

NEWS

Concordia
Tuition Rates

SPORTS

FIBA World Cup
Novig Sports Sexualization

A&C

Macklemore and Ed
Sheeran
Artist Spotlight

OPINIONS

Dining Options
Sydney Sweeney Ad

FEATURES

Paul Pribbenow: Two
Decades in the Making

GOV. TIM WALZ ACCEPTS BLAME FOR MN FRAUD, ASKS TO BE REMEMBERED FOR POLICIES

Jessica Tezoquipa news editor



Photo of Governor Tim Walz, taken by the Office of Governor Walz & Lt. Governor Flanagan in May, sourced from Wikimedia Commons

Governor Tim Walz, during his “exit interview,” accepted blame for Minnesota’s social services fraud, but claimed it should not define his political career, according to Star Tribune. This took place on Sept. 22 at the North Star Summit at the Guthrie Theatre, a platform for the Midwest’s leaders and influencers to speak and share ideas. Walz took responsibility for not doing enough to stop the fraud in the state, but wishes Minnesota remembers him for all the policies his administration enacted to make Minnesota “the best state in the country to raise a child.”

This interview comes after he announced he would not be bidding for reelection in this year’s midterm for governor of Minnesota, and after he lost the race as the Democratic–Farmer–Labor (DFL) Party’s vice president nominee alongside former vice president, Kamala Harris, in the 2024 election. Walz stated he would rather spend his time in office confronting the fraud in the state, saying, “Every minute I spend defending my own political interests would be a minute I can’t spend defending the people of Minnesota against the criminals who prey on our generosity and the cynics who prey on our differences,” according to NBC News.

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With the fraud scandal tainting his image, his approval ratings have dropped below 39% according to a poll conducted by the Mason-Dixon Polling and Strategy Inc. for KARE 11, the Star Tribune, and the University of Minnesota's Hubbard School of Journalism and Mass Communication. Also, according to a poll done by the Star Tribune and the University of Minnesota, 49% of respondents shared they feel that Tim Walz should not run for a third term.

nothing," according to CBS News. And while receiving much scrutiny, Gov. Walz defended his administration at the time, saying "we've spent years cracking down on fraudsters" and stating Trump is "politicizing the issue to defund programs that help Minnesotans."

In January, Walz met with Amy Klobuchar and encouraged her to run for governor. In the Minnesota

According to the Star Tribune, Federal prosecutors have stated that currently documented fraud in Minnesota reaches a few hundred million dollars, but could reach billions of dollars once fully uncovered. Previously, Walz stated at a news conference at the Capitol, "It's speculating, to extrapolate what that number is for sensationalism, or to make statements about it, it doesn't really help us."

"Every minute I spend defending my own political interests would be a minute I can't spend defending the people of Minnesota against the criminals who prey on our generosity and the cynics who prey on our differences."

- Governor Tim Walz

President Trump has largely blamed the Somali community, calling them "garbage" and saying "they contribute

primary in August, Klobuchar won the democratic nomination, with Lisa Demuth winning the republican nomination.

-QIPOC Presentation Party

East Commons, Sept. 29 @ 5:00 p.m.

-Augsburg Pre-PA Club Second General Meeting!

Hagfors 106, Sept. 30 @ 12:00 p.m.

-Business, Tech, & Government Career Fair

Hagfors Lobby, Sept. 30 @ 3:00 p.m.

-Unbounded Game Night

Hagfors 152, Sept. 30 @ 3:30 p.m.

-Book Club second meeting

Cedar Room, Sept. 30 @ 5:00 p.m.

-Echo General Meeting - Autumn and Newspapers they just go Together

Echo Office, Oct. 1 @ 11:50 a.m.

-Health, Science, & Social Impact Career Fair

Hagfors Lobby, Oct. 1 @ 3:00 p.m.

-Donuts and Coffee with the Psych Faculty

Hagfors 252, Oct. 2 @ 12:00 p.m.

-Pickleball Kickoff

Van Cleve Park, Oct. 2 @ 4:00 p.m.

-Paint & Unwind

East Commons, Oct. 5 @ 4:30 p.m.

