Preview of Nobel Conference

Renowned ecologist Dr. G. David Tilman gives presentation linking past and future Nobel Conferences

Andy Setterholm
Assistant News Editor

On Friday, May 14, Gustavus will host a College Wide Colloquium featuring decorated American ecologist Dr. G. David Tilman. His lecture, titled “Can we feed the world and save the earth?” will be delivered at 2:30 p.m. in Nobel Hall’s Waltherburg Auditorium. The event is a preview of 2010’s Nobel Conference 46, which is titled “Making Food Good.” Tilman was selected as a speaker for this event because his work ties previous Nobel Conferences, mainly 2007’s “Heating Up: The Energy Debate,” and 2009’s “H2O: Uncertain Resource,” together with this year’s topic.

“We invited Dr. Tilman to do is to pull together our recent Nobel Conferences with our next conference on food,” Professor of Physics and Director of Nobel Conference Charles Niederritter said.

Magnuson Award Banquet

Rebekah Schulz shakes hands with President Jack R. Ohle and the Honorable Paul Magnuson as she receives the Paul Magnuson Leadership and Service Award at the on May 4th. The award celebrates individuals, events and organizations that have demonstrated persistence and innovation.

Student Senate changes food allocations

While the Student Senate annual budget meetings for next year’s campus organizations are already well underway, this year unprecedented allocation recommendations were brought forward by the Finance Committee and are being considered. Some student organizations have been complaining about the budget process.

While the process is not new, certain allocation recommendations being brought forth this year have become more strict. “We have to make some sort of generalization to make it as fair to all groups and students as possible,” Sophomore History Major and Student Senate Finance Director Brandon Hirdler said.

This generalization is actually a recommendation for Senate not to fund any food, whether cultural or otherwise, for any campus organization where food is not directly related to the group itself (Russian Tea meetings would be an example of an exception). According to Hirdler, the Finance Committee voted 5-1 to accept the recommendation. Whether or not the full Senate will accept the recommendation for specific campus organizations is pending.

According to Hirdler, Senate already follows bylaws on food budgeting; the funding for food at events can not go above $300 for any organization. However, some campus organizations are frustrated with the limited funding they have received for food in past years, and they worry about what the new recommendation will mean in the future.

Senior English Major Ryan McGinty, a co-president of Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society, said, “This past year, [Sigma Tau Delta] received very little funding for organized events and almost no money for food. As a result we had to fundraise extensively throughout the year just to put on our new member induction banquet. Also, we were forced to cancel a handful of events due to lack of funds. The events we were able to put on were sparsely attended.”
Campus Safety Report

Wednesday, April 28

- Two students in Sorensen Hall reported damage to property when an egg was thrown at their window.

Thursday, April 29

- A Gustavus student reported the theft of personal belongings from an unlocked locker at Lund Center.

Friday, April 30

- A Campus Safety Officer responded to a medical assist at Lund Center.

Sunday, May 2

- Campus Safety responded to North Hall to investigate a theft from a Domino’s pizza deliverer.
- A Gustavus student was cited by Campus Safety for an of age alcohol violation in Southwest Hall.

Tip of the Week:

Road rage:

- Do not take your eyes off the road.
- Avoid eye contact with an aggressive driver.
- Stay cool, don’t react to provocations.
- Distance yourself from drivers behaving erratically.
- Do not make obscene gestures.
- Do not tailgate.
- Avoid unnecessary use of high beam headlights.
- Do not become distracted by a cell phone, CD players, GPS system, etc.
- Do not stop in the right lane.
- Be careful not to allow your door to hit the car parked next to you.
- Do not pigtail.
- Avoid unnecessary use of high beam headlights.
- Do not do your stress by allowing plenty of time for the trip, listening to soothing music, etc.
- Understand that you can’t control the traffic, only your reaction to it.
- If you are followed, either drive to the nearest police station or call 911 on your cell phone.
- Finally, if you are tempted to drive irrationally, ask yourself: “Is it worth being killed? Is it worth going to jail?”

Parents!

The deadline for graduation notices has been extended until Monday, May 10. Recognize your senior in The Gustavian Weekly!

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Letters to the Editor can be sent to letterstotheeditor@gustavus.edu.

If you are interested in publishing an ad with The Gustavian Weekly, please contact our ad manager, Scott Sahli, at admanager@gustavus.edu.
Ninth annual Relay for Life expects a large crowd of support

By Chris Stewart

On Friday May 7, more than 500 Gustavus students, faculty, staff and local community members will gather in Lund Forum in an all-night effort to support the fight against cancer. The ninth annual Gustavus Adolphus College Relay for Life will begin at 7:00 p.m. on May 7 and end on Saturday, May 8 at 7:00 a.m. “The event will run all night long because cancer never sleeps, so we will not sleep,” Sophomore Spanish and History Major Whitney O’Connell said. O’Connell is a Relay for Life co-chair this year.

Participants, mostly organized into teams, will take turns walking around the 200m track as a symbolic gesture for their support of the cause. “This event is for all members of the Gustavus community, even those who weren’t able to fundraise,” Senior Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Major and Relay Co-Chair, Haley Prittinen said. Organized by the Colleges Against Cancer chapter on campus, a division of the American Cancer Society (ACS), Relay has become a signature event at Gustavus. “The event is truly important and goes along well with Gustavus’ traditions and core values,” Cory Kasprzak, senior biochemistry and molecular biology major and Relay co-chair said.

Frequently the most highly-attended event on campus during the year, Relay for Life is an excellent reminder about the local, national and global struggle against the disease. “Cancer is an insidious disease that strikes at random and affects everyone in some way at some time in their life,” Relay for Life provides an opportunity to fight back,” Associate Professor of Music and Gustavus Choir conductor Dr. Greg Aune said. In 2007 Aune, who shared his story during the 2009 Relay for Life event, was diagnosed with bone cancer and underwent eight months of extensive chemotherapy treatments.

Since its establishment in 1985, Relay for Life has raised more than $3.5 billion to fund cancer research and to support victims of the disease. In 2009, the event at Gustavus raised approximately $44,000 for the cause. Prittinen explained that “we have consistently raised around $50,000 at our Relays, which puts us in the top five per capita nationally for colleges our size.”

Events for this year’s Relay will kick off with the Survivor Ceremony/Ceremony of Remembrance, during which all those who have suffered the effects of the disease will be honored. Two survivors will share their stories this year. First-year Matt Collins and Assistant Gustavus Men’s Tennis Coach Steve Wilkinson, [Collins and Wilkinson] will be followed by a silent lap around the track, in which we remember all those who lost their fight with cancer,” Prittinen said. Other mainstay events like free massages provided by M-Pact, liquid nitrogen ice cream (Chemistry Club), quesadillas (Spanish Honor Society) and free massages provided by M-Pact, liquid nitrogen ice cream (Chemistry Club), quesadillas (Spanish Honor Society) and...
“Allocations” from page 1

“...I’m not sure if the decrease in member attendance was a direct result of our lack of funding, or if there were other more influential factors at work,” McGinty added. With only $169,000 to be given away this year, the budgeting process requested by campus groups, members at Senate explained, is difficult to determine how best to allocate the budget. “Every year the request for funding by campus organizations goes up, but the budget granted to Senate for funding in recent years has not been the same,” Hirdler said. “I’m not aware of any group that has received as much money as they asked for from Senate, but considering the Senate money goes out as requested, and not the money they are asked for, that’s to be expected.”

