

# Editorial

**Matt Glaser**  
Managing Editor

The *Mankato Free Press* in what I was writing. "Sexual Assault at Gustavus" is not its report on the Gustavus student charged with sexual assault involved in the Dec. 13th incident identifies the alleged, so some may be wondering why it is that THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY did not in "Sexual Assault at Gustavus"?

As a Managing Editor for THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY and the author of the piece "Sexual Assault at Gustavus," my commitment first and foremost is to serve the Gustavus community, and in doing so abide by a journalistic code of ethics that includes guidelines that can be at times conflicting.

On the one hand I aim to fairly and comprehensively report events and issues. On the other hand I aim to minimize harm, and not be ignorant of how the content of what I report can affect the lives of others.

Keeping this in mind, I felt that printing the name of the alleged in "Sexual Assault at Gustavus" was of no substantial overall benefit to the Gustavus community in the context of

The Dec. 13th incident is not a center point, but a spring board to introduce a broader report of sexual assault and sexual misconduct policy at Gustavus. With the sensitivity surrounding issues regarding sexual assault, I decided it would be best in "Sexual Assault at Gustavus" to abstain from using substantial identifying information of individuals involved in the Dec. 13th incident.

I also chose to abstain from reporting details out of respect for the impact such information may have on victim-survivors. Thus, no names are used in "Sexual Assault at Gustavus," and identifying information is left at a minimum, including that of the accused from the Dec. 13th incident.



**Amy Leininger**  
Opinion Editor

We can't print his name. You all know it anyway. The topic of fervent discussion on campus for the past month, He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named was charged with criminal sex conduct following reported sexual assaults involving two other Gustavus students to the St. Peter Police Department.

To be clear, he has not been convicted of any crimes. His first day in court was scheduled for March 1. For clarity's sake, the not-so-mysterious Gustie will now be referred to as (REDACTED).

This is not a piece speculating on the alleged crimes or the Gustavus administration's response. This is a piece about

# (REDACTED)

## Our Failure to Report

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY's mishandling of a matter of public knowledge. This is a piece about freedom of speech and self-censorship.

The value of free speech and the free exchange of information is evident in this story's very inception. It was only after the publications of *St. Peter Herald* reporter Dana Melius' and *Mankato Free Press* reporter Nancy Madsen's Feb. 2 articles about the charges against (REDACTED) that the wider Gustavus community became aware of the Dec. 13th incident.

Students previously unaware of the sexual assault allegations shared the articles on social media, and the story spread like wildfire.

The *St. Peter Herald* and *Mankato Free Press* articles sparked renewed debate at Gustavus regarding sexual assaults on college campuses and administrative responses to these allegations.

This is, as always, an immeasurably critical discussion for the collegiate community. Free speech and the free exchange of information enabled students to engage knowledgeably about important events occurring on their campus.

The *St. Peter Herald* identified (REDACTED) by name, and included his age and hometown, as well as his status as a Gustavus student. So did the *Mankato Free Press*. These news publications found compelling reasons to publish the charges and to identify the person against whom they were filed. THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY, however, chose differently.

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY refused to print his name, despite it being a matter of public record and having appeared in multiple local news sources. THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY editorial board argued that the close-knit nature of the Gustavus campus prevents us from reporting the full facts of a story relevant to the community. One can't help but wonder which members of the "close-knit" community THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY is seeking to protect.

I can't print his name, because THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY doesn't want to rock the boat. In THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY's official statement on the issue of reporting the name of (REDACTED), the editorial staff stated: "We are a small community, and this can potentially be a very precarious situation." What precariousity they have in mind is unstated.

But I believe they are correct. This is a precarious situation. The precariousness of the situation lies in our fair-weathered commitment to free speech and freedom of the press.

The precariousness of the situation lies in our fickle commitment to sharing important information with community members. This situation is a matter of public concern and

public record.

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY's commentary on the incident is protected speech, so long as we do not slander or libel anyone. Reporting the facts of charges filed against a member of our community is not libel. Newspapers concerned with informing their communities do so every day.

Perhaps most distressing of all, this decision by THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY reflects a conscious, knowing, and intentional choice to fail to fulfil our mission of "bringing the community comprehensive coverage of the news and events affecting our campus."

Sadly, it appears THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY no longer understands what "comprehensive" means. Or does not believe that this event affects our community.

Additionally, the stated purpose of THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY is "a service to the college community in general and the student body in particular." By refusing to fully and honestly report a matter of public record that is of intense interest and substantial importance on campus, THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY fails to serve the student body.

