

# THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

Established 1891

March 7, 2014

Issue 17

## Board of Trustees announces 17th President, Rebecca M. Bergman

McKayla Murphy  
News Editor

The Board of Trustees has announced the election of Gustavus' 17th president, Rebecca M. Bergman. Bergman will take office on July 1 of this year, replacing current President Jack Ohle in his retirement. Bergman is also the first female president in Gustavus' 152 years.

Bergman currently serves at Medtronic as the Vice President of Research, Technology, and Therapy Delivery Systems for the company's Cardiac Rhythm Disease Management (CRDM) division. Bergman has also served on the Board of Trustees since 2007.

Board of Trustees Member and Presidential Search Committee Chair Warren Beck believes that Bergman's skill set is well tailored to the position.

"I am very excited that Becky has been elected. I think she brings a great deal of strengths from her years of experience at Medtronic and also benefits from her service on the board of trustees at the college," Beck said.

Although Bergman did not initially intend to apply for the



Office of Marketing and Communications

position, she was encouraged to do so by her colleagues.

"At the beginning, I really didn't have it in my mind, the possibility of being a candidate,

and it wasn't until I was nudged by a few of my colleagues that I even began to think about it, so it really wasn't in my 'master plan,'" Bergman said.

The election of a new president has caused excitement on campus and has also provoked questions about what the responsibilities of the president are. Beck explained that a college president has many diverse roles.

"The president of the college is really the person who provides a focal point for conversation about the college, and in going forward, provides leadership for the institution. They are also the person who articulates the mission of the college and its strengths to the broader community. It's the combination of the internal leadership and the external communication that is so important to keep the college moving forward," Beck said.

Bergman is enthusiastic about transitioning from her current role as Board of Trustees member to President.

"I am particularly looking forward to life on campus. I have a real affinity for students, for education, for continual learning, so it feels like an environment that will be exciting and every day something new to learn. I really enjoy strategic planning, and trying to figure out where to focus energy in terms of future direction, so I am looking forward to trying

to set priorities and figure out what are the most important new initiatives that Gustavus needs to face into over the next five plus years," Bergman said.

*"It's the combination of the internal leadership and the external communication that is so important to keep the college moving forward."*

—Warren Beck

Although Bergman does not see any major changes in the near future, she hopes to improve upon many existing aspects of Gustavus life.

"Gustavus is fortunate to have a lot of things right, and I think that the important foundation of Gustavus, meaning the mission and core values of

**'Board of Trustees announces' continued on page 4**

## 2014 Building Bridges Conference, "demanding environmental justice"

Libby Larson  
Assistant News Editor

Strolling around campus lately, students have likely noticed the signs announcing the upcoming Building Bridges Conference. This year's theme, "Disposable Communities? Demanding Environmental Justice," has included two scheduled preview lectures in addition to the week of activities leading up to the event.

On Thursday, Feb. 4, Dr. Jason Smerdon, Professor at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory at Columbia University, presented the lecture entitled, "Drip, Drip, Drip: Water, Climate Change, and Tales of Want and Excess in the 21st Century."

The lecture, "Climate Change-What do we know and what can we do?" was scheduled for Feb. 21 with Dr. John Abraham, Professor of Thermal and Fluid Science at the University of St. Thomas, but was postponed

due to the weather.

The two Building Bridges preview lectures were sponsored in partnership with the Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Studies, Geology, and Physics Departments.

Professor Charles Niederriter of the Physics Department said that the Building Bridges Conference topic this year provided an opportunity to use funding from the National Science Foundation to sponsor the speakers in an effort to "warm up the crowd" as has been done with the Nobel Conferences in the past in promotion of the upcoming conference's environmental theme.

"It's amazing how lucky we are, we really take water for granted, yet around the world fresh, clean water is not common," Niederriter said.

Smerdon, a 1998 Gustavus graduate with a PhD in Applied Physics, said that the conversation about climate change has

been evolving, moving from questions about the evidence supporting the existence of global warming toward the study of the impacts and consequences of climate change.

"Being able to talk about water is a really important part of the climate change story, the hydrological cycle is going to be changed significantly as a result of global warming, and its impacts are things that we need to be thinking about," Smerdon said.

Focusing on the shifting of extreme concentrations of precipitation, Smerdon emphasized that areas that already experience drought will become even more burdened by a lack of water, and other global areas will be at an increased risk of severe flooding and other weather phenomena.

"From the perspective of Building Bridges, the environmental injustice issue is really encapsulated in the water prob-

lem, because climate change will affect the hydrological cycle unevenly. The changes in water availability and the consequences for precipitation and drought will be unevenly felt,

and it's definitely a sad truth of the climate change issue that

**'Building Bridges' continued on page 3**



Libby Larson

Jason Smerdon discusses 2014 Building Bridges topic, "Disposable Communities? Demanding Environmental Justice" at the Preview Lecture.

## The Gustavian Weekly Staff

Rebecca Hare Editor-in-Chief  
 Vincent Bartella Managing Editor  
 McKayla Murphy News Editor  
 Libby Larson Asst. News Editor  
 Molly Butler Arts & Entertainment Editor  
 Jaurdyn Gilliss Features Editor  
 David Roland Opinion Editor  
 Linnea Moat Sports & Fitness Editor  
 Justin Feit Calendar Editor  
 Allison Hosman Photography Editor  
 (position available) Asst. Photography Editor

Erika Clifton Copy Editor  
 Grace Bymark Copy Editor  
 Ana Hollander Copy Editor  
 Kevin Dexter Web Editor  
 Andrew Lonneman Business Manager  
 (position available) Distribution Manager  
 Travis Pepper Advertising Manager  
 Blake Van Oosbree Graphic Designer  
 (position available) Staff Cartoonist  
 Victoria Clark Student Adviser  
 Glenn Kranking Adviser

Published weekly on Fridays, except during academic breaks, by the students of Gustavus Adolphus College. Subscriptions are available from THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY for \$40 per year.

Opinions expressed here in are not necessarily those of the institution or of its student body. The editors assume full responsibility for editorial and unsigned material.

Letters to the Editor can be sent to [lettertotheeditor@gustavus.edu](mailto:lettertotheeditor@gustavus.edu).

If interested in publishing an ad, please contact our ad manager, Travis Pepper, at [admanager@gustavus.edu](mailto:admanager@gustavus.edu)

50¢ First copy free

Email: [weekly@gustavus.edu](mailto:weekly@gustavus.edu)Web site: [weekly.gustavus.edu](http://weekly.gustavus.edu)

## Campus Safety Report

### Wednesday, February 26

• A non-student and a Gustavus student while in Gibbs Hall were cited by the Saint Peter Police Department for underage consumption. The Gustavus student was cited for underage consumption and possession and a social host violation by Campus Safety. The non-student was issued a trespass warning by Campus Safety.

### Thursday, February 27

• A Physical Plant employee reported suspicious activity at Norelius Hall.

### Friday, February 28

• A Campus Safety Officer responded to vehicle vandalism in the Sohre parking lot.  
 • Campus Safety responded to a welfare check in Southwest Hall. A student was transported to Rivers Edge Hospital.  
 • Collegiate Fellows responded to an alcohol violation in North Hall involving two students.

### Saturday, March 1

• Collegiate Fellows reported an alcohol violation in North Hall involving one student.  
 • A student was cited by Campus Safety for underage consumption in the Johnson Student Union.  
 • Campus Safety cited one student for underage consumption in Gibbs Hall.  
 • One student was cited by Campus Safety with an of age / non-drinking area alcohol violation, one student was cited for underage consumption, and one student was cited for a policy violation in Norelius Hall.  
 • A student while in College View Apartments was cited by Campus Safety for an of-age alcohol violation.

### Sunday, March 2

• Campus Safety cited one student for underage consumption in Sorensen Hall.  
 • Campus Safety responded to vandalism of College property in Gibbs Hall.  
 • Campus Safety responded to a fire alarm and property damage in North Hall resulting from the discharge of a fire extinguisher.  
 • Campus Safety responded to a suspicious activity by the Blue Light on Hello Walk.

### Tip of the Week:

Make sure that before you put your laptop into its carrying bag that it is shut down. A notebook that has been left on can melt when enclosed in a notebook bag where there is no air circulation.

## Gustavus Forensics wins third consecutive State Championship

Jessie Yongrong Tan  
 Staff Writer

The Gustavus Forensics Team won its third consecutive state championship Feb. 15-16 at the Minnesota Collegiate Forensics Association (MCFA), making it the sixth state championship the team has won in seven years.

In addition to the team's overall championship wins, several individual members contributed big wins across a wide range of competitive categories.

Senior Kelsey Abele took second in the Individual Sweepstakes, while Senior Shelby Wilds placed fourth, and Junior Karin Nordin placed fifth.

Abele won both the Prose Interpretation and Program Oral Interpretation events, placed second in Impromptu Speaking, took fourth place in Dramatic Interpretation, and finished fifth place in Duo Interpretation teamed with sophomore Wilson Fields.

Wilds won the Extemporaneous Speaking category and finished second in After Dinner Speaking. She also placed fourth in Informative Speaking and sixth in Communication Analysis.

Nordin won the Impromptu Speaking event, placed third in both Poetry and Interpretation and Dramatic Interpretation, and took sixth in Prose Interpretation. Nordin also teamed with Fields to take fourth place in Duo Interpretation.

For all top team results, please see the box to the right.

Director of Forensics Kris Kracht regards the recent triumphs highly.

"The accomplishments are significant in that our students really have committed to excellence that they want, and for them it's not so much about the result they get. The trophy is the byproduct developed by hard work," Kracht said.

Kracht attributes the success to the education the students received at Gustavus.

"The competitive success is the byproduct of the educational process that's put in place. They make our students better thinkers, better writers and better researchers, [which translates into] better performers, better speakers," Kracht said.

Being a part of Gustavus forensics team means excellence and commitment. According to Kracht, the student members usually spend between 15 and 20 hours every week in practice. Practices may take many different forms, including peer coaching, individual research, revision and etc.

Students also travel all over the United States on weekends to compete. On a two-day tournament, they have a very tight schedule. Starting at 8 a.m. and

finishing at 7 p.m., a tournament usually has two or three preliminary rounds and a final round.

Though the competitive nature and long hours seem intimidating to some, Abele highlights the advantages of her experience. She notes that her tenure on the team has enabled her to gain skills she cannot find anywhere else. Like many members, Abele started her forensics career in high school, was drawn here by the solid forensics program offered by Gustavus, and has found her

'Gustavus Forensics'  
 continued on page 4

### Individual Sweepstakes

Kelsey Abele - 2nd

Shelby Wilds- 4th

Karin Nordin- 5th

### Individual Championship

Brittany Knutson

Communication Analysis &

Informative Speaking

Kate Spaulding

After Dinner Speaking

**Godfather's Pizza**

PHONE: **507-931-6140**

**6 Inch Pizza & Drink \$4.49**

**FREE Party Rooms**  
**Nightly Specials / Value Deals**  
**FREE WiFi**  
**Daily Lunch Buffet**

**Receive Hot Specials Via Text Message!**  
**Text: gopizza To: 69302**

**ORDER**  
[www.Godfathers.com](http://www.Godfathers.com)  
**ONLINE**

**225 SOUTH MINNESOTA, ST. PETER**

**2 Buffets with 2 Drinks \$13.98**

**Large 1-Topper & a Monkey Bread \$11.99**  
 Caramel, Cinnamon, Italian or Streusel Monkey Bread

**Godfather's Pizza**

Offer good with this coupon through 5/31/14 at participating locations. Not valid with any other coupon or special offer.