-AASA 2nd General Meeting

OGC 100, Oct. 7 @ 12:00 p.m.

-Echo General Meeting - You 'OCT' to come

Echo Office, Oct. 8 @ 11:50 a.m.

-ASAS DIY Dorm Decoration

Student Lounge, Oct. 8 @ 6:00 p.m.

SPORTING EVENTS

-Augsburg Women's Soccer vs Concordia

Edor Nelson Field, Sept. 27 @ 7:30 p.m.

-Augsburg Men's Soccer vs Concordia

Edor Nelson Field, Sept. 30 @ 7:30 p.m.

-Augsburg Volleyball vs Gustavus

Edor Nelson Field, Oct. 2 @ 7:00 p.m.

-Augsburg Volleyball vs Carleton

Edor Nelson Field, Oct. 3 @ 5:00 p.m.

-Augsburg Women's Soccer vs St. Ben's

Edor Nelson Field, Oct. 10 @ 1:00 p.m.

-Augsburg Men's Soccer vs Saint John's

Edor Nelson Field, Oct. 10 @ 3:30 p.m.

Concordia Lowers Tuition Rates Due to Students' Financial Insecurity

Klaus Solko co-executive editor

According to Augsburg Student Financial Services, tuition for the 2026-27 school year at Augsburg University is \$47,600 with an overload fee of \$1,488 per credit. This does not include any financial aid or scholarships; however, it also does not include pricing if a student is getting a meal plan or living on campus. Furthermore, it does not include additional fees such as the "student wellness fee" and "green fee" and such; these fees are estimated to total \$899 in a year.

For the 2027-28 school year, the sticker price for Concordia University in St. Paul is going to be \$21,700 according to Fox 9 KMSP, not including room and board. This price is down by \$5,500 compared to this year. The new price will be applied to both incoming and current students.

Dr. Brian Fredrich, Concordia president, is calling this change a "tuition reset," as he claims: "We're rewinding tuition back to 2006 prices."

If Augsburg were to reset its tuition back to what it was in 2006, yearly tuition would be only a little more than Concordia's next year at \$21,960. College Simply has Augsburg tuition prices recorded all the way back to 1989, when it was \$8,115. This price has risen at least 2.2%, often more, every year, except for between 2019 and 2020, when it stayed at \$39,295, which is still \$8,305 cheaper than tuition currently is.

So why is Concordia cutting its prices, and why so much? According to Fredrich, Concordia is not competing with other universities for students; they are competing with students not being able to afford going to college at all. NSLS has



Photo of Concordia University, taken by user McGhievers in Oct. 21, 2014, sourced from Wikimedia Commons

reported that 42% of college students stress about their future financial security, and that 59% of students have considered dropping out due to financial stress.

If that statistic were to be applied to Augsburg's undergraduate full-time student body, it would be 1,520 students. Plus, that number is just an average, and it should be brought up that Augsburg's tuition price is \$2,700 above the nation's average for private schools, which could suggest that for our students the number with financial stressors is higher.

"College loans have been a big stressor for me. This semester I am doing a payment plan in an attempt to take out less loans, but that [still] feels like a crippling amount of money to be paying out of pocket for college, and it makes me feel like I can't enjoy my college experience or time in the city," says Augsburg student, Kaia Anderson.

Alternatively, Augsburg offers many scholarships that bring student tuition down. However, Fredrich

had a comment for that system of pricing too. "We [Concordia] believe that the high tuition, high discount [model] is fundamentally broken."

Concordia also will not be taking away their merit-based scholarships or any courses and staff. They are dedicated, even with lowering prices, to not making cuts. In fact, Friedrich says the only reason Concordia is able to drop prices is because of the growing number of course offerings.

According to Marina Villeneuve for the Guardian, the public has been experiencing rising skepticism towards the use of a college degree. At the same time, students are getting increasingly less satisfied with their colleges as they watch staff get laid off, programs cut and amenities declining in value. Not helping the problem, President Donald Trump has implemented policies that have cut federal research funding, which is a blow to all colleges and universities, especially private ones.

