The Fellowship of Christian Athletes returns to Gustavus after a long absence

Jacob Seams
News Editor

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), the nationally renowned ecumenical prayer and Bible study group for young athletes, is getting restarted by a group of students looking to bring its unique mission and programming back to Gustavus after a long dormancy. Its return, however, is not without controversy.

“There was talk among the Proclaim leaders about starting up FCA, and I had been involved in [FCA] in high school,” said Delphine Broccard, junior communication studies major.

She wanted to bring FCA back to Gustavus so future Gusties who were involved in FCA in high school, like her younger brother, could continue to benefit from its programs.

The group, one of many being formed across the state, aims to bring a Christian element to athletic competition.

“We are really looking at the sports world and saying, ‘Hey, we want to make a difference,’” said Jeff June, FCA Area Director for southern Minnesota. “We want to help athletes and coaches take the God-given talents they have, understand those talents come from God, help them to thank God for them [and] use those things to glorify Him.”

However, despite its name, FCA is…basically trying to get the word out through sports,” said Whitney.

“It’s not [just for athletes]. Anyone can come,” said Sophomore Callie Nelsen, one of the leaders of the group. “FCA is a Christian organization…to serve other Christians. It’s basically just a group of people who get together once a week and worship, dig into the Bible and [join in] fellowship with other Christians.”

Wanna get away?

Gusties face challenges and bonuses living off-campus

Becky Krocak
Weekly Staff Writer

With housing assignments approaching, many students have to make the choice whether to stay on campus in dorms, apartments or to live off campus.

Currently, about 400 Gustavus students choose to live in off-campus housing each year.

“The way we determine the number of off-campus students is to subtract the number of beds on campus from the total student body and subtract one percent from that. In other words, we have 99 percent of the beds filled on campus,” said Charlie Strey, Director of Residential Life.

Assigning rooms is a fairly complex process that involves “randomly assigning numbers to students. These numbers are generated within classes. All juniors, for example, will have higher numbers than all sophomores. Off-campus and apartment housing are the most popular, so we [assign] those first. Assigning rooms is not all first-come, first-serve. Everyone makes their choices, and then we run the program [that assigns rooms],” Strey said.

A common misconception is that the college does not allow all students who wish to live off campus to do so. “Three of the last four years, we have allowed everyone who wished to live off campus to do so,” Strey said.

“Most students are so involved, I think that’s why more students prefer to live on campus.”

However, not all students who apply are accepted in the first round.

Continued on page 4

Senate cabinet stipends

Mary Cunningham
Weekly Staff Writer

After facing potential budgeting woes last spring, one may be surprised to hear that discussion at the last full Senate meeting focused not on allocating money to student organizations, but on allocating money to the Cabinet of Senate. The Cabinet, which includes the positions of the Co- Presidents, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Administration, Director of Communications, Controller and Floor leader, will become paid positions starting in the spring 2008 semester. While this move certainly will have seven Senate members seeing green, the move may not make Gustavus student organizations feel quite as content. This controversial move certainly has students raising their eyebrows and asking “Why now?” but it also has some student organizations concerned about their future funding.

Co-Presidents Tony Spain and Chris Edelbrock explain that there are several reasons behind this change. The first is most area colleges already pay their cabinets up to $5,000 per semester. The only other colleges that don’t provide stipends are Macalaster and Bethany Lutheran; however, Bethany is also amending its policies to include Cabinet stipends.

The second reason is that being a cabinet member is very demanding. Students who have to work in order to pay for college may not be able to participate in senate while holding a work-study job.

“We wanted to expand the opportunity [to participate in leadership positions in Senate] to people who don’t get a check every month from their parents,” Co-President Tony Spain said.

The third reason for the new stipend is that Senate hopes it will improve the leadership of Senate.

“It’s an investment in the leadership of the student body as a whole,” Co-President Chris Edelbrock said.

It is the Senate’s hope that this payment will also increase the diversity of applicants for the Cabinet positions and help to further the impact of Senate campus-wide.

While the stipend may open opportunities for Gusties interested in leadership, student organizations who depend on Senate for funding may be wondering if this will affect their cash flow in the future.

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Shared Space, a student choreographed, performed, directed and produced dance performance, exemplified the hard work of the Gustavus Dance program and the intricacies of modern dance. The show drew sold-out crowds and, before one performance, a tailgate party.
At one point, the students restarting FCA has come under some fire for on-campus groups because of a policy that bars openly homosexual students from holding leadership positions in the group. This ‘Sexual Purity Policy,’ as it is called, is part of the form from the national organization to apply to be a leader within FCA.

“The Sexual Purity policy, as stated by FCA, is that the members of the leadership team should remain sexually pure, as the Bible says...” That entails any sexual acts or homosexual acts,” said First-year Chris Broccard, the Worship Leader for FCA at Gustavus.

The national FCA cites the Bible as its basis for the group, and that this is the reason for the policy. “We have a statement of faith, basically talking about the Bible. [The Sexual Purity Policy] is there because there are so many issues and problems in society coming from that,” said Juni. “[FCA’s] stance is based on the Bible.”

This policy has frustrated some leaders of efforts to promote LGBT acceptance on campus. “[The Sexual Purity Policy] is frustrating because I feel like the people who are trying to start FCA here don’t oppose homosexuality. It’s not their personal belief, it’s this national [organization’s] belief,” said Allison Oppenheimer, sophomore communication arts/literature teaching major and Q&A member.

However, some LGBT students believe the overall worth of the group outweighs its negative aspects. “I think FCA is a wonderful organization. I was involved with it in high school, and I felt that despite the discriminatory policy they have, overall FCA would be a really good thing for this campus to have,” said Bill Kline, who wrote a letter in support of bringing the group to Gustavus. He emphasized the fact that the policy only affects the leaders of the group. “[The policy] is only for those in the leadership, and it’s not like they discriminate against [those who can be in the club]. If they did something like that, it would be a much bigger issue.”

At one point, the students restarting FCA debated whether they wanted to continue their association with the national organization or if they wanted to start a similar group that wasn’t associated with the national FCA. “For the group, it was fifty-fifty right down the middle, and there were some good points on both sides, but ultimately we decided that we wanted to stay with the national FCA. “For the group, it was fifty-fifty right down the middle, and there were some good points on both sides, but ultimately we decided that we wanted to stay with the national FCA,” said Whitney. “FCA is known, and their policies are what we want, and we can use their materials. It came down to people praying over it, reading into the Bible, doing whatever, and there was a big change in the vote. The last vote was 8-1 [in favor].”

