

APRIL 26, 2024 ESTABLISHED 1891

Navigating Conflict: 43rd Annual MAYDAY!

Peace Conference

Katie Samek Staff Writer

TThe 43rd annual MAYDAY! Peace Conference: "Navigating Conflict: How do we communicate across differences and work toward peace?" will be held on Wednesday, May 1st from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Alumni Hall. This event is free and open to the public, and everyone is invited to attend. This event will be recorded, and an archived video will be available to access afterward at the conference website at www.gustavus.edu/mayday.

The class schedule for May 1st will be altered to allow for both students and faculty to attend. Classes that start at 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. will be held at their usual times. Classes that start at 10:30 a.m. will start at 11:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. classes will begin at 12:10 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. classes will begin at 12:50 p.m. These class periods will also be shortened to thirty minutes each, with 10-minute blocks between classes. Normal class scheduling will resume at 1:30 p.m.

Immediately following this event, the Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies department will be hosting its 50th Anniversary luncheon from 11:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Jackson Campus Center Banquet Rooms. This event is open to all PJCS majors, minors, alumni, and faculty, and is free to attend; however, it is requested that attendees register ahead of time using the aforementioned link.

This year's theme is "Navi-



A MAYDAY! picture from a previous year.

gating Conflict: How do we communicate across differences and work toward peace?" At a time in our history when there is so much conflict - in world events, national politics, and even in our personal lives - how do we engage with others and find common ground? This year's event is a deep dive into peace-inspired strategies for navigating conflict and recognizing our shared humanity, even when we disagree.

"This is an important topic for everyone," Associate Vice President of Marketing and Communication Barb Taylor said. "In order to sustain a more

to dehumanization, polarization, and violence."

The featured keynote speaker for this year's event is Dr. Carlos Meija Suarez, professor of Spanish, LALACS (Latin America, LatinX, and Caribbean Studies), and GWSS (Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies). The discussion panel will consist of Dr. Marie Walker, professor of Psychological Science; Dr. Joaquin Villanueva, professor of Geography; Dr, Martha Ndakalako, professor of English, African Studies, and Comparative Literature; and Rachel Flynn, academic librarian for the Folke Bernadotte Memopeaceful society, we must be able rial Library here on campus. The to engage productively in con- discussion panel will be moderflict and resist the impulse to- ated by Dr. Kate Knutson, profesward contempt, which can lead sor of Political Science.

The annual MAYDAY! Peace Conference was established at Gustavus Adolphus College in 1981, with funding generously provided by the late Florence and Raymond Sponberg of North Mankato, MN. It was established to inspire attendees to work for justice and peace throughout the world. This year is the 43rd annual event, leading up to the 50th anniversary which will be celebrated in 2031. This event has always been free for the public to attend and requires no fees or reservations to attend. Starting in 2023, the event shifted to a "teach-in" model, designed to learn more about a complex and current topic from a variety of perspectives.

The Department of Peace,

Justice, and Conflict Studies has been affiliated with this event since its inception, and this year the department will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary. Gustavus is fortunate to have one of the oldest Peace Studies programs in the country, founded in 1974.

Submitted

"The MAYDAY! Peace Conference exemplifies the core values of Gustavus by highlighting the excellence of its faculty and their ability to examine issues of peace and justice from multiple disciplinary vantage points," MAYDAY! Director Yurie Hong said. "It seeks to create and sustain community around our shared commitment to peace both at home and abroad."

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Events Calendar

Grow Your Gratitude

May 1, 5 - 7 p.m.

Outdoor Location - John's Family Courtyard

Books in Bloom

May 3 - May 5,

3 - 5 p.m., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 11:00 a.m. - 3 p.m. Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library

Masquerading Murderer

May 3, 7 - 11 p.m. Arboretum

Sincerely Yours, The Comeback Kids, Senior Exhibition
May 4, 4-6 p.m.
Hillstrom Museum

Daily Sabbath Calendar

Holy Communion:

Mondays (Christ Chapel)

10 - 10:20 a.m.

Chapel and Chill:

Tuesdays (Christ Chapel)

10 - 10:20 a.m.

Music & Message:

Wednesdays (Christ Chapel)

10 - 10:20 a.m.

Chapel Break: Creative Reflection:

Thursdays (Christ Chapel)

10 - 10:20 a.m.

Musical Showcase:

Fridays (Christ Chapel)

10 - 10:20 a.m.

