about the upcoming event, LeBlanc said, “We have a phenomenal cast, and I am so excited to work with these women and put the whole thing together.”

Aside from schoolwork, campus activities and collections, LeBlanc has spent many exciting and challenging January interims abroad. She went to New Zealand and Australia during her first year to study the stars backwards, to Vietnam and Cambodia in her sophomore year to study how the Vietnam War forced those cultures to rebuild and reconcile and to India in her junior year, where she learned a great deal about herself. “[India] was the most challenging for me,” said LeBlanc. “Everything around me was different and unfamiliar and it got to the point where I didn’t even recognize myself anymore. The experience was challenging in ways that I didn’t expect and that I didn’t know what to do with.”

This January, LeBlanc is looking forward to interning at her former high school in Richfield, MN, because teaching is something she has always dreamed of doing. She will shadow a senior English class and teach an entire junior English course.

Projecting into her future, LeBlanc said, “I’m so excited to be an adult! I want bills and I want grocery shopping and all of those responsibilities of adulthood. It sounds silly, but I’m ready for it.”

With the numerous organizations and activities in which LeBlanc is involved, the skills she has learned will be beneficial in pursuing her dreams of English education. Looking back, LeBlanc said, “Minnesota and Gustavus have been very near and dear to my heart.”

Question of the Week:
When you were young, what did you want to be when you grew up?

"Can I say a gynecologist?"
-Sophomore Chad Kuntz

"I wanted to be a firewoman."
-First-year Clare Dahl

"I think I wanted to be a dolphin trainer."
-Junior Sarah Thon

Senior Katie LeBlanc is involved in Peer Assistants, the Vagina Monologues at Gustavus.
Rounding up for Yuma

Christian Bale, who plays Dan Evans, protects his ranch against outlaws in 3:10 to Yuma, playing this weekend in Wallenburg.

Tom Butala
Weekly Staff Writer

Thanks to the popularity and immense financial success of both The Lord of the Rings and the Harry Potter movies, we seem to live in a time that has been taken over by the fantasy genre. The production studios that missed out on those cash cows have bought the rights to every other fantasy book they can get their hands on, giving us movies like The Chronicles of Narnia, The Golden Compass and last week’s campus movie Stardust. If you need a break from wizards and dragons, then by all means see 3:10 to Yuma—it’s a breath of fresh air.

3:10 to Yuma is the latest film directed by James Mars-grove, who last directed Walk the Line in 2005. 3:10 to Yuma is a remake of a 1957 movie of the same name, and stars Russell Crowe and Christian Bale. This movie is not driven by special effects or any kind of computer manipulation; it is instead powered by two of the greatest actors alive today doing what they do best.

In 3:10 to Yuma, Bale plays Dan Evans, a down-on-his-luck rancher. He is about to lose the farm, and his wife and son have nearly lost confidence in him. Crowe plays Ben Wade, a notorious bandit who is captured by the lawmen of the town of Bisbee, near Evans’ farm. Desperate for cash, Evans agrees to help escort Wade to the town Contention where he will be put on the 3:10 train to Yuma Prison.

Along the way there are a lot of excellent action scenes, which are well-cho-reographed, well-executed and set to fantastic music. But I think that the best parts are where Bale and Crowe interact with each other, culminating with an intense, yet relaxed scene in a Yuma hotel that is surrounded by Crowe’s men. Crowe creates a character that is so intelligent and so morally ambiguous that when you see him scheming, it is horrifying, because you don’t know whether his plans are for good or for evil.

I was surprised by the ending, so I won’t give it away, but I assure you that you will be satisfied. It is refreshing to see a movie that has more moral depth than black and white, good versus evil. I encourage you to take a break from studying for finals and go check out this movie. It is showing at 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights in Wallenburg Auditorium.

Happy Holidays/J-Term From Ruttses Grill & Bar

$5.00 Gift for Food or Drink

Cut out ad and bring into Ruttses for $5.00 off your favorite food and/or drink.

Not valid with any other coupon or offers.

Dine-In Only

No Cash Value

Expires February 1, 2008

Student Appreciation Day
Saturday, December 8

Come Join us in the Book Mark!

