

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

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ISSUE 16

MEET GUSTIE
of the WEEK:
Richard Leitch



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"Where's the beef?"
More like, "Where's
the lamb?"



OPINION - PAGE 11

The Monkey Man
asks... "Have you
seen it?"



ENTERTAINMENT - PAGE 13

A groundbreaking Lund Center update

Gustavus moves forward with Phase I of Lund Center construction



The Lund Center reconstruction will begin spring 2021.

Isaac Bui

Georgia Zutz
Staff Writer

February 18th, 2021 marked the official approval of the Lund Center renovation, set to be complete in 2024. Slated to break ground this spring, the Gustavus Board of Trustees approved the \$60 million dollar project that will expand upon the Lund Center's capabilities regarding athletics, education and community building.

"There's a tremendous sense of excitement among our students, faculty, and staff," Director of Athletics Tom Brown said in the official address.

"We look forward to providing expanded health and wellness facilities for all members of the Gustavus community while also building on the College's 120-year tradition of excellence in athletics," Brown said.

Specific features of the expansion and renovation include a new 53,000 square foot field-house, renovation of the academic wing to expand learning opportunities, and expansion of various parts of the Lund Center, including cardio and weight lifting areas, as well as the Human Performance Lab.

The conversations regarding Lund's renovation began in August of 2017, according to President Rebecca Bergman. The beginning phases of construction come one year after the Board of Trustees gave approval for construction and renovation layouts to be created.

"Our plan all along the way has been to start construction in the spring of 2021. What has changed, due to the pandemic and a slower fundraising environment, is that we have shifted to a 2-phase construction project. We have completed

fundraising for Phase 1, which is focused on a 71,000 square-foot addition that will provide a much-needed upgrade for our fitness facilities. In the coming months, we will continue to seek donations for Phase 2. Our hope is to complete that fundraising and move seamlessly into Phase 2 of construction, similar to our approach to the Nobel Hall of Science project. The major factor that led to the decision to start now is our belief that this project is important for the entire Gustavus community, with Phase 1 focused largely on our top priority of enhancing wellness and wellbeing," Bergman said.

The renovation is a part of the college's Show the World Campaign, which strives to "equip, energize, and elevate" Gustavus Adolphus College across the fields of academics, accessibility and opportunity.

Other initiatives of the campaign have included creating an increase in scholarships and financial aid for many students, new faculty positions to draw in upstanding researchers and professors, and much more.

Where the physical factors of the Show the World Campaign can be seen in Nobel and Lund, many members of the greater Gustavus community are hoping to see care, time and money into the humanities and arts at Gustavus. On a recent Facebook post announcing the Lund renovation's official start, there was a mix of reactions, both celebrating the advancements and showing concern about other areas of the Gustavus campus. In particular, many wondered if a potential renovation for the Schaefer Fine Arts Center buildings would also be included in the campaign for equipping and elevating the greater Gustavus

community.

While the conversations of allotting time and resources to improving campus continue, in the meantime, the Gustavus community looks expectantly to how the expansion and renovation of the Lund Center will shape Gustavus athletics, community building, and the overall health of those who live and work on the Gustavus campus.

"The Lund Center project is a testament to the continued momentum at Gustavus," Vice President for Advancement Thomas W. Young '88 said.

"In collaboration with Gustavus alumni, family, and friends, we are building an even brighter tomorrow for current and future Gusties. We look forward to continuing these partnerships as we complete our fundraising for Phase II," Young said.

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Campus Safety Report

Saturday February 20, 2021

- **Campus Safety received** a call from a student requesting medical amnesty due to concern for their friend who drank too much and just wanted Campus Safety to check him out.
- Campus Safety was contacted about a student of concern in Uhler.
- Campus Safety responded to an underage alcohol incident in North Hall, seven students referred to the campus conduct system.
- Campus Safety came upon Residential Life staff confronting an underage alcohol incident in Sorensen Hall, five students referred to the campus conduct system.

Sunday, February 21, 2021

- A student reported their vehicle had been broken into.

Monday, February 22, 2021

- Campus Safety responded to the odor of marijuana in Uhler Hall. One student referred to the campus conduct system.

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at the Compost shop for a student that wasn't feeling well. The student was transported to Health Services for further evaluations.

Tip of the Week:
Run, Hide, Fight...Do you know what it means? Run, Hide, Fight, is a national campaign that Gustavus uses in providing notification during an active threat situation on campus. Basically the run part is that your first option is to get away, get as far away from the threat as you can. Second, if you can't, then you hide. You barricade yourself wherever you are. You often see the words shelter in place, when it comes to the hide element. You shelter in place to try and keep yourself away from that threat. The last is if you just have no other option, that you can use your mental and physical capacities to defend yourself. That as a last resort to save your life, there may be a need to fight. For more information about using Run, Hide, Fight in an active threat situation, watch the short video posted on the Campus Safety website in the right hand toolbar under "Safety Training Videos."

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

Under the Weather?
Urgent Care can help

See us for*:

Sore Throats | Ear Infection | Minor Cuts or Bruises
Minor Burns | Sprains | Insect Bites | Bladder Infections
Rashes | Eye Irritations | Upper Respiratory Illness

*list not all inclusive - all ages welcome - no appointment needed

RIVER'S EDGE
HOSPITAL • ST. PETER

Monday - Friday 12 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. | Weekends 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Closed Holidays
Use the Emergency Room Entrance

1900 North Sunrise Drive | St. Peter
www.REHC.org

COVID-19 Report
Gustavus On-Campus Update

As of February 23, 2021:

Total Positive Cases (since August 15, 2020): 255
Current Positive Student Cases: 1
Current Positive Employee Cases: 0
Total Students in Isolation/Quarantine: 4
Students in Isolation/Quarantine On Campus: 3
Employees in Isolation/Quarantine: 1

This data set is meant to encompass the on-campus impact of COVID-19 by counting cases where a person may have been on campus while infectious. For example, students who are living at home or employees who are working remotely and not visiting campus will not be counted in these on-campus numbers. This information is also available for viewing on the College's COVID-19 Dashboard.

Minnesota COVID-19 Update

As of February 24, 2021:

Total Positive Cases (since January 20, 2020): 480,845
Daily Newly Reported Cases: 761
Daily New Reported Nicollet County Cases: 11

This data comes from the Minnesota Department of Health's "Situation Update" website, which is updated every day at 11 a.m.



On Saturday, February 20, Gustavus Queers and Allies and the Campus Activities Board hosted a Drag Bingo event. Minnesota based drag queens Victoria DeVille and Sunny Kiriya hosted the event in the Gus Young Court located in the Lund Center.

Isaac Bui



Gustavus students were able to attend the Drag Bingo SNL while social distancing and wearing face masks. The SNL was split into two sessions, one at 9 p.m. and one at 11:15 p.m.

Isaac Bui

Gustavus implements new COVID-19 surveillance testing



Gusties take their COVID-19 tests in Christ Chapel during a mass testing event.

