



## Embracing Latinx culture: OLAS Latinx night



*"OLAS Latinx  
night" article  
on page 5*

A traditional dance being performed at the OLAS Latinx night.

Izabela Taylor

### WEEKLY Scan

A preview of this week's top news and more

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Campus Safety Report

- Saturday, April 2, 2022**

  - On Sunday, April 2, 2022, Campus Safety transported a student from Sohre Hall to River's Edge.
- Sunday, April 3, 2022**

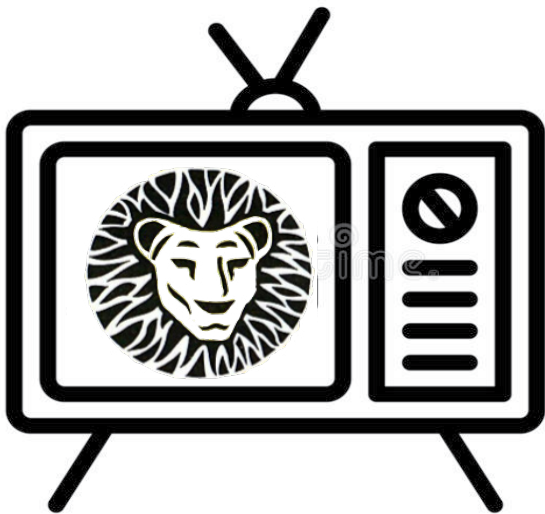
  - On Sunday, April 3, 2022, Campus Safety, while on patrol, came across an intoxicated student sleeping in Rundstrom Hall.
- Sunday, April 3, 2022**

  - On Sunday, April 3, 2022, Campus Safety responded to behind Norelius Hall for a report of a possible stolen metal chicken.
- Tip of the Week:**

Common parking errors:

  - Three-flags circle is no parking any time, even with flashers on (\$50 citation).
  - Green permit parking is no parking 2am-7am, 7 days a week (\$30 citation).
  - Designated overnight green spots are available in the Motor Pool lot.
  - All parking in the Stadium/Beck parking lot is marked No Parking 2am-7am, 7 days a week (\$30 citation).
  - There are 14 red parking lots, you may have to search more than one lot to find an open parking space.
  - Visitor parking is closed to students and staff at all times (\$30 citation).
  - A vehicle is not registered until the permit is properly displayed on the vehicle (\$30 citation).
  - Temporary Permits: hanging from the rear view mirror, with vehicle information side out. Contact the Campus Safety office 24 hours a day at 507-933-8888 with any parking related.

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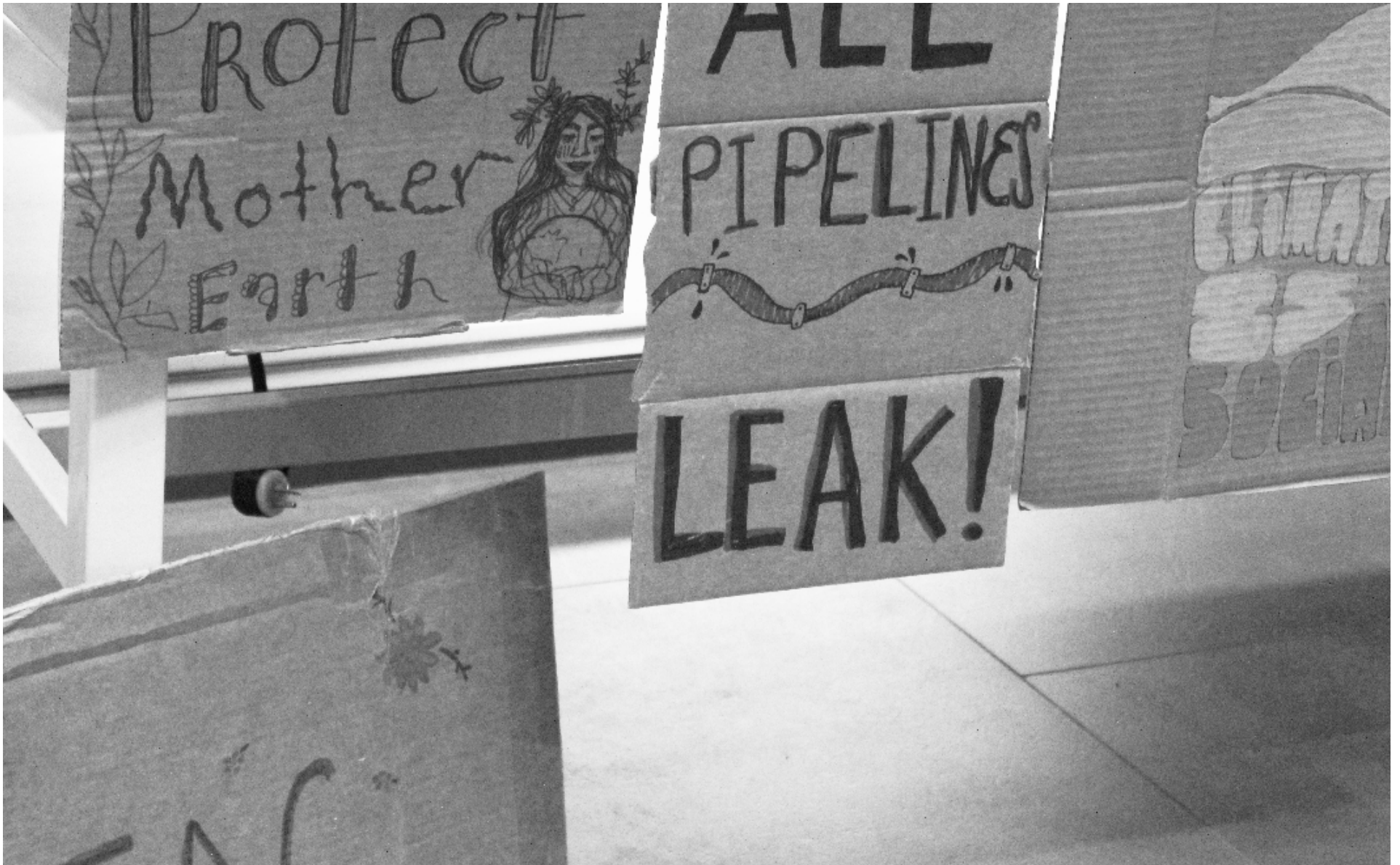
Daily Sabbath Calendar

*Prayer around the Cross-Mondays (Christ Chapel)*  
Gather to pause for reflection, music, lighting candles, and prayer.  
*Chapel and Chill-Tuesdays (Christ Chapel)*  
Meet in Christ Chapel for a coffee bar and easy going conversation (or not).  
*Morning Praise-Wednesdays (Christ Chapel)*  
Join together with Gustavus Choirs to sing the Morning Praise liturgy.  
*Holy Communion-Thursdays (Christ Chapel)*  
A brief service of song, readings, and Holy Communion.  
*Musical Showcase-Fridays (Christ Chapel)*  
We celebrate the many talented musicians at Gustavus.

*CAB Calendar*  
Stay tuned for next week!



# Climate teach-in held to support sustainable actions



*Different signs made depicting different thoughts on climate-related issues.*

Izabela Taylor

**Colin Maiwurm**  
Staff Writer

On Wednesday March 30, the annual Take Action Climate Teach-In event was held in Nobel Hall. This event has been going on for many years, and this year was Gustavus's first time hosting the event on campus. This is a global event happening for high schools, colleges, and for communities. The reason for this conference is to educate a large variety of students and professionals and show how important the environment is and how each person can help in their own way. When asking Lily Engebretson, a sustainability Intern for the Johnson Center of Innovation about the event, she stated that "It's easily accessible, we are not using jargon. What we are doing makes sense so it's kind of like accessible to students who might not be like experts in the field."

While the event stated advanced research, they revised

their findings so others who are not experts in that field can understand. The format of this event started out with a question and answer segment with five professional speakers who were experts in different fields. They represented their opinions on each question and commented on each other's thinking. In doing this, these experts showed that anyone can aid in this endeavor, regardless of background or field.

This collaboration between the five experts went on for half an hour, then they ended the question and answer segment. The rest of the event was focused on letting those who came to watch go around to each station and discuss with all of these experts that showed up. Tessa Yaeger, another sustainability Intern for the Johnson Center of Innovation, what all of the stations are about. "It's not like just environmental studies faculty, we have political science, geography, art, music is involved as well, lalax professors, peace studies professors," Sustainability intern Tessa Yaeger said.

ger said.

While investigating each station, this was quickly realized. One station revolved around getting those who came to the event to create their own art revolving around an environmental issue and sending it to elected officials or to post for their community. This was a way for people to use art to bring attention to issues that are not being addressed enough. There was another station focusing on transportation.

This station was meant to show how switching to electric vehicles and using bikes over vehicles for shorter distances in order to reduce carbon emissions and traffic. They showed possible plans to add bike lanes throughout St. Peter. They had electric bikes there for people to look at and described how the addition to electric bikes would help those who are unable to make it up the hill or may fall behind others.

While the five speakers who were at the question and answer segment were at some of these stations, there were also other

experts that showed up to talk about different fields and how others can help in different ways. For example, there was an expert who zoomed in with a slideshow to describe the additional issues that are arising due to the war happening in Ukraine. The increase in carbon emission is skyrocketing due to the use of war vehicles and weapons. In addition to that, they also bring up food security. The soil which was seen as perfect for growing crops is now being destroyed.

