Students react to terminal contract decision

The Gustavian Weekly
Gustavus Adolphus College’s Student Newspaper Since 1891
April 18, 2008
www.gustavus.edu/weekly Volume 118, Issue 21

Jacoby Seaman
News Editor

On April 1, 2008, an e-mail announcing the end of Adjunct Instructor Warren Friesen’s time at Gustavus went out to his students in the Gustavus Symphony Orchestra (GSO). For a moment, some hoped it was simply another April fool’s joke that the orchestra is known for, but they soon discovered that they were indeed losing their conductor. Friesen, who is in his eighth year at Gustavus, told his students that the college had decided not to renew his annual contract beyond the 2008-2009 academic year. The decision was made by Provost Mary E. Morton on the recommendation of the Music Department’s personnel committee.

This decision has generated a fierce response both from former and current students. Numerous letters have been sent to Morton and Chair of the Music Department David Fienen. Students also led a protest last Tuesday. Senior Psychology and Music major and GSO president Christa Saeger has helped lead the efforts for Friesen to be retained. “I honestly think the orchestra will take a hit for the worse without Warren,” said Seager.

First-year Emma Squire started a Facebook group to keep people up to date on the situation. “My first reaction was that, if Warren was terminated, there would be no real orchestra to speak of. I know Warren, and GSO under Warren is one of the main reasons I came to Gustavus. But if Gustavus wasn’t going to have that anymore, I may actually think of transferring. Plenty of seniors have told me that their thoughts of transferring were stopped by Warren and the orchestra,” said Squire. “There aren’t that many Warrens in the world.”

The controversy has also drawn the interest of alumni who studied under Friesen. Jason Haaheim, ’01, wrote a letter to Morton calling on the college to continue Friesen’s tenure at Gustavus. “I am really, really disappointed in this decision. I am questioning the judgement of not just those in the Music Department who made this evaluation of his performance, but people in the greater Gustavus administration, the Provost and the Academic Deans, who are sanctioning this decision,” said Haaheim.

Continued on page 4

Alya Aziz-Zaman
Weekly Staff Writer

While most Gustavus students find the campus to be generally free of intolerance, an undercurrent of bias has recently drawn the community’s attention.

On March 6, 2008, President Jim Peterson sent an e-mail informing the campus that at 12:30 a.m. that morning, a group of men shouted homophobic remarks outside of the Adolphson House, a campus-owned Intentional Learning and Service (ILS) residence occupied by five members of the student organization Queers and Allies.

The men directed their remarks at the residents of the house and specifically mentioned Junior Political Science Major Tony Spain. “I thought they were just walking by and yelling things,” said Spain, “but they actually came up into our yard.” Though the men eventually left, the residents were feeling and make sure we what happened, see how we were ok. And they asked us what they could do to make us feel safer,” said Spain.

Spain also said that in addition to the support offered by administrators, Safety and Security took measures to further safeguard the Adolphson House. “They actually stepped up their patrol of all ILS houses,” said Spain. “They put floodlights in our yard and they put a deadbolt on our door [and the broken window] was fixed the next morning before we were even awake.”

Director of the Diversity Center Virgil Jones said that such a swift and thorough response is part of an administrative effort to offer the college’s full support to students targeted by bias.

Continued on page 4
WEEKLY Safety and Security Report

Safety and Security Report for March 30 to April 5, 2008

Tuesday, April 8
Safety and Security was called to Rundstrom Hall for a disorderly male. One student and one non-student were cited for underage consumption by SPPD and Safety and Security. Both were cited by Safety and Security for giving false information to a College Official. The non-student was issued a Trespass Warning, arrested, escorted to the Nicollet County Jail and held for court.

A Gustavus student located on campus grounds, near Southwest Hall, was transported to DETOX.

Wednesday, April 9
Safety and Security was called to check on the welfare of a student.

Saturday, April 12
A student was transported by ambulance to St. Peter Community Hospital for alcohol intoxication.

A non-Gustavus student, located in the Student Union, was transported by ambulance to St. Peter Community Hospital for alcohol intoxication.

Tip of the Week:
Entrance doors to the residence halls should never be propped open. The locks are designed to allow only residents of the hall to have access. Propping doors open will allow non-residents to enter, jeopardizing your and everyone else’s safety.

The Weekly Corrections
In last week’s article entitled “GOLD leads the way” (4/11), Visiting Professor Kathi Tunheim was misattributed as owner of the public relations firm Tunheim Partners. She is in fact the owner and president of Tunheim Leadership Group, Inc. The Weekly apologizes for this error.
Relay for Life raises awareness, money to fight cancer

Steve Palmer
Weekly Staff Writer

Relay for Life, the annual event to raise cancer awareness and funds for cancer research, will begin tonight, Friday, at 7 p.m. in the Lund Forum. Groups from the entire Gustavus Community will participate in the all-night relay. Relay for Life is a non-stop walk throughout the night, with members taking turns to give other members of the group a rest. “The whole reason why Relay is all night long is to symbolize the cancer battle. It’s continuous, that’s why people always walk. You get tired, but it keeps going. There is the light setting, then it’s dark—symbolizing the chemo. Then dawn comes, [which is] symbolic of hope and recovery. Normally it’s outside, but [with the event] being in the spring, we can’t do that. We understand people can’t stay up all night, but it’s symbolic, and raises awareness of staying up all night,” said Junior Psychology Major Holly Andersen.

A large array of activities will take place during the evening. “We have several student bands performing. LineUs will be there, as well as a few KCSM shows. We have different activities for the night that help the teams: tug of war, cookie-eating, a “dude looks like a lady” contest and free food from different organizations. There will also be opening ceremonies [and] a luminary ceremony [with] two Gustavus student cancer survivors speaking. [It will be] serious and fun,” said Junior Health Fitness and Education Major and Co-Chair Cat Osterhaus.