Isaac Bui

Freya Nelson
Staff Writer

According to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), there have been at least eight identified UK variants of the COVID-19 virus found in Minnesota. MDH suspects that this number is an underrepresentation of the COVID variants currently in the state. In conscious preparation for the spread of these new strains, the College has implemented a surveillance testing plan in order to keep the community safe.

"Surveillance testing has been added to our COVID safety protocols this spring because the new variants are more contagious and testing is now readily available. Doing random surveillance testing is one additional strategy to help minimize an outbreak of the virus on campus," released Gustavus' COVID-19 Response Team last week.

Throughout this testing process, 10% of the student population will be chosen at random and asked to take a COVID test. The students selected each week will then receive an email including information on testing locations as well as a link to sign-up for a specific appointment time. The testing will be held in the Chapel every Tuesday with appointments ranging from 7:30am-10:30am and will be entirely free of cost for students. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in these testing events if selected.

"If you are selected [for surveillance testing], do me a favor and comply. Think of it as doing

your part to help keep Gustavus safe," Dean of Students JoNes VanHecke said.

The testing is designed to be efficient in order to meet the needs of students' busy schedules. With the appointment time slots, the selected students will be able to choose a time of day that works best for them.

"I was selected this Tuesday to be randomly tested and I was genuinely surprised at how efficient the process was.

I have done mass testing events on campus before but the surveillance testing was significantly faster. It took only 5-10 minutes so it wasn't an inconvenience to me whatsoever," senior Gunnar Bosking said.

In terms of identifying the new variants, the Minnesota Department of Health insists that testing is the most efficient way to find and prevent these variants from spreading. The MDH states that the first iden-

tified case of the new variant of COVID-19 found in Minnesota occurred only a month ago.

"We're thankful that our testing program helped us find this [first] case, and we thank all Minnesotans who seek out testing when they feel sick or otherwise have reason to get a test," Minnesota Commissioner of Health Jan Malcolm said in a news release for the MDH website.

In addition to Gustavus'

surveillance testing efforts, the college will continue to hold mass testing events, regular testing for athletes, and free testing available to the Gustavus community through Health Service. There is also no-cost COVID testing for Minnesotans available at locations such as St. Peter/Mankato Hyvee stores.

For more information on COVID testing visit <https://gustavus.edu/healthservice/testing.php>.



Gustavus students begin surveillance testing

Isaac Bui

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead

puts metatheatrical spin on Shakespeare classic

Emily VanGorder
Staff Writer

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead is a meta-theater production which follows Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, two minor supporting characters from Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, on their side journey and experiences behind the scenes of the original play.

"Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead' is... about the characters and how they perceive what is happening in Hamlet and realizing there are just means to an end, while also questioning what theater is and a bunch of other crazy existential madness."
- Albright

Throughout the performance, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern can be seen interacting with characters like Hamlet and Ophelia, but this production is all about them.

Junior Sam Albright plays Rosencrantz, who he describes as a character who goes with the flow and doesn't question much. On the other hand, Guildenstern, who is portrayed by Sophomore Sam Peters, is more analytical and naturally curious. "One of the challenges of the character was balancing his abstract philosophical curiosity with the sense of urgency and desperation that motivates him to find answers in the universe... It was enormously fun to explore the hopes and anxieties of his characters and bring them to life," Peters said.

Despite these seemingly polar differences, the two characters are ultimately very similar. "The joke is that no one can really tell our characters apart, so finding a balance between being different from Sam Peters while still being able to be similar was interesting," Albright said.

In addition to being a play within a play, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead deals with many philosophical and theoretical questions, such as the nature of fate, the existence of free will, and whether certain things are unavoidable or predestined, and does so with a healthy dose of humor and banter.

"I found it an intriguing subject to explore. Guildenstern



Sophomore Sam Peters and Junior Sam Albright rehearse their roles.

Submitted

is bothered by the apparent chaos of life, and his searches for underlying patterns and meanings only raise more questions. I think most of us can relate to this struggle during this moment... Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are subject to a fate that seems illogical and pointless, yet they have no capacity to change their situation. It's thought provoking, insightful, and hilarious, and I hope that the audience will appreciate the deep messages that are nestled underneath the layers of humor and wit," Peters said.

"It's thought provoking, insightful, and hilarious, and I hope that the audience will appreciate the deep messages that are nestled underneath the layers of humor and wit."
-Peters

In order for the performance to be COVID-19 friendly, the play has been filmed rather than being performed in front of a live audience, and will premiere on YouTube on Saturday, February 27. Though the play was chosen before COVID-19 became a reality, the writer Tom Stoppert also created a movie version of his play, which helped inform the decision to film the performance.

Filming began almost immediately over J-term and actors had minimal time to block scenes and rehearse before shooting.

"Directing and acting for the stage are really quite different from directing and acting for video. Usually, we rehearse, develop characters, deepen meaning and work on sustaining the performance and reaching the audience. In film, you have to have everything that usually takes all semester ready to go up front, so that you have it ready to film and the videographer has time to edit. There's an extra step now between me and the audience, which is how it was shot and edited... I had to adapt and figure out different ways of working with it," Di-

"There's an extra step now between me and the audience, which is how it was shot and edited... I had to adapt and figure out different ways of working with it."

-Seaham

rector and Professor in Theatre and Dance Amy Seaham said.

"Filmed performance also requires much more subtlety than stage acting, so I had to rethink my usual approach and adopt a more naturalistic style. Filming the scenes individually over the span of a month also made it more difficult to stay 'in the moment' and maintain a cohesive sense of the play's story arc, but it became easier over time," Peters said.

However, the filmed performance also allowed for more creative staging and editing, like using greenscreens and following Rosencrantz and

Guildenstern around the theater building as they make their way to the stage, which is where the

characters from *Hamlet* are.

"The actors all worked incredibly hard to get this done over J-Term in the midst of COVID-19. I'm very proud of the company of students that pulled this off," Seaham said.

Watch Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead Saturday, February 27 at 7 p.m. or on Sunday, February 28 at 3 p.m. at gustavus.edu/theatre-dance.

GUSTIE of the WEEK:

Professor Richard Leitch

Michaela Woodward
Staff Writer

Since 1996, Associate Professor in Political Science, Environmental Studies, Japanese Studies and Peace Studies Richard Leitch has been widely recognized at Gustavus for his interesting classes and enthusiasm for teaching.

Gustavus proved to be the ideal place for him to showcase these qualities and utilize a student-focused outlook on education.

"I knew I wanted to do the teaching instead of the research. For me, the teaching came first," Leitch said.

The most rewarding aspect of teaching is the relationships he forms with students.

Leitch expanded on why he enjoys being a Gustavus Adolphus professor.

"It is an incredible privilege. I'm so blessed to be able to teach here. The interactions with students are just wonderful.

Some of my lifetime friends are my former students. I have been so lucky in that way, that I can watch the development of their career, not only while they are students at Gustavus, but especially afterwards."

-Leitch

"Just being with a bunch of students who are still trying to figure things out about their majors, their life course, and trying to help them... so directly as we're able to do at Gustavus is really meaningful for me. I'm not sure I would have been able to do that had I been at a different type of institution that would primarily focus on research," Leitch said.