Similarly to the art station, there was a station which showed pictures of different glaciers that were taken from an expert who traveled through harsh environments and used drones in order to show the change in these glaciers overtime. The hope of this station was to show people that climate change truly does exist and is changing the world that we live in now. While all of these stations were undoubtedly focusing on different issues and solutions, there were a few stations that all focused on en-

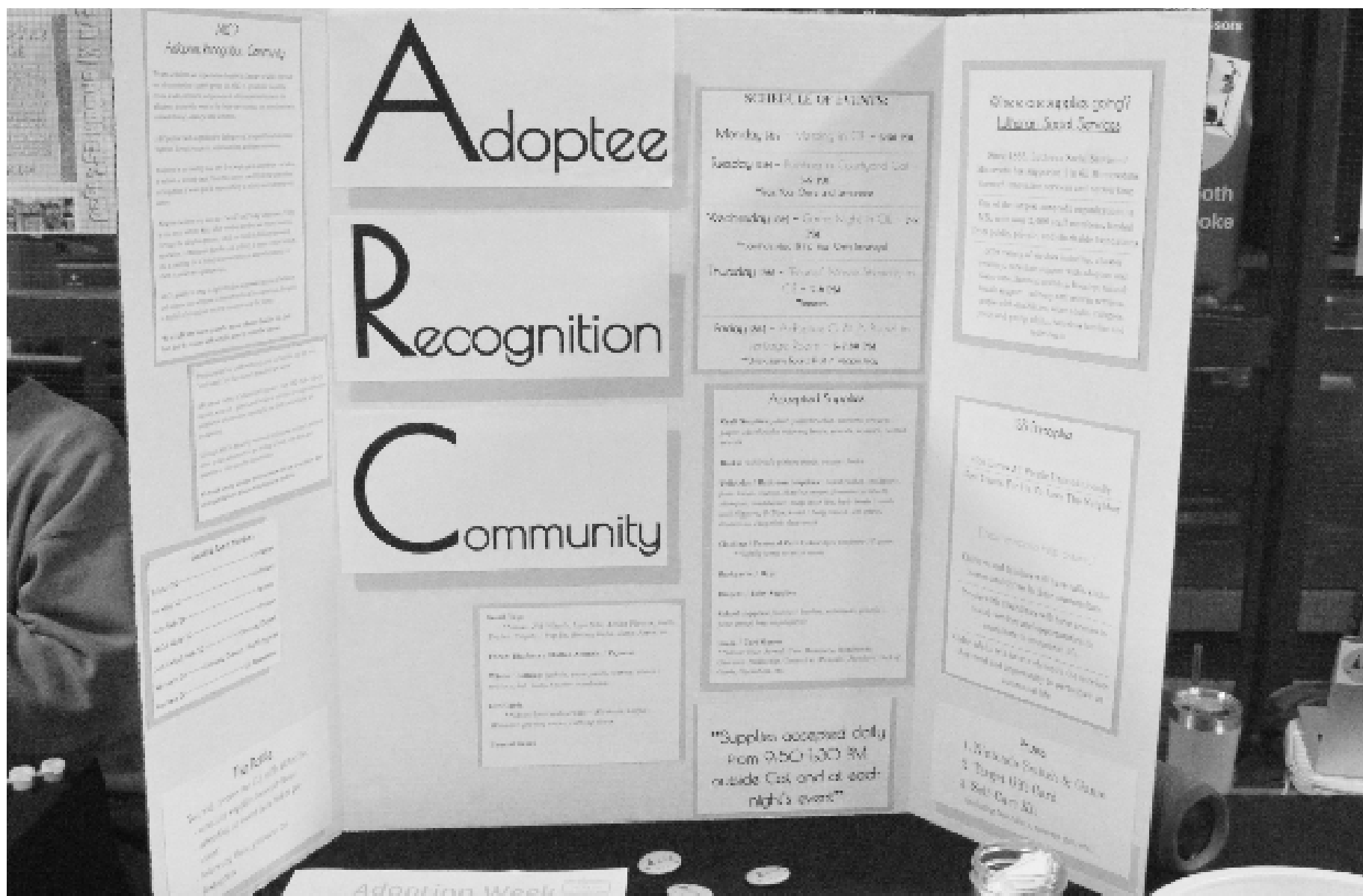
vironmental justice.

When going to each station, not a single one was the same. They were all talking about different ways that you as an individual can make a difference. For instance, one of them had a simple step by step plan; in this plan, the individual is to pick an organization that they support and reach out to them. After reaching out, the goal is to say yes to this organization three times in one month. The hope of this is to slowly start helping the organization by agreeing to their offers and finding a place in said organization.

While this event had many experts for people to discuss with, unfortunately there was no online option for people to attend. While this is not an option, if anyone would like to learn more about this event and any of the experts, they can contact any of the sustainability interns for the Johnson Center of Innovation and they will gladly help.



# ARC hosts events to recognize adopted students



A tri-fold poster at an ARC event explaining the event and its prizes.

Jayne Mapstone

**Lauren Ruth**  
Staff Writer

This week, the Adoptee, Recognition, Community (ARC) hosted its first series of events. The origins of this organization started in January of 2021 by Senior Co-Presidents Tia Lerud and Ani Bailey. “We both felt that Gustavus could benefit from a space for adoptees to connect with each other, as well as create connections with non-adoptees on the foundation of identity,” Lerud and Bailey said. Members of ARC are proud to have created a safe space for students to make connections with others who share similar identities and also with those who don’t.

Along with creating a space for adoptees, ARC also strives to bridge the gap between adoptees and non-adoptees. ARC aims “to mediate the stigma surrounding adoption and the adoptee experience through interaction and open conversation,” Junior treasurer McCall

Walker said. The adoption experience is something very few people experience firsthand. According to members, many non-adoptees will never be able to understand the trauma and loss associated with being an adoptee. “We believe that it is crucial to educate non-adoptees on our experiences so they can better understand it, as well as gauge ways to support the adoptees in their lives,” Lerud said.

Some members shared their experiences as adoptees. Co-President Tia Lerud has known she was adopted since she could remember. She was adopted at 18 months from Cambodia. Lerud grew up in a white, upper-middle class household and feels she has been extremely fortunate with her adoptive family.

However, she believes this does not diminish the trauma and loss she endured through the adoption process. “Adoption is such a multi-faceted experience that one word cannot describe it,” Lerud said. While her adoption trauma has manifested itself in many forms

throughout her life, she feels fortunate to have surrounded herself with people who make her feel safe and supported.

Other ARC members who shared their stories were Sophomore DLC representative Kate Dario and Junior McCall Walker. “Hi! I’m Kate and I’m adopted,” Dario said, “my opening line to many conversations, sometimes they can get awkward.” Dario was born in India and adopted at 3 years old. She grew up in St. Paul, MN where her single mother gave her many opportunities to embrace her Indian heritage.

While Dario is grateful that her mother wanted her to understand where she came from, there is so much that she had to contend with on her own. “Adoption is such a traumatic experience that not many people understand,” Dario said. She is so thankful to have ARC on campus where she can find people who understand being adoptees, but also those who wish to learn.

Walker was adopted from China at 11 months old. Like Lerud, she believes she grew up in a loving, comfortable

environment of privilege. “But adoption continues to be a facet of my identity that has far more layers than I ever imagined as a child,” Walker said. She began what she describes as “coming out of the fog” when she first started attending Gustavus where she was able to interact with other adoptees. ARC is an organization that she is proud of contributing to. “Everybody has a place at ARC, and it is a place of healing for many,” Walker said.

A.R.C. hosted Adoption Week from April 4th-8th. These events are created “to bring together students on Gustavus’ campus to learn not only about the adoption identity, but also to create a safe space for all identities to be welcomed and safe” members of ARC said.

The goal is to bring awareness to the adoptee experience and to ARC and their mission. ARC has partnered with the Peer Assistant’s and the Lutheran Social Services of MN to gather donations for families or individuals in need in the Mankato area. ARC is also hosting a raffle. Entries have the

chance of winning a Nintendo Switch, \$120 Target Gift Card, or a Self Care Basket.

Each day had a new activity planned. On Monday, ARC held their regular weekly meeting where members created flipbooks to reflect on the people and spaces where they feel a sense of belonging. Tuesday’s event was painting in the Courtyard Cafe. “It was refreshing to see the amount of students who attended our event and wanted to be more involved in ARC!” Lerud said.

Wednesday’s event was game night and Thursday’s event was a movie screening. Friday’s event ends the week with an educational panel on adoption. This will feature many of the members of ARC who will share their experiences as adoptees. The members hope to facilitate a productive and educational conversation around the adoption identity. “We hope that students at Gustavus are able to walk away from this week with a new perspective and want to be more involved with ARC!” members of ARC said.



# Embracing Latinx culture: OLAS Latinx Night

**Emma Esteb**  
Staff Writer

Last Friday, April 1 the Organization for Latin American Students (OLAS) welcomed the Gustavus community for their Annual Latinx Night in Alumni Hall from 6:00-8:00 pm. The event was complete with a diverse assortment of food from Latin America along with multiple student and professional performances, live music, and more. The title for the night was “The Many Faces of Latin America” and was the perfect opportunity to celebrate Latinx culture.

This is the club’s biggest celebration and get-together of the year. It was the first time in three years since Latinx Night because of COVID and it was a huge success with over 350 people in attendance. OLAS catered from two restaurants in the cities called Mañana and El Burrito Mercado and served pupusas and guisado.

