

Standing Up to Normalization



Amy Leininger
Opinion Editor

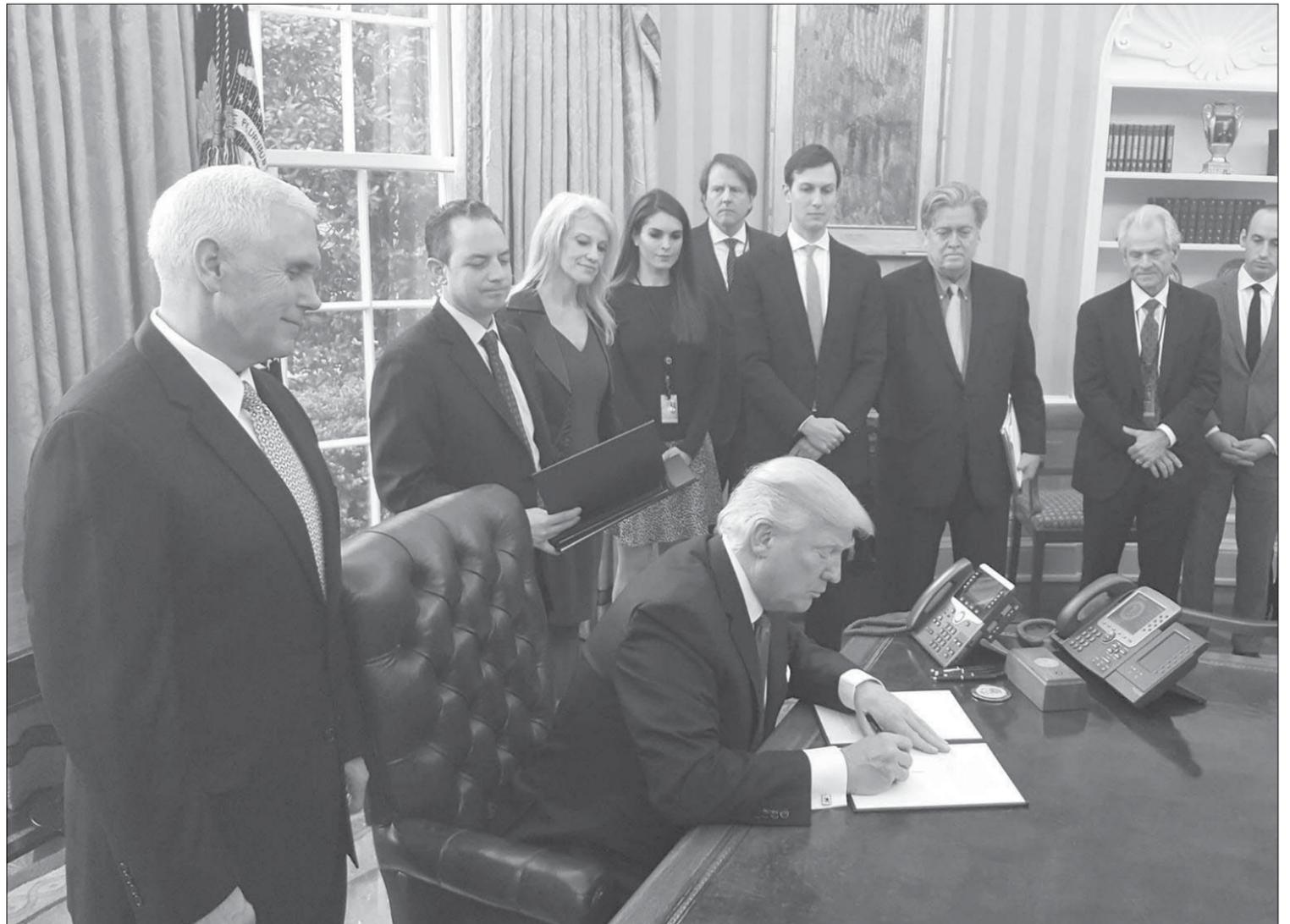
On Tuesday morning, in an interview with Fox News, President Trump blamed his generals for the botched mission in Yemen that resulted in the deaths of Navy SEAL Ryan Owens and numerous civilians, including nine children.