With Free Gift Wrapping!

Christmas Sale
20% off most items

Country Cakes
Cookies
Door Prizes
Hot Cocoa

Book Buy Back

Saturday, December 8
from 11 to 5

Monday – Thursday,
December 15-30
8:30-4:30

Bring all CDs, tapes and
supplemented materials
with your textbooks

J-term textbooks will be available for purchase December 1.
The first traveler sat in an overcrowded bus surrounded by near-perfect strangers. The closest she had to a companion was the boy sitting next to her eating greasy chicken and holding tightly to her leg as the bus crept up the mountain’s narrow switchbacks.

Over 7,500 miles to the east, the second traveler sat in long pants and a button-down shirt despite the heat. “You are lost,” a man said. “No, I am not lost,” said the traveler, confused.

Around 3,000 miles to the north, the third travelers sat on the front step of a grocery store eating tuna out of a can with his four friends. After their night camping in an olive orchard, they were ready to hit the road and move on to the next town.

These three travelers have at least one thing in common: they are all Gustavus students. The first is Senior biology and Spanish major Stephanie Lewis, in Ecuador. The second is Senior communication studies major Elliot Saltzman, in Uganda. The third, in Spain, is Senior economics major Jason Dehler.

“A lot of people have the opportunity to travel with their families,” said Saltzman, “and that’s an excellent opportunity, but I also think it’s a very different opportunity when you get to travel with other students.”

What is it like to be an American student in a foreign country? Depending on the person and the country, the answer to this question will differ. In many foreign lands, there is a stereotype of Americans, and this may affect how American travelers are treated.

“The loud, drunk, annoying American stereotype is very true, from my experience,” said Dehler. “I don’t mean everyone. There are certainly a lot of exceptions, but they go unnoticed because the loud, drunk ones stick out. It’s a really annoying thing to see, to be honest. For example, I was on a bus tour of Barcelona and we were sitting behind these three girls, all of them wearing black NorthFace jackets, all with jeans tucked into their Uggs, and all they were talking about was how drunk they were the night before and how they’d hooked up with some guy… You could tell that all the Spanish people were thinking, ‘Get out of here!’ I’m not saying you have to completely change who you are if you like to go out and drink, but you have to act in a way that is in line with wherever you are. And the Spanish way of going out at night is going out for a reason. You go out to dance.”

Saltzman is also familiar with the American tourist. “One of the biggest things I’ve learned is that there’s a difference between a traveler and a tourist. In my visit to Uganda, I always wanted to make sure that I was in no way exploiting the culture. When you go to Uganda and you go to Africa, they talk a lot about the beginning of white power. And that’s uncomfortable for people in a sense. You feel like everywhere you go, people are looking at you. But what I’ve learned is that you can’t make
those assumptions. A lot of the time it’s a very hospitable culture. People in Uganda are so accepting and so interested in learning about you. And that made such a huge difference because everywhere I went, I was welcome. I could start up conversation very easily with people, and people were very interested in what I was doing there,” said Saltzman.

Lewis also felt welcomed. “I traveled to the beach, and to a few eco-touristy towns. These mini trips were mostly for fun, and to see different landscapes – we saw amazing waterfalls, mountains, volcanoes, hot springs, etc. The beach was typically touristy, but there were mostly other Latin Americans there. The two little towns we went to had vendors and tourist activities set up, but again, we rarely saw any other gringos,” said Lewis. “We were mostly welcomed. I think the fact that their towns depend on tourism gave us an advantage. We always felt welcome and taken care of, and we were never treated poorly. Traveling in a small group was really good – we didn’t attract a lot of attention and weren’t annoying, but we were able to watch out for each other and enjoy it together.”

Part of being a good traveler is being well prepared. In terms of packing, this means different things depending on the person.

“For some reason, my buddy and I searched for a world map for about three weeks,” said Saltzman, because when you travel abroad, you become so inspired about geography, and I haven’t even lost that now that I’m back. But I would really recommend that people bring a map, because it’s really fun to think about where you can travel in the future.”

