

Re-evaluating what it means to be Hmong



Traditional Hmong dress and culture.

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Ally Xiong
Opinion Columnist

It's hard being Hmong. Honestly, I used to hate it and sometimes I still do.

I didn't understand why I was born as a Hmong female and why I had to follow certain traditions.

I thought I was living in a country that's known for its independence, freedom, and (growing) equality, but then I came to realize that, yes I do live in that country, but that is not my culture, my history.

I got into constant fights and arguments with my family and myself.

I was confused about who I was and what the "right" person was, who I wanted to be and who I should be.

Was I not a good daughter if I didn't portray Hmong traditions because some of them were the exact opposite of what I believed in, what I was pas-

sionate about?

Is being an American, living in westernized culture, and being a bit "white-washed" bad?

Was I not a good daughter if I didn't portray Hmong traditions because some of them were the exact opposite of what I believed in, what I was passionate about?

These are four reasons to why being Hmong (a Hmong female) annoyed me, irritated me, confused me, and honestly, hurt me.

1. I hated how no one knew what Hmong was.

What I hated more than that though was how ignorant people were when you told them what Hmong was.

I know not everyone is like that, but still, it bothered me.

People: "Hey what ethnicity or race are you?"

Me: "I'm Hmong."

People: "What's that?"

Me: I tell them what Hmong is.

People: "Ohhh so you're Chinese? Japanese? Korean?"

Me: "No, I'm Hmong."

People: "Um, okay."

2. Gender roles are definitely one thing that bothers me about Hmong culture: the patriarchal Hmong tradition.

The men were always favored and was ruled "superior", while the women were last priority, oppressed, and were sometimes portrayed as objects.

I didn't like how I had to cook, clean, and cater to the men while they sat around doing nothing.

I didn't like how I wasn't allowed to do certain things or hang out with friends or even family members.

It felt like I was bound to all male beings and would serve them for the rest of my life.

Who I am and what I wanted, though, was equality for all genders because we too are human beings.

3. Although this could be for any culture, all Hmong people know this is true within the Hmong community.

Gossip travels like there's no tomorrow within the community.

You tell someone one thing and the next thing you know, everyone knows.

What's worse than gossiping gossip, though, is that the important issues such as domestic violence, child abuse, and sexuality are either taboo or swept away.

I don't like people knowing my issues in life unless I decide to tell them myself.

I don't understand why you need to talk about other people's issues and share it, especially when it doesn't concern you.

4. People thought that because you were a Hmong teen, you were married already or should be getting married.

I understand that in Hmong culture, you get married in your teens, but that doesn't mean that I have to get married in my teens.

I didn't like how I wasn't allowed to do certain things or hang out with friends or even family members.

I didn't like how the elders pressured you to get married, asked if you were married yet, and even tried getting you to meet their son(s).

I'm sorry, but I don't want to meet your son and force myself to like him when I don't.

I don't want to get married as a teen and that is my choice.

If you want to get married in your teens, go for it because it's your life, your love life, not

mine.

Although I don't necessarily like these things, I now understand that I have to accept them, but not conform to them.

I want to be able to create my own cultural identity while keeping my roots and staying at peace with the country I am a part of today.

I came to the realization that I need to rediscover and find myself as an American Hmong woman.

There will always be people who ask me what Hmong is.

I want to be able to embrace the Hmong culture and its history and share it with others even if they don't understand or acknowledge it.

I am grateful that I was able to learn how to cook, clean, and cater to others, but that doesn't mean I should allow myself to be taken advantage of.

I will still fight for gender equality. Gossip is gossip. Even though it spreads fast within the Hmong community, I've learned that people will always talk. I just need to know who I am and be confident in myself. Finding balance within all cultures and myself is not an easy path to take, but they say the hardest decisions and the hardest paths in life are the most important ones.

I am a Female Hmong American and I accept who I am.

Foster care living must stay temporary



Megan Bertrand
Opinion Columnist



Foster care has good intentions but is failing to follow through.

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Everyday there are countless children who end up on the streets of America. Many are considered runaways, while others simply suffer from very unfortunate circumstances.

Half of these children are by themselves, and the others with parents or a guardian of some kind.