Trump, reflecting on his administration's first military action, said the mission was pushed by his generals.

"This was something that was, you know, just — they wanted to do," Trump said. "And they came to see me and they explained what they wanted to do, the generals, who are very respected." Trump concluded: "And they lost Ryan."

"They lost Ryan." That the Commander in Chief of the most powerful country in the world would abdicate responsibility for military decisions is shocking.

In the same day, in a meeting with state attorneys general, Trump implied that the recent outbreak of over 100 bomb threats directed at Jewish community centers and schools may have come from "the reverse" in order to "make others look



President Trump delivered his first joint address to Congress on Tuesday, receiving rave reviews from the media. His speech outlined his vision for America. Creative Commons

bad".

Those in attendance at the meeting, while struggling to understand the incoherent statement, noted that Trump used the word "reverse" several times. It appears that Trump is casting blame on either Jews, liberals, or anti-Trump coalitions for the rash of bomb threats against the Jewish community.

In any case, this is a horrifying statement. It is shameful that Trump would imply that the wave of violence against the

Jewish community is a false flag operation. While rightly calling the anti-Semitic attacks "reprehensible" in that same meeting, it is Trump who has behaved in truly reprehensible ways in his first 40 days in office.

From the ill-conceived and prejudiced Muslim ban, the state of terror that immigrant families now live under, the ominous relationship with Russia, and the attacks on the press, Trump's presidency is both a failure in leadership and a

threat to our democracy.

Not that you'd know that after seeing coverage of Trump's address to the joint session of Congress on Tuesday night.

Media pundits practically fell over themselves lavishing praise on Trump's speech, calling him "presidential".

CNN's Van Jones, a frequent Trump critic, emotionally declared that Trump's tribute to Navy SEAL Ryan Owens was "one of the most extraordinary moments you have ever seen in American politics, period."

This, apparently, was the moment when Trump "became president of the United States." Politico ran a piece the next day, asking, "Was this the Trump that could win 2020?"

All of this praise was offered after a single speech. It is disturbing how quickly the media rushes in to normalize a presidency that is anything but normal.

Even the White House is stunned by how well Trump's speech was received by the media. Robert Costa, journalist for The Washington Post, reported that sources in the White House "are frankly surprised at how pundits are warming to the speech."

Perhaps the Trump administration should not be so shocked. The media has spent the last year normalizing Trump, assuring the nation that Trump would "pivot", that he would become more "presidential".

Nevermind that Trump attacked a Gold Star family, look at his reverence to the widow of the Navy SEAL. Nevermind that Trump continues to scapegoat immigrants, listen to how well he controlled his tone of voice! Nevermind that Trump calls the press "the enemy of the people", he delivered an "extraordinary" speech.

It is dangerous to so quickly forget the un-presidential acts committed mere hours before Trump stood and faced Congress and the nation. Trump will continue to order military actions, and he alone must be held accountable for their success or their failure. He is the Commander in Chief, responsible for the lives of the millions of Americans in the armed forces.

Trump is also the president of millions of Jews, Muslims, and immigrants. He needs to start acting like their president. The waves of violence directed at Jews, Muslims, immigrants, and other minorities that have come in the wake of Trump's election is not abating.

If he wants to be truly presidential, Trump must stop his hateful rhetoric. It is a sign of weakness, not strength, to wield power while stepping on the backs of our most vulnerable populations.

We cannot normalize this violent rhetoric, and we cannot normalize violence. The least the media can do is hold Trump accountable. The rest of us are.

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your roommate is tired of hearing you complain.

Pitfalls of Economic Isolation



Sean Hinnenkamp
Opinion Columnist

Throughout last year's presidential campaign, many different ideas regarding ways to stimulate our economy were presented. From the aggressive socialist agenda of Bernie Sanders, to the extensive deregulation and conservative tax agenda of Donald Trump, these ideas spanned the economic spectrum of fiscal and monetary policy.

