Board approves plan for West Mall renovation

Key

A - Connection to Arboretum
B - Drop-off plaza
C - Boreal Forest
D - Outdoor room
E - Deciduous Forest
F - Parking lot
G - pergola
H - Main Pedestrian Circulation
J - Crushed Limestone Path
K - Savannah
L - Prairie
M - New Academic Bldg
N - Plaza / Skating Rink
O - Accessible Parking
P - Sculpture
Q - Pavers with Low Curb
R - Bicycle parking
S - Columbarium

Andy Setterholm
News Editor

Gustavus’s plan to renovate the area to the west of the chapel into a new “West Mall” has made significant progress over the past few months. The project, which has been in conceptual discussion for the past five to six years, has begun to solidify with the creation of a design for construction. The group of Gustavus representatives planning the project, made up of various employees, was presented with two prospective designs by the landscape architecture company Perkins and Will. The plans were considered in small group discussions and presented to the Gustavus public in multiple sessions at the end of fall semester.

The general impression was that this was an incredibly worthwhile review session,” Director of Physical Plant Werner Wunderlich said. “For the architects ... it was just to get two different ideas on paper so that people could respond to them,” Wunderlich said.

After the public sessions and subsequent meetings with Gustavus officials, the plan titled “Ellipse and Formal Frames” was approved by the Board of Trustees to guide the project as it moves to its next stage. The design can be seen in the accompanying picture.

“I think either plan would have been good,” Director of Residential Life Charlie Strey said. “[The plan chosen] will be very beautiful and very functional.”

The choice of a design for the West Mall project incorporated a great amount of thought and discussion from many people on campus. The project has been seen as a possibility since Olin Hall was built in 1991, and has been in serious conversation since the construction of the new Hollingsworth Field in 2007. With the current addition of the new academic building, the area that will become the West Mall has started to draw more attention and foot traffic. The choice to renovate the mall led to the design of two potential plans by landscape architects, one of which has been chosen as the basis for the final design phase. The new plan was chosen because it seemed to be the most representative of a college campus, and it specifically fit Gustavus’s existing identity.

“T...
The GusTavian Weekly

The Gustavian Weekly Staff

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Letters to the Editor can be sent to lettertotheaditor@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

Saturday, Jan. 22
A Gustavus student while in Pittman Hall was cited by Campus Safety and SPPD for an underage consumption of alcohol. The Gustavus student was transported to the St. Peter Hospital Emergency Room.

A Gustavus student was cited by Campus Safety for an of-age alcohol violation/non-drinking area.

Sunday, Jan. 23
A Gustavus student reported concerns about another student to Campus Safety. Campus Safety was called to Lund Center for a medical assist.

Tuesday, Jan. 25
A Gustavus student in Sohre Hall was cited by Campus Safety for an underage liquor violation and suspicious activity.

A Gustavus student reported an injury that occurred on campus on January 10, 2011.

Saturday, Jan. 29
Campus Safety was called about an agitated person in the Administration building. A report was filed with Campus Safety about a sign missing from a vehicle while on campus.

Sunday, Jan. 30
A student was cited for underage consumption in North Hall.

Two students, while in Sohre Hall, were cited by Campus Safety for an of-age liquor violation and suspicious activity.

Friday, Jan. 28
A Gustavus student was cited by Campus Safety for an of-age alcohol violation/non-drinking area.

Sunday, Feb. 6
A Gustavus student was cited by Campus Safety for liquor violation/underage consumption.

Sunday, Feb. 7
A Gustavus student was cited by Campus Safety for a Social Host violation. A student was cited for destruction of property.

Campus Safety was called to Norelius Hall for a drug violation.

A Gustavus student was charged with underage consumption and transported to Detox.

Saturday, Feb. 5
A Gustavus student was cited by Campus Safety for liquor violation/underage consumption.

Sunday, Feb. 6
A student while in Southwest Hall was cited by Campus Safety for a drug violation.

Tip of the Week:

Escort system has changed

We have created a Campus Safety Mobile Escort route that a Campus Safety employee will continually drive from 6:00 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. every night. The escort vehicle will travel a fixed route that starts at Norelius Hall and moves south and then around the east side of campus. The driver will pick up and drop off at 14 designated stops. All pickup points are designated by the yellow and black “Safe Rides” sign posts. It will take the driver 15-20 minutes to drive the route picking up and dropping off students at the designated locations. Students needing an escort should stand by a designated Safe Rides sign, or the nearest building or entryway if available, and wait for the vehicle to arrive on its route. The vehicle will stop briefly, look for riders, and then move on to the next pickup point.

More information and a map of designated stop points is available on the Campus Safety web page: gustavus.edu/safety.