“You know what was huge that was really stupid, but that we always had?” said Dehler. “A Lonely Planet book. As touristy as you look with it, go sit somewhere and hide it and look at it, because when you know nothing about a city, that will help. It will have subway maps, where to buy metro tickets… you need to know that stuff! If you don’t have a mastery of the language, you can’t really ask someone very well. There was so much funny stuff that happened when I thought I heard something, and then I went on what I thought I heard and I wasn’t right.”

Other important things to consider include a bringing a headlamp, a book or deck of cards for down time and a budget. On top of these, basic knowledge about the culture is important to research before you begin your journey. “One of my biggest pieces of advice is to learn, learn, learn about the culture before you visit. It is so much more rewarding to be able to go there and have a conversation and not be in the dark about what they’re talking about. If you know about the history and the culture and the current politics, it’s very helpful,” said Saltzman. Language is one part of the culture that can act as an obstacle sometimes. For example, in Uganda if someone says, ‘You are lost,’ he or she actually means ‘I haven’t seen you for a while.’ Also, ‘You have gained weight’ is generally meant as a compliment.

Philosopher Martin Buber once said, “All journeys have secret destinations of which the traveler is unaware.” Perhaps as important as the journey is what happens at its end. It depends on the traveler and the place traveled, but many bring something home with them: culture, humility, self-confidence, new career goals, new life goals, and even new eyes for the world at home.
Rolling Gusties find early season success

After an opening night loss to Stevens Point, the Gustie women have rebounded and are on a solid six-game winning streak heading into the holiday break.

Abbe Paulhe
Weekly Sports Writer

After losing their season opener to UW-Stevens Point, Gustavus’ women’s hockey team came back and defeated Lake Forest 2-0 the following weekend, beginning a winning streak that has lasted six games and isn’t expected to end anytime soon.

In the 2006-07 Women’s Hockey Preseason Coaches Poll, the Gusties were named top choice in the MIAC, receiving nine out of the ten first place votes by conference coaches. Currently the Gusties are ranked first in the conference with a 4-0 MIAC record, followed by Concordia, who comes in at 3-0-1 in the MIAC and 3-5-1 overall. Nationally, Gustavus has been ranked third and thus far has proven to be worthy of the position. With a record of 6-1-0 overall, the team has shown yet again that they will be a credible opponent against both MIAC and national competitors.

The 2006-07 women’s season ended with a disappointing loss against UW-Stevens Point, the first opponent they faced at the start of this season. Head Women’s Hockey Coach Mike Carroll said, “I was a bit taken aback at how the first game went. It was almost an instant replay of the last game of the [previous] season. There were similar shots on goal and almost identical situations with different players.” He went on to say, however, that it was comforting to know that it was the first game of a new season and that the team had the opportunity to play better the following weekend. They did just that and have continued to improve since, relying heavily on both seasoned players and new talent to accumulate wins.

With the loss of former MIAC Player of the Year Andrea Peterson, several other key players and the injury of Senior Captain Laura Vannelli, the Gusties have focused on creating depth within the team to fill the positions of those once held by experienced players. “We are currently 6-1, and in almost every game I’ve rolled four forward lines and played six defensemen, which is pretty unheard of compared to other teams we are playing. It shows that we have depth and [it] is a way for players to get experience early in the season,” said Coach Carroll when asked how open positions on the ice have been filled by players this season.

The team has approached the season with the mentality of taking things one game at a time, with a focus on getting better each week instead of looking too far ahead. Vannelli said, “Before, we have made the mistake of going into the season thinking we’ll be national champions, so this year our goal is to compete hard in each game and learn from each game so we can end up where we want to be.” The approach seems to be working for the Gusties as they tag one win after another with a variety of players stepping up and making some crucial plays for the team.

Last Friday the Gusties traveled to Winona to take on St. Mary’s and saw five different players score a total of six goals, with assists credited to a variety of players. The following day was no different as the special team units put three goals on the board out of seven power play opportunities, with five players scoring, tagging a 6-0 victory over St. Mary’s at Don Roberts Ice Rink. To be able to go into a game and rely on the first, second, third and fourth lines to come through for the team is an example of the depth Carroll has mentioned and is a crucial aspect of the team’s game that will hopefully lead them to future successes in the season.