With the election of Donald Trump, I find myself concerned for the economic future of the United States, especially as it relates to international and trade relations.

One of the most consistent campaign promises heralded by the Trump campaign was a 25 percent tariff on imports, and a renegotiation of international free trade treaties such as NAFTA. With his inauguration, he reinforced these promises and has promptly sought to act on them.

This, amongst other policies he's enacted is troublesome. Why propose such an idea if it goes against the basic principles of free market economics? In



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A cargo ship hauls trade products in Savannah, Georgia. The United States engages in extensive trade, importing goods from all around the world.

the eyes of President Trump and other thinkers who share his idea, a tariff could protect domestic industries.

Cheaper foreign goods are driving out American business, and in turn forcing American companies to outsource jobs to reduce production costs in order

to compete with cheaper foreign goods. Is there some validity to this idea? Perhaps. However, I find such policies troubling.

A reason being, the price of goods overall will increase with regulations on trade. If one relies on bananas from Latin America, for example, a

tariff on imports will result in bananas becoming a great deal more expensive.

This is because the increased cost of imports will be passed on to the consumer in some form, even if that form is laxer safety procedures to reduce the cost of production. Likewise, with an import tax, less goods will be imported in general because of the increased cost, thereby reducing supply of the good, and resulting in a domestic increase in prices of the good, assuming other things equal.

Likewise, if a 25 percent tariff on imports is enacted, what stops other nations from seeing this move and enacting their own tariffs against us? If we say that our industries need to be protected from international trade, then it only makes sense that other nations would follow suit and make our exports more costly.

As one might imagine, more expensive exports do not help to stimulate trade, and subsequently GDP. As such, such an action by foreign nations would stagnate our growth and further raise prices of goods across the globe.

What about the renegotiation of international trade treaties? As it stands, Canada is America's largest trading partner, followed by Mexico, the European Union, and China. NAFTA, or the North American Free Trade Agreement, creates a free

trade "zone" between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.

This has resulted in cheaper goods, increased foreign relations, and economies of scale/specialization for all three nations. Now, it is quite clear that President Trump does not see international relations with some nations as pertinent, but our GDP and future stability relies on good international diplomacy.

Establishing mutually beneficial treaties like NAFTA helps to increase that international relationship and aids the consumer with exposure to cheaper goods which are internationally accessible.

So, as we move forward as a nation, I hope that President Trump's cabinet and chief economic analysts will think about the consumer and international cooperation before enacting these destructive policies.

Let's be a model of free market economics, and allow free trade to connect many different people from many different places, instead of closing our nation's economic borders.

Let's show the world that change and progress are not created in a vacuum; that sustained growth doesn't come from policies that focus on unsubstantiated arguments, but rather come from intelligent and responsible economic policies that allow trade to flourish.



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The Sound of Silence



Rachael Manser
Opinion Columnist



Submitted

Gustavus' arboretum offers a picturesque place to sit in silence and contemplate. Birds chirping and the wind in the prairie grass offer a perfect soundtrack.

We live in perpetual and inescapable noise. From the jarring alarm that interrupts our peaceful REM cycles and the music we blast during our morning showers, to the constant buzzing and chiming of our text and social media notifications, and the newest Netflix show we binge watch before bed, we rarely, if ever, find ourselves in silence.

Even when we sleep, we are often lulled by the sounds of the television or the humming of a fan.

One might argue that constant noise is the nature of the world we live in, and therefore we don't purposefully avoid silence, it's just hard to come by. However, we do actually avoid silence on a daily basis, maybe even an hourly basis for some.

We label silence as "awkward" and find it incredibly uncomfortable and even cringe worthy to be in a situation with

other humans without noise.

If there's a lull in conversation during lunch with friends, someone may even point out the awkwardness of the silence just to break it. You avoid eye contact with the professor when the classroom discussion drops off.

When you're on a date and you can't think of anything to say after racking your brain, you resort to talking about your pet turtle. You turn on the radio

when the sound of the road on your road trip becomes audible. You offer hollow words of comfort to a friend crying in grief. We do all of these things in an effort to avoid the discomfort that we associate with silence.