For more information, 24-hour medical escorts, or escorts after 1:30 a.m., call Campus Safety at 507-933-8888 (x8888).
to speak about food issues throughout the weekend. “We tried to have both a global and a local perspective. We asked them to provide an update on the future,” what is the current state of food security from the perspective of their organization and then some action steps. Try to leave people with ‘what can I do,’ “Assistant to the President for Special Projects Barb Larson Taylor said.

Speakers will address numerous topics, including “Some may be environmental. It could be a drought or a growing season that has limited their community. It could be damage to the community by a natural disaster. It could be war or political uprising. For some people, it’s a lack of farmland — a place that is able to produce enough to provide a healthy balanced meal, or they’re focusing on a high-value crop, but it’s not providing balanced food for their local community. It’s a variety of issues,” Larson Taylor said.

“ELCA World Hunger, the Minnesota Food Shelf and UNICEF [are] going to be educational displays so people can walk away with a feeling like they can help more and so that they have a better understanding of how the food system works, even here in Minnesota,” Schmidt said.

In addition to the educational opportunities, the food-packing event will not cost participants any money, as many similar events do.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is donating all the money for the food. It’s 19 cents a meal, which is not a lot; but when it’s 250,000 meals, it’s $5,000,” Schmidt said.

Typically the volunteer has to pay for the food that they pack during their shift. For a lot of organizations, it becomes very expensive to go and have that opportunity,” Larson Taylor said.

A large number of people and groups, including Tau Psi Omega, Football team, Women’s Volleyball team and area churches have already volunteered. If you have not yet signed up to participate, you can still do so as an individual or group online (preferred) or simply show up.

“I think it’s an easy way for people to get involved. It’s a great thing to do as a team,” Junior Economics Major Jason Young said.

For more information or to sign up for a shift, visit: http://gustavus.edu/events/food/.

Eighteen Gustavus students who were abroad in Cairns, Queensland, Australia, where a Category 5 cyclone made landfall the morning of Feb. 2 returned home Friday, Feb. 4, as originally scheduled. The storm (named Cyclone Yasi) touched down on land Wednesday morning and produced high winds and heavy rain. Cyclone Yasi was classified as a level 5 cyclone, which have winds of up to 120 miles per hour. The Gustavus students were fortunate in that area the hit the hardest was south of where they were staying.

The group stayed in a resort hotel in Cairns that local emergency officials deemed a safe location for shelter in the storm. Many students helped sandbag the area and provide first aid support in preparation for the storm’s approach. "The staff has been taken to make sure our students were safe," O’Grady said. "We [had] total confidence in Chuck Niederriter’s leadership during the storm." O’Grady also regularly updated parents of the students on the trip, and the Gustavus website was updated as information became available throughout the week.

A similar situation occurred last year with Gustavus students studying abroad in Peru, the natural disaster being torrential rainfall and mudslides.

Speakers announced for Nobel 47

Eight leading neuroscientists will present research at annual Conference

Stephanie Duley
Staff Writer

G ustavus has announced its eight speakers for Nobel Conference 47. The topic will be “The Brain and Being Human.” All of the speakers that will be presenting specialize in neuroscience, or the scientific study of the nervous system and the brain, particularly how these two function and add to the human experience.

Larry J. Young, Ph.D.

Young is researching the relationship between genes, the brain and innate behaviors such as courtship, parental care and aggression. He hopes to gain better insight into neurological disorders that are often characterized by social impairments. Young has worked for the department of psychiatry at Emory University since 1996.

Nancyce Murphy, Ph.D., Th.D.

An ordained minister in the Church of the Brethren, Murphy is professor of Christian philosophy at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California. Her research focuses on the role of modern and postmodern philosophy in shaping Christian theology and on relations between theology and science.

Paul W. Glimcher, Ph.D.

Glimcher is currently the principal investigator at New York University’s Center for Neuroeconomics. The long-term goal of Glimcher’s research is to describe how neural events underlie decision-making, employing an interdisciplinary approach called “neuroeconomics.”

Helen Mayberg, M.D.

Mayberg has studied neural network models of mood regulation using neuroimaging. She is developing a new format of treatment for patients with severe depression known as deep brain stimulation, or DBS. Mayberg is currently a professor of psychiatry and neurology at Emory University.

Aniruddh D. Patel, Ph.D.

Patel specializes in studying music and language. Patel’s research focuses on the relationship between the two and their similarities and differences in neural organization. Patel’s research on studying cognitive and neural mechanisms. Patel joined the neurology and neurosurgery faculty in 2012 and is currently the Esther J. Burnham senior fellow.

Three government officials in Washington, D.C., and three leaders of Minnesota congregations are among those who will present at this year’s Nobel Conference, Gustavus announced Thursday.

Vilayanur Ramachandran, M.D., Ph.D.