Even though the group decided to stay with the national organization, those within the group emphasize that they are not trying to hurt people or cause problems. “We’re not trying to turn anybody away: we’re not trying to cause a big storm. It’s something that we want to work. We don’t think that it’s going to create any discrimination because everybody can be involved in it,” said Whitney. “It’s not our goal to have social issues of the day to divide Christians. We want to bring people together at the cross and hear the message of Christ,” said Juni.

“Regardless of what the policies are, I feel like it should focus on the ministry,” said Broccard. However, FCA does stand by its position. “Not everyone is going to agree, but we’re not going to apologize. We’re trying to be Bible based. If you start picking and choosing things out of [the Bible] that you don’t want to follow, then you might as well throw the whole thing out,” said Juni.

“FCA chose God’s word as a guideline for the leadership policies, and I think that anyone that wants to be involved in FCA will be mature enough to respect that. The reason we’re bringing FCA here is not to create controversies. Instead, our goal is to build up a Christian community for athletes and non-athletes,” said Sophomore Callie Nelson.
The benefits of living off campus are “accessibility to campus resources and friends. Someone cleans your bathroom and kitchen for you. The biggest thing is that because we are a small residential campus, we have access to resources.”

“Time is a resource. There is cleaning time, shopping time, etc. Living off campus is an effort,” Strey said.

According to Strey, some of the disadvantages involved with living off campus are “accessibility to campus resources and friends. Someone cleans your bathroom and kitchen for you. The biggest thing is that because we are a small residential campus, we have access to resources.”

“Time is a resource. There is cleaning time, shopping time, etc. Living off campus is an effort,” Strey said.

“The concerns I’ve run into deal with looking at leases and reading them carefully. The Residential Life Office provides resources in how to deal with some of these challenges: dealing with landlords and learning about what the city offers and expects. There are certain responsibilities expected of students. We collected landlords’ information in a book that is in the Residential Life Office. People are welcome to come in and look at the book or meet with me about leases so they know what they’re getting into. Some leases place all responsibility on the tenants of the house. People need to go into living off campus with their eyes wide open,” said Strey.

Most of the students who live off campus find it to be a very rewarding experience, despite the challenges involved. “I love living off campus and wish I would have decided to do so before my senior year,” Magee said.

In the end, the decision to live on or off campus depends on individual personality. “I think off campus housing is sort of a wide-open,” said Strey.
A moving portrait

Ryan McGinty
Weekly Staff Writer

Control is a biopic on the life of Ian Curtis, lead singer of the late great band Joy Division. If you're unfamiliar with Joy Division, they were formed in the late 70s in the aftermath of the punk movement in England. Curtis struggled with fame, failed marriage and his own inadequacies, and eventually hung himself at the age of 23.

The subject matter is gloomy and the film mirrors this with an opaque style. It is shot in grainy black and white, with of course, a lot of grey as well. This parallels the almost infinite grey area in Curtis’ life perfectly.

Relative newcomer Sam Riley plays the enigmatic lead role with a sort of brilliance not usually seen in such a novice actor. He nails the character of Curtis, from his deep voice to his unorthodox style of dancing onstage, which looks like a mix between a boxing match and an epileptic seizure.

Director Anton Corbijn is unmerciful in his portrayal of Ian Curtis. He shows the bad, and the good, but mostly the bad. From Curtis’ adulterous affair, to his problems with epilepsy, it’s all there, and it’s not sugar coated.

The biggest accomplishment of Control is that it works simultaneously as a character piece and as a movie about a band. The music is there in full force, but it’s not all about the music. It’s about the lyricist’s murky life. The music only adds to the film’s listless atmosphere.

The film leaves us with no answers about Curtis’ life, and that’s the way it should be because who really knows? The viewer is left with no solace at the end of the film, just as Curtis was left with none at the end of his short life.

Eighteen years in the playing

Meet Your Fellow Gustie: Coach Mark Hanson

1983 Grad of Gustavus Adolphus College continues his tradition

Christina Strey
Weekly Staff Writer

His favorite color is blue and he spends his time in Lund: specifically the basketball courts, the swimming pool, sometimes he meets for class in the hockey forum…and did I mention the basketball courts?

By day, Mark Hanson teaches a wide variety of outdoor activity classes on campus, including canoeing, kayaking, camping and rock climbing. By night, he paces the sidelines of the basketball court as the Men’s Head coach, a position he has held for 18 years. Hanson’s basketball history is, to put it frankly, pretty sweet!

From 1979-1983 his name is marked in the records under “All Time All-Conference.” He scored a total of 1,774 points, making him the basketball program’s all-time leading scorer and he was a three-time Gustie MVP selection.

Hanson predicts good competition for this season: “The league is awfully strong from top to bottom, with any number of teams being strong enough to win the conference. We are one of the teams that might be capable of doing that. We need to continue to improve our defensive intensity and maintain positive offensive consistency. As for the future—I don’t make prognostications.” It seems he didn’t take Divination, but his hopes look good for the men’s team.

Hanson does have a life outside basketball, and anyone who has taken a class from him knows that he loves the outdoors.

His favorite non-work related hobby is fly-fishing, fitting in perfectly with his love of canoeing, which is his favorite class to teach. He likes the class because he gets to teach what he loves, because of the strokes (pry, pull, ruddering) and because it’s a great way to get off campus and get a tan during the day. Both the course and Coach Mark Hanson come highly recommended.
Arts Center adds color to St. Peter

Andrea Janney
Weekly Staff Writer

St. Peter is well-known as the home of Gustavus Adolphus College, and attracts many visitors on a regular basis. Families passing through the area might stop to take a picture by the Pearly Gates or grab a bite to eat at Ruttles.

Although attractions like this are staples of the St. Peter community, there are other attractions that visitors and students should take the time to see before leaving the area.

The Arts Center of St. Peter is one of the lesser-known attractions of south-central Minnesota, and it provides services that enrich the lifelong education of its community.

The mission statement posted on the Center’s website reads, “In the belief that the arts are essential to a healthy community, it is the mission of the Arts Center of Saint Peter to stimulate and support artistic activity throughout southern Minnesota. We accomplish this mission through exhibits, performances, education, and community outreach.”