It is easy to forget that THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY is a paper by the students, for the students. We choose what we publish, not administrators on campus, newspaper faculty advisers or others. In this case, the editorial board has chosen poorly. It has chosen to prioritize the comfort of some over the safety of others.

We should accurately report the facts involved in a criminal investigation pertaining to members of our community. When we engage in self-censorship, we fail to serve our readers and our mission.

Reporting on crimes, particularly sexual assault and involving members of our community, is difficult. While the editors may well be sincere in their concern for fairness and respect for all parties involved, they are refusing to print a name that is already part of the public record. It is unclear what principle of fairness is implicated here.

There are difficult conversations happening all across the nation as students, administrators, and politicians grapple with sexual assault on college campuses.

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY must be a full and honest contributor to the discussions already happening on social media and in dorm rooms about cases that hit close to home.

Unfortunately, the decision in this instance violates that principle. Those seeking newspapers that uphold that principle here might instead choose to read the *St. Peter Herald* or *Mankato Free Press*.

## The Good, the Bad, and the Meh



Americans from 12 states came out to participate in the Super Tuesday primaries and caucuses, a critical day in the presidential nominating process.



Around 5 percent of the electorate participates in caucuses. Who said American democracy is broken?



Noted racist Donald Trump's steady march to the Republican nomination continues, terrifying rational thinkers everywhere.

# Protecting the NFL's Golden Boy



**Sophie Leininger**  
Opinion Columnist

She's kind of trashy," "had the most vulgar mouth of any girl I'd ever seen" and "was unattractive but had big breasts," were just some of the phrases Peyton Manning used to describe the Director of Health & Wellness at his then university.

The worst part about these quotes? They were entirely fabricated for the sole purpose of destroying the reputation of a single person in order to make a sexual assault disappear. And it worked.

The name Dr. Jamie Naughtright gains little recognition, earning not a second thought. Yet when I say the name Peyton Manning, virtually everybody knows who I am referring to, and most have an extremely positive connotation.

However, there is an untold part of Manning's fairytale story, the details of which destroy the pedestal we created for the pro-athlete. More importantly, the topic invokes a serious re-evaluation of how we discuss and conduct investigations of sexual assault and rape.

In 1996, Peyton Manning allegedly sexually assaulted Dr. Jamie Naughtright in the University of Tennessee training room while she treated his ankle. Dr. Naughtright accused Manning of forcing his genitalia onto her face. The purpose of the word "allegedly" is because Manning assembled a team including his father, the athletic department, and Dr. Naughtright's superiors. They arranged for the ac-



After winning the Super Bowl 50 Championship, Peyton Manning has become embroiled in controversy.

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cusation and the incident to disappear altogether, ensuring that Manning never saw a day in a criminal court. After the incident, Dr. Naughtright called a Crisis Line, eventually taking all of the appropriate actions to ensure that the inappropriate and inexcusable actions of the then student-athlete, Peyton Manning, were properly handled.

This would not be the case. Instead, by the end of the year, he remained the star of the show, as if nothing had happened.

During the school's "investigation" of the incident, Mike Rollo, Dr. Naughtright's boss, and Manning went so far as to fabricate a story to cover up Manning's actions in the training room.

The problem with this "he-said, she-said"? The teammate Manning added to the story to

defend his side of events did not play along. In fact, this teammate wrote a letter to Manning pleading with him to own up to his actions.

After an agreement was reached, with Manning serving a two week suspension from the athletics dining hall because of the "incident" in the training room, Dr. Naughtright was searching for a new job.

Dr. Naughtright had achieved professional good standing and paved the way for females in the athletic training world. None of this mattered to Manning, his father, or her employer, the very institution she dedicated her passions and work ethic to for a decade.

However, the Manning brigade did not stop there. Years later, Dr. Naughtright was settled in her new job at a different

university. Disturbingly, Manning and his father violated the terms of the original agreement by including the incident in the publication of their biography. They including Manning's fabricated version of what happened that day.

Manning publicly defamed Dr. Naughtright. Her career was done. She sued Manning, and the case was heard despite objection from both of the Mannings.

The lies and stories from Manning unraveled on the stand, and it was settled out of court. He has yet to take responsibility for any of his actions and continues to deny the assault and the coverup. Dr. Naughtright remains a victim without justice.

The success, career, and highly respected work of Dr. Jamie Naughtright were destroyed by the lies and actions of one man and his posse of enablers. Not only was a crime committed, but the cover-up and the systematic destruction of the victim's life are unforgivable.