Ramachandran is known for his work in behavioral neuroscience and psychophysics. Newsweek named Ramachandran one of the one hundred most important people to watch in the next century. He is a professor of psychology and neurosciences program, University of California at San Diego.

Martha Farah, Ph.D.

Farah is a cognitive neuroscientist who specializes in studying the effects society can inflict upon the neurological makeup of humans. Farah currently works as the Walter H. Annenberg professor of natural sciences and as the director of the Center for the Neuroscience & Society at the University of Pennsylvania.

Peter Brown, Ph.D.

Brown is a professor of psychology, and director of the Center for the Neuroscience & Society at the University of Pennsylvania.

“West Mall” from page 3

west Hall and Hollingsworth field. This area will be slightly denser and will focus on the creation of deciduous forests and the boreal forest. The parking lots that currently occupy this space will be moved to the north and south of the mall, and the mall will end at Campus Drive, creating an easy transition to the arboretum.

The renovation will create opportunities for the addition of some new outdoor features for students. The mall and the surrounding area will be next to the Chapel will feature an amphitheater, which will be lowered into the ground. This will provide some bench seating and potentially allow the area to be flooded in the winter for a skating rink.

“One of the things about the plaza that has gotten maybe the most attention is the idea that it could be flooded in the winter. It resonated with people … and it’s actually collected a lot of steam,” Wunderlich said. “Just like the expression of the plants is reflecting Minnesota, the college for five months of the nine of the [academic] year is cold; the ice sheet helps recognize what’s it’s part of our lifestyle here … not unlike palm trees on a mall in Florida.”

During warm weather, the amphitheater could be used for presentations or performances by Student Affairs or other student organizations.

“People in [the info sessions], Student Affairs particularly, were saying that this has all kinds of potential for things that happen on the Ecken Mall now, or the John’s Family Courtyard, perhaps in a bigger way with some structured seating,” Wunderlich said.

From this point, the project will move forward quickly. The designers are refining the plan that was chosen and are scheduled to return for further meetings in late March. On the current schedule, construction on the new West Mall will begin shortly after the spring semester concludes. The completion of the project and dedication is anticipated to be in October 2012 at the conclusion of the college’s sesquicentennial.
Chelsea Bayer

“Paging Dr. Bayer!”

F

Chelsea likes to be involved in all these activities. “I think I’d rather have my plate overflowing. I like to stay busy. It’s never been a challenge for me. The busier I am, the better I do,” she said.

“Live it up. Go to everything you can and enjoy. Have fun. Don’t worry about school because school will always be there and it will come.”

-Chelsea Bayer

Being involved in all these activities has not inhibited Chelsea’s academic performance. She is a senior chemistry pre-major and religion minor. She has been very successful in her studies and is currently in the midst of choosing a medical school to continue on her path to becoming a doctor.

Chelsea’s strong focus on her academics has not gone unnoticed by those around her. “Through living with her, I was able to see first-hand the hard work and dedication she put into her MCAT preparations and medical school search. It has been really inspiring to see how her hard work is paying off as she moves forward in the process,” Chelsea’s roommate and Senior Communication Studies Major Lacey Squier said.

After medical school, Chelsea hopes to become a family physician. She said this area of medicine appeals to her because she’s a people person and wants to build more long-term relationships with her patients.

Even though all of Chelsea’s academic and extra curricular successes may look quite exhausting and overwhelming to most of us, Chelsea’s advice to Gustavus students is simple: “Live it up. Go to everything you can and enjoy. Have fun. Don’t worry about school because school will always be there and it will come.”

Although these words seem contradictory to her accomplishments on paper, Chelsea’s friends shed light on her enjoyable and playful personality and friendship. “Chelsea and I were section mates my first year. On the first night I was brushing my teeth in the bathroom and she came in and said, ‘Hi! I’m Chelsea.’ I didn’t recognize her as someone from our section and I thought she was just some weird person who decided to brush her teeth in someone else’s section, so I just awkwardly said hi and walked out. Luckily she didn’t hold it against me and was extremely friendly and welcoming to me in the following weeks. We continued to get to know each other and we have been best friends ever since. This story exemplifies how kind and friendly Chelsea is and how she is always willing to go out of her way to be the greatest friend and person she can be,” Senior Psychology and Dance major Leah McElhenny said.

“She is a person you always want to be around because she makes everyone welcome and values everyone’s contribution to a group. Also, she will send you a Harry Potter postcard from the wizarding world of Harry Potter, even if you don’t like Harry Potter and call you a muggle. THAT is a caring friend,” Senior Geography Major Aubrey Austin said.

“It has been really inspiring to see how her hard work is paying off as she moves forward in the education process. I think she approaches her friendships with a similar dedication and loyalty, which is what makes her such a great friend, and a great Gustie,” Squier said.

“Bayer has great leadership qualities. She is positive, uplifting, encouraging and competitive with intensity.”