Team USA Brings Home Fifth Consecutive FIBA World Cup

Kaia Anderson online publishing coordinator



Photo of United States Trophy Ceremony at FIBA world cup, taken by user Zafer on Sept. 13, sourced from Wikimedia Commons

The International Basketball Federation (FIBA) recently held its championship on Sept. 13. During the game, Team USA won its 12th championship and extended its streak of consecutive wins to five. This year's team included players from various Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) teams, such as Caitlin Clark of the Indiana Fever, Angel Reese of the Atlanta Dream, and Napheesa Collier of the Minnesota Lynx.

The FIBA Women's World Cup began in 1953 and is held every four years. The inaugural games took place in Chile, where 10 teams competed, including the United States. The U.S. team took home gold after the championship match against Chile, winning 49-36.

They won again in 1957, facing the Soviet Union in a game that ended 51-48. Despite back-to-back wins, Team USA did not win another World Cup for 22 years. The third World Cup was hosted by the Soviet Union, prompting the United States and its allies not to participate. During these 22 years, the Soviet Union won six gold medals

and two silver medals, with five of those gold medals won consecutively. From 1979 to 1983, major basketball tournaments, including the FIBA Cup and the Olympics, lacked major players due to the Cold War. It was not until 1983 that all major teams competed again, including the U.S., the Soviet Union, South Korea, Australia and China. The Soviet Union won that World Cup, claiming victory in every game played. The 1998 FIBA Women's World Cup marked the first appearance of Team Russia after the Soviet Union dissolved.

Team USA managed to win again in 1979 and has won back-to-back championships since 2010. This recent winning streak has made the team the one to beat. In the most recent tournament, Team USA went 3-0 during the qualification round, defeating China, Italy and Czechia to advance to the quarterfinals. There, they faced Hungary in a 108-56 victory. This win sent them to the championship, where they beat France 97-79. The first half of the game was close, with France narrowly leading 20-17 in the first quarter and 45-43 at halftime.

At the start of the second half, the United States mounted its comeback when Breanna Stewart of the New York Liberty made a layup to put the U.S. ahead of France, 49-47. This momentum allowed the U.S. to score 30 points in the third quarter, making it 73-57. In the final quarter, the United States maintained its lead, scoring 24 more points and securing the FIBA World Cup.

The WNBA season has resumed play since the World Cup ended, with playoffs beginning Sept. 27. Napheesa Collier and the Minnesota Lynx have nailed down the #1 spot, and once again, Collier plays an integral role on the team everyone is looking to beat. The Lynx will play either the Dallas Wings or the New York Liberty in the first round of the playoffs.

“Napheesa Collier and the Minnesota Lynx have nailed down the #1 spot, and once again, Collier plays an integral role on the team everyone is looking to beat.”

- Kaia Anderson

Sydney Sweeney Novig Ad Faces Backlash Due to Sports Sexualization

Graciela Ryan contributor

Earlier this month, “Euphoria” actress Sydney Sweeney came under fire for her nude photoshoot for the sports betting company Novig. The ad features her posing provocatively with various sports equipment whilst promoting the betting aspects of Novig. Critics of the advertisement claim that the sexual portrayal of women in sports diminishes the hard work that is required for competitive sports, while others believe that it’s nothing more than an attention-grabbing ad for a 21-plus site. Jacob Fortinsky, the CEO of Novig, claimed that their goal was never to portray women in sports and only sought to create effective visuals and messaging, according to Sporting News. Regardless of intent, the ad had an explosive impact.

“I believe that it was used more as a marketing tool to catch the attention of men that use the app who already sexualize women rather than it being intentionally degrading [...] However, that’s still how it comes across,” states Teagan Walter, right side player for the Augsburg volleyball team.

“I think it sets back women in sports a bit [...] It’s advocating [for] sports as something that’s sexual when actually everyone works hard to get where they are.”