True to its mission statement, the Arts Center offers a variety of classes including ceramics, painting and drawing, all of which are available to both adults and children. It also sponsors gallery shows and musical events on a regular basis.

Senior Sara Baer, a volunteer at the Arts Center of St. Peter, says the Center is “always looking for volunteers,” and that the Center is currently trying to start a new program called LINK.

Created specifically for college students majoring in art, LINK connects students with Minnesota art organizations, and provides members with numerous benefits.

Currently on display are by paintings by critically acclaimed artist Mary Pettis. In January, the gallery will feature drawings by Kris Lowe.

Relocated to a new building—after the original was leveled by the ’98 tornado—the Arts Center of St. Peter can be found nestled among the many shops that line Main Street.

It is open Tuesday through Sunday from 1:00-5:00 p.m., and Thursdays from 1:00-8:00 p.m. If you’re interested, contact the Center at (507) 931-3630.

The Arts Center of St. Peter offers classes like basic figure drawing and Ukrainian egg dyeing for both community members and Gustavus students.

Question of the Week:
What is Your Favorite Part of the Holiday Season?

"Christmas Sweaters."
-Junior Rose Tauke

"Spending time with family, friends and [making] snow angels."
-Senior Brandon Ness

"The food, because my family is Italian. It's delicious!"
-First-year Christina Mangine
No clean getaways

The Coen Brothers are at it again, this time with the release of No Country For Old Men

Ryan McGinty
Weekly Staff Writer

No Country For Old Men is the newest film by the Coen Brothers (Miller’s Crossing, Fargo) and is perhaps their best to date.

Based on the novel of the same name by Cormac McCarthy, the story takes place in Texas during the 1980s. Llewelyn Moss, played by Josh Brolin, is a hunter who stumbles upon the aftermath of a drug deal gone horribly wrong. He gets greedy and takes the unclaimed money for himself, which gets him into a heap of trouble. Throughout the movie he is pursued by a seven-foot tall, psychopathic serial killer, played menacingly by Javier Bardem, who is also interested in the cash. The sheriff of the town, played by Tommy Lee Jones, who is also the pseudo-narrator, is intent on bringing this psychopath down.

This film brings new meaning to the word suspense. I can’t remember the last time I jumped out of my seat so many times. Javier Bardem’s performance is phenomenal in the movie, but Bardem’s character, Anton Chigurh, is the most frightening figure I have seen on the screen in years. He is a murderous giant, with no moral compass to speak of, and a shotgun with a silencer. He’s the kind of person about whom both kids and adults have nightmares. His presence is indescribable—you have to see the film to understand.

As I’ve said before, Chigurh is a killing machine, and they show it without mercy. The film is extremely gory and the body count is high. This is essential for the film, but those with weak stomachs may want to heed this warning. I’m not saying that you shouldn’t go see it, but maybe just bring a trash bag with you.

That being said, No Country For Old Men is an absolute masterpiece, and you should do everything in your power to see it as soon as possible.

The acting is without fault. Tommy Lee Jones plays the role he was born to play. He is perfect as the weathered and weary southern sheriff, with a hint of sarcastic humor. Josh Brolin is a great actor in this film. He’s tough and believable. Everyone is phenomenal in the movie, but Javier Bardem’s performance leaves the rest in the dust.

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Running with the tunes

I was exhausted and ready to collapse at any moment; the only thing that kept me going was the softly striking piano and grooving bass that reverberated from my headphones. I jolted suddenly. James Murphy had just whispered “Shame on you” over the carefully-layered harmonics. Shame on me for wanting to stop! He continued, “Hey—your love away from me. You can’t hide.” I continued my run, freshly invigorated by LCD Soundsystem’s recently released album, 45:33.

LCD’s lead man is James Murphy. He is a composer and the lead singer/multi-instrumentalist for LCD, as well as being head of his dance-punk label, DFA Records. Other members include Al Doyle (guitar, percussion), Phil Skarich (bass), Nancy Whang (keyboards, synthesizers) and Pat Mahoney (drums).

LCD has previously released two albums. Both albums were universally acclaimed.

The double-disc set LCD Soundsystem (February 2005) was one of Amazon.com’s Top 100 Editor’s Picks of 2005. In the same year, LCD received nominations for two Grammy awards. Sounds of Silver (March 2007) was received with extremely high praise as well. Although LCD enjoys great popularity in Britain, the group also played on August 3, 2007, at Lollapalooza and with The Arcade Fire in September at St. Paul’s Roy Wilkins Auditorium.

In October 2006, Murphy produced a corporate-funded piece of original workout/run-ning music for a Nike+ promotion, available exclusively from iTunes for six months. The result was 45:33, which has now been re-released by Murphy’s DFA Records, including several b-sides from European singles. 45:33 was designed, according to Murphy, “to reward and push at good intervals of a run.” Despite this original statement, Murphy later admitted that he does not actually run; he just wanted the opportunity to compose a long-form record. Fair enough.

The music itself is often categorized as electronic or dance-punk. 45:33 is a more “sprawling” type of music; it is not ridiculously fast-paced or created in any way that may prove to be distracting or detrimental to the runner. While there are some intermittent lyrics, there are no complicated lyrics with which to be distracted.

The piece is primarily electronic, but also features the use of horns. The beat breaks and drops out around the 28-minute mark when things slow down significantly to sparse instrumentation, still including the horns, but then it jumps back into a quicker tempo for several minutes. The soft lyrics are space-like and distorted almost beyond recognition. The final movement concludes with over seven minutes of celestial sounds—cooling out after one very long run.

Although 45:33 may have been produced for runners, it is also well-suited for the academic. The piece is a perfect companion to marathons of reading and paper-writing as its lyrics aren’t distracting or overwhelming.