-Mike Stehlik

Being almost complete with her undergraduate time at Gustavus, Chelsea describes her time at Gustavus as “Fast! Everyone keeps making jokes about the last first day of this or that, and I say stop it!” She added, “I was recently at an interview at University of Washington for Medical School. Around the room, everyone was from Harvard or Yale, you know, ivy league schools, and I was from Gustavus. Sitting there made me completely confident in my choice to go to Gustavus Adolphus College.”

Chelsea works as a chemistry teaching assistant and plans to attend medical school after she graduates.
The Gustavus Choir will perform a concert on Saturday, Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. after their January Interim tour of Italy.

The tour was truly a celebration of the Gustavus Choir tradition, Johnson stated that the tour was “a weaving together of culture, beauty, art and music.”

“Our tour was better than I ever imagined it could be. It was incredible seeing such amazing sights with my best friends. Our singing grew and improved with every concert we gave and I just know that our home concert is going to be excellent.” Senior Communication Studies Major Bergit Nerheim said.

The goal of the tour was to bring a repertoire that paid respect to the cultures of the places visited, while also sharing American and Minnesotan culture with the audience. The tour was truly a celebration of the Gustavus Choir tradition, Johnson stated that the tour was “a weaving together of culture, beauty, art and music.”

As the final event of the tour, the Gustavus Choir will be performing a home concert in Christ Chapel on Saturday, Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. The choir will present the music from the tour for the Gustavus community. According to Johnson, students have been writing poetry throughout the concert. Peter Michaletz, a junior biology major in the Gustavus Choir, is especially excited for the concert.

“It’s going to be really refined and elegant. We’ve put a lot of effort into this concert before he leaves,” Batz said.

The concert will bring together all of the choir’s hard work and experiences. “Our tour was better than I ever imagined it could be. It was incredible seeing such amazing sights with my best friends. Our singing grew and improved with every concert we gave and I just know that our home concert is going to be excellent.” Senior Communication Studies Major Bergit Nerheim said.

While the film had its comical moments, Due Date feels like a cheap imitation of a substandard, contrived film. Expectations were managed throughout the entire movie.

Due Date features Robert Downey, Jr. as protagonist Peter Highman. Peter is traveling home from Atlanta to Los Angeles to be with his wife, Sarah, as she gives Cesarean birth to their firstborn. Just as he is about to fly home, Peter, mistaken for a terrorist, is kicked off the flight before takeoff and is put on the No-Fly List. Desperately trying to get home, Peter accepts the help of Ethan Tremblay (played by Zach Galifianakis). Ethan is an aspiring actor who, also kicked off the flight, is driving cross-country from Atlanta to Hollywood after his father’s funeral, carrying his father’s ashes in a coffee can the whole way. All the way from Georgia to California, Ethan harasses Peter with probing questions and embarrasses him with his offensive behavior. Before I rip into the numerous imperfections that scar Due Date, let me list the good points of the film. There are a handful of extremely funny moments that made my belly ache. The movie would be a good choice for a relaxing, social night where everyone is chatting and casually watching the movie. The dark humor in the film, while not overly offensive, also has its ups. A scene where Peter and Ethan accidentally drink a coffee made out of the ashes of Peter’s father’s ashes is shocking, but oddly entertaining and dull.

While the film had its comical moments, Due Date feels like a cheap imitation of The Hangover.
All photos by Victoria Clark

Valentine’s Day Memories

Puppy Love

I had a girlfriend who outflashed me by light-years, and my first real Valentine’s Day experience was about to take place. I hadn’t told my parents yet about her, because I couldn’t bear the end of drama from them, so I had all my operations covertly. I made a playlist of five songs that I dedicated to her, but my CD burner decided not to work. Instead, I made her a homemade card. Her favorite candy may or may not have also joined my half-baked display of puppy love.

Anyway, I didn’t see her until between second and third period, because the girls in my carpool were acting really funny. I got home and my parents were acting really funny. My mom gave me a pair of socks, and told me to go put them away in my room. I went up to my messy bedroom only to find my soon-to-be boyfriend dressed in a tuxedo, sitting on my un-made bed with my dirty clothes, waiting for me. I told him I had to go put them away in my room. My mom had given me a pair of socks and underdressed. — Megan Myhre

Valentine’s Day leaves many feeling disillusioned because they think the holiday is very materialistic. Is Valentine’s Day truly about our love of each other or about buying roses to “express our love.” This commercialized holiday is one of the most artificial ways to celebrate love and sex, but why is America doing it in such an artificial way? Hirdler asked. “If one truly cares for their significant other, don’t fall short and only show care the one day. Show them every day of the year.”