Those without adults are runaways or orphans, but in either case, they are in the foster system, meaning the state government has a say in their lives.

Foster care is a system that places a minor into a ward, group home, or private home of a state-certified caregiver referred to as a foster parent.

The placement of the child is normally arranged through the government or a social-service agency.

As of September 2014, there have been approximately 415,129 children in the system.

This number have increased by four percent since 2012.

The goal is to provide a safe environment and care for the children, until they can be re-

united with their birth family.

The problem is that the foster care system is supposed to be a temporary living solution.

Unfortunately, children enter the system more than they leave, instead, children stay in these agencies until they age out.

More than 20,000 kids will age out of the system, meaning they will be kicked out when they are 18, with no means of supporting themselves, and no life skills to function as an adult.

An average of 101,840 children are actually adopted.

This is only 1 in 184 children.

Most people don't want to foster or adopt because there is extensive paperwork and training involved; they don't know how to interact with the children in foster care; they're afraid the caseworker will judge them harshly; the children will go back to the parents, or it's too expensive.

More than 25 percent of children have faced abuse in this system, which undermines the government's assertion that they can raise the children better than the parents.

I believe that the first principle of the child welfare system

should be to do no harm.

The lives of children and families should be enhanced, not diminished, by the foster care experience.

Children are often placed without much thought given

I believe there should be transitional services and educational services that help foster children develop the skills needed to become adults, interact with their peers, and to make sure they can get as much education as possible.

to the mental state of the child.

Yes, a quick questionnaire is used to see if the child is injured, but unfortunately that is an unreliable system, because children experiencing abuse do not reveal what is being done to them.

They feel guilty and believe it's their fault.

Children should receive a health evaluation shortly after, if not before, entering foster care to identify any immediate medical needs and should receive a thorough pediatric assessment within one month of entry.

They should also be assigned a consistent source of medical care to ensure that the care continues for them, and they should receive ongoing developmental, educational, and emotional assessments.

Some children grow up in the system, so age appropriate care should be provided.

Agencies should note that children after the age of 12 have completely different needs than younger children, so they face different challenges.

Finally, foster parents should

be trained on how to deal with the development of mentally scarred or abused children.

I believe there should be transitional services and educational services that help foster children develop the skills needed to become adults, interact with their peers, and to make sure they can get as much education as possible.

States should provide adequate investments that fully implement their improvement plans.

They should extend the flexibility of federal foster care funds by expanding and reauthorizing the number of waivers available to the system and revising outdated eligibility requirements.

More often than not, adoption courts have too many cases they take on, so they can't truly hear everyone involved and make a decision in a timely fashion.

I believe there should be a one-judge one-family approach: the judges only get a small number of foster or adoption cases and follow those cases thoroughly in order to make a good decision.

For children, the foster care experience is eminently painful.

Not only are they dealing with the emotional and physical wounds inflicted by abuse and neglect, foster children must also contend with the emotionally wrenching experience of being removed from their homes and placed in foster care.

Far too often, foster care is not a time of healing for them. Rather, despite the best intentions of those who work within the system, many children experience foster care as damaging, confusing, and destabilizing.

In order to fix these problems, it's going to take more than the state government.

It will take the community, caseworkers, policy makers, and anyone who can provide a family, or emotional support for these children.

The Good, the Bad, and the Meh



You have your schedule down by now and know exactly how long you can sleep in until without being late to class.



The first "full" week of classes is over and you lived to tell the story.



Signing up for everything you walked by at the involvement fair is now haunting your email inbox.

Adding to the conversation on student debt



Jordan Schwakopf
Opinion Columnist

Ask any college student in the United States how they are paying for school, and student loans are likely to come up as a source of funding.

The average debt of graduating seniors from four-year colleges was \$37,172 in 2016, and the amount of debt students owe has been rising.

This upward trend has people concerned, and rightly so, about the cost of a college education.

Rather than focusing solely on debt-free college, however, any discussion of solutions to the student debt crisis should include a reform of how loans are paid back.

The average debt of graduating seniors from four-year colleges was \$37,172 in 2016, and the amount of debt students owe has been rising.