We constantly hear things around us, but the problem with our avoidance is that we don't actually listen. We hear the friend who is talking about that one professor who treated

them unfairly in class today, but we aren't really listening.

Instead, we are preparing a response to spew out as soon as the other person is done talking, even if it lacks any kind of substance. We dread the silence more than we value what the person is saying.

We think human connection requires conversation, but sometimes words aren't comforting. Knowing someone is

there to listen is more powerful.

Silence can be healing in all kinds of relationships. It demonstrates a profound level of comfort with another person; it's a recognition of someone's humanity to allow them to just be. It's a recognition of your own humanity to allow yourself that same freedom.

It also allows you to recognize the reality of the world around you. We often choose to walk around town or use public transportation with earbuds in, missing opportunities to hear the leaves rustling or the wise story of the old man to his grandson.

There's nothing wrong with noise, in fact noise can also be healing. Conversations with old friends can renew a downtrodden spirit, music can lift your mood, and the sound of the oven buzzer that alerts you that the brownies are done baking has the power to change your whole day.

Serving as its opposite, knowing silence helps us to appreciate the important noise in our life. The silence that follows a discussion question posed by the teacher indicates that the students are actually thinking and processing the answers they will speak.

The silence that follows the grieving friend's story of struggle indicates an understanding and empathy that makes the supportive words that will eventually be spoken more powerful.

If we become comfortable with silence, we allow ourselves to be able to think and feel more deeply and we allow others the space they need to be accepted and appreciated.

The Good, the Bad, and the Meh



White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer's contentious relationship with the press apparently goes way back.

His college newspaper once accidentally referred to him as "Sean Sphincter."

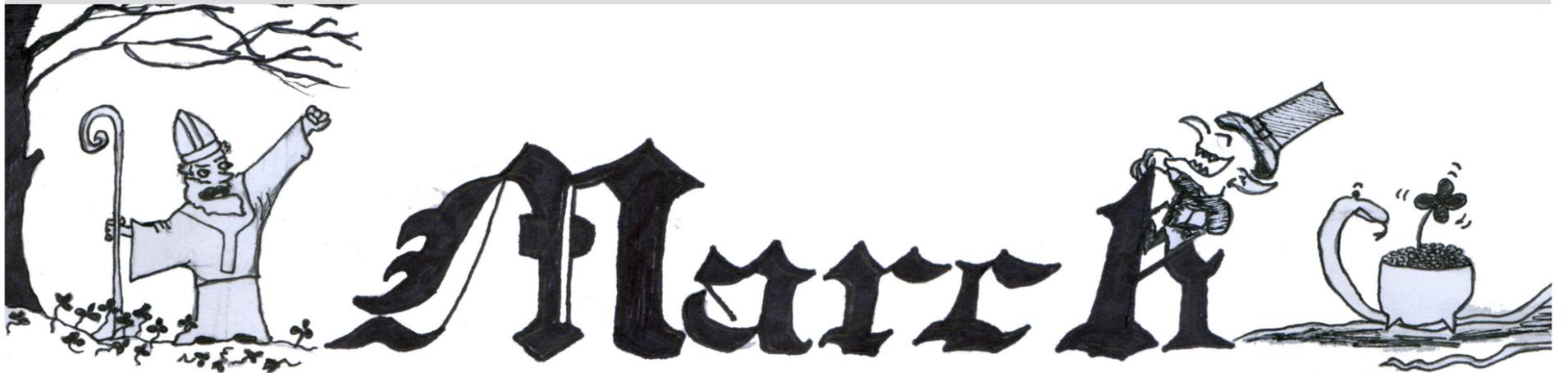
Seriously. Look it up.



Thank goodness The Gustavian Weekly never makes mistakes! No need to create more disgruntled people with inferiority complexes...