With leadership on the ice from Seniors Mari Gunderston, the recently named MIAC Player of the Week and Molly Doyle, who moved into sixth place on Gustavus’ all-time points list after achieving 114 career points last weekend, as well as other players including Sophomore goaltender Doyle, who moved into sixth place on Gustavus’ all-time points list after achieving 114 career points last weekend, as well as other players including Sophomore goaltender Breanna Scavo, All-American Senior Margaret Dorer and Junior All-Conference forward Jenny Pusch, the Gusties have an impressive line-up that is predicted to make outstanding accomplishments this season.

The Gusties will face two more teams in four games before the semester break, ending the first half of the season.

Coach Carroll expects the team to do well against both St. Olaf this upcoming weekend and UW-Superior the following weekend. He said, “There is a natural rivalry against [St. Olaf] in all sports and hockey as well, so we won’t have a problem getting the players fired up to play.”

Rated among the top ten in the nation, UW-Superior is expected to bring a dash of competition to the final games before break. When asked about her thoughts on the upcoming game against Superior, Vannelli said, “We definitely need to win that game. [Superior] is going to be one of the tougher teams we play all year. I’m looking forward to it being intense and fast-paced. It will give the younger girls the experience they need to get them prepared for the second half of the season.”

With the return of many experienced players from last season and a mix of new, talented, young individuals on the roster, the team looks ahead with confidence as they prepare to continue their winning streak.
SPORTS SCHEDULE

Friday
Women’s Hockey
vs. St. Olaf - 5 p.m.

Men’s Hockey
vs. St. Olaf - 8:05 p.m.

Saturday
Nordic Skiing
@ CCSA Season Opener
Women’s Hockey
@ St. Olaf - 5 p.m.
Men’s Hockey
@ St. Olaf - 8:05 p.m.

Sunday
Nordic Skiing (cont.)
@ CCSA Season Opener

Wednesday (12/12)
Men’s Hockey
@ St. John’s (NC) - 7:05
Men’s Basketball
vs. Bethany Lutheran - 7:30

Friday (12/14)
Women’s Hockey
vs. UW-Superior - 7 p.m.

STANDINGS

MENS BASKETBALL

SCHOOL | MIAC | RECORD
--- | --- | ---
CARLETON | 3.0 | 6.0
ST. THOMAS | 2.0 | 6.1
MACALESTER | 2.0 | 3.3
ST. JOHN’S | 2.1 | 5.1
GUSTAVUS | 2.1 | 5.2
HAMLIN | 2.1 | 2.4
CONCORDIA | 1.2 | 2.5
BETHEL | 0.2 | 3.3
ST. OLAF | 0.2 | 2.4
AUGSBURG | 0.2 | 3.5
ST. MARY’S | 0.3 | 0.6

W. BASKETBALL

SCHOOL | MIAC | RECORD
--- | --- | ---
CARLETON | 3.0 | 4.1
ST. THOMAS | 2.0 | 3.1
BETHEL | 2.1 | 4.1
GUSTAVUS | 2.1 | 2.3
AUGSBURG | 2.1 | 4.2
ST. BEN’S | 1.2 | 3.2
HAMLIN | 1.2 | 2.2
MACALESTER | 1.2 | 2.3
ST. KATE’S | 1.2 | 2.3
CONCORDIA | 0.2 | 1.4
ST. OLAF | 0.2 | 1.4
ST. MARY’S | 0.3 | 0.5

MEN’S HOCKEY

SCHOOL | MIAC | PTS | REC
--- | --- | --- | ---
HAMLIN | 3.1 | 6 | 33-2
ST. OLAF | 2.1 | 5 | 43-2
ST. JOHN’S | 2.0 | 5 | 45-1
ST. THOMAS | 2.2 | 4 | 71-1
BETHEL | 2.2 | 4 | 72
GUSTAVUS | 2.2 | 4 | 44
ST. MARY’S | 2.2 | 4 | 25-2
CONCORDIA | 0.2 | 1 | 6-6
AUGSBURG | 0.4 | 0 | 7-1