Taking out loans to pay for college is not an experience exclusive to students in the United States; student loans exist even in countries where tuition is free. What makes American student

loan debt different compared to the rest of the world is the process by which borrowers are expected to pay the loans back.

Other countries with comparable student loan debt use repayment plans that maximize the borrower's ability to pay back student loans on time, yet the United States continues to lag behind other comparable countries on the application of alternative repayment plans.

The cost of college in the United States has come into the national spotlight this election cycle, but student debt is still an issue in countries with free tuition, such as Sweden, where loans can be used to pay for living expenses.

The average student debt in Sweden was \$19,000 in 2013, yet Sweden does not have 3.9 million borrowers in default like the United States does.

Yes, there is certainly a significant population difference, but the American student loan system can still learn from Sweden's system for successfully



Bills and loans pile up after graduation.

repaying student loans.

Federal student loans use a ten-year loan repayment period with fixed payments unless a borrower applies for an alternative repayment plan or consolidates his or her loans.

These options require borrowers to out seek an alternative plan on their own initiative, but perhaps it is time that loans start out with an income contingent loan payment plan that works for everyone, instead of the mortgage based plan that leads to default and bankruptcy.

An income based plan sets a threshold for the income of the borrower, above which the borrower begins to pay back the loan with a fixed percentage of his or her income. While income based plans do have shortcomings, such as unintentional

incentive to work part-time jobs to stay below the repayment threshold, the negative effects are eclipsed by the positive effects on the reduction of student loan debt.

It is worth mentioning that the federal direct loans do have alternative payment plans based on income, but the threshold ranges from 10-20 percent.

For comparison, the rate is three percent in England, four to eight percent in Australia, and four percent in Sweden.

Even in other countries that use the mortgage loan system, loans are paid back over a longer time span than just 10 years, which reduces the initial financial burden for students starting out after completing their degrees.

Federal direct loans offer al-

ternative plans that can extend payment to 20-25 years or borrowers can consolidate loans for a 30 year window.

These time frames are consistent with those of other coun-

The American system is overly complicated, but at least the alternatives to the standard plan are recognized as feasible options.

tries, yet not all borrowers can qualify for consolidated loans or income based plans under the American system.

A borrower must have already reached a certain debt-to-income ratio to even qualify for the alternative plans.

The American system is overly complicated, but at least the alternatives to the standard plan are recognized as feasible options.

Each plan has its own benefits and flaws, but by offering these plans at all, the government has already recognized that the main repayment system doesn't work for everyone.

It is just one more small step to offer borrowers these choices from the start, so let's start talking about loan repayment and lowering college tuition in the same conversations.

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BENEATH THE CROWN



What's an important lesson you learned over the course of your life?

"I've learned a lot of patience. Just from starting college, but also from when I was a camp counselor. I can't think of any specific instances right now, but I definitely had my patience tested as a camp counselor."

What's a philosophy you live your life by?

"I like to try to test myself and try new things. I studied abroad at the University of Lancaster in the UK last spring, and I specifically went for a direct enroll program over one that is hosted by Gustavus."

I definitely had a moment on the plane going over where I thought 'Abby, what are you doing? You're going to a foreign country, alone, where you know absolutely no one,' but it worked out all right in the end."

Has that experience changed you?

"Definitely! It also reinforced my philosophy: throwing yourself into something wildly new is a good thing to do at least once in your life. You get to learn a lot



Abby Michels

Cameron MacDonald

about yourself, it forces you to meet new people, and you get to try a lot of new things which is really, really cool."

What sort of advice would you give to someone trying to do something different?

"Try not to say 'no' to anything, within

reason of course. Know your limits, but also really try to step out of your comfort zone. I fought that quite a bit on day one of my trip abroad. I was in a new place and I was jet-lagged, so all I wanted to do was stay in bed and not go out all day.

I also knew someone on the rugby team there who suggested that I join the Lancaster team and it was an exciting but also terrifying offer, since English rugby

teams don't mess around. But I did it all and I had tons of fun while doing it!"