For many people, Relay can have a very personal effect, as they might know someone who has cancer or who has died from cancer. “Everyone knows someone affected by [cancer], whether a friend or family member. We all have experience with the pain, and so many people are connected. [Since cancer] affects so many people, it has a different tone to it. [It’s] a community-building thing, [and] communities are things that do make a difference in the world. I want to motivate more people to take a role in organizing against cancer and hopefully make a difference by motivating people who aren’t involved. And [Relay] is a fun time, too,” said Andersen.

Senior Nursing Major and Co-Chair of the Relay Committee Grace Bury hopes to raise more money this year than in years past. “In the past Gustavus has raised as much as 53,000 dollars. Our goal [this year] is to raise about 50,000 dollars and to have 50 teams participate.”

According to Osterhaus, planning for the event began early in the school year. “We started meeting in September, and we have been meeting every week since then,” said Osterhaus. Andersen, Bury and Osterhaus formed and organized committees to plan all aspects of the event.

Activities such as advertising, getting people involved and making them aware of the event, finding activities for the [evening], organizing the food that we have, talking to different groups on campus to get them involved, looking for prizes in the St. Peter/Mankato area to be donated” all had to be carefully planned and implemented, said Osterhaus.

The results have been clear, with a number of new people getting involved. “A lot more sports groups [are] getting involved. Football, swimming, gymnastics … that adds a huge amount of people,” said Bury.

Andersen recalled from her first year at Gustavus a particularly evocative statement from Assistant Professor Sociology and survivor Elizabeth Jennew.

Jennew expressed her desire that cancer be eradicated, and Relay for Life could become a yearly party rather than an awareness event. “That really stuck with me,” said Andersen. “I just really want people to go to this. Free food [and] free entertainment, if nothing else. You can hang out with classmates. It’s a good time and a good cause.”

First-years Erin Beppedio and Sam Saylor, part of “Team First-floor Sohre,” will be participating in Relay for Life tonight, Friday the eighteenth, to raise awareness and money to fight cancer.

“Students react” from page 1

“If the administration lets this decision stand, I strongly question their ability to act as responsible stewards of Gustavus music education, alumni investment, and attracting and retaining quality music faculty,” said Haasheim.

Morton and Friesen responded to the messages they received with a letter of their own, which was sent out to several students. Though refusing to comment on the particular reasons for issuing the terminal contract, they seem to remain firm in their decision. According to the letter, “Gustavus’s processes regarding faculty appointments are consistent with the standard practices of American high education. These give a predominate role to faculty colleagues, who provide evaluations and make recommendations.”

Although the college cannot comment on the reasons for Friesen’s release, many have speculated that it has to do with his current lack of a Ph. D. Typically, professors who have the highest degree in their field begin what is called the ‘tenure track.’ However, because Friesen did not have a Ph. D., he was not on that track and his contract had to be renewed annually by the department. This year, the department reviewed Friesen, recommended that his contract not be renewed for next year, and that the college should begin the search for a new GSO conductor.

“There are four criteria [that a professor is evaluated on to continue at Gustavus] excellence as a teacher, an emerging pattern of scholarly work, an emerging pattern of service to the institution and sympathy with the mission of the college,” said Fienien.

Friesen, however, hopes to obtain his degree by the end of the year. “Gustavus has been more than patient with me in this, and I really appreciate it,” said Friesen. “It’s an unusual position, but not without precedent.”

Though the student response has generally been in support of Friesen, it remains to be seen if the administration will change course. For now, all the students can do is wait and watch.

Students held a sit-in outside the Cafeteria, giving other students a chance to show their support and sign a petition in support of Friesen.
“Bias” from page 1

Jones said that the administrators who visited the Adolphson House are part of a response team created specifically for such incidents. “We take it seriously,” he said. “I think this group of people [who acted on feelings of bias] has the perception that what they are doing isn’t punishable. And people that I work with think very differently than that—not only are they punishable, but they’re punishable on a severe level.”

Jones also said that the administration can do far less if students are unwilling to report incidents involving bias. “The administration is only as strong as the people who are victims, and the rest of the community,” Jones said. “If somebody treats you in a way that isn’t becoming of a Gustavus student, you need to report it … let’s forget about being a snitch; let’s think about what’s the right thing to do.”

Despite the administration’s attention in this area, several students targeted by similar incidents have chosen not to report them. During her first year at Gustavus, Senior Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies Major Courtney Covey to write an editorial in The Weekly condemning sexist Facebook groups such as “Gentlemen with the Utmost Respect for Bitches” and “Future Owners of Trophy Wives.”

As a result of her editorial, Covey herself became the target of multiple bias incidents. In addition to messages on Facebook calling her a “dumb little bitch who didn’t know what she was talking about,” Covey received phone calls in the middle of the night calling her a “dyke” and a “cunt.” She also found three similar messages written on the whiteboard hanging on her dorm room door.

“I don’t know if they were just assuming I was a lesbian [because of the editorial], or if that’s just what they say to women who piss them off,” Covey said. Like Ali, Covey chose not to report the incidents to Safety and Security, although she did mention them to her Collegiate Fellow. “I could have gone through the official process,” Covey said, “but in the end it didn’t seem worth it. I never particularly felt threatened.”

Although administrators may remain ignorant of some incidents, students have responded strongly to such incidents. After being followed for several minutes, Ali said she turned around to face the men following her and said, “Well, why don’t you just do it and see how it makes you feel?” Feeling more anger than fear, Ali—like many Gustavus students targeted by bias—took control of the situation. “They didn’t know what to do,” said Ali. “They just laughed.”

In 2006, students held protests outside of the Market Place in response to racist content on the Facebook profile of a presidential candidate for Student Senate. Those protests prompted Senior Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies Major Courtney Covey to write an editorial in The Weekly condemning sexist Facebook groups such as “Gentlemen with the Utmost Respect for Bitches” and “Future Owners of Trophy Wives.”

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Although she didn’t report the incidents, Covey’s public response to bias reveals a desire shared by many students to engage in campus-wide dialogue about the issue. Students publicly expressed that desire in 2006, the same year as the Facebook controversy, when an unknown person stamped a swastika into the snow of Uhler Hall’s courtyard. This incident resulted in a series of discussion-based caucuses well-attended by students and faculty alike.