They ran out of food and were very pleasantly surprised

about the turnout. The event started with a variety of student performances that included singing, poetry, and music. “The main goal of the event was to promote Latinx culture on campus because ever since COVID hit, our organization and other organizations, in general, have just been struggling with membership and hosting really successful in-person events,” Senior OLAS Co-President, Maria Flores Marquez said. The goal was definitely met as they had an amazing turnout and celebrated Latinx culture as a large Gustavus community.

*“The main goal of the event was to promote Latinx culture on campus.”*

Starting off the event with the student performances really created a great opening and all performers felt very supported by the audience. Junior Public Relations executive member, Ana Martínez choreographed the closing

dance for the students where she performed alongside them and also sang a duet within the program. Another student played the violin with her dad as he played the guitar. Many other students danced, sang, or played instruments during the first part of the event.

After the student performances, there was a food intermission where it took a lot longer than the club expected. With the overwhelming amount of people and the different Latin American food options, the cuisine was a huge success to all of the attendees. Alongside the student performances and the food, there was also professional performances from Aztec dancers, traditional Ecuadorian dancers, and a Mariachi band.

Many Gustavus students came to this event but also a lot of the OLAS members’ families attended, as well. “A lot of the parents loved the Mariachi band and after the band finished their song all of the Latina parents were yelling at them in Spanish to do an encore, which they ended up doing and playing another song,” Marquez said. The night ended with a

closing student dance, a brief speech from both the OLAS Presidents and Tres Leches cake.

Overall, according to both Marquez and Martínez, the night exceeded their expectations. The event showcased Latinx culture and got students more involved with not only the culture but also the organization itself. Martínez said that the event was a huge success and a great way for the organization to get their name out there to the broader Gustavus community. “OLAS is not just for Latinx American students, it’s for anyone who would be interested in the culture, you don’t have to be a certain race,” Martínez said.

*“OLAS is not just for Latinx American students, it’s for anyone who would be interested in the culture.”*

A lot of the attendees were very engaged and enthusiastic about the student performances

throughout the night. Marquez thought some students were maybe taken aback, in a good way, at the professional performances. “The professional performances are just not something you see every day. For a lot of the students, especially the non-Latino students, this was probably the first time that they’ve seen traditional dances with traditional Ecuadorian and Aztec outfits,” Marquez said.

After three years of not hosting this event, OLAS exceeded all expectations and created an amazing space where all Gustavus students felt welcomed and included. All of the board members worked extremely hard to make this event happen and it paid off in the end. The event went much better than expected and all members of the organization were happy with the results.

The student performances, food, and professional dancers all came together to bring the whole event to life. A beautiful combination of all these things created the picture of the “Many Faces of Latin America” and the Latinx culture in general.



Performers and attendees at Latinx night.

Izabela Taylor



# GUSTIE of the WEEK

## Chris Ortiz

**Emma Kelsey**  
Staff Writer

This week's Gustie of the Week, Chris Ortiz ('22), has found numerous ways to connect with his interests and his background here on campus whilst making his mark. A Political Science major and English minor, he is co-president of OLAS, (Organization for Latinx American Students) where members meet weekly to plan events that "showcase the diversity of Latin American food, politics, music, dance, and much more," Ortiz said. He shares that everyone is welcome to join the group; being Latin American is not required.

Connor Gag ('22) has known Ortiz since freshman year and witnessed his journey on campus as he became involved in many different areas on campus. He praises Ortiz and his hard work. He shares that Ortiz co-hosted Latinx night just recently, and put a lot of effort into making it a success. "You can really tell with Chris that he wants to do good in the community, he's also currently volunteering at the church here in town," Gag said.

Ortiz is also a member of Gustavus Model United Nations, where members "research and represent UN member states in a mock UN assembly to address world issues," Ortiz said. Ortiz serves as the DLC representative for the Diversity Leadership Council Representative, repre-

sending orgs on campus that promote diversity and meet weekly to discuss issues and events that pertain to a vancing diversity.

Furthermore, Ortiz is involved in Speech and Debate where he competes in categories of extemp, impromptu, and debate. He is also a peer advisor for the CICE (Center for International and Cultural Education) office. Ortiz explains that all of his involvements are important to him because of his identity: "I am a Mexican American and grew up in an undocumented migrant household, and policy has played a huge role in my life as well as my identity as a Latin American," Ortiz said.

Gag shares what impresses him most about Ortiz: "He is always trying new things and going to new places. He has attempted to study abroad multiple times, but due to COVID, that wasn't really possible. Despite these setbacks, he is still looking into finding ways to go abroad after college. He loves talking to new people and isn't afraid to share what he thinks," Gag said.

Another of Ortiz's friends, Sarah Isbell, shares that Ortiz is not only a very busy person with many responsibilities, but he is also a committed friend who always makes time for those around him. "He is very responsible and respectful. I know that he inspires me and everyone around him to work hard and be more involved on campus. He definitely has a promising future ahead of him," Isbell said.

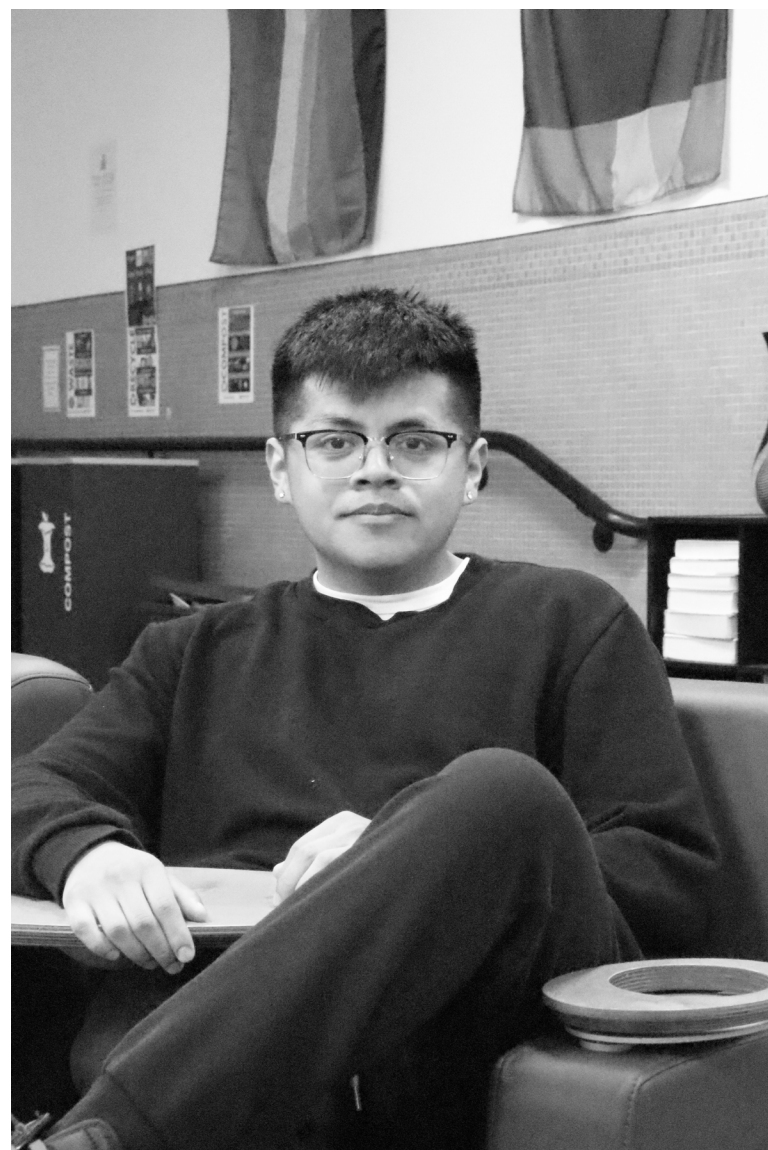
Ortiz has led a well-rounded life on campus. He shares that his favorite part about Gustavus is the smaller class

sizes, and the connections he is able to make with the faculty. He believes that the more intimate academic setting enables more connections to be made with professors, and a stronger sense of community.

"Just last week I had a professor come and talk to me and ask me how I've been. I haven't had any class with him in almost two years and the fact that he remembered my name so quickly and even remembered what class I was in with him really reminded me how close the community can be," Ortiz said.

Though Ortiz has had many great experiences and lots to show for it, this year has been challenging. As his final year, he has found it difficult to find a balance between both focusing on what's ahead and enjoying what he has in the moment. As for the community as a whole here at Gustavus, he finds that people have struggled to navigate the transition to a more "normal" state of the world with socialization being more prevalent and classes returning to in-person. While it has been exciting to host bigger in-person events more frequently and finally have food available, a crucial part of some events, it has been a challenging adjustment.

Ortiz's time here on the hill has been filled with challenges, uncertainty, and numerous obstacles. Despite all that, he has found a way to make a difference, have irreplaceable experiences, and set an example for other Gusties to follow their passions, become involved on campus, and simply to be a great friend.



Chris Ortiz posing studiously.

Luke Yang



Chris Ortiz in the Diversity Center.

