



# THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

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ISSUE 25

## See you next year!



Three Flags beyond the blossoms

Soren Sackreiter

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### Campus Safety Report

#### Wednesday, May 10, 2023

- On Wednesday, May 10, Campus Safety responded to a suspicious circumstance at the Johnson Student Union. Five students were referred to the Campus Conduct System

#### Thursday, May 11, 2023

- On Thursday, May 11, Camous Safety responded to a fire alarm Rundstrom Hall

#### Saturday, May 13, 2023

- On Saturday, May 13, Campus Safety responded to a fire alarm in North Hall

### Events Calendar

**Picnic of Nations**  
 May 19, 12:00 p.m.  
 International Center Lawn

**Finals**  
 May 20, 22, 23

**Senior Week**  
 May 21-26  
**Commencement**  
 May 27, 1:45 - 3:45 p.m.  
 Hollinsworth Field

# Midnight Express celebrates the end of the school year

Elliot Steeves  
 Staff Writer

The Campus Activities Board held the annual Midnight Express blow-out to round out the 2022-2023 school year at Gustavus Adolphus College.

The appeal of Midnight Express is very simple. It is a time when things happen that do not normally happen in Evelyn Young dining hall. It is also a time when students get to gather en masse and see each other before the year comes to a close.

"It's just a different experience from normal. There's a ripple effect from seeing everyone there," Traditions Co-Executive and Sophomore Elizabeth Orton said.

*"It's just a different experience from normal. There's a ripple effect from seeing everyone there"*

Taking place from 7:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on May 18 in the Evelyn Young Dining Hall, the event featured the hallmark free food, live jazz music, and time to socialize with friends that

the night has become so well known for. It is an event that is still much beloved by everyone on campus, both students and faculty alike.

The event is spearheaded by the Traditions Co-Executives in the Campus Activities Board. Along with Orton, Sophomore Adam Norquist filled the Co-Executive role. They are the team that also put together the Homecoming events and the President's Ball.

As students walked into the proceedings at 8:30 p.m., they were greeted with the Adolphus Jazz band opening the celebration. They were also greeted by many faculty members, as well as members of Administration. President Rebecca Bergman was even on hand as a volunteer.

At 9:15 p.m., the Gustavus Jazz band took over the music proceedings. At 10:00 p.m., there was a large trivia event, as well as an origami table. There was also an assortment of tables that featured board games, cards, and other activities.

There was also a show at 10:00 p.m. by LineUs Improv Comedy, which took place in Alumni Hall.

While Midnight Express isn't

planned by all of the members of the Campus Activities Board, it is certainly a major tradition for the organization.

"Nearly every member of the board will be there. We really like doing it, and we like being able to do it. There is a lot of work and planning that goes into it, and Elizabeth and I, as the two heads of the planning team, are looking forward to having most of our board there," Norquist said.

*"Nearly every member of the board will be there. We really like doing it, and we like being able to do it"*

While the Board plans the entire event, it is the Gustavus Dining Service that is responsible for the direct setup.

"They were extremely helpful with getting all of the speakers up, and the food and tech set up," Norquist said.

Dining service is also responsible for the direct preparation of all of the food. While the menu is certainly hefty at first

glance, a lot of it is due to the new items that are being tried out this year. This year's food menu featured a nacho bar, churros, ice cream, soft pretzels, and assorted soft drinks.

Putting together Midnight Express is an especially rewarding task for the executive board of CAB. It is more of a planning task than one that revolves around setup, meaning it is a bit less hectic than other events they put together.

"It's been less moving parts, and it's been nice to focus specifically on making sure it's a good event. We've been challenging ourselves to make new additions such as trivia, prizes, and games," Orton said.

CAB sent out a student survey during March where, in exchange for a sweepstake prize, they could give input about what they wanted at Midnight Express. The results were very informative for this year's edition.

The event's lower workload also played well into the fact that CAB had a very busy calendar with other events.

"We're in the middle of planning Homecoming [right now], since we plan events over the

course of a calendar year, and we jumped right into President's Ball when [Adam and I] started. I like Midnight Express, because there are less elements to it, so you can see the process," Orton said.

Ultimately, the experience is an extremely rewarding one for the Board to put together.