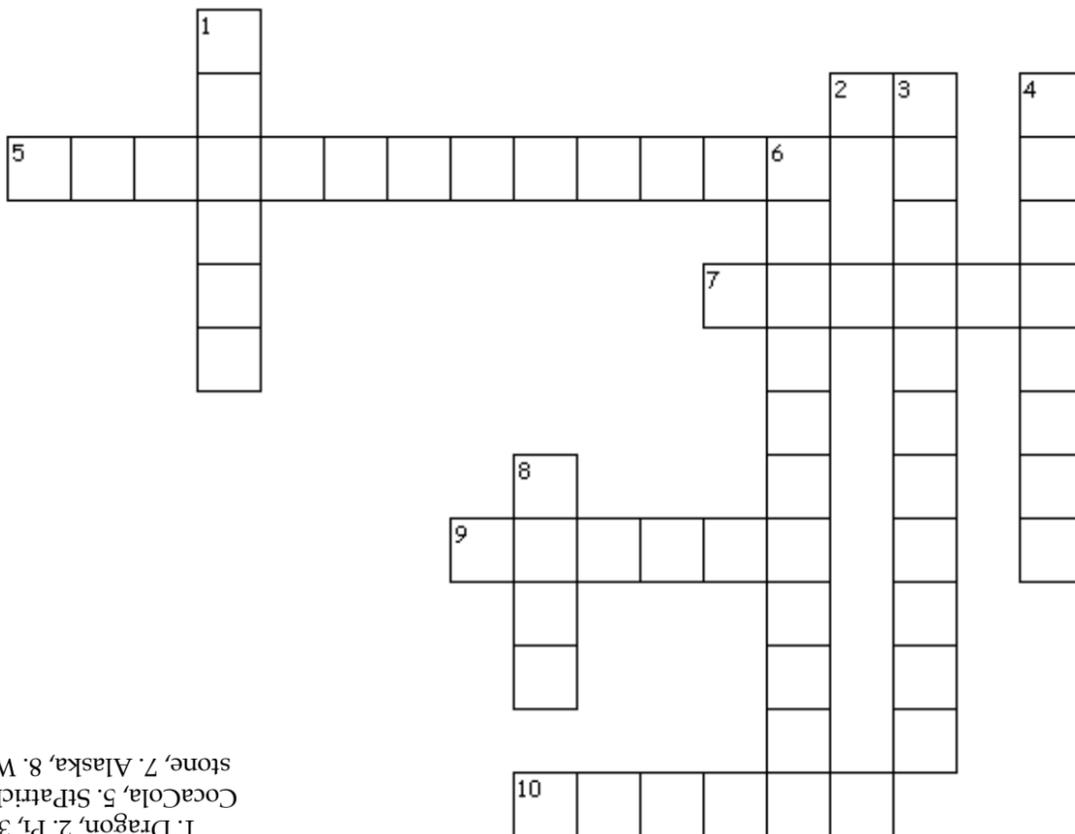


Was it worth it, *College Voice*? Are you proud of the wrath you unleashed in your little Connecticut campus in 1993?



Crossword

March is known by many as the best month of the year. If you disagree, you were probably born in a different month. Read the clues on to the right and fill in your answers in the boxes below.



Across

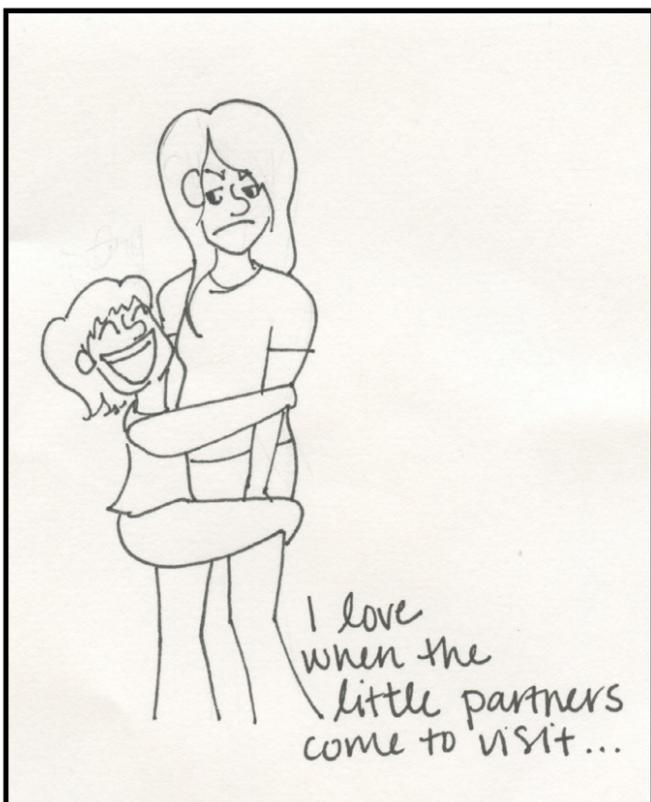
- 2. What mathematical constant is celebrated on March 14?
- 5. This day is celebrated in honor of one very famous Irishman.
- 7. USA acquired this piece of land from Russia on March 30, 1867.
- 9. What is the majority zodiac sign for the month of March?
- 10. This popstar, who turned 23 on March 1st, had a giant hit as a teenager with the song "Baby".