“Bias” from page 1
Sophomore Religion Major Kayla Nelson is a walking “Book Mark.” Owning almost every sweatshirt that the Book Mark sells, it is unusual to see Kayla walking without her Gustie apparel, or at least a smile on her face.

“She smiles a lot. [That’s something] people obviously see,” said Kayla’s older sister Katie Nelson, a junior psychology major. “[Kayla] was actually the cause of me coming to Gustavus,” said Katie. “She picked Gustavus long before I did.”

“We do everything together. We’re really close,” said Kayla of the relationship she has with her sister. “She’s always been the leader of the pack,” said Katie. “Even though she’s the youngest, I’ve always followed her.”

Kayla is well-known by friends, family and professors as someone with a lot of faith. “It’s clear that she has faith,” said Professor of Religion Darrell Jodock. “She is always thinking about the relationship of her faith and what is being discussed in class.”

Kayla further expresses her relationship with God by leading worship at Proclaim on Tuesday nights. “I love connecting with God in new ways and in new environments,” she said. “I love playing guitar and I love to sing. [When we worship at Proclaim] we come together to create something for Gustavus to worship, which is amazing.”

First-year Sean Prichard works closely with Kayla on the Proclaim worship team. “It’s an adventure,” said Prichard. “[Kayla] is always cheery even if she has had the worst week ever. She takes what I do and makes it work. We work as a good team that way.”

 “[At Proclaim], I love that no week is exactly the same,” said Kayla. “Some nights are really pumped up and others are really somber. I love the connection it brings with so many walks of life. For us to come together one night a week is awesome.”

Last summer, Kayla spent time as a counselor at the Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp in Spicer, MN. “I’ve gone to camp my whole life,” said Kayla. “I always dreamed about being a counselor.”

Kayla has strongly considered following in the footsteps of her father and grandparents by becoming a pastor. “When I was little, I told my grandma I was going to be a pastor,” said Kayla. “I even used to play pastor. I’d set up stuffed[ed] animals and get out my hymnal and direct the choir.”

This summer, Kayla will attend the “Life Matters” conference in Seattle. “One of the things that people will be thinking about is if ordained ministry is something they wish to be called into their lives,” said Jodock, who wrote a recommendation letter for Kayla’s application. “It’s a really great opportunity to spend that time figuring out what to do with one’s life and connect that with their faith.”

Kayla will attend the conference with about fifteen people. “I hope to learn ways [in which I can] help other people, to share the way I have been called and hopefully help someone else out in the process,” said Kayla. “God calls us to do many things in this world. It’s not just about the job we have. We can be called to the ministry through being something else. [However], I feel the most connected when I’m in a church atmosphere. That’s when I feel like I want to go into church ministry.”

Kayla is lactose intolerant and has Celiac Disease, and she also suffers from fibromyalgia, a chronic muscle pain disorder. “Life has thrown her a lot of challenges,” said Katie. “But she’s an optimist. She always sees the glass half full. Even though she’s gone through a lot, she’s more concerned with others than herself.”

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Sophomore Kayla Nelson involves herself in the Proclaim band and Sigma Sigma Sigma. “Even though she’s gone through a lot, she’s more concerned with others than herself.”

Kayla says she is proud to be a chapel apprentice and is a member of the Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority. “Creating that bond in friendship with other girls on campus is really amazing,” said Kayla. “Once I met them, I felt like we were really connected.”

As she looks forward to her final two years at Gustavus, Kayla says she is proud to be part of such a great community. “I love the atmosphere of Gustavus,” she said. “People talk about the friendliness here. I totally think it’s true. It’s hard to formulate in words. It’s just the feeling I had when I first stepped on campus.”
Balancing work and play

The Peer Assistants provide an “invaluable” resource to the Gustavus community.

By now, many students have probably noticed the Peer Assistants’ (PA) monthly edition of ‘Once Upon a Potty,’ but perhaps few have realized what a great resource the PA program is.

Unlike other student groups that focus on the community beyond Gustavus, the Peer Assistants work specifically to identify student needs. As peer educators, they coordinate ideas and put together informational programs based on issues facing the Gustavus community such as alcohol, drugs, relationships, sexuality and time management.

Although the Peer Assistants are familiar with a variety of tough issues, their main goal is to promote healthy lifestyles. “PAs don’t just deal with problems,” said PA and Senior Communication Studies Major Ali Chorley. “Wellness is a very positive thing, and so much of what we do encompasses wellness and well-being.”

Becoming a PA requires training for a number of issues that one might encounter with the job, and takes place before the commencement of the academic year.

The PAs’ education on these issues continues throughout the year by way of lectures and conferences, including the BACCHUS National Peer Educator Conference.

One of the greatest challenges that PAs face is finding a balance between academic life and the Peer Assistant program. “There is a lot of time and energy that needs to be put into this program and we are all very busy students. Balancing is always a challenge,” said Junior Communication Studies Major and PA Kristin Mummert.

The Peer Assistants sponsor at least one activity on a daily basis, and may have several events planned throughout a given week. Last week the PAs promoted “Mind Your Health” week, which included an informational table and a spa night in the PA office. They were also one of the campus organizations to sponsor guest speaker Ross Szabo, who spoke this week about depression and suicide. Many current PAs say that their experience as a PA has been invaluable. This group is dynamic—we are not only here to help other students. We are also here to make connections, be a friend and be someone to laugh with,” said Mummert.

The Peer Assistant office is located in the lower level of the Campus Center and office hours are from 6-10 p.m. Monday through Thursday nights.

Throughout the day there is usually at least one Peer Assistant in the office, and students are encouraged to drop by anytime. “Don’t be afraid to approach the office and just say hi. Everyone is super friendly,” said First-year and new Peer Assistant Sam Grace.


Next year’s Peer Assistants are Chaz Brown, Christopher Hall, Rachel Schmitt, Kiersten Supina, Kyle Hunt, Ally Pelton, Kristin Brown, Susie Kramer, Sam Grace and Wes Jones.