*"I really like seeing people happy and included at events."*

"I really like seeing people happy and included at events. Something that I've really appreciated at these bigger events is that students are showing up to them more, and getting to know people. And it's not just the big events, but other smaller events as well," Orton said.

# An exciting new venture for two Gusties

Michaela Woodward  
Staff Writer

St. Peter's brewery drought is shortly coming to an end, thanks to two Gustavus seniors.

Luke Dragseth and Eric Johnson will be opening Paddlefish Brewing Company later this year, once renovations are finished and the beer starts brewing.

While the St. Peter community is at the core of the business, the name also has some interesting ties to St. Peter.

"In Minnesota [paddlefish are] considered protected. Recently, they removed a dam, kind of at the mouth of Minnesota. Since then, we've been seeing a ton more paddlefish from the Mississippi area come back into the Minnesota River. This is their native habitat and this is where they used to be but we haven't seen them in a long time. Interestingly enough, they seem to be congregating right in St. Peter. The Department of Natural Resources has discovered that we have almost 90% of the paddlefish population in Minnesota, right down off the shore. It's kind of this cool thing that St. Peter gives to the state of Minnesota and we wanted to represent it in our name," Dragseth said.

Both Dragseth and Johnson

are fans of breweries and were seeking to fill the gap in St. Peter.

"The idea for the brewery started in August 2022 when I was at Bent Paddle, another Gustie-owned brewery in Duluth. Looking around, I asked that question that I've been asking since coming to Gustavus: why is there no brewery in St. Peter? I thought to myself, sure I don't know the first thing about brewing or managing a restaurant, but if I can find the right people, I think that this is something we can do," Johnson said.

*Looking around, I asked that question that I've been asking since coming to Gustavus: why is there no brewery in St. Peter?*

Dragseth has brewing experience to guarantee that the beer selection will be diverse and carefully crafted.

"I've been around home brewing kind of my whole life. My girlfriend's parents are really great home brewers and they got me into it when I was in high school, so I brewed with

them. When I came to college, I started doing my own recipes, experimenting a little bit with what I put in the beer and what type of beers I made," Dragseth said.

However, he gained a lot of expertise from his academic experience on campus his first-year here on campus while doing a study on yeast cultivation.

"We were doing cancer research, looking at different strains of genetics and stuff like that in yeast cells, and looking at how they compared to the human body. Through that process I got really interested in yeast cultivation on my own and so that summer, I kind of worked with some different strains and got some brewing yeast and made a lot of bread at the same time which was really fun. But my beer-making skills kind of took off from there," Dragseth said.

The brewery plans to stock various beers from classic American brews to more eccentric concoctions. Once they open, they want to be able to cater to their audience.

"What we want to serve to people is beers for every occasion. Every type of person should be able to come and find a beer that they're comfortable

with and that they really enjoy," Dragseth said.

This inclusive mission statement goes beyond the beers they serve.

"Our goal is to build a genuine and authentic community at the brewery. We truly want to be a gathering space for all people—Gusties and St. Peter residents alike. To achieve this, we plan on hosting a number of unique and engaging events that appeal to all people. Likewise, we plan on serving as a hub for local musicians and entertainers. One other exciting thing: we have a huge parking lot that should allow us to host bigger events. So there really is no limit to what we can do," Johnson said.

*"Our goal is to build a genuine and authentic community at the brewery. We truly want to be a gathering space for all people—Gusties and St. Peter residents alike."*

"We're definitely going to make it a space where everyone feels included and can come

down and do all of these cool things. When we've been working with these other businesses, we're really been looking for ways to work with the city itself and do a lot of cool events and stuff like that. We're focused on making a space here where people can [come] together and do things and host all their activities," Dragseth said.

*"We're focused on making a space here where people can [come] together and do things and host all their activities."*

The anticipated opening is at the end of summer/early fall. In the meantime, you can follow the developments on social media on Facebook or Instagram (@paddlefishbrewing).



The ownership team, Luke Dragseth, Eric Johnson, and Dave Long.

Submitted



# Seniors Say Goodbye

From everyone at the Gustavian Weekly, we want to thank all of our senior editors for their work, but most importantly thanks them for all the fun memories and times we've had together. Best of luck!

## Brady Boie

Writing for the Weekly was one of the best experiences I have had here on campus. I loved interacting with the athletics community and hanging out with the editors every Wednesday.