45:33 is ideal for the active college student (especially during finals). As Murphy said: “Sometimes the best way to keep running is to find that parts of the run are actually rests—that while you’re still running, you’re viewing some of the run as soothing and recuperative, rather than constantly feeling like you’re running for your life.”
With finals around the corner, one of the only bright spots in sight is Midnight Express this Sunday at 10 p.m., featuring the Gustavus Jazz Ensemble and the Gustavus Lab Jazz Band. In addition to providing background music, the bands provide atmosphere. On the eve of finals, the Evelyn Young Dining Room will be filled with boisterous students and staff despite the inevitably gruesome days to follow. It is a paradox. In this way, the Midnight Express is like jazz itself. Jazz seems to contradict itself continuously, but without conflict. Perhaps this contradiction is the only way it can make sense. Here is one way it contradicts itself: somehow, at the same time, jazz is about the music, about the musician and about the ensemble as a whole. “It’s all about the music, man,” said Junior music performance major Eric Mahon, a trumpet player in the Lab Band. This statement is true. John Coltrane, Thelonious Monk, Clifford Brown, Pat Metheny, Jaco Pastorius, Clifford Brown, Wes Montgomery, Miles Davis: ask any member of the Lab Band about jazz musicians and he or she will list off droves of them if they were old friends. Intimately knowing the history, the habits and the eccentricities of the music is a prerequisite to being a jazz musician.

On the other hand, jazz is unique in the music world because of the emphasis it places on recognizing and showcasing the individual musician. “Jazz to me is the ultimate form of self-expression,” said Junior health fitness major Carl Lundholm, a trombone player. “When a person improvises a solo or makes up a melody on the spot, there is nothing on this earth to better exhibit what’s truly on the inside. What sets apart a good soloist from a bad one or even a great soloist from a good one is mastery of one’s instrument and self-confidence.” Whatever the talent of the musician, however, the success of jazz music inexorably depends on the way the band interlaces all the musical strings. “Both bands really nailed that last concert,” said the director, Dr. Steve Wright. “This is how I know everything’s going okay: if I’m not worried in the front, I’m just snapping my fingers and cueing things just to look like I’m earning my keep. And I tell them that. By and large, by the time we hit a concert they’re pretty much just on their own. I really had a good time and I know the band did, too, and so did the audience.”

When you arrive at Midnight Express, take some time to appreciate the musicians. “I would suggest that Midnight Express-goers listen for how the band grooves and fits together,” said Sophomore biochemistry and chemistry double major Scott Simpkins, the Lab Band’s stand-up and electric bass player. “Our director tells us, ‘The band’s cookin’,’ and we will definitely enjoy cookin’ up some hot jazz for all those willing to listen.”

Lundholm also gave his advice as to what to look for. “Everything!” said Lundholm, “but more specifically, lead sax master Jonathan Monk’s solos, lead trumpet virtuoso Erik Mahon’s inconceivably high notes (followed by his near blackouts), drummer-extraordinaire Andy Haaheim’s mind-blowing fills and all notes played by the bands in between. Midnight Express-goers should basically just look forward to kickin’ back and gettin’ lost in some great tunes. I hope to see all you Gusties there!”
FALL SPORTS ALL-MIAC SELECTIONS

Jennifer Thelemann
Senior. Outside hitter.
<Volleyball All-Conference First Team

Emily Klein
Junior. Libero.
<Volleyball All-Conference First Team

Bridget Burtzel
Junior. Setter.
<Volleyball All-Sportsmanship Team

Mike Butterworth
Senior. Forward.
<Men’s Soccer MIAC MVP
<First Team All-Conference

Jack Underwood
Senior. Midfielder.
<Men’s Soccer All-Conference First Team

Flynn Stewart-Franzen
Junior. Defenseman.
<Men’s Soccer All-Conference First Team

Eraser Horton
Sophomore. Midfielder.
<Men’s Soccer All-Conference First Team

Chad Ault
Junior. Wide Receiver.
<Football First Team

Jared Stoltz
Senior. Linbacker.
<First Team

Mitch Anderson
Senior. Running Back.
<Second Team

Jared Thelemann
Junior. Guard.
<Second Team

Jordan Stolp
Senior. Quarterback.
<Second Team

Ethan Armstrong
Junior. Returner.
<Second Team

John Ostertag
Junior. Kicker.
<Second Team

Patrick Riordan
Senior. Defensive End.
<Third Team

Tom Johnson
Senior. Wide Receiver.
<Sportsmanship

Chris Delaubenfels
Senior. Men’s Cross-Country First Team

Laura Edlund
Senior. Women’s Cross-Country First Team

Sarah Bernhardson
Senior. Women’s Cross-Country First Team

Mike Ludwig
Senior. Wide Receiver.
<Football First Team

Anne Ahlbrecht
Junior. Wide Receiver.
<Football First Team

Brian Fowlie
Junior. Wide Receiver.
<Football First Team

Adelle Burk
Senior. Wide Receiver.
<Football First Team

Frasor Horton
Sophomore. Midfielder.
<Men’s Soccer All-Conference First Team

Chad Ault
Junior. Wide Receiver.
<Football First Team

Jared Stoltz
Senior. Linbacker.
<First Team

Mitch Anderson
Senior. Running Back.
<Second Team

Jared Thelemann
Junior. Guard.
<Second Team

Jordan Stolp
Senior. Quarterback.
<Second Team

Ethan Armstrong
Junior. Returner.
<Second Team

John Ostertag
Junior. Kicker.
<Second Team

Patrick Riordan
Senior. Defensive End.
<Third Team

Tom Johnson
Senior. Wide Receiver.
<Sportsmanship

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Senior. Men’s Cross-Country First Team

Laura Edlund
Senior. Women’s Cross-Country First Team

Sarah Bernhardson
Senior. Women’s Cross-Country First Team
Sports Editor: Andy Keenan

STANDINGS

MEN’S HOCKEY

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W. BASKETBALL

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WOMEN’S HOCKEY

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<td>BETHEL</td>
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<td>ST. OLAF</td>
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Gustavus’ Men’s hockey team looks solid before the holiday break

Led by their talented group of seniors, Gustavus sits in second place in the MIAC at a record of 6-4, 4-2 in conference play

Justyn K. Dow
Weekly Staff Writer

T he Gustavus Men’s Hock- ey team’s season is now in full swing. After starting the season with two impressive road wins, the Gusties (6-4-0) encountered a slight hiccup, losing three straight one-goal games against #6 ranked UW-River Falls, #7 ranked UW-Stout and Hamline. Since that loss to Hamline, the Gusties have found a way to return to their winning ways and have now won four out of their last five games. In that stretch, Gustavus recorded a 3-1 win over Hamline, a 6-0 win over St. Mary’s, and a 4-2, 6-1 sweep over MIAC rival St. Olaf last weekend.