Junior Political Science and Classics Major Nick Prince, who is also a member of the Senate Finance Committee, said, “The Diversity Awards make by Baudeville. The Diversity Ball and Diversity Council reviewed the nominations sent in requests for next year’s funding each spring. Holm explained that the Senate Finance Committee goes through each request line by line and based on the total budget it makes recommendations on how much funding should be allotted for each group’s specific requests. These recommendations, along with the original budget requested by the organization, are reviewed by the entire Senate. At this time, student organization members are welcome to come to the meetings and state their case for why their funding requests should be accepted. The Senate then votes on how much funding will be given out to each group and for which specific items. Examples of items requested for funding include speakers, event food and transportation.

Holm added, “It is important that many organizations are at first displeased with their allocation, but every student must realize that with organizational requests twice the amount we have available, significant cuts and cuts are expected.” Holm explained, “Overall, the process allows us to enable student organizations and their events to function, and we allocate all the money that is available and extra simply has to come from other sources, such as independent fundraising.”

Junior Political Science and Religion Major and Student Senate Co-President Elect Sean Tessmer agreed, “I definitely expect there to be a lot of people that will argue against the recommendations, and there may be disappointment or anger toward Senate (from certain campus groups) for not getting this or that. But that’s every year.”

Hirdler, Holm and Tessmer all stressed that organizations are welcome to speak to the Senate at the Senate budget meetings, which began this past Monday but will continue in the coming weeks until all organization budgets have been allocated.

At this point student organizations have an opportunity to speak to the whole Senate, and the Senators can then change whatever line-item they want. [It should be stressed that funding is ratified by a vote in Senate,.] That results in the allocation of the money that gets for the following year,” Holm said. This spring budget allocation process is not the only way student organizations can get funding from Senate, though. There is a separate process called mid-year allocations where organizations requesting twice the amount of money Senate, though. There is a separate process called mid-year allocations where organizations requesting twice the amount they received as much money as they expected, Holm said. “It’s going to be very gorgeous. It’s going to be very elegant and dramatic look. It’s going to be a very formal. Pakou Yang has been on the student staff throughout the week and at the Diversity Center, and I believe this is a great way to acknowledge the great work I have seen them do. Prince plans on attending the ball. Tickets will be sold all rest of the week. The Diversity Ball will start at 5:30 p.m. this Saturday, May 8th. The Diversity Ball will open its doors at 5:30 p.m. The event is considered semi-formal to formal dress. The awards will be presented first at 6:00 p.m. with dinner following at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $10 each, and the food is catered by Gustavus. En-}

news

Diversity Centers hosts annual ball

Annika Ferber
Staff Writer

Saturday, May 8, the Diversity Center will be celebrating its annual Diversity Ball and Diversity Awards in Alumni Hall. The awards are chosen every year through a nomination process. Nominations were sent out through the email and included a detailed questionnaire. Awards will be presented to a faculty member, a student and an event that have promoted diversity positively on campus. The Diversity Leadership Council reviewed the numerous nominations and began this past Monday. On behalf of survivors we just want to extend a huge thank you. Maybe you don’t see the effects firsthand, but Relay seriously helps people survive by raising just a little bit of money,” McGill commented.

With such a powerful message, it should come as no surprise why Relay has established itself as a Gustavus tradition. “I felt a wonderful spirit and community in the forum [last year] and it confirmed my belief that Gustavus students are interested in anything willing to assist in supporting a good cause that will benefit all of us,” Aune said.
Will Freiert has spent the last 38 years teaching his students to interpret the world. At the end of the academic year, Freiert will retire. Every culture borrows from the one that came before it, the professor of classics explained, and so to understand where we are today, it is vital we understand where we came from. “There’s an ethos about a national liberal arts college that classics is central to the core mission—and if you look at the 100 best liberal arts colleges in the country, you’ll find very few that don’t have classics as a separate department,” Freiert said.

In 1979, he and three other professors worked to establish an independent classics department, transforming Gustavus into a high-profile liberal arts college. Classics, Freiert explained, is less about studying the past and more about interpreting our modern lives. “Latin and Greek give you an intuitive sense of being able to make distinctions and perceive complexity,” Feiert said. One of his mantras is “reality is sacred”—that people should be aware of what they are doing, where they are and what their impact is in the world. All of Western culture is built on a Greco-Roman foundation, and studying classics is a way to understand our culture.

“Freiert taught me that our personal stories and shared myths are manifestations of our values and beliefs in a form that is outside our typical rationalized thought.”

-Nick Harper

Professor Will Freiert was one of three professors who brought an independent classics department to Gustavus, allowing the school to join some of the best liberal arts colleges in the nation who share this characteristic.

Andrew Lilja
Staff Writer

Will Freiert has spent the last 38 years teaching his students to interpret the world. At the end of the academic year, Freiert will retire.

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“In his Apology Socrates said, “The unexamined life is unlivable.” It is this perspective—as rational beings, we have the responsibility to explore and understand our lives—that is constantly present in what Freiert teaches. He tries to help students wake up to the reality around them and to give them the tools they need to examine it.

“Freiert taught me that our personal stories and shared myths are manifestations of our values and beliefs in a form that is outside our typical rationalized thought.”

-Nick Harper

Freiert encourages his students to make the most of their time in college and explore their personal experiences in order to figure out what is important to them and where their values lie.

Karen West

Clark Knipe

Karen West

On Saturday, May 8 at 5:00 p.m., a lecture will be held in Freiert’s honor which will end with a banquet at 6:00 p.m.

“Freiert taught me that our personal stories and shared myths are manifestations of our values and beliefs in a form that is outside our typical rationalized thought.”

-Nick Harper

Gaidai University in 1992. Five years later he returned to Japan as a Fulbright lecturer at Tohoku University.

“I tell students, ‘These are the best four years of your life,’” Freiert said. “All you have to do is figure out what’s important for you and what your values are.” He finds that Gustavus nurtures the Lutheran value that there are no questions that should not be asked. Students here can talk about things “that they would feel embarrassed to talk about in a state school,” he said. This openness is what has allowed the spirit of scholarship and exploration to thrive at Gustavus.

“Freiert is a great, young soul with a sagacity that I’ve never encountered before and that is truly inspirational,” Harper said. In his time at the college, Freiert has had a lasting impact on the lives of many people. At 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 8 there will be a lecture honoring the professor followed by a banquet at 6:30 p.m.
On Sunday, May 9, the Lucia Singers will present their annual Mother’s Day Concert. The concert will take place in Christ Chapel and will begin at 1:30 p.m.