Student Senate Updates

The Senate had a discussion with Molly from the BookMark which gave some insight into how exactly Slingshot works and what changes they're making to have it benefit the students even more

The Senate was also able to talk to Steve Kjellgren who heard a lot of the student's concerns and ideas of how to improve Dining Services. If you ever want to contest the prices you are charged, Steve is always available in the Dining Service offices to refund you any amount

If any of these topics sound interesting to you or you want to become a more involved within the student body, consider joining the Student Senate. Elections for every class and hall representative open in the Fall. Feel free to email any member of the Senate with any questions concerning anything

Contact Public Relations Chair Kira Woods with any questions at kirawoods@gustavus.edu

 $Follow\ the\ Student\ Senate\ Instagram!: gac.studentsenate$

Campus Safety Report

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

• On Wednesday, April 3, Campus Safety was called to the Christ Chapel retaining wall area for a damage to property report.

Sunday, April 7, 2024

• On Sunday, April 7, Campus Safety received a walk-in complaint of a suspicious circumstance on campus.

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

• On Tuesday, April 9, Campus Safety responded to Southwest Hall for a fire alarm. Smoke, no fire.

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

• On Wednesday, April 10, Campus Safety received a call from an employee stating they had witnessed a lit candle in a residence hall room.

Monday, April 22, 2024

• On Monday, April 22, Campus Safety reported a house fire to the SPPD.

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

• On Tuesday, April 23, Campus Safety responded to a fire alarm at Sohre Hall

Contact the Campus Safety office 24 hours a day at 507-933-8888.

Reverend Father Richard Cogill to give speech on restorative justice



 $A\ photo\ of\ the\ speaker,\ Reverend\ Father\ Richard\ Cogill$

Submitted

Elliot Steeves Staff Writer

Reverend Father Richard Cogill '94, will speak in the Heritage Room from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 30th. Cogill is also the Director of Contextual Education at the School of Theology in Sewanee located within The University of the South in Tennessee. The talk will be titled Repairers of the Breach: Restorative Justice in a South African Context. Desserts and drinks will also be served at the talk.

Reverend Father Cogill's talk will follow his attendance at worship in Christ Chapel on Sunday, April 28th at 6:30 p.m., as well as at Chapel Break on the 29th at 10:00 a.m. He will also be available for coffee and a Q&A on the 30th at 10 a.m. in Christ Chapel.

Originally hailing from South Africa, Cogill attended Gustavus and graduated in 1994. He currently teaches in Sewanee, Tennessee, and is additionally ordained in the other methods of restorative jus-Episcopalian priesthood. His discussion will center around the struggle of South Africa to overcome apartheid, and the resulting division.

"I am really curious to hear what he has to say about South Africa today," History Professor Kathleen Keller said. "I teach a history class on South African apartheid, and I wanted to bring a speaker who would understand their struggles today."

Keller anticipates that Cogill

will delve heavily into restorative justice, true to the title of his talk.

"It will mostly be about how South Africa has come out of apartheid," Keller said. "He will also talk about the Truth and Reconciliation Committee and tice. I will be interested to hear what he says about whether it worked, and whether there is more to bringing about justice."

Keller alluded to an ongoing debate about the TRC in South Africa, in charge of bringing about reconciliation in the wake of apartheid's end in the country. She expects that Cogill will talk about some of the potential differences between reconciliation and justice, and what that means for South Africa.

As the program director of African Studies, Keller also wanted a speaker who could speak to the experience of living in South Africa in the 1990s, under the late apartheid regime. Cogill was that speaker.

"I initially wanted him to just visit my class," Keller said. "Once people heard about it more, they wanted to attend not just the Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies department, but a lot of the wider campus community as well."

Cogill will also reunite with some of his favorite professors from his time at Gustavus, including the retiring English professor Philip Bryant. It is sure to be an interesting reflection on how Gustavus compares now to when he was a student.

Overall, the talk will encompass not just politics, but religion and justice as well. Keller emphasized that Cogill is a splendid resource within the Gustavus family.

"He worked with Archbishop Desmond Tutu," Keller said. "One of the great things that Gustavus does is bring in speakers that go beyond what happens in the classroom. That is what you get in college; you get enrichment, and we want to bring those connections to you."