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

Sudoku

Comic

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Katelyn Holman

YOUR COMIC HERE

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

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Football holds on to beat UW-River Falls



Gustavus Sports Information

Junior Linebacker Casey Decker took an interception 75 yards to score a touchdown against UW-River Falls on Saturday. After two key injuries on offense, the defense and special teams came up clutch. Decker's touchdown, as well as a touchdown on a blocked punt gave the Gusties the edge as they outlasted the Falcons 24-21.

Michael O'Neil
Staff Writer

The Gustavus football team took the field in front of 1,300 Gustie fans last Saturday for their home opener against UW-River Falls. Although the Gusties secured their second win of the season and moved to 2-0, two offensive standouts suffered injuries in the first quarter that put a damper on the victory.

Quarterback Michael Veldman began the game with an impressive drive capped off by a 41 yard touchdown pass to Senior Wide Receiver George Buchner. On the subsequent drive, Veldman was hit and broke his wrist; it appears as though he'll be sidelined 6-8 weeks.

Not long after, Senior Runningback Luke Martinez—who had 3 touchdowns in the Gusties' first game—was sidelined with a hyperextended knee. Although Martinez's injury was unfortunate, it shouldn't keep him out more than one game.

Neither player returned to the game, and the Gusties had to play the remaining three quarters without their two biggest offensive weapons.

"We lost a couple key guys early, and guys had to step up. We excelled in a couple areas we needed to after those injuries took place," Head Coach Peter Haugen said.

The defense and special teams led the way for the rest of the game, beginning with a 27-yard field goal from Junior Brendan Boche—last week's MIAC Football Special Teams Athlete of

the Week.

On the very next drive, Sophomore Linebacker Matt Berkner blocked a UW-River Falls punt at the 5-yard line, and Senior Defensive Tackle Kevin Krohn recovered the ball and walked into the endzone for a touchdown.

Not long after, the defense stepped up and junior Casey Decker took an interception 75 yards the other way for a touchdown, to give Gustavus a 24-7 lead. They would hold onto that lead for the remainder of the game, and escaped with a 24-21 victory over the visiting Falcons.

"We kicked the ball well and had a really solid day with special teams with the turnover for a touchdown," Coach Haugen said. "Offense isn't always going to score points, you have to find ways to make big plays outside of just one phase of the game. We did that today and as a result we won. I told the players, this is such a big win for our team. Certainly, we're going to have to make some improvements but they're more fun to make when you're 2-0 rather than 1-1."

Although the offense didn't score any points after the first quarter, backup Quarterback Sam Archer had a solid day, connecting on 10 of 18 passes for 101 yards, while adding 15 rushes.

"Sam is a really tough kid. I'm excited that he came in and was eager to get going," Haugen said.

It was a hard-fought game on both sides, and Archer was

poised throughout.

The Gustavus fans also played a part in the narrow victory. "It was a huge deal for our players," Haugen noted. "When we were out before the game even started the 'Hill Crew' already had the stands and the student section packed. That's a huge encouragement to our players

and we're so thankful for all of the support."

The "Hill Crew" is a student run organization that promotes supporting Gustavus student athletes and artists in their sporting events or performances. They sell a pair of shirts—one black, one white—for \$15 and notify members of upcoming

events.

This peer support is vital to creating an encouraging and spirited community that helps our athletes and performers operate at their highest level.

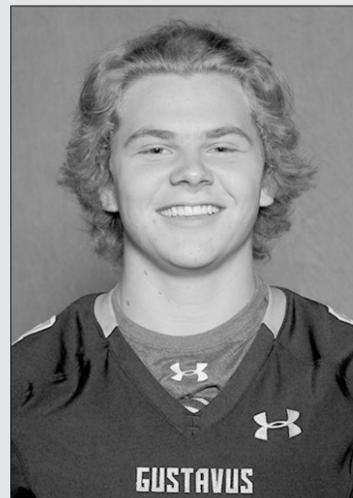
The Gusties will be kicking off MIAC play at home against Augsburg this Saturday at 1 p.m. Show up and be loud!

