

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

Established 1891

March 11th, 2016

Issue 16

Gustavus hosts forum on sexual violence Administration sits down with students



Gustavus administration gathers in front of the Chapel for the Campus' forum on sexual violence.

Caroline Probst

Matthew Glaser
Managing Editor

On the evening of Monday, March 7th students, faculty, and administrators gathered in Christ Chapel to hold a forum on sexual assault. The forum was initiated at the request of President Bergman the previous week and featured a panel of administrators that answered questions regarding sexual misconduct policy and concerns surrounding sexual misconduct at Gustavus.

The panel consisted of College President Rebecca Bergman, interim Title IX coordinator Paula O'Laughlin, Dean of Students JoNes VanHecke, Assistant Dean of Students Megan Ruble, Sexual Assault Response Team Leader Patricia Dawson, and Vice President for Finance Kenneth Westphal.

The forum began with a welcome from President Bergman and then some ground rules for discussion were laid out by Jamie Hollis, Director of the Diversity Center. It was also

made clear that Counseling Center and Committee Against Domestic Abuse staff would be available for anyone that needed them due to the sensitive nature of the discussion that was about to take place.

"I was somewhat disappointed by the administration's response to many of the questions. I felt that it was essentially the same response over and over, either 'we admit we're not doing enough or the right thing' or 'we can't comment on that'"

—Leah Soule

The forum then moved into presentations from VanHecke

and Ruble. VanHecke presented statistical information from a 2015 Campus Climate survey that 5.62% of the 902 survey respondents reported having been touched non-consensually. She emphasized the scale of this number as it would equate to about 130 students that year being sexually assaulted to varying degrees.

She also gave a breakdown of the 39 cases the school has had go through the conduct system regarding sexual misconduct and the proportion of sanctions given out for varying violations. Most notably (as was brought up in the question and answer session later in the forum) not a single case ended with the expulsion of a student.

Ruble then outlined how the student conduct system works for sexual misconduct violations and some of the school's policy before the forum opened up into the question and answer session. The question and answer session was scheduled to start with smaller group discussions and then large group sharing, but by a show of hands it was decided to forgo the scheduled

plan and to continue the question and answer session for the entirety of the forum. Questions were asked in person by students, as well as anonymously submitted and then moderated by Kenneth Reid, Assistant Director of the Diversity Center.

Students asked questions on a wide range of topics but a common thread was sanctioning and concerns about students found in violation of the college's sexual misconduct policy being allowed to stay on campus.

Students were particularly concerned with the lack of hardline policy on what sanctions are fit to what violations in the sexual misconduct policy. As well as the question of why it was that students found in violation of the sexual misconduct policy are allowed on campus where they might repeat their offense, or cause victim-survivors hardship and distress with their presence.

Administration's answers focused largely around the problem of variance in cases that are brought before the sexual misconduct board and

how the varying nature of cases warrants different sanctioning, making hardline sanctioning rules too cut-and-dry they believed. They also responded to concerns of students being allowed back on campus by making the point that expulsion or suspension is not going to stop all sexual assaults from happening, and that a culture change is what is really needed.

As to making students feel safe on campus there were no solid answers, but whether to allow students back on campus after being found in violation of the sexual misconduct policy raises the question of second chances and that as a community we must consider just how we want to treat those found in violation.

Throughout the event, the panel repeated the point that they were open to discussion and changing policy but that it would take time. President Bergman announced she had

'Campus Forum'
continued on page 4

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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.

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Campus Safety Report

Monday, February 29

- Campus Safety responded to an unoccupied vehicle on Campus Drive and located the owner in the Arboretum and took an initial report of a verbal domestic dispute and student of concern.
- Campus Safety responded to a welfare check in the International Center.
- An employee reported the loss of campus keys.
- Campus Safety responded to a suspected drug violation in Norelius Hall. Three students were referred to the campus conduct system for possession of marijuana.

• A student reported the theft of a jacket from a common area in College View Apartments.

Wednesday, March 02

- An investigation was completed and six students were referred to the campus conduct system for an off campus incident that occurred on February 16, 2016 involving inappropriate behavior on the Gus Bus.

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in the International Center.

Thursday, March 03

- A Collegiate Fellow responded to a noise violation in Southwest Hall involving two students.

Friday, March 04

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at Uhler Hall.

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at the Schaefer Fine Arts - Art building.