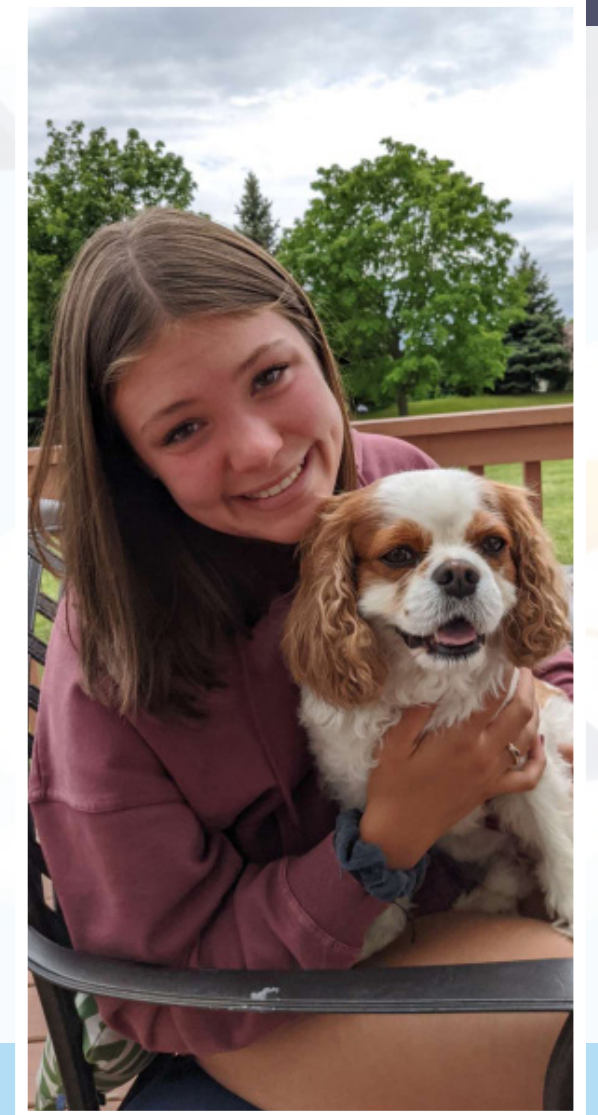
After graduating, I plan on taking the summer off before beginning full-time employment with Epic Systems as a Project Manager. This position will allow me to use the skills I honed at the Weekly to improve electronic medical record-keeping. Enjoy your summers!



## Kyra Stepan

My favorite memories from the Weekly are when we would simply sit around the office talking and telling stories. These stories weren't anything special, sometimes they were from the day or from long ago, but either way, these moments brought the staff together and made working at the Weekly very enjoyable.