Keller finally emphasized that, while she teaches history, Cogill can elaborate on what is happening now in South Africa far better than she can. Gusties are welcome to attend, have a treat, and learn all that they can from him.

Big Hill farm wants to show Gusties how to do Earth Day right

Grace LaTourelle
Staff Writer

celebration of Earth Day and a campus clean-up will take place Friday, April 26th. The initiative will be led by the Johnson Center for Environmental Innovation. This year's Earth Day events have the central theme of 'plastic reduction', which involves boosting composting and recycling efforts across campus.

President Bergman will kick off the activities at 2:00 p.m. Following this, the ten groups, dictated by the sign-up list on the Gustavus Website, will scatter to their respective locations across campus and to Big Hill Farm. The groups will be tasked with cleaning up trash, sorting hard-to-recycle plastics, planting on the farm for Spring and Summer, or raking debris. Around 3:30 p.m., the groups will reconvene for treats in either the Courtyard or Banquet rooms, weather dependent. The Climate Teach-In will begin at 4 p.m. and will detail sustainability efforts on campus and how students may get involved.

"It's designed to be: get your hands dirty, have fun, learn about the earth, give back," Sustainability Manager and Co-Director of the Johnson Center for Environmental Innovation, Kari Wallin said.

The events will also include tabling from sustainable organizations on campus, such as the Botanical Society, the Arb, the E-bike Rental Program, Big Hill Farm, and faculty with their various research opportunities. Along with that, there will be bingo cards, prizes, free tee shirts, and limited prairie plants.

The Big Hill Farm, one of the prominent sustainability organizations on campus, is a micro-farm on campus that provides produce locally and to the Caf, with an emphasis on low-input, organic farming.

"We include this in Earth Day events because the farm is part of our sustainability on campus, with local food production and helping people understand where their food comes from," Sustainability Intern and Big Hill Farm Co-President Sop-



The comedians that will be in attendance, Shyloh Blake (left) and Soo Ra (right).

dance, Shyloh Blake (left) and Soo Ra (right).

Submitted

homore Soren Sackreiter said.

The Big Hill Farm spends time on the farm as an organization, as well as giving presentations during the Winter months. Past presentations have included topics such as foreign farming practices and farmers' rights.

"It's both about what we're doing here and what's happening around the world," Sackreiter said.

The Farm organization encourages Gusties to get involved, especially during the transition between Spring to Summer and Summer to Fall, when there is harvesting work. There are also volunteer opportunities on Sundays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

"People will care more about

the Earth if they can see what they get from it," Big Hill Farm Executive Board Member Sophomore Eleanor Habben said. "That's why I think Farm is so great...because it...helps people connect with the Earth..."

Nationally, Earth Day was first celebrated on April 22nd, 1970, with the creation of Gaylord Nelson and Dennis Hayes.

"...it's one of the biggest known, international celebrations and awareness around environmental action," Wallin

Earth Day is celebrated at Gustavus as an effort for community building, getting connected on campus, promotion of eco-friendly practices, giving back to the Earth, and fun. One of the challenges, Sackreiter

and Wallin identified, was how to rechannel the energy from Earth Day-fueled passion, back into the Farm and trash sorting within buildings for the duration of the year.

"...I love seeing how much gets done when people work together to clean up the world around them. But it makes you wonder why it has to be just one day per year...for me, Earth Day is every day," Sackreiter said.

Wallin noted that local businesses and organizations are beneficial in Earth Day causes, because they work as an accessible entry point for people to join broader, sustainable change efforts.

"...Because everyone's coming together, you can get these big groups and projects that you are able to achieve something with that you probably wouldn't be able to on your own," Big Hill Farm Co-President, Senior Isabella Aase said.

The efforts of the Earth Day events also are a display of leading by example. "By doing clean up on our campus and showing up to clean up, we're showing the community around us that we care for our land and they should care for their land too," Sackreiter said. "If we can all hold each other accountable, then that makes the world a better place."

Gusties are encouraged to come to the Earth Day events, as well as implement eco-friendly practices into their lives going forward. Learning what is compostable and recyclable, sorting waste, getting involved with programs such as the Recreation Program or Big Hill farm, carpooling, finding activities to do around campus, utilizing other modes of transportation such as the E-bike rentals, and reaching out with questions are all suggestions students can implement.

"You can take this new knowledge and bring it into... when you graduate, your workplace, your home...and build sustainability into your life," Wallin said.