Freshman Spotlight

Avery Bachman

FOOTBALL

Avery comes from a long line of Gustie athletes. His father, Marc and brother, Beau are both Gustie Football graduates. His mother, Wendy was inducted into the Gustavus Athletics Hall of Fame in 2003 as a standout soccer player. In High School Avery played football, hockey and tennis at St. Peter High School. He was two-time Football All-District, an All-Conference captain in hockey, a five-time tennis All-Conference award winner and led his team to three conference championship and a State Consolation championship in 2015. He was also Academic All-State.



Gustavus Sports Information

Q: Why did you choose Gustavus?

A: I chose Gustavus because I have a strong family tradition here. The school also has a great physics program, and is the only place I've ever wanted to

play college football.

Q: What has been your favorite athletic memory so far?

A: So far, my favorite moment of this season was when I ran out of the tunnel at Hollingsworth at our first home game. I've been to all the Gustie home games the past few years and it was incredible finally running out as a part of the team.

Q: What has been the biggest transition from high school sports to college?

A: The biggest transition was definitely the time commitment. Some days during the week, we've got morning meetings and another 4 hours of meetings and practice in the afternoon. It's busy, but I love it all.

Q: Why would you recommend Gustavus?

Not only are the athletic programs great and fun, but the community is fantastic and the academic programs are also highly respected.

Volleyball rolls over opponents

Hot start has Gusties set for MIAC play



Gustavus Sports Information

Sophomore Setter Nora Holtan (1) celebrates with her teammates against Bethel. The Gusties went 7-2 in non-conference play and on Wednesday opened up MIAC play with a 3-2 win over Bethel. The game was a rematch of last year's MIAC Championship game, which the Gusties also won.

Jake Woodrich
Staff Writer

After one of the best seasons in school history last year, the Gustavus Volleyball team has picked up this season right where they left off. Compiling a record of seven wins and two losses in non-conference play, the team is pleased with the way things have started this season.

"Our season kicked off to a great start. It has been a blast! We played some pretty tough opponents right off the bat in our two preseason tournaments. All of our opponents have tested us, and we feel ready to compete in the MIAC," Head Coach Rachelle Sherden said.

Last season, the team won the MIAC Conference title, and hope to repeat the same task this year. The team hopes to do so by working hard day in and day out. Despite the successes from last season, Coach Sherden and the Gustie players are taking nothing for granted.

"Just like the start to any season, we always remind the team that we have a clean slate,

just like every other team in the country. Yes, we acknowledge that last year we did some pretty great things, but that has no bearing on our 2016 story. Our only expectation is that the team comes into the gym, ready to get after it and work hard every single day," Coach Sherden said.

The team's coaches are not the only ones that possess a fresh memory.

"Last year was an amazing year and one I will never forget, but once January first comes around, we only think about 'the now'. Comparing to years past puts unnecessary pressure and expectation for our team that we should be used to on a consistent basis. Is there a target on our backs this year? Oh absolutely, but we always have high expectations in our gym and performance. This year, though, I think we all would love to go back to the National Tournament and really just end the season with no regrets," Senior Taylor Trautman said.

Trautman, who is a returning MIAC all-conference player, is one of only two seniors on the roster.

"Being a senior this year does

change the game a little bit, I think it does for any athlete in that upperclassman position. Lots of people look up to you for advice, guidance and leadership and to be a role model and represent the program. I don't believe I am treating this year any different than any other year as far as my mental game, but it definitely is always in the back of my mind that this is the last time around and I want to do everything I can for myself and my teammates to make it a positive last year and really leave my mark," Trautman said. As Trautman mentioned, many of the members of the youthful team will be looking up to the leaders of the team this season.

One underclassman player who is continuing her vast success from last season is Sophomore setter Nora Holtan.

"Nora Holtan runs our offense really well. Our defense is doing a great job of keeping the ball off the floor and making it possible for Nora to get the ball to our attackers," Coach Sherden said.

Holtan, who was named MIAC Rookie-of-the-Year last season as a freshman, has already been named MIAC setter

of the week once this season and was a member of the Loras College Invitational all-tournament team.

When asked about her nomination to the all-tournament team, Holtan wasted zero time giving all credit to her teammates.