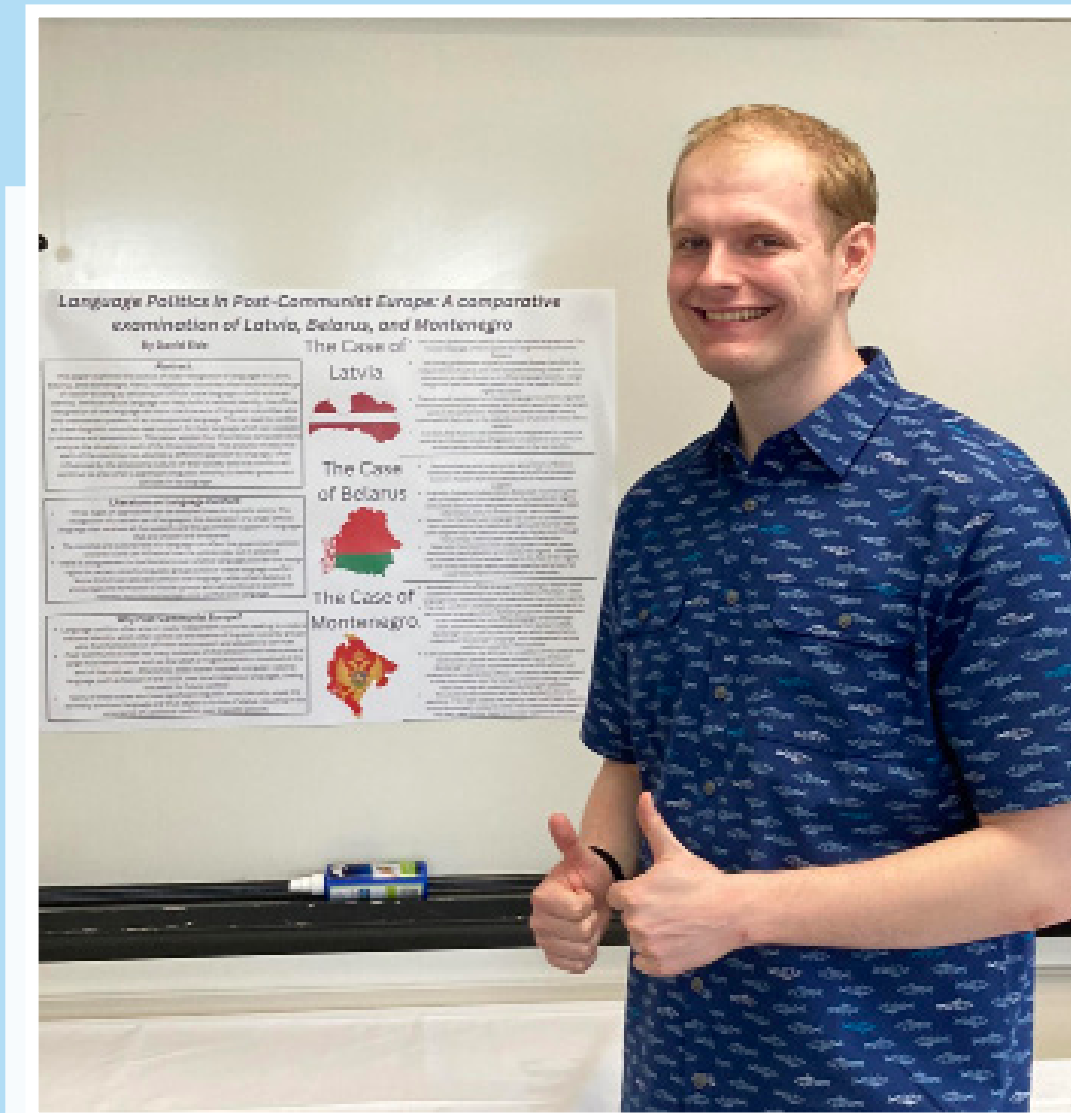
I don't have any specific plans for after graduation as I am currently deciding between going to culinary school or getting a graduate degree in public health. Over the summer, I will continue my internship and spend my last "free" summer deciding what's next and spending time at my cabin.



## David Eide

One of my favorite moments at the weekly was when we threw a Halloween party complete with fake vampire teeth and candy blood. A broad category of favorite movements has been all the times I've gotten to reach out and talk to people I otherwise might not have been able to during the research for some of my articles.

My main plan after graduation is to take a gap year and then attend law school.



## Taite Stevens Aldrich

Post-graduation, I will be working and applying to artist residencies. I always enjoyed hanging out with everyone in the office on work nights at the Weekly!





# Finals fright - how to lessen the tension and relax



**Houston McLaury**  
Opinion Columnist

With the end of the year coming to a close at hand and finals just around the corner, the campus is abuzz with anxiety, stress, and tension. From ConVick to Beck Hall, the entire campus is alight with students setting their brains to the grindstone in preparation for this rough and final few days of classes. And while studying is important and assuring a good final grade in many classes is necessary, it's much more important that one takes care

of themselves and puts their mental well-being ahead as one sets forth with a pencil in hand for this final confrontation and proves that we've learned something. One must find ways to destress, detox, and simply let all the tension fall from their shoulders before they get back to the rigorous environment of studying and writing. Students can do many activities to relax such as taking ten minutes for any activity, playing a relaxing game, hanging out with friends, and scheduling a get-together to destress. This list will give some ideas on how to relax and rest before finals.