Down

- 1. The Asian country Bhutan became a democracy on March 28, 2008. What mythical creature crowns their flag?
- 3. Julius Caesar was assassinated on this day. Also the name of a popular movie with George Clooney.
- 4. What world famous fizzy drink was invented on March 29?
- 6. This famous national park got its name from a river named by the Minnetaree tribe. It was established March 1, 1872.
- 8. This Minnesota sports team is known to play their last full month of games in March, before they choke and get knocked out halfway through April.

1. Dragon, 2. Pi, 3. Ides of March, 4. Coca Cola, 5. St. Patrick's Day, 6. Yellowstone, 7. Alaska, 8. Wild, 9. Pisces, 10. Bieber

Comic by Kate Holman



Sudoku

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Track & Field indoor season comes to bitter end

Athletes look to bounce back during outdoor season



Gustavus Sports Information

Senior Austin Zollner competes in the 1 mile run at the St. Olaf Tostrud Classic meet on Feb. 18. At the following meet, the MIAC Indoor Championships, the Gusties placed ninth on the mens' side and eleventh on the womens' side. The next meet takes place at Point Loma Nazarene University March 25.

Jake Woodrich
Staff Writer

Last Saturday, the Gustavus indoor track & field season came to a disappointing end at the MIAC Indoor Championships, held at the University of St. Thomas. The men's team took home 9th place, while the women finished in 11th place. Unfortunately, these were not the results that the team was hoping for.

"We weren't happy with our (indoor) placement and plan to place in the top five at the outdoor conference."

—Sam ReMine

"The team is disappointed with our placement at the meet, but we were dealing with illness

and injuries the week leading up to the conference meet, so we are looking forward to the outdoor conference when we have a healthier team," Senior sprinter Sam ReMine said. ReMine's comments mirrored those of Junior distance runner Sadie Klug.

"To say the least, I was not pleased with my results, but I finished and did what I could for my team. As a whole team, again, the flu conquered us. In addition to sickness, there were a few injuries that prevented the team from succeeding to their maximum potential. Our team results suffered a little bit as well, but there are things as athletes we cannot control, like illness, injury and other competition," Klug said. The disappointing finish to the indoor season did not mirror the indoor season as a whole, however.

"The indoor season leading up to the conference meet was quite successful. Many people on the team were running some

great times and setting themselves up to do well at the conference meet," ReMine said.

"I am looking forward to what the team has to bring in the outdoor season. We are gaining a few individuals from other winter sports and I am excited to see what they can offer as we move into the outdoor season."

—Sadie Klug

For the men's squad, the indoor season consisted of multiple solid outings, including a first place finish at the Macalester Kilt Classic. The women's team also had a handful of satisfactory results at meets earlier

this indoor season.

"Overall, we had a great [indoor] season. At every meet, there was at least one person who had a personal best," Klug said.

Fortunately for the Gusties, there will be plenty of chances to get the sour taste of the conference indoor championships out of their mouths come outdoor season. The team is already hard at work training for the outdoor season, and the Gusties are looking forward to competing again.