"I was very honored to be named a part of the all-tournament team alongside my teammate, Hanna Albers. Hanna and I definitely were given this award because of our team's success at the tournament. Our team played so well as a whole and we played gritty throughout the four matches. We wouldn't have been a part of the all-tournament team without our team by our side. I do not like to think a lot about personal awards because my main goal is to play to the best of my abilities for my team so we can be successful," Holtan said.

Holtan believes that the success from last season will push the team to greater successes this year. The Gusties hope to continue their early season success when they open up conference play this week, hosting Bethel University on Wednesday, Sept. 14 at 7 PM.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Sept. 17

Men's Cross Country at St. Olaf
10 a.m.

Women's Cross Country at St. Olaf
11 a.m.

Football hosts Augsburg
1 p.m.

Women's Soccer at St. Olaf
1 p.m.

Volleyball vs. Lakeland (UW-Eau Claire Tournament)
2 p.m.

Men's Soccer at St. Olaf
3:30 p.m.

Volleyball vs. Dominican (UW-Eau Claire Tournament)
4 p.m.

Women's Golf at Dan Quayle Collegiate Golf Classic
All Day

Sunday, Sept. 18

Women's Golf at Dan Quayle Collegiate Golf Classic
All Day

Men's Golf at NCAA Preview
All Day

Monday, Sept. 19

Men's Golf at NCAA Preview
All Day

Tuesday, Sept. 20

Men's Golf at NCAA Preview
All Day

Wednesday, Sept. 20

Volleyball at St. Olaf
7 p.m.

Macalaster too strong in MIAC opener

Rough start continues for Men's Soccer as overtime goal drops them to 1-6

Jeremy Pastir
Copy Editor

The Gustavus men's soccer team started its 2016 season with a 5-3 loss at Wartburg College.

"It wasn't the result we wanted but still a good performance," Gustavus Head Coach Mike Middleton said. "The game could have gone either way."

After 10 minutes of play, the ensuing 10 minutes resulted in a flurry of goals. Gustavus started the scoring at the 10:12 mark on a goal from Arthur Parens as he found the lower right corner of the net. Wartburg answered nearly five minutes later with a dribbler through the lower left side of the goal.

The Knights then took a 2-1 lead two minutes later on a goal that went through the middle-left side of the net. And at the 20:04 mark, the Gusties netted the equalizer off the foot of Matt Ouren and the two squads went into halftime tied 2-2.

Wartburg wasted little time regaining the lead, scoring just 35 seconds into the second half on a goal through the upper right corner. The Knights then took advantage of an open net in the 54th minute to take a 4-2 advantage. But the Gusties would not go quietly as Patrick Rothe found the right side of the goal with the assist of Alex Wilson.

As time was winding down, Roth nearly netted the equalizer in the 87th minute on a header, but the Wartburg keeper made a diving save. On the ensuing possession, the Knights went the length of the pitch and added an insurance goal as a shot found its way to the back of the net through the lower right side.

Matt Bateman started in goal for the Gusties and made nine saves. His counterpart, Paul Koebe Barsic, made seven saves.

"We had a couple chances to go ahead, but it wasn't the result we wanted," Middleton said. "The performance was good and I'm excited about the way we played. Wartburg was a very good team and they played very well. It was a very good performance."

The Gustavus men's soccer team's home opener Saturday was spoiled by St. Scholastica as the visitors won by a score of 4-1. The loss moves the Gusties to 0-2 overall, while the Saints improve to 1-1 overall.

"Quite an exciting game today, with both teams going at it," Head Coach Mike Middleton said. "The result could have gone either way, and I was pretty convinced at halftime that the game was there for the taking. We created some good chances and certainly



Freshman Luke Laurich (20) handles the ball on offense as teammates Matt Murakami (10) and Isaac Bloom (8) try to set up a goal against Macalaster.

Gustavus Sports Information

had enough possession to have won the game. But, some early season sloppiness defending set-plays cost us."

St. Scholastica took an early lead in the 10th minutes as Shawayne Folkes tapped in a well-placed pass from inside the box, which went through the lower left corner of the goal. Ten minutes later, the Saints took a 2-0 advantage with a score off a corner kick, which bended into the net.