To start, one of the easiest and best things to do during these stressful times is to allow yourself a few minutes to yourself, a good time frame being ten to twenty minutes. This time can be used in any number of ways: watching Youtube to distract yourself from what's going on, a little scroll through TikTok, or one of the better options, going on a walk through the Arboretum. With May and the recent rain Gustavus has been washed and

swept up in, the Arb is alive and glowing with flowers, stunning greenery, and air so refreshing a Victorian doctor would recommend their patient to visit because of its reviving aroma. A simple ten or twenty-minute walk around the Arb, taking in the sights, the sounds, the smells, everything about it can help ease the tension of finals. Not only that but swinging on a hammock with a book or phone in hand and enjoying the sun that's been denied to the campus for months will do wonders for the mind as well.

For those that would rather stay in their rooms or have an allergy to pollen, there are still a multitude of options available to them to relax. An easy one to do is to either get on a computer or a Nintendo Switch and enjoy a relaxing video game. Some games that could suit this well are Minecraft and Animal Crossing. However, one of my favorite games to play when I need to relax is Stardew Valley, a farming game where you play as a farmer in an idyllic coastal town, trying to restore

and rebuild your Grandpa's farm. The game has wonderful art, blissful music, and it has a fifteen-minute day cycle. This means that, no matter what, after the fifteen minutes are up the in-game day is over, allowing for the person playing the game to take a break. Not only that but if other people own the game, there is a multiplayer option available. However, a warning must be given to any and all players. This game can keep you enthralled by its cute art style and whimsical nature for hours on end. One night, as I was trying to relax I started up the game and wanted to limit myself to only thirty minutes, but by the end of the night, I had spent two or three hours expanding my farm and tending to my chickens. For those looking for a way to relax this is a great option: but be aware of how much time you are actually spending.

Finally, one of the best options one can take when they want to destress is to spend some quality time with their friends. This can range from any activity, from simply grabbing dinner in the

Caf, or watching a movie in a dorm room, to just talking with each other, talking and enjoying another person's company is one of the best things a person can do during these stressful times. Being able to talk about finals, share the troubles one is having with classes, or simply being able to distract from these troubles is enough to help many deal with and handle the trouble they're dealing with. A friend is invaluable, and these experiences with them will not only calm a person down but create life-long memories for both people as well.

Through this last week, as we all head into the depths of these finals, never forget to take care of yourself, and take care of your own well-being. Grades are important, sure, but do not risk your own well-being, mental or physical, for these finals. Remember to take breaks, relax with a good game, and enjoy the company of those around you. Take care of yourself as we head into these last few days of classes, and don't forget to ease off and relax when tension and stress get too high.

## A reflection on my time at Gustavus



**David Eide**  
Opinion Columnist

My time at Gustavus is finally coming to a close and since this is the last article I will ever write for the weekly, I wanted to take this opportunity to reflect on my time here and what it has taught me. My time at college has been a mix of so many different emotions and experiences and I think going through a broad range of them can perhaps help put a capstone on things and help me express all of the feelings I've been having as

graduation approaches. I'm sure that a lot of the people who will read this are going through or will go through similar feelings, and will also wish to look back on their time here.

When I first came to Gustavus, I had no idea what I was doing. I was an only child and a first-generation college student so I really didn't know what to expect. I was lucky in that I was able to establish strong connections during the first couple of weeks of school otherwise I might have had a much harder time adapting to life on campus. I was able to find several extracurricular activities that I enjoyed greatly, and which gave my free time that much more meaning. Furthermore, while the academic side of things was definitely more rigorous than high school, it wasn't quite the horrible workload that I had prepared myself for. All in all, I was left pleasantly surprised by my first fall semester at Gustavus and I was looking forward to what spring would bring and then of course, the entire world fell apart.

The COVID-19 pandemic threw a mass wrench into my college experience, as I'm sure it did for everyone else reading this. I was one of the people who really struggled to focus during Zoom classes and I would often find my mind wandering, which meant that I had to work that much harder studying to make up for that lost learning. The loss of social activities and in-person connection also led to me slowly drifting apart from the friends that I had initially made during the fall semester. Even after we returned to school in my Sophomore year, things were still pretty rough. We were still attending Zoom class and it was still fairly hard to socialize with all the restrictions imposed for safety reasons. It was also during this year that I had my first true experience with living on my own. Officially I had a doubles room in Plex, but due to outside circumstances, I wound up being the only person in the room giving me full reign of the entire dorm. This was kind of a mixed bag as while it was pretty great to have my own room

and full privacy, it also further compounded the already lonely vibes of that semester.