- A student reported nuisance communications from an unknown caller.

- Four students were referred to the campus conduct system for underage consumption and underage possession in Norelius Hall.

- Campus Safety responded to suspected drug violation in Sohre hall. Three students were referred to the campus conduct system and one was cited by the Saint Peter Police Department for possession of paraphernalia. Two non-students were trespassed from campus.

- Campus Safety received an online report of a theft of personal property from the Lund Center.

Sunday, March 06

- Campus Safety responded to an alcohol violation on College grounds. Campus Safety referred one student to the campus conduct system for a 21 and over alcohol violation.

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in Uhler Hall. One student was referred to the campus conduct system for an underage consumption violation. The student was transported by ambulance to the hospital.

- Campus Safety responded to a noise complaint at Uhler Hall involving one student and two non-Gustavus students. Two non-Gustavus students were trespassed from campus for of-age alcohol violations.

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in Norelius Hall. One student was referred to the campus conduct system for underage consumption of alcohol. The student was transported to the hospital by ambulance.

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

Note: Case dispositions are available online by viewing the daily crime log on the Campus Safety web page: <https://gustavus.edu/safety/incidents/index.php>

Tip of the Week:

In Minnesota, severe weather takes different forms depending on the season. In late spring through fall, severe weather can include thunderstorms, tornadoes, hail, and straight-line winds.

Severe Weather WATCH: Conditions are right for severe weather to occur.

Severe Weather WARNING: Severe weather has been confirmed and is moving in a direction that jeopardizes the local area. GO TO SAFETY IMMEDIATELY!

Severe Thunderstorms: Rainstorms that include thunder and lightning, as well as possibility of various sizes of hail.

Tornado: Conditions are right for a tornado when a hot humid air mass collides with a cold air mass. Wind speeds of a tornado can reach 200 MPH.

Severe Weather Response:

Be aware of your location and the location of the storm shelter in the building you are in.

<https://gustavus.edu/safety/tips/weather.php>

If a Severe Weather Watch is Issued

- Listen to local radio and TV stations for further updates.

- Be alert to changing weather conditions.

If a Severe Weather Warning is Issued:

- If you are inside, go to the safe place in the building.

- If you are outside, hurry to the basement of a nearby sturdy building or lie flat in a ditch or low-lying area.

- If you are in a motor vehicle, get out immediately and head for safety.

As always, be sure your emergency contact information is up to date!
gustavus.edu/emergency

*The report contained within the Gustavian Weekly is not a full report. The full Daily Crime Log can be found online at <https://gustavus.edu/safety/incidents/index.php>

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Gustavus's new pet policy bans dogs on campus

New policy goes into effect June 2016

Monica Hood
Staff Writer

The campus received an email March 2, which outlined the College's new policy regarding animals on campus grounds and buildings. This policy, which will go into effect on June 1st, prohibits animals in all campus buildings unless they are for research, certified as a therapy/ service animal, fish, or in the homes of the residence hall professional staff.

"This policy is strictly to promote the wellbeing of our students, faculty, and staff" the Interim Director of Human Resources, Barb Lundgren said.

"This new policy is strictly to promote the wellbeing of our students, faculty, and staff"
—Barb Lundgren

However, many students feel that this policy is taking away a very powerful form of stress relief and love that animals bring to them. It did not go unnoticed that the dogs that are normally brought in during exam week, to help liven up the campus, were not here last fall.

"The dogs make everything a bit brighter" Sophomore, Alex Kelley said.

There have been numerous studies done that show the positive affects of dogs and human interaction including a reduction in stress, loneliness, and anxiety. One study which appeared in *Frontiers in Psychology*, reported that human and canine interaction increases the level of oxytocin which is directly related to stress relief and the lowering of blood pressure.

The new policy will also force Amp and Clooney, two dogs commonly found in the philosophy department, off campus.

"The real reason I'm sad has to do with the fact that I have had the privilege of witnessing the power of dog-human interactions multiple times a day, every day. I have seen the "foot traffic" in our department skyrocket. I have had the opportunity to interact with a much wider variety of students on campus than I see in my classes, because they come to see my dog, or stop me on the sidewalk to talk with my dog"
—Lisa Heldke

"Over the years, I have very much enjoyed having my dog on campus; I must selfishly admit that the policy makes me very sad. But the real reason I'm sad has to do with the fact that I have had the privilege of witnessing the power of dog-human interactions



With Gustavus' new pet policy, dogs are now allowed on campus.