WOMEN’S HOCKEY

SCHOOL | MIAC | PTS | REC
--- | --- | --- | ---
GUSTAVUS | 4.0 | 8 | 61
CONCORDIA | 3.0 | 7 | 55-1
ST. THOMAS | 3.1 | 6 | 51
ST. BEN’S | 2.1 | 4 | 23
ST. OLAF | 1.1 | 4 | 31-1
BETHEL | 2.2 | 4 | 33-1
ST. MARY’S | 1.3 | 2 | 19
AUGSBURG | 1.3 | 2 | 17
HAMLIN | 0-31 | 1 | 54-1
ST. KATE’S | 0-4 | 1 | 51-1

Wilkinson named ITA Coach of the Year

Gustavus’ Men’s Tennis coach has an immaculate 328-1 record in conference matches since arriving on the hill 37 years ago

“The Gustavus Tennis Club has allowed me to maintain a ‘no-cut’ policy that I have maintained since 1970.”

- Steve Wilkinson

Coach Wilkinson has coached many successful players over the course of his career, some of them have competed at the highest level at Wimbledon. Most notable among these was 2003 Gustavus graduate Eric Butorac.
Fire in the Water

After a fifth place finish at Nationals last season, the Gusties look for a strong performance this year.

Ryan McGinty
Weekly Staff Writer

The Gustavus Men’s Swimming and Diving team is off to a phenomenal start this season, with several top finishes both from the individuals as well as the collective whole. The team started off the year with a win over Luther and St. John’s at the Gustavus triangular on November 17. Sophomore Matt Stewart stole the show, winning two individual events: the 100 butterfly (52.55) and the 200 butterfly (1:56.17). Sophomore Skylar Davis and Senior Ben Hanson also won individual races.

Last weekend the team competed in the Carthage Invitational. The team took fifth place out of nine teams. Stewart took first place in the 200 freestyle, turning in a time of 1:43.59 and Davis finished the 1650 freestyle in third place with a time of 16:18.19.

“The team is doing very well this year. Most of the returning guys are swimming faster now than this time last year,” said Stewart, who has contributed consistently to the team’s success this year. Stewart was given the honor of the MIAC Swimmer of the Week award for the week ending November 19. He also recently set MIAC record times in the 100 freestyle (47.42), 200 freestyle (1:44.35) and 200 butterfly (1:56.17). “I am grateful that my hard work is paying off, but in this sport, if you want to keep improving you can never be satisfied. You have to keep wanting more,” said Stewart.

Much like their female Gustie counterparts, the 2006-07 men’s squad was record-breaking and decorated come seasons end. First-years from a year ago, Stewart and Davis, had very successful campaigns. Stewart set records in the 200 and 500 freestyle and the 200 fly. Davis raised the bar in the 1000 and 1650 freestyle and the 400 IM. Stewart was an important piece in a trio of record-breaking relay teams as well. He combined with departed swimmers Brian Amundson and Scott Hagemeyer along with current Senior Jonah Winter in the 200 free and Senior Ben Hanson replacing Winter in the 400. Junior Billy Cuevas was the only other current part of the 800 free along with Stewart.

“It helps to have our top guys back from nationals last year,” said Sophomore swimmer Andrew Michaelson. “They give us an advantage in dual meets and conference, when the team and the individual really have a chance to come together.”

The team will, as always, strive for the best in performance. “As a team we hope to win the conference again this year. We also have a good amount of guys with a shot at making it to nationals,” said Stewart. The Carthage Invitational last weekend marked the final meet before the holiday recess.

The team will be back in the pool January 8 for the St. John’s/St. Benedict’s Winter Invitational.
The impact of reason

Cheer up liberals, life is good

A recent analysis of data from the past four November Gallup Health and Healthcare polls has demonstrated that “Republicans are significantly more likely than Democrats or independents to rate their own mental health as excellent.” On a purely ‘party-identification’ level, 58 percent of Republicans rate their own mental health as excellent in comparison to 43 percent of independents that did so and only 38 percent of Democrats. This relationship persists even when controlling for other variables such as age, income, gender, church attendance and education. What this means is that even when one controls for the characteristics of a stereotypical Republican: white, male, highly educated and wealthy, the basic pattern still shows that, “party identification appears to have an independent effect on mental health.” The story accompanying the poll readily notes that correlation does not prove causation, and that the exact reason for the relationship is not clear.