Leitch's classes are known for being filled with humor, deep questions and unique experiences. His FTS, Homelessness, is known for the "sleep-out" component, a tradition that started with student organizations on campus before he came to Gustavus. This class and area of study has been a curiosity of his for nearly his whole life.

"I've always been con-



Gustie of the Week Professor Ritchard Leitch

Submitted

cerned about homelessness in our country. Even as a young kid, I remember very impressionable moments of seeing homeless people for the first time at various stages of my life. So of course, the first time I saw a homeless person at four years old, you see someone who looks different from everybody else. But then at a different time I saw somebody else who was homeless and I started kind of asking questions about why these people were living the way that they were," Leitch said.

As a professor of political science, he focuses mainly on Asian countries, and his Analyzing Japan class is a popular J-term course.

Junior Anna Stutz had the opportunity to take that class this year.

"[Leitch] wasn't the typical professor who just lectured and assigned us homework. He made the big class size feel small and brought such a positive learning environment. He kept everyone engaged and respected students' answers without judging them and had such a growth mindset for everyone. I enjoyed every minute of his class as well as his marvelous sense of humor. I was very thankful for such a passionate and caring professor, because he brought so much light to the dark time we are currently living in," Stutz said.

The unique learning experience that the past year has

been, Leitch remains positive by looking for opportunities.

"You always have to look at every crisis as an opportunity—as cliché as that is. You can sit in a corner for the rest of your life and be fearful about things or you can think about it as an opportunity to help people, or to create something new that is needed at that time. You have to get on with life, but also you may have to think that there are opportunities here that you didn't imagine before this crisis. Is that overly optimistic? Is that turning your back on people who are suffering? No, not at all. But you've got to be positive in life," Leitch said.

"You can go through life trying to be better or you can go through life being bitter. And there are some people who are just going to go through life bitter, and that's their freedom of choice. If they want to go through life thinking people are hostile toward them, that's fine. But I don't want to spend my life being bitter towards other people... That just seems like such a waste of energy and a waste of the limited amount of time we have to do positive things on this planet," Leitch said.

Students look to Leitch as a positive mentor both during their time at Gustavus and after.

"I always try my best to help students in whatever ways they need help. They ask me about my career choices

"No job, no career is 100 percent perfect, but mine is pretty darn close."

-Leitch

but I've always tried to help students in whatever ways they've thought that I could help them," Leitch said.

and I always tell them that it was never linear. I would like to think I've helped students - certainly in academic ways-

Do you have a suggestion for a Gustavus student, professor, or staff member who could be our next Gustie of the Week?

If so, send their name, position on campus, and a short description of why you think they should be recognized to

weekly@gustavus.edu
for a chance to be featured!

A representative from the Gustavian Weekly will be in contact with you via email if your suggestion is chosen to be featured in an issue of the paper.

Schaefer Art Gallery exhibits *An Active and Urgent Telling* from the Strange Fire Collective

Samantha Raghu
Staff Writer

While artwork is aesthetically pleasing to the eye, the use of artistic expression can be used as an educational tool to acknowledge, grow beyond and change individual and collective thoughts and beliefs.

As a means of reshaping our campus' sentiments on identity, enforced societal norms and expectations, Gustavus' upcoming art exhibition, *An Active and Urgent Telling*, seeks to manifest the lived experiences of six different artists through photography.

Continuing Assistant Professor and Studio and Visual Arts Programs Manager Nicholas Darcourt, provides greater insight into the organization behind curating the exhibition, known as the Strange Fire Collective (SFC).

"The Strange Fire Collective is a group of artists and mostly

photographers. They wanted to start a group where they could show work and organize exhibitions as well as educational opportunities around artists

"[SFC] wanted to start a group where they could show work and organize exhibitions as well as educational opportunities around artists who would be a part of non-dominant culture."

-Darcourt

who would be a part of non-dominant culture," Darcourt said.

Darcourt also elaborates on the financial and educational incentives behind the showcasing.

"What we want to do is bring

this group in because this year we have access to the Johnson endowment for the arts artists series funds, so that means we have some more money for bringing in a national group. We also wanted to bring in this group to do some critiques with our studio arts majors," Darcourt said.

Additionally, the photographic displays behind each artist express their experiences as members from a non-dominant group through an intersectional lens, detailing the social and political influencers shaping their sentiments of visibility or invisibility.

Darcourt expanded on the importance of this exhibition as a means of building greater inclusivity and representation to the Gustavus campus community.

"It was important for us to bring this group in because we liked the idea of having a curatorial group who focuses on artists from non-dominant cultures to have an exhibition that doesn't happen very often

at Gustavus, nor in this region," Darcourt said.

"The work is also about the artists themselves presenting their identity through their work. Some of the artists would be African American, Asian American, non-binary and Latinx," Darcourt said.

Artists in this exhibition

"The exhibition includes national artists with works coming in from across the country. By having less of a focus on the in-person experience, we were able to bring more voices into our storytelling."

-Darcourt

include Jennifer Ling Datchuk, Adama Delphine Fawundu, Penny Molesso, Rachelle Mozman Solano, Irene Reece and Chanell Stone.

Adhering to COVID-19 guidelines, the Arts department was able to incorporate artists from all across the globe as well.

"The exhibition includes national artists with works coming in from across the country. By having less of a focus on the in-person experience, we were able to bring more voices into our storytelling," Darcourt said in a Fine Arts blog.

All campus and non-campus community members are able to access *An Active and Urgent Telling* online through the Schaefer Art Gallery website.

Additionally, a recording of the SFC panel discussion will be available online on the collective's main website in the near future.



A student browses the pieces featured in Schaefer Art Gallery

Gra cie Jackson

Geena Zebrasky
Features Writer

Where in the World Are You Living Next Year?

Figuring out housing can be stressful. Even if you’re not a first year, you might still need roommates, there’s several forms you have to fill out, and the whole process can feel like another thing to add to your growing spring semester to-do list. And as much as I hate to mention the pandemic in yet another article, COVID-19 clearly hasn’t made making these decisions any easier. Visiting other residential halls is particularly hard right now—so we hope that this week’s Features can help demonstrate what options and rooms are out there! Housing can be confusing, but Residential Life has several different ways you can get your questions answered: Weekdays 8:30am-4pm you can Google Chat with Residential Life through the link found on their GAC webpage, or email dsandber@gustavus.edu with any question you might have.

UPPERCLASSMEN HOUSING

Apartments & townhomes:

Southwest Hall

One of the junior and senior halls, this hall is home to 4-6 person units (apartments and suites) and can be found adjacent to Prairie View. This building was added to campus in 2005—the same time Old Main got some much needed renovations.

Arbor View Apartments

Located across the street from the Arb, this is one of the apartment-style living options for juniors and seniors on campus.

Chapel View Townhomes

Chapel View was established in 2012—primarily seniors live in these buildings in groups of four. Chapel View is technically “off-campus,” a short distance from St. Peter High School to the West side of campus.

College View Apartments

Found over by the Bubble, this apartment-style building is a popular choice for juniors and seniors on campus and was built in two separate sections, one following the tornado.