Caroline Probst

multiple times a day, every day. I have seen the "foot traffic" in our department skyrocket. I have had the opportunity to interact with a much wider variety of students on campus than I see in my classes, because they come to see my dog, or stop me on the sidewalk to talk with my dog. People I have never met know my dog, and stop to talk to him. People who have done poorly on exams stop by to tell my dog about it. People who find it very difficult to talk with people find it easy to talk with my dog. People who miss their dog come to be shed on by my dog. People pretend to come to meet their philosophy professor, when really they just want to sit on the floor next to a dog," philosophy professor and owner of Amp, Lisa Heldke said.

The College states in their new policy that "pets can pose various health and safety risks to the campus community including allergic reactions to animal dander, excessive noise, discomfort around animals, fear of animal bites, and disease transmission."

This does not consider the benefits that dogs may provide on campus.

"I want to be clear that I have a deeply vested interest in this issue (I like being with my dog), but if it were only my vested interest, I would not say a word about the policy. It is because I believe that, for some (not all) members of our

community, dogs contribute powerfully to their mental wellbeing. I believe that dogs are so valuable for this purpose that it would be worth the college's while to create one zone of the campus where dogs are welcome, and where those who love dogs can go to encounter them. A number of workplaces, including colleges, have become dog-friendly zones, precisely because of their documented contribution to mental health" Professor Heldke said.

"The dogs make everything a bit brighter"

—Alex Kelley

As Professor Heldke stated, many colleges have invested dog-friendly zones, in fact Stephens College has allocated a \$3,000 scholarship to students willing to foster and rehabilitate not only dogs but other animals as well. Successful businesses such as Google and Amazon all open up a friendly workplace environment by allowing pets to be brought in.

In each of these places however, there is a pet-free zone where people who are allergic to dander, are afraid of animals, or simply do not like them, do not have

to worry about encountering them.

A study conducted by Virginia Commonwealth University found that between two groups, one working with a dog present and one working without a dog present, the group without the dog showed significantly higher rates of stress than the group working with the dog.

So, where can or perhaps, where should, the College go from here in addressing the Pet Policy? Many campuses have already set a good example in how dogs and service animals can be incorporated into campus life, without causing problems with students and faculty.

At Kent State University they have implemented a program called "Dogs on Campus" which was initially "to uplift the spirits of homesick college students who miss their pets" but has a much wider reach. "In addition to visits to campus residence halls, the Dogs on Campus volunteers are called in for stressful situations and campus emergencies" the website states. It is a college controlled pet therapy program that reaches a wide and important audience.

Disclaimer: The views expressed by the writer are solely those of the individual. They do not necessarily represent the stance of The Gustavian Weekly on the college's new policy.

'Campus Forum'
continued from page
1

commissioned a Presidential Task Force on Sexual Assault modeled similarly to the one commissioned on Diversity. This task force would presumably play a large role in helping to address issues of sexual assault on campus moving forward, and address student concerns on sanctioning and Gustavus's policies on sexual misconduct.

Student reactions to the forum varied with some happy with the administration's answers and others not satisfied.

"I was somewhat disappointed by the administration's response to many of the questions. I felt that it was essentially the same response over and over, either 'we admit we're not doing enough or the right thing' or 'we can't comment on that.' I am also concerned about the proposal of the task force and the limitations that exist through that type of change. I am particularly eager to see what interim measures the school can take to demonstrate that they are committed to action," Co-President of the Womyn's Awareness Center (WAC) Leah Soule said.

After the panel I asked President Bergman what she hoped students got out of the forum. She told me she hoped that the forum opened up discussion and dialogue to address the issues that students see, and that it would be the first step in making change at Gustavus, but that the conversation can't stop at the forum.

Success continues for Student Senate

Deven Kelley
News Editor

To say the Student Senate has been busy would be an enormous understatement.

The Student Senate didn't waste any time jumping right into second semester by welcoming new faces to the Senate, hosting new events and increasing their accessibility to the student body.

Just this past Monday, March 7, Student Senate hosted the Campus-wide forum on sexual misconduct. The event took place in the Chapel in a town-hall style forum opening up the floor for open discussion and questions. Co-President Bobby Rasmussen and Co-President Elect Hercheran Singh assisted the administration in facilitating the event.