Brandon Hirdler, junior gender, women and sexuality studies and history major, shares in the frustration of the commercialization of the holiday. Valentine’s Day is a great excuse to express love and romance. If you’re in a relationship, “do whatever two have dreamed about doing together,” Boardman said. “Crush downtown or go to a park together and then [see] a movie or watch your favorite TV show to follow. Just spend quality alone time, easy.”

Another popular idea was ice skating. “It’s a fun way to get out in the beautiful wintery air and enjoy [the] experience.”

“Plan out your evening with your-self or with friends as if someone was planning it for you. If you set out to have a fun evening with yourself or with friends, it will be a fun and meaningful evening.”

- Jack Boardman

Features Editor

Victoria Clark

A round this time every year stores across the United States stock their shelves with red and pink paraphernalia, anticipating Valentine’s Day. It is almost impossible to escape it. Jewelry commercials bombard us with ads for heart-shaped necklaces on television and sites like tel- Fiona.com plaster the Internet with reminders that there is nothing better than a dozen long-stem roses to “express love.” This commercialized Valentine’s Day leaves many feeling disillusioned as to what the holiday really means. Is Valentine’s Day truly about one’s love of each other or about our love of stuff? Thankfully, many students on campus have some thoughtful insight.

“Plan out your evening with your self or with friends as if someone was planning it for you.” Myhre said. “If you’re not in a relationship, Valentine’s Day is what you make it. Remember that it is a day to celebrate all the relationships in your life, not just the romantic ones. So, get creative, make your reservations and choose your Valentine, because February 14 is almost here.

So, single or taken, if you’re looking to celebrate on February 14 and want this year to be particularly memorable, your fellow Gusties have some advice. If you’re in a relationship, “do whatever two have dreamed about doing together,” Boardman said. “Crush downtown or go to a park together and then [see] a movie or watch your favorite TV show to follow. Just spend quality alone time, easy.”

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- Jack Boardman

- Brandon Hirdler

- Meghan Myhre

Whether you’re single, dating or in a relationship, Valentine’s Day is what you make it. Remember that it is a day to celebrate all the relationships in your life, not just the romantic ones. So, get creative, make your reservations and choose your Valentine, because February 14 is almost here.

- Jack Boardman

- Meghan Myhre

Be my Valentine?

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- Meghan Myhre
Reflecting on the game

The skeptical Prince is...

With the iTouch ESD002S Stainless Steel Automatic Sensor Soap you won't risk all the germs that you run into when using a manual dispenser.

The suggestion box

Watch out! Your soap may have germs on it.

Eye on Gustavus:

**FIRST WEEK FUN**

“Hey, Ingrid! Oh my god, how was J-Term?” “Oh, Ritva, it was so good. My abroad experience was amazing!” “Did you know Annika had an internship?”

**NEW PLANETS**

NASA's astronomers announce the discovery of many new possibly inhabitable planets in the Milky Way... Unfortunately, NASA's funding was majorly reduced in 2010.

**COLD AS...**

No signs of an early spring here! Temperatures are frigid and the snow keeps falling!
Examining life

The band tours home

While the Gustavus Choir rehearsed for hours upon hours a day and then flew off to tour Italy over January Interim, the Gustavus Wind Orchestra was gearing up a mere two hours each day for its regional weeklong tour that took place during the time between the end of January Interim and the start of Spring Semester.

I, as a member of the band, relaxed as my friends in the choir were always busy, but then again they got to go to Italy, which I’m a little jealous about. However, I was part of the Wind Orchestra tour to Eastern Europe last year, so I’ll have the advantage of an international music experience.

Contrasted to the vogue of international travel, a tour around Minnesota and Wisconsin that bypasses the Twin Cities and visits the town of the Unwashed (a joke that comes from the Greek word for unwashed, ὄμορφος, which is pronounced App Le Ton, i.e. Appleton, as λυτος ὄμορφος) is a dull experience. Instead of grand renaissance cathedrals, we played in modest Lutheran churches; instead of touring historic cultural centers like Venice and Budapest, this year the band will saw towns like Brainerd and Middleton.

Touring regionally doesn’t quite have the appeal of Europe, which could have cast a shadow over this year’s band tour—but strangely, it didn’t. Somehow, even if we had less free time and spent absolutely no time in art museums or royal palaces, this year’s regional tour had an incredible number of intense life-changing experiences for those who were a part of it, both in the audiences and ensembles.

The glamour of Europe, although incredible, perhaps distracts from other aspects of touring in an ensemble. Constant input from the senses during the day leads to more tired players at night; the exposure of being in a new place perhaps overcomes the joy of playing music routinely. In Europe, I noticed we were far more focused on place than our purpose, which is above all to perform great music that affects the audience in a profound way. Touring regionally doesn’t necessarily hold those same detractors.