Luke Yang

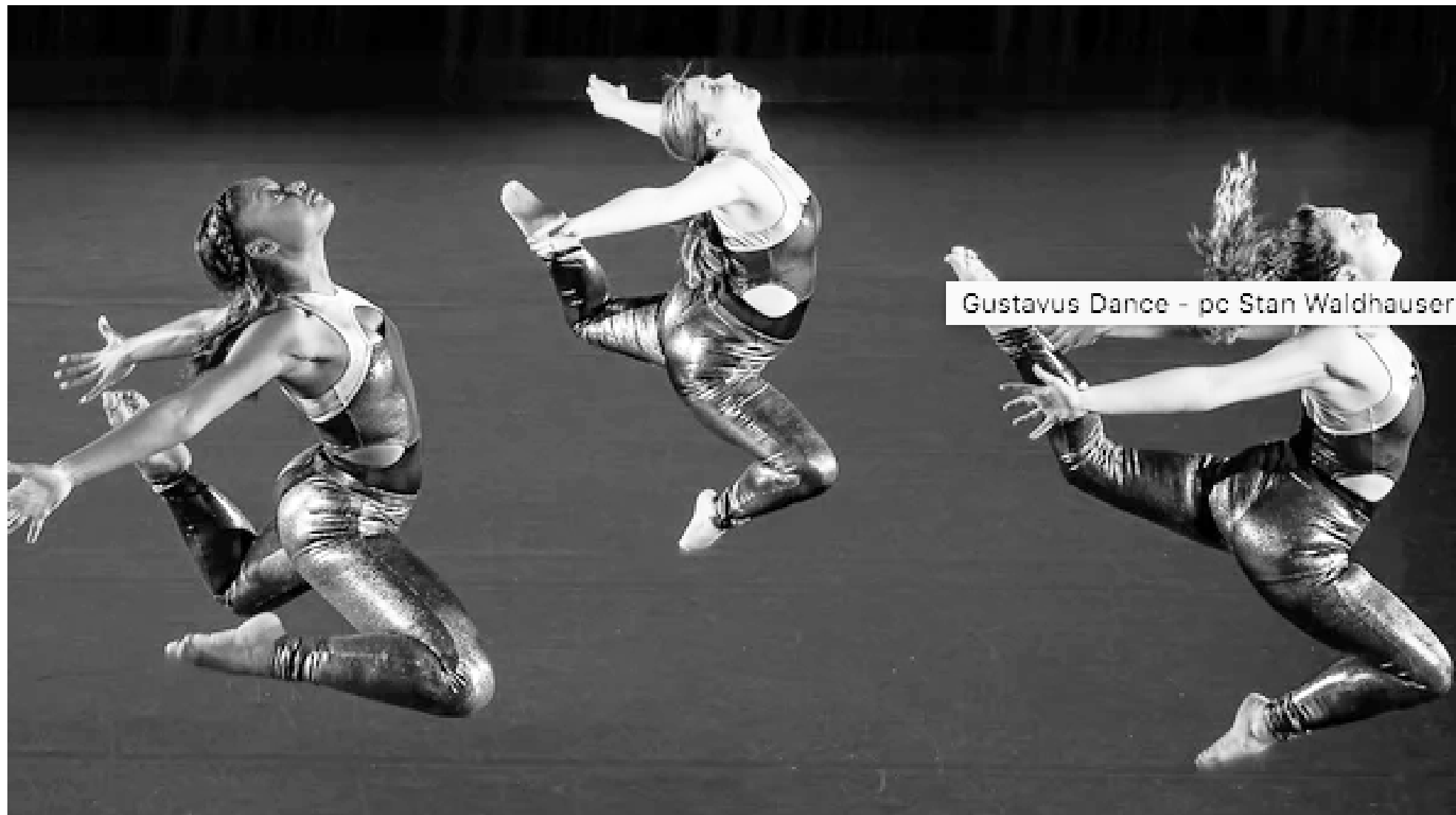
Do you have a suggestion for a Gustavus student, professor, or staff member who could be our next Gustie of the Week?

If so, send their name, position on campus, and a short description of why you think they should be recognized to [weekly@gustavus.edu](mailto: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.



# Gustavus dance company concert



Gustavus Dance - pc Stan Waldhauser

Dancers in motion.

Stan Waldhauser

**Leah Thompson**  
Staff Writer

**T**o Love the World Harder: The Gustavus Dance Company in Concert is the theme of this year's spring concert, which will be held from 8:00 p.m. on April 7, 8 and 9, with an additional performance at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 10 in the Rob and Judy Gardner Laboratory Theatre.

Tickets for the spring concert are available online at [gustavustickets.com](http://gustavustickets.com) or by calling 507-933-7590. Gustavus students and staff are each given one free ticket for the event while other tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for seniors and students.

The Gustavus Dance Company is comprised of students with advanced levels in modern dance and is supervised by faculty members. The spring concert involves choreography from both students, faculty and guest choreographers.

To Love the World Harder is a student-led concert directed by Melissa Rolnick and Michele Rusinko, professors in the Theatre and Dance department. The concert will have two acts with a total of ten different pieces. The pieces will be performed by students from various years and majors.

*"To Love the World Harder is a student-led concert directed*

*by Melissa Rolnick and Michele Rusinko... The pieces will be performed by students from various years and majors."*

Senior Claire Drapeau started dancing when she was very young and auditioned for the Gustavus Dance Company during her freshman year. Drapeau is one of the two student choreographers for the spring concert and will also be performing in two other dances.

Being a choreographer involves lots of planning, "You have to create the dance and movements, pick the dancers and decide which costumes to use. You also have to choose which music would work best for the piece you're creating," Drapeau said.

One unique aspect Drapeau used in her choreography set was asking her dancers about music recommendations to use for her piece.

Junior Cascade Oppitz has been taking dance classes since they were four years old. They will be dancing in Melissa Rolnick's, Jeffrey Peterson's and Karla Grotting's pieces. This will be the first time Oppitz will be performing and on stage since the pandemic started.

"This concert has a really wide variety of styles and subject matter covered that I think

will be really appealing and engaging for the audience," Oppitz said; they are a Dance and English double major.

First-year Ella Schwakopf has been involved with the Gustavus Dance Company since the fall but has danced for many years prior to college. She will be performing in guest-choreographer Jeffrey Peterson's "How It Feels," and faculty member Sarah Hauss's "Super G". She's been practicing Jeffrey's piece since the fall and started Sarah's in the fall.

*"Drapeau is one of the two student choreographers for the spring concert... one unique aspect Drapeau used in her choreography set was asking her dancer about music recommendations to use for her piece."*

"Once I started dancing at Gustavus, I wanted to become more involved in the department. The students and faculty are really friendly and make dancing a really fun time," Schwakopf said. She will be completing a minor in Dance during her time at Gustavus.

This will be First-year Emma

Stock's first show with the Dance Company, but she has been dancing for most of her life and was involved with Gustavus's Competitive and Performance Dance Teams in the fall. Stock will be performing in guest choreographer Karla Grotting's piece called "Shortwave".

The purpose of this year's theme is to rebuild a sense of connection and community that may have been lost during the height of the pandemic.

"The pandemic was hard on everyone and there was a loss of community. With everything going on in the world, the directors wanted to recreate that sense of joy that community creates," Drapeau said.

To Love the World Harder will include a wide range of pieces, "There's a journey, with an emphasis on emotional intent and focus, that the audience will see as the dancers go from piece to piece," Schwakopf said.

"I believe this show is incredibly dynamic and all of the pieces are different from one another, but the common theme is both our love for dance and our attempt to love the world around us," Stock said.

The spring concert is the last opportunity to watch dance performances open to the public at Gustavus. However, there will be an Honors Concert and a "Final Friday" performance in the Arb on the last Friday of classes.

Drapeau encourages students who may be interested in dance on campus, but are inexperienced, to take a class for fun and to receive a gen-

eral education requirement. Classes such as Contemporary Modern Dance I and Ballet I count towards Artsc and Welbg in the Challenge Curriculum.

*"The spring concert is the last opportunity to watch dance performances open to the public at Gustavus. However, there will be an Honors Concert and a "Final Friday" performance in the Arb on the last Friday of classes."*

"Dance has always been a creative outlet and has fostered a greater connection within myself and with those around me," Stock said.

To Love the World Harder will be held from 8:00 p.m. on April 7, 8 and 9, with an additional performance at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 10 in the Rob and Judy Gardner Laboratory Theatre.



# 4TH ANNUAL WOMXN OF COLOR SUMMIT

## My Body:

Help Support and Empower Young Women of Color  
Who Attend Post-Secondary Education

### Diversity Center panel discuss social issues and identity



The Gustavus Adolphus College Diversity Center sponsored "My Body: Unsettled: What This Body Can't About Diversity," an event for all women. Diversity leads, creating a space where participants who feel social issues and identity barriers. Participants were encouraged to share their views on intersectionality and how their identity shapes struggles and dreams, as well as looking at how they navigate diversity at Gustavus.

4th Annual Womxn of Color Summit

## My BODY

HELP SUPPORT AND EMPOWER YOUNG WOMEN OF COLOR  
WHO ATTEND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Saturday April 9, 2022

9AM-4PM

Alumni Hall



**GUSTAVUS**  
GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE

Sponsored by the Center for Inclusive Excellence, the President's Council for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Gustavus Women in Leadership



## WOMXN OF COLOR SUMMIT

*NOT A TYP0... here's why*

***The 'X' denotes an identity that  
is not defined by cultural  
norms, implying that all  
women are women in  
whichever way they want to  
identify, regardless of how  
societal norms define women.***



# Get the bj's out of Bjorling



**Jonas Doerr**  
Opinion Columnist

There's been some buzz on campus recently, but not by humans. Ferocious monsters lurk in dark corners of one of Gustavus' academic buildings, and no hero has yet vanquished these terrible foes. Black Jacket wasps have infested the music building.

The wasps have made their presence known in most areas of the building, but they are particularly numerous in the Bjorling recital hall. During a recent jazz concert in Bjorling, a wasp decided to perform an ad hoc improvisational dance routine above the trombone players, distracting the audience from the high quality music being played. And that's not an uncommon occurrence. Wasps join music practices so often that one would think they are auditing the class.