In addition to hosting events, the extension of the Health and Housing committee, known as the Heart Champion, took initiative in hosting the Bystander CPR Training on March 8th in the Heritage Room.

The Senate has had much success in the turnout and feedback of events, so much so, the Take Your Professor to Lunch event is returning this spring starting early April. The Take Your Professor to Lunch event provides to students with the opportunity to talk with your professors and get to know them better over a free buffet lunch.



Student Senate meets Mondays to stay up-to-date on issues. Submitted

Student Senate also welcomed new members this semester. Sophomore and Management major, Syed Aizaz Haider is one of the new additions to the Senate as the International Center Representative. Along with a new International Center Representative, there were new Co-Presidents elected by the student body this semester for the 2016-2017 school year. Junior Biology major, Herchran Singh and Alex Shaikoski will take the spots next year for Student Senate Co-Presidents. However, the Student Senate is still looking to filling more vacant positions, including seeking candidates for the Diversity Chair as well as the Ombudsperson position.

The Ombudsperson position is based in the Ethics Committee Chair, Election Committee

Chair and monitors the conduct of the Senate. The new member taking the Ombudsperson position will join Senate for the remainder of this academic school and next year as well.

"This semester, we will have a few new faces join Senate after we fill all of our opening positions as we look forward to a busy and productive semester in Student Senate," Student Senate member, Abbie Swenson said.

The Spring semester is just getting underway for the Senate as they have plenty on their to-do list. Some of the charges and tasks on their agenda this spring includes: Budgeting, Implicit Bias Intervention Programming, visitation hours in residence halls, promotion of mental health, and the mirrors

in the Lund weight room.

The Senate continues to stay busy making a difference on campus but, more importantly, they continue to listen to the students and remain easily accessible by tabling outside the Caf every Monday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

"We look forward to a busy and productive semester in Student Senate"

—Abbie Swenson

"Senators are continuing to table each Monday to interact with and be more accessible to their constituents. We take the comments and concerns voiced at the table to our Cabinet meetings and discuss what our next steps could be," Swenson said.

By tabling outside the Caf, the Senate provides students with a chance to voice their opinions/concerns, ask questions and bring ideas forward for improvement on the campus.

Community Comment every Monday, is another outlet for students to be heard, as every Monday night a portion of the Senate meeting is reserved for the members of the Gustavus Community. Student Senate will continue to work towards satisfying the needs and wants of the Gustavus students.

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GUSTIE *of the* WEEK

Jaurdyn Dobler
Staff Writer

During her first year at Gustavus, now Senior Courtney Harbeck jumped head first into studying to become a dentist. Today, as she finishes her last semester of the Business Management major, she reflects that her proudest moment in college was having the courage to switch majors.

"I had been set on being a dentist for so long that allowing myself to admit I could follow a different path was scary. I had to learn to take a step back and trust that everything would be okay," Courtney said.

At the time, she wouldn't have guessed that by her senior year in college she'd already have a job lined up with Boom Lab as a Consultant Coordinator.

"Her ability to be open to changing her academic path is a model for what we hope all Gustavus students will do: learn, expand their horizons, be creative, be helpful to others, and know that each of those activities can continue to develop throughout life, not just while at school," Associate Professor in Library Dan Mollner said.

In addition to her major and Biology minor, Courtney has participated in various organizations on campus. She's been a Gustie Greeter, a member of the Lacrosse team, Volleyball team, Gustavus Mentoring Program, Student Senate, Pound Pals, Guild of St. Lucia, and the Theta Xi Gamma Sorority.

"I bet almost everyone who reads this article will either know Courtney or know of her

because she has created such a positive reputation for herself," Senior, and fellow Theta, Jessie Self said.

Out of all of her activities, Courtney says that being a Gustie Greeter has had the most positive impact on her.

"It's an amazing experience to be able to help first years and continue a connection with them throughout their four years of college. I love watching them find themselves and their identity," Courtney said.

"Her ability to be open to changing her academic path is a model for what we hope all Gustavus students will do."

—Dan Mollner

Those who know her say that she's a great role model.

"She does an amazing job welcoming first year students to campus and serving as a men-

tor. Through her commitments and relationships, you can tell Courtney is dedicated to giving back to Gustavus," Senior Alexa Peterson said.

Along with her dedication to giving back to Gustavus, Courtney also maintains a loyalty to her friends.