That isn’t to say that you cannot find value close to home. In fact, the beautiful scenes we did come across hit us with more power because they were right in front of us, like unexpected morsels of dark chocolate in what you thought was just a regular oatmeal cookie. Central High School in Duluth, for example, has probably a better view of the lake and waterfront than any place in town, since it’s situated atop the hill that Duluth’s streets notoriously slope.

Unexpected reward might best characterize our band tour this year. Along with physical beauty in newfound places, our many experiences with home-slay families that hosted us as we traveled were very gratifying. Almost every night we were kept by the generosity of the local churches among different families, an experience that affirms two things for me primarily, that people are generally good people, and also that every single one of us has far more in common than in difference.

Every family I had the pleasure of staying with had compelling lives, told interesting stories and treated us with nothing but kindness. Even on the rare occasion when I knew I had very different views on issues than my hosts, it was incredible to me how much we could, nevertheless, talk about and agree upon; I never had a conversation that lasted less than an hour after a concert, and keep in mind that we got to these homes usually around 10:00 p.m.

The entire experience was a great inspiration to me. Not only did we play great music that got better every night, but we met our neighbors, and even if they were Packer fans, found that they were genuinely good people. Looking back, there was no European gold dust sprinkled on last year’s tour that made it such a great experience for us. Rather, it is in the doing of it, in the enjoyment of the moment and the quality of companions and new friends and in the novel experiences that lead us to wonderful tours.

As a last word, the Gustavus Wind Orchestra will be performing its home concert at 200 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 12 (the Choir will be forming their home concert that night at 7:30 p.m. as well). I encourage each of you to attend, perhaps with a valentine, and hear for yourselves the music that propels so many Gusties through their own life-changing experiences.

"The game" from page 8 with the Kenny G. But overall, the commercials this year were a real let-down. Not to say that they were awful—most are better than what we have been used to seeing on television—but they weren’t up to the caliber that I, and the friends I watched this year’s Super Bowl with, have come to expect as an interlude from the game.

While I rant and poke fun at the Super Bowl, I can’t say I didn’t enjoy it. It might not have lived up to the expectations, but the game was enjoyable. Above all, it was a great reason to get together with a bunch of friends, eat a bunch of junk food and have a good time, all of which are more important than commercials letting me down or the Black Eyed Peas continued existence. So, congratulations Packers fans; your team definitely earned it this year.
The reality that the herpes has always been ours. This might have been a bad move. Now we'll have to face it every time I'm dumb enough to USE MY CAR.

The Shady Character is back. Time to get down to business ...

I had a friend who studied abroad in France. He was eight hours ahead of us, but he wouldn't tell me what was going on. What a tool.

My new organization will be leaving from the Red Desk at 12:39 p.m. and hiding in the bushes somewhere along the path that The Movers are taking. Join “The Movers Blocking Club.”

I guess students now have to bring their IDs to The Dive. It’s better than when they just come in and sit there quietly crying. Smelling like whiskey.

Saturday, February 12

Good Food for All
Campus Center
All Day
Event catered by McDonalds.

The Gustavus Wind Orchestra Home Concert
Christ Chapel
2:00 p.m.
The Gustavus Wind Orchestra has returned home from the Midwest, where the horns were offered up to “He Who Walks Behind the Rows.”

The Gustavus Choir Home Concert
Christ Chapel
8:30 p.m.
The Gustavus Choir has returned home from Italy, where the bass section was disappointed to find out that you're not allowed to run over rooftops and hidden blades are frowned upon.

Bingo
Alumni Hall
8:30 p.m.
Bingo on the first Saturday of the semester? “Blackout” bingo is about to get a whole new meaning.

Sunday, February 13

Sacred Space
Alumni Hall
12:40 p.m.
When they say they’re looking for new spiritual themes to explore, do not eagerly shout “ Peyote and sweat lodge!” Campus Safety sure can leave a room messy.

U.S. Air Force Brass in Blue Concert
Bjorling Recital Hall
1:30 p.m.
These guys handle all the blue events: the dinners, the galas and if they get around to it, the balls. Yes, you can always hope they’ll handle the blue balls.

Monday, February 14

“The Movers” Walking Club
Red Desk in Lund Center
12:40 p.m.

Moodle Users Group Meeting
Library E-Classroom
6:30 p.m.
It's not for me. I mean, yeah, I use Moodle once in a while, but I could quit any time I want.

Valentine's Day Celebration
Alumni Hall
7:30 p.m.
Don’t worry if you’re alone on Valentine’s Day. Here are a few tricks you can use to make yourself feel better.

1. Hold a conversation with the mirror. It’s a good listener.
2. Log on to your middle school MSN or AIM account in the desperate hope that maybe that one girl will be doing the same thing and it’s a sign the universe wants you to be together.
3. Call 1-900-***-****.