Sixty-seven voices make up the women’s chorus, under the direction of Associate Professor of Music Patricia Snapp. The choir is accompanied by Junior Music Major and pianist Sam Grace.

“I absolutely love singing for Trish. Her love for singing and for people shines through all that she does. She truly cares about the choir, both on an individual level and as a group she can lead musically. She reminds us all to stop and enjoy the moment today, right now and to care for those who are around us. She believes in us as a choir and knows what we are capable of,” Senior Religion Major Kayla Nelson said.

In addition to this particular concert, the Lucia Singers typically perform at Christmas in Christ Chapel, Chapel services and a few other events off-campus as well.

“This concert is always a special one (and has become an annual tradition) for us because we are a women’s choir singing on Mother’s Day,” Snapp said. “There is a special bond between mothers, daughters, aunts or grandmas, and we get to celebrate that.” Senior Elementary Education Major and Lucia Singer Chelsea Roberts said.

The concert will feature a wide range of musical selections by several composers, including works by Elaine Schram, L.V. Beethoven and a West-African playground song arranged by Felicia A.B. Sandler entitled “Sansa Kroma,” as well as several other compositions. It will conclude with the song “Seasons of Love” from the hit musical Rent.

“There will be a variety of songs, senior recognition and a solo by our wonderful accompanist. I think if you want to do something special for your mom instead of the traditional card or flowers, you should bring her to the concert,” Roberts said.

All are welcome to attend the concert on Sunday, May 9 at 1:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel. This event is free and open to the public.

Lucia Singers’ Mother’s Day Concert

Katie Volney
Staff Writer

Gustavus students express their own PostSecrets

For the past week, the Center for Vocational Reflection has encouraged students to create their own PostSecret cards in honor of the nationally known PostSecret founder Frank Warren who spoke on campus last Wednesday. Gustavus students had the opportunity to share their secrets anonymously and have them put on display across from the Dean of Students’ Office in the C. Charles Jackson Campus Center.

Lindsay Lelivelt
For the past week, the Gustavus Student Union has encouraged students to create their own PostSecret cards in honor of the nationally known PostSecret founder Frank Warren who spoke on campus last Wednesday. Gustavus students had the opportunity to share their secrets anonymously and have them put on display across from the Dean of Students’ Office in the C. Charles Jackson Campus Center.

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Lindsay Lelivelt
On Sunday, May 9, in Christ Chapel, the 67 women of the Lucia Singers will perform their annual Mother’s Day Concert.
Katie Kaderlik
Staff Writer

This year’s Gustavus Dance Company concert, directed by Professor of Theatre and Dance Michele Rusinko and Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre and Dance Melissa Rolnick, features choreography by faculty members, students and nationally known guest artists.

Time to Soar: The Gustavus Dance Company in Concert will be performed in the Anderson Theatre on Friday, May 14 and Saturday, May 15 at 8:00 p.m. In addition, the will be a matinee on Sunday, May 16, at 2:00 p.m. This dance concert is open to the public and requires a ticket. Tickets are $7 for adults, $5 for students and seniors.

Seniors gave up their break to come over Fall Break, and the company was able to create a piece for them. She was able to bring Cynthia back this year to set up a Dance Concert titled "A Ritmo," which consists of silk dresses created the costumes for Rolnick’s piece titled Music for a While.

"You really don’t see many private liberal arts colleges’ dance programs that dance at the level we do. You see it in conservatory programs, but we have dancers at extremely high levels who are smart and are technically beautiful artists." -Michelle Rusinko

Students and faculty. They are available at the Student Activities Office or the Ticket Center.

The opening piece of the Dance Concert, Un Dia, is choreographed by a former Gustavus professor, Cynthia Gutierrez-Garner. She previously taught at Gustavus for three years and has worked extensively with this year’s graduating seniors. The seniors decided as a group that they wanted to bring Cynthia back this year to set up a piece for them. She was able to come over Fall Break, and the seniors gave up their break to learn a piece from their beloved former professor. They worked with her eight hours a day and continued practicing by sending her video footage of the piece, through which she provided them with written feedback.

The piece was inspired by Gutierrez-Garner’s Latina heritage, and she began by researching about ancient Mayan and Aztec tales. She wanted to create a piece with a cultural perspective because she has not done this at Gustavus. The piece was inspired in part by the ancient past and the disconnected future of the descendants of the Maya and Aztecs. The piece focuses on the past, present and future, which resonates with the 12 seniors performing this piece.

“I have hope for them, and this piece is almost like a blessing as they leave,” Gutierrez-Garner said.

Melissa Rolnick is one of the other artistic directors of the dance concert. As part of the concert, Rolnick choreographed a piece titled Divergence. Divergence is a modern piece based on polarized politics. It uses dissonant music and depicts a separated community through the lack of clear communication that is shown in the dancers’ gestures and eye contact. The piece is enhanced by the costumes designed by Junior Theatre Major Bobby Croghan. "It has been an emotional time for me, and the piece became about grief and hope. It was not what I had intended, but as I started to work on these pieces, things became revealed and it took on a life of its own," Rolnick said. Adjunct Instructor of Theatre and Dance Andrea Cross created the costumes for Rolnick’s piece, which consist of silk dresses that are modest in design, allowing them to move with the dancer.

Jeffrey Peterson, an adjunct instructor of theatre and dance, also choreographed two pieces for the Dance Concert titled A Ritmo and Divergence. A Ritmo is an Italian word that means rhythm, and this jazz work piece focuses on the movement of the music. It is based on a layered story line set in Europe where a group of people are heading out to a swanky club for a night out on the town.

This fun, upbeat work drastically contrasts with Peterson’s other piece, Divergence. Divergence is a modern piece based on polarized politics. It uses dissonant music and depicts a separated community through the lack of clear communication that is shown in the dancers’ gestures and eye contact. The piece is enhanced by the costumes designed by Junior Theatre Major Bobby Croghan.

"It has been wonderful to work with all of the other seniors on a final piece that we are able to bring a maturity to after years of dancing here at Gustavus. I encourage everyone to come and see what dance can be." -Jordan Klitzke

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"The women dancers for this piece are double cast, so only six dancers perform the piece. We’ve been working intensely to get this one up to the level of professionalism, and we each love the piece and are devoted to making it the best it can be. We are honored to be able to use the original costumes and props from the company that they have used and performed in multiple times," Senior Psychology and Dance Major Jill VanOsdol said. VanOsdol choreographed a solo titled Discount Grace that is being performed by Ashley Narrum and her on different nights. VanOsdol’s piece was inspired by combining her majors of dance and psychology to create a piece about how the body struggles and is affected by mental diseases.