# Traveling exhibit evokes big questions

## 'If Peace is a puzzle, where do you find it?'

**Marissa Haeny**  
Staff Writer

Students and staff may have noticed the recent installation of John Noltner's "A Peace of My Mind" exhibit in the Campus Center and various academic buildings. The exhibit, intended to spark dialogue about peace and our role in its creation, highlights 55 people from the Midwest. Gustavus is one of 7 sponsors for the traveling exhibit, which has been so successful that it is booked through 2015.

The exhibit is the byproduct of an idea that Noltner had six years ago. Noltner, the owner of his own freelance photography company, found himself with a lot of free time when the economy took a downturn in 2008. During this time, he became frustrated with how polarized the dialogue was in our country and our world. "A Peace of My Mind" was born out of his desire to counter the polarization he found so pervasive, to explore, instead, the common good we all share and other's ideas about peace.

The initial success of the project eventually inspired the creation of a book after people viewing the traveling exhibit expressed interest in taking the stories home with them. Faced with challenges posed by the traditional publishing route, Noltner launched a Kickstarter campaign and received funding from 92 people, making the



John Noltner's "A Peace of My Mind" exhibit on display in the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library.

publication possible.

Both the traveling exhibit and book cover the same material, and Noltner is currently working on his second book, *A Peace of My Mind: American Stories*. He has visions of an international version of the project as well.

Senior Studio Art Major and Peace Studies Minor Briana Bloom noted her appreciation of the traveling exhibit displayed around campus. She enjoyed how the exhibit shows the great

range and diversity of opinions regarding what peace means—even in a relatively small area like the Midwest. She also noted the accessibility of the exhibit presented by its very format.

"I think the traveling exhibit is so innovative. It can be installed anywhere, and more people can see it. It can be put in spaces where art isn't commonly found, like here in Chapel or outside the Caf," said Bloom.

Anecdotally, Noltner said,

people respond positively to the project, however, she doesn't feel that the success can be quantified with numbers.

"We, as a society, like to quantify things and say that '57 percent of the people have responded positively to this project.' I don't know that all of the good things in life can be quantified with numbers, and I'm not sure that they need to be. I really do believe that there is a hunger for this kind of conver-

sation in this polarized dialogue sort of world," Noltner said.

Noltner believes there is enough bad news in the world, but also a significant amount of encouragement that comes from hearing other's stories when we may feel like we don't have the strength to make a difference. According to Noltner, this is the puzzle of peace.

"Maybe my piece of the puzzle is as a messenger, to sort of deliver these stories of hope and encouragement to people who are trying to be on this path. And to say, 'You know what, we can do this. All kinds of people are doing it. Don't give up even if you get discouraged.' To be able to bring that message to some people who maybe haven't considered it before may be my piece. Is it going to change the world? Probably not. Is it going to change someone's world? Maybe," Noltner said.

Noltner noted that places like Gustavus are a good fit for the exhibit to appear, because of the already established culture of the campus community.

"I really do believe that 'A Peace of My Mind' fits really well into the Gustavus model of engaging the world and being of service and finding your place out in the community where you can make an impact," Noltner said.

Students and staff have two more days to peruse "A Peace of My Mind." The exhibit moves onto its next location on March 9.

### 'Building Bridges' continued from page 1

many of the people who will be impacted most by climate change are those who have had the least to do with creating the problem in the first place and have the least resources for basically adapting to the changes that we can expect, and that's a global environmental justice issue, and it's something that is central to how we think about this on a global scale and the way that we consider who this will affect and who's responsible for addressing it," Smerdon said.

Noting that the broad scientific community has reached a consensus that Earth is warming, Smerdon also stressed the importance that current students recognize the real presence of climate change and work toward sustainable goals for the future.

Beginning on Monday, March 3, through the week leading up to the Building Bridges Conference on Saturday, March 8, a series of events will serve to further set the stage for the main event, such as an Environmental Justice Workshop sponsored by I Am We Are, "Speed Faithing for Environmental Justice in partnership with Mosaic," a

trivia night centered around the conference's theme, and GAC's Got Talent, a student variety show.

With the support of faculty advisors, Building Bridges is an entirely student produced event, Morgan Timm, co-chair of the Action Piece Committee, said.

The conference's theme relates to environmental issues, such as the Keystone XL Pipeline and other current environmental issues within Minnesota. "It's definitely a super important social justice topic; it's something that is really pertinent considering all of the issues with climate change that are going on," Timm said.

On Saturday, the day kicks off at 9 a.m. in Christ Chapel with opening remarks from Building Bridges Co-Chairs Kelly Dumais and Mark Zorrilla. The social justice theater group I Am We Are will also perform.

Van Jones, the keynote speaker, will deliver his address at 10 a.m., followed by a Q&A session. Jones has authored several books on environmental and civil rights activism, and was named special adviser for the White House Council for Environmental Equality by the Obama administration.

"Environmental justice is the idea that our economic and environmental decisions should

not disproportionately affect people of lower socioeconomic status, and communities of color," Timm said.

"We don't think about it, but when we recycle something the people that are dealing with the toxins from whatever we just recycled are not middle class Gustavus students, they are typically poorer, minority groups, so that is what the topic is really addressing," she added.

At 1 p.m., environmental justice advocate Alexie Torres-Fleming will deliver the other keynote address. The afternoon will also feature several workshop sessions led by presenters such as Karen Clark, member of the Minnesota House of Representatives, Lea Foushee, Shalini Gupta, and Karen Monahan.

Also featured will be the Earth Guardians, 13-year-old Xiuhtezcatl Roske-Martinez and 9-year-old Itzcuahtli Roske-Martinez.

"They are pretty awesome, they write rap music on environmental justice," Timm said of the young duo.

The afternoon will also include the Action Piece, which Timm said will focus on sulfide mining in communities like Ely, Minnesota. It will explore the consequences on jobs in the communities' declining economies in contrast with health effects, inevitable sulfide pollution, and potential pollution of

the Boundary Waters.

"Either you pick the environment or you pick jobs, and either way you're throwing away an aspect of the community. That's what makes it so difficult, and that's what makes it so great in illustrating that we need to not have to make this decision. We need to reframe the system in a way that doesn't force us to choose between jobs and the environment," Timm said.

Timm encouraged students to attend the conference, noting the significance of honoring the

college's pillar of Justice and the efforts of the students in the Gustavus community.

"The reality is that we contribute to the larger system, and the system needs to change," Timm said.

Students receive admission to the events on Saturday with a free ticket which can be reserved at [gustavustickets.com](http://gustavustickets.com).



"I Am, We Are" performs at the 2013 Building Bridges Conference

Allison Hosman

# National Peace Corps Week events aim to attract Gusties

Christine Peterson  
Staff Writer

Gustavus Alum Samantha Maranell '10 and Peace Corp Recruiter Erin McGillivray teamed up to host an informational session on the Peace Corps for all Gusties to attend. It took place on Wednesday, Feb. 26 during National Peace Corps Week in order to promote its mission and recruit more Gusties.

Since the advent of the Peace Corps in 1961, 254 Gustavus students have volunteered. Gustavus currently has six graduates involved in the Peace Corps.

McGillivray described the purpose of the Peace Corps for those at the information session as one focused on the Corps' initial focus on global unity.

"The mission, ever since 1961, when President Kennedy started it, was to promote world peace and friendship and is still

the same mission now," McGillivray said.

All programs require the participant to learn a new language during training for anyone over eighteen and a U.S. citizen. The commitment for the Peace Corps is a 27 month period. This begins with 10-12 weeks of training, followed by about two years of service in over 65 stationed areas.

McGillivray described the wide array of different programs and opportunities volunteers can do in these specific areas.

"We have six main program sectors, but we've got over twenty-five programs over all that fall under these six umbrellas," McGillivray said.

The programs include: education programs in English, Math, and Science teaching, agricultural programs, environment programs, business and IT programs. There are also health extension programs and then



Gustavus Alum Sara Scholin shares American Halloween traditions with her students in Macedonia. Submitted



Peace Corps location distribution Submitted

## 'Board of Trustees announces' continued from page 1

the institution and the leadership that we have in the cabinet and the faculty. So I think we build on that, but I am not anticipating major shifts in direction, at least in the short term," Bergman said.

Student Senate Co-President Matt Timmons expressed his perception of an optimistic reaction felt on campus.

"The reactions I have heard have been positive. I know that there were some concerns regarding the fact that she does not formally have a PhD. However, I think if any person looks at her resume for more than two seconds or has a conversation with her for any period of time greater than two seconds as well, the only conclusion that can be drawn is that she is profoundly intelligent," Timmons said.

Beck shares Timmons' confidence in Bergman's ability to not only keep Gustavus running, but to improve it.

"She is very mission-driven. She understands the importance

of mission, which is true of Medtronic and certainly true of Gustavus, so I think that she will work to expand and refine the mission of Gustavus as we face the challenges that all liberal arts colleges face," Beck said.

Timmons also shares his perspective about what students hope to see within the transition process.

"Honesty and transparency is all for which the student body ever asks. We are a close-knit group of highly thoughtful, critical, and invested individuals. We want to know what is going on and why. As those two ideals have been paramount in the process thus far, I expect nothing less in the weeks ahead," Timmons said.

Bergman sees success in her term as president, as well as in the future of Gustavus.

"I always hope that my legacy would start with a statement that I really made a difference to the people and the institution, so that we, together, have created a sustainable organization, a vibrant and vital organization, for students and for faculty and staff that is making a difference for the people in the community and in the world," Bergman said.

## 'Gustavus Forensics' continued from page 2

niche on the team.

"Each event teaches you a different thing. In Interpretation events, it's empathy. I like to think of ways other people perceive situations and how I, as an individual, can better adapt to that. The public address event has taught me to make sure that I create a concise argument with very specific information. Limited preparation events have taught me to think on my feet," Abele said.

Though the forensics team gets regular recognition nationwide, Kracht commented that the team is less visible compared to sports teams on campus.

"In some ways, I do think the speech team is one of the best-kept secrets on campus. People see what we do, but they don't really know or understand what we do, simply because we do travel a lot. It goes unnoticed or unrecognized not intentionally, but unintentionally," Kracht said.

Abele agreed that frequent travel is a cause of the lack of

community and youth development programs.

Director of Vocation and Integrative Learning and Associative Director in the Center for Student Leadership Chris Johnson describes the Peace Corp as a good way for Gusties to overcome difficult questions students struggle with.

"We find that the year of service or gap year experiences like the Peace Corps often are a really important way for people to live . . . after leaving here and also for opportunities or turn out to be opportunities for people to really continue to wrestle with or chew on those questions but in a experiential, get your hands dirty, connect with new cultures, new realities way outside of what you've known for four years here on the hill," Johnson said.

Maranell traveled back to the Gustavus hill to promote the Peace Corps for students. She returned from her trip to Samoa two years ago and touched on some of the harder aspects of the trip.

"You have to say goodbye to those people when you're there, that was a huge thing. I have to figure out how to say goodbye to these people who were my family and this was my home for two years, and then you get back here and readjusting to American culture is really hard," Maranell said.

She also elaborated on the many unmatched benefits of the trip. A participant receives medical and dental coverage, 48 days of vacation time, a living stipend, the experience of international travel, student loan deferment, and all the personal,

self-growing benefits. Also, the trip is completely free.