Monday Night Recital
Bjorling Recital Hall
7:30 p.m.
Need a good Valentine's Day date? There's nothing sexier than watching a french horn player empty his spit valve all over the stage. Trust me. He won’t be the only one sitting in a puddle by the end.

... because it’s supposed to rain that day.

Tuesday, February 15

50/50 Mixx
Lund Center 244
9:00 a.m.
You’re just one “x” and a “dot com” away from catching my interest.

Managing Photos with iPhoto
Olin Technology Classroom
12:00 p.m.
Step One: Right click on ... oh, wait.

Study Abroad Scholarship
Info Session
Rundquist Conference Room
12:30 p.m.
How does it make you feel to know that people will literally give you money to go away?

Butler Study Abroad Scholarship
Info Session
Rundquist Conference Room
12:40 p.m.
There was a scandal with this scholarship a few years ago when they found out that there was unfair advantage being given to people named Jeevs, James, Chives and Alfred.

Have fun!
The excitement of the Super Bowl still clings to the air like the arctic chill that has come upon us in recent weeks. Therefore, the prospect of further in- clement weather is anything but welcome. However, the arrival of a repressing fog is impending. The weather is expected to arrive March 3, 2011 and has many football fans clamoring for a way to escape the darkness that looms.

The NFL is in threat of a lockout for the 2011 season as owners and the NFL Players Association continue labor ne- gotiations, attempting to agree on a new financial contract by the March 3 deadline. An agree- ment needs to be made by this date, otherwise fans will be without professional football next season.

If there is a lockout, there will be no procrastinating on your homework in order to dedicate your Sunday to football. No Monday fun-days to boost your morale at the start of another week. There will be no mind- blowing games on Thursdays and Saturdays that are so epic, they are on a secret channel that doesn’t seem to exist on most cable packages.

Finally, there will be no fan- tasy football for those who wish they could play, but can only pretend by managing a team called Victorious Secret or Urine Trouble on their computer.

Listing everything that will be missing from our lives, given a lockout next season, might be en- ough for society to realize how much they will miss it, while disbelief thinking as they read that they couldn’t care less.

Regardless of your passion for football, the possibility of a lockout is absurd for many reasons.

In order to ensure that football will be played in the next five or so seasons, NFL owners and the NFLPA must agree on a new contract that compensates for the desires of both sides. NFLPA Executive Director DeMaurice Smith is as dumbfounded as anyone when it comes to the issue of a lockout.

Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones indicated months ago that the owners want to eliminate revenue sharing, allowing large market teams like the ‘Boys to keep all of their revenue. This would give big cities a monopo- lization of the NFL, creating the opportunity for Jones to be the George Steinbrenner of football.

The owners want players to participate in an 18 game season while taking a pay cut, which would also cut the preseason from four games to two.

An Associated Press-Knowledge Networks poll was taken of a large group of NFL fans, and 45 percent of the group supported it, but only 18 percent strongly favored an 18 game schedule.

If the fans of the game don’t want a lengthened schedule, the only thing driving the change is the possibility for profit. This al- legiance would increase the an- nual NFL revenue of $8 billion, which is currently split between the owners and the players. The owners demand a larger share.

Also included in the owners’ proposal is the demand that players pay for transportation and the use of practice facilities and locker rooms. Hearing all of this proves that money never sleeps, but that it drives ego and catalyzes the worst quality in human beings: greed.

The NFLPA seems to have a more equitable proposal com- pared to the demands of an app- arently ruthless, and wealthy, group of owners.

Smith and the NFLPA are pushing for full discretion from the owners by asking them to open their books. This will al- low the union to see where its money is being spent and, more importantly, if the money is be- ing spent ethically. If each side opens their books to each other, a partnership may be formed in order to ease negotiations now and in the future.

The owners can afford to with- stand a lockout, which gives them a little more bargain- ing power as these two sides negotiate. Current contracts with ESPN and NBC ensure that the NFL will receive nearly $4 billion in TV revenue over the next year even if no games are played in 2011. A court settle- ment awarded the players only about $7 million of this amount, which means the majority of players will be without a source of revenue for a year.

The impact of this for the athletes is not detrimental given that the minimum salary for players begins at around $300,000 a year and increases incrementally according to league seniority. Despite this fact, long-term health issues have already given the NFLPA reason to bargain for increased benefits for retired players.

Now with the prospect of longer seasons, players will want increased salaries, as well. The players are not devoid of greed, but the inclusion of player health may be a plausible way for the union swing momentum in the favor of the NFLPA dur- ing current negotiations.

There are other considerations that will be included in the new labor agreement, but if both sides do not agree by March 3, there will be no football in 2011. There also will be no more money flowing into NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell’s pocket.

Goodell’s current salary ex- ceeds $10 million a year with bonuses, but if there is a lockout he promises to cut his salary to $1. Surrendering his salary is a noble promise, but everyone in- volved will need to make some concessions.