As well as being a day for education and teamwork, Earth Day is also a celebration of nature and the environment. Students are encouraged to reconnect with nature in personal ways.

"It's... a good day to actually observe the Earth around you and...take some time to actually go out in nature and... appreciate it that you might not otherwise..." Aase said.

The Farm members and Wallin highlighted the importance of a deep, human connection to nature.

"...humans have become disconnected from nature. Humans are no longer considered a part of nature..." Habben said. "...it's important to reconnect with nature because we are a part of it. And because we are a part of it, it's a part of us and we should love it as we love ourselves."

Gustavus Adolphus gave warm welcome to NLE Choppa

Colleen Coleman Staff Writer

On Friday, April 19th, 2024, the Campus Activities Board hosted the NLE Choppa concert in Lund Center. Gusties, friends, and more came from all over to St. Peter to see the rapper perform, packing the Don Roberts Ice Rink to kick off the spring weekend. DJ Kam Bennett opened for the rapper, starting out the night with some good music.

What started with a survey sent to students at the end of September ended up being a night of music, excitement, and entertainment. Throughout the year, CAB has been working hard to organize contracts, marketing and promotion, security, and much more. After being voted on by the student body, when the performer was announced around February Gusties were already buzzing with excitement for the concert. CABbies keeping the artist a secret made it even more suspenseful for the student body.

"For me, it was fun to watch everyone have an amazing time at the concert, and it showed all of our hard work [paid] off for everyone to enjoy themselves," CAB Everyday Activities Executive and First-year Rae Holwerda said. "People drove far and wide for it, I know people who came from my hometown

NLE Choppa performing at Gustavus to come to see him, almost 2 hours away," Holwerda said.

"People drove far and wide for it, I know people who came from my hometown to come to see him, almost 2 hours away."

With the release of his lat-



Crowd picture at NLE Choppa concert

est single earlier this month, Gusties were excited to hear it performed for the first time live. NLE Choppa has had many songs reach the Billboard Hot 100 in the past, reaching #25 on the Billboard Artist 100 in 2020 according to the music publication company. "It was fun when he played his more well-known songs and people were screaming the lyrics. Sometimes the music would stop and it would just be the crowd screaming the words to the song, it was definitely one of my favorite parts," First-year concert attendee Emily Jacobs said.

While it may seem odd for a famous rapper to come to a small-town liberal arts college in southern Minnesota, NLE Choppa has been known to perform on college campuses. Having regularly performed at colleges, it's clear that students relate to the 21-year-old rapper's music. His 2023 tour entitled the "NLE University Tour" was held on college campuses all around the United States, such as the University of Maine, Michigan State University, Georgia Tech, and many more. Although never going to college himself, NLE connects with audiences around his age. "It would've been beautiful to have

a college experience. I would've gone to an HBCU for sure. I don't regret not having a college experience and I'm still young enough to go back," NLE Choppa in a 2023 interview said.

While CAB worked hard to put on the event, there was lots of help from Gusties and student organizations volunteering before, during, and after the concert. Through volunteering, Gusties had the opportunity to not only get complimentary tickets to the show, and funding for their student organizations but also to meet NLE Choppa himself afterward. Especially with this being the first big spring concert hosted since the pandemic, Gusties were eager to hear the rapper perform.

CAB's hard work on hosting NLE Choppa's concert this past week was clear to all Gusties and friends who attended. Through their work promoting, organizing, and planning this large-scale event, CAB was able to create a night full of entertainment and enjoyment for the greater Gustavus community.

GUSTIE of the WEEK Kate Aguilar

Amelia Dewberry Staff Writer

This week's Gustie of the Week is Assistant Professor of African American History, Kate Aguilar. Aguilar teaches African American History I, African American History II, The Black Athlete in America, and Hip Hop and the Black 1980s. Next year she will teach a signature experience on Atlantic Slavery and Freedom.

Aguilar's interest in African American history started when she was growing up in The Region in a town next to Gary, Indiana. This is one of the most racially segregated areas in the country due to its history dating back to the early 1900s. "The United States Steel Corporation founded Gary in 1906, then recruited Black southerners during the interwar period because of the disruption of European migration and the recruitment of almost one-fourth of the city's White mill workers for war. The steel mills employed more Black laborers than any other business in the area but simultaneously worked with local governments to ensure segregated public and private institutions," Aguilar explained.