First-Year Karrin Becker attended the Peace Corp session due to her passion for the organization and her plans of being part of it.

"Peace Corps offered me a way to start my career doing something I'm really passionate about. I think breaking down the language barriers that keep people from understanding each other will prevent things like ignorance, apathy, and prejudice from existing between different cultures, and ultimately make for a more peaceful world," Becker said.

For those interested in promoting a world of peace, contact Erin McGillivray at emcgrillivray@peacecorps.gov or Samantha Maranell at smaranel@gmail.com.



Office of Marketing and Communications  
Gustavus 2013 Forensics Team member gives a speech in Alumni Hall.

visibility, but she also reflected on her own visibility as a team member.

"Sometimes it's hard for us to get out of our little bubble too," Abele said.

She notes that the team's practice location, Beck Room 305, also makes them harder to find.

"Our headquarters is kind of an isolated roof room in Beck. If people are interested and wondering what we do, drop by, say hi, and knock at the door.

Typically, we'll talk to you. We like to talk," Abele said.

Kracht and Abele encourage people to attend their showcase in the spring.

"I think they'll be blown away by the work these students put in, blown away by the performances they have crafted. It truly will make you change minds, to make you think differently and act differently," Kracht said.

# GUSTIE of the WEEK



**Ellyn Sheehy**  
Staff Writer

Growing up in Houston, Texas, Mark Zorrilla has traveled a long way to be a part of Gustavus, but it has definitely been worth the distance from home. Mark has made his two and a half years at Gustavus a meaningful experience for himself and those around him.

He first came to Gustavus because of the science programs, and soon found they were just some of this school's many advantages. Involving himself with the Diversity Center, OLAS, Greek life, and Building Bridges, Mark has made many connections and relationships with both students and faculty.

Assistant Director of the Diversity Center Laura Shilling is glad he's a part of it.

*"Mark is a giver; he helps people wherever he goes."*

—Kelly Dumais

"I remember when he was assigned to the Diversity Center his first year at Gustavus. All I had was a name on a piece of paper... I did not know what to expect. It's like when you buy a \$30 novel on a blind recommendation and say to yourself, 'This better be a good book!' Then

you finish the book and sigh, 'Wow, that was a good book,'" Shilling said.

One of Mark's main priorities is his friends.

"I try to hang out with friends at all times," Mark said.

Being an active participant in activities on campus has allowed him to meet some of his best friends.

He became part of the Building Bridges community after being convinced by a friend at the Involvement Fair his first year. The idea behind the organization intrigued him with the new perspective it offered.

"It is solely a student-led program where they focus on human rights," Mark said.

These forty students, along with two faculty advisors, put on a conference each year in order to bring attention to a social justice issue.

As one of the co-chairs of this year's upcoming conference, he has a lot to be accountable for.

"It's a really big responsibility, but it's something that I love," said Mark.

This year's conference focuses on environmental justice. Its main goal is to broaden the too-common narrative of environmentalism by involving only scientific concerns to emphasize the human costs of our environmental choices, and to educate Gusties and community members about this topic and give them resources to do something about what they learned.

Senior Kelly Dumais, who is

the other co-chair for this conference, as well as one of Mark's best friends, has nothing but praise for him.

"Mark is one of the friendliest people that I know. He is always saying hello to people, giving hugs and high fives. He is also incredibly passionate about the work that he does on this campus; whether that is the work we do in Building Bridges or helping people with their math homework in the Diversity center. Mark is a giver; he helps people wherever he goes," Dumais said.

Being a part of the Gustavus community has had a huge impact on him.

"The people I surround myself with have taught me about different social justice and human rights issues," Mark said.

The cultural differences between them have played a major part in that.

Mark believes that being a Gustie means helping the community.

"It is vital that we all support each other. If you have support, then everything is simple," Mark said.

As for the future, he originally thought he would head to medical school right after graduation. However, now he plans to take two years off, go back to Texas, and help out in his own community. Now that he has had the chance to understand issues dealing with human rights, he can't wait to play a part in helping to better his hometown.



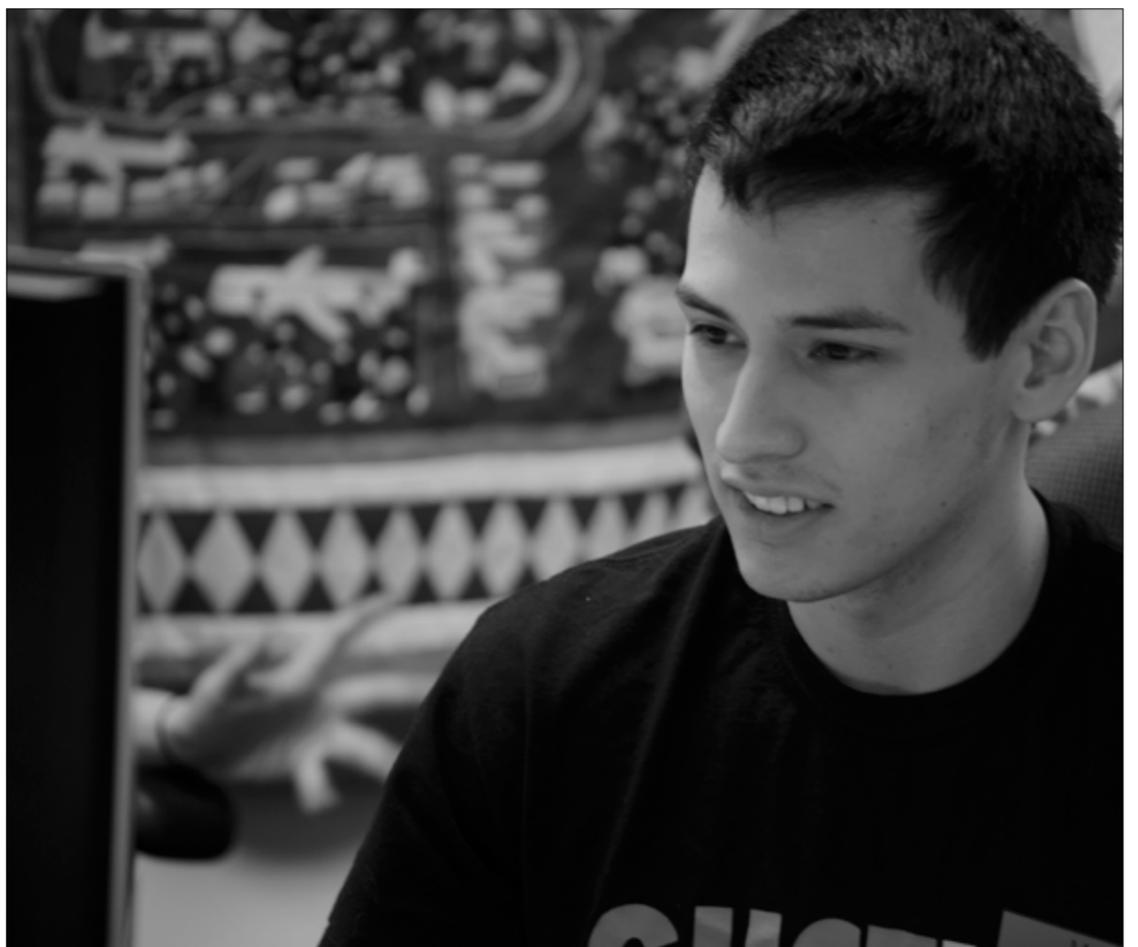
Allison Hosman

Mark is currently working with Building Bridges to educate the area on issues of environmentalism.



Allison Hosman

After graduation, Mark plans to go back to his hometown to help out his community before entering medical school.



Allison Hosman

Mark has worked with the Diversity Center since his first year at Gustavus. He spends a portion of his time there helping fellow students with math homework.

# Animation director Hayao Miyazaki to retire



Dan Vruno  
Staff Writer

Considered to be the greatest living animation director, Hayao Miyazaki has made some of the best Japanese and animated films of all time. Films like *My Neighbor Totoro*, *Princess Mononoke*, and *Spirited Away* can be found among many critics and audiences favorite films. Six films created by his studio can be found on IMDB's Top 250 films list, with *Spirited Away* (2002) being the highest rated animated film on the list. Last week saw Miyazaki's latest and last film reach the States, *The Wind Rises*. Shortly after its release in Japan, Miyazaki held a conference announcing his retirement from creating and directing feature-length films.

Back in September, at the age of 73, Miyazaki made his case for retiring. Claiming to be unable to work 12-14 hour work shifts, the job of animating, directing, and writing his own films was too strenuous and stressful.

"I know I've said I would retire many times in the past. Many of you must think, 'Once again.' But this time I am quite serious," he said.

Miyazaki plans to continue overlooking the studio but is officially done with making feature films. Instead, he is now free to explore other things like becoming more involved with the Ghibli Museum revolves around his work and contributions.

Miyazaki, at a very young age carried an interest in animation. Fresh out of college in 1963, Miyazaki joined Toei Animation. Going through the ranks in the studio and switching workplaces throughout the years, Miyazaki got the opportunity to direct his first full length film in 1979. Based on the popular *Lupin III* series, *The Castle of Cagliostro* was an instant success. His next film *Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind* (1984) based on his own manga series, led to his work as a director and animator becoming renowned for his effort and greatness.

In June 1985, Miyazaki and partners formed the animation company, Studio Ghibli. After the releases of *Kiki's Delivery Service* (1989) and *Porco Rosso* (1992), Ghibli released *Princess Mononoke* (1997). Becoming the bestselling movie at the time within Japan, it went on to win the Japan Academy Prize for Best Picture. Ghibli reached even higher heights with the release of *Spirited Away* (2002), breaking the records of their previous film, it became their

bestselling movie. Critically acclaimed and considered one of the best films of the 2000s, it won Best Animated Feature at the Academy Awards. Their next two films, *Howl's Moving Castle* (2004) and *Ponyo* (2008) carried the same amount of success and acclaim.

Many similar themes and tropes can be found amongst Miyazaki's films that help represent his innovation and difference in the industry. More surprisingly, one common thing found amongst his films is the fact that they don't carry true villains. The menacing characters that are featured have redeeming qualities and are often found on the heroes' side by the end of the film. Miyazaki prefers to show a positive aspect of the worlds he creates by having good and evil coexist without being clearly differentiated.

Seeing the present as a complex time, he goes beyond many of the stereotypes found in children's films to explore other themes that are also uncommon in this medium. Often emphasizing environmentalism throughout his films, as an attempt to "improve the vision of the world for children." Supporting the environment and world peace, these movies feature anti-war themes, as Miyazaki shows the brutality and suffering caused by war with detail.

Most prominently found within all of his films are strong female protagonists who go against the gender roles that are found in animation and fiction.



After a lifetime dedicated to animation, Hayao Miyazaki announced his retirement.

Many of Miyazaki's works deal with children. Showing the imaginative and explorative side of children, Miyazaki aims to give them an understanding of the world, in an era where the current generation has a lack of contact with nature.

Preserving his legacy, the Ghibli Museum, built in 2001, carries and showcases his Studio's work dedicated to the art and technique of animation. Upon announcing the lifetime achievement award for Mi-

yazaki in 2005, as director of the Venice Film Festival, Marco Mueller spoke of Miyazaki's innovation.

"Miyazaki's extraordinary vision unites romanticism and humanism. The sense of wonder that his films transmit reawakens the sleeping beauty in all of us," Mueller said.