In last weekend’s sweep over the Oles, the Gusties played some of their best hockey of the year. Led by solid goaltending, the Gustie forwards were able to provide plenty of offense. In the series opener Friday night at Don Roberts Ice Rink, the Gusties battled back from an early 1-0 deficit as Sophomore winger David Martinson scored his sixth goal of the season to tie the game 1-1.

The second period followed the same scoring trend, as the Gusties jumped ahead 2-1 early in the second frame. Just minutes later, the Gusties answered as Senior Ben Ollila notched his fourth goal of the season on assists from Senior Tim Orr and Junior Casey Dynan. The two teams finished the period tied at 2-2.

Both teams came out flying in the third period. The Gusties scored first with an even strength goal by Sophomore forward Josh Pauer, midway through the final frame to make the score 3-2. Three goals is all Gustie Junior goaltender Matt Lopes needed, as he stood tall in net and shut the Oles down in third period. Senior defensman Niko Suurantsem would give the Gusties some breathing room at the 12:04 mark of the third period, netting his first goal of the season and finalizing the scoring in an important 4-2 victory.

Saturday night proved just as successful for the Gustie squad earning a convincing 6-1 victory on the Oles’ home ice. For the second consecutive night, both teams came out playing evenly for much of the first period before the Oles opened the scoring with a goal in the final minute to take a 1-0 lead into the first intermission. That goal would be the only puck to elude First- year goaltender Josh Swartout all night.

The 1-0 lead did not last long however, as Gustavus came out and exploded with four goals in the second frame. First-year Brad Weik opened the scoring for the Gusties with his fifth of the season, and the Gusties prevailed 6-1.

In the five-game stretch of their recent success, the Gusties have outscored their opponents 19-9 and have seen contributions from a wide range of players. Being a young team, the Gusties faced many ups and downs early in the season. Seniors Ollila and Orr and feel like the team is finally gelling together as one unit and trusting their line mates much more. “We believe we finally have the pieces in order to make a serious second half push,” said Orr.

The Gusties, after improving their MIAC record to 4-2-0, currently sit in a first place tie with St. Mary’s and St. Thomas. The second half of the season will pose many challenges for Gustavus with some key MIAC match-ups against teams such as St. Thomas, Bethel and St. John’s. Orrila said, “We know there are some top contender teams in our future, but we take every game one at a time and try not to get too far ahead of ourselves.”

Look for scores and statistics from Wednesday’s non- conference match-up against the Johnnies. Following a short holiday break, the Gusties will host UW-Stevens Point and Marian on Friday and Saturday, January 4 and 5.
The Gustavian Weekly
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Gustie skiers off to a good start

Andy Keenan
Weekly Sports Editor

The Gustavus Men’s and Women’s Nordic Skiing teams are off to a good start thus far in the early season. In the first event of the season at the Trollhaugen Classic Sprints in Dresser, WI, six Gustavus skiers finished in the top three of their respective races. Senior Kathleen DeWahl had the best afternoon with a pair of victories in both the classic and freestyle races in the Women’s Senior Division. Fellow Senior Sarah Willis was right on DeWahl’s heels, finishing second in the classic and third in the free. A pair of first-years led the way for the men. Andrew Tilman and Jens Brabbit both placed well in the Older Junior Division.

Success on the part of first-years must persist in order for this team to do well. This year’s Gusties are comprised of eight first-years along with one sophomore, Michael Paulson, one junior, Elias Anoszko, and one senior, Kevin Manbeck-Patzoldt. This year’s women’s team has been tagged as one of the strongest of the collegiate ranks because of their core of experience. DeWahl, Willis, Junior Kelly Chaudoin and Senior All-Conference cross-country runner Laura Edlund form the nucleus of a very formidable squad.

“Our confidence is very high. Every year we come back it keeps getting higher,” said Willis. “We have a huge level of pride and we know that we can take on the best teams in our division. There are no separations in Nordic Skiing. We are competing against the top Division I, II and III schools. We know that we can be in there - we know that we have that potential.”

The Gusties are done until after the first of the year when they will head to Houghton, MI, to participate in the United States Cross Country Skiing Championships at the Michigan Tech Nordic Training Center from the first through the sixth of January.

During winter break, talk about Gustavus!

While eating the Christmas ham, discuss your interesting Animal Behavior course

As you sled down the hill, talk about your great physics professor

If you’re caroling, say how much you like being in the Gustavus Choir

When you trip during flag football in your backyard, mention the field turf in the new stadium

Whatever you do and whoever you’re with, share your Gustavus story.

And, if you’d like to give a Gustavus viewbook, application, or t-shirt to any prospective student you know, stop by the Admission Office.
Notes from a skeptic

True cliques?

Erin Ge
Weekly Staff Columnist

Do cliques, like the ones exemplified in the movie Mean Girls, really exist?

Every time I watch a movie about high school-age individuals, I question where the writers get their information. I’m sure everyone has heard the term “clique” before, but I highly doubt anyone has encountered any of these peer groups to the extreme in which they are portrayed in movies.

When I was in high school, my class spent an entire weekend discussing cliques. The hope was that we would all come away from the weekend as one big group of friends, but let’s be honest: we all know that the chances of a group of 200 plus 16-year-olds coming away from a school-sanctioned retreat all holding hands and singing Kumbaya are pretty much nil.

All the cliques I’ve come across I wouldn’t really label as “cliques.” As an athlete, I do have a lot of other friends who are athletes, but I also have many friends who are not. Overall, I think we tend to associate with people with whom we share common interests. I have never felt that was a negative thing. The choice to only associate with those alike yourself and to not befriend those who do not share your perceived level of physical appearance or choice of extracurricular activities is what can be described as being “cliquey,” but it is a choice that one is allowed to make. Personally, I would describe that individual as ignorant, because they are completely missing out on potential new friends and experiences.

In many of these high school set movies, the main character is usually trying to get into or gain attention from someone in the “popular group.” While I can pick out people from high school whom I would put in this popular/cool group, I think the only reason they were ever considered popular and cool was because they thought of themselves that way and broadcasted this belief to everyone else at every opportunity. Oddly enough, these are the students that most of the other students don’t like for that very reason. They are the ones that we avoid at reunions and homecomings and pretend we don’t recognize as we pass them at the mall.