Editor’s Note: Ally Pelton is Variety Editor of The Gustavian Weekly.

Compiled by Andrea Janney

The Wind

What’s the best part about spring fever?

“Flip flops and tank tops.”
Stephanie Conroy
Junior • Spanish and English

“Skirts.”
Isaac Perry
Junior • Psychology

“Drinking outside.”
Justin Aul
Senior • Economics

“Walking Jody Goldie’s dog.”
Katie Winkelman
First-year • Undeclared
Don’t be tricked by *Fool’s Gold*

Matthew McConaughey and Kate Hudson star in the romantic comedy *Fool’s Gold*, playing at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. this Friday and Saturday night in Wallenburg Auditorium.

**Tom Butala**  
Weekly Staff Writer

Before I begin this review, dear reader, please indulge me for a moment as I set the scene. Pretend that you’re watching a movie. On the screen is a grandiose ship sailing on the crystal blue waters of the Caribbean Sea. It circles an island searching for a lost treasure of gold coins and emeralds the size of your fist. On board this huge ship we have a tightly-wound British gentleman and his feisty daughter, led by a sun-baked treasure hunter who doesn’t seem to be firing on all cylinders upstairs. What movie are you watching?

Because the title of the movie is *Fool’s Gold*, you probably knew that I wasn’t talking about any of those pirate movies with Johnny Depp, but I hope that you were at least reminded of them—*Fool’s Gold* is a modern take on *Pirates of the Caribbean*, minus the laughs, the adventure, the magic and the fun. I don’t know if anyone asked for this, but here it is.

Starring a mostly shirtless Matthew McConaughey, *Fool’s Gold* is a mostly humorless and stupid movie, but somehow I found myself drawn into it. Maybe it was the gray weather we were having last week that attracted me to the blue skies and waters of the Caribbean, but now that I look back on it, I have a much less positive view of the movie than I did while I was watching it.

Most of the secondary characters are excruciatingly lame. While it was almost painful to watch Donald Sutherland spouting, “Oh I say,” and other phrases in a genteel British accent, the character’s ditzy debutee daughter is even worse. Because the weather is supposed to be so nice this weekend, I don’t think that there is any reason to waste your time watching this movie. Remember when the sun was setting at 5:30 p.m.? Remember how depressing that was? Well, on Friday the sun will set at 8:00 p.m. That’s more than two hours of weekend sunlight that we didn’t have a couple months ago. Take advantage of them. Don’t waste your precious time watching *Fool’s Gold*.

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**Locust Street Hotel and Licensed B&B**

A private lodging and dining option is now available in St. Peter.

This large, well-appointed private home is available for house parties, retreats, and overnight gatherings. Gourmet kitchen on site. Perfect for alumni, faculty, students, and visiting parents. The Locust Street Hotel is a licensed B&B. Breakfast is at 10:00 a.m. Bring your own wine or order in wine.

Please contact Michael at (652) 990-0090

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Delivery charges may apply
Danielle Harms
Features Editor

If you’re planning on attending the Ben Folds concert on Saturday, you might want to consider finishing your homework the next day and fitting in a good night’s sleep. According to the Gustavus Habitat for Humanity executive board, it’s going to be a big week.

From Monday, April 21 to Sunday, April 27, Gustavus will join other campuses and communities around the world to take part in Act! Speak! Build! Week, sponsored by Habitat for Humanity International.

“This is the first Habitat extravaganza week,” said Habitat for Humanity Executive Board Co-President and Senior Communications Studies Major Nicole Blake. “We’re really excited.”

Recently many Gustavus students have returned from a Spring Break of pounding nails and roofing houses at Habitat for Humanity sites in Mobile, Alabama, and New Orleans, Louisiana.

“I think that people should take a minute to think of what their life would be if they didn’t have all the luxuries … they do.”

Sophomore Marianne Barau

Junior Executive Board Member and Chemistry Major Molly Beernink traveled to Alabama.

“I am looking forward to continuing that momentum [with this week],” Beernink said.

While these trips may catch people’s attention, Blake hopes to gain the interest of students who might not otherwise be involved with Habitat for Humanity efforts. For those who are “a little low on time,” Beernink said, “we’re really excited.”

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Junior Executive Board Member and Chemistry Major Molly Beernink traveled to Alabama.

“I am looking forward to continuing that momentum [with this week],” Beernink said.

While these trips may catch people’s attention, Blake hopes to gain the interest of students who might not otherwise be involved with Habitat for Humanity efforts. For those who are “a little low on time,” Beernink said, “we’re really excited.”

Recently many Gustavus students have returned from a Spring Break of pounding nails and roofing houses at Habitat for Humanity sites in Mobile, Alabama, and New Orleans, Louisiana.
Join Habitat for Humanity...

Act! Speak! Build!

“A Habitat Extravaganza”
April 2 - April 27

Help build a shed for the current St. Peter Habitat for Humanity house.

When: Monday-Friday, 3:30-6:30 p.m.
Where: Eckmann Mall

5K Fun Run/Walk
Build Muscles. Build Homes.
$10 registration with personal item to CADA house
$12 registration without personal item
Registration forms available in the CSC or on day of run

When: Saturday, April 26, 9:00 a.m.
Where: Hollingsworth Stadium

Homeless Issues Panel
House Representatives Kathy Sheran and Terry Morrow, Political Science Professor Richard Leitch, St. Peter Habitat Board Member Lynn Boehe, and a representative from the Coalition For the Homeless will speak on housing issues in the area.

When: Sunday, April 27, 7:00 p.m.
Where: Courtyard Cafe

Spring Break Work Trip Display
Come see pictures and read stories from Spring Break work trips.

When: Monday-Friday
Where: Linner Lounge

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Additionally, students can start in a five-kilometer run at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 26. The cost of entering the run is $12. For those wanting to donate to the DA House, a shelter for women and children, the entrance fee is $10.

Habitat for Humanity currently on Spring Break work trips will pay for Habitat for Humanity homes being built in the St. Peter area. People are barely making ends meet and are one missed house payment away from getting kicked out or living in substandard housing. “A lot of people [at Gustavus] experience difficulty paying for housing,” Blake said.