The Gusties didn't waste much time to respond, scoring at the 23:12 mark. Luke Laurich collected a deflection off the crossbar and buried it in the back of the net for his first career goal. John Anderson was credited with the assist. The two teams played even throughout the rest of the first and went into halftime with a 2-1 score.

The Saints increased their lead in the 56th minute and added an insurance goal six minutes later off another corner kick goal.

Anders Severson got the nod in goal and suffered the loss in his first start of the season. He made five saves, while the Saints' keeper made eight saves. The Gusties outshot the Saints 15-12.

"The players are all working really hard and have had a tough, demanding preseason," Middleton said. "Hopefully that puts gas in the tank for later on. We knew at the start of the season that we had taken on a tough non-conference schedule challenge, and it's not going to get any easier. Provided we learn from the consider-

able amount we did well, and change the things we did not do so well then I'm happy. The conference is what we are aiming at, and this is just the aperitif. You play the tough teams to learn and develop.

"Some good performances from players making their competitive debuts today – John Anderson played 90 minutes after a late drop-out through injury of the starting central defender, although he did play the last five minutes of last game. David Almaer, Jerod Petrovic, and Teriq Canale also played well."

The Gusties were to wrap up the Gustavus Classic at against Knox, who defeated St. Scholastica 1-0 Friday and is seeking an outright tournament championship, and eventually snipped the Gusties 1-0 the following day.

Playing on the alternative field on campus due to poor field conditions on the Gustie Soccer Field, the Gustavus men's soccer team claimed its first victory of the season, 5-0 over Martin Luther College.

"A good game for everyone tonight, that needed winning, and the lads deserve great credit for that," Head Coach Mike Middleton said. "We moved the ball with great tempo, and looked the part for the whole of the game. I was very pleased with the performance."

Arthur Parens scored what proved to be the game-winner in the 22nd minute. Parens broke free in front of the box, shot, recovered the deflection, and buried the second chance.

With five minutes remaining in the first half, Henry Brose streaked down the right side and crossed the ball down to Patrick Roth, who volleyed the ball and scored through the lower-left corner of the net. Gustavus led 2-0 at the break.

The Gusties went back to work early in the second as Matt Murakami blocked a clearance from the keeper and scored his first goal of the season. Not even five minutes later, Murakami tallied his second goal on a penalty kick. Brose added the fifth and final goal in the 76th minute on a through-ball from Luke Laurich as Brose followed it for a few steps and then took the shot.

"I was really happy for Matt Murakami, who scored a brace as well as playing well," Middleton said. "Matt is such a hard-worker for the team, really puts in a shift up-front covering large areas of ground. His partner, Arthur Parens, put in another sterling performance looking exceptionally quick, dynamic and dangerous. Patrick Roth and Henry Brose replaced those two up-front, both proving elusive with exceptional movement and interchange."

"The team moved the ball well in central midfield, the wide players played some dangerous balls in, and we created a handful of chances including hitting the crossbar and post on more than one occasion."

Gustavus fired 28 shots in the game, the most since last season's opener against Martin Luther. The Knights got off nine

shots.

"Several players shone in midfield – I'm really pleased with Isaac Bloom. He's developing into a top player at this level," Middleton said. "Alex Wilson and Brad Williams did particularly well, and another good performance from Freshman Brock Sullivan."

"We looked solid at the back, with both 'keepers getting some time and looking accomplished. Kyle Monson started his first game of the season, and I was really pleased with his performance. Perhaps the star of the show once again was Dan Barnes, who along with his defense partner John Anderson, looked solid, composed, and in control."

Anders Severson started in goal and made one save in 61 minutes of play. Matt Bateman finished off the game and made one save as well.

Gustavus faced St. Mary's (Md.) followed by a match against Salisbury State in Maryland.

"We are going to Maryland this weekend to play two exceptional teams," Middleton said. "It'll be a tough one, but what a chance to show the top teams in another region what we've got. This game today has set us up nicely, and we are all really looking forward to the trip."

Unfortunately for Gustavus, they would drop both of these games by scores of 1-0 and 2-1 respectively. The Gusties opened the MIAC with another close loss, this time in overtime to the No. 6 ranked Macalaster.