While she didn't always know this history, she felt it: "I lived in an almost all-White sun-

down town that spoke of race and place by linking Black bodies and urban decay and White bodies and American possibility. I was raised during the Reagan Era when we weren't meant to speak of race at all; it was the dawn of colorblindness." Aguilar said, "And yet, I recognized that Michael Jordan was often described as more than a Black athlete, as transcending race, as if to be Black was unacceptable, nothing but a problem." She thought about this so often that she was determined to find out why this framing of Black and White existed.

Aguilar went to a small, private, liberal arts college like Gustavus where she took Intro to Black Studies. The class changed her life because it gave her a lens to understand her childhood and herself in a way that she didn't know was possible. Aguilar went on to major in Black Studies.

She taught at under-resourced schools in Compton, California, and St. Louis, Missouri to bear witness and put the theories she had learned into practice. Aguilar continued to earn her Master's and Ph.D. where she learned that she was passionate about race and sport in the 1980s.

"I chose Gustavus because it was one of the few schools in the U.S. that offered me the opportunity to teach African American and sport history. Many schools treat these histories as sidenotes or add-ons. Gustavus does not, which is an incredible gift for me and the students," Aguilar said. Her favorite part of the job is students, "[they] engage most fully with the historical perspectives of Black Americans and believe them. I am so touched by students who tell me what they hope to do with this class in the future, and I know they will change the world because they have already changed mine."

"I chose Gustavus because it was one of the few schools in the U.S. that offered me the opportunity to teach African American and sport history. Many schools treat these histories as sidenotes or add-ons. Gustavus does not, which is an incredible gift for me and the students."

One of these students is Firstyear Claire Emmons. Emmons went into Aguilar's office hours to chat about a subject she was interested in. Aguilar had articles printed out for her, and they talked for quite a while. "This was just so considerate, and sitting down and talking with her one on one really made me realize how much she cared for the subject and her students," Emmons said.

Emmons appreciates that Aguilar makes an effort to get to know every student. She explained, "Walking into her class is so refreshing especially if you've had a bad day. Her lectures are so interesting, she loves telling us stories, and you can tell that everyone else loves her as well. She is by far the most passionate professor I have had so far." Aguilar is an inspiration to Emmons, and she hopes that everyone has an opportunity to take one of her classes.

In her free time, Aguilar finds joy in running. She loves watching her three rambunctious kids play sports and watching TV shows with her husband. However, Aguilar said "Most of all, I love being a part of a community. I get such joy out of supporting Gustavus and St. Peter's sports and the arts. I am a big fan of being everyone's biggest fan."

Aguilar wants everyone to know that if you ever need someone in your corner, to come see her. "I care very deeply about being a student advocate and, if you need one, I love giving hugs," Aguilar said.



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

weeklylettertotheeditor@gmail.com for a chance to be featured!

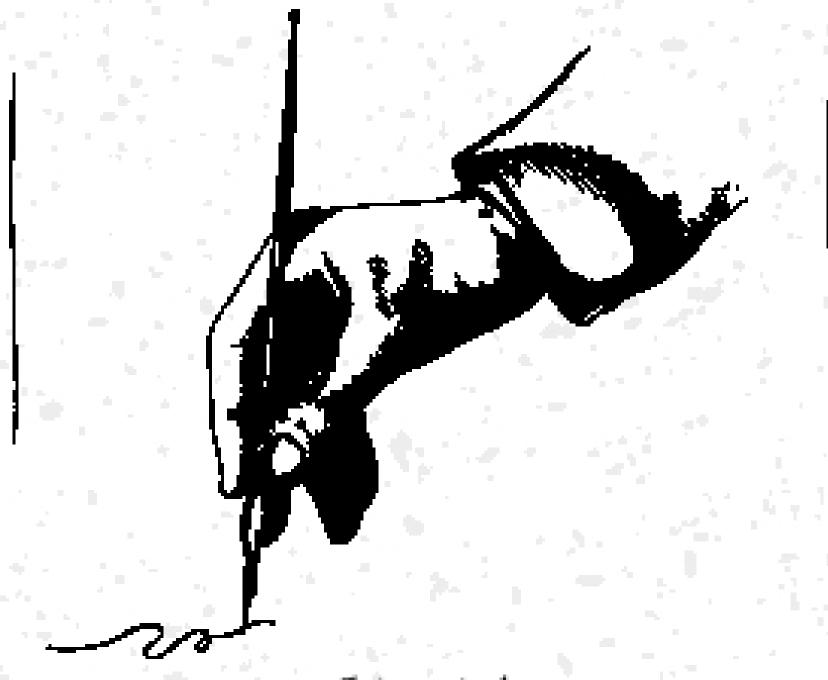


GoW Kate Aguilar

Kate Bienapf

LOVE TO WRITE? GRAMMAR OBSESSED?