- Lilly Wold



Photo of Sydney Sweeney at Toronto International Film Festival, taken by Jay Dixit on Sept. 7, 2024, sourced from Wikimedia Commons

Female athletes especially have rallied around this cause and have taken the opportunity to show the dedication they bring to their sports, proving that it’s more than just appearances that define them. Athletes and companies such as gymnast Gracie Kramer, boxer Skye Nicholson, runner Mary McCarthy, and The Australian Institute of Sports were just a few of the many who came forward to condemn the advertisement. Women’s struggle for recognition in sports is a long one and an ad that sexualizes their bodies and lifestyle is taken as a major setback for all the advocacy that’s been done in the past few decades.

“I think it sets back women in sports a bit [...] It’s advocating [for] sports as something that’s sexual when actually everyone works hard to get where they are,” says Lilly Wold, forward on the Augsburg women’s hockey team.

According to NBC, rather than making a direct statement, Sweeney took to social media to post various female athletes such as Serena Williams and

Megan Rapinoe who also posed nude for magazines in a way to suggest that she is not the only woman who has done this. Sweeney herself is no stranger to controversy; just last year she had an American Eagle ad that had alarming statements regarding “good jeans,” that has often been attributed to a play on words for “good genes,” which critics likened to white supremacist talking points. It’s also worth noting that Sweeney has the backing of many right-wing figures who endorse her appearances in these contentious ads. President Donald Trump himself publicly praised her on Truth Social following the backlash she garnered from the American Eagle ad.

Despite the negativity, the Sydney Sweeney Novig ad has given an opportunity for women and girls everywhere to show the world what women’s sports really looks like: tireless work, dedication and perseverance.

Macklemore's Removal from Ed Sheeran Tour Sparks Backlash

Alexis Aryeequaye contributor



Photo of Macklemore performing on This Unruly Mess I've Made Tour, taken by Markus Felix on March 24, 2016, sourced from Wikimedia Commons

Conversations on how artists should use their platform politically have begun after English singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran removed American rapper Macklemore as an opener on his North American tour. Macklemore was removed as an opening act from the remaining U.S. dates of Sheeran's Tour after making pro-Palestinian statements during performances at MetLife Stadium. During his set, Macklemore shouted "Free Palestine" before performing "Hind's Hall," his protest song inspired by pro-Palestinian student demonstrations. The rapper has been outspoken about the genocide in Gaza and has repeatedly criticized the Israeli government's actions. His performances received backlash from some pro-Israel organizations, but Macklemore has maintained that criticism of the Israeli government should not be equated with antisemitism.

After the performances, other venues reportedly objected to Macklemore remaining on the tour. Sheeran said he attempted to negotiate with venues but was ultimately unsuccessful. "Macklemore

coming off tour was the promoter's decision; it was not mine," Sheeran wrote in a statement on Instagram. He added that Macklemore's contract was with the tour promoter, not with him. Sheeran also defended his decision to continue the tour, saying he would not abandon fans, crew members and musicians who depended on the concerts for work. The singer initially resisted becoming publicly involved in the political debate. "I am not complicit," Sheeran wrote. "I have my personal views on this devastating conflict." He added that choosing not to publicly discuss those views did not mean he did not care. Sheeran said he had traditionally avoided using his professional platform for politics because his audience includes people from different backgrounds and ages.

However, many fans on social media have called out Sheeran on what they view as hypocrisy. At the beginning of the Russia-Ukraine war in 2022, Sheeran, among other artists, performed at a televised benefit concert to support victims of the war. "I respect Macklemore's strength of purpose to stand up and

shout for what he believes," Sheeran wrote. "However, there is room for multiple approaches to the same end: peace." His response did not end the controversy. The remaining supporting performers and his touring band subsequently withdrew from Sheeran's tour following Macklemore's removal, intensifying the criticism of the situation.

Days later, Sheeran addressed the controversy on stage during a concert at Lincoln Financial Field. Speaking directly to the audience, Sheeran acknowledged criticism of his handling of the situation. "I've had to take and make difficult decisions, and I am making mistakes, and I'm so, so sorry," Sheeran said. He also expressed concern about venues attempting to control what performers can say onstage, telling the audience he was "deeply worried" about venues pre-approving performances.