"It has been wonderful to work with all of the other seniors on a final piece that we are able to bring a maturity to after years of dancing here at Gustavus. I encourage everyone to come and see what dance can be. It is affected by mental diseases. The ripples in the material add to the rawness of the relationship. The exposure of skin eludes to the intimacy of skin. The ripples are created and physically demanding," Rusinko said. "You really don’t see many private liberal arts colleges’ dance programs that dance at the level we do. We see it in conservatory programs, but we have dancers at extremely high levels who are smart and are technically beautiful artists.

"This piece was choreographed in the ’80s during the peak of the AIDS epidemic and is about love, loss and grief. To Have and to Hold is traditionally performed by three men, three women and three benches. This piece is beautifully crafted and physically demanding. Because of this, the piece has never been performed outside of the company and was set on the Gustavus dancers this year.

"It has been wonderful to work with all of the other seniors on a final piece that we are able to bring a maturity to after years of dancing here at Gustavus. I encourage everyone to come and see what dance can be." -Jordan Klitzke

The dancers from Un Dia, choreographed by former Gustavus Professor Cynthia Gutierrez-Garner, have been learning and rehearsing their piece since Fall Break.
Ever wonder about all those places on campus that are tucked and tucked away, just out of reach? Ever wish you could, just once, see what Gustavus Adolphus College is hiding? The Wenonah Photography Editor Alex Messenger takes you deep within the secret nooks and crannies of the campus—exposing the truth that is hidden.

1. The bell tower of Old Main does, in fact, have a bell in it. The green patina of over a century of weathering nearly obscures the date (1882) and name of the college.

2. The space between the ceiling and roof of the chapel houses the myriad of lighting and sound equipment needed for the college’s many events held there. The geometric shape of the ceiling is reflected in the crawlspace’s sloping planks.

3. A view from inside one of the tunnel’s ventilation shafts near the back of Old Main. These vents are the remnants of the college’s previous heating system, which created more excess heat and pressure, necessitating the various ventilation shafts one can see walking around campus.

4. Inside the tunnels are various electronic and data cables, along with the large heating, cooling, and water return pipes which bake the cramped poured-concrete corridor to near-sauna temperatures.

5. A Physical Plant worker walks down the large switchboard in the utility room of Lund.

6. The tunnels go the length of the Art Building basement which also houses the equipment necessary for the complicated ventilation systems as well as old desks, easels and ceramic wheels, among other things.

7. Inside the Lund Center utility room is a window a few feet from the diving board which provides underwater vistas of the pool.
Radical reexamining
“The good war”

In honor of MAYDAY! I have decided to write an article about war and how it is (mis)remembered. The topic I have chosen is the Pacific War because it is one of the few that I have the ability, although limited, to comment on. The debate about the use of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki continues to be divisive, especially for American citizens. Most of the controversy is a result of propaganda that has been used by high government and military officials to justify the atomic bombings. I have included gruesome descriptions of war because as human beings, we must try to understand the horrors of war. Our species has a violent past and present. If we do not study history and work for progress, we will certainly have either a violent future or no future at all.

In seven months, the United States firebombed 67 Japanese cities, causing 500,000 Japanese deaths, largely civilian. The resulting firestorms were a human-created hell. Imagine tornadoes of fire with winds of 150 mph. An inferno that “sucked pedestrians off the sidewalks like leaves into a vacuum cleaner.” Temperatures reached 1,100°F. Imagine raging fires for miles in your hometown. Perhaps there is a river nearby that you could jump into. Tactically, you would still be boiled alive. The atomic bombs were a sort of continuation of this bombing campaign. Hiroshima and Nagasaki were saved from firebombing because they held little strategic value, and so the atomic bombs could be used on virgin cities.

Monstrous deeds were not unique to Imperial bombings or to one particular side. Professor E. B. Sledge, who was a front-line Marine at Okinawa and Iwo Jima, recounted an “excruciating scene of a wounded Japanese thrashing on the ground as a Marine slit his cheeks open and carved his gold-crowned teeth out with a katan.” Scenes like this were common.

Paul Fussell said, “Anyone who actually fought in the Pacific recalls the Japanese routinely firing on medics, killing the wounded (torturizing them first, if possible) and cutting off the penises of the dead to stick in the corpses’ mouths.”

The Pacific War was motivated in part, undeniably, by racism, xenophobia and thoughts of genocide. John H. Dower states in War Without Mercy, “Public opinion polls in the United States indicated that some 10 to 13 percent of Americans consistently supported the ‘annihilation’ or ‘extermination’ of the Japanese as a people.” Also, “A poll conducted by Fortune in December 1945 found that 22.7 percent of respondents wished the United States had had the opportunity to use ‘many more of them [atomic bombs] before Japan had a chance to surrender.’” One could dismiss these people as “evil,” but it seems to me that this is a narrow view that espouses defeatism.

It should be recognized that American citizens largely thought of the enemy as “Japs,” “The Yellow Peril,” something that was a result of propaganda that has been used by high government officials to justify the atomic bombings. Although more subtle, one can easily find similar dehumanizing depictions of Arabs and Hispanics today. A new law, signed last week in Arizona, requires immigrants to carry papers proving their rights to residency, thus encouraging racial profiling. Reducing the enemy to subhuman status is one of the first steps in constructing an official narrative that the public can accept as justification for war.

Emperor Norton’s Patent of Nobility
Tomatoes as institutional advancement

Steve Palmer
Commentary Editor

Short-term investments can bring long-term profits. What may seem for a moment to be not immediately practical may prove to be invaluable with the passage of time. These seem like basic tenets, do they not? As Gustavus claims to “green” and even receives accolades for the accomplishment, it seems many core areas of potential development in this vein are not being exploited to their full potential. In particular, one aspect of the Gustavus campus that could be a game-changing and remarkable facet of the campus is the Big Hill Farm.

Make no mistake, the farm has received an outpouring of support from some key players on the Gustavus campus. With the help of the Jim Dineke of the Johnson Center for Environmental Innovation, Steve Kjellgren of Dining Services and Bruce Volek of Physical Plant, the farm would not exist at all.

But as a $44 million capital project starts at Gustavus that includes the new academic building, couldn’t the farm somehow receive but a portion of these funds and become a feature that the Gustavus campus could benefit from both practically and abstractly? And while we’re at it, it might even advance the prestige and renown of the college.

Not just a student organization, the possible institutional benefits of the farm within the college structure are myriad. Imagine the farm becoming a part of curriculum. How perfectly aligns with the liberal arts, bio or ES majors could study plant and soil life. Liberal arts students like me who knew nothing about farming could get muddy and learn first-hand. Food, intimately connected to so many broad issues, provides a framework for study, that perfectly aligns with the liberal arts environment here. Philosophy, history, chemistry, biology, management—all are present out at the farm.

I also feel that the farm is immensely practical on a material level. Think about it: Vegetables in large quantities, grown right on our own campus. Literally thousands of tomatoes and hundreds of peppers were delivered to the Market Place during the inaugural year. On a larger scale and with further momentum, perhaps these numbers could grow exponentially.