Peyton Manning's story has gone untold for over a decade. Rather ironically, his career has been built in part on the good 'ol boy image he has exuded. He has been the NFL's icon of virtue for over a decade through his perceived good values, despite having lived quite the opposite life.

As amazing as his athletic career has been, it does not compensate for or override the significance of his actions. He not only committed a crime and used his power to escape responsibility, but he threw his victim to the wolves. Twice. He continues to benefit from his inexcusable past without any movement to right the many wrongs.

Today it is clear that this football star has landed a special place in America's heart. In 2003, the 74 court documents

detailing the incident, the cover-up, and the lies told by Peyton Manning were made available, yet the media declined to give the events serious coverage.

Now, as a public previously unaware and naively in love with Peyton's sportsmanlike and good-hearted football, many are quick to deny the details of his past and current lie. When the truth resurfaced, it lasted one media loop and was met with anger from devoted fans frustrated that another "scandal" arrived at the height of the career of another famous athlete.

This is the problem. When we fail to hold people accountable for their actions, we foster a culture that sympathizes with the accused and in turn, fails the victim in too many ways. Sexual assault, violence, and rape have been repeatedly shrugged off in the world of pro-sports.

When we watch the accused repeatedly defended, their actions justified across the media and sports channels, it becomes evident that the voice of the victim does not matter.

It does not matter what is achieved in the athletic world if our sports gods hold no respect for other humans. Peyton Manning treated Dr. Naughtright in an incredibly dehumanizing way, and continues to carry out the lies he constructed.

No number of Super Bowl Championships can change that fact. Continuing to celebrate athletes and hold them above the law tells every boy and girl watching that the life and reputation of the accused is more important than the rights and wellbeing of the victim.

The longer we judge people by trophies won rather than their humanity, the longer a culture that perpetuates rape will exist.



**Have something to say?**  
**Write a letter to the editor.**  
email [lettertotheeditor@gac.edu](mailto:lettertotheeditor@gac.edu)



**Jessica Hastings Ereth**  
Opinion Columnist

In 1940, the United States instituted the Selective Training and Service Act, which required all men between the ages of 21 and 45 to register for the draft. In 1942, the age was lowered to 18. More than 10 million men entered military service through the Selective Service system during World War II alone.

The last time the draft was used was in the Vietnam War, which ended in 1975. Recently there has been talk of women being required to sign up for the draft. Personally, I am opposed to this, however that is not how everyone feels.

After speaking to some Gustavus students, I discovered that people had either one of three opinions, the first similar to mine: women should not have to sign up for the draft unless they volunteer. Others thought

that women need more places in the military and on the battlefield. And lastly, another is that the draft should not be used today due to the unnecessary of it.

After some elaboration these three opinions became broken down into many more, ranging from the opinion that women are not capable of being successful in the military to the opinion that women do much more in the military than men could ever do. I found this incredibly interesting and decided to look into these ways of thinking.

As of Jan. 2016, women will be allowed to serve in any job in the armed services, if they meet gender-neutral performance standards. This was initiated in 2013 and then finalized under Defense Secretary Ash Carter. This is estimated to open around 220,000 jobs to females.

It is estimated that this will increase the overall population of women in the military from the current 14.5 percent. This percentage accounts for those in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force. Women make up an average of 2.7 percent of those on the frontline. One of the reasons this number is so low is because men, on average, are 50 percent stronger

than women when using brute strength.

Because of women's lack of strength the Marine Corps requested an exemption from the Defense Department-wide requirement.

As evidence to justify their request, the Marine Corps conducted a study to see how ground combat units that included women would perform relative to all male units when against a range of tasks associated with their possible responsibilities in combat.

This unit with women was said to have performed at a mediocre level for most of its missions, scoring well below average. Even though the women who joined the test unit had scored very well in relation to the average female marine on various physical fitness tests, they were not screened specifically for service in the jobs they were asked to perform.

While there are some women who compare with some men in this area, among the participants of this study the top 10 percent of women overlaps with the bottom 50 percent of men in both aerobic and anaerobic capacity.

Anatomically speaking, men

have higher bone density, which reduces the chances of breaking and other forms of injury. They also have larger hearts, higher red blood cell count and haemoglobin, and therefore, a greater oxygen-carrying capacity.

Men have higher levels of vitamin K, prothrombin, and platelets, which increases blood clotting abilities. These differences increase healing time of injuries and higher overall pain tolerance.

In addition to basic anatomy, women are more likely to develop certain infections and diseases, as well as life threatening diseases. These include lupus, multiple sclerosis, osteoporosis, and many autoimmune diseases.