Sheeran then addressed the Israeli-Palestinian genocide more directly than he had previously. He described the Oct. 7, 2023 attack in Israel as horrific while calling the situation in Gaza "catastrophic, unjustifiable and disproportionate." Sheeran continued on to say "I have tried in my career not to be a political commentator of any kind because I want my music and shows to be about unity, not division. But this is a humanitarian issue, and I cannot hide how I feel about it anymore." Despite being dropped, Macklemore has said he does not resent Sheeran.

Artist Spotlight: Maija Terrio-Johnson

Hi, my name is Maija, and I'm from Cloquet, Minnesota. I'm a first-year at Augsburg and a social work major. Art is a safe space of mine, and I believe creating is what makes the human experience. I'm still finding my identity as an artist, but I like having fun with the process of the things I make and letting ideas flow as they come. I'd describe my work as bright, colorful, and whimsical. Creating brings me purpose and joy!



Photo of Maija Terrio-Johnson



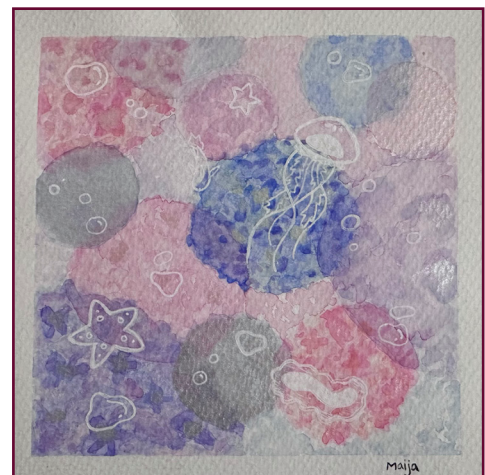
"snack pop" acrylic marker on paper



"let me fly to my room" watercolor and ballpoint pen on paper



"i float like a betta" oil pastel on paper



"hydrangea reef" watercolor and gel pen on paper

Augsburg Students Are Starving for Dining Option Clarity

Emerson Pieper *staff writer*

For many college students, finding time to eat can be a big struggle to fit into an already full schedule. Between classes, studying, jobs, extracurriculars and simply trying to have a life outside of school, getting a meal is not always as easy as it sounds. That is why it is so frustrating to see the dining options on campus closing at 2 p.m. instead of their expected 7-8 p.m. closing time. If you are someone like me who has to have a reminder to eat because of how busy you are, then you can most likely understand my frustration and have the same issues with the recent, unannounced schedule change.

A student with afternoon classes could leave class expecting to grab dinner or coffee from either Nabo or Einstein's only to get there and discover that the options available to them have already been closed. Not every student has food swipes to use either, which makes having other affordable dining options on campus even more important.

Augsburg student Klaus Solko has described the problem well: "As a busy college student, sometimes the mere task of getting a meal can be a struggle. This struggle has only been exacerbated by dining options on campus closing early. While I understand it is an uncontrollable issue, they could at least update the website with the new hours." If hours have changed, students should not have to find out by showing up at a closed storefront. Campus websites and other dining information should be updated as soon as possible. Accurate information is the bare minimum when students are planning their days around where and when they can eat. Even if the early closures are temporary,

students deserve to know what to expect before they make the trip across campus.

"As a busy college student, sometimes the mere task of getting a meal can be a struggle. [...] While I understand it is an uncontrollable issue, they could at least update the website with the new hours."

- Klaus Solko

If there are not enough workers to operate until their expected closing time, then the solution should be finding more people to fill those shifts, not stretching the existing staff thin. I do want to stress that the workers should not be expected to take on extra hours simply because the campus is struggling to keep its dining options open. Staffing can be difficult, and hiring more employees may take time, but that does not mean the problem should be ignored. Investing in more workers would help support the current employees while also making it possible for students to have access to food later in the day. It would be a benefit to both the people working in the dining locations and the students who depend on them.

Campus dining is more than a convenience. For many students, especially those who spend most of their day on campus, it is an important part of having access to food during a busy schedule. Students should not have to reorganize their entire day around an unexpected 2 p.m. closing time if there is no change to the website. If a dining option is supposed to be open until 8 p.m., students should be able to reasonably expect that it will be open until 8 p.m.