“People recognize the issue when they’re trendy. I’m not sure people are [very] aware of homelessness because it’s not a ‘popular’ cause.”

After learning that a substantial amount of homeless youth attend school, Rollwagen was struck by the implications of that fact. She said, “It really made me [about whether I knew] someone in high school that was homeless and just never took the time to realize it.”

“I think that it’s hard for us to understand that while homelessness does exist, substandard housing is probably more prevalent in rural areas like St. Peter,” Miller said.

Miller hopes that people realize that even if they are not seeing people sleeping on St. Peter’s streets, the area still has difficulties providing sufficient housing. “A lot of people are barely making ends meet and are one missed house payment away from getting kicked out or living in substandard housing.”

Ultimately, the Habitat for Humanity Board hopes that Act! Speak! Build! Week will make students realize that large statistics represent a situation that they can meaningfully influence in a positive way. “Habitat for Humanity [enables] people to make a difference,” Miller said.

“A lot of organizations want your money, and Habitat will accept donations, but they have a vision of bringing communities together to build houses for other people. I hope people recognize that they can do something about it.”

Editor’s Note: The Features Editor is the Co-Events Coordinator of the Habitat for Humanity Executive Board.
Quick rule change presents problem

The NHL’s knee-jerk reaction to Steve Avery’s actions was unwarranted and creates the potential for other poor unilateral decisions

By Andrew Offerman

Editor-in-Chief

Sports

Sports are made possible by a wide array of both written and unwritten rules. These guidelines, in addition to the respective governing bodies that enforce them, are the reason that games have structure. But what happens when someone breaks these rules in the middle of the postseason? In the NHL’s opinion, you simply amend the rule… immediately.

The New York Rangers and New Jersey Devils met on Sunday, April 13, in Game Three of their Eastern Conference Quarterfinal. Within the next 24 hours, the NHL acted in a way that changed the precedent for rule changes in professional sports.

During a five-on-three powerplay, the Rangers’ Sean Avery positioned himself in front of Devils’ Goaltie Martin Brodeur and began waving his hands and stick in front of Brodeur’s face in order to block his view of oncoming shots.

At one point during the broadcast, a Versus television analyst said, “Avery’s tactics in screening the goaltender are like nothing I’ve ever seen before… he’s walking a very fine line… this is unbelievable, I’ve never seen anything like this… it looks like he’s leading a marching band down the field.” Although it may not seem like a huge deal on the surface—after all, the league was just trying to stop something before it got out of hand—some more examination reveals that poor precedent was set by this split-second decision.

Imagine if any other league was faced with a similar predicament—an athlete breaks an unwritten rule and suddenly the league decides that it wants to enforce things differently. Fast forward to 2012: Glen Taylor has sold the Timberwolves and the team has set a record by becoming the first professional franchise to play a game in front of zero fans.

How about when the Yankees take on the Red Sox in a heated American League Championship Series, which should happen again within the next few years, and the bad blood gets the better of each team? The teams exchange beanballs in an effort to show their displeasure with each other. However, MLB then decides that it will immediately eject and suspend any pitcher who intentionally hits a batter.

This knee-jerk reaction by the National Hockey League is dangerous. Although I agree that Avery’s actions were despicable and have no place in any professional hockey game, to simply make a unilateral decision that a rule—any rule—should now be interpreted in a different way, is ludicrous.

The NHL’s knee-jerk reaction to Avery’s actions was unwarranted and creates the potential for other poor unilateral decisions.
Men win twelfth consecutive MIAC title while running win streak to 214

**Standings**

**Men’s Tennis**

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Tennis teams enjoying MIAC success

Sophomore Krishan Jethwa, above, has been an integral part of a team that has won an astonishing 214 MIAC matches in a row.

By Ryan McPartland
Weekly Staff Writer

The fifth-ranked Gustavus Men’s Tennis team recently clinched their twentieth consecutive MIAC championship with a victory over nationally ranked Carleton. The Gusties have been great so far this season and they have had no problem adjusting to the outdoor courts. They posted a perfect 9-0 MIAC regular season record with their victory over the Knights, who were also undefeated at the time.

“With slow courts, your serve is not as effective due to flat serves not skidding but sitting. So more spin on first serves [and] more consistent returns are very important for singles and especially in doubles,” said Junior Ben Tomasek. Individually, the Gustavus squad has posted a 77-4 record on its way to the title this season, with only one regular season match to go.

Gustavus was slightly favored going into the final match against Carleton, but the Knights were hoping to steal one from the Gusties. Carleton’s hopes were squashed quickly as each of the three Gustavus doubles teams won relatively lopsided victories.

Senior Andy Bryan and Junior Charlie Paukert, Junior Mike Burdakin, and Senior John Kaus and Juniors Nick Hansen and Ben Tomasek all came through with victories in their respective doubles matches. The Gusties then went on to win all six of their singles matches, and five out of the six in straight sets. Bryan, Kaus, Burdakin, Paukert, Tomasek and Senior Aaron Zenner rounded out the lineup of Gusties earning wins in the matches.

The Gusties had two follow-up matches after Carleton, one against Luther and another versus Wartburg. The Gusties won the Luther match 8-1 with victories from their top three doubles teams as well as wins from Bryan, Kaus, Burdakin, Paukert and Zenner in singles.

The Warburg match ended 9-0 in favor of the Gusties with doubles victories from Juniors Eric Ice and Ashwyk Jethwa, Juniors Theo Roth and Matt Nelson and Junior Josh Knutson and Sophomore Krishan Jethwa. All six of those players also had singles wins in the match.

The Carleton win extends Gustavus’ regular season win streak to 214 matches—the last loss coming in 1986. “I didn’t even know the number or really have a clue on how many wins in a row we had, but I knew it was a lot. We just come into each game focused like any other,” said Tomasek.

As of now, the Gusties hold a season record of 24-5, and hope to improve it with their final match of the regular season. On Sunday the men’s team will travel to Milwaukee, WI, to face Kalamazoo College.