Miyazaki's career as we know it has come to an end but his studio and legacy will continue to inspire children and adults, alike.

## Catching Fire turns up the heat



Brady Lass  
Staff Writer

With the *Harry Potter* and *Twilight* film series finished, *The Hunger Games* is now bringing in the audiences for the young adult literature genre. The first *Hunger Games* movie did a good job setting up the characters and story for the inevitable sequels, though it was not without its criticisms, ranging from comparisons to other dystopian stories to the shaky camera.

Some were worried about how the adaptation of the second installment would go, especially since they changed directors. While *Seabiscuit's* Gary Ross directed the first movie, *I am Legend's* Francis Lawrence takes

his shot in not only this, but the upcoming two-part *Mockingjay* finale (another book adaptation divided into two parts, thanks *Harry Potter*). Does *Catching Fire* turn up the heat, or should this series burn out?

I would like to note that I did not read the books. I will be judging the movie by what it presents without comparing it to the source material.

Months after winning the Hunger Games, Katniss and Peeta are forced to go on the Victory Tour and deliver speeches to all the districts to prevent further rebellion. Katniss has been viewed as a symbol by the districts to overthrow the Capitol. Unfortunately, it doesn't go so well and security starts taking drastic measures around District 12. Katniss keeps having nightmares about the previous Hunger Games she made it out of, and unfortunately it doesn't help when President Snow announced that the 75th Annual Hunger Games is a Quarter Quell, meaning that the only tributes that can be selected are victors from the previous games. Now Katniss and Peeta must make new allies in the games as they try to remember who the real enemy is.

This time around, they did a

better job exploring the themes of the oppressed society in a utopia. The first one felt more like an introduction to these elements, and they feel more fleshed out here. Katniss is under even more pressure than she was in the first film, where all she had to do was survive. In this movie, not only does she have to survive, but she has to deal with the traumatizing emotions she received from the first games while remaining a symbol of hope for the districts and trying not to show her rebellious side so the Capitol won't kill her loved ones.

For those worried about the love triangle from the first film, it's less than abundant here. Katniss and Peeta are completely aware that they aren't lovers but have to pretend in order to prevent further rebellion and deaths in the districts. Gale plays a more prominent role than the first one, but thankfully his jealousy is quickly glanced over. Even Katniss' sister has grown braver after seeing her sister's sacrifice, and it's just great to see characters like these develop.

The main criticism comes in the form of the plot's organization. The first film started by exploring the dystopian

elements of the district, the announcement of the tributes for the Hunger Games, training, and then the Game itself. Here, it's almost the exact same organization. A criticism of the first one is how long it took to get to the games. It's even longer here, so those interested in seeing as much action as the first one might be disappointed. I did like seeing more of the story telling aspects, but it was disappointing to not see as much action during the games.

Jennifer Lawrence does a great job as Katniss; she had a lot more to work with, and she brought it. The other actors also do great with their roles expanded from the first film, and Woody Harrelson continues to be my favorite character as Haymitch. The two notable additions in this installment are Sam Claflin as Finnick and the late Phillip Seymour Hoffman as the new Gamemaker, Plutarch. They do a great job in their roles and add more unpredictability to the situations regarding who Katniss can trust.

While the games themselves aren't as much of a highlight as in the first film, they offer a wide variety of interesting traps set up in an elaborate way. It keeps the audience guessing

on what's going to happen or how the tributes are going to solve certain issues. While the deaths may be fewer than the original, the deaths do leave an impression on the audience. It felt more like the course was trying to kill the tributes than the tributes killing themselves, a possible foreshadowing, perhaps?

*The Hunger Games: Catching Fire* is a great sequel, it makes the first film look just okay in comparison. The character development, dystopian exploration, and elaborate game set up make it very entertaining, and I have to give credit to the new director for avoiding the problems that plagued the original. It might displease some audiences with the same plot structure as the first and how it drags in some areas more than others, but *Catching Fire* serves as a good sequel to the original and a big setup for the two part finale. By the way, how is President Snow's "They're holding hands. I want them dead" not a meme?



## “Art Heroes” celebrates Minnesotan artists



**Clara Wicklund**  
Staff Writer

Last year, Minnesota Public Radio News launched a new series called “Art Heroes,” stories about some of Minnesota’s most exceptional artists, who not only exhibit incredible talent, but are recognized as influential community leaders. These artists have made it their life goal to give back to their community. Their art addresses social issues, and brings people together in creativity to transform their community. Through art, these artists are making the world a better place.

Sandy Spieler of In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre was just one of these many artists to be featured on the program. In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre began in 1973 in the basement of the Walker Church in Minneapolis’ Powderhorn neighborhood. At the time, it was known as the Powderhorn Puppet Theatre. Founded by Ray St. Louis and David O’Fallon, the theatre sought to create change, “the way a monk might — through witness and hope and a kind of disciplined simple prayer, or

practice,” O’Fallon wrote in the Twin Cities Daily Planet, and as Spieler stated, “— to look more at what it is that binds us together in a visual language, brings us into dialogue.” Spieler became the artistic director in 1977, and helped to transform the theatre into what it is today.

In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre not only performs shows, but involves the community also. Each year, they produce a season of original plays and tour productions premiering in and around Minnesota, as well as teach puppetry through workshops to youth, students and teachers.

Spieler was one of the four founders to intertwine the theatre into the community. Now the theatre is a new thriving neighborhood center, which O’Fallon said on “Art Heroes,” is the result of Spieler’s commitment to staying rooted in Powderhorn for four decades. Over the years, she has pulled together the diverse neighborhood of Powderhorn in South Minneapolis through puppetry to raise awareness of both environmental and social issues, and to create a community of people to do good in the world. Spieler found that all types of people are brought together by performance.

Spieler’s most significant contribution is In the Heart of the Beast’s May Day Parade, which is an annual event that draws tens of thousands of people to Powderhorn Park, Minneapolis. “Everything inside me just vibrated,” she recalled in the



The May Day Parade in Minneapolis attracts thousands of people with art, performance, and a vision for a better future.

“Art Heroes” interview. “And I went, ‘Oh, this is what I want to do.’ I think, because it brought together a way of telling stories and images that was visual, that was movement, that was musical and that brought people together.”

The May Day Parade is a vibrant festival of puppets, masks, food vendors, world music, activist booths, and peaceful people. Although the parade symbolizes the coming of warmer months, it also addresses contemporary issues, concerns, and visions for a better world. Last year’s parade theme was “See the World,” which emphasized the issues of pollution, war, and death. twenty foot tall puppets covered in black, towering over the crowd with long, dreary faces

proceeded solemnly down the street. Following the ominous figures came a flourish of colorful people dressed as flowers and plants, smiling and dancing in circles, symbolizing a new future.

In preparation for May Day, the “In the Heart of the Beast” theatre floor is cleared, and replaced with tables covered in cardboard, wire, feathers, paper mache, paint, beads, wood, and all sorts of other odds and ends. Volunteer community members file in and begin to create. Together and under the direction of Spieler, they work to construct incredible pieces of art. “You just say, ‘Welcome, please come!’ It’s an open door. And I think it grows,” Spieler said in the “Art Heroes” interview. “One person comes and

tells another person.” Spieler has found how to organize hundreds of people in creativity and teamwork, and has brought them together to raise awareness of issues people are passionate about.

Spieler has been an inspirational figure to thousands for over forty years, and she continues to work her talent into the unity of the Powderhorn community and beyond.

“As thousands look on and cheer, Spieler and her fellow puppeteers enact the final moments of the May Day ritual,” MPR’s “Art Heroes” interview said “Paddlers row a large sun sculpture across the lake to the shore, ushering in the beginning of spring. For a moment, the people and the planet seem to move as one.”

## Tales from Abroad: Malaysia

### Global stories, experiences, and life lessons as told by Gusties studying abroad.

**Joey Wiley**  
Guest Writer

What is diversity? It is a question I have played through my mind countless times. While my family upbringing and Gustavus have fostered a positive environment for diversity, the notion of what diversity means to me was turned on its head Feb. 14.

Upon stepping foot in Penang, Malaysia, I noticed immediately that my skin set me aside from the Malaysians. What is this feeling? As I proceeded to walk from the caravan onto the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) campus, it hit me. With every turned head, whisper, and

pointing gesture from Malaysians, it hit me like a brick wall. For the first time in my life, I was the minority. Only now did I begin to see how ignorant my notion of diversity was.

The reason I chose to study in Malaysia was simple. I wanted to be uncomfortable. I wanted to be placed in a culture I knew little or nothing about, so that I could make the most of it. While arriving with the base knowledge to get by in Malaysia, I could never have prepared myself for the level of diversity that enveloped me.

At Gustavus, I can walk anywhere on campus in less than twenty minutes. Here, there are a multitude of transit systems that I had to learn to assure that I did not arrive late

to lecture. While I knew that USM had a much larger student population, the thing that struck me was who made up the population. On a typical day at Gustavus, I would walk to class and perhaps see a few African American students or students from other countries pass by. Students from all over the world come to USM. They study, laugh, and learn side by side without the faintest thought of just how diverse they are. Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Christians, and Muslims side by side in the classroom, buses, sidewalks, and canteens. This, alongside many other factors, is what I believe to be true diversity. It is embedded in the bricks laid in the streets, in the people I talk to, and in the food I eat.

When I chose this program, I never imagined I could be so welcomed by the culture and people. I have been so overwhelmed by the warm hearts, open hands, and the flat-out kindness all Malaysians have

presented to me. Not only does this humble me, but it has made me reevaluate what I know about diversity and culture.

Before beginning this Malaysian experience, I had only learned from textbooks and organizations on campus what I thought was diversity. This program and the people I am experiencing it with have shown me what I believe to be a richer meaning of diversity. This trip has opened my eyes. I do not think I have solved the world’s problems or have found the solution to world peace, but rather have begun to enrich my own understanding of the diversity in a larger scope and in multiple facets.

What I am experiencing in the first two weeks has made me fall in love with diversity as defined by Malaysians. I have never felt more uncomfortable, welcomed, out of place, and loved than I do in Penang, Malaysia.

To the Gusties back home, there are a few things I’d like to stress. Take opportunities. Acknowledge that while you

may feel uncomfortable, the rewards can be life changing and life-long.

Through the Gustavus Semester in Malaysia: Living Diversity program, I have been able to start and find myself in the craziness that is life. There have been many laughs over things like struggling to figure out which way to face on the toilets.



Along with laughs, I have experienced more

mature emotional and personal connections with Gusties than I ever have before. Coming to Malaysia has enriched my life in ways that words cannot do justice. It has, and continues to be, an experience of a lifetime. This is more than just a semester abroad, it is beginning to be a monumental moment in my life. I now have a more complete picture of diversity, culture around the world, and more importantly myself.

*Tales from Abroad is an ongoing section in which Gustavus students share the highlights of their study abroad experiences.*

## Topic Objectives Through the Years



### 2010 Surviving the Land of Opportunity

Building Bridges focused on the two sides of immigration- the struggles immigrants face and the strength required to survive these struggles every day. After beginning to learn about immigration, the committee wondered, "What can we do to support immigrants and spread awareness about this issue?"

### 2011

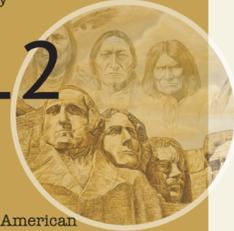
I'm Not for Sale:  
Slavery Past and Present



Building Bridges placed a spotlight on slavery and emphasized what students can do to help. In particular, they discussed the effects of the slave trade from a historical perspective leading up to modern-day slavery.