I have never really understood the desire to be popular. Of course, everyone wants friends—people on whom they can rely and have fun with—but would you really want everyone to like you? First of all, I don’t even think that it’s possible—just by being who you are, you are bound to make someone angry. There are also plenty of people out there who you don’t particularly like: the ‘funny’ guy seriously considering being a comedian whom you think should seriously consider mime-hood, or Ms. Opinionated, who has absolutely never been wrong in her life, so she can’t possibly be wrong at the time. Do you really want these people to like you?

I believe honesty is the best policy here. If you get to know me and find that you can’t stand my need to use sarcasm in every other sentence, we probably shouldn’t be friends. After coming this realization, don’t go on pretending like we’re good pals. I’d hope you’d remain civil, but there’s no need to be hugging me in the hallways or planning spring break road trips. In the end, I would much rather know how someone actually feels about me, even if it’s not positive.

People are going to choose to be around people with whom they share common interests and viewpoints, and there’s nothing wrong with that. If you desire to be popular, I wish you luck. To make everyone like you would require constantly changing yourself to meet the expectations of all the different people around you. In the end, you may forget who you actually are, which is, I believe, the worst fate of all. While my attitude on this topic may not garner me tons of new friends, I know the friends I do have are true and like me for who I am. And that is all I want and need.

Letters to the Editor

Gustavus’ cable problem

A sparkling new pair of diamond earrings, a brand new pair of Nike Shox, a MP3 Player, or for you romantics out there, a romantic night out with a loved one. So you are probably wondering what these all have in common. Well let me tell you that all of these items have a price valued around $100.

Gustavus currently has a one-year contract with Mediacom, and within this contract Mediacom can set the price of cable where ever they feel. How can this be? Last June the five-year contract ended between Mediacom and Gustavus, and Gustavus looked elsewhere for a cable provider, but with other local cable providers not willing to take on the expenses of wiring the entire campus like Mediacom has already done, those options fell through, leaving Gustavus with the options of going back to Mediacom or possibly not having cable.

There are currently 1000 dorm rooms on campus and 45 percent of those rooms purchased cable this year. Let’s use $400 as the average figure price of cable paid by each of these rooms. 450 rooms x $400=$180,000. With the every room on campus received cable? 1000 rooms x, lets say only $300=$300,000. So why didn’t Mediacom accept this offer? After all, they are gaining more money from the deal. Mediacom didn’t accept this offer because they wanted rights to go into anyone’s room on campus at any time for cable purposes. Gustavus told Mediacom that this would never happen, and they both agreed on a basic one-year contract instead.

So this brings us back to the beginning: what would you buy with an extra $100? I propose that every student next year does not pay Mediacom for cable, so spread the word, and say no to Mediacom. You might think it is a tough task, but even myself, an avid sports watcher, can go without cable in my room if it means that I will be saving hundreds of dollars. Don’t give your money to a monopoly, and you will see the clear advantages of my action when you open your wallet or purse to see an extra hundred or two.

James Herberg ’09

Saving energy through solar panels

In the past few years, the public concern over environmentally friendly energy has become an increasingly important topic. As the price of oil rises and the global climate concern continues, people are starting to look for alternative energy sources. One of these alternatives is a photovoltaic (solar panel) system. These systems have been around for a long time but many people have wondered how cost beneficial they truly are.

Solar panels can be installed for several thousand dollars, but can they save you money? How long would it take to pay off the system with your potential energy bill savings? Under current demands, the average Minnesota home uses about 700 kWh (kilowatt-hours) per month. The cost of building a solar panel system that will supply this amount of energy—even during the winter months with low solar radiation—would cost over $60,000. The tax credits from the state and federal governments are not large enough to even make a dent. The best way to utilize a solar panel system is to install one that will work alongside the electrical company. This would allow you to greatly decrease the size of your solar structure, but in order to make the system cost beneficial, the energy demands need to decrease as well. With such high energy consumption, a photovoltaic system is not correctly beneficial without the use of additional energy saving techniques such as efficient appliances, fluorescent light bulbs, etc. As technology advances and the costs of these systems continue to decrease, solar panel systems will be a cost beneficial investment in the future, as well as being both environmentally friendly to you and your checkbook.

Jennie Andersen ’09
Kevin Johnson ’09

Continued on pages 14 and 15
The impact of reason

A farewell

Louis Vander Streek
Weekly Staff Columnist

To the vast majority of you that read my pieces and do not know me, I regret to inform you that this will be the last column that I write for The Gustavus\n
Weekly. I am graduating at the end of this semester and thus will no longer be able to provide my insight and conservative spin on issues and topics that all too often are either not brought to attention or are done so with only a liberal analysis. Traditionally, I have written about state and national politics, but I am going to use this space to talk about being conservative on campus at Gustavus.

The commentary pages should not be flooded with only liberal analyses week after week. There needs to be a voice for those on campus who are distinctly in the minority, as I know that conservatives and Republicans are. Conservative thoughts need to be disseminated not only for the like-minded to read and hopefully find solidarity in, but for liberals and others as well.

"Conservative thoughts need to be disseminated not only for the like-minded to read and hopefully find solidarity in, but for liberals and others as well."

Throughout my writing, I have attempted to remain true to my conservative principles to the best of my abilities. In doing so, I came to realize that I did not want to convey the status quo. I wanted to push the envelope. I wanted to be provocative to the point where I knew I would get a reaction, all while being honest about my own beliefs and principles. This has been quite a challenge at times, especially as I am espousing my thoughts on issues that affect life in such a fundamental way. Never has my point been to write in a provocative manner just for the sake of being inflammatory, but to inspire thought and discussion.

I have tried to argue for freedom, for responsible spending of taxpayer dollars, for the best military defense in the world, for an economics predicated on choice and free markets, for less reliance on government and an attitude of entitlement and for notions of self efficacy, pride and a positive faith. This approach has allowed for further engagement of ideas and a respect for argument and debate, as well as a more diverse Gustavus community.

So, it is here that I say my farewell. I wish to thank all of those who have helped me in this endeavor or without whom my efforts would be meaning less. I hope that there will be others after me who continue to provide substance and credence to conservative thought and to the minority that we represent here at Gustavus in order to project a future that is altogether safe and filled with liberty and freedom.