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Email Editor in Chief Mel Pardock

mpardock@gustavus.edu



Happy Earth Day

Happy Earth Day, Gusties! Don't forget to take in the beautiful surroundings all around you, courtest of our planet. With blooming flowers and bright colors, campus is teeming with beautiful sights waiting to be appreciated.

Be sure to enjoy it!



pictures taken by: Kate Bienapfl and Soren Sackreiter







The real cost of sidewalks



Jonas Doerr Opinion Columnist

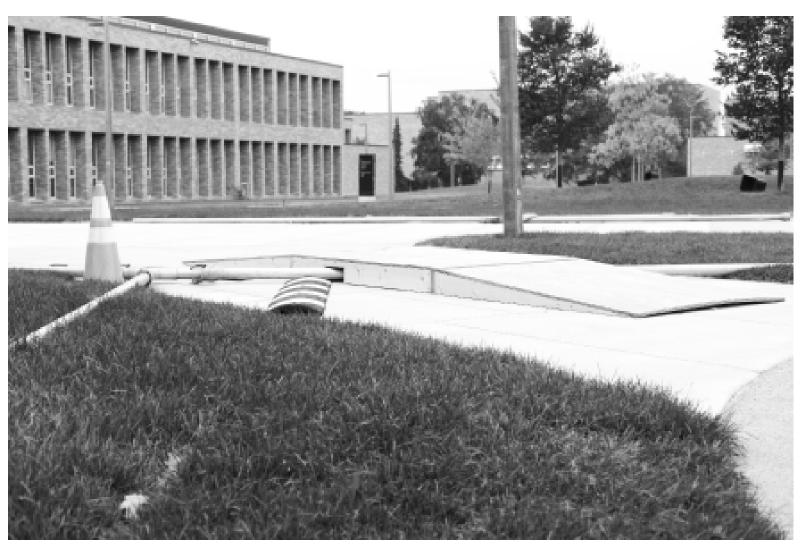
ustavus is covered in a concrete blanket. Maybe the blanket is a bit scraggly and lets Gustavus' toes stick out, but it is still Poads, sidewalks, at ts cover a large I ampus.

For r most of their tim Gustavus is walking tete. Aside from the Ar chance else s a fi r

sidewalks on the rest of campus are harming our walking health and local biodiversity. Instead of coating our campus with concrete, it should gradually be resurfaced with softer, more natural materials.

The harshness of concrete has been shown to have negative effects on people's feet, legs, and lower backs. Peter Beech writes in his article in The Guardian, "Hard Living: What Does Concrete Do to Our Bodies?" that people who work long 8-10 hour shifts on concrete often come in for treatment, but the only remedy for their foot and leg problems is to stay off concrete for a time. Beech also writes that runners generally try not to run on concrete because of its damaging effects; the lead marathon trainer for England's athletics team says landing on the same concrete surface repeatedly "all ends up in the lower back," causing muscular-skeletal damage.

Of course, the average student walking to class isn't jogging or taking 8-10 hours. But to avoid the hard impact of walking on concrete, many people wear cushioned shoes with elevated heels. Those elevated heels over time cause the Achilles tendon in the back of the foot



One of the many Gustavus sidewalks

to tighten and shrink, according to Dr. Bryan Den Hartog from Twin Cities Orthopedics. As a result of this, he adds, "We believe that a major cause of many foot and ankle problems is due in part to tight calves and Achilles

tendons."

Softer walking surfaces around campus would allow people to wear flatter, less cushioned shoes or even go barefoot. We could replace many of the sidewalks around campus with dirt paths, and woodchips, or even just allow students to form their own paths and take the most efficient route to their classes.

This would also have a positive impact on biodiversity at Gustavus. During the winter, sidewalks require plowing and sand or salt that ends up in the nearby plants. If Gustavus students trudged out their own paths in the snow, like they already do on some parts of campus, this would not be an issue. Sidewalks also are an impervi-

ous substance to water, causing rainfall and snowmelt to run off into storm drains, which then carry dirt particles that instead of rejoining the soil head to the Minnesota River to muddy its waters.