### 2012

Unresolved Conflict:  
Remember our  
Forgotten History



Building Bridges discussed American Indian history and culture. In particular, they discussed the impact of colonization on American Indians, past and present. They provided workshops that remembered the history and celebrated American Indian culture.

### 2013

Sentenced For Life:  
Confronting the Calamity  
of Mass Incarceration



Building Bridges focused on the injustice of America's prison system.

### 2014

Demanding  
Environmental  
Justice



Building Bridges will discuss the intersections of race, class, identity, and the environment. They are working to change the narrative of environmentalism which are not just scientific concerns, but human rights violations.

Photos Submitted

# THE EVOLUTION OF Building Bridges

## Keynote Speakers

Van Jones

Jones, who will deliver the morning keynote address at 10 a.m. in Christ Chapel, is the author of two New York Times best sellers and personifies environmental justice through both environmental and civil rights activism. His first book, *The Green Collar Economy*, was hailed as the definitive book on green jobs. His second and latest book titled, *Rebuild the Dream*, is a reflection on his time as Special Adviser for the White House Council for Environmental Quality under the Obama administration. Jones is also the founder of Green for All, a national organization working to provide green jobs to disadvantaged communities, and the co-founder of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights and Color of Change. He was named one of *Time* magazine's "100 Most Influential People in the World" in 2009.



Alexie Torres-Fleming

Torres-Fleming, who will give the afternoon keynote address at 12 p.m. in Alumni Hall, is a visionary environmental justice activist from the Bronx who strives to help communities understand their own power. In 1994, Torres-Fleming founded Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice with the mission to rebuild the Bronx River neighborhoods of the South Bronx by preparing young people to become voices for peace and justice. She has received numerous awards for her work including the 2008 Rockefeller Foundation's Jane Jacobs Medal for New Ideas and Activism.



Clark Kampe



Clark Kampe

The photos feature the 2012 Building Bridges Conference, which centered on American Indian history and culture. Speakers discussed the impact of colonization on American Indians, past and present. This year, the conference centers on environmental justice. The discussion will highlight the intersections of race, class, identity, and the environment.

## Event Schedule

8 a.m.	Registration
9 a.m.	Opening remarks by co-chairs, I Am We Are performance/ Christ Chapel
10 a.m.	Van Jones keynote address/ Christ Chapel
11 a.m.	Lunch Break
12 p.m.	Alexie Torres-Fleming keynote address/ Alumni Hall
1 p.m.	Q & A with keynote speakers, Workshop session
2 p.m.	Workshop session
3 p.m.	Workshop session and action piece
4 p.m.	Workshop session and action piece
5 p.m.	Action piece

## Building Bridges continues to grow

Jaurdyn Gilliss  
Features Editor

Junior Mark Zorrilla takes in a deep breath as Senior Kelly Dumais giggles uncomfortably. Both share a knowing glance as they think about their nervousness for the opening of the 19th Annual Building Bridges conference.

"This whole year we've been running around with our heads cut off, but now we get to enjoy the conference and learn more about our passion: environmental justice," Zorrilla said.

Today, the conference that Co-Chairs Zorrilla and Dumais have prepared, alongside the rest of the Building Bridges committee, is considered a signature event at Gustavus. However, in the past, it didn't hold the same title.

"Twenty years ago, the conference was very small. We did our own publicity, had fewer speakers, and today we have professional publicity with multiple high profile speakers so the reach of Building Bridges is expanding exponentially," Senior Student Advisor Becca Eastwood said.

Since Building Bridges was started twenty years ago, it has continually improved its status. The conferences have focused on issues such as human trafficking, immigration, educational inequality, and genocide awareness, and have slowly, with the help of funding, brought well-known speakers, such as *Freedom Writers'* Erin Gruwell and Paul Rusesabagina of *Hotel Rwanda* fame, to campus.

"I think a big thing is more money has been invested in it over time, and any time there's more money you're able to get more well-known speakers and publicize more. Each of those things combined with the work and dedication of Virgil Jones, who worked extensively with Building Bridges in the past, and the students made it possible for the conference to become bigger and more influential," Former Advisor Marie Walker said.

In 2012, the conference was honored as the recipient of the Minnesota College Professional Association's Voice of Inclusion Award, which recognizes initiatives or individu-

als who serve Minnesota higher education by creating exemplary environments of inclusion for students, employees, and/or institutions.

"It's wonderful to see how the community, as well as the institution has grasped and absorbed it into the justice pillar of the institution. Five years ago, it was just a conference and now the funding has changed to be more permanent," Zorrilla said.

This year the conference centers on environmental justice. Social justice has been at the core of Building Bridges since it was started, so some students protest the topic as not reaching the usual standard. However, those who've been studying the topic insist otherwise.

"Environmental justice really exists at the intersection of a ton of other social justice issues. I think the keynote speakers as well as the conference itself will do a great job at explaining why this issue doesn't stray from the core of our mission at all," Dumais said.

Most who've studied the topic have become impassioned about environmental injustice as a human rights violation. Some, like Zorrilla, have even decided to take action and make changes already.

"It's crazy to think that before, I saw myself finishing school and maybe going back to Houston, Texas, the petrochemical hub of the nation, working for an oil company and now I say, 'hell no'. I want to go into green energy. It really changes your life," Zorrilla said.

Feelings like this solidify the growing impact and support that the Building Bridges conference has and continues to develop within the Gustavus community.

"I think that this conference fills such an important role on this campus that I am always really proud to see how much and in what ways it's grown and I love watching students who are not even on the committee get really excited about the issues presented," Eastwood said.

# Colin it like I see it Finding purpose and happiness



**Colin Rieke**  
Opinion Columnist

As time goes by, you become more and more comfortable with your daily routines. Wake up. Breakfast. Class. Chapel. Class. Lunch. Class. Nap. Practice. Supper. Homework. Bed.

Whether we like it or not, it's easy to become content with our routines. Going through the motions becomes a regular habit as we do the same things over and over again. It's almost as if we live according to a pre-made schedule that says, "This is what you are going to do." We live according to this schedule simply because it's what we're supposed to do. Things need to be done. The question is, are you following that schedule because you should? Or are you following it because you want to? Better yet, are you following someone else's schedule, or are you creating your own?

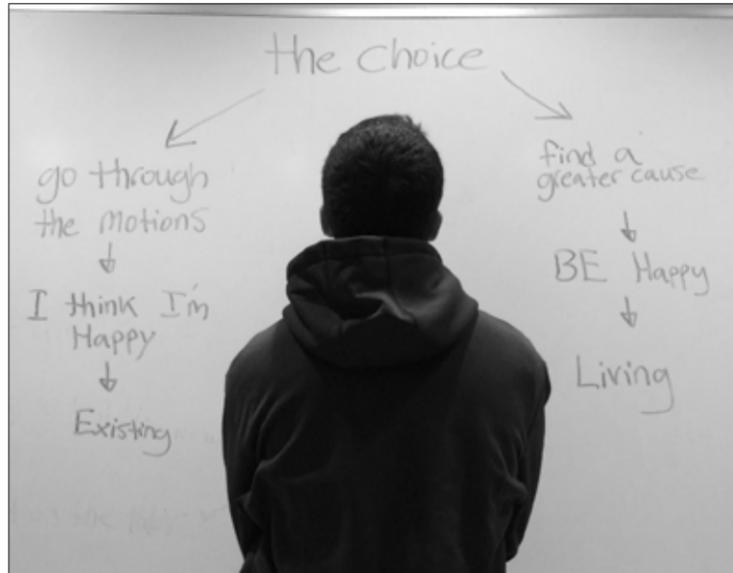
This type of thinking has to do with living a purposeful life and living happily. In my last article the main theme was about being

happy by following your heart. Pretty simple right? The truth is happiness and living a life of purpose are complicated, and quite frankly, can be tough to do. But if there is ever a time to start thinking about this stuff, it's now.

What better place to discover how you can begin to live a purposeful life than in the peaceful setting of a liberal arts college like Gustavus? Being a Gustie is a unique opportunity in the sense that instead of being only a student of your school, you can also be a student of your life. There is no excuse for us not to take advantage of our environment and our current resources to begin making a concerted effort towards finding a deeper purpose. Are you going to choose a life that follows how society thinks you should live? Or are you going to begin carving out your own unique path driven by a search for happiness? In other words, are you going to exist, or are you going to live?

According to author and social scientist Arthur Brooks, many young adults searching for happiness eventually end up hitting the brick wall as middle age draws nearer. These people focus on the wrong things. Our culture tells us to hit the gas, make more money, focus on our careers, and go after our goals. Dissimilarly, the people Brooks refers to do not focus on themselves. I am all in favor of accomplishing goals, but I think we forget to remind ourselves, is that we all share one common goal: to be happy.

One way we begin living hap-



It's your choice to make, choose wisely.

Colin Rieke

pily is when we find purpose in what we do. Living meaningfully is another goal we all share with each other. We want to be a part of something bigger than ourselves because it makes us feel important and valued. When I think about what makes me happy, I think about making a difference because that connects me with something greater.

Most of what we do on a daily basis revolves around us. We are so used to doing things for ourselves and pleasing ourselves, that when we become involved in something greater than that, it's like somebody just flipped a switch inside of you. We find purpose in ourselves when we step outside of our normal routines to be involved in something dealing with more people.

There is a definite relationship

between happiness and service to others. According to His Holiness the Dalai Lama, "When we help others, the focus of our mind assumes a broader horizon within which we are able to see our own petty problems in a more realistic proportion." He also says that we acquire a deep sense of trust, security, and freedom, when we reach out to and feel connected with others.

Is finding your calling really about you? Or is about making the world a better place?

There is no doubt the world is a better place when you are who you want to be. We often think being whom you set out to be is mostly impacted by external forces such as our environment. We must realize the power to be happy is in our hands. Similarly, "You have under your control the portfolio to give yourself

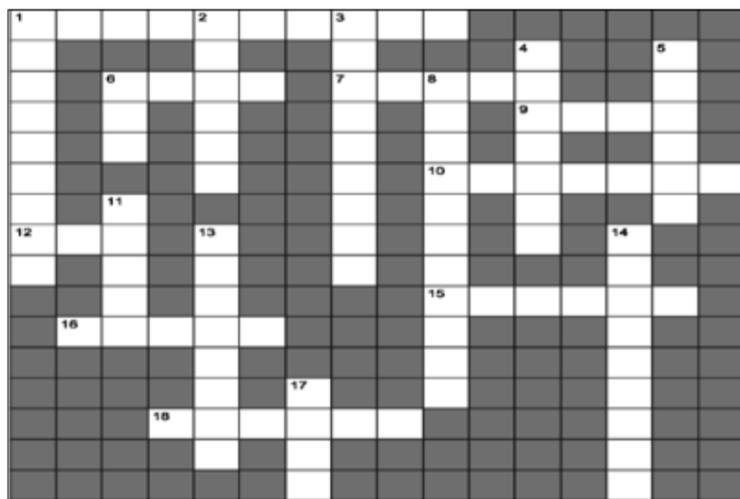
the most happiness possible," said Brooks. What is this portfolio Brooks mentions? It's your guide to living a fulfilling and purposeful life. It's you.