I hope that there will be others after me who continue to provide substance and credence to conservative thought and to the minority that we represent here at Gustavus in order to project a future that is altogether safe and filled with liberty and freedom.

TOM BROKAW
former NBC anchor, who is working on a book on the 1960s

Liberals: celebrating the holidays

Letters to the Editor

Last week’s sarcastic commentary titled “Cheer up liberals, life is good” left us wondering which liberals actually deem the holiday season “evil”? More importantly, what would compel such an ungrounded attack upon the humanitarian issues that liberals raise, especially when they are so relevant during the holidays? The spirit of giving is to be embraced by everyone, regardless of one’s political standing. If a conservative feels they are “being told to think that we are living in a world of hatred and greed” that they simply “don’t see,” then I fear they are only deceiving themselves. Through global awareness, we are truly able to appreciate the privileges in our own lives. What this article failed to mention is the resourcefulness of socially-conscious gift alternatives that are provided by organizations such as Heifer International, Nothing but Nets, HeroKAT, Oxfam Unwrapped, UniversalGiving, Kiva, Fair Indigo and Ten Thousand Villages. While you may find our liberal belief system depressing, allow our actions to speak louder than our words. Motivated by hope and holiday spirit, we have made a modest contribution to Nothing but Nets in your honor. This $10 gift covers the cost of purchasing and distributing a mosquito net that guards families in Africa against malaria infections. Upon receiving your gift, recipients will also be educated in its use. Happy Holidays!

Erin Luhmann ’08
Mollie Kelly ’09

Coming out vs. staying in

Recently, a Facebook group has been formed on this campus entitled “Staying In Week 2008!” In its own words, “This group is for anyone who would support a ‘Staying In’ week at Gustavus. If homosexual students are allowed to have a ‘Coming Out’ week, heterosexual students should be allowed to participate in ‘Staying In’ week.” The ignorance that forms the base of this group surprises me, as well as the sheer number of supporters it has (as of December 11, the group had been in existence for one week and had 56 members).

The proposed title of the week is the first clue to lack of education surrounding Coming Out week and GLBT issues. If intended as a clever opposition to Coming Out week, it fails. Coming Out encompasses searching within yourself to examining your gender and sexuality, and then being comfortable enough to tell the world about it. Coming Out can be a wonderful experience for many people, but we cannot forget how very dangerous it can be. Verbal and physical attacks on students’ sexualities are common, even at Gustavus.

Just as much meaning can be found for heterosexuals during Coming Out week as for the GLBT community. Attendance at any of the activities during the week instead of simply reading the chalk makes this clear. Breton Kraft’s chapel homily gave a wonderful depiction of the true meaning behind this week: it is a challenge to look at your own sexuality and gender, and discover what that means to you. Few heterosexual people ever take the time to do that; Coming Out week stresses the fact that more should.

The greatest difference I see between these two weeks comes down to acceptance. Coming Out week encourages inclusion of all people regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identification. Staying In week is all about exclusion. They want to keep the GLBT community out of their week, out of their family weekend, and out of their lives. Is it not obvious that this could only lead to oppression? I am disappointed to see a mentality such as this at Gustavus.

Erica Koons ’09

Quote of the Week

“What I worry about is this generation of young people thinking they don’t have to be a part of the political system.”

Page 14 | Commentary
### Offering perspective

#### Racing for the presidency

Greg Boone

Weekly Staff Columnist

With the campaign season ramping up for the next Presidential Election, it seems like campaign coverage is dominating the news media. In fact, campaign coverage constituted almost 20 percent of news coverage last week. Runner-ups included the Middle East Conference, the Clinton Headquarters, Pakistan and the economy. Like all campaign coverage, the journalists covering the mad dash to the White House choose to focus almost all of their energy on the latest faux pas or “flip-flop” committed by a candidate. Unfortunately for most Americans, the election is still almost a year away. With caucuses starting in just three weeks, it sometimes seems as if the country is electing two presidents: one Democrat and one Republican.

A National Public Radio story a few weeks ago discussed the implications of Romney’s faith and his ability to garner the evangelical vote in South Carolina. The story, and many like it from other sources, sounded as though Romney was already a shoo-in for the ballot, but for some reason it is worth covering. It seems odd that general news sources are covering the campaigns in so much detail. Based on voter turnout from the last presidential election, only 55 percent of Americans actually care about who wins the general election, so why would any more than that care about who is nominated?

According to caucus turnout reports from 2004 less than 10 percent of the nation actually turned out. The CNN/YouTube debates prove one thing: ordinary citizens do not know how to ask questions, and politicians don’t know how to answer them. The recent Republican debate was a shouting match of epic proportions. I watched about five minutes of Romney and Giuliani responding to a question about immigration that descended into something more like a shouting match between siblings than a serious exchange about immigration that normally receives little attention before the national conventions, and even then the only point of interest is who won. I suppose there is some good that can come from all of this early campaign coverage. Perhaps the increased attention will flood caucus night with newly inspired partisans and vicariously increase attention will flood the news media. In fact, there is some good that can come from all of this early campaign coverage. Perhaps the increased attention will flood caucus night with newly inspired partisans and vicariously increase attention will flood the news media.

The primary process normally receives little attention before the national conventions, and even then the only point of interest is who won. I suppose there is some good that can come from all of this early campaign coverage. Perhaps the increased attention will flood caucus night with newly inspired partisans and vicariously increase attention will flood the news media. In fact, there is some good that can come from all of this early campaign coverage. Perhaps the increased attention will flood caucus night with newly inspired partisans and vicariously increase attention will flood the news media.

Letters to the Editor

### Easing the textbook burden

A little while back an article was published about recent robberies (and the subsequent apprehension) of textbook thieves. When I read this article, I couldn’t help but think about the rising cost of books. At this precise moment in time, textbooks have never been worth more. Since 1986, textbook prices have risen an average of six percent each year, which is double the annual inflation rate of about three percent, according to the Government Accountability Office.

Our own Bookmark is said to be a nonprofit organization; however, the support and protection that the administration and school give the Bookmark suggests otherwise. Sometimes it seems the school’s protection of the Bookmark is a little outrageous, especially when it offers it up as the only option for access to textbooks. Because of this there is currently a policy against holding any type of textbook at the library — not just those needed for classes: any textbook. Not only does this seem a little extreme on the library’s part, but think of all the books you don’t have access to as a student. Between the internet and interlibrary loan, students have access to any resource we might need. So isn’t forbidding textbooks to be held at the library a little contradictory?