"Her personality is compassionate, caring, and when she asks 'how are you?' she really wants to hear your response. She's also one of the most positive people I have ever met," Senior Paget Pengelly said.

During her last semester, Courtney hopes to keep up with schoolwork but also continue to build upon her relationships. While she's excited for the future, she says she will always miss Gustavus and the experiences she's had.

"The sky is the limit for Courtney. She is self-aware, service oriented, and hard working. Those characteristics will take her far in whatever endeavor she wants to pursue," Board of Trustees Endowed Chair in Management and Leadership Kathi Funheim said.



Lindsey Taylor

Courtney will be a Consultant Coordinator with Boom Lab after graduation.



Lindsey Taylor

Courtney is well-known around campus as being a role model for first-years as a Gustie Greeter.



Lindsey Taylor

Friends describe Courtney as compassionate and positive.

Africa Night celebrates cultural diversity

Kim Krulish
Staff Writer

Gustavus Adolphus College is full of diversity and often hosts cultural events sponsored by different student organizations. An upcoming cultural event on campus is Africa Night hosted by the PanAfrikan Student Organization (PASO) on Friday, March 11.

PASO promotes the cultures of the continent of Africa and its Diasporas. The annual Africa Night celebration has been going on for more than ten years and will include a wide variety of events such as skits, dancing, and a fashion show. It will also feature a mixture of food from West and East Africa.

Gabe Grosshuesch and Michelle Agyen are the co-chairs for Africa Night.

Agyen, a Sophomore Economics major hoping to declare a major in French, considers this celebration of African culture to be a tradition of PASO.

"My favorite part was learning the dances," Agyen said. "And the food, of course. The food is always awesome."

Grosshuesch, a Junior majoring in Environmental Studies with minors in Peace Studies and African Studies, helped

select speakers for the event and choreographed the opening dance.

"It gives us the opportunity to take as much culture as we can and showcase it in a creative and fun way for all audiences to enjoy," Grosshuesch said. "My favorite part is dancing. I love dancing so it's a huge for me to be able to showcase my experience and share that with people."

Marieme Gueye, a Sophomore majoring in Economics with minors in Geography and Statistics, is one of the co-presidents of PASO.

She did a lot of work with marketing and advertising for Africa Week as well as the fashion show. She also choreographed a dance.

"Audience members can gain an experience of cultural acceptance," Grosshuesch said. "They'll learn about a culture they may not be familiar with."

PASO has changed things up a bit this year by implementing "Africa Week" with themes for every day of the week. Some of the events this week were folktales, a documentary screening, and a workshop on Islam in Africa.

On Friday night there will be two dance acts performed during Africa night from West and



Students perform traditional African dance and music at last year's Africa night. Office of Marketing and Communications

North Africa.

Africa Night is free and open to the general public. It is the biggest event that PASO does and is one of the largest and most recognized events on campus.

The organization makes sure

that the event teaches audience members a lot of things they may not have known about Africa before. Common misconceptions and stereotypes are set right.

"It's our signature event and we put so much pride into it,"

Grosshuesch said. "We love it and we love it when people turn out for it."

"We hope to see a lot of people at the event and that they enjoy it," Gueye said.

Africa Night will be on March 11 at 6p.m. in Alumni Hall.

Suffragette sheds light on women's rights history

Brady Lass
Staff Writer

Typically when films show the history of various forms of inequality in the past, the standard reaction I've seen from audiences is shock at how bad things were and some reassurance that at least the issues have been improved since then.

I don't think this should be the mindset when seeing movies like this. Sure laws have improved for African Americans, women, homosexuals, and other groups, but that doesn't mean the prejudice is erased.

These films shouldn't just make the audience feel glad everything's better now. They can serve as a reminder to society of what they need to improve on, such as the case of *Suffragette*.

As it is a British historical period drama, the release in the United States was limited in October, which is a shame because it has a solid cast and maintains relevance today despite the film taking place over a century ago.

Back in early 20th century Great Britain, working wife and mother Maud Watts experiences a major change in her life when she is invited to join the U.K.'s secret growing suffragette movement after she gives a testimony to secure the right to vote.

After some personal issues with her husband and the community, she becomes highly active for women's rights, even

when the aggressive police force her and her colleagues underground. She endures hardships alongside Edith Ellyn, Emmeline Pankhurst, Emily Davison, and Violet Miller.