"I am looking forward to what the team has to bring in the outdoor season. We are gaining a few individuals from other winter sports and I am excited to see what they can offer as we move into the outdoor season," Klug said. The team also has a few goals in mind for their outdoor season.

"Our goals for the outdoor season at this point is for the team to get healthy and to achieve some big PRs before

the conference meet. We weren't happy with our [indoor] placement and plan to place in the top five at the outdoor conference," ReMine said.

"Our goals for the outdoor season at this point is for the team to get healthy and to achieve some big PRs before the conference meet."

—Sam ReMine

The Gusties will have a full slate of competition later this spring, including a trip to San Diego, California in late March to begin their outdoor season. In late April, the Gusties will have their only home meet of the year when the team hosts the Drake Alternative Meet.

Women's Hockey drops playoff semifinal

Gusties lose 3-2 in overtime to St. Thomas



Gustavus Sports Information

Junior Katy Fuller competes in the playoff semifinal game against St. Thomas Academy on Feb. 25. The team lost 3-2 after a St. Thomas overtime goal, ending their season.

Michael O'Neil
Staff Writer

The Gustavus Women's Hockey Team ended their season last Saturday with a heartbreaking loss to conference rival St. Thomas in the MIAC playoff semifinal game. This matchup decided who would go on to play Augsburg College in the MIAC Championship game, and give an automatic bid for the NCAA tournament. Although the Gusties weren't able to advance to the finals, they had a spectacular year overall, highlighted by a regular season MIAC Championship and boasting a 17-6-3 (13-2-3 MIAC) record. They improved vastly from the previous year, in which they posted a 9-11-5 record (8-6-4 MIAC) and a fourth place MIAC finish.

The game was close from start to finish, with the Gusties striking first in the opening period. Just 4:13 into the game, Senior Emily Gustafson received a pass from Junior Katelyn Klein and beat the Tommie goaltender to take a 1-0 lead. This was Gustafson's ninth goal of the season. The Gusties rode that momentum, outshooting St. Thomas 8-5, and carried their one-goal lead through to the second period.

The Gusties added to their

lead early in the second period, after just 2:12 minutes of play. This time, First-year Amelia Vosen found Junior Erica Power, who gave Gustavus a 2-0 lead after beating the Tommie Goalie for her eighth goal of the season. The Tommies were able to respond less than two minutes later for their first goal of the game. The score remained 2-1 until the Tommies scored just before the last intermission. After the second period, in which both teams had 10 shots on goal, the score was all tied, 2-2.

"[The season] was a journey and when we started clicking it was fun to see."

—Coach Mike Carroll

In the final period of regulation, the Gusties were in control, but were unable to turn their numerous scoring chances into goals. They outshot the Tommies 10-2 in the final period, but overtime would decide which team would advance.

After 3:32 of play in overtime, the Gusties received a great opportunity when they got a powerplay off of a hooking penalty against St. Thomas. This was

the first penalty of the game, and it came at a very opportune time for the Gusties. Despite the advantage, the Black and Gold were unable to score, and their powerplay was cut short when Sophomore Laura Johnson called for roughing. Neither team was able to convert the powerplay into a game-winning goal, and the game remained even for another few minutes. Then, 12:24 seconds into the overtime period, the Tommies took advantage of a turnover in the defensive zone, and scored the game-winning goal.

Gustie goaltender Amanda DiNella was solid in net, saving 25 of 28 shots. This was just her recorded loss all season, and her first since Dec. 7. This difficult loss certainly doesn't define the great season that was had by the Gustavus Women's Hockey team. Head Coach Mike Carroll, who was named MIAC Women's Hockey Coach of the Year, said, "I'm proud of the team overall this season in the way that they hung together and kept improving. It is rewarding because there were a lot of gut checks going on in the locker room at the end of last season. It was a journey and when we started clicking, it was fun to see. That is what is great about sports."

The team featured three All-



Gustavus Sports Information

Junior captain Diana Draayer keeps the puck away from a St. Thomas defender. The Gusties had a final record of 17-6-3.