Now, women will need to think about the future, are we ready for it to be mandatory that we sign up for the draft? At first blush this may scream of true equality. However, I believe something different.

As much as women have equal rights we will never be the same as men both physically and mentally, and therefore cannot be treated the same. Because this is a volunteer army I believe that the only women

who should be in the military are those who choose to be.

The chances of the draft being instituted are very slim. I remember when my brother had to sign up for the draft, and I knew never had to be in that situation.

Even though my family knew the odds of the draft being enacted, we still worried about my brother being taken from us. My mother has told me stories of when she was younger and the government would say numbers on the television.

She would tell me how her classmates' family members were sent off. This scares me, but what I learned most was what would scare my mother more would be having the threat of both of her children being taken away.

Sons are just as important as daughters and vice versa. But increasing the chances of taking more children away from mothers is not a good thing. Along with this I believe that because it is a volunteer army that we should not have to be forced to sign up. Why fix something that isn't broken? For these reasons I believe that women should not be required to sign up for the draft.

## Kanye's Apology



**Logan Boese**  
Opinion Columnist

Well, hopefully the title here has drawn you towards reading this story. I confess, as I sit here writing while listening to *The Life of Pablo* (T.L.O.P.) for the 30th time in 10 days, I may have deceived you with the title. Indeed, this is a lesson in apologetics or the practice of defending a position or act.

I write this article with the goal of defending the most defining artist of our generation, or all-time, depending on which Kanye you ask.

How did we end up here you may be asking. Well last week my now estranged fraternity brother Cameron MacDonald decided to put Kanye on blast in the entertainment section of this highly esteemed publication.

Upon reading this, I immediately declared war and set myself on this dangerous journey to prove the worth of Kanye in our society.

These columns will keep flowing until one of us gets sick of writing or the editorial staff at THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY stop accepting them. So here

we go, sit back, grab a bowl of popcorn, and watch Cameron's reputation as an entertainment editor crumble.

Last week Cameron chose to "cherry pick" a couple of tweets from Kanye West's official Twitter account. I've actually been following Kanye on Twitter for the better part of a year and until the release of T.L.O.P. Kanye rarely tweeted, ever. Until December he had around 15 tweets on his account.

The three tweets that were chosen for this feature titled "Oh, Kanye!" were as follows:

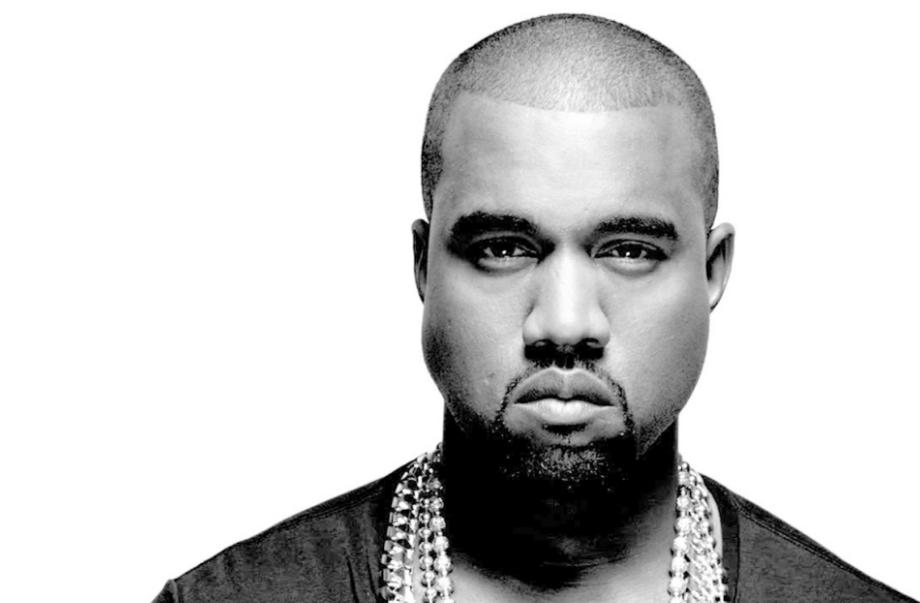
"I'm not crazy I'm free"

"No slave mindset no more. I'm free. I'm free."

"I'm happy and free and proud and confident. I'm not crazy. I'm free."

Personally, I am quite happy to hear this from Kanye. I recognize the importance of his assertion on his mental state and freeness. I analyze the following tweets as a direct response to *Buzzfeed*, *Huffington Post*, and tabloid articles that question the mental state of Kanye following some earlier unfortunate incidents.