Also, I feel that the farm is a practical response to the impending climate and resource crisis that faces the planet, and even a baby step such as the farm’s first season is what is needed if a place like Gustavus is going to remain sustainable (to use that overused buzzword). Moro to even a LEED-certified academic building, the farm allows true sustainability.

The farm is such a simple thing and such a seeming no-brainer, but the farm’s power comes from its simplicity, for with more support or energy, could become so much more than what it already is. Imagine greenhouses, fruit trees and chickens. Some day.

However, besides its practicality, the farm offers other benefits. In a college environment, pure profitability and practicality should not motivate all decisions. There is a place for the peripheral aspects of something like the Big Hill Farm just as there is a place for the peripheral aspects of something like the athletic department or the Chapel. As the athletics department is not strictly necessary to the existence of campus, but adds peripheral benefits to the college that heighten the overall spirit and environment, so too does the farm add these benefits.

As a community space market by farmer and student, the farm allows contemplation and is a true community space. Its more existent ability to ponder issues of sustainability and confront questions of food in a modern era. In time it could become as crucial to Gustavus as the Chapel or sports teams.

As both a practical functioning farm, and as a more symbolic space of community and learning, the farm could (and should) become a centerpiece of Gustavus. It could be a new academic building of sorts, a new location for new learning. It is an opportunity the college should not miss, lest we regret it in twenty years.
There will be blood—for oil

On April 20, 2010, Transocean’s Deep Horizon oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico exploded and sank to the ocean bottom. The well this rig was pumping was now leaking tens of thousands of gallons of oil into the ocean each day. According to a September 3, 2009 Newsweek article, this rig sat atop the deepest sea floor. Despite attempts to put a stop to the leakage, it could be days or weeks before the oil that is pouring into the Gulf of Mexico can be stopped.

I am writing this down with the sincere hope that this is not news to you. If you have heard about it, it won’t hurt to hear it one more time. If you don’t know about it, you need to.

If you know me personally, have ever read one of my commentaries or even just read the title of my column, you already know what I think of “Drill, baby, drill!” And you probably have already formed an assumption of what this commentary is going to be about.

So I could do as expected and come up with plenty of numbers, facts, statistics, expert opinions and scientific studies that show why offshore drilling is a bad idea. I could bring up the ecological destruction of sensitive ocean and shoreline habitats. I could describe pictures of cute and cuddly ducks covered in oil while selfless and determined volunteers tediously scrub the oil from their feathers.

I could rattle off the number of human lives lost in accidents. (This particular incident killed eleven.)

Continued on page 12

Letters to the Editor

We are writing in defense of Amanda Nienow, her TA from J. Tinetti, and the Gustavus chemistry department in general. We think that implicit in last week’s article were some bold insinuations which targeted all three of these entities and that much of it was unfair. In short, we were under the impression that the department, Amanda Nienow and her TA were at fault for this incident concerning the stolen chemicals. Emphasis was placed on those people surrounding Timothy Shay (TJ), rather than the student himself.

While it is true that chemicals have not been tightly secured in the past, the chemistry department is working on improving this. There have already been new policies implemented, days after the incident, regarding the stockroom and its attendants.

Never the less, we should not have to expect the worst of our students; perhaps we should instead be concerned that a peer would corrupt Gustavus’ values and image.

Additionally, “concerns” are being raised as to how Amanda Nienow conducted her class. This is enormously unfair. As a Gustavus student in the sciences, we fully expect a hands-on experience. This is why chemistry and biology have 3 or 4 labs every week—it is simply the best way to internalize the material. Amanda was acting like any other responsible chemistry professor, providing her class with the best Gustavus quality education possible. It’s appalling that a student does something wrong, and yet the blame is placed on highly qualified educators. TJ acted independently, as is shown by the concern expressed by his peers. We also feel the need to mention that TJ was 20 years old—old enough to know what he was doing. Therefore, he and he alone is responsible for his actions.

We believe Amanda Nienow deserves an apology for the unjust charges implied in the article. We, the students, are not the scientists or even just read the title of my column, you already know what I think of “Drill, baby, drill!” And you probably have already formed an assumption of what this commentary is going to be about.

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We believe Amanda Nienow deserves an apology for the unjust charges implied in the articles over the last two weeks. One of our five values here at Gustavus is Justice: let’s maybe show a little more respect for Amanda and her TA.

We believe Amanda Nienow should be considered foreign and/or a language. Experts conclude that ASL contains every feature a language needs to function on its own; yet ASL is not offered as a language credit here. This year, 13 students, three faculty/staff and one area community member joined to prepare themselves to attend the eleventh annual National White Privilege Conference in La Crosse, WI, with over 1700 other attendees. This conference was created to fight against the systems of power and privilege used for the purposes of oppression.

Our team was made up of a variety of people, and it was the first time that many of us had the opportunity to discuss race, racism and social justice with such a diverse group of people. Through the information we learned, we were often left questioning the core value of “Justice” at Gustavus. For instance, did you know that Carl Von Linneaus not only created taxonomy of plants, he created taxonomy of races? This “scientific data” validated slavery and the inhumane treatment of slaves. Linneaus, a person our school thought enough of to dedicate an arboretum to, created justification for slavery. Will that give you a different perspective when walking through the arb? Our team vowed to come back to campus, continue to be supportive of each other as well as work as a catalyst with the campus community for issues of social justice, specifically regarding the privilege of whiteness or more importantly the privilege some people don’t have because they are not white.

Many of us are passionate about issues we have no control over. However, rarely do we look in the mirror with the purpose of improving our own social flaws. The group learned that working on these flaws can enable us to help others understand and grow and make our environment more socially just.

I want to say thank you to the individuals who attended the conference and stood shoulder to shoulder in the effort for social activism in our community.