Conference players in Sophomore Goalie DiNella, Junior Forward Klein, and Junior Forward Power as well as three All-Conference honorable mentions. DiNella led the nation in the regular season by only giving up 0.92 goals per game and shares the national lead with 8 shutouts. Klein and Power both had 18 points on the season. Carroll led the team to its 14th

MIAC title during his 18 year career as Coach of the Gusties. As previously mentioned, they finished the year 17-5-3 and ended the regular season on a 13-game streak without a loss. Overall, the 2016-2017 campaign was a great one for Gustie Women's Hockey and the Gustavus community looks forward to watching their continued progress next year.

Bracket Bound

Women's Basketball cracks the field of 64



Gustavus Sports Information

Junior Mikayla Miller enters the team's playoff final game against St. Thomas University Feb. 26. The No. 13 Gusties lost the game 66-49 but will continue onto the NCAA tournament, playing their first game against DePauw University on March 3rd.

Tanner Sparrow Managing Editor

The No. 13 Gustavus Women's Basketball team fell to No. 2 St. Thomas in the MIAC Championship Game on Sunday, Feb. 26 by a score of 66-49. The loss is only the second of the season for the Gusties, who also dropped their first contest to the Tommies 75-69 on Feb. 1.

The Tommies used efficient shooting to pull ahead of the Gusties early, shooting 11-13 to take a 30-19 lead. Three-pointers were the bulk of the Gusties' 19 first-quarter points: two from Sophomore Justine Lee, and one each for Junior Mikayla Miller and Junior Miranda Rice.

The Gusties pushed back in the second quarter, holding the Tommies to four points in the first six minutes and 45 seconds of play, forcing six turnovers. They went on to outscore the Tommies 14-9 in that frame.

They left for the locker room trailing 39-30.

"We didn't establish ourselves defensively," said Head Coach Laurie Kelly. "We made some shots in the first quarter, but it really wasn't until the second quarter where we made some defensive adjustments to get ourselves back in the game."

"It came down to which team made more plays, and St. Thomas clearly did."

—Coach Laurie Kelly

At the three minute 30 second mark in the third quarter, Sophomore Taylor Anderson found the net on a three-pointer, bringing the Gusties within 4 at 45-41. Unfortunately, this was as close as the Gusties would come to taking the game.

"I thought, okay, here we have

a game. It came down to which team made more plays, and St. Thomas clearly did," Kelly said.

The Tommies led 50-41 heading into the final quarter, and they quelled any comeback hopes by holding the Black and Gold to only 3 points in the first seven minutes of the frame, while frequently finding the basket themselves.

The Tommies finished the night shooting 50 percent (22-44) on the day, while the Gusties struggled to find consistency, hitting only 34.5 percent (19-55).

Rice lead the balanced Gustie offense with 11 points. Senior Hannah Howard, Lee and Miller scored nine each. Miller also tallied two steals in the game to set a Gustavus season record of 84. The game was the 100th of Howard's career.

"We had a chance to kind of simulate what an NCAA game would be like," Kelly said. "We can learn and get better this week to prepare and hopefully

make a run in the NCAA tournament."

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—Coach Laurie Kelly

On Monday it was announced that the No. 13 Gusties (25-2) had made the 64-team field and would face No. 12 Depauw University (26-2) in the first round of the NCAA D3 Women's Bracket at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 3 at the University of

Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

Depauw earned an automatic bid to the tournament after winning the North Coast Athletic Conference. The Tigers are in their 14th straight NCAA post-season, and 18th overall. Depauw won the national title in 2013 with a perfect 35-0 record, and is 31-15 in national tournament play.

The Gusties are making their first national tournament appearance since 2008, when they lost in the first round to Simpson College 73-64. The Gusties have appeared in five previous national tournaments, and hold a record of 1-6.

If the Gusties defeat the Tigers, they are set to play the winner of the UW-Oshkosh and Calvin College game at 7 p.m. on Saturday evening. The bottom half of the eight team pod is hosted by Washington-St. Louis and also includes St. Norbert, Wheaton (Ill.) and Rose-Hulman.