What most people don't realize is that Kanye has had one hell of a month. He released an album, performed at Madison Square Garden, appeared on SNL, and worked on the stress of being a father to a new son. Not to mention dealing with the whole Kardashian clan.



Kanye West has set Twitter and the media ablaze with his provocative, often cryptic tweets.

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The man doesn't sleep and this was quite apparent when he laid down on the floor during his SNL performance. I'm not a doctor, but I would prescribe solitude and a bed for the next month for Kanye's own health.

However, the hard-working nature of the "self-made" artist and entrepreneur is not what people jumped on when everything was said and done. Instead, people latched onto his tweets and speculation about whether or not he's on Xanax and other prescription or non-prescription medication.

This is how the contemporary social media wheel whirrs. One

tweet from Kanye will generate 150 published stories all based on pure speculation.

This leads us back to the tweets in question. What would you do if you exhausted and dealing with the rumors swirling about your mental state? More specifically, what would you do if you were Kanye and knew that you could turn it to your favor?

Kanye knows how to work the media and shamelessly promote himself. He changed the name of his album 4 times, increasing the hype and excitement about its release. He learned from the best when he

married a Kardashian. Trust me, they know how to work the media even better than Trump.

I encourage those who are quick to put Kanye on blast to follow his advice and "shut up and enjoy the greatness."

While it is true that fame comes at the expense of privacy, we should all hold back judgment a little longer.

Kanye has made mistakes, given an apology, and then gone on with his life. I think that we could all learn a lesson from him about how we choose to live our own lives.

# BENEATH THE CROWN



**What is a passion of yours that you're pursuing?**

"Well I'm majoring in music education! I'm aiming and hoping to be a school band director someday."

**What made you choose that career path?**

"It was really the teachers that I had as a high schooler and a middle schooler. I was just really lucky and had a ton of fantastic teachers, especially my band directors. They were great and amazing role models. They really went above and beyond in terms of trying to be there for their students and trying to help out and pushing us to do our absolute best. Even when we weren't doing our absolute best, they would just say 'Okay, maybe today isn't the day. Tomorrow we'll keep working at it and if we keep doing that then we'll do really well in the future.' I just decided that I really wanted to be that kind of person for young adults and teenagers who may not have that in their lives. So that's what my plan is."



**Allison Hansen**

Cameron MacDonald

**Is there a specific moment you remember that inspired you or re-minded you why you're doing it?**

"I struggled with math throughout middle school and into ninth and tenth grade. In eleventh grade my calculus teacher changed everything. He was very approachable and he made math fun and, as someone who had struggled with it, making math fun was insane to me! So just trying to be someone like that became important to

me. The way he taught really clicked with me and I not only did well at math from then on but I enjoyed it as well. Band helped in a slightly different way. I've always been a rather shy person and like to keep to myself, and there were all of these different opportunities to try out for honor band and state things and I wasn't going to do it, but then my eleventh grade band director said 'I think you should try this; it would be a great experience for you.' So she really pushed me to step out of

my shell and pursue those things."

- Allison Hansen

*Beneath The Crown was created by Nick Theisen ('15). It is inspired by Humans of New York (HONY) and aims to bring the community of Gustavus Adolphus College closer together by providing the perspectives of the many different people who live and work at the school.*

## Oh, Kanye!

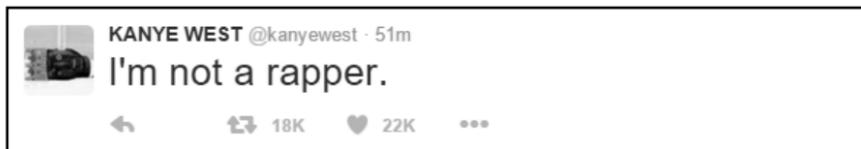
Never a dull day!

## Comic

Carly Maslowski



That's nearly as crazy as selling rags for \$1000 a piece! Wait...



You said it, not me.



Not really a selling point.



## YOUR COMIC HERE

We're always open to new comic talent! Send us a sample of your work at weekly@gac.edu! Political, humor, anything!

"Oh, Kanye!" is written by Cameron MacDonald and does not reflect the views of THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY.

# Women's Hockey wrapped up



Gustavus Sports Information

From left: First-year Marina Chapman, Sophomore Laura Johnson, First-year Erin Moes and sophomore Erica Power celebrate Moes' goal against St. Olaf on Jan. 22. Despite a winning record in the MIAC, they missed the cut for playoffs. The team fought back against injuries and adversity this year.