Complex:

Gibbs Hall

The hall found in the middle of “Complex,” Gibbs is one of the three halls where primarily sophomores find themselves living. In fact, it was known as Link Hall until 2003 because it was built in 1966 with the intention of serving as a bridge between Sorensen and North.

Sorensen Hall

Linked to Gibbs Hall’s left side, Sorensen is the second of the three halls in Complex. It’s also the oldest building in the trio, built in 1955!

North Hall

You guessed it, North is Gibb’s right-hand man, built in 1962.



Cadence Paramore

Complex is home to primarily sophomores and juniors on campus.



Cadence Paramore

Complex: Sorensen, Gibbs and North Halls.



Gracie Jackson

A room inside Gibbs Hall. All rooms in this dorm are doubles, with the exception of some single-occupancy rooms.



Isaac Bui

Norelius Hall, one of the housing options open to incoming first-year students.



Luke Yang

The International Center is a residence hall that brings together domestic and international Gusties. Residents participate in multicultural activities to improve their understanding of intersectionality. Interested students should apply soon!

Options with application processes:

Carlson International Center & Swedish House

Both of these buildings have a special application process, but for a good reason! Living in the International Center (IC), known as the Crossroads Community, provides a unique opportunity to connect with one of the coolest organizations on campus, and it has a great community. Ten students get to live in Swedish House, and when it’s not COVID season, FIKA is one of the coolest ways to grab some food and hang out with friends.

Now that you’ve seen your options, here’s the housing timeline:

March 5th: Off-campus housing, Swedish House, Crossroads Community (IC) Center, and Intentional Learning & Service (ILS) Core Value House Applications are due.

March 22nd: Housing agreement and specific housing type applications (4-person, 3-person, double) must be submitted in your housing portal.

March 31st: Roommate groups finalized.

April 8-23: Room selection time slots (specific room type dates can be found on the room selection webpages).

FIRST-YEAR HOUSING

Pittman Hall

One of the three dorms for first years (and upperclassmen CFs), Pittman sports a modern looking lobby, especially when compared to Sohre, even though it’s from the ‘60s and wasn’t even called Pittman—Valley View Hall used to be this building’s name.

Sohre Hall

Arguably the best dorm hall on campus, Sorhe comes adorned with it’s own ghost story: Some say if you’re up late enough working on your homework, you can hear Mrs. Sophia Sohre herself walking through the halls (or tapping in the basement walls). Sohre was originally South Hall, but in 1962 it was named after Sohre, who turned 100 years old the day of the opening ceremony.

Norelius Hall

The third freshman dorm on campus, Coed can be a good place to make good connections. But if you’re a freshman moving out, you might not miss it: the small windows aren’t a common feature in any other dorm on campus.

Other options:

Uhler Hall

Home to primarily sophomores and juniors, Uhler is the building pretty much directly across from the Caf and is even older than Rundstrom (and has a super cool courtyard). This building used to be the men’s dorm.

Prairie View Hall

This dorm hall mirrors the nursing building, Mattson Hall, and is open to all upperclass students. Built at the same time as College View in 1998 following the tornado, some of the first students that moved into this building had been students living in the lounges of Sohre and Pittman.

Rundstrom Hall

Opened in 1938, this hall is one of the oldest on campus, and might come with a ghost or two as well. Now open to all upperclass students, when it was opened it was originally built as a women’s dorm hall.

Excuse Me, Where's the Lamb?



Grace Worwa
Opinion Columnist

Gyro Fridays are a Gustie favorite; it's a well-known fact. However, you all may have noticed that something has been missing from the caf's gyro station since September. That something is lamb, and although its absence may feel nothing short of a catastrophe, it represents only a teeny tiny scratch in the gaping wound that the pandemic has gouged in the meat processing industry. By feeling our way down the supply chain, we can explore how our lambless gyros are symptomatic of a nationwide meat crisis.

First, let's get one thing straight. The "lamb" gyro meat is not 100 percent lamb. It is not even 25 percent lamb, or 10 percent. In fact, it was a blend of beef and lamb, with lamb as a very secondary ingredient. I know, it's shocking, but this is coming straight from Dining Service Purchasing Manager Shari Jacobson.

"We never just got plain lamb gyro cones. It was mostly beef with some lamb in the recipe for the cone," Jacobson said.

There you go. Now, even if our "lamb" meat wasn't pure lamb, it is still worth asking why the all-beef gyro cone survived and the beef/lamb blend didn't. According to Jacobson, the company who supplies them simply discontinued the product.

"[Grecian Delight] stopped providing the cones, and they replaced them with the all-beef recipe," Jacobson said.

As a result, they were forced to do the same in the Caf.

So, what happened to the lamb? The answer is COVID-19 (of course, what else could it be). The pandemic tied the nation's meat supply chain into knots, and Gustavus is one of the many parties along the line who suffered the consequences.

There are many potential factors at play here, but let's start with the one closest to home: lack of demand. Companies like Grecian Delight rely upon schools, restaurants and colleges like Gustavus for business. When pandemic lockdowns enveloped the Midwest, many such institutions shut down and stopped providing food suppliers their business. As such, the demand for certain products became so low that there was little incentive to continue offering them. According to Jacobson, Gustavus' lack of business over the

summer may have contributed to Grecian Delight's decision to discontinue the beef/lamb cone.

Another culprit is the infamous bottleneck in meat processing plants near the beginning of the pandemic. Plant workers laboring in close proximity to each other on the processing line were particularly vulnerable to COVID-19 and were hit especially hard. According to PBS News, over 27,000 meatpacking plant workers had been infected by the end of June, and nearly 100 had died. As a result, many plants had to temporarily shut down and update their safety measures.

"They had to close down completely to renovate, and then they had to space people apart and slow down the line, and so all those things contributed to being able to process none or fewer animals," Statewide Director of the University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships Dr. Kathy Draeger said.

The effects were devastating. Without access to meat processing facilities, large farmers had nowhere to bring their pork and beef and faced frightening surpluses.

According to Dr. Draeger, large farmers in Minnesota redirected what they could to smaller plants to be processed. The problem is that small and medium-sized farmers, the ones who normally used the smaller plants, were left with nowhere to send their animals. And in Minnesota, these tend to be the farmers who raise lamb.

"Gustavus probably got caught in the middle of a pandemic, a supply chain disruption, and this ongoing tension between small and medium-sized farms and large industrial farms. I'm guessing Gustavus got their lamb from these small and medium-sized farms," Dr.

Draeger said.

Since the spring, the meat industry has begun to recover, and despite its additional challenges, lamb will not disappear.

"I think individual farmers will continue to sell lamb. I know that there are constraints for meat processing, but I would be hopeful that that supply chain from farm to consumer is still holding," Dr. Draeger said.

So, where does this leave us and our gyros? According to Jacobson, the beef and lamb gyro cone will not return in the foreseeable future, but our food distributor offers several alternative options.

Specifically regarding gyro

meats, the caf is limited to Grecian Delight products because the company rents us the equipment for free to make the gyros.

"Grecian Delight makes a pre-sliced gyro meat that has lamb. The quality is not as good as carved off-the-cone like we do at school. It just comes in identical sheets of meat, like turkey bacon almost," Jacobson said.