A campus that knows students spend much of their day here, especially commuters with three hour night classes and those who live on campus, should also make sure that students can eat here. Six hours is a long time to lose from the original schedule. By investing in more employees and keeping dining information up to date, Augsburg can help make campus dining more accessible and reliable for everyone.

Sydney Sweeney's Sports Ad Yields A Major Step Back for Women

Teyah Parent *features editor*

Sydney Sweeney's recent sports betting advertisement is incredibly disappointing. It's not that she chose to be provocative, not that women are required to consistently present themselves modestly and not even because I hate Sydney Sweeney. The problem is that the advertisement associates successful women with the willingness to sell their bodies.

The campaign for the company Novig places Sydney Sweeney in a series of sports while emphasizing her sex. She poses nude with sporting equipment covering her chest and crotch while in athletic spaces such as baseball, basketball, or hockey. Despite being barren and talking quite seductively, she repeatedly insists that the underlying meaning is simply sports betting. Anyone with critical thinking skills knows better. This isn't subjective. This advertisement—which is supposed to be promoting Novig's sports betting app—uses Sydney Sweeney's body to gain viewership. Sydney Sweeney is an individual performer and, in this case, a participant in a much larger advertising system. She is also an equity holder and creative partner in Novig; her involvement goes beyond appearing in front of the

camera. This campaign is something we should have outgrown. It is a retreat into an extremely outdated and misogynistic formula: put an attractive woman in front of the camera, make her body the centerpiece and all of a sudden it's okay because she agreed to participate. A woman can make that choice for herself, but the cultural message created by an advertisement must be taken into consideration.

There is not a place on this earth where the roles could be reversed. We would never have a Kalshi ad starring an oversexualized male actor posing with his bare crotch behind a basketball and insinuating to the viewer to bet on sports. I am not advocating for that either. It is simply infuriating how women are still being shown and interpreted in the media. Our worth is not defined by how sexy we are. Feminism has spent decades dismantling the idea that a woman's greatest value is how effectively she can attract attention. And then an advertisement comes along and tells us, essentially, that we are still buying the same idea. Women have spent so long trying to be seen as more than our bodies for decades, and Novig's directing of Sydney Sweeney has set this movement back.

This also creates a spur of journalistic problems. Controversial advertising functions as a machine for generating its own news coverage. The campaign has created outrage. Journalists write about the atrocity, social media amplifies the articles and suddenly an advertisement that might otherwise have been ignored becomes a cultural event. Controversy and virality have to have been central to the campaign's strategy, as in many other controversial campaigns throughout the decade. Journalism is becoming free advertising for companies that manufacture controversy. Every headline, reaction video and social-media debate keeps the brand in public conversation. That should make journalists pause.

That is not progress. It is a million steps backwards. With people like Sydney Sweeney and companies like Novig at the head of these decisions, the feminist movement has been brought down. I fear that women like Sydney Sweeney are not thinking beyond a paycheck. They are not thinking about the impact this has on female athletes, journalists, directors and women as a whole. We as a society should have enough media literacy skills to understand that this advertisement is harmful and disgraceful.

“We would never have a Kalshi ad starring an oversexualized male actor posing with his bare crotch behind a basketball and insinuating to the viewer to bet on sports.”

- Teyah Parent

Paul Pribbenow: Two Decades In The Making

Emerson Pieper *staff writer*

When Paul Pribbenow first arrived, he witnessed plenty of doubts about what Augsburg could become. Some saw it as a small college in the middle of the city, short on money and facing too many challenges to become something larger. Twenty years later, that perception has become very different.

As he looks back on his presidency, the changes that matter most are not necessarily the ones that can be measured in building or fundraising totals. What makes him proudest is the diversity of Augsburg's students. During his first semester as president, 18% of students were students of color. In recent years, that number has reached almost 80%.

Augsburg has positioned itself to educate the next generation of leaders in an increasingly diverse country. He sees that as part of a much older Augsburg tradition: meeting students where they are and adapting to what they need.

"For 157 years, we've essentially done the same thing," he said. "It's just that the population looks very different because of what's happened in our country."