The unusual architecture of the music building provides a penthouse-like experience for Black Jacket wasps looking to escape the brutal Minnesota winters. Although no one knows for sure where their nests are, there are many options within the lofty rafters of the concert hall. The wasps clearly are comfortable, considering how many of them live in the building.

These wasps have been around for a long time. Senior jazz vocalist Anya Menk says, "For as long as I've known Bjorling, I've known the Bjorling Wasps. Our relationship began strained, but after a while, we discovered neither of us were going anywhere. Now, I find peace in the knowledge that I'm not alone. It's comforting to know that with each "shoo-bop," a family of wasps is up there in the rafters, cheering me on." While the wasps might be a supportive audience, they do not seem so friendly when they fly down to pay a visit.

Sophomore Sophie Norman had a terrifying experience with some of the flying menaces. One of the wasps appeared while she was with two other students. Panicking, she and the others fled. "At the time, I didn't know if I was allergic," Norman said. "We turned

around and saw that the wasp was still there." Luckily for her, one of her friends buckled down and swatted the wasps with a choir folder. When it dropped to the floor, the heroine stomped on the wasp to end its reign of terror forever.

She would not be the only one with a wasp horror story. Menk says, "I was minding my own business, playing a little "Tenor Madness", and to my dismay, a wasp fell directly on my hand as I was tickling the ivories. Lucky for me, the wasp flew off my hand into the interior of the piano. To this day, I believe he hides there, preparing to strike at any minute."

"I was traumatized as a kid getting stung by wasps, and I am still terrified of them. Once I spot a wasp buzzing around out of the corner of my eye, it's impossible to concentrate on the music, because I'm too scared to take my eyes off it. What if one goes up the bell of my trumpet? What if it stings me in the face? I would not hesitate to use anyone in the jazz

ensemble as a human shield if one got too close," Senior Abbie Kavouras said.

How can students perform excellently while this insectile threat constantly looms over them? Imagine the disaster that would occur if a student was stung while playing. Instead of the trumpet players figuratively screaming out high notes, they'd literally be screaming.

*"Imagine the disaster that would occur if a student was stung while playing. Instead of the trumpet players figuratively screaming out high notes, they'd literally be screaming."*

And, seeing as most students are not well versed in vocal improvisation, it would probably be in the wrong key. It would ruin the concert.

Students have mixed feelings on what to do with the wasps. Some have grown accustomed to the wasps and enjoy the usually non-violent company. Sometimes college can feel lonely, and wasps are good listeners. Say anything to them, and they'll just buzz back, "mmhmm."

On the other hand, some students feel that they have enough stress already without adding the constant fear of being stung. Wasps belong outside, no matter how much they enjoy the fine music produced in Bjorling.

"If we can't get rid of the nests, then the least we can do is charge them rent and put the money towards renovating the music building," Kavouras said. Why allow the wasps to enjoy our music building for free?

Something needs to be done about the wasps. First, someone needs to locate the wasps' nests, either to negotiate with them or to move them outside. Seeing as most of the wasps

have not hurt anyone yet, death by shoe sole does not seem fair for most of them. Perhaps they can be convinced to find a new mailing address outside of Gustavus' music building. If not, it is time to vanquish them.

If Campus Safety can handle the shenanigans that go on in Co-Ed, they could probably handle some wasps. Let them perform a sting operation to take out these menaces. Otherwise, a flaming hot bassoon solo might be enough to smoke them out. Either way, they cannot be allowed to remain in Bjorling.

We cannot continue to allow our music students to be marauded by Black Jacket wasps. Gustavus must either reach a peaceful deal with the wasps or remove them for good. Students will not let this infestation fly anymore. Let us band together to rid the music build-



Nice bee.



# Millennial fiction



**Clare Greeman**  
*Middle-Part Haver*

I'm only writing to appease the countless requests since my DWMs article (\*see issue 11 of the Weekly) to explain what the millennial fiction novel is; since that article thousands of letters have been sent our offices for the benevolent, whimsical, and extremely timely opinion writer with her finger on the pulse to explain what this genre is and where they can pick up their very own millennial fiction novel. Therefore I've taken down my The Batman 2022 picket sign and retired to my desk, cracked my knuckles, and fed the raven that sits on my writing desk so I can address the masses but most importantly, write an extremely self aggrandizing introduction for myself, and now that that's over:

The millennial fiction novel, as defined by myself (but will

most likely receive an update as long as I find a way to anger a fellow opinion writer) is a novel that features a millennial protagonist who deals with millennial issues, and surprisingly I don't mean skinny jeans or side parts. To get more specific these "millennial issues" often mean a depressed or traumatized protagonist addressing failings in their personal life while staring down dead-end jobs, crippling debt, unstable political climates, or all four. Unlike the DWMs, these books sometimes have a plot, don't necessarily always have a female protagonist, and are sometimes self-aware, but not always. Sometimes these characters are even likable and you care about them- I often wonder why that would appeal to anyone, but to each their own I guess.

The above definition seeks to be specific but not overly so as many new books could be defined as "millennial fiction"- the genre has become more pervasive since the successes of the Sally Rooney's and the My Year of Rest and Relaxation's of the world.

My most recent foray into this genre has been Want by Lynn Steger Strong. The book follows a mother of two who works two jobs and is currently filing for bankruptcy. The book has no real plot and has no timeline, yet it features a series of extremely stressful focal points in an already stressful life. Our unnamed protagonist doesn't grapple with any big questions,

nor does she answer them, yet she just tries to survive under extreme economic and social stress. It's an extremely angry book that says so much without saying much at all.

Convenience Store Woman also doesn't say much, but that's because Sayaka Murata's writing focuses on dialogue and is limited to the mind of her protagonist, Keiko, who is happy to live paycheck to paycheck through her job as a convenience store woman. She doesn't want to make waves, and yet does when she constantly is fending off the questions as to why she is still working at a convenience store at thirty-six. The novel both endorses the notion of not having a career and cautions against being aimless- while Keiko is completely fulfilled and is living her best life no matter how it fits into other people's definition of one, she is tread on by those who would take advantage of a passive woman such as herself. In the face of other novels where the protagonist's only goal is to be economically stable, Keiko is happy being just as she is, which is an act of rebellion in of itself.

Real Life by Brandon Taylor shows the academic struggle of a black, gay, grad student trying to find his place in the world amongst the stigma of higher education and his tumultuous relationship with his lover. Taylor creates an entire life within the span of 300 some odd pages, and creates a beautiful and heart-breaking portrayal of a man liv-

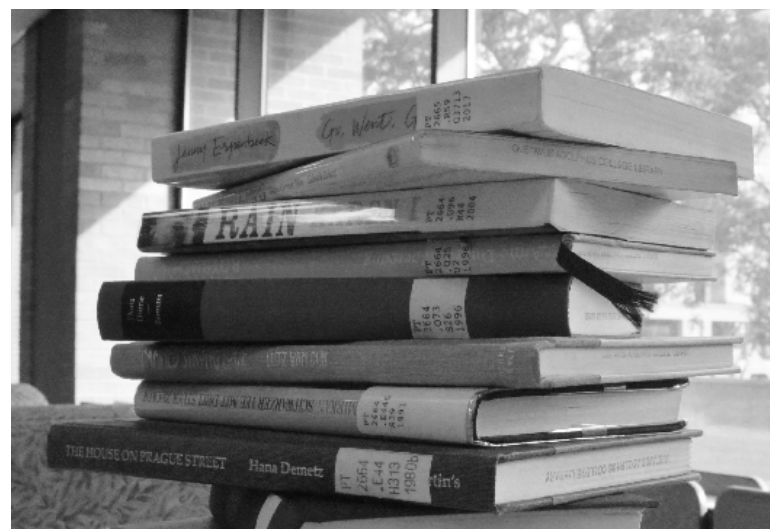
ing in a world that wasn't made to accommodate him.

My last recommendation tells the story of a woman who, on the eve of Donald Trump's election, finds out that her boyfriend runs a conspiracy Instagram account. But like all millennial fiction books, it isn't really about that: Lauren Oyler discusses politics, the impossibility of "knowing someone" during a time where all we do is perform online, all while showing a woman unmoored in the world and on the internet. Fake Accounts feels so of the times, I'm surprised that this book wasn't just an immaculate conception born of the 2016 election.

In a world where there are no answers to questions about debts, politics, race relations,

gender, the internet, or life in general, these books don't offer one. They depict other people struggling just as we are to answer these questions, failing, falling, and getting up again. When there is no light at the end of the tunnel, there are dapples in these books which will cause you to look for some in your own lives.

This genre and these books are so special because they address our current climate so well. If we still occupy this Earth in 40 years, I'm sure the next generations will look down on this literature as being of the time, but that's why I love them. They are so poignant and they are so uniquely us in a way that makes me feel uniquely found amongst these pages.



Books.

Jayne Mapstone

# MyGustavus, my nightmare



**Hailey Brune**  
*Opinion Columnist*

I'm sure a lot of us are feeling the shift from Webadvisor to MyGustavus. I've heard some mixed feelings from staff and students and I understand the need for the shift. Webadvisor was getting to be old and wasn't working as well compared to something new. Change is hard and we didn't receive a lot of instructions on how to navigate everything. Personally, I see a lot of interesting things with MyGustavus, and I don't mind

the switch. However, there are a few problems that stick out to me and have stuck out to me when talking to other students.

The first thing is our Caf account balances. On Webadvisor we could see our monthly breakdown and how much money we had each day for the month we were working on. During the grace period when we had both MyGustavus and Webadvisor we had a way to check our balance. Now that we only have MyGustavus we can't check what our caf balance is. So, to know how much you have left you have to ask the employees. Assuming they all know how to check, it's not busy, and you ask before they leave your account information. There's also the anxiety of having to ask them for the information and what their answer is going to be, as well as remembering it as soon as you step away.