Other colleges, such as the University of Illinois, have taken steps to make textbook access easier by allowing textbooks for class to be checked out at the library. All Gustavus needs to do is to start the process is to take down the ban on holding textbooks at the library. The library would not be mandated to hold textbooks—including specific textbooks for classes—but would have the option of carrying textbooks donated or requested by teachers or students. Let’s make our resources that much more accessible and reliable, instead of having a policy that actually bans certain books from being held at our library.

Tracy Saunders ’10

### Tackling global warming

Tackling global warming

Each year Earth’s average temperature increases, sea levels rise and ecosystems are destroyed. We can see the consequences of our actions and are being warned by scientists and specialists. Why not listen? Global warming is an existing problem that has been around since the beginning of the twentieth century and is affecting every single living inhabitant on earth. The Kyoto Protocol is an effort to reverse the effects of greenhouse and CO2 gasses on global warming. Even though the United States did not sign the treaty, Minneapolis, Saint Paul, Duluth, Eden Prairie and hundreds of other cities in the U.S. decided to act on their own and take action against global warming. We should follow their example and start taking individual action. Improving the current situation is neither complicated nor hard. The best place to start is by taking actions such as planting a tree, driving less, recycling or turning off all electric devices when they are not being used. By doing this, less CO2 gasses will be emitted into the atmosphere, and, additionally, most of these steps save money. If we don’t take action soon, global warming will become unstoppable. Let’s start making a difference while we still can.

Ignacio Belmonte ’10
Friday, December 14

Fall Art Show by Senior Studio Art Majors. All Day

I am showing up as a can of soup and posing as abstract modern art. People will pay millions to hang me up in their houses.

Writing Center Final Exam Tutoring in the Courtyard Café 4:00 p.m.

Hmmm, study for boring, difficult exams or get one of those chocolate chip cookies from the Courtyard Café? Tough call.

Death by Chocolate in the Dive (hosted by Sigmas) 6:30 p.m.

Hey, death by chocolate is no laughing matter, ladies. Look at the fat kid from Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, he could have really hurt himself!

On-Campus Movie, Across the Universe 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

If you know what else stretches across the universe? A freshman’s waist line after being dumped via text messaging one month into a college relationship.

LineUs 7:30 p.m.

Who is more feminine, Kelly Katharine Nelson or Brandon Boat? Come on down and decide for yourself!

Michael Johnson in Concert 8:00 p.m.

Men and guitars usually equal sexiness, but Vitamin D-depleted Guitar Hero freaks are just awkward.

Saturday, December 15

READING DAY:

Also known as “Get up and study your freaking brains out” Day

Book Buy Back 11:00 a.m.

Come one, come all, it’s a magic show! See these fine folks turn a Norton’s Literary Anthology into two quarters!

Back to Elementary School Night 6:00 p.m.

Is this where we pee in our pants and eat our boogers again?

On-Campus Movie, Across the Universe 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Yes, Angelina Jolie has adopted children from across the universe, but that doesn’t make her lips any less threatening.

Sunday, December 16

READING DAY:

Crunch time for Finals. The campus now divides into two parties. Party One is those who stake out spots in the library, computer labs, etc., at the crack of dawn and don’t move for thirteen hours straight. Party Two is those of us who hole up in our rooms all day, unshowered, unshaven, ordering Erb’s and Gerb’s and watching the Kill Bills all day, stubbornly denying that finals start in 24 hours.

Holy Communion 10:00 p.m.

Seeing how much procrastinating I’ve been doing, I sure could use a hit of Jesus right now.

Midnight Express 10:00 p.m.

I didn’t know Professor Friert could even stay up that late.

Monday, December 17

FINALS: DAY 1 (dun dun dun)

Happy Birthday, Ludwig van Beethoven!

I’m always impressed when I hear the phrase, “Beethoven’s Eighth.” I’m lucky to get one or two in a night, but eight! Dear God, Ludwig, aren’t you exhausted?

St. Peter Area Food Shelf Donations All Day

Got lots of money on the old Caf card? Going abroad J-Term? Sleep through most of your meals and eat Ramen instead? Then buy some Caf food and donate it.

Book Buy Back 8:30 a.m.

Remember that time Native Americans sold Massachusetts to the colonists and only got back, like, twenty bucks? When I sell my Psychology book back for $7 I can feel the pain of Native Americans.

Daily Chapel 10:00 a.m.

Little late to be praying, don’t you think?

Tuesday, December 18

FINALS: DAY 2

Book Buy Back 8:30 a.m.

Screw it, just sell them back to the naive first years. Yay, hazing!

Holiday Open House, hosted by Provost Mary Morton and President Jim Peterson 4:30 p.m.

Sorry folks, VIP only. I wonder what they do at this party that they don’t want students to witness. I’m guessing strip poker or break-dancing contests.

Meditation 7:00 p.m.

WARNING: MAY CAUSE INNER PEACE AND SELF-ACCEPTANCE.

Wednesday, December 19

FINALS: DAY 3

Today in History 1843, A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens, is first published in England. The book’s OK, but the world will have to wait 150 years for The Muppets to immortalize it.

Holden Evening Prayer 7:30 p.m.

Michael Ruckert, I have heard of the psychological power prayer has. Can it take the place of studying?

Thursday, December 20

FINALS: DAY 4

Responses to last weeks’ question regarding the victor in a Regina-Imogen-Feist showdown:

Adam Strand: “Trick question, Amy Winehouse would win. She would get all of them addicted to drugs, causing them to eventually end up in rehab.”

Elizabeth Faldet: “I don’t even know if that is a viable question...obviously Spektor. Heap, judging by the sound of her voice is probably a hologram so even if she tried to side kick Spektor there would be no actual contact. Despite her name Feist would be far from intimidating in any fight. I don’t think her cutey dance moves would lend themselves to actual violence. So in the scene— Heap is eliminated because she doesn’t actually exist and Feist would run away.”

The Pickle: “The hypothetical meeting of all these women in a single room would probably result in a nuclear reaction, given how radioactively cool they all are. So in a sense, I believe they would all be lost in an atomic catastrophe.”