Because the ability to be happy rests solely in your hands, being happy is a choice. This choice is determined by your state of mind. Feeling happy depends on whether we are satisfied with what we have or don't have. It also depends on how you perceive your situation or life. The Dalai Lama says that you can increase your happiness by increasing your life satisfaction. You can do this by comparing yourself to those less fortunate and by reflecting on what you have that they might not.

You can travel around the world and meet people that have nothing, yet many of them are truly happy. Why is this? Because happiness can be manufactured. You can begin to manufacture happiness for yourself right now by approaching every decision with the following question: will it bring me happiness? Through this method of reframing, your focus shifts from what you might be denying to what you are seeking, which is ultimate happiness. This approach moves you towards happiness, rather than away from it, as the Dalai Lama would say.

You can begin living happily any time you want. Only you have the power to change. Whether you want to start doing so now, later, or never, it is your decision to make.

## Gustie Crossword



David Roland

- Down**
- only president to serve two non-consecutive terms
  - song written and made famous by Toto
  - form of power structure in which power rests with a few people
  - branch of chemistry dealing with the fermentation process
  - group on campus dedicated to environmental issues

- sickness that commonly infects college students
- major city in "Breaking Bad"
- breed of cattle used in Kobe beef
- Spanish explorers to the West Indies
- U.S. senator from the Great State of Minnesota
- worship services for Catholics

## Answers online

- Across**
- period in Earth's history that saw the T-Rex
  - gift given to man by Prometheus
  - country that developed pizza
  - culture or system of behavior passed by non-genetic means
  - nation currently in the news for mass civil unrest
  - agency accused of illegally spying on U.S. citizens
  - means "bird of prey"
  - Russia's dictator by popular demand
  - best alternative to ice cream

## The Good, the Bad, and the Meh



Mardi Gras, the best worst-morning you'll ever have. Until next Mardi Gras.



Another wave of soft, sprinkly slaps to the face from Mother Nature.



Looking at your student account . . . and the horror that follows.

## The Greener side of the Fence Putting the Universe in Perspective



**Eric Schneider**  
Opinion Columnist

Recently, I found myself staring at the map of the world taped to my dorm room wall, and I started to think about the history that this world we inhabit has endured. After a while, I started thinking about how the map I was looking at is a human creation. In reality, it is nothing more than our perceived interpretation of reality, a reality that encompasses numerous cultures that are so different from one another, and yet, are inches away from each other on the map.

I started thinking about what it was like before this planet even existed. It is very humbling to realize that you are one microscopic piece of this universe; that the universe has existed long before you or any of your

family members were ever born, and will continue to exist after you and everyone you know have returned to the origin of all things: nothingness.

Our existence as sentient creatures, otherwise known as a human being, raises many questions as to the true nature of things. Some of these questions may include: who am I? What is my purpose? Where did I come from? Where am I going? Is this the only life I have ever known, or is this just one in a series of infinite lives?

The answer to these questions is not something that can be found as easily as the motivation to ask them. However, it is this motivation that presents such a unique difference between us and all other creatures on this planet. We think, and therefore, we want to know why we think. We want to know why our evolution has allowed us to develop a consciousness; granted us the privilege to cultivate ourselves to become better people; and forced us to interact with other members of our species in a competition for survival.

The fact that human beings exist in the first place is a fascinating subject, and it necessarily begs the question of whether or not it is possible for a god that created the universe to exist as well, if it is indeed possible for a human being to exist in the



Take the world out of context, are puddles like islands for fish?

David Roland

depths of space and time?

Personally, I do not believe that any religion is inherently right or wrong, but the fact that humans have created such belief systems reinforces the curious nature of the universe. Thus far, humankind's only explanation for everything we see has been that there must be something out there, something so powerful as to be able to create all of this that we perceive to be reality.

Philosophers have each given their own interpretation of reality, and the universe that encompasses it, for thousands of years. Now, modern science has taken control of the helm in the quest to discover the true nature of reality, and the laws

that govern it. With each discovery, scientists realize that they actually have more unanswered questions about the universe than they previously thought, a paradox that may be seen in other contexts, such as Socrates' own belief that he himself was ignorant of any truth, a wise and accurate assessment, to be sure.

The problem with believing in something supernatural is the fact that human beings have the tendency to put this supernatural deity above the well-being of other human beings that inhabit this planet, a contradictory notion, if this reasoning is followed to its logical conclusion. Any diligent student of history will tell you that religion has been a major cause

of conflict since the inception of human self-consciousness, with the prolonged series of wars, known as the Crusades being a prime example of what happens when human beings let their own subjective beliefs get in the way of admiring an objective reality for what it is.

Confucius said, "Life is really simple, but we insist on making it complicated." When we spend life searching for the one concrete answer to the question we think will set us free, we blind ourselves to the reality of the universe that surrounds us each and every day of our lives.

## Snarksicles

# I Guess I'm Not a little More Country Than That



**Laura Schroeder**  
Opinion Columnist

I'm just going put it out there – I love country music. I know I don't look like the kind of person who would love to dance around in cowboy boots, call a violin a fiddle, and ride around in my boyfriend's huge truck. I'm not, but I grew up with the music, and it holds a special place in my heart. I've never really thought about why I like it or whether I fit the stereotypical listener until a few nights ago.

My parents surprised my sister and I with two tickets to the Luke Bryan concert on Sunday night. For those of you who don't know Luke, he's basically the Beyoncé of country music. I was pumped and so was my

sister. So we went. We got shirts and \$8 vodka cranberries and sat down to wait for Luke to sing. While we were waiting, I noticed the crowd. I was in a striped dress and flats, everyone else (including my sister) was dressed in some form of plaid, flannel, denim, or white lace. And I don't just mean a few people in my line of sight. When we went to the bathroom, there were little children with their plaid shirts tucked in and cowboy boots that they didn't yet know how to walk in. There were at least five women my age wearing the same white lace dress in a different style, denim jackets and cowboy boots. I ignored this because I didn't think it mattered.

When the opener came out to sing, the first song was titled "Beer." Now, I don't drink beer. I have nothing against it, I just don't like it. Everyone was screaming and agreeing with the lyrics that a cold one fixes everything, while I was just sitting there silently sipping my vodka cranberry. Every few songs, he would ask the country girls in the crowd to raise their beers and scream along with him. I grew up in Duluth, Minn. I don't think I can get less country than that. I stayed silent while my flannel clad sister screamed along with him. She grew up in the same



Laura Schroeder

I bet he doesn't care that I may not be a country girl. He just wants my ticket money.

place as me, so why did she get to scream along? What made her a country girl? Then it hit me. It was all about the attitude. The whole country community came to these concerts to blow off steam and listen to songs that

were essentially documenting their lives.

I was at the concert for the music, while apparently everyone else was there to enjoy the sense of community. I'm all about the general tropes of

country music (love, family, drinking), but whenever I listen to songs about trucks or beer or growing up on the land my grandfather did, I feel out of place. It didn't occur to me that I needed to identify with every song that was played until it seemed that everyone else did. When I was younger, I would pretend that the music was actually about my life. But that's kind of a moot point now. I can't pretend any longer.

*"Why did I like this music? Was it as shallow as appreciating the tune? Or was there a part of me that was actually a country girl? That just sounds weird to me."*

As much as I'd like to be someone who runs a farm, gets her husband a beer, and takes night drives in his truck to have a picnic along the creek, I'm not. I'm still on the fence about what exactly it means to be a country fan, but I'll be damned if I'm not going to listen to "Shake it for Me" for the 75th time tonight.

# Ye Olde Stop 'n' Shoppe My Problem with "Privilege"



**Sam Hoppe**  
Opinion Columnist

Around this campus, the idea of "privilege" gets tossed around quite a bit; white privilege, class privilege, and heterosexual privilege are the most commonly heard "privilege" phrases. Certainly there are perks to being a member of those classes. As a white, heterosexual, upper-class male I am less likely to be stopped by police cars, harassed for my choice in partners, and I have benefited greatly from my parents' financial success. So yes, I do have white privilege. However, at the chance of being despised by a few more passionate activists on campus, I must admit that I've begun to wonder if there is something wrong with the concept of privilege.

Is the problem that I don't get bullied for my sexuality, or is it that homosexual, transgender, and bisexual teenagers are bullied for theirs? Is the problem that I don't get pulled over because of my race or is it

that discrimination within our police force causes certain minority groups to be pulled over more often?

The problem does not lie in the privilege that certain members of society have. The problem lies in that certain members do not have access to it because of discrimination and injustice. The problem is not that a heterosexual does not get beaten up for their sexual orientation, but is that there are people who bully and harass members of the LGBTQ community.

This same principle can be extended to race privilege. The problem is not that white people are judged to be innocent before becoming guilty; it is that minorities are judged guilty before being proved innocent. Privilege becomes a problem when others are excluded because of their race, sexual orientation, or class origins. In that way, privilege is not the problem; it is the ways in which privilege is enforced and created that makes it an issue. Let me explain: say that I have \$10. If I have these \$10 because I worked for it in an ethical way, then there is nothing wrong with me having that money. But if I have it because I stole it, then it is an issue. The same example can be applied to how we focus on privilege.

By acknowledging this, we can shift the focus from what certain people have to what certain people don't have. Most of us would like to see privileges extended to all of society, or at the very least give everybody opportunities for those privileges. With that in



Creative Commons

*Is this privilege a bad thing?*

mind, can we switch out the phrase white, heterosexual, or upper class privilege? Instead of white privilege how about minority disenfranchisement? Or the glass ceiling of certain classes? While these are not the most creative names, you can understand my point of the matter.

Does this mean that the work done by advocates of white privilege is bad? Not at all, there are still many things to work on in this country and the usage of the concept is almost never intended to be malicious. However, it is time to retire the name of the phrase and adjust our phrasing in a way that better reflects the situation itself.

Some people may say that we need to use the term white privilege as a means to prevent casting off certain problems as isolated to certain groups. However, if that truly is the case, it is completely unnecessary. Many of us on campus will listen and are willing to talk about how discrimination still plays a part in our society about the plight of transgender individuals or about how race causes issues in this country. Let's start focusing on solving racial, sexuality, and class problems instead of focusing on who has privilege.

Which leads to a final point about the usage of the word privilege. It doesn't bring in-

dividuals together. It pulls us apart by separating us into distinct categories. In fact, some people might cast off my entire argument as simply justifying my privilege. Ironically, by accusing me of thinking something is true only because of my race, gender, or economic status, you are committing the exact same discrimination that has caused so many problems in the past.

## Letter to the Editor

Response to "No ifs, ands, or butts."

I am deeply disappointed in the representation of Student Senate presented in the recent article "No ifs, ands, or butts." Ms. Nickel's writing showed a profound lack of knowledge concerning both the situation and the capabilities of the Student Senate.

Most frustrating was the claim that students see the replacement of the chairs in the Courtyard Cafe as "unnecessary." Multiple surveys of the student population were given, the results showing an overwhelming majority supporting the renovation project. Even if this undertaking were scrapped, a redistribution of the funds to other



David Roland

student groups would not only lengthen the bureaucratic process that seems to already irk Ms. Nickels, but would also result in negligible gains for each recipient. In the same vein, the proposed alternative projects given by the author suggest that she possesses little to no knowledge of the cost of work on such grandiose scales or of the needs of the campus. The renovation of tunnels would far exceed the project budget that is presented as 'wasteful,'

and would not be handled by Student Senate. In addition, placing any more sidewalks on this campus would result in little more than a sea of concrete with the end benefit of, at most, thirty to forty seconds faster travel time.