Another option would simply be carved lamb served on the rotisserie. While our gyros would still be lambless, lamb itself would still be available to students. The problem is that carved lamb is extraordinarily expensive, so students would really have to want it.

"Lamb is \$6.20 a pound (raw weight), which is a pretty steep price for a student meal, but salmon is more expensive than lamb, so it's definitely not out of the question if students want it," Jacobson said.

So, we probably aren't getting our old lamb/beef gyro cone back, but lamb is available if we want it. We just have to ask.

The thing is, isn't the only food product missing from the caf. COVID has disrupted our nation's food chain beyond just the meats, and we have felt the effects right here at Gustavus. To hear more, watch out for my article in next week's issue of THE WEEKLY



A lambless gyro is served in the Caf

Cademce Paramore

The Good, the Bad, and the Meh



We can finally go outside again



We're all struggling through our second language semester



Caf coffee

Movies for Change: Using modern media to understand others



Lexi Louis
Opinion Columnist

TW: Mental Health, Self-harm, sexual assault

I think more movies should be created to shed light on issues in the world. If it is based on a true story, it may add power to the message. Even if it isn't based on a true story, it helps create change. When people come together in larger numbers, positive change takes place. Some movies that have displayed prominent issues in the world are *Promising Young Woman*, *Hidden Figures* and *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*.

Although movies like these can be very difficult to watch, they have a positive impact. *Promising Young Woman* is a movie that deals with sexual assault and the corruption of large institutions. When Cassie's friend is taken advantage of, she wants to hold everyone involved accountable. Along the way, she faces obstacles from

her past friends. I thought this movie portrayed how a situation like this can happen in the real world well. Cassie's old friend Madelyn belittled the case. The perpetrators got away with their actions throughout most of the movie, until they were arrested at the end. The ending of the movie is emotional. This movie reflects how cases like this can be improperly dealt with.

Hidden Figures is a movie about three African American Women who work at NASA. They face racial and gender obstacles. It portrayed racism, inequality and how women were treated in the workplace. These issues still exist today. This is an empowering movie for women, and it shows a moment in history where major improvements were made in the workplace. A great quote from *Hidden Figures* is, "It's not because we wear skirts. It's because we wear glasses."

The Perks of Being a Wallflower displays how mental illness can impact someone's life in and outside of school. Charlie develops PTSD because his best friend committed suicide in middle school, and his aunt died. Because of this, he became withdrawn, and it was difficult for him to find friends. It displays how it is difficult for students in high school with illnesses to acclimate. I think that kids should be educated on these topics younger so they can become familiar with them. It is important to be aware of the people around us, to be kind and to be empathetic of others.

Some of the messages these



A Gustie's movie watching set-up

Cadence Paramore

movies projected are to treat people with kindness, to be aware of our surroundings and to be empathetic. We usually don't know what others may be dealing with, so being open minded is beneficial. Sometimes we make unconscious prejudices about others based on appearance or behavior.

"Empathy is seeing with the eyes of another, listening with the ears of another and feeling with the heart of another," Alfred Adler said.

Some of the problems these movies dealt with are inequality, racism and sexism. Having movies that shed light on social issues such as these creates progress within the world. It makes it easier for future generations of people to live. They lessen the stigma surrounding these top-

ics, making it easier to talk about them with others.

"The ultimate tragedy is not the oppression and cruelty by the bad people, but the silence over that by the good people," Martin Luther King Jr. said.

Others may say that movies like these shouldn't be made because they don't always accurately represent the real world, they can be triggering and they make the issue seem worse than it is.

Although *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* and *Promising Young Woman* aren't based on true stories, these movies are still powerful. The settings reflect the real world even though they are fictional. *Hidden Figures* is a movie based on a true story, but that doesn't make it as powerful as a fictional movie. It makes it easier

to connect it to the real world. Sometimes fictional movies that deal with social issues don't entirely reflect the real world.

However, even if they don't entirely reflect the real world they fulfill the purpose of giving attention to an issue. These movies can be difficult to watch for many individuals that may relate to them or find it uncomfortable. However, the more movies that are made like these will give attention to the issue and diminish it. I enjoyed watching these movies and recommend them.

"Step by step, we will break this cycle of silence, poor information and stigma," Chevy Chase said.

Recycling Our Mail Waste



Emma Pufahl
Opinion Columnist

We all love the excitement of seeing that we have a package ready to pick up at the Post Office, trying to remember what on earth was ordered and what it could be. Standing in line for the package that is almost a present from your past self. It's something in the white and blue Amazon envelope, bubble-wrapped packaging. After trying to tear where

it claims to be tearable, you give up and use your dorm key to finally get a hole in the packaging and rip the bubble pouch just enough to grab the mystery goodies inside. It's those cute masks that match your winter coat.

After replacing the mask on your face with one of the brand new ones, the white and blue child-proof, dog-proof, adult-proof packaging goes into the waste bin. But that's not where it belongs. Gusties, we need to talk about recycling.

Right across from the Post Office window are a couple of bins. Compost, waste, recycling and a weird cardboard, brown-lidded white box. Those plastic bag-like envelopes, or any type of plastic bag (including the grocery bags from Family Fresh when you forget the reusable bags right next to the dorm door) belong in this bin for proper disposal.

Not all recycling is the same. The cardboard box that the fifth fake succulent you've bought

this semester came in can go in the "normal" recycling bin. The weird plastic airbags that have replaced the super fun bubble wrap should be put in the plastic bag recycling (hint: the white and brown bin).

If it has clear packing tape, rip that off and throw it away. The weird Amazon tape is also not recyclable, but it is compostable. Either do some form of dark magic to get it all off, compost the entire box, or rip the cardboard up and do a mix of both recycling and composting.

Please don't put the plastic bags in the normal recycling bin. It's considered trash and everything in the recycling bin now goes to a landfill, which is a major bummer. The current recycling system is set up so that if there is one piece of trash in a can full of recyclables, everything is considered trash and goes to the dump. Remember this the next time a greasy pizza box is in the recycling bin. It doesn't belong there. Only the clean parts of the

box can be recycled and the rest should be composted or put in the trash *sigh*.

I would bet that many of our parents had, or continue to have, a stash of grocery bags hiding in a specific cupboard or closet. (If you somehow didn't grow up with this experience, I don't believe you, or your parents are magicians). After the bags reach avalanche levels, hopefully, someone either stopped using plastic bags and switched to reusable or paper bags until the mountain started to shrink or brought these bags to a recycling center for proper disposal. (Kohl's, Walmart and Best Buy are where I used to go and are a great option when off campus). Now that we've developed similar habits to our parents, feel free to put aside the shame and pull the stash of plastic bags from under the bed or from one of the dorm dresser drawers, and bring them to one of the plastic bag collection bins on Campus. There is one right across from the

Post Office and one across from the Caf.