I find it really frustrating because I don't want to ask somebody what my balance is. I feel the most uncomfortable when I'm in the Caf getting food. So normally I'm anxious when

I'm there and I get so focused on getting food and leaving that I don't even think about my balance. Or what if you normally checked your account daily. Then there's the simple fact of losing money at the end of the month. We all know that if you don't use your monthly Caf money then you lose it. Is that really fair, though, if we have no way of checking it ourselves? I'm normally very meticulous about not losing money with the Caf. Now that I can't check my account myself I've been just trying to spend a lot and hope that I'm close.

While talking to another Gustavus student they shared their struggles with trying to find paperwork and forms with MyGustavus as well as their anxiety of having to learn how to use it for registration soon. They talked about how Webadvisor had personal information in one spot, as well as important forms in an organized way. It took them hours to search through other Gustavus websites trying to find those forms. Webadvisor had important or often used forms

on the website so they could easily be found. MyGustavus doesn't have this as of yet. So, you have to reach out to the office personally or look on the Gustavus website to find them.

Now, I understand that things take time. This is a new website and they have to figure it all out, but the problem is that there's no communication. We were told some of the things that wouldn't be available with MyGustavus, but with no solution or timeline. Not only did we not get told when those missing things would be on MyGustavus but we also weren't told if they'd be put on there at all. So, as students who have to use these services and websites we're told nothing. It's been a few months since we switched over to MyGustavus, and we haven't received one update.

Whether it's how to use the website, how to find stuff, or what they'll be doing to make it work better for us and replace missing things. Communication goes a long way, and would make many students happy, but there hasn't been any. Which

feels a little silly considering how many emails we get daily.

In general, MyGustavus is a decent website in my opinion. I don't have too many problems with it, though I haven't done registration through it yet so we'll see how difficult that is to figure out. I think it'd be nice if instructions were sent out to students the closer we get to registration. In case there are students who are anxious about using the site, as well as for the large number of students who used Webadvisor last time since it was familiar. I think it'd also be really nice if we were given any kind of update.

Just something letting us know that we'll be able to see our Caf account balances next year, or when that might be fixed. We're informed about so much stuff everyday. I think we'd appreciate being informed about the stuff that impacts all of us personally and financially.



# Flags are cool and fun



David Eide  
Opinion Columnist

I’ve always been particularly interested in flags, the idea of representing an entire group or country utilizing imagery that can fit entirely on a rectangle has always struck a chord with me. Because of this interest, I always keep an eye on any developments in Vexillology, which is the study of flags and, yes, is a real field of study. The past couple of years have been a good time to be passionate about flags. Numerous countries and states have changed or have debated changing their flags and flags have become ever more important representational tools in protests or political movements. Of note, Minnesota has recently begun to debate chang-

ing its state flag, a move that I think has been long in the making. So, I invite you to join me on a little journey through recent developments in the flag world and what they could possibly indicate about our society.

One reason that flags are so important is because they can speak to what a nation views as its primary values. One obvious instance is the United States flag which harkens back to the American revolution with its 13 stripes while the stars in the corner represent the unity of distinct states that define American government. However, there arise situations where some people in a country feel that their flag doesn’t capture the nation accurately or the values it conveys are no longer relevant or desired. This is particularly common in former subjects of an empire who often incorporate aspects of their former ruler’s flag to demonstrate the closeness between the two countries which can potentially lead to controversy.

One especially prominent example is the British Union Jack, which can be found in the flags of many former colonies of the British Empire such as Australia or New Zealand. Both countries have had debates over the continued presence of the Union Jack on their flags with some arguing that the contin-

ued retention of the Union Jack is inappropriate for sovereign states and that it no longer fully embodies their country. In 2016, New Zealand held a referendum proposing a flag change addressing these very complaints. However, the voters of New Zealand proved to still be attached to the current flag and rejected the redesign by a resounding margin. This indicates that beyond mere symbology, people can simply get attached to a flag regardless of what it represents.

A similar phenomenon can be found where flags contain imagery that is viewed as being directly harmful and discriminatory. One obvious example of this would be the presence of the Confederate battle flag in the state flags of many southern states. While supporters argued that these flags represented their southern heritage, the fact remains that most of them were adopted during a period where white southerners sought to intimidate newly freed African Americans and that they honor a government which was based upon the preservation of the racist institution of slavery. In recent years these flags have become a major point of contention.

In the early 2000s Georgia changed its flag to remove the confederate battle flag, an act which proved controversial

## The Good, the Bad, and the Meh



### The Good

Warm weather on Sunday.



### The Bad

Horizontal rain that feels like sand being whipped in your face.



### The Meh

Getting blown away.



3 Flags. Submitted

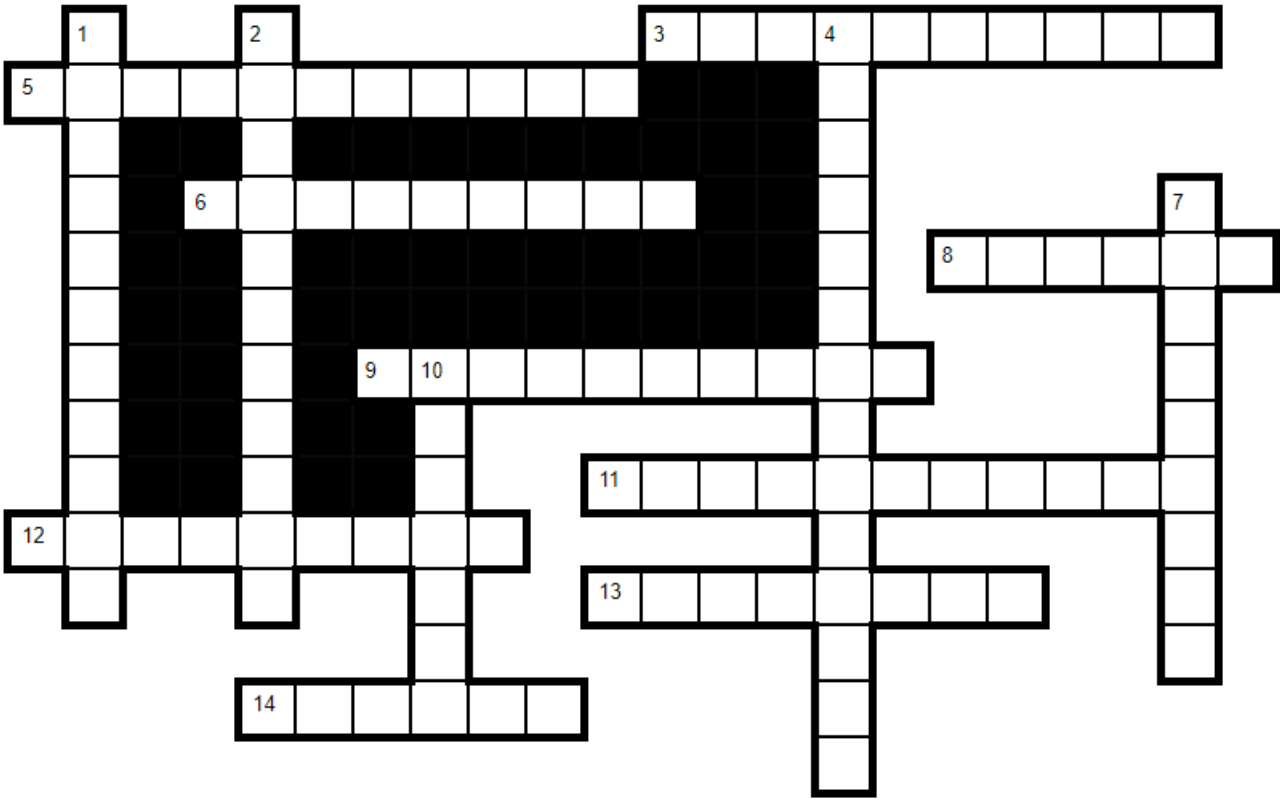
enough to have been a major factor in the Democratic governor’s loss in the next election following the change. Georgia’s flag change left Mississippi as the last state standing to have integrated the confederate battle flag into its state flag. There had been a referendum in 2001 about changing the flag which failed by 30%, however the murder of George Floyd in 2020 proved to be a breaking point. After a major pressure campaign Mississippi quickly held a referendum on changing the flag which passed easily. As a consequence, Mississippi now has one of the best flags in the country and a racist symbol has been stripped from public display. This indicates that pressure can reach a boiling point and flag changes are possible given certain circumstances.

Then there are the flag changes that occur simply because the current flag just doesn’t look very good. This is probably the most common type of flag change and it’s the main reason legislators have begun to discuss changing the flag of Minnesota. Currently, Minnesota follows the state seal on a colored background format which is very common, shared by states such as Utah, Wisconsin, and Massachusetts. These flags have the downside of being both too simple and yet also overly detailed as they usually just consist of two parts however one of those parts is usually very complicated to recreate.

These flags have come under a lot of fire recently for these reasons and many state legislatures have begun to act in order to potentially change the designs to more representative and appealing ones. For example, Utah recently passed a bill creating a task force to look into redesigning its state flag from a standard and boring state seal flag into a more dynamic one. It looks like Minnesota may soon follow suit as a bill has been introduced into the state house which would establish a 14-member commission to examine the idea of redesigning the flag.