Does this really come as a surprise to anyone, though? I know it did not surprise me even when controlling for other variables such as age, income, gender, church attendance and education. What this means is that even when one controls for the characteristics of a stereotypical Republican: white, male, highly educated and wealthy, the basic pattern still shows that, “party identification appears to have an independent effect on mental health.” The story accompanying the poll readily notes that correlation does not prove causation, and that the exact reason for the relationship is not clear.

Does this really come as a surprise to anyone, though? I know it did not surprise me when I read it. The differences are significant and telling of one’s worldview. There has been a continuous effort by liberals, along with a deluge of failed attempts, to demonstrate how horrible conservatives and their policies are, how horribly the war is going, how horrible the economy is, how horrible we as humans are to this earth and how horrible life is for everyone. We are constantly hearing negative reports of George Bush, anti-American sentiment, failed policies and misdirection.

Up until very recently there were no positive stories about the war in Iraq, and now that prominent members of the Democrat party such as war critic Representative John Murtha are being forced to admit that the surge is working, Iraq is quickly becoming a non-story. Other liberals speak of an oncoming recession. Throw together the daily stories of how man is raping, pillaging and polluting the earth through almost every single action taken, and it is not surprising why Democrats think so lowly of their mental health. The holiday season is a perfect microcosm of such thought. Already there are rumblings about how the holiday season is almost an equivalent to something evil. Christmas lights unnecessarily waste needed energy, so you should either not use them or buy the LED versions. Gift giving further promotes consumption, an evil in which only the rich and privileged are able to partake. Travelling across the country or even short distances massacas the environment and thus should be discouraged. Holiday cheer demonstrates a disregard for the suffering and injustices in the world.

We are being told to think that we are living in a world of hatred and greed. But I don’t see that. The holiday season is a time to realize how great life really is. It is a time for joy and celebration. It is a time to delight in the company and presence of loved ones. It is a time to give thanks to God for the blessings that have been bestowed upon individuals and mankind alike. Certainly, we should be cognizant of the fact that there are those not as privileged. But do not let this guilt over-ride the sense of blessing that comes with our own circumstances, especially those who have worked incredibly hard to get where they are. Have some pride and see the good in one’s fellow man, in the world and in one’s self. Cheer up liberals, life is good.

Learning from the Left

The pre-election countdown

You’ve been hearing about it for months now. Fundraising numbers, poll results and television ads have all been thrown at you since early this year in the hope that you will cast your vote for a particular candidate. Now we as a nation get to decide the candidate we feel best represents our interests going into the 2008 Presidential election. So allow me to break down how this selection process works so that everyone can understand how the Democratic and Republican nominees will be chosen for the upcoming election cycle.

First of all, states all across the nation have been pushing their primary and caucus dates back so that they will have a greater impact in determining the direction of their party’s politics. To put it simply, if one candidate wins big in a bunch of early primaries, a lot of the undecided/swing voters might be influenced in favor of that candidate as well. It creates a ripple effect that explains why all the candidates are desperate to do well in the early states. If they can win there, they will gain momentum heading into “Super Tuesday,” the first Tuesday in February, on which some 22 states are holding their respective primaries/caucuses.

So how do we college students fit into the picture? We can vote on campus during Minnesota’s primary on February 5. If you are from another state, you have the option of voting absentee in your home state by mailing your absentee ballot prior to the primary date, usually thirty days before the election. In Minnesota you can either register twenty days before the election or at the polling place itself during the election. All you need is your student ID and a registration/fee statement from Gustavus to prove you’re a student—or a Minnesota’s driver’s license will suffice.

This is a great opportunity for us as “young people” to change the landscape of politics today. Analysts, political scholars and campaign personnel always point to the low voter turnout among eligible voters in our age range as an indicator of our apathy to civic engagement.

Continued on page 14
Primaries and caucuses are held to help determine which candidate should receive their party's nomination. The Minnesota primary takes place on February 5.