If this is all brand new information, don't worry, you are not alone. Seriously, you aren't alone. I see this mistake all the time and it is a very common and understandable mixup. It is very easy to change your habits and to remind your friends. After getting the white and blue package that contained more stickers for your laptop, but the packaging in the plastic recycling bin. Maybe even check out the waste bin across from the Post Office and put the recycling in the container it belongs in. Making this simple change is a step towards being a more sustainable college student and will hopefully make Gusties become wiser consumers. Not ordering online isn't very realistic, especially as college students, so at the very least be knowledgeable consumers and put our recycling where it belongs.

Dating during COVID: An (almost) impossible task



Tori Smith
Opinion Columnist

Now that Valentine's Day is a few weeks behind us, I think we can all collectively agree that this particular holiday in this particular year was a doozy. I've said it before and I'll say it again: this is a lonely year.

Perhaps it's from not having a significant other to watch *WandaVision* every Friday night with (this may be speaking from personal experience). Or maybe you do have a special someone in your life, but because of COVID you're only able to see them once every Friday to order pizza and watch *WandaVision*.

Either way, we're all suffering, but at least we all have *WandaVision*. That is unless you don't have Disney+ in which you're really suffering. My heart goes out to you.

In any case, I think everyone has realized how hard it is to meet new people during the pandemic. If you're trying to find "the one", or even just some new pals to hang out with, you're going to have to get creative.

To help you out, here are a few tips and tricks from a completely (un)qualified (non)professional:

Ah, the classmate crush. So exciting, yet almost always underwhelming.

Having a classmate crush is a universal experience that, for many of us, dates back to grade school. Unfortunately for us in college, it's not so easy to run up to the boy or girl we like at recess and scream "I like you" and run away.

In fact, I would refrain from screaming at anyone if you're looking to get to know them.

A better, more mature idea is to throw out the idea of making a study group for your class and invite that special someone.

A study group is a great way to meet new people, and you can even host them virtually. This way you can talk to your crush and get to know them in a group setting. Ev-



Youngsters trying to date during a global pandemic

Luke Yang

everything is less awkward in a group setting.

And the best part? You may even boost your grade.

If you're looking for a more direct approach, social media offers you many ways to get to know others.

Instagram, for example, offers a Direct Message (DM) feature that allows users to privately message one another. This is a good way to reach out to someone new if, and only if, the communication is respectful.

Afterall, the term "sliding into the DMs" doesn't have the best reputation. It's easy to offend or off-put someone with such a direct means of communication, but if you're careful about the words you send, it could be a good way to meet someone new.

Another popular social media app is Snapchat, or what I refer to as "The App Where Conversations Go to Die."

It's a good app to reach out to new people either through sending pictures/selfies back and forth or chatting in the DMs.

In my opinion, reaching out to someone new on Snapchat is a lot less pressure than Instagram. Most things you send (unless changed in the settings) disappear after the recipient opens or reads a message. There's also no profile page or feed, so it feels a little less personal.

The main problem I have with the app, however, is how easy it is to fall into the same pattern of sending meaningless selfies back and forth for weeks, even months, without saying a word. Hence, "The App Where Conversations Go to Die."

The other social media platform you could use to reach out to someone new is Facebook. My advice: don't use Facebook.

Let's be honest, no one wants to use a dating app. They're weird, awkward and kind of sketchy. But we have to be honest with ourselves, we are in desperate times here.

There are a lot of dating apps out there. There's Tinder, Bumble, Hinge, Grindr, Her, OkCupid, PlentyofFish and much, much more.

All of these apps have different features and are designed for different purposes. If you're thinking about taking the plunge into any of these, it's important to know which one is right for you.

Tinder is the most popular dating app with the highest number of users, according to the Kochava Collective. Because of its insanely large consumer-base, this app is used for a whole variety of reasons, from casual meet-ups to finding long-term relationships.

Bumble is another popular choice. It's unique feature which gives women the responsibility of making the first move makes this app stand out from the rest.

Apps such as Grindr and Her also stand out for being specifically made for the LGBTQ+ community. Grindr advertises itself as "the world's largest social networking app for gay, bi, trans and queer people" while Her is a combined social media platform and dating app created by and for LGBTQ+ women and non-binary folks.

If you decide to join any of the above-mentioned apps, make sure to do your own research and be careful when meeting up with new people.

I think this one is pretty self-explanatory. I can't promise anything will come of it, but that won't stop me from trying.

Hopefully meeting new people will become easier once COVID restrictions are lifted, but for now we'll just keep hoping to run into our future soulmate in the chip aisle of Target.

Word Search

TV Lingo

V S B L A N K I N G H A M M O C K N O Q
E A Q A E N V H D E A S B B R S H R J O
E B D X N T S L M J J S T E P G P P I M
Z M H A Y D W F D A P A T U Q F U O S P
Z H Y V T J W K N S S T C A N N E D T A
I X P D Y E D I D B U E R B L T Z C H Q
L V J E B X A M D L H L U B E M A D T G
O Y A A X B D S C T Y L G D T M P O R V
T C T D E I T S E O H I I F T Q A U I C
L S M A K L F P U R R T U B E V W B W N
K H Q I J L B V O S D E K T R N E L K Y
J D P R K B A T W W G Z Z E B D J E X Z
L E H V K O C O M E D W R Q O E T P T M
U T T A X A K M V E Q A Q W X H Y U V I
M B U C A R S R B P C I Q U Q G L M F D
X E E T T D E J P S A V U D Z T Q P C P
I A X I C X L G L C B U T Q I Y F I S Q
N B W V P I L O T J L O W S S S W N M F
R Z V E T A W Y S Z E Q V F M V Z G F K
S A H S V F A M I L Y H O U R L O J O N

actives
bed
cable
dead air
hammock

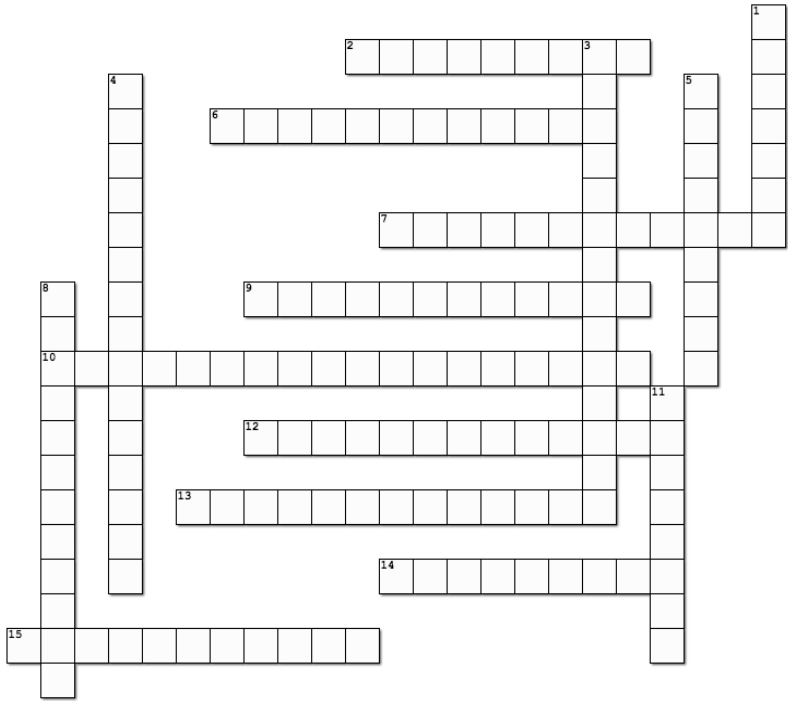
satellite
sweeps
backsell
billboard
canned

double pumping
letterbox
spot
teaser
bandwidth

blanking
clutter
family hour
pilot
stunt

Crossword

TV Shows



Across

2. "I love you Bingo Bronson" (two words).
6. "Jeremy Bearimy" (three words).
7. "We're adults. When did that happen? And how do we make it stop?" (two words).
9. "Ew, David" (two words).
10. "I'm fine. It's just that life is pointless and nothing matters and I'm always tired" (three words).
12. "UNACCEPTABLE!" (two words).
13. "Are you looking for your bagel mother, too?" (two words).
14. "Bears. Beats. Battlestar Galactica" (two words).
15. "She recast Pietro?"