Sadly, most of these falsehoods and misunderstandings would have been corrected prior to the publication of the piece had the author bothered to contact anyone associated with the project. As a member

of Student Senate I am saddened that you have had a poor personal experience with the organization, but to project your personal feelings at the body as a whole is irresponsible for a journalist.

I encourage the author, and all students on campus, to look out for a chance to help pick out the new chairs in the coming weeks.

— Nick Nigro '14  
Student Senate Speaker

## IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE...

Mixed feelings as President-elect Timmons officially turns Student Senate into a monarchy.

Campus Safety was discovered with an artificial snow maker large enough to cover campus. The Head of Campus Safety was quoted saying "and I would have gotten away with it too if it wasn't for those meddling kids."

Mass outrage as a first-year student mixes up "women" and "womyn."

\* The Calendar Page is considered editorial. The opinions expressed herein are not the opinions of THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY, but Rebecca Bergman's first rulings as President-Elect of Gustavus. Making a lot of noise here.

**Friday, Mar. 7**

**GAC's Got Talent**

The Caf  
7 p.m.

But grammatical fluency is not one of those talents.

**Weekend Movie:  
The Hunger Games:  
Catching Fire**

Wallenberg Auditorium  
7 & 10 p.m.

Given how clumsy Jennifer Lawrence is, she should get an Oscar for playing the most coordinated fictional character ever.

**Saturday, Mar. 8**

**Building Bridges  
Conference**

Christ Chapel  
9 a.m.

THE HOLY WATER IN THE CHAPEL COULD HAVE BEEN USED FOR CLEAN DRINKING WATER.

**Weekend Movie:  
The Hunger Games:  
Catching Fire**

Wallenberg Auditorium  
7 & 10 p.m.

Room draw drama is far more brutal and compelling than this movie.

**LineUs Show**

Alumni Hall  
8 p.m.

Sometimes after a jovial social justice conference, you need to get serious for an hour.

With two hockey games on Saturday, the "F@#\$ St. Thomas" chants will be copious and audible.

**Sunday, Mar. 9**

**Weekend Movie:  
The Hunger Games:  
Catching Fire**

Wallenberg Auditorium  
2 p.m.

Is Bradley Cooper in this one, too, now that he is in EVERY J-LAW MOVIE EVER?

**Monday, Mar. 10**

**Spring Chinese  
Language Table**

The Caf  
5:30 p.m.

Hopefully they have the wholly authentic Chinese dish, orange chicken.

**Performing Gender:  
Sometimes I Do and  
Sometimes I Don't**

Alumni Hall  
7 p.m.

Sometimes I go to events like this and sometimes I don't.

**Tuesday, Mar. 11**

**Meet-n-Greet:  
Admission Staff**

Diversity Center  
3:30 p.m.

They don't give a s@#\$. You're already here.

**Solar Heat Workshop**

Interpretive Center  
6 p.m.

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS SOLAR HEAT ANYMORE.

**Wednesday, Mar. 12**

**Internship & Service  
Learning Fair**

Heritage Banquet Room  
11:30 a.m.

You'll learn that they won't pay you s@#\$ for a summer of work.

**PASO Trivia/  
Open Mic Night**

Courtyard Café  
7 p.m.

Nothing like an opportunity to sing "Africa" by Toto where it kind of makes sense.

**Thursday, Mar. 13**

**Day on the Hill**

State Capitol  
8:30 a.m.

It's windy on GAC's hill, but this hill is more long-winded.

**Fika**

Swedish House  
9 p.m.

Does Gustavus have some ties to Sweden or something?

**Feit-sty Not Really  
Horoscopes**

**Aries**

I think Putin was *Russian* to some conclusions to this whole Ukraine thing.

**Taurus**

Hmmmm . . . The main butt of my jokes have transitioned from Miley to Putin. I think I'm growing up.

**Gemini**

I mean pretty soon I will be doing jokes about the deficit or Benghazi or Obamacare . . . LOLZ NO I WON'T.

**Cancer**

Why didn't your story on Snapchat win Best Short Film at the Oscars?

**Leo**

I bet the profs make their own Gustie Couples page soon.

**Virgo**

I mean, they already have a Love Confessions page.

**Libra**

And with that Oscar win, all jokes about Matthew McConaughey have died . . . R.I.P.

**Scorpio**

THAT'S OKAY, PLANET EARTH. WE NEVER WANTED SPRING ANYWAY.

**Sagittarius**

When the hell can I study abroad in Narnia?

**Capricorn**

There is like a 95 percent chance that Betty White is a renegade cyborg that refuses mortality.

**Aquarius**

Leonardo DiCaprio isn't taking losing at the Oscars well because his childhood soccer league didn't keep score.

**Pisces**

The CFs have their own Draft Combine where they test applicant's alcohol violation times.



# Gymnastics season filled with improvement

**Kelsey Hering**  
Staff Writer

As the gymnastics season came to a close, Junior Kacie Kohler and her teammates found themselves reflecting on the ups and downs of their season. Kohler recalled the goals the team worked hard to reach.

"I think our goals were achieved in that we have had a fun season, and even though we have had our ups and downs at competitions, we have powered through the struggles and given it our all at every meet," Kohler said.

*"[Charles Aydt] encouraged us to be brave and at the same time taught us how to make our gymnastics as perfect as possible."*

—Paige Dieleman

Senior Brittany Hancock said it helped that they challenged themselves throughout their season.

"On many events we were able to add some more difficult routines to our competition line-up this year and we consis-



Senior Brittany Hancock performed her routine at the team's last home meet of the season against Winona State. Hancock believes that the team's focus on challenging themselves has led to their improvement this season.

tently improved throughout the season," Hancock said.

The team is coached by Charles Aydt, who is in his first year of coaching gymnastics at Gustavus. Senior Paige Dieleman thought Coach Aydt brought a positive change to the team.

"Charlie brought technique and structure to the team which was good. We were pushed to work hard, do our best, and strive to perform beyond our own expectations. He encour-

aged us to be brave and at the same time taught us how to make our gymnastics as perfect as possible," Dieleman said.

Consistency is another trait considered to be held by their coach.

"One strong point of Charlie's is that he really emphasizes routines during workouts, which helps us to be consistent at meets," Kohler said.

Motivating one another during practice and at meets is a common goal for the entire

team.

"We cheer for one another and encourage everyone to be confident because we have put the time and work, the only thing left to do is do what we do best," Dieleman said.

Supporting one another during meets is critical for the team.

"We are all very supportive of each other and we cheer loudly for everyone's routines. At practice, we are still supportive, but we aren't always watching everyone's routines, so the cheer-

ing level isn't as loud. At meets, the team really comes together as a whole," Kohler said.

Hancock said the emotions are always stirring during meets right before a routine.

*"I think this season was a great stepping stone to build an even stronger team off of next year."*

—Paige Dieleman

"The atmosphere on the competition floor is exciting and nerve racking at the same time but knowing that your teammates support you no matter how you perform helps with the nerves that come with the sport," Hancock said.

While Kohler admits the season might have started off rough, record-wise, she says the team has really improved as a whole.

"Last weekend, we had an awesome meet and the best team score of the season. We have definitely gotten more consistent throughout the season," Kohler said.

**'Gymnastics' continued  
on page 15**

## Gustavus men's tennis: on the path to success

**Haley Bell**  
Staff Writer

The Gustavus Adolphus men's tennis team was victorious over University of Wisconsin Whitewater on Sunday, March 2, with a score of 7-2. The victory allowed the Gusties to improve to 10-1 in the conference. This, being their ninth win in a row, also moved the team to a 7-1 standing against their regional competitors.

On March 8, the tennis team will host three of their MIAC opponents with a current record of 2-0 within the league. At 9 a.m., the team will take on Bethel University, and at 1 p.m. they will play Concordia College, then Macalester College at 6:30 p.m.

The team has high hopes for the rest of the season. Some of their goals consist of being ranked top ten in the nation, beating two top ten teams at home and another on the road, as well as making it to the quarterfinals of the NCAA tournament by winning their region.

The team works to exemplify the Three Crowns every day, whether they are on or off the tennis court. The Three Crowns is a philosophy dating back to the days when the legendary Steve Wilkinson was the head tennis coach at Gustavus, with each crown representing a different value. These values are choosing to put forth one's

best effort, having a positive attitude, and exhibiting a high level of sportsmanship.

"Our process goals that we strive for every day are to execute the Three Crowns, be fully focused on becoming a better tennis player each practice, and competing with a level of intensity that communicates belief that we are capable of being one of the best teams in the nation," Sophomore David Brown said.

This season holds a lot of competition for the Gusties, and the team is looking forward to taking these challenges one at a time with maximum effort.

"In two weekends, our top players are traveling to an elite invite in California to play some of the best in the country, which will be exciting. Our spring break trip should also prove fruitful, because we will face steep competition and because everyone gets a chance to prove themselves against outside competition," Senior Bryan Miles said.

Even though the men's tennis team hasn't skipped a beat on the court, they have still been struggling with the graduation of their number one player last year. In addition, some of the players have been battling injuries.

"Injuries have been an unfortunate part of the season. We continue to believe in ourselves, no matter the outcome against tough teams. Everyone is doing



Junior Motasam Al-Houni has been key to the Gusties' early success this season. Al-Houni has not yet lost a regular-season match in singles play, and is 5-1 in regular-season doubles play.

their absolute best to be proactive, rather than reactive, and as a result the time away from the court has been minimal," Miles said.

With the support of their captains, coaches, and fellow Gusties, the team has been overcoming the challenges of this season and they believe that they are still right on track with accomplishing their goals this season.

"Our coaching staff is fantastic and knows how to push us, and make us the best we can be on and off the court. I'm

extremely grateful to be a part of such a great program with so much history. I'm looking forward to my last season with the guys and can't wait for what this spring holds for us," Senior Joey MacGibbon said.

The team has also been receiving additional support from former men's tennis Head Coach Steve Wilkinson. Wilkinson was inducted into the United States Professional Tennis Association's Hall of Fame this fall for his accomplishments during his 38 years as head coach of the Gustavus men's tennis team.

Wilkinson retired from Gustavus as the winningest coach in the history of men's collegiate tennis. The extra help and advice from this tennis legend has given the men an advantage.

"It has been an absolute pleasure having the legend that is Steve Wilkinson around at practice and competition. He is such a kind-spirited man with so much intelligence to offer—both tennis and life related," Miles said.

# Dance team heads to Nationals

**Linnea Moat**  
Sports & Fitness Editor

The Gustavus dance team has been working all season to prepare for their trip to Anaheim, California at the end of March. Last year in California the team took second place at Nationals, so they are excited to return this year and compete for the top spot on the podium.

"Our next step for the competitive team is the national competition in Anaheim, California. Last year, we came home with an unbelievable score and a second place DIII trophy. This year our team will represent Gustavus again, and we are aiming to defend our great reputation there," Junior Captain Amani Yassin said.

Last year was the first time that the dance team had competed at Nationals.

*"That's why I think our team is so special; we don't take anything for granted."*

—Amani Yassin

"Our goal for Nationals is really to be satisfied with our performance. We are a very different team than we were last year, so we want to go to Nationals and try our best, and hopefully improve on our performance from last year," Junior Lindsay Ortlip said.