As of late, winning doesn’t seem to be a problem for the Gustavus Women’s Tennis team, either. The Gustavus women’s squad posted three wins this past weekend, two coming on Saturday with split-squad victories against Warburg and St. Catherine and the third on Sunday against St. Benedict. With the three victories, the team bumped its overall season record to 16-8 and remains unbeaten in the MIAC at 6-0.

Saturday’s matches required a split squad for the Gusties, who hosted Warburg while also playing a match against St. Catherine in St. Paul. The Gusties started off the Warburg match in great fashion, winning their first two doubles matches with Junior Christine Reimer and First-year Marianne Barau, and First-years Brittany Tempelin and Julie Bardenwerper, both coming out on top. The team went on to win four of its six singles matches in straight sets, with wins coming from Tempelin, Bardenwerper, Barau and Sophomore Alison Utke.

The Gusties didn’t have much trouble trouncing St. Catherine’s, as the team won 9-0 without dropping a single set. Gustavus won all three doubles, as well as both singles, as well while neither Krebsbach nor Frank lost a game.

The women’s team completed the weekend by traveling to St. Joseph to take on St. Ben’s on Sunday, where the Gusties posted another 9-0 victory and lost only one set. Once again, Gustavus’ top three doubles all earned wins. White, Reimer, Krebsbach, O’Neil, Frank, Dobson and Arnfelt all pulled double duty, earning matches in both singles and doubles.

The team is preparing for a very big weekend to wrap up the season, which will consist of four conference matches through Monday, including a Sunday afternoon match-up against the also unbeaten St. Thomas squad. The team travels to Hamline University on Friday before hosting both St. Mary’s and St. Thomas on Sunday at 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., respectively. The Gusties will wrap up the stretch by traveling to St. Olaf on Monday.
Optimism: The stands are half empty.

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IT'S A TON OF FUN, LOOKS GREAT ON A RESUME, AND YOU GET PAID!
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APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 21ST

Ad Manager: (stipend + commission) Works with local business and advertising agencies to create and develop advertising opportunities in The Weekly.

News Editor: (salary) Works with staff writers to cover campus and local news. Lays out the news section.

Sports Editor: (salary) Lays out the sports section covering every Gustavus sport with player features, play-by-play game recaps and general sports articles.

Commentary Editor: (salary) Leads a staff of opinion writers to engage in campus conversation via the newspaper.

Photography Editor: (salary) Organizes staff photographers, takes digital photos and edits them in Adobe Photoshop.

Variety Editor: (salary) Designs and lays out section consisting of reviews, fine arts, and miscellaneous stories.

Features Editor: (salary) Works with features writers to produce in-depth feature articles and lays out the features section.

Calendar Editor: (work study) Compiles and lays out a list of on-campus events on a weekly basis and adds satirical or humorous commentary.

Copy Editor: (work study) Proofreads all printed material for grammatical and spelling errors, consistency and accuracy.

Graphic Designer: (work study) Works in InDesign and Photoshop to design graphics, edit photos, and assist section editors in layout of sections.
Our planet’s biodiversity. It’s a sort of insurance policy on thick layers of permafrost in this massive vault beneath the world’s most valuable plants. Thus, scientists if not fatal, consequences for the that may result could have dire, catastrophic. The Svalbard Global Seed Vault was built upon the belief of “them.”

Vault was built upon the belief that nature has given us a wealth of medicinal plants, but more importantly, it has given us opportunities to isolate medicinal compounds and synthesize them in laboratories to create life-saving drugs. This might be the most devastating loss we suffer as biodiversity declines. As medicinal science progresses at exponential rates, we are losing the very tools that we are finally understanding how to use. Continued on page 15

Your nagging conscience

Saving the world in Svalbard

Ayla Aziz-Zaman
Weekly Staff Columnist

The Gustavian Weekly
Page 13
April 18, 2008

Commentary

On the most basic facts we need to consider in regard to the conceal and carry issue at Gustavus is the need to counter the growing terrorist threat on our campus. As submissive and fearful citizens, we need to have weapons in case our legions of enemies decide to emerge from their hiding spots on campus. In addition to terrorists, we must also fear pinkos, gangsters, communists, leftists, agitators, subversives and criminals of all sorts. My main concern, and what should be your concern as well, is fear of “them.”

As we know, “they” are indeed everywhere. Vigilance is key, and so are guns. Vigilance paid off for the French, peering over their mighty Maginot line before the start of World War Two. This illustrates that heavy fortification and entrenchment pay off. We cannot ignore the threat—an attack could come at any time. We know that, as a primary economic hub of the surrounding eight miles, St. Peter is a key target for those wanting to do our nation harm.

Also, an immense quantity of guns in one concentrated area (the Caf, for example) heightens the chances for maintaining safety. Studies illustrate a 27 percent increase in safety, a 32 percent increase in security, and a 51 percent increase in exciting Texas-style wild-west justice when the amount of guns in an area (per capita) is two or higher. It is a high ratio, but one we can aspire to. This goal is clearly achievable by 2010; the Board of Trustees could take this as a strong suggestion to add to the college’s Strategic Plan.

Who doesn’t like bravery? I like bravery, especially when it involves John Wayne. Think of how many times in movies someone gets shot at, then another person dives in front of them yelling “NOOOO!” and heroically catches the bullet. The clear correlation between guns and heroism is yet another obvious justification for conceal and carry permits. On-campus heroism also happens to be a key topic in U.S. News and World Report rankings. Possession of assault rifles, Desert Eagles and .50 cal-equipped “technical” pick-up trucks will also help teach Gustavians about the environment in Iraq—another country where a large percentage of people own and enjoy guns. Multiculturalism is a constant concern of collegiate liberals; why do they ignore this obvious opportunity?

Managing our students’ overwhelming background in small, Lutheran-centered Midwestern communities, we know that they often have violent pasts and tendencies. St. Olaf has realized this and has already provided a wide array of gun-related activities available on campus. Gustavus currently falls behind in the number of pistol-whipping contests, pistol-shooting contests and accidental gun-related injuries per year. We need to catch up in these crucial areas. For example, we are currently completely unable to have plate-shooting contests in the Caf (a well-known St. John’s tradition). Guns are a remedy to this deficiency. In conclusion, if you don’t agree with my ideas, I will meet you on the Eckman Mall at dawn.