TEAM WPC ’11

Amanda Nienow conducted her class.
“War” from page 10

The Japanese people were thought of as a fanatical monolithic mass. This contrasts with the Nazis who were thought of as “bad Germans.” There was a distinction between a “good German” and a “bad German.” Of course, we firebombed them all in Dresden. So what went wrong? Here is a rough outline of the official narrative. The Japanese were bombed first. Lend-Lease on December 7, 1941 (a Sunday!). This was the start of the war. The U.S. military then began an all-out hopping campaign that seemed to verify the idea that the Japanese were a military, political, and sub-species. Because of this, the only acceptable option was to force “unconditional surrender.” After much deliberation, Truman decided to drop the bomb so that the war may end as soon as possible. The nuclear bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9, respectively. On August 15, the Japanese surrendered. This indicated that the bombs caused the end of the war and saved up to 1 million American lives. The above-mentioned official narrative was manufactured to convince the consent of the American public. The estimate Truman gave increased from tens of thousands (at the time of his presidency) to the way to 500,000 and even 1 million. Military generals placed estimates in the tens or low hundreds of thousands at the time. Truman, however, was told that an invasion would cost 31,000 American casualties in the first 30 days. It is true that the bomb was dropped with the intent of ending the war as soon as possible. It did not, however, play a major role in the Japanese decision to surrender. The sudden and unexpected entry of the Japanese Soviet entry into the war played a much more significant role. Also, relevant is that American leaders knew months before the bombs were dropped that Emperor Hirohito had communicated that he wished to quickly end the war. The requirement of unconditional surrender was the primary obstacle from the perspective of the Emperor. The final myth I wish to address is the idea that Truman and other high officials used the bomb after much deliberation, with reluctance. Although conflicted on the idea, Truman often called the atomic bomb “just another weapon.” The atomic bombs were used as other military advancements have been. They were used, without significant moral questioning, as soon as they were made. I wish I had more space to outline the ideas in this article but I do not. The argument in this article was necessarily a great oversimplification because of length constraints. Sources used in this article include Prompts and Utter Destruction; Hiroshima in America; Hiroshima; War Without Mercy; Atomic Holocaust; Nazi Holocaust; and Thank God for the Atom Bomb; Did the Bomb End the War? I would also like to thank professor David Oebenmiller as a source of information and inspiration. I encourage everyone to read A People’s History of the United States by Howard Zinn. I say this because it was to me what the red pill was to Neo. Conveniently, it can be found for free, in its entirety, on www.historyisaweapon.com. “People don’t realize how a man’s whole life can be changed by one book.”—Malcolm X

“Oil” from page 11

I could talk about lobbying by big oil companies and the horror of oil monopolies ruling the actions of our government. I could talk about peak oil—estimates of when it will occur and the effects it will have on our way of life—and why this is evidence of the need to shift away from dependence on oil. I could go on and on. But I’m sure you’ve heard it all. And even if I did ramble on with all of this, it probably wouldn’t change your opinion anyway. You probably already have your own place on one side or the other of the oil divide. Your mind is made up. There is no way that reading political commentary full of random evidence in a small school newspaper will convince you to switch over to the other team. No simple argument about this issue has become convoluted by a cloud of political and economic rhetoric. This means that any discussion about it typically dissolves into emotional appeals based in no truth at all, but our own deeply seated personal biases. Even if we could disregard our own biases, we can never really wrap our minds around the scope of what we are doing. At the bottom of this problem lies the horrifying truth that we have created a world in which the consequences of our actions are so removed in space and time from our own existence that we are far beyond what we can comprehend or understand. We undertake massive projects that drastically alter our world with no foresight or long-term planning and without understanding what will really come of it. We say “That bad thing could never happen, so we’re not going to plan for it.” Then, when something actually does go wrong, we throw our hands in the air, screaming, “Oh shit! Who is going to take care of this?! Someone had better clean this up!” Everyone keeps asking who is responsible, and who will pay for this mess. The fact that we are even wondering who is responsible is hilarious to me. We are all responsible. Just existing as an American is enough to make someone responsible for this disaster. You are responsible and so am I. No matter how much I justify it by saying ‘good, barely drive, I still own a car.’ I buy groceries that are most of the time shipped from hundreds of miles away. I cook that food on a gas stove (granted it is natural gas, but this still is a fossil fuel that comes from similar conditions as oil). Therefore, I depend on gasoline. I am supporting the industry that created this leak as much as any other person.

“Eye on Gustavus”

What’s up and what’s down this week at Gustavus and in the world (and what’s a tepid, lukewarm, middle).

36-HOUR TENNIS MARATHON

Finally, Gustavus will be on the map with a zany world record of its own. Largest twine ball and most snow angels at one time, move over!

OIL SPILL

Partly because it’s gross and environmentally damaging, but also because it seems the Gulf coast has suffered enough. Aren’t a few hurricanes enough? Do they really need an oil slick mucking up things?

Big oil spills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Spill, in barrels</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ixtoc 1 oil well</td>
<td>Gulf of Mexico</td>
<td>June 3, 1979</td>
<td>Blowout</td>
<td>4.2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persian Gulf</td>
<td>Kuwait</td>
<td>Begun Jan. 23,</td>
<td>Spill hype</td>
<td>2.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nowruz oil field</td>
<td>Persian Gulf (Iran)</td>
<td>Feb. 1963</td>
<td>Blowout</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atlantic Empress and</td>
<td>Off Trinidad</td>
<td>July 19, 1979</td>
<td>Collision</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aegaeon Captain</td>
<td>and Tobago</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABT Summer</td>
<td>Off Angola</td>
<td>May 28, 1991</td>
<td>Explosion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Castillo de Belver</td>
<td>Off Cape Town, S.</td>
<td>Aug. 6, 1983</td>
<td>Fire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amoco Cadiz</td>
<td>Near Portland, France</td>
<td>March 16, 1978</td>
<td>Grounding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Torrey Canyon</td>
<td>Off Land’s End, England</td>
<td>March 16, 1967</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sea Star</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unocal</td>
<td>Off Cucamong</td>
<td>Dec. 5, 1976</td>
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<td>Exxon Valdez</td>
<td>Prince William Sound, Alaska</td>
<td>March 24, 1980</td>
<td>Grounding</td>
<td>257,142</td>
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</table>

*One barrel equals 42 gal. (190 L) © 2010 MCT

The bombing of Dresden, above, fully exposed the horrors of war to Kurt Vonnegut, stationed in a POW camp there. The damages inspired the classic ballad, “Filogue” from page 10. The bombing of Hiroshima, below, fully exposed the horrors of war to Kurt Vonnegut, stationed in a POW camp there. The damages inspired the classic ballad, “Filogue.”
* The Calendar Page is considered editorial. The opinions expressed herein are not the opinions of The Gustavian Weekly, but are, in fact, Aristotle’s lost treatise on comedy, discovered and retrieved by William K. Freiert from an ancient Greek temple full of booby traps and Nazis.

**Friday, May 7**

**Fitness Yoga**
Lund Center Aerobics Room 12:40 p.m.
Didn’t get a job for the summer? Make money as a twister shark.

**Relay for Life**
Lund Center 6:00 p.m.
LineUs performs at 1:30 a.m. This may be your only chance to see them grumpy.

**Weekend Movie: Dear John**
Wallenberg Auditorium 7:00 & 10:00 p.m.
“I can’t wait for your tour of duty to be over and to be back in your arms for the first time in eleven months. Oh, and the doctor says the baby should be due next week.”

**Saturday, May 8**

**Gustavus Triathlon**
Lund Center Pool 9:00 a.m.
Lets be honest, 5k snowshoe, two-meter Adderall lines and precision purging.

**Heritage Partnership Luncheon**
Heritage Banquet Room 11:30 a.m.
The words “Heritage Partnership” make me think of my grandparents, which makes the whole “Luncheon” part of this kind of hard.

**Dodgeball Tournament**
Lund Center Forum 1:00 p.m.
Ah, I love this game. It’s the one sport that rewards my natural instinct to run away from the ball.

**Bjorling Recital Hall**
1:30 p.m.
Much like Tony Soprano, she’s going to turn off the lights right before the last note of the last song. This will cause people to hate and resent her.