In time, however, I began to form new bonds that were even stronger than the ones I had lost over the pandemic, in turn helping alleviate the feelings of isolation. Indeed, eventually the pandemic began to wind down somewhat as the vaccines rolled out and some sense of normality began to be restored to campus. It was around this time, starting at the tail end of my Sophomore year and then going on to Junior year, where I think I truly began to hit my stride. I was socializing more with the lifting of the rest of the COVID restrictions, I was becoming more involved in many groups on campus, and of course, I started to write for the weekly. I felt like an active member of the campus community.

Senior year has been a little bit different. A lot of the people I was close with wound up graduating ahead of me and it's pretty difficult to make entirely new friends with less than a year left of schooling.

I also had to pull back from several organizations on campus to focus more on academic work as well as planning for my future beyond college. Despite this, however, I'm still pretty satisfied with how my senior year has gone, I think it's kind of natural to become a bit detached from school when you're so close to leaving it.

Overall, I'm quite proud of how I've done at Gustavus. I was incredibly nervous about going off to college but I think I handled it about as well as I could have, given all the circumstances that surrounded these tumultuous four years. I grew a lot here and learned a great deal about the world and about myself. There were many setbacks, yes, but there were also significant accomplishments and moments of great happiness. I expect that when I look back on my years at Gustavus, my thoughts will be quite positive with my experiences here forming a bedrock for how I will live my life going forward.

# John Wick: Chapter 4

**Will Sorg**  
Movies Guy

John Wick is one of the great oddities of the modern cinematic landscape. This is a character who is not tethered to a giant tentpole franchise like Marvel or Star Wars, and he's not a remake of a nostalgic property like Top Gun. John Wick was birthed from a planned direct to DVD project of the same name starring Keanu Reeves as a former-hitman-turned-revenge-seeker after his last gift from his dead wife is taken from him. Lionsgate's purchasing of the film saved it from its direct to DVD fate and the film was a massive hit. From that simplistic idea a four movie series has blossomed and with the hard work of director and stunt legend Chad Stahelski and all the countless people who worked on every movie it has become the gold standard for modern action films.

Perhaps the more interesting aspect of the John Wick franchise is that it essentially kept its simplicity. Yes, there is a near constant evolution of the setting with the secret assassin organizations that populate the world becoming more and more complicated and comically overexplained with each subsequent film. However at its core, each movie is about John Wick needing to accomplish a single goal, and having to kill a lot of people to do it.

The films are always well received for their entertainment factors and the

technical perfection, however a lot of the time it is hard to balance the action with what is typically an incredibly weak script. The first film has the simple revenge tale to lean on, but by the time the second and third movies came out it was clear that the franchise was not the best at writing compelling stories. For me this is why the fourth one outclasses each previous film so hard that it's not even close. The series has a very bad habit of casting remarkably dull actors in the supporting roles and a lot of the villains are equally dull in most of the films. However this film is in all honesty one of the most well casted, entertaining pieces of blockbuster action ever made. The returning actors like Laurence Fishburne and Ian McShane continue to be delightful if a bit one note, and the new colorful cast of antagonists, supporting characters and general oddballs are second to none. Bill Skarsgård's villainous performance as the Marquis, a man whose whole job is to find people to kill Wick, is so much fun to watch. Meanwhile Samier Anderson plays a dog loving, cowboy inspired assassin whose goal is to keep Wick alive long enough that the bounty on his head is enough to buy a mansion.

The two most vital performances are those of Keanu Reeves and Donnie Yen. Reeves is of course the eponymous assassin in all his cheesy glory. The man is

a national treasure and his physical acting is phenomenal but his line delivery is so terrible in this movie that I actually am convinced it is meant to be played for laughs. Meanwhile Donnie Yen easily gives one of his best performances as Wick's old friend and adversary Caine. Yen is arguably one of the most famous martial artists and action stars in the world and his presence elevates the film from great to amazing. His portrayal of the blind hitman Caine is perfect. His body language, unorthodox fighting, and genuine personality makes for an unforgettable character. Whenever he is on screen the film becomes true action magic.