Earlier this season the team competed at St. Thomas and earned second place, along with an award for their choreography. The dance that the team performed at St. Thomas is the same dance that they will be performing at the National competition, and they have been working to perfect the choreography ever since.

"With every competition, we hope to have our best per-



Last year the Gustavus dance team placed second at Nationals. This year the team has their sights set on the gold, and hopes to have their best performance of the season at the National competition.

formance. Our main goal for Nationals is to have our peak performance. Each practice is spent meticulously perfecting our performance and choreography, and the team is working so hard to bring home the National title. I have faith that our work will pay off and we will see another success in Anaheim," Yassin said.

The Gustavus team has spent the last year improving, but so have all of the other teams that they will be competing against.

"I think this year we are more prepared and we know what to expect at Nationals, which will help us. All the other teams have gotten better over the year. I don't know what people are feeding their kids that makes them such good dancers, but the competition is definitely getting tougher. But we are also getting better. Our veteran dancers are able to mentor the newer dancers which has improved our team unity and also set up the foundation and legacy of the program for years to come," Senior Kayla Warner said.

Over the past few years the team has worked to gain recognition and support for their sport. Until last year the team was considered an organization, rather than a sport. Last year the dance team earned the label of club sport, which has afforded them more recognition and funding than they had previously, but they are still not treated with the same level of athletic legitimacy that varsity sports are. The team is responsible for their own fundraising, and have to look to avenues such as Student Senate and the Advancements Office for donations.

"Becoming a club sport last year has really allowed us to expand our program and gain recognition. We have 23 dancers on our performance team which is the largest it has been in five years, and we have a male dancer this year which is really unique. We have received increased support from the Gustavus community and Gustavus is definitely more open to us, but we are still working to gain recognition and broaden our fan base," Head Coach Jess Erickson said.

Since becoming a club sport the team has both expanded in size and improved.

"We have improved so much since we became a club sport, and we're still working to be recognized as a varsity sport. We have gotten a lot of support from the Athletic Director [Tom Brown], which has been great," Ortlip said.

While the team works to increase the support they receive from the Gustavus community, they have also strengthened the bonds they have amongst themselves.

"My team truly is my family, and I know that sounds cliché but it's true. Dance is the one extra-curricular I have stuck with throughout my time here at Gustavus, and I am so lucky and thankful that I did. We support each other mentally, emotionally, and physically, and we continue to improve every

day," Warner said.

The dance team's season isn't over yet—the team will be performing at Relay For Life in April, in addition to competing at Nationals. At 9 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19 the dance team will be hosting a send-off before they travel to Anaheim for Nationals on March 24 and 25. At their send-off event, the team will perform the dance they will take to California, and fans are encouraged to come and watch the team perform.

"Throughout the seasons, everything we do is to work toward growth. We use each practice, performance, and experience to help us reach our goals. That's why I think our team is so special; we don't take anything for granted. Every time we are allowed to work together, we embrace it wholeheartedly and make it count," Yassin said.

## 'Gymnastics' continued from page 14

Their consistency showed by the end of the season, where the team ended up increasing their team total by ten points from the first competition to their last.

On Sunday, March 2, the University of Wisconsin White-water hosted the WIAC Championships, which is the largest gymnastics meet of the season and the only meet that all eight of the Division III teams in the Midwest attend. The Gustavus gymnastics team accomplished their best performance of the season with a score of 177.8 at the meet, to put them in eighth place.

As for next year, the team hopes for all members to stay healthy and continue to work hard during the off-season so they can meet the high goals they have already set for next year.

"I want the team to work hard during the off season so they are

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

### Friday, March 7

Track & Field @ MIAC Championships

### Saturday, March 8

Track & Field @ MIAC Championships

Men's Tennis hosts Bethel University  
9:00 a.m.

Women's Tennis hosts Concordia College  
11:00 a.m.

Men's Tennis hosts Concordia College  
1:00 p.m.

Women's Hockey at University of St. Thomas (MIAC Championship)  
2:00 p.m.

Men's Tennis hosts Macalester College  
6:30 p.m.

Women's Tennis hosts Macalester College  
6:30 p.m.

Men's Hockey at University of St. Thomas (MIAC Championship)  
7:00 p.m.



For the second straight year the Gustavus dance team placed second at a competition at St. Thomas. The team has been tweaking their dance ever since to get it ready for the National competition.

ready to go next year when the season starts in October. I also would like to see the team get a total score of 180 at some point next season. That is a major goal and it would feel great to accomplish it," Kohler said.

While Dieleman and Hancock are graduating this spring, they still have high hopes for the team next season.

"I think there is a lot of talent that will be joining the group of talented girls we currently have and I think they will continue to improve their skills and scores next year," Hancock said.

Both seniors believe this season was a great start to what could be a year full of success.

"I hope next year the team gains more depth on all four events and that the girls will maintain the great routines and skills that they have competed with this year. I think this season was a great stepping stone to build an even stronger team off of next year," Dieleman said.

## Women's hockey captain produces on and off the ice

**Megan Tuttle**  
Staff Writer

Gustavus student-athlete, Carolyn Draayer, was hired last spring to produce two promotional videos for the MIAC. The most recent video, which was released last month, highlights the MIAC's core value of quality athletics. The MIAC became interested in Draayer after discovering her promotional video for the Gustavus women's hockey team, and contacted Gustavus' Director of Sports Information Ethan Armstrong to find a potential candidate for the position.

"I told them, 'you know, we have this girl, Carolyn Draayer, who did these videos this year for us as just a side project for an internship. She did awesome. I'll put you in contact with her, I think she might be interested.' They called her, and she jumped on board," Armstrong said.

*"I'm still surprised it worked out as well as it did."*

—Carolyn Draayer

Draayer traveled around to different schools in the conference during the summer months to shoot the video. The production required the coordinating of all 13 schools in the MIAC and 22 sports. Each school was given a sport to represent, and

Draayer worked with each school to recruit athletes to be featured in the video.

"We wanted to represent as many sports as we could. I worked with the sports information directors and we assigned a sport to each school, and I asked them if they could help me find athletes that were willing to be on camera. It was a lot of coordinating. I'm still surprised it worked out as well as it did," Draayer said.

The video has not only worked to promote the MIAC's core values, but makes a statement about the MIAC as a Division III conference.

"It puts the conference on the cutting edge. I would bet money that if you looked around DIII conferences across the country, there aren't going to be many conferences that have a conference-wide video that is promoting its own brand like this one is," Armstrong said.

Not only does the video publicize the conference, but also, the fact that a MIAC student-athlete was the producer of it gives it even more value, according to Armstrong.

"To see that this is done by an amateur, like Carolyn, one of the MIAC's athletes, is the sweet part about this whole thing," Armstrong said.

Draayer is a junior Communication Studies major that just so happens to have a passion for filmmaking. As a captain of the Gustavus women's hockey team, Draayer represents Gustavus athletics both on and off the ice. Last season, Draayer was awarded the NCAA Division III

Elite 89 award, which is presented to one student-athlete in each sport sponsored by the NCAA. During Draayer's freshman and sophomore years the Gustavus Women's Hockey team won the MIAC regular season championship and placed fourth in the nation.

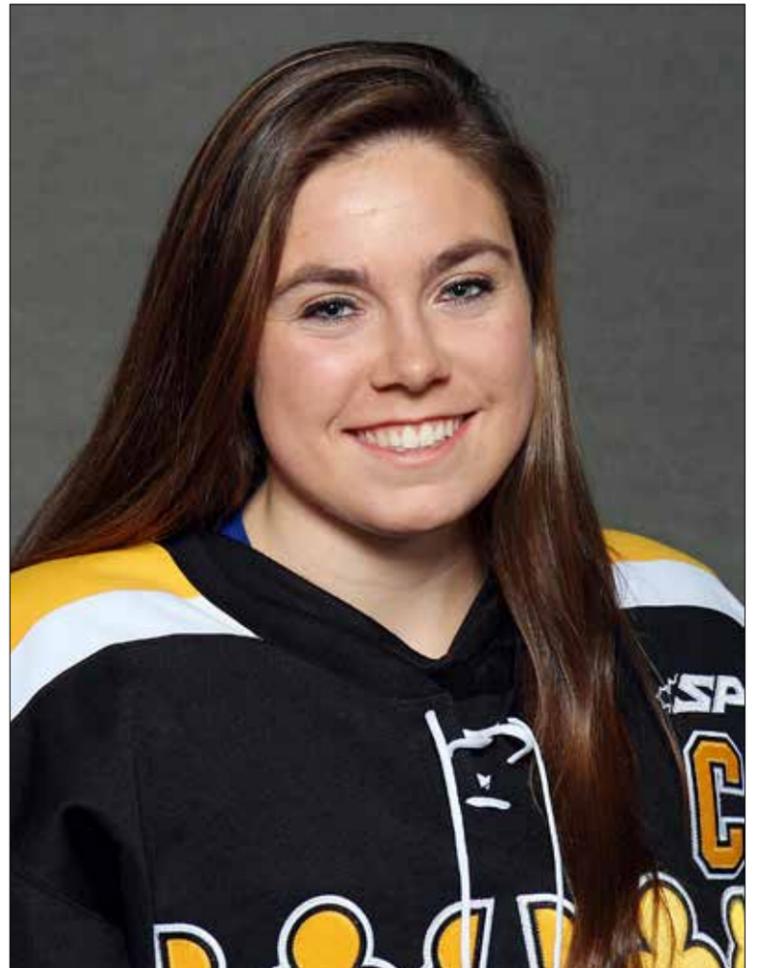
Her interest in filmmaking sparked in her early high school years, and has since become a side project among school and hockey.

*"It puts the conference on the cutting edge. I would bet money that if you looked around DIII conferences across the country, there aren't going to be many conferences that have a conference-wide video that is promoting its own brand like this one is."*

—Ethan Armstrong

"I think it's really fun to have a camera in my hand. I like taking an idea and conceptualizing it, taking steps and watching it come to life," Draayer said.

Draayer's teammate, Junior Leah Johnson believes that despite Draayer's busy schedule, she manages to maintain a posi-



Gustavus Sports Information  
Student-Athlete Carolyn Draayer splits her time between Beck Academic Hall where she studies Communication Studies, the ice rink, where she is a captain of the women's hockey team, and making videos. Most recently, Draayer has used her filmmaking skills to promote MIAC athletics.

tive attitude that attributes to her own personal success and the success of the team.

"She's a big encourager. She is always encouraging the other teammates, writing notes of encouragement. She's very vocal out on the ice and on the bench, very positive. Even if she's having a bad day she'll always come to the rink with a positive attitude," Johnson said.

Draayer plans to continue filmmaking, though she is still unsure whether or not she is interested in pursuing it as a

career or keeping it as a hobby.

"I'm still trying to decide if it's the right career for me. I definitely enjoy it. This summer I'm really pursuing a couple different opportunities with companies that I think can show me what this is really like as a job," Draayer said.

Draayer's promotional videos are available to watch on the MIAC's website under the information tab.



Gustavus Sports Information  
Carolyn Draayer (left, #18) scored the game-tying goal in last weekend's Semi-Finals game against Bethel University. The Gusties went on to win the game 3-2, sending them to the MIAC Championship game on Sat. March 8th against St. Thomas.



Open

M-F 9:30am-5:30pm

Sat. 10:00am-1:00pm

[www.4theteam.com](http://www.4theteam.com)

219 W Park Row  
St. Peter, MN 56082

507.931.5966

Embroidery

Engraving

Screen printing

Sublimation