Down

1. "Curse your sudden but inevitable betrayal!"
3. "The Child" (two words).
4. "Back rolls?" (three words).
5. "Big ball of wibbly wobbly, timey wimey... stuff (two words).
8. "We search out things that want to kill us, yeah, huh, or eat us. You know who does that? Crazy people!"
11. "Maybe a dingo ate your baby."

"A Change in the Weather" by Bryanna Filip



The Monkey Speaks



The Monkey Man
Eldritch Being

Have you seen the thing in the woods? Numerous Gustavus students have reported seeing a suspicious character running around the wooded area of the Arb. Only spotted at night in the light of the moon, this creature has been said to be hunched, with sunken eyes and pale skin. And before you ask: no, it is not just a really tired senior taking a study break. Though, not unlike a burnt-out student, it is inadvisable to meet its gaze. Rumor has it

that if you do, you may find yourself unable to move, enthralled by its eyes that have been said to hold the same kind of desolate emptiness as the Void itself. And, while you stay hypnotized by its eyes, you won't notice its teeth. You needn't let this worry you, though. Nobody has seen it move faster than a loping gait, and we've never actually found any evidence of an attack. Of course, its physique does seem to suggest speed fitting of an apex predator. But really, there are many things we don't know about this creature. Where did it come from? Is it friendly? And most importantly, why Gustavus? My advice to you, avoid the Arb at night. Curiosity killed the cat, don't let it get you too.

Crossword Answers: Across. 2. Broad City, 6. The Good Place, 7. Grey's Anatomy, 9. Schitt's Creek, 10. Parks and Recreation, 12. Adventure Time, 13. Infinity Train, 14. The Office, 15. WandaVision. Down. 1. Firefly, 3. The Mandalorian, 4. RuPaul's Drag Race, 5. Doctor Who, 8. Supernatural, 11. Seinfeld

Swim and Dive Senior Spotlight



The Gustavus Swim and Dive team prepare for the last meet of the season intending to beat St. Thomas.

Isaac Bui

Autumn Zierman
Staff Writer

With the swim and dive season already heavily underway and restrictions heavily in place on competition and travel, the Gustavus Swim and Dive team spent last Saturday, February 13, preparing for end-of-season with another Intra-squad meet. While practicing almost every day a week, twice a day, certainly gears the team up for competition, Intra-squad meets allow the simulation of an actual competition without the risks of travel and visitation of other schools.

"Intra-squad meets have been, personally, fun, but definitely less competitive," Senior Amelia Bjorklund said.

Even without the competition, these meets have been able to boost team morale, which had been suffering up until the point that the end of season goals were decided.

"A good turning point in team morale was having a definitive plan for the end of season. Mentally the team has been preparing since the end of October but hadn't previously

had a date to train for," Head Swim and Dive Coach Jon Carlson said.

Despite having less overall competitive meet opportunities than other sports at Gustavus, and having been deprived of a Sections this year, having an end goal has boosted spirits all around.

The end of season for Swim and Dive will come in the form of hosting a competitive meet with St. Thomas for the Women's team and a conglomeration of other teams that includes St. Thomas for the Men's team. This will also be the last competitive meet that St. Thomas swims in Division III in the MIAC, and the Gusties are determined to send them off properly.

"One of my goals this year is to beat St. Thomas, for sure, especially because it will be their last time swimming in D3," Bjorklund said.

During and after practice encouragements to the team in the form of burns on St. Thomas decorated the whiteboard in the Gustavus pool area.

While beating out St. Thomas is assuredly one of the goals driving the Swimmers and Divers to practice hard, it is

by no means the sole motivator. The Men's Swim and Dive team is also working to defend their right to claim of Section Champion, which they have held two years in a row.

"You don't really need to compete to discover who is performing the best. You can look up at the scores and see where you are matching with everyone else in the section," Head Coach Carlson said.

"I'd like to leave this team, as a senior, in the position to defend our Section Championship next year," Senior Joshua Muntifer said.

With the goal of dynasty securement in mind, this year's seniors have been leading the team in morale and attitude.

"Our team has an emphasis on team dynamics, usually we would be able to spend a ton of time on it, but with the pandemic it has been a lot harder. The seniors and upperclassmen pick up the slack with a lot of quality team modeling," Head Coach Jon Carlson said.

Even in the vestiges of their final year on the team, upperclassmen have been devoting their time to keeping the team in high spirits.

"We are trying to make the

best of the season, even though it is frustrating. We have been hosting online Zoom meetings to keep morale up, but we all know those aren't as fun. At our Intra-squad meets, even without most observers, we try and make it hype by cheering each other on," Senior Katherine Brostrom said.

"It's been an absolute rollercoaster, with starts and stops and false positives on tests, but right now it is positively trending up," Bjorklund said.

Like all other athletic teams, Swim and Dive have been affected by the Gustavus COVID policies, including weekly testing. Overall the measures have kept people safe and able to practice, though there have been some bumps in the path with false positive results.

"COVID has been a lot, with so many different feelings in the last month and a half, and false positive tests, but we leave it outside the pool and it's like family here," Bjorklund said.

Like many other sports teams, Swim and Dive has conquered the ups and downs of the year with determination to see it through to the end.

On end of season goals, con-

sensus is broadly the strong desire to send St. Thomas out of Division III with a defeat on it's shoulders.

"The goal is to have everyone swim fast, it really comes down to that. There is no championship, but we can always compare times," Head Coach Carlson said.

"They like to race," Assistant Coach Alex Lindstrom said, an opportunity that Swim and Dive will have this Sunday, going up against St. Benedict's and St. John's for the Men's and Women's teams respectively with all of Gustavus, from the metaphorical sidelines, cheering them on.

Women's Hockey Bounces Back

Gusties emerge victorious over St. Benedict



After challenges with COVID-19, the Gustavus Women's Hockey team makes the most of every game.

Isaac Bui

Jack Wiessenberger
Staff Writer

After a tough loss in the season opener, the Gustavus Women's Hockey team has bounced back strongly with back-to-back shutout wins. Last Sunday, February 21, the team took the ice against St. Benedict. Following a particularly strong showing from underclassmen players, the Gusties emerged victorious in a 5-0 win.