“Countdown”: continued from page 13

And while I would debate this argument wholeheartedly, the fact of the matter is, it is so easy to vote—especially in Minnesota—that there is little reason why we shouldn’t have our voices heard in the discussion for who should be the leader of the free world. It is for this reason that I implore everyone to do a bit of reading about candidates, maybe watch some debates, find out what you need to do for your state’s primary/election and then follow through so that you can vote for the candidate that you want running in the general election.

There are some highly useful websites that can help you in this very important process. The first is Project Vote Smart (www.vote-smart.org); this is an excellent site for finding out how to vote in your state’s primary. It has numerous resources and links, while also being easy to navigate. Another helpful website is On the Issues (www.ontheissues.org), which is useful for finding the position of all the candidates on practically all the issues. Regardless of how you choose to go about the process, make sure that you take a couple minutes of your day to figure out what you need to do to have your voice heard. As recent cases in Florida in 2000 and Ohio in 2004 show, every vote counts, so if you want some say in how this country is run, I suggest putting down this paper, going to the nearest computer and starting to surf the web to find how you can change the course of the nation.

“Jesus was too smart to ever run for public office.”

Mike Huckabee
Republican presidential contender, when asked whether Jesus would use the death penalty at Wednesday’s CNN/YouTube debate

The bastardization of Iwo Jima

The United States Marine Corps War Memorial is a symbol of remembrance to not only those who fell at Iwo Jima in World War II, but to all Marines who have lost their lives in defense of the United States since 1775. This is why it is fitting that the memorial sits on a hill overlooking Washington D.C.—permanently standing guard over the nation’s capital. It is not a symbol of renewable energy. The bastardization of this memorial belittles the sacrifices and hardships that Marines have experienced over the 232-year history of the Marine Corps.

I recognize the fact that renewable energy is an important issue to the Gustavus community, but making a political point at the expense of a memorial to fallen soldiers is very distasteful. There is no comparison between the two, that is, unless the proceedings to obtain wind turbines for the Gustavus community involved selfless acts of heroism, death, destruction and large amounts of gunfire. After seeing the image, I decided to do some research of my own and find pictures more relevant to “The Gustavus Power Struggle.” After 0.11 agonizing seconds of my time with Google Images, I managed to locate 265,000 photographs of wind turbines that were more appropriate than an adaptation of the United States Marine Corps War Memorial.

As the son of a veteran and family to men and women who have served in every major world conflict since World War I, I personally understand the sacrifices the United States Marine Corps War Memorial stands for.

Mike McKenny ‘08

Affirmative Action: not just for race

Gustavus’ race relations are shameful, deplorable and downright pathetic. Gustavus publicizes its commitment to diversity, but belies its promise. For years this school has made it a goal to recruit minority students only to leave them in a racially insensitive and culturally ignorant academic environment absent of the peer support they need to grow and prosper. Gustavus wants us to be leaders, to stand strong and be proud of this institution. How can the minority students of this school achieve this goal? How can Gustavus’ minorities stand proud when they are constantly bombarded with reminders that they are different? Most students here do not understand that. In many white students’ minds, they are the privileged majority, and many therefore feel that they do not need to be cross-culturally competent.

Last week’s “Affirmative Action at Gustavus” piece was a horribly one-sided portrayal of both the policies of this school as well as an unfair representation of those who have primarily and disproportionately continued to benefit from this legislation. Did you know that all Gustavus men benefit from Affirmative Action? How can Gustavus’ race relations be considered to be equitable when the minority students of this school are being robbed of their rightful share? How can Gustavus be considered equitable when they allow the privileged majority to profit from the sacrifices of those who are not? There are some highly useful websites that can help you in this very important process. The first is Project Vote Smart (www.vote-smart.org); this is an excellent site for finding out how to vote in your state’s primary. It has numerous resources and links, while also being easy to navigate. Another helpful website is On the Issues (www.ontheissues.org), which is useful for finding the position of all the candidates on practically all the issues. Regardless of how you choose to go about the process, make sure that you take a couple minutes of your day to figure out what you need to do to have your voice heard. As recent cases in Florida in 2000 and Ohio in 2004 show, every vote counts, so if you want some say in how this country is run, I suggest putting down this paper, going to the nearest computer and starting to surf the web to find how you can change the course of the nation.