The slapstick inspired action has plenty of moments for humor and oftentimes the film plays its concept so

seriously that the jokes become even funnier after they are delivered with the grim seriousness of every other line. This, along with the quite literally relentless action brings the whole film into a level of pitch perfect entertainment that is almost impossible to replicate. This is a three hour film that is roughly 75% action. It should not work and yet it does effortlessly. This is the perfect conclusion to the series. The budget is perfectly utilized, everything looks visually stunning, and the stunts and set pieces are breathtaking. The film knows exactly what is needed to mix things up and never gets stale or repetitive. If you're looking for the best action movie of the year- and perhaps the decade- look no more.



Frija Reinert

## Word Search

O	S	C	N	O	E	T	L	A	Y	A	W	A	L
P	N	R	N	E	N	N	C	L	S	G	L	M	A
E	M	T	G	N	O	L	E	B	H	C	H	T	N
U	O	B	R	N	N	D	L	E	O	E	D	O	T
R	O	H	E	L	S	E	L	T	O	O	H	E	O
H	R	I	L	L	H	H	O	A	H	K	M	L	O
E	H	E	E	B	B	S	P	T	S	C	R	L	L
O	S	O	N	R	T	U	H	I	R	O	H	H	S
E	U	G	P	O	E	P	A	S	B	N	H	E	T
N	M	T	O	K	G	N	N	E	R	T	E	O	E
L	N	O	E	E	I	L	E	H	O	R	D	H	E
L	O	W	R	N	B	T	A	L	L	O	M	A	S
O	A	N	S	K	H	L	I	M	P	L	C	O	N
U	T	S	T	N	O	T	H	I	N	G	T	D	I

1. Cellophane
2. Away
3. Big
4. Nothing
5. All
6. Mushroom
7. Control
8. Hesitate
9. Town
10. Pushed
11. Broken
12. Belong



# Another dominant year in Gustie Athletics

## Men's soccer, women's hockey, and baseball dominate

Parker Burman  
Staff Writer

With another year worth of Gustavus athletics almost in the books, it is time to look back on all the feats of Gustie athletes and their teams. In arguably the most dominant all around year in Gustavus athletics, students and alumni have reason to celebrate.

To kick off the school year and return to fall sports, football set the tone for a whole year's worth of Gustie sports. With a high-flying offense and plenty of highlight reel plays, this year's homecoming game was packed full of action and fun for current and former students alike. Sophomore quarterback George Sandven led the Gustavus offense with four touchdown passes to help put the Gusties up 61-0 at half time. With contributions from all sides of the ball the Gusties put together a 77-7 victory over St. Scholastica. When the season ended the Gusties finished third in the MIAC with a 7-3 overall record and 6-2 in conference play, marking the third consecutive year with seven victories last done by the 1978-80 teams.

"Throughout the course of the year, we got better from week to week on both sides of the ball and as a team, we grew in many aspects on and off the field. We had a couple of tough losses during the season but we never got down on ourselves or blamed one another. We were always resilient and focused on the next game which is always the most important," said Sandven.

Not to be out done, the women's basketball team had one of its best seasons ever, finishing with the wins in program history with a record of 26-3. The winning did not stop for the Gusties as they knocked off Concordia to secure the MIAC Playoff Championship in a 79-57 win. The women would advance all the way to the NCAA second round after a 84-68 victory over Ohio Wesleyan before suffering a defeat against UW-Whitewater.

"This year went really well for us, we had high expectations coming into the year. We just went out there on the court everyday and just tried to get the job done, and tried not to put too much pressure on ourselves," said Senior guard Anna Sanders.

Over in the pool, the Gustavus swim and dive teams finished another successful season at the MIAC Championships. The men secured their fourth straight MIAC Championship while the women wound up finishing in second after some great swimming. In the Cham-



Women's hockey celebrates their win at Nationals

Submitted.

pionship Junior Peyton Richardson won the 200 yard backstroke with a time of 1:52.75 and Senior Ellen Hofstede won the 100 yard free with a NCAA B cut time of 51.44.

"Overall I was really happy with how our team's season went this year. Both the men's and women's teams were faced with challenges throughout the season and more specifically at our championship meet. Yet we exceeded those challenges," said Richardson.