"Our team has definitely grown since our first game. We are becoming much more confident in our systems and where we are supposed to be at different points in the game. Overall, I think we have gotten better at angling and winning battles in the critical spots on the ice. Our defense and offense are working together much better now as well," Junior forward Jamie Byrne said.

The Gusties fell to the Bethel Royals in their first game of the season, but since then have played nearly perfect hockey. Over their last six periods, the team has held their opponents scoreless. Control over

the puck has seen significant improvement. Even when the opposing team gets the chance to shoot, the Gusties last line of defense has been impeccable in stopping the puck.

"I feel that the game went very well for me personally. I've been focusing on consistently playing confident, on my rebound control, and on puck-play. I think that Sunday's game was a good representation of those skills. I think it was a great team win. We had several different girls get involved in scoring our goals, and were strong on both the offensive and defensive end," Junior goaltender Emilia Helms-Leslie said.

The Gusties are a team of great depth at every position. Helms-Leslie and sophomore Katie McCoy have split time at goalie, with both showing great skill. A large part of the team's depth comes from the emergence of underclassmen as serious competitors. Three of the five goals scored by the Gusties in this game came off the sticks of underclassmen. First-year forward Brooke Power achieved a significant

milestone when she scored her first collegiate goal early in the third period.

"Scoring my first collegiate goal was one of the best things ever. It was an exhilarating feeling knowing that I scored and I threw my hands up in the air as my other teammates on the ice skated over to surround me in a big group hug. After, I skated to the bench with the biggest smile on my face to give the rest of the team a high five. I have been waiting for this moment ever since I was a little kid and knew I wanted to play hockey at the collegiate level," Power said.

The moment was certainly a special one for Power. Following her goal, the team felt a rush of enthusiasm. The Gusties went on to score once more in the third period. Power's goal was just one example of the team performing at a high level.

"Brooke's first collegiate goal was very exciting and well deserved, I was on the bench during it and everyone jumped up. It was the loudest the bench has been this year. The underclassmen have

all been working really hard in practice which is exactly what we need as a team to be the best we can be. The upperclassmen have been very open to answering questions, and I think we have been very welcoming so the younger players feel like they are a part of the team," Byrne said.

COVID has made virtually every aspect of sports harder, but the Women's Hockey team has managed to successfully integrate their new players into the system despite the challenges. In a season where typical team bonding activities are not allowed, upperclassmen have had to step up even more to enforce team culture and togetherness.

"We are lucky to have a very close-knit team, which makes integrating freshmen into the program pretty easy. While COVID restrictions have changed our day-to-day routines, our culture hasn't changed," Helms-Leslie said.

The team has shown a high level of resilience throughout the season. Through the various strange scenarios COVID has brought to sports, the

Gusties have managed to bring the team together and play well.

"I'm looking forward to seeing how our team can grow this year despite it not being a normal year. Since there is no conference title or playoffs, we are really just playing for fun and using this time to improve as a team overall. We are playing each day like it's our last because with how things are, you never know when it could be," Byrne said.

With a little more than two weeks left in the season, the team is looking to make the most of every game they get. Without the opportunity to compete for a conference championship this year, the focus is being set on next year. The women's hockey team has a bright future ahead with strong upperclassmen leaders and a solid core of underclassmen. Even in the most challenging season, the Gusties have managed to shine.

Fight 'Til the End

Men's Basketball Challenges Strong Johnnie Team

Eamonn McCullough
Staff Writer

Facing down a team ranked fourth in the nation is no easy task, but the Gustie men's basketball team did that and more on Sunday, Feb. 21 when they faced off against St. John's University on the road. Standout performances from a handful of Gustavus stars kept the score close throughout the game, although the Gusties would eventually fall 68-75 for a current record of 0-2 overall and 0-1 in the MIAC. The Johnnies, now 3-0 overall, are one of two nationally-ranked MIAC teams according to D3Hoops.com, the other being seventh-ranked University of St. Thomas.

"It felt great to go to St. John's the way we did and play with a great team. We played hard and played well with what we've been practicing, which is unselfish basketball. That really contributed to us being able to stay in the game," Senior Isaac Douglas said.

Douglas had an outstanding night of basketball, putting 11 points on the board for the Gusties.

The game was a heated battle from the get-go, with back-and-forth scoring throughout the first half. The Gusties looked to be in a position to surge ahead after junior Nolan Malo drained a three-pointer to bring the score to 19-16 with a little over seven minutes left in the first half, and Gustavus took advantage of that momentum. The Gusties expanded that lead to an eight point difference with five minutes to go in the half before St. John's rallied with a 13-to-4 point surge.

"It felt really good to take the lead and to be playing good basketball. I think it helped a lot with our confidence, which should help us a lot moving forward," Douglas said.



The Gusties face off with the Johnnies

Submitted

The Johnnies closed out the beginning of the game with a one-point advantage, and the score sat at 31-30 as the teams took to the locker rooms.

The Gusties surged from the gates when play resumed, scoring eight points within the first two minutes of the second half, accounted for by three clean scoring drives and two free throws. As the half went on, however, the Johnnies fought their way back into the game to bring the score to 46-46 with 15 minutes of regulation play left. Senior Kaleb Faehn brought the heat in twilight of the second half, dropping two three's to

establish a 52-46 lead with a little over 13 minutes to go. The scoring went back and forth for the next few minutes, with St. John's tying it up 57-57 once again with only a few minutes left to play.

Several Gusties made some crucial plays as the clock ran down, with senior Peter Lundquist sinking a jump shot to draw a small lead with three minutes left, and junior Benji Lundberg making a last-minute three-pointer in an attempt to close the small gap established by the Johnnies. Although Lundberg's three brought the score to 68-72 with 18 seconds remain-

ing, the Johnnies sank one final free throw to end the night with a win.

"We worked really hard. Defensively, I think that's what we did best throughout the game. That had a lot to do with our effort and knowing what we needed to get done," Douglas said.

Douglas commended the teamwork-heavy defensive barrier the Gusties put up that guarded their side of the court.

The Gusties ended the night with some proud stats, shooting 44.4 percent for regular shots and 36.4 percent of three-pointers. The Johnnies had a

heavy-handed advantage off the backboard, however, beating the Gusties 37-28 on rebounds. Lundquist had an outstanding game, dropping a college career-high 20 point, as well as three rebounds, three blocks, and two assists. Other standout scorers for the Gusties were Faehn, who ended with 14 points and four rebounds, Lundberg with 12 points, and Douglas. The Gusties will be back in action against St. Mary's this Wednesday, Feb. 24, at 7 p.m.

Although the end of their season is only about 10 days away, the Gusties have an intense schedule of games ahead of them and are looking forward to more opportunities for their hard work to pay off.

"Right now, our last game is scheduled for next Saturday. We got a big string of games coming in here, though. We play this weekend, next Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. I'm looking forward to us improving and still playing well throughout the rest of the games. Hopefully we get a couple wins and we'll see what happens," Douglas said.



The Gusties get back to competing

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The Gusties make some crucial plays

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