**Bjorling Recital Hall**
3:30 p.m.
I’m sure she’ll be mezzo-merizing. (What the hell do you expect? The music seniors have been bleeding me dry the last few weeks.)

**Lecture and Banquet in Honor of William K. Freiert**
Olin 101/Three Crowns Room 5:00 p.m.
Q: What did the Classics Professor say when he got arrested?
A: “F—— da Polis!”

**Diversity Awards Banquet**
Alumni Hall 6:00 p.m.
This is the fifth consecutive year the award will go to Palo Greenberg, the bisexual, Bavarian-born Iroquois, Scientologist, parasailing instructor. Congratulations, Palo.

**Weekend Movie: Dear John**
Wallenberg Auditorium 7:00 & 10:00 p.m.
“I hope this letter finally got to the right John. Who would have thought it would be such a common name?”

**Azra Halilovic, Senior Piano & Voice Recital**
Bjorling Recital Hall 7:30 p.m.
She’s gonna raise “Halilovic!” (Sounds like havock. I forgive myself. No one can work under these conditions!)

**Sunday, May 9**

**The Lucia Singers Mothers’ Day Concert**
Christ Chapel 1:30 p.m.
Your Mama’s so flat ... (I’m teasing. Don’t stab me.)

**Brassworks!**
Bjorling Recital Hall 3:30 p.m.
For certain things. Sorry, baby. Won’t happen again.

**Scott Simpkins, Senior Bass Trombone Recital**
Bjorling Recital Hall 1:30 p.m.
The damn bass trombone. Always thinking about food and sex. Not like the highbrow trombone.

**Monday, May 10**

**The Movers**
Lund Center 11:40 a.m.
Or you could go to Buddhist meditation, a.k.a. “The Stayers.”

**Juggling Club**
The Dive 7:00 p.m.
It’s “catching” on! (There are so many jokes I am just not proud of in this issue! In fact if you ask me about them, I’m going to deny I ever wrote these. It was all Lindsay Lelivelt.)

**Tuesday, May 11**

**Getting Started with Adobe Photoshop Training Class**
Olin Technology Classroom 9:00 a.m.
The Internet is about to get just that much more fun for you.

**Community Service & Solidarity: Comparative Experiences from Mexico and Peru**
International Center 11:30 a.m.
Man, oh, man! Mexico was humid and damp! How about Peru? Get any moisture?

**Tea Time**
Center for Vocational Reflection 2:30 p.m.
Oh, God! The CVR has so many varieties of tea. I’m having an existential crisis picking between green and chamomile, let alone a vocation!

**Wednesday, May 12**

**Senior Class BBQ**
Complex Fire Pit Area 6:00 p.m.
Yeah, good riddance. I’m glad you’re leaving ... I’m not crying! Stop looking at me! Can’t you see I don’t love you! Just go! *sob* Just get out of here!

**Swing Club**
Alumni Hall 7:00 p.m.
There haven’t been this many swingers in Alumni Hall since “The Female Orgasm.”

**Thursday, May 13**

**Summer Internship Registration Deadline**
Campus Wide All Day
A good way to spend your summer dead inside and dead, inside.

**The Shady Character**
**did not enjoy his trip to Louisiana.**
**STANDINGS**

**BASEBALL**

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**SOFTBALL**

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**MEN'S TENNIS**

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**WOMEN'S TENNIS**

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**RESULTS**

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<td>5/2</td>
<td>Women's Golf @ Eau Claire Invitational</td>
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<td>Softball vs. Central</td>
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**SPORTS**

**Softball aims to claim MIAC Playoff Championship**

After finishing second in the conference to St. Thomas, the Gusties will try to claim an automatic berth into the NCAA Tournament by winning the MIAC Championship. They will attempt to avenge the loss to St. Thomas in last year's championship game.

Raissa Carpenter
Staff Writer

This weekend the Gustavus Women’s Softball team will participate in the MIAC Playoffs in Mankato. Currently the Gusties are ranked second in the MIAC right behind St. Thomas. St. Thomas is always our biggest competition. We lost two very close games earlier in the year, so when we see them again, I expect a similar game,” Sophomore infielder Lisa Klass said. Gustavus is 18-4 in the MIAC and 28-11 overall, while the Tommies are 21-1 in the MIAC and 34-6 overall.

“I think this team of competitive athletes can definitely win the MIAC Playoffs this weekend. We’re coming in seeded second, but we can still win the whole thing and get that automatic bid to Regionals. We start out playing Bethel, who we can hopefully handle and get our first win out of the way,” Senior outfield Sheila Arnold said. “We would also love the chance to take revenge on St. Olaf, who we split with during the regular season. Our toughest competition in the tournament will be St. Thomas, who we lost to during the regular season. We played two excellent games against them, but couldn’t close them out. I’m confident that this third time we see them we will win. If we get on a roll with our offense and continue to work hard everywhere else, I believe we can take the whole tournament.”

“Our goal now is to win the conference playoff to guarantee us a spot in the regional tournament and then work our way through the tournament, just like last year, until we end up at Nationals and then anything can happen,” Klass said.

The Gusties will face Bethel in the first round of the MIAC Tournament on Friday at 3:00 p.m. at Caswells Park in North Mankato. Bethel is 22-18 overall and 14-8 in the MIAC. Last time Gustavus played Bethel, the Gusties swept winning the first game 10-4 and the second game 3-1.

“The season is definitely going well so far. We are continually getting better and we’re seeing different improvements each game. Coming from a tough tournament in Florida, we’ve really dominated the MIAC, only losing a few close games. Our offense has had its ups and downs, but our defense and pitching has been stellar. When we’re hitting, no one can stop us,” Arnold said.

The Gusties’ most recent series was on May 3 when they swept St. Scholastica. In the first game the Gusties won 7-0. Senior Callie Nelsen pitched a near perfect game, as St. Scholastica was only able to get two hits. Senior infielder Jenna Johnson started things off in the second inning with a leadoff home run. Then, in the fourth inning, the Gusties earned five runs to take a considerable lead over St. Scholastica. The Gusties improved in their second game, winning 11-2 in five innings. Gustavus started off in the second inning scoring two runs and continued with three runs in the third inning and six in the fourth. Senior Betsy Collins pitched the first four innings and only allowed two hits while striking out three. First-year Kate Rentschler pitched the final inning, allowing one hit.

“The season has been great so far. Even though there were games we maybe should have won but lost, we came out fighting even harder for the next game. Playoffs are right around the corner, and I can’t wait to see what our team can do,” Klass said.

“This team has so much potential and we keep growing with each win and loss. One of the most amazing aspects of this team is the bonds we’ve formed with each other. Being so close and supportive of each other makes us the great team we are. We’re celebrating our progress with each step of the season and really starting to grow into an unstoppable group of girls. I think everyone on this team and all our fans can see how blessed we are to be a part of this program,” Arnold said.

Sophomore Lisa Klass aims to throw out a runner from her infield position.