The anti-manifesto: a satire

“Packing heat” to promote safety

Steven Palmer
Weekly Staff Columnist

Doomsday seed vault

A global arctic vault that houses seeds from all known varieties of food crops opened Feb. 26, 2008.

Why needed?
Protect seeds against plant diseases and catastrophes such as nuclear war, asteroid strikes and climate change

Storage
In-rock facility, situated 394 ft. (120 m) above present sea level, will remain above sea level even if world is warmed due to global warming

Tunnel length 394 ft. (120 m)

Tunnel entrance Sleeve to protect tunnel from erosion and climatic changes

Capacity Up to 4.5 million seed samples

Permafrost Temperature kept stable at 0° (−18°C) by electrically powered freezer unit, in case of technical breakdown, temperature will never exceed 25°F (−4°C)

Construction Began in March 2007 in a mountainside near Longyearbyen

Source: Stabbbygg Renov

The anti-manifesto: a satire

“Packing heat” to promote safety
On the lighter side...
Too busy to break up

Wait ... Break up? BREAK UP?! You think we should BREAK UP?! I can’t break up with you, I don’t have time!
OK, I know you’re upset, but think of my position! Break-up requires so much work and time and dedication! I am involved in too many organizations and groups to throw “breaking up” into the mix.
Do you have any idea what you’re asking me to do? A parting of ways would require me to go through my room and take out all of your stuff! Do you have any idea how many pictures of us there are on my walls? Picking off the sticky tack alone would take hours. And over time I have hoarded an assortment of shirts and boxes of yours that I should probably wash before returning. But I don’t do laundry until next Tuesday. If you wanted your
clothes now I’d have to do an extra load before that weekly scheduled time. But I have my Small Group Communication Presentation on Friday, so don’t expect your clothes anytime before then.
Then there’s also the text messages and voicemails and Facebook messages! I’ll have to take the time to go through them one by one and erase them! And no, I can’t just erase the whole Inbox; that means I’ll lose good ones unrelated to you. You can’t toss the baby out with the bathwater, idiot.
We haven’t even gotten into the hours of required emotional grieving. I’ll need to call two to three of my girlfriends, coordinate a night when we can- all meet, and weep for the necessary amount of time. I predict this “Girl Talk” will take an hour and a half, though maybe if we’re all there on time and stay on task we can get it down to an hour. But still, do you understand the difficulty in finding a free hour during the week in which four women can all meet at a predetermined spot? Boy, you are naive!
And what about us? What if I come upon an old diary entry or a movie that reminds me of you and makes me yearn for closure? I do not have room in my agenda to squeeze in a “Search Soul for Answers to Former Relationship Quandaries” episode. And what if someday I’m walking on my way to class and you pass me by and we are forced to have an awkward post-break-up attempt at conversation? The stuttering, forced laughter, and aimless small talk about “How you’re doing” could take one, maybe even two whole minutes! I don’t know about you, but I don’t have that kind of time to waste between classes!
Speaking of which, Organic Chemistry starts in thirty seconds. I should probably go. I’m glad we were able to exchange ideas and opinions regarding this issue; but, unfortunately, at this point I must deny your request to end our relationship. However, if in the following weeks you find you are still dissatisfied with our situation, give me a call after May 2 when my thesis is due. I might have time to break up with you then.

Everybody loves Reagan
The Fox News challenge

The other day I was talking with a liberal friend about Barack Obama’s latest comments saying that people from small towns “cling” to guns, religion and “antipathy to people who aren’t like them” because of “frustrations.” Many people from all points on the political spectrum have felt these comments were elitist and insensitive to the millions of small-town Americans who don’t deserve to be stereotypically labeled as gun-toting, Bible-thumping racists. My friend’s response: “You got that story from Fox News. Didn’t you?”

This story has headlined all of the major news networks and talk shows for many days, but for some reason my friend believes that because I oftentimes go to FOX News first, the story must be false or manipulated. My friend didn’t find any part of what I was saying to be false, but because it came from FOX News, it needed to be discarded without further discussion. This type of unfounded criticism of the network is what has inspired me to issue The FOX News challenge.

The FOX News Challenge is a challenge to any Gustavus student to find a story stated as fact that is untrue either on the FOX News website or in any of its news reports on television. FOX News is labeled as a lesser news network by most liberals because of its notably conservative owner, Rupert Murdoch. No one seems to have a problem with the extremely liberal, Ted Turner starting CNN, but I don’t think I’m the only one who can see the hypocrisy in that.
Along with my challenge I’d also like to clarify a few of what I consider to be misconceptions about FOX News. When I ask people what bothers them most about the network, they usually say something about how much they hate Bill O’Reilly or Sean Hannity. They have every right to feel that way, but these are opinionated talk show hosts just like the ones on every other network. Their job is to give their point of view on the stories of the day. MSNBC has a conservative talk show host, Glenn Beck, CNN has an opinionated independent, Lou Dobbs, and MSNBC also has a liberal talk show host, Keith Olbermann.

Continued on page 15
As you did your taxes this week, you may have noticed a small box on the Federal 1040 that asked if you wanted three dollars of your taxes to go into the Presidential Election Campaign Fund. Believe it or not, that box exists because there is a system in place to publicly finance presidential campaigns. Senators Obama and McCain have both committed to accepting public funds for the general election on some level, should they get nominated, but this does not hide the fact that over $500 million have already been spent this primary season, and the election is still over six months away.

Congressional races are even more costly, since they currently have no system of publicly funded elections. In 2006 it took an average of $9.6 million to win a Senate seat and $1.2 million to win a seat in the House of Representatives. Even state legislative campaigns routinely run into the thousands of dollars, which means that a person who wishes to run for office must be a) wealthy, and b) willing to pay more heed to the largest contributors in order to raise the necessary funds to get reelected. Meanwhile, the voices of the people and even the candidate are left out of the process.