I have to give props to the production design and cinematography. The costume and set designs stand out while fitting with the time period, and the cinematography adds to the intensity of a number of scenes in the movie that I don't wish to spoil (even if some of this is historical facts, they're not quite as wellknown).

I'm surprised the release in America was limited when there was an all-star cast assembled for this that have experienced some great success in the country. Carey Mulligan, Helena Bonham Carter, and Meryl Streep are great actresses that tend to get type casted a lot these days, but their roles and performances feel fresh for each of their respective careers while their emotional journeys are hard to hate.

It's also a nice touch to have Carter as one of the activists considering her great-grandfather was the prime minister during these suffragettes to show the progress of the activists.

As intriguing as the story is, however, I wish it was constructed a little differently.

No, I'm not saying they should erase or replace history, I'm saying they should have more of it.

Maud Watts serves as a lead

character likely to make it easier to experience the events with someone and not have to keep track of so many people. But it felt like there was more that they weren't telling us with how things went down back then, and it's not like the movie has too long of a run time to fit everything in.

It's only an hour and forty-five minutes, and it was an entire movement filled with activists who gave up everything to fight for what they believed in. There wouldn't be a lack of characters with what happened and who was involved. Maybe those extra minutes of content could have gotten them Oscar recognition, as everything else seems to work great for this.

Suffragette dramatizes a major event in the history of women's rights and for the most part does it justice with great directing, a solid cast, and a production design wellspent.

However, I wanted more from the plot not just because of the film's accomplishments, but because I know there's more to this than what I saw and to better emphasize the work of the women as a group and not just the perspective of one individual.

Regardless, if the goal was to remind viewers of the harsher times of women's rights and that it remains relevant today, then I'd say it's a job well done.



Suffragette stars Helena Bonham Carter, Carey Mulligan, and Meryl Streep. Submitted

Matt Falk cleans up comedy

Jeremy Pastir
Staff Writer

He's an interesting type to be sure. A Canadian Mennonite only a few years ahead of most attending Gustavus, oh, and it should be mentioned he's a standup comedian.

Describing Matthew Falk as a rare breed is as much of an understatement as it is selling him short of his abilities.

Born in April of 1989 and raised in a small Mennonite community a mere 30 kilometers south of Winnipeg, Falk began as an entertainer when he was only fifteen years old. However, at the time he wasn't performing his now well-known 'clean comedy' but rather was performing magic at children's birthday parties.

Only two years later, he was already a stand-up comic at school talent shows and local fairs, cracking jokes about puberty, his hometown, and (surprisingly) his family.

Falk fell in love with comedy at an early age, watching Ellen DeGeneres and Robin Williams on TV, and was immediately captivated.

"I just wanted to be like them so badly, so I think that's what motivated me to get into [comedy]," Falk said in an interview with *The Full Circle Ladies*, a Canadian talk-show.

Falk likens his early forays into comedy to playing, the way a child might see a doctor and pretend to be a doctor during playtime.

"I dreamed of being [a comedian] and that dream never left me. I just kept playing, as it were," Falk said.



Falk makes comedy relatable by talking about topics like weight loss, puberty, and morality.

Submitted

His salesman father and his mother, who runs a daycare, were both supportive, driving him to his performances.

"Sometimes my father is almost too helpful, like he would be recommending jokes about Bush on the way to my shows, and I'd be like dad, he's not their president anymore," Falk said in one of his earliest acts.

By his late teens, Falk was appearing at *Rumor's Comedy Club* in Winnipeg, and in 2008 he became the youngest comic in history to headline at the club.

After placing second in the *World Series of Comedy*, Falk

and his wife relocated to Abbotsford, B.C. for six months and then to Toronto for two years to pursue career opportunities and make industry connections in broader networks.

In the past four years, he has written for and acted on *Rock-ids TV*, a Bible-based television series for children aged 4 to 10, filmed a pilot for *Crossroads Television System* called *Summer Camp*, written or co-written three popular shows at *Winnipeg's Celebrations Dinner Theatre*, filmed a web series called *Out in the Cold*, and toured throughout the country.

"Every year we get more and more bookings, every year it grows, and that's incredibly exciting," adding that he headlined in Ottawa for the first time last year, "The number of gigs is increasing, but so is the quality of gigs," Falk said on *Virgin Radio*, a station native to Winnipeg.