That change also challenged another perception he encountered when he arrived. Augsburg had long been associated with preparing teachers, preachers, and social workers, rather than students who wish to enter in business or entrepreneurship. But the university's business school is now its largest, and some of Augsburg's major donors have built careers as business owners and entrepreneurs.

Pribbenow shared that there have been profoundly glamorous moments: such as traveling internationally, meeting senators and legislators, hosting distinguished guests and even traveling to Norway to give the King an honorary degree.

He acknowledged his privileged position and expressed great gratitude for his tenure, but behind those experiences is the reality of running a large institution. Augsburg has a roughly \$140 million budget, about 500 employees, 3,500 students and extensive property around the world; it is essentially running a big business. "I will miss the place, but I won't miss the job," he said.

The job of a university president requires knowledge of nearly every corner of university life, from admissions and finance to fundraising and academics. It also requires making decisions when the consequences are not always clear. He describes himself as someone who tends to say yes, largely because he believes people should be willing to try new things. Not every partnership or idea has worked exactly as planned, and his philosophy is not to avoid those mistakes, but to learn from them. "I sometimes have to say, 'okay, I learned from that and what am I going to do now?'"

That willingness to adapt became especially important during the crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic. Unlike many crises, there was no playbook and little information about what would happen next. There were many days when he felt that he did not have a clue about what was going to happen. The Augsburg administration leaned on other private

colleges in Minnesota, whose presidents met regularly to compare what they were learning, as well as assistance from the state health department.

Other crises followed, including the aftermath of George Floyd's murder and Operation Metro Surge. Each came with different circumstances, but they taught him the same lesson: sometimes preparation cannot account for everything.

Pribbenow expressed that the administration had thought ahead extensively about what they could do in terms of campus safety during Operation Metro Surge, but after

"The job of a university president requires knowledge of nearly every corner of university life, from admissions and finance to fundraising and academics. It also requires making decisions when the consequences are not always clear."

- Emerson Pieper

Paul Pribbenow: Two Decades In The Making (Cont'd)

a student had been detained that first weekend in December last year, Pribbenow had seen that all of their protocols did not work as he had hoped.

For him, the response was not about having every answer. It was about adapting. Augsburg's resilience, he said, is one of the university community's defining characteristics. When nearly 400 students felt they could not safely return to campus last spring, faculty and staff came together and built schedules allowing those students to take online classes in a roughly two-week time frame.



Photo of Paul Pribbenow, taken by Teyah Parent on Sept. 21

This showed him that this place understands why he is here and what they are here to do. After years of balancing those responsibilities, retirement brings a surprisingly simple answer to the question: "What will you miss?" He will miss Augsburg itself.

He described the campus and surrounding neighbourhood as an "extended classroom." He will miss how deeply Augsburg's identity is connected to its location in Minneapolis. To him, the setting of the university is all part of the education students receive.

When he imagines what he will remember twenty years from now, he does not hesitate to say that the opening of Hagfors Center is his pride and joy. When he arrived, Augsburg had been trying to raise money for a science building without much success. Instead, the university developed a broader vision that brought science, business and religion together under one roof. The project began during the 2008 recession and took years to complete.

"It transformed people's belief that we could actually raise that much money," he said. The building has also changed the geography of the campus, replacing a collection of rundown houses with state-of-the-art facilities. It became a real magnet for prospective students while giving students, faculty and staff a new space to work and learn. It was a moment when Augsburg's sense of possibility became tangible. After more than two decades, that is the clearest thread running through his presidency.