## Jeremy Pastir Photography Editor

The Gustavus Women's Hockey team was only a year removed from an extremely successful 2014-2015 campaign, where they went 19-5-2 overall and 15-2-1 in the MIAC, placing them first in the conference and raising expectations of the team's performance for the coming year, even after a disappointing semi-final conference loss.

Fast-forward a year, and the 2015-2016 season told quite a different story, where the Gusties finished with 9 wins and 12 losses, with a winning MIAC record at 8-7-3. Throughout the season, it became exceedingly difficult for the team to maintain any momentum they gained with a pair of wins, and stall any momentum against them during losing streaks.

The season began with a promising start, going 2-0-1, with the sole overtime tie coming in the opener at UW-Superior, followed by consecutive wins against St. Olaf and conference rival, St. Thomas in a thrilling 6-4 victory, who at the time was ranked No. 4 in the nation. In that game, Sophomore forward Diana Draayer scored a hat trick, and held off a ferocious third period comeback by the Tommies.

However, in the second contest in 24 hours, this story took a turn for the worse, as St. Thomas took an insurmountable lead in the first 13 minutes of play, and the Gusties failed to rally falling 5-3. This would mark the beginning of one of the

toughest streaks of the season, where Gustavus only mustered a single win against conference opponent Augsburg, and posted a record of 1-7-3, during which they traveled to Middlebury, Vt. to play the top two ranked teams in the nation, one of which being Plattsburgh State University, the No.1 ranked and defending two-time national champion.

*"We had a very young team and faced a lot of adversity. season right where we left off."*

—Laura Johnson

It was during the Plattsburgh game that the black and gold faced one of the most turbulent moments of the season, when Sophomore Kaitlyn Klein (Plymouth, Minn.) suffered a broken vertebrae.

"At the time I thought Kaitlyn and the Plattsburgh player had just collided and she hit her head, but after looking at the video it was clear that Kaitlyn went head first into the boards," Head Coach Mike Carroll said. "Kaitlyn was coming in to fore-check, the puck was behind the net and their defender was getting pressured by one of our other players. Kaitlyn came after another player right on the icing line and that player lost her edge. Kaitlyn then hit her, fell over and went straight into the boards."

Although Klein was unable to finish the season and semester of school, she was extremely fortunate the damage was not

more severe. "The surgeon said things could not have gone better and he was amazed that she didn't have more serious consequences to her spinal cord because her C7 was crushed. She has a loss of strength on her left side, but he feels confident that will heal," her father, Joe Klein, said on Facebook soon after the accident.

Even with such setbacks, the new year brought a newfound spark for the Gusties, as they hosted St. Catherine University and blanked them 3-0.

"We have been having a tough time playing 60 minutes of hockey in our past few games. Today our goal was to play the entire game through," said Coach Carroll

The black and gold then had back to back contests against St. Olaf, winning both games to make them 3-0 on the year against the Oles.

Sadly, the final stretch of the season turned bitter. After fighting their way back to a 7-7-4 overall and a 6-2-3 MIAC record, they would drop five of their last seven games. However, the heartbreak came in the final game against Hamline. Going into the game, Gustavus held the No. 5 seed with 19 points, one point ahead of St. Mary's Cardinals. Yet, because the Gusties tied in conference play, and Saint Mary's defeated St. Kate's, the two teams fell into a tie, with the tiebreaker going to whichever team had the most MIAC wins, a stat which Saint Mary's edged Gustavus by one. This marked the first time since the initiation of the MIAC Playoffs in the 1999-2000 season

that Gustavus did not clinch a playoff berth.

This marked the final game for seniors Lindsey Hibbard (Princeton, MN.), Emily Reibert (Inver Grove Heights, MN.), and Allison Eder-Zdechlik (Stillwater, MN.), all of whom the program will greatly miss for their contributions to the program. Hibbard's goaltending through her four years could be deemed spectacular, posting a record of 46-12-5, logging 3,900:33 minutes, and cementing her in second for total wins in program history. Reibert was a steady force in 104 games she played, totaling 24 points through 12 goals and 12 assists. Eder-Zdechlik left her mark as an offensive power, placing herself at No. 5 in program history in goal scoring with 58 and No. 12 in total points posting 95.

Despite the up-and-down nature of this season, there is quite a lot to look forward to in the years to come.

"This season was a rebuilding season," Sophomore Laura Johnson said, "we had a very young team and faced a lot of adversity. We are only graduating three seniors, who will be missed, meaning we will be able to jump into next season right where we left off this season. There are some really good recruits coming in next year which gives us promise, and will give us an opportunity get right back to playing Gustie hockey."