Part of what makes Falk accessible to—and popular with—a wide range of audiences is that his act is completely clean, void of any and all vulgar material. This approach to comedy is informed by his faith. He references James 3:12: "Neither

can a salt spring produce fresh water." For Falk, who sees his comedy career as a ministry, saying filthy jokes on stage and then trying to tell people about Jesus in the same breath just wouldn't work.

"It doesn't make sense for my stage character to be swearing or cursing. I don't do it in my everyday life, so it doesn't make sense to write like that. I feel I'm a better representation of Christ when I choose my words wisely and I'm not making people feel uncomfortable," Falk said on *The Full Circle Ladies*.

While writing clean is a challenge, Falk also finds it fun. Sometimes when writing, he knows adding a swear to a bit would get a laugh in a comedy club, so the challenge becomes figuring out how he can get a laugh without using the swear.

"Vulgarity is no substitute for wit. If you can come up with a way to present the joke without swearing, then you spent the time and put the effort in to craft a better joke," Falk said on *The Full Circle Ladies*.

He rather gets around this more 'mainstream' form of comedy by talking about matters that are relatable to all people, with segments on puberty, weight loss, and other lessons on morality in a light-hearted manner. He always goes back to the sentiment that this is his ministry.

"I'm not athletic, I'm not smart, humor is what I have, and it's my best way to share God's love," Falk said in a local interview.

Matt Falk will be performing on March 16 at the *Courtyard Cafe*, where CAB will provide free desserts.

GAC's Got Talent kicked off 21st Building Bridges



Janet Jennings, Herchran Singh, and Gabe Grosshuesch won Gustavus' annual talent competition with a mash-up dance performance last Friday.

Submitted

SAFETY On The Hill



Mikayla Kvittum-Barr
Features Editor

On campus, the Gustavus Campus Safety officers aim to provide the safest environment possible to produce a healthy academic environment. Known by many as the killjoys that dole out alcohol violations, the responsibilities of the Campus Safety officers extend much farther.

In addition to responding to alcohol and drug usage, the officers are responsible for the security of the residence halls, academic buildings and surrounding Gustavus grounds. They enforce traffic and parking issues, re-key doors for safety, respond to health and safety concerns, patrol the residence halls, address environmental health and fire safety issues, manage campus escort services, and attend to theft and vandalism incidents.

On staff, there are 8 full-time officers, all who have completed First Responders training and participated in self defense classes.

When they are not responding to a call, officers patrol the campus either by foot or in vehicle to ensure a safe environment.

"Part of maintaining the safety of students is being out there, being visible, being seen," Officer Scott Meyer said.

Unfortunately, a large part of a Campus Safety officer's day-to-day responsibilities includes enforcing

campus policy by writing students up for alcohol and drug violations.

"I try to see them as if they were my kids and I'm looking out for what's best for them if they were in this situation," Meyer said. "It's part of the job. I always hope that most of my contacts end well and that it's more educational, rather than just negative."

Although some of the interactions between officers and students are due to a violation, many are positive and contribute to the healthy dynamic between staff and student. Officers get to know students when patrolling buildings, providing medical escorts, or helping with traffic issues.

As many faculty and staff at Gustavus would say, interacting with the students and giving back is one of the most enjoyable parts of the job.

"I always hope that most of my contacts end well and that it's more educational, rather than just negative."

- Scott Meyer

"It's the kids, they're my favorite part. I like to help. I like doing the positive things. Being an officer isn't always a negative thing."

Campus Safety also employs

over 70 student workers that work both independently and alongside officers. Students primarily work as dispatchers and Safe Rides drivers.

"I really enjoy working at Campus Safety. When the officers aren't on call they have very genuine conversations with the dispatchers. They do a lot for the campus and always have a good attitude about everything," Junior Annika Olson said. "Joe Pope loves to talk about his grandkids and always comes to work with a smile on his face."

"They do a lot for the campus and always have a good attitude about everything."

- Annika Olson

Gustavus Campus Safety officers are in place to provide the safest setting for personal and professional growth. While this does mean they are forced to write up students for offenses, they are here to help students make campus a better home.

"When I go home at night, I feel like I did the best I could and help the most that I could. And I feel good."

burglary offenses

12

unintentional residential fire

1

46

drug law violations referred for disciplinary action

2

weapons law violations referred for disciplinary action

232

liquor law violations referred for disciplinary action