Democracy is not achieved solely by the exercise of voting rights. In order for this country to continue in its democratic experiment, the ability to run for public office cannot be limited to only the rich or those willing to pander to special interests. Do not mistake my intent; I have no problem with special interests voicing their opinions in the public sphere. I do have a problem, however, when those voices are literally the only ones a candidate can afford to listen to in order to get elected. The time for publicly funded congressional elections is now, so contact your Senator or Representative today and ask him or her to support the Free Elections Now Act.

Jordan Barry ’11

Letters to the Editor

They are wrong for believing the Bible is God’s true Word that still applies today or that its content is perfect. Are our beliefs any less than a liberal, progressive, GLBT or atheist student’s?

We applaud, respect and pray for President Peterson’s attempts to bring the minority views of traditional Christian and conservative students on campus and hope this makes way for a new chapter to open here at Gustavus. Will we be heard or ignored?

Alysha Thompson ’10
Emily Tommerdahl ’10
Emily Zehrer ’10

Bill Clinton, but now is a supposedly unbiased host of the ABC program “This Week with George Stephanopoulos” on Sunday mornings. FOX News never hides the views of its opinion-givers, but they at least separate their opinions from the news.

Feel that there is a great deal of hypocrisy coming from the people that bad mouth FOX News.

Their news stories are factual and they save their opinions for talk shows. The real danger is when the mainstream networks constantly give their subtle bias by reporting false stories about a Republican president or when they don’t report news stories about Democratic candidates until the story is broken by smaller media outlets, which was the case with CBS News when they waited months before releasing videos of Hillary Clinton’s ceremonial landing in Bosnia, after she had repeatedly made false claims about landing under sniper fire. We need to start demanding that all networks follow FOX’s example and become “fair and balanced.”

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Friday, April 18

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CONAN O’BRIEN!

Whether because of his natural comedic disposition or the doctor spanking him into consciousness, this boy came out a smart ass.

Relay for Life 6:00 p.m.

We are walking to cure cancer. What are you selfish triathletes training for, the “sense of purpose” or “challenge” it provides your life? Multiple shame on you.

On-Campus Film, Fool’s Gold 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

“Film” connotes a certain level of quality, as does “Movie.” Perhaps this should just be the On-Campus “Flick.”

Spanish Voice Recital 7:30 p.m.

Guest starring Evita Peron with backup dancer Carmen Miranda.

Saturday, April 19

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DAD!

Cheers to a man who wears his pants up to his armpits. Way to bring sexy back, Old Man, love you!

Mark Wirbisky, Senior Viola Recital 1:30 p.m.

Hey Mark, Yo-Yo Ma called. He said this world ain’t big enough for two cute nerdy guys who play string instruments.

On-Campus Film, Fool’s Gold 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Hmmm. Which one to attend, Fool’s Gold or BEN FOLDS? What a conundrum.

Ben Folds Concert 8:30 p.m.

So when he’s playing poker and wants out, do you think he says, “Ben Folds”?

Sunday, April 20

Men’s Tennis at Kalamazoo College 10:00 a.m.

I’m sorry, but this institute kind of sounds like a bizarre invention by Dr. Seuss.

Baseball at Macalester College 1:00 p.m.

Hold on, Macalester has sports? Like, not just chess, but actual sports? Oh, that is cute!

Michael Rueckert, Senior Voice Recital 7:30 p.m.

Michael, on behalf of the custodial staff, please stop making the women melt with your study voice; it takes hours to mop up the mess.

Monday, April 21

Announcement: Cell Phones for Soldiers Donations

The soldiers would probably appreciate single tours of duty and an exit plan even more. But since those are nowhere in sight, cell phones will do.

W. Tennis at St. Olaf College 4:00 p.m.

Let’s make St. Olaf the proverbial Canada and just blame them for everything. It’s fun! “My test results came back positive. Stupid St. Olaf.”

Big Partner Little Partner - Earth Day Event 6:00 p.m.

When it comes to nature and Minnesota, our most common problem is, “My lawn is too big.”

Making the Bible Live in the 21st Century 7:00 p.m.

This is not as easy to do now that Charleton Heston can’t play cinematic Biblical heroes anymore.

Zeta Café 7:00 p.m.

As a part of date rape education, there will be basic self-defense techniques taught in the Aerobics Room. So ladies, if your beau doesn’t pick up the check at dinner, tell him ever-so-sweetly that you know how to execute a flawless forward elbow-blow to the face.

Chi Kapps Bowling 8:45 p.m.

Followed by Chi Kapps gutter-balling.

Tuesday, April 22

Trees for the Heart, Mind and Spirit 11:30 a.m.

If you were a tree, what would be your least favorite T.V. show? Deadwood!* pity laugh, followed by intense awkward silence*

Trees for Heart, Mind and Spirit 11:30 a.m.

Yoga Doing the Yoga-Bear Pose makes you smarter than the av-er-age Gustie.

Senior Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Hey, Class of 2008, the next step after “Senior Dinner” is “Early Bird Special.” Feeling old yet?

The Origin and Use of Our Food Discussion 11:30 a.m.

Professor Lisa Heldke discusses where our food comes from. Why does this burger taste so damn good? Hey, wait, has anyone seen Prof. Heldke’s dog?

Astronomy Talk 7:30 p.m.

With guest lecturer, Prof. Trelawney.

Failures of Feminism 7:30 p.m.

Maybe I’ll ask my mother, the first woman hired at her law firm, if feminism failed. I do hope rude hand gestures ensue.

Gustavus Greens 8:00 p.m.

Does this mean the students seeking counseling for depression make up the “Gustavus Blues”?

Wednesday, April 23

Today: National Day of Silence

A day in which queers and allies do not speak throughout the day to protest anti-gay hate crimes. As a lucky coincidence, play rehearsals and choir practices don’t count as “speaking.”

FREE COOKIES!

Not really. But if you know of a place we can find free cookies, let me know at thepickle@gac.edu.