Personally, I broadly approve the idea of changing Minnesota’s flag. I believe that Minnesota has a particular dynamism and natural beauty to it that just isn’t captured by a highly detailed circle on a dark blue background. Perhaps a new flag could include a reference to the Mississippi, or the 10,000 lakes that are we supposedly the land of. A flag redesign would also be an excellent opportunity to honor the indigenous peoples who originally inhabited and continue to inhabit Minnesota whose land was stolen. It will be difficult to craft a flag that will truly please everyone, but I think it’s hard to make a flag less appealing than the current one.





- ACROSS
- 3. Batgirl extremely skilled at reading body language
  - 5. Daughter of Ra’s al Ghul and mother of 2 Down
  - 6. First Robin’s current moniker
  - 8. Bovine pet of the BatFam
  - 9. Civilian alias of the central character to this crossword
  - 11. Flamboyant villain known for her cartoonish mallet and pet hyena
  - 12. Former Robin currently operating as the Red Hood
  - 13. Third Robin who helped found Young Justice
  - 14. The best character in this universe, butler to Batman

Movies From Swank: *Kill Bill*: Volumes One and Two  
Will Sorg

*Kill Bill* is a duology made as an ode to film. They are love letters to East Asian 1970s action films, to American westerns, to cinema itself. But for a pair of films so filled with love, they are, ironically, a tale of violence, betrayal and revenge.

The Bride, played by Uma Thurman, is a former member of The Deadly Viper Assassination Squad. Her story begins when her wedding is interrupted by her former employers, a group of assassins. Her entire wedding party is slaughtered and she is shot in the head by her former boss, Bill. Four years later she awakens from a coma and begins a quest of revenge, vowing to kill all five of the assassins who destroyed her life. She travels worldwide, traversing Japan, the American Southwest, China and Mexico with one goal in mind: to kill Bill.

Endless praises have been given to the screenplay and direction of these films, which are undoubtedly some of famed writer/director Quentin Tarantino’s best films. That praise is more than justified, as the script and direction are both finely tuned to his specific blend of over-the-top violence and masterfully executed storytelling. He is able to take a story of revenge, one that’s been told thousands of times, and tell it in such a profoundly compelling manner. The ever-entertaining cast of actors do a fantastic job bringing their characters to life. While David Carradine plays the villainous yet charming Bill wonderfully, but Uma Thurman is easily the standout actor in the film. Thurman’s ability to play a genuinely capable female protagonist with agency and personality while also portraying heartbreaking vulnerability is phenomenal. *Kill Bill* is such a dynamic, ever-changing duology that it almost feels like magic that the movies are as good as they are.

I believe a big part of that magic is thanks to Tarantino’s greatest collaborator, editor Sally Menke. Menke (1953-2010) was one of the best editors of her time. During her career she worked almost exclusively with Tarantino, editing the first seven of his films. Her work on *Kill Bill* was electric to say the least. The films have a perfect pace. Menke cut scenes in an energized, bombastic rhythm that fills the movies with such life and personality. She knew when to make the films campy, fast paced, and grippingly tense, and when to allow moments of emotional resonance to breathe. She put her heart and soul into the editing of these films and the movies would not be the same without her. Oftentimes it is said that the best editing is the kind where the audience doesn’t even notice it’s there, but Sally Menke always made the audience notice, and once you do, it is practically impossible to unsee her genius.

- DOWN
- 1. A ridiculous villain with the apt civilian name of Julian Day
  - 2. Son of Batman and the current Robin
  - 4. Former Batgirl now known as Spoiler
  - 7. Plant-themed villain, often girlfriend to 11 Across
  - 10. Primary villain of the most recent Batman film



Greek Life Recruitment Week

Saturday

- Friendship Bracelet Making with the Deltas • 10 AM in the Interpretive Center
- Mush Ball & Grill Out with the Reds • 2 PM at the Baseball Fields
- 3v3 Basketball with the Eppies • 3-5 PM in the Lund Blue
- Grill Out with SAE • 5:30 at the Adolphson House

Monday

- Volleyball with the Kappas • 6 PM at Plex Court
- Game Night with the Kappas • 7 PM in Beck 121
- Bingo with SAE • 7 PM in the Courtyard Cafe
- Trivia and Mocktails with the Thetas • 7 PM in the Heritage Dining Room
- Game Night with AST • 7-8 PM in the Konferensrum

Tuesday

- All Greek Lip Sync Battle • 7-8:30 PM in the Caf

WHAT IS SWANK?

Swank is a free streaming service provided through the Campus Activities Board here at Gustavus. It contains a wide array of well over 100 movies, many of which are not found on Netflix or Hulu, and is completely legal to use. Access it by going to [www.gustavus.edu/moviestreaming](http://www.gustavus.edu/moviestreaming)

SEND JOKES, POEMS, AND SHORT STORIES TO  
[gkearney@gustavus.edu](mailto:gkearney@gustavus.edu)



# Softball starts season sizzling

## Excellent showing against Augsburg hints at bright future

**Brady Boie**  
Staff Writer

The Gustavus Women's Softball Team has had about as good of a start to a season as one could ask for. After spending over a week in Florida playing against different teams and honing their craft, the Gusties returned to St. Peter and conference competition when they played a doubleheader against Augsburg on Friday. After a slow first couple of innings, the Gusties found themselves tied with the Eagles at one run apiece heading into the sixth inning. That's when the Gustie offense burst into flames. Once Junior Kate Murray stole second after walking to first, the Gusties started to make excellent contact with the ball.

"We knew that we had to be aggressive at the plate and we were able to take a 1-0 lead. In the sixth inning, we were able to piece together a few solid at-bats and put us ahead with some insurance," Murray said.

Murray would end up scoring off an RBI single from First-Year left-fielder Kayla Herda. Herda would not have to wait long to get the nod to run home, as Sophomore Madelyn Mueller socked a triple that broke the game wide open. After holding strong for another half-inning, the Gusties added an insurance run in the top of the seventh thanks to good hitting by First-Year Rachel Kawiecki, Sophomore Kaylyn Leonard, and Senior Kenzie Skuza. However, Sophomore standout Piper Otto outshone them all on the mound, finishing with thirteen strikeouts in seven innings pitched. This dominant pitching performance earned Otto MIAC Softball Pitcher of the Week and lots of praise from her fellow teammates.

"Piper's pitching in game



The Gusties pose on the ice with their National Champion Runner-up trophy.

Gustavus Sports Information

one was insane! Our defense was solid all around and we did what we needed to at the plate," Murray said.

Murray was not the only Gustie player to take notice of Otto's pitching performance. First-year Chloe Smallfield also showered the veteran Gustie with compliments and believed that the sophomore hurler was the driving force in the Gusties' 4-1 victory.

"There was never a time (in the game) where we were down and we all contributed to (winning). Piper's thirteen strikeouts and seven consecutive strikeouts are definitely worthy of mention," Smallfield said.

Smallfield, a fellow pitcher herself, used Otto's performance as a measuring stick in the second game against the Eagles. She started off the game hot, retiring all three of the Augsburg batters she faced. Smallfield didn't stop there, as she ended up pitching four innings while only allowing two hits and maintaining a shutout.

"The team had a great day altogether. We were able to put everything together and it was the best way to start the conference season," Murray said.

And put it all together they did. The Gusties carried their offensive momentum from the end of game one into game two. The women had a five-run

explosion in the third inning, as First-Year Greta Dahlen, Herda, Kawiecki, Mueller, and Leonard all contributed through great hitting and excellent base-running.

"We came in with a game plan on what pitches to attack and did just that. We had multiple strings of hits that boosted our momentum," Smallfield said.

After an uneventful fourth inning, the Gusties were once again able to piece together a string of hits that lead to scores. Reuvers smashed the ball to left field and reached third base with a stand-up triple, and scored shortly thereafter following an Augs-

burg error. Mueller scored off Junior Kayla Ruud's single, and Dahlen scored again off a single by Kawiecki. After the dust settled, the Gusties lead 8-0. Sophomore Payton Belt relieved Smallfield and did not allow a hit. After retiring three batters, the Gusties were able to enforce the mercy rule and walked away victorious. The sweep gave them confidence heading into a season where there are high hopes for this ever-improving team.

"We have big goals and high hopes for this team and this season. We look forward to competing at a high level every single game and are working towards a top spot in the MIAC tournament," Murray said.

"We have big goals and high hopes for this team... We look forward to competing at a high level every single game."

The Gusties will have an opportunity to do that later this week in their home opener. They host a doubleheader against St. Olaf on Thursday and hope to build on their victories against Augsburg.

"I think we are all very grateful to be able to play and have things back to normal. Covid lead to a lot of added stress and anxiety that definitely could have played a role in our game. We have been able to connect a lot more outside of softball now that Covid has become less of an issue, (so that's been good)," Murray said.



Molly McHugh takes the opening puck drop for the Gusties.

Gustavus Sports Information



Goalie Katie McCoy watches as a Plattsburg shot goes wide.

Gustavus Sports Information



# Men's tennis sweeps SJU and SMU

## Gusties collect two wins against MIAC competitors

Alli Joerger  
Staff Writer

The Gustavus Men's Tennis team has been relishing in recent victories, and preparing to bounce back from an unfortunate loss in the final month of the season. The Gusties swept both St. John's University and St. Mary's University over the weekend, with records of 9-0 for both tournaments. First-year Josh Christensen's efforts against St. John's earned him the honors of MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete of the Week. After such convincing victories, the Gusties traveled to the University of Chicago, where the team concluded with a record of 1-8. However, the Gusties are not to be discouraged as they maintain high hopes and diligent training to establish their dominance in the MIAC, and hopefully pursue national recognition.