Junior infielder and outfielder Kirstin Prunty connects on a pitch during a recent home game. The Gusties play Bethel in the first round of the MIAC Playoffs.
Perkins reaches for a ball as Watkins intimidates him at the net on Monday night. Gustavus students came out to support the record wreckers.

Watkins celebrates with fans — mostly of Gustavus students — after he and Perkins broke the record.

“Record” from page 16

Wilkinson coached them to maintain a positive attitude in all circumstances, even going as far as painting smiley faces on each of their racquets. “They came down and we went over some of the things they should think about: taking full advantage of the 20 seconds [between points], making the center of the court the target, high consistency and reducing the amount of running. They need be certain they get the adequate amount of liquid and energy food available as they switch sides and keep playing,” Wilkinson said.

In addition to working with Wilkinson and current Gustavus Men’s Head Tennis Coach Tommy Valenti on tips and strategies in preparation for the event, Watkins and Perkins also visited Doctor Jamie Peters at Fairview Sports and Orthopedic Care. They received tennis elbow straps and mini-physicals to ensure they were in shape to complete the 36-hour plus tennis event.

Many people don’t realize the amount of work that went into this event beforehand, largely in part to the work of Gustavus Sports Information Director Tim Kennedy. Kennedy acted as the official witness for the record-breaking event and helped provide anything for Watkins and Perkins throughout the tennis match. “They needed someone to act as a representative for Guinness. I marked all the breaks they took including the time they began and the time they ended. I kept the official score of every set, and I had to be here from beginning to end to witness the event,” Kennedy said.

Gustavus took every opportunity to be gracious hosts for the record wreckers. “David and I have been showered with hospitality since we got here. They are customizing our Gatorade flavors and providing everything from Red Bull to lots of new cans of tennis balls to Dr. Scholl’s insoles for our shoes,” Perkins said.

In return, Gustavus was able to receive plenty of publicity as hosts for the event. “We always talk about visibility for the college, especially in the Twin Cities. It is satisfying to end to witness the event,” Kennedy said. “For the last three days, KARE 11 was all over campus, there was no natural light, where I said ‘Is it worth it?’ In this dome, there was no natural light, and it was hard to keep going, I’m happy we pulled through and accomplished the record.”

Before the match, Perkins knew there was only one thing that would help them succeed. “This morning I came to the realization that we will only make it if we have fun. It’s so accurate.”

Watkins and Perkins were definitely able to have fun. Through all the aches and cramps, Perkins cut out shoes for the blisters on his toes and the lack of sleep, they were able to break the record for the longest tennis match ever played with spirit and determination, while honoring a legend in the Gustavus community as well as the tennis realm. They accomplished the feat not only with smiles on their faces but also on their racquets.

For the last three days, KARE 11 covered the event, our college was put on the map, our school was recognized, and the college community thrived.” Watkins and current Gustavus Men’s Head Tennis Coach Tommy Valenti acted as the official witnesses for the record-breaking event and helped provide anything for Watkins and Perkins throughout the tennis match. They needed someone to act as a representative for Guinness. I marked all the breaks they took including the time they began and the time they ended. I kept the official score of every set, and I had to be here from beginning to end to witness the event,” Kennedy said.

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Tuesday, May 11

Men’s Golf @ NCAA Championships
All Day
Women’s Golf @ NCAA Championships
All Day

Wednesday, May 12

Men’s Tennis @ MIAC Playoffs
All Day
Women’s Tennis @ MIAC Playoffs
All Day

Thursday, May 13

Men’s Golf @ MIAC Playoffs
All Day
Women’s Golf @ MIAC Playoffs
All Day

Friday, May 14

Baseball @ Bethany Lutheran
5:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 15

Baseball @ Meet of the Unsaintly
All Day

Women’s Track & Field @ Meet of the Unsaintly
All Day

Men’s Track & Field @ Meet of the Unsaintly
All Day

Men’s Golf @ NCAA Championships
All Day
Women’s Golf @ NCAA Championships
All Day

JOTTINGS

Junior Katie Schenfeld earned the honor of MIAC Golfer of the Week for the third time this spring. Schenfeld captured medalist honors at the UW-Eau Claire Invitational this past weekend at Wild Ridge Golf Course in Eau Claire. Schenfeld shot a 77 and 76 to win the individual title by two strokes, with a 36-hole total of 153. Schenfeld helped the Women’s Golf team win all four spring tournaments. The #2-ranked Gusties won the UW-Eau Claire Invite by 20 strokes.
As part of sports reporter David Watkins’ new series at KARE 11 called “Record Wreckers,” Watkins and fellow sports reporter Eric Perkins broke the world record for longest tennis match ever played.

In 36 hours, 36 minutes and 36 seconds, one could drive from Los Angeles, Calif. cross-country to Pittsburgh, Pa. or from St. Peter, Minn. all the way north to Yellowknife in the Northwest Territory of Canada. KARE 11 sports reporters David Watkins and Eric Perkins chose to use this amount of time in a much more effective manner—breaking a world record.

Beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, May 3 and lasting until about 10:10 p.m. on Tuesday, May 4, Watkins and Perkins broke the record for the world’s longest tennis match ever played by briefly outlasting the previous record for the world’s longest tennis match at 36 hours, 36 minutes and 36 seconds. Watkins and Perkins played for 36 hours and 40 minutes. Over the duration of the match, they played 68 sets and 517 games. Perkins won 65 sets and Watkins won 3.

The idea to break the world record blossomed from a KARE 11 story a couple months ago about the longest tennis match ever played. From that point, Watkins developed a proposal to pitch to KARE 11 about a new segment called “Record Wreckers” that would honor different people in Minnesota attempting to break different world records. Watkins and Perkins decided to kick off the segment by breaking a world record of their own.

“Perk and I got to talking [after the kicker aired], and we thought, ‘We can do that.’ Here we are just a couple months later, and we are going big and for entertainment value,” Watkins said.

“We are both competitive by nature. David’s the one that thought we could take it the extra mile and actually break the record,” Perkins said.

Watkins and Perkins recruited Wilkinson to coach them on the technicalities of tennis techniques and rules. “[Wilkinson] showed us a thing or two about tennis and the proper way to hit a tennis ball, and if we hit it properly, we have less chance to get hurt. He also helped mentally prepare us for the event,” Watkins said.

“I think it’s nice they are doing it in recognition of me, but mainly it’s about the excitement of two people interested in setting a world record,” Wilkinson said. “It just so happens they picked the tennis mecca of Minnesota at Swanson, and they are choosing to feature my record.”

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“I think of Steve as Yoda from Star Wars. He has so much knowledge about the game, and I don’t want to let him down. I want to finish this event to complete my Jedi Knight training,” Perkins said.

Watkins and Perkins celebrate after they broke the record with legendary tennis coach Steve Wilkinson and current Men’s Head Tennis Coach Tommy Valentini. Watkins and Perkins chose to honor Wilkinson, who acted as their coach.

Continued on page 15