The team is absolutely determined to improve in all facets of the game, especially with such a raw group, and hope to achieve both personal and team oriented goals with the off-season protocol.

"Up until the ice gets out, we will be preparing for next year. This week we have practice to work on skills. In the off-season we have set individual goals that we will be working on in order to come in ready for next season," Johnson said.



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# Softball sets sights high



Gustavus Sports Information

The photos above are from the Central NCAA Regionals last year. On right: Junior Pitcher Hannah Heacox is coming off an All-Conference season and will be key in the Gusties repeating as MIAC Playoff Champions.

**Jake Woodrich**  
Staff Writer

Although there may be snow on the ground here at Gustavus, that doesn't mean that the Gustavus softball team hasn't been hard at work inside of Lund in preparation for another season. Less than one year ago, the Gusties were named the MIAC playoff champions and partook in the national tournament. Since that time, nearly half of the starting lineup of that team has graduated. This leaves this year's softball squad with many fresh faces hoping to make an impact this season. Although the players from last year may differ from last season, the expectations for this season most definitely do not, as the Gusties came in second in the MIAC preseason coach's poll.

"We expect to make the top 4 in the MIAC and win the MIAC tourney, which would put us into the NCAA post-season. This team is really looking forward to the season and wants to build off last year's success," Head Coach Jeff Annis said. As for the players, they share the same high expectations.

"Coming off a great 2015 season, I would say my expectations are set rather high this year. Although we graduated many players last year, I am very confident in the returners and the new faces that have joined the GAC softball team. Winning the MIAC last year

was a major accomplishment and is always a goal within the program, as well as going beyond the MIAC, making an appearance at regionals and nationals," Junior Rachel Malo said.

Malo, who was named a captain of this year's team, admits that seeing the large senior class of last year's team leave was sad, but like her head coach, she feels that this year's team has adjusted to the change in many ways. "The returners have stepped into leading roles not only defensively and offensively, but also off the field. A major goal for the softball team this year is to play and win as a team, and with that comes a major emphasis on team chemistry and understanding each other as both athletes and individuals," Malo said.

As for the senior class of this

*"The returners have stepped into leading roles not only defensively and offensively, but also off the field..."*

—Rachel Malo

team, there will most definitely be a different feel to this season compared to those in the past. An interview with senior Jess

Williams assured this. "Personally, my main goal for the season is to remain positive no matter what happens, just have fun, and leave it all on the field. I know I'll never get another opportunity to play softball at the collegiate level and with the amazing players on the team so I'm going to give it all I've got and hopefully in the end I won't have any regrets," Williams said.

The Gusties hope for a repeat of the success of the previous season, and believe that the feat is most definitely attainable. However, things must be taken one game at a time.

"As for the team, the ultimate goal is continuing past Regionals and hopefully making it to the National Tournament this year. But in order to do that, we need to take it game by game and focus on the small tasks at hand," Williams said.

Williams went on to explain how much work has been put since the end of last season by the members of the team, including fall practices, strength and conditioning programs, drills, and more. The sport of softball is truly a year round commitment here at Gustavus.

This past weekend, all of the team's hard work in the offseason paid off in the team's first competition of the season. The team handily defeated UW-Stevens Point and UW-River Falls in an indoor bubble at Rochester Community and Technical Col-

lege. The victory over Stevens Point marked Head Coach Jeff Annis' 300th victory. "Milestones are always nice to reach. Reaching 300 wins in 10 years means I have coached some good ball players over those years. So much of the credit needs to go to them," Coach Annis said.

Although it is nice to play somewhere other than the Lund Center Blue, the team is anxious for warmer weather to get outside and play some ball. "As a junior in college now, I have finally come to accept the fact the Minnesota weather is not ideal for softball players, but working around the weather has almost become a second nature. Although the Rochester dome does not have the features of a traditional softball field, it beats the blue and green floors of the Lund center here at Gustavus. I think I am safe to speak for the team and say that we were all anxious to get out of our bubble on top of the hill and face teams other than each other," Malo said.

The Gusties next take the field this Saturday in the RCTC bubble once again. Their outdoor season begins when the team takes a spring trip down to Tucson, Arizona just before spring break. As the season progresses, the Gusties will continue to work to make their aspirations of back-to-back MIAC Titles and National Tournament berths a reality.

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

### Friday, March 4

- Women's Track and Field at MIAC Multi's  
All Day
- Men's Track and Field at MIAC Indoor Championships  
All Day
- Women's Track and Field at MIAC Indoor Championships  
All Day
- Gymnastics at WIAC Championships/NCGA Regional  
5 p.m.