The Gusties had several notable performances in the matches on April 2. Against St. Mary's in the singles matches, Senior Joel Hug, First-year Taona Mhwandagara, Senior Joseph Punnoose, Junior Justin Sehlin, Junior Frederico Florida, and Sophomore Geoffrey Youngs all contributed wins of either 6-0 or 6-1 in every match. The Gusties' dominance continued in the doubles matches. Teams of Hug and Punnoose, First-year Diego Guzman and Mhwandagara, and Sehlin and Youngs defeated their opponents with scores of 8-2, 8-1, and 8-2, respectively.

Other members of the team echoed the success against St. Mary's in matches against St. John's on the same day. In the singles, Christensen, Junior Jack Bergmeyer, Junior Oscar Wikstrom, Sophomore Caleb Fridinger, Junior Sean Bochman, and Senior Luke Had-



Justin Sehlin stays on his toes and volleys the ball.

Gustavus Sports Information

dorff all showed similar successes over the Johnnies. In the doubles, teams of Christensen and Fridinger, Bergmeyer and Wikstrom, and Bochman and Haddorff all demonstrated their ability to perform just as well in doubles as in singles, with their respective final scores being 8-3, 8-1, and 8-3.

The matches against St.

John's allowed Christensen to earn the title of MIAC Men's Tennis Athlete of the Week. Christensen's wins were at the No. 1 doubles, as well as the top singles spot. He is now 2-0 in MIAC play. "I was very grateful when I heard that I was MIAC athlete of the week, and as a team, it is a good step forward for us. All of the guys are playing at such a high level and I hope we continue that for the remainder of the season," Christensen said.

Overall, the success that the Gusties had within the MIAC is very telling of their ongoing hard work and focus on their goal to be the MIAC Champions. "Everyone played their part really well, I think the thing that people are most proud of is the all around good play from everyone. Two sweeps means that 12 or more guys had to play at a high level all day," said Junior Alex Budde.

The team plans to use the success within the MIAC this weekend as a way to frame the losses at the University of Chicago on April 3. The group of athletes in attendance offered only one defeat overall, with that being in the singles from Junior Daniel Fouchier. Two singles matches were also won by Budde and First-year Rafael Costa, but unfortunately they were not enough to garner a

defeat. However, as in many cases, the record here does not tell the full story. The competition the group faced was incredibly difficult, with the University of Chicago being ranked No. 2 in the region and No. 11 in Division III. Despite that, the Gusties held their own and view the matches as opportunities for improvement.

"We try to build and grow and move forward coming out of every match - win or lose. Certainly we look at the results and study key areas where we can improve. But it's really about how well we're living out our philosophy and values each time we compete," said Head Coach Tommy Valentini.

Budde reiterated that growth mindset, saying, "We have to look at it as a growing moment and not an obstacle. There were a couple matches that we definitely could've taken and we see that as we have the ability to beat these teams." He added that the team plans to, "use this loss as a learning moment and then use it to beat the next high level team we face."

Overall, the competition faced over the weekend and the triumphs and shortcomings all reflect the effort put in by the Gusties and how well the Gusties are prepared to compete in the MIAC over the final portion of the spring

season. "We rely on depth, doubles, and each guy making the guys around them have more trust in their own games and in our team game. It takes everyone each time we take the court - this past weekend was no different. We played some good tennis against Chicago" Budde said.

"We learned a lot about our group coming out of that match, and given the character of the guys in our room, I'm confident we'll be a better team coming out of that match. But we can't even play that match if we don't have 2 groups of guys who are able to go to St. John's and St. Mary's and play at very high levels there. So it's really about everyone being there for each other and making significant contributions to our success," Budde said.

Moving forward, the Gusties will be facing MIAC competition every weekend in April until the MIAC Playoffs commence on May 4. In the shorter term, the Gusties will host Macalester College and The College of St. Scholastica on April 9 and hopefully continue to establish themselves as contenders for the MIAC title.



Taona Mhwandagara gets ready to return a serve.

Gustavus Sports Information



# Baseball splits series against Hamline

## Start of MIAC competition leaves Gusties at 1-1

**Parker Burman**  
Staff Writer

Coming into play Monday against Hamline the Gustavus baseball team was sitting at an overall record of 11-3. After a successful trip to Arizona that saw them win eight of their nine games and ten of their last eleven, the Gusties were looking to build off that success. They currently sit at 12-4 overall with a conference record of 1-1.

Monday's doubleheader was the first conference play of the season for Gustavus and their first time playing Hamline since the 2019 season. In game one Gustavus fell 4-1 to the Pipers in seven innings in a game which was tied through the first four innings. In game two the Gusties bounced back for a 7-1 victory behind a shutout performance on the mound from sophomore right-hander Mitch Casperson. At the plate they received great days from Senior first baseman Jack Hanson, Junior center fielder Bryce Novak, and designated Senior hitter Ethan Mocchi.

"The atmosphere was fun. Definitely fun to play in front of students and faculty again after a couple of weeks of no games since Arizona," Hanson said.

"I think we were all just excited to play again and get back on the field and compete. We have high expectations for our team and know we have great potential if we can continue to piece some things together as the season goes on," Novak said.

In game one the Pipers started quick, getting a lead off single to start the game off. With the lead off runner on, they capitalized on the situation with a sac bunt to move the runner into scoring position before



Drake Siens steps up to the plate

Gustavus Sports Information

back to back passed balls from Gustavus allowed the runner to score. The Pipers held their 1-0 until the third inning when Casperson belted a lead off home run that knotted the game up at one a piece.

"My approach for that at bat was to work the count and find a way on base to let our top of the order come up and hopefully do some damage and get an inning started for us. Luckily I was able to put a good swing on the pitch and get us on the board with the top of our order coming up," Casperson said.

Each offense fell silent again

before Hamline erupted for a three run fifth inning that started off with three straight hits. Gustavus was unable to answer in the following two frames and fell 4-1.

In game two Gustavus got on the board early thanks to a two-out home run in the first inning from Junior infielder Gavin Baker. Casperson on the mound neutralized the Hamline offense with his first of five shutout innings.

"After losing game one my approach for game two was to find a way to keep us in the game and ultimately give us the

best chance of winning as possible. We are a team that hates losing and will always put up a fight and show some resiliency as shown in game two," Casperson said.

In the second the offense kept the pressure on by pushing another run across the plate after Sophomore Drake Siens doubled and scored on a deep sac fly from Senior Nick Azar. Mocchi in the third widened the Gustavus lead by driving in Hanson and Junior Luke Johnson on a two-run, two-out double making the score 4-0.

Gustavus showcased their

powerful offense once again in the top of the fifth with back-to-back home runs. The first was launched well over the left field fence by Novak for a two-run shot, his first of the year. Hanson followed this up to make the score 7-1 with a solo shot for his fifth homerun of the season, which leads the MIAC.

"It felt really good getting a hold of that one. I felt it really created a spark in that second game," Novak said.

"It was a great feeling. These home runs really felt like they sealed the deal in game 2 and hitting behind an All American like Bryce is always a pleasure," said Hanson.

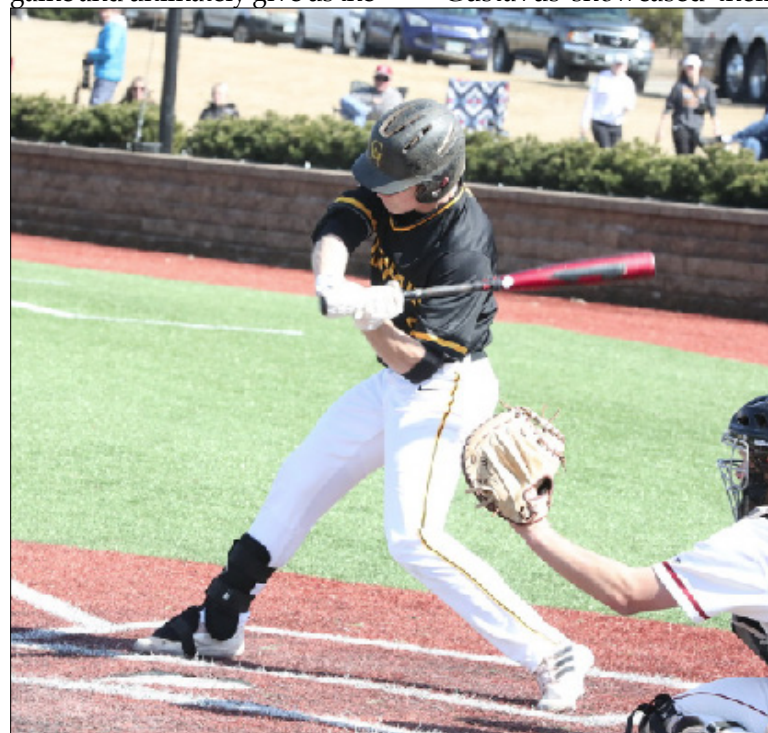
Hamline scrapped one run across in the seventh off a single and an error but this was all their offense could muster after dominating performances from Casperson, Junior righty Andrew Gustafson, and Senior righty Damon Rademacher. The pitching staff concluded the game with nine innings of one run baseball, allowing only five hits and striking out nine.

The Gustavus baseball team will continue its tour of the MIAC with a double header at Carleton Saturday. "We need to do the little things right early and the rest of it should take care of itself. We have high hopes for the season and we just need to keep building momentum as the season progresses," Casperson said.



A Gustie dives to make it back to first base.

Submitted



Mitch Casperson takes a swing.

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