Men's soccer had one of its best seasons in years as they advanced all the way to the NCAA Quarterfinal before falling to host Chicago 1-0. The Gusties finished the year ranked as the No. 5 team in the nation after going 15-2-6 on the season while being led by Senior Goalkeeper Wesley Sanders who kept the Gusties in both the NCAA second and third rounds that both went to exciting shootouts. It was the first time Gustavus Men's Soccer had made the quarterfinal since 2005.

"It wasn't always perfect but we managed to accomplish some great things this year," said Sanders.

Volleyball once again punched their ticket to the NCAA Tournament after a thrilling 3-2 set victory over conference rival St. Olaf in the MIAC Championship. The title was their second in a row after defeating rival Bethel the season before in the MIAC Championship. The No. 14 nationally ranked Gusties would win their NCAA Regional Quarterfinal match 3-1 over UW-Eau Claire before falling to UW-Whitewater in the NCAA Regional Semifinal.

"I think this past season was amazing. We won the MIAC and competed in the NCAA tournament, which was so fun and rewarding. We made so many memories as a team and grew so much as a team. I am grateful for all the fans that showed up and supported us in the MIAC playoffs. Having that huge crowd was very surreal and I feel very lucky to be a Gustie student athlete," said Junior Marlee Turn.

Perhaps the best season of all involved the Gustavus women's hockey team that ended the year as the best team in the country after a thrilling triple overtime thriller against Amherst in the National Championship game. After great careers from Seniors Katie McCoy, Tina Press, Kayla Vrieze, and Gabby Slykas they finally got a chance to call themselves national champions. The victory secured the Gusties their first title in program history after having the best regular season in program history at 27-3. Coach Mike Carroll, the second-winningest coach in DIII women's hockey history, finally earned the elusive title in his 492 career victory.

Gustavus softball had its best season since 2017 as they finished with a record of 24-18. The Gusties fell to MIAC Regular Season Champions Bethel 1-0 in the MIAC Playoff Semifinals. Senior pitcher Piper Otto threw six innings of one run ball with seven strikeouts, but her dominance on the mound was not enough as the Gustavus offense couldn't get going.

"I think we proved a lot of people wrong and showed that Gustavus softball can be competitive with any team that we

play," said Otto.

Both the Gustavus men and women's tennis teams had very successful seasons as the men won their 12th consecutive MIAC Playoff Championship and the women took second in the MIAC. The men's victory in the MIAC Playoff propelled them to their 35th NCAA Tournament appearance in program history receiving the opportunity to host the NCAA Regional Championships, falling to Case Western in the quarter finals. The women finished their year with a 5-2 loss in the MIAC Playoff Championship to rival Carleton.

The Gustavus Women's Track and Field team wrapped up their spring season by claiming their second straight MIAC Outdoor Championship. Future Gustavus Hall of Famer Birgen Nelson won the 100-hurdles with a time 13.37, the second fastest all-conditions time in DIII history only trailing her own record of 13.32 earlier in the year. With nearly a dozen school records, all-conference selections and a National Championship under her belt, she will end her Gustavus career this spring as one of greatest Gustavus athletes ever.

"Every year I have had major gains and improved my marks and this year was no different. I've just kept the momentum going and never let off the gas," said Nelson.

A team looking for more continued success, the Gustavus baseball team got just that after finishing the season 28-14 to tie the program record for wins, set last season. Gustavus seeded No. 1 in the conference dropped their first playoff game

to defending champion Bethel before beating both Concordia and Saint John's to match up with Bethel in the Championship. The Gusties were unable to break through and fell for a second straight year to Bethel in the Championship game. Fifth-year infielder Jack Hanson's potential Hall of Fame Gustavus career came to a close with the loss in the MIAC Championship, but he will be remembered as one of the best players in Gustavus baseball history. His career ends with him as the program leader in at-bats, 215 hits (2nd), 144 runs (1st), 37 doubles (7th), 29 home runs (3rd) and 137 RBIs (3rd).

"It's pretty surreal looking back to all of the individual successes I have had in my 5 years here. My individual successes are cool and all but I really am more proud of how our team performed throughout my years here and how this team became successful and will continue to be successful for a very long time," said Hanson.

With just a few titles left undecided the Gusties hope to continue to build off of a strong year. The Gusties have accumulated multiple MIAC titles, dozens of All-Conference and All-American Honors, and a National Championship victory. All of these point towards another successful season in Gustie sports in 2023-2024.