Let us hope that owners and players do not succumb to the temptation greed presents dur- ing the current labor discus- sions, which will subsequently preserve our precious Sunday afternoons of football in 2011.
Women’s Basketball clinches MIAC Playoff berth

Craig Nordquist
Staff Writer

After a 4-5 start to its conference schedule, the Gustavus Women’s Basketball team has caught fire by winning nine of its last ten contests to move into fourth place with three games to play in the regular season.

After consecutive wins over Hamline and Carleton, the Gusties beat St. Catherine by a score of 77-63 on Wednesday. The Gusties begin their three-game homestand to close out the season on Saturday with a crucial game against defending conference champion St. Thomas.

“Our season has been up and down, kind of like a roller coaster, and hopefully we’re back on the upside,” Junior guard Ava Perry said. “We’re going to focus on getting some wins to close out the season and improve for the playoffs.”

After suffering consecutive losses at the hands of St. Thomas and St. Benedict—the teams with the two best records in MIAC play this season—the Gusties went on a six-game winning streak that gave the team a much needed spark.

“Our [six-game] winning streak definitely gave us more confidence and showed us what kind of team we can be,” Junior Molly Geske said. “These last three games we’re looking to come away with three wins and finish strong so we can go into the playoffs with lots of confidence.”

The final week of regular season play begins with a home matchup against the Tommies. The Gusties are looking to avenge a heartbreaking 63-60 loss to St. Thomas in last season’s MIAC Semifinal, as well as a tightly contested 66-61 loss earlier this season in St. Paul.

“We’re definitely looking for revenge,” Geske said. “St. Thomas is always a big rival, and we always play close games against them, so it would be a huge win for us.”

As the game nears, the Gusties are making sure not to dwell on the previous two matchups between the two MIAC squads. “Last year’s game was a shocker for us, but it proved to us that any game can come down to a matter of one possession,” Senior forward Molly Mathiowetz said. “We have to remember that we’re just as good as them, and that if we show up we have a good chance to win.”

With a playoff berth wrapped up, Gustavus now has its sights set on moving up into one of the top three spots in the MIAC standings to secure home court advantage for the first round.

“Home court would be really important for us because we’ve played really well on our court this season,” Geske said. “We would love to have it for the first game because it’s definitely a lot more fun and it’s a much better atmosphere to play in.”

In order to make the jump and overtake Concordia, the Gusties will have to focus on putting together a solid effort for the entirety of the game and put opponents away early.

“We need to make sure that we play a complete 40 minutes,” Mathiowetz said. “Going into the end of the season with the teams we have in our conference, we don’t want to be letting them back in the game.”

Coach Mickey Haller’s squad—which has prided itself on its ability to cause turnovers—currently ranks first in the MIAC in steals and turnover margin.

“Defense has always been our thing. When we’re all on the same page, we’re hard to score on,” Perry said. “The main thing we need to work on is communication on the floor. That’s what has been getting us into trouble in close games.”

Gustavus has proven to be the hottest team in the MIAC since the middle of January as a result of its defense causing turnovers and its offensive sinking inside shots from the post.

“We are very confident right now as a team because we have been playing well together and finishing tough games,” Junior guard Colleen Ruane said. “We know what we have to do in order to be successful and we know that everyone can contribute to our success.”

Although the Gusties are assured of a spot in this year’s MIAC playoffs, the team has taken a small step backward from its 18-4 record last year that earned a share of the MIAC regular season title. Although the team has a different makeup this season, Ruane stresses that this season’s Gustavus squad can go just as deep in the playoffs.

“We are a new and younger team with different types of players from last year,” Ruane said. “We have a lot of talent on our team and although our record might not show it, I think we can prove it in playoffs.”

In addition to the recent hot streak, the team has had further reason to celebrate this season. Earlier in the season, the Gusties beat Concordia on the road for the first time in eight years to give Haller her 200th career victory at Gustavus.

“There have been lots of ups and downs just like any season,” Geske said. “We have definitely been improving over the course of the season, and we hope to reach our peak at playoff time when it’s most important.”

“We are a new and younger team with different types of players from last season,” Geske said. “The Gusties beat Concordia on the road for the first time in eight years to give Haller her 200th career victory at Gustavus.”

“Once you hit the playoffs, it’s like a whole new season,” Perry said. “When we have a spot, we can forget about the regular season and focus on the games ahead.”

After reaching the MIAC semifinals in four of the last five seasons, the Gusties are hoping to finally break through and win their first MIAC playoff title.

“We’re hoping to advance all the way to the finals in the playoffs,” Geske said. “We definitely have the ability to do so, and come playoff time anything can happen.”

Senior Molly Mathiowetz goes up for a shot against St. Olaf.