### Saturday, March 5

- Men's Tennis hosts Central College  
8:30 a.m.
- Women's Tennis hosts Morningside College  
9 a.m.
- Softball vs. Dubuque  
12 p.m.

- Women's Tennis at Drake University  
1 p.m.
- Men's Tennis vs. UW-Whitewater  
2 p.m.

- Softball vs. Buena Vista  
4:30 p.m.

- Women's Tennis hosts University of Minnesota-Duluth  
6 p.m.

- Men's Tennis hosts Martin Luther College  
6:30 p.m.

### Sunday, March 6

- Men's Tennis vs. Depauw University  
10 a.m.

## Men's Tennis striving for excellence



Gustavus Sports Information

Clockwise from left: Head Coach Tommy Valentini provides some coaching points before the matches begin; Sophomore Mohanad Alhouni stretches out for the ball; Senior Andres Saenz returns a serve.

### Tanner Sparrow Sports & Fitness Editor

The Gustavus Men's Tennis team made quite a splash on Saturday, Feb. 27, earning three 9-0 victories over Bethel University, Concordia College-Moorhead, and Morningside College at home in the Swanson Tennis Center.

The first victory over Bethel came off of strong performances by Sophomores Mohanad Alhouni, Tommy Entwistle, and Zach Ekstein, Junior David Hagberg and Senior Andres Saenz.

In the win against Concordia, Sophomore Gabe Steinwand and Junior Joakim Ekfeldt bolstered the line up and played excellently, and Freshman Collin Sandgren made his singles debut, and didn't so much as drop a game.

The win against Morningside introduced more players into the lineup, such as Freshmen Chase Johnson, Patrick Whaling and Alex Senjem, and Sophomores Mason Bultje and Taylor Parr, all who won their respective matches.

The Gusties now hold a record of 8-0 overall and 5-0 in the MIAC, in pursuit of their 28th consecutive MIAC Championship. They expect nothing but excellence again this year.

"Gustavus has a successful

for success so stretching, sleep, and balanced nutrition is important," Thierhoff said.

With a number of younger athletes on the team, the importance of the upperclassmen becomes more crucial for success.

"Our seniors take the leading position as they have gained the most experience from the team in the past years and they know how the team has to work in order to gain the best. They are good motivators at times where

tennis team, thus the expectation is winning all of the regional matches and qualifying for the nationals at the end of the season," Freshman Can-Aras Thierhoff said.

The team has a set of principles that help guide it to success.

"We try to not only work hard individually, but work well as a team, supporting your teammates, motivating them and giving effort at all times. The recovery time is also essential

us younger guys feel down and they have great tips to make us feel like winner even if we lose the match," Thierhoff said.

Although only a freshman, Thierhoff has already learned valuable lessons from the upperclassmen and coaches.

"I've learned to try to focus on things that are within your control such as focusing during practice, and making the best of the time. Be happy to be around your friends and enjoy the mo-

ment," he said.

Tommy Valentini is in his eighth year as Head Coach of the Gusties, after previously serving as assistant coach from 2006-2009.

On Saturday, March 5, the men will play three non-conference opponents, with one squad playing at UW-Whitewater at 2 p.m., and another staying home to face Central College at 8:30 a.m., and Martin Luther College at 6:30 p.m.

## Senior Spotlight

### Hannah Erickson

Golf

**Q: What are your expectations for the season?**

A: The expectations for the season are pretty high both individually and as a team. I currently have a broken wrist, so I am looking to not let this be any major setback and continue to improve from the fall season. As for the team as a whole, we are looking to improve our scoring

average as well. We have our first tournament of the season March 12-13th in Arizona. It will be fun and rewarding to see all our indoor practice efforts pay off. Both with Arizona and all the tournaments to follow, we will continue to make our push to make the NCAA tournament.

**Q: What is your best athletic memory?**

A: My favorite athletic memory here at Gustavus has been the time I was able to spend in Florida over spring break. I was able to spend time with both the



Gustavus Sports Information

Hannah is a senior from St. Cloud, Minnesota. She is looking to bounce back strong from a broken wrist.

men's and women's golf teams as well as the Johnson family, who has been so incredibly supportive of our program. It was a week of playing amazing golf courses while creating memories with teammates and friends. Also, anytime beating St. Thomas has been pretty great, too.

**Q: Why would you recommend Gustavus?**

I would recommend Gustavus to prospective students because it really exemplifies the phrase "a home away from home." Whether you find your place with an athletic team, music, Greek life, or another organization, Gustavus provides a supportive environment that allows growth and to take on new challenges.