I thank Ms. Booker for defending non-whites and noting the continued persistent success of minority students; if minorities weren’t academically qualified, they wouldn’t be able to excel academically. White men benefited from Affirmative Action first. After World War II, the government instituted the GI bill, which allowed many white men to get their education for free, purchase their homes with very low interest rates and an onslaught of other things. Many non-whites who fought in the war were not allowed this privilege; they were reined in. In an effort to alleviate the gap between the sexes, affirmative action has been used for decades to allow women a fair shot; that is all affirmative action is.

Race and racism are still very prevalent issues in America and at Gustavus, and affirmative action ensures that minorities have the same opportunities as whites. Why must I continually prove myself equal?

Shana Clarke ’09

Letters to the Editor: Continued on page 15

Quote of the Week

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Mike Huckabee
Republican presidential contender, when asked whether Jesus would use the death penalty at Wednesday's CNN/YouTube debate

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Shana Clarke ’09
Letters to the Editor: Continued from page 14

Funding our Minnesota schools

Earlier this week, superintendents from across the state converged in St. Paul to offer state lawmakers one simple message: design a stable funding system for Minnesota schools. I can only say that I share their frustration. By failing to provide adequate funding for education, the state has increasingly shifted the cost of providing quality schools onto property tax payers. This funding system both creates excessive reliance on a tax that is not based on one’s ability to pay and leaves schools unable to make long-term financing decisions, as they never know how voters will react to their next levy request.

For five years, the current administration’s policies have stood in the way of legislative efforts to provide schools the necessary resources to cover rising special education, health care, energy and general operating costs. Nobody wins under this system. Voters are left to choose between higher property taxes or keeping schools open, a choice that is even more difficult for seniors living on fixed incomes. Communities are often left deeply divided by referendums, which drive a wedge between neighbors on an issue that should unite us all. Schools and parents are forced to expedite precious time and money on running a campaign. When referendums fail, schools are closed, class sizes are increased and quality education programs are slashed. Minnesota is known for quality, innovative education programs. We simply cannot watch our public school system continue to erode for lack of investment. Our students and our schools deserve better.

Minnesota State Senator Kathy Sheran
This Day in History:
1941 -- Um, I don’t know . . . PEARL — FREAKIN’ — HARBOR?

On-Campus Film, 3:10 to Yuma
7:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.
Why aren’t we showing it at 3:10 p.m.?

Shabbat Dinner
7:00 p.m.
My only experience with Kosher food preparation was when I read the book Postville sophomore year.

24-Hour Prayer Room
7:00 p.m.
The goal is to have someone praying in this room for twenty-four hours. It’s kind of like 24 hour tantric sex, only you pray instead of have tantric sex.

2007 Shared Space Dance Concert, Ephemerical
7:30 p.m.
Ephemerical: (i-fem-rəl), adjective
Definition: lasting for only a short period of time
Example: Coke Blak was ephemeral.

Dive
7:30 p.m.
Where the underclassmen go to party and the upperclassmen go to escape the fact that they are applying to grad schools.

Men and Women’s Nordic Skiing at CCSA Season Opener
All Day
This event is held in Dresser, Wisconsin. Next week the team will probably go to Bureau, Indiana.

Student Appreciation Day in the Bookmark
9:00 p.m.
I appreciate myself everyday with a warm fuzzy, big hug and insulting those different from myself. That never fails to make me feel better.

Student Recital, Kira O’Bradovich
3:30 p.m.
How many Mezzo-Sopranos does it take to screw a light bulb, Kira? One, and funny ones will be printed in next week’s issue!

Fall Art Show by Senior Studio Art Majors
All Day
These students are in their early twenties and none of them have cut off their own ears yet. And you call yourselves Art Majors? Ha.

Announcement: Michael Johnson Concert Tickets on Sale
All Day
His name sounds like Michael Jordan, so he must be cool!

Happy 8th Day of Hanukkah
Hmmm, eight days of Christmas versus just one? I’ll take Hanukkah!

Climate Change and Campus Leadership Webcast
1:00 p.m.
This is a must-see for the environmentalists in the house. ‘You’d better be there, Breanna Draxler!’

Happy Hanukkah, Gusties!

I'm Kosher!