Paul Pribbenow has spent 20 years at Augsburg, and he acknowledges that the job has only become more difficult. He hopes the next president will come to Augsburg willing to love the institution as it is: a little messy, a little gritty and deeply grounded in its neighbourhood. He also hopes the next president will embrace Augsburg's tradition of faith. The university no longer requires its president to be Lutheran, but he believes its Lutheran heritage and the faith surrounding the university remains an

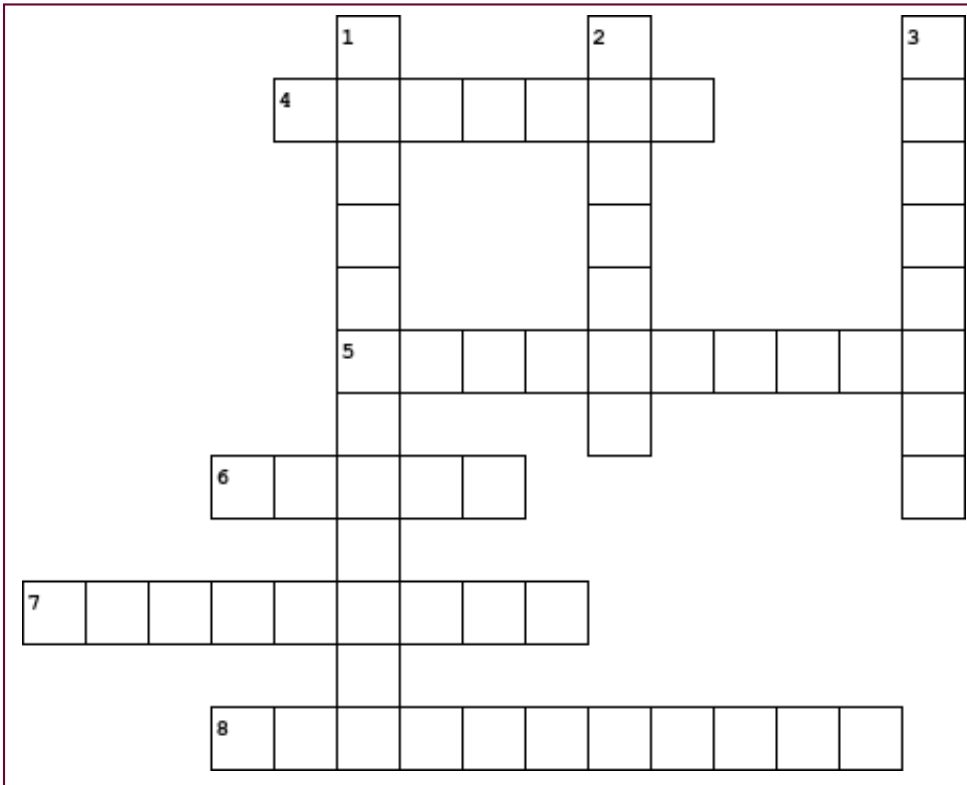
important part of what makes Augsburg distinct in the emphasis on vocation and commitment to its neighbours.

Pribbenow strongly believes that Augsburg can become more than what people expected it to be, provided it remains willing to meet its students where they are. That is his legacy.

"[Paul Pribbenow] hopes the next president will come [...] willing to love [Augsburg] as it is: a little messy, a little gritty and deeply grounded in its neighbourhood."

- Emerson Pieper

Cryptid Crossword



Last Week's Answers:

1. Garfield
2. Calvin And Hobbes
3. Popeye
4. Archie
5. Peanuts
6. The Addams Family
7. Superman
8. Dilbert
9. Heathcliff
10. Conan The Barbarian

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*Do you want to win a Polaroid
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crossword puzzles you know and
love? Then you would love our new
Crossword Contest!*

*To enter, email echo@augsborg.edu
with your completed crossword!
Each completed crossword puzzle
is worth one entry. All entries are
due before the distribution of the
next issue. The more you solve, the*

Across:

4. Incredibly famous Cryptid, with a photo of her in her signature hunched walk in the forest
5. This little creature from Puerto Rico is known to kill and drain the blood of goats
6. "America's Loch Ness Monster" is named after the lake that it's in, Lake Champlain
7. It's a simple cryptid, combining a rabbit with antlers.
8. Not to be confused with the East Coast Hockey team, this cryptid is also known as the "Mother Leeds 13th Child"

Down:

1. This tall, white ghostly creature loves walking in California, aptly named "The Fresno"
2. This insect-related flying dark creature haunts West Virginia and has a statue commemorating him
3. This smelly, hairy creature is Florida's version of 4-Across

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Contributors & Artist Spotlights: \$15 / article

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