Obviously, we can't remove all of the sidewalks. We need to keep some hard-surfaced paths to allow less mobile people to still move around campus. But we can remove many of the sidewalks and over time convert the rest into a more eco-friendly surface.

All of the roads, sidewalks, and parking lots on Gustavus have the same problem with water runoff. Since rainfall and snowmelt cannot get through it, it necessitates a complex drainage system which ultimately sends pollutants unfiltered into the Minnesota River. Fluids and particles from cars, along with other debris, are swept along with the water.

One solution, implemented in Shoreview, Minnesota, which

is near St. Paul, is pervious pavement. Instead of paving with impervious concrete or asphalt, pervious pavement uses pervious asphalt, pervious cement, or interlocking cement to create a hard surface that water can flow through. This removes the need for stormwater drainage systems, and the pavement can also trap many of the pollutants in the water.

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), permeable pavements reduce stormwater by 25% to even 100%. They also remove between 67-97% of total suspended solids, around 80% of metals, and about 40% of nutrients in the water. Best of all, this type of pavement can be more affordable than traditional pavement

The EPA says that in a project in Olympia, Washington, testing the differences between permeable and traditional sidewalks, the permeable pavement was \$8 per square foot as opposed to \$15 per square foot for the impermeable pavement. While it might not be cost-effective to immediately tear up our campus' paved surfaces, as they gradually wear out and need repair we can replace them with cheaper, more environmentally friendly materials. And if you'll indulge me in a small pun, these changes will certainly pave the way for a

greener Gustavus.

Surge pricing? At MY Wendy's?



Sophia White
Opinion Columnist

How would you like it if you went out to pick up some Wendy's chicken nuggets? Decent, right? Munching on some chicken in the privacy of your own home. But then, you notice the receipt. What once was 1.99 for 4 chicken nuggets is now 5 bucks? Doesn't make sense.

So, you march down to your local Wendy's and give yourself a little Karen moment. Yet, you are stopped short by a manager explaining the new pricing implementation. It sounds awfully sketchy and like they are trying to sell it off as a good thing for customers, but in reality, it just rakes in more profits for the fast food corporation. This is called surge pricing.

Wendy's official statement on the new pricing policy refuses to acknowledge that it is surge pricing, but when you look at how the policy works, it has systems in place that work just the same as surge pricing for a business like Uber. According to financial news website The Street, "surge pricing (a subcategory of dynamic or flexible pricing) refers to a sales strategy in which a company raises the prices of its products or services during times (and in places) with higher demand."

It makes sense for businesses like Uber or Amazon to implement this into their business systems. With Uber, when the demand for rides increases, the prices go up and it shows this on the app for riders to decide whether or not they want to ride now or wait. The app makes it very clear that this is an increase of the original price. Yet, it is becoming common for other businesses to steal the model of surge pricing but make it look like it is not an increase but a decrease instead.

With Wendy's website, they are achieving this by increas-

ing prices overall, but then making the consumer believe they are getting a discount through imaging of discount hours. It'll show up as a discount on the website between such and such hours, but it is actually the original price of the food or drink before surge pricing. It may look like you are receiving a discount, but it is just the original price being made to look like a value deal to the customer. I think it is pretty deceitful to say you are lowering prices as a corporation, but very clearly increasing prices and gaslighting consumers into thinking that you have "discount hours" when they were the original

Since this new policy was announced by Wendy's on social media, there has been a roar of backlash from the public regarding the rage around surge pricing in fast food. Wendy's is a restaurant that garners a loyal customer base and relies heavily on that over the fame of its food. Changing your pricing policies will make it really difficult for Wendy's to keep some of that loyal customer base with the flippy-floppy messaging they



Some ca\$h \$chmoney

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are sending out to consumers. People are considering boycotting Wendy's to stop this policy, but the reality is that if a different fast food place implemented this pricing strategy, like Chick-fil-A, people would still come. Places that are notorious for their food and their long lines would profit immensely from surge pricing strategies as the public might complain about it, but at the same time, they aren't going to give up their Chick-fil-A just because of a little higher of a price due to what time it is.

This is the current concern with surge pricing methods. The current way that things are going, it appears as though surge pricing is going to become the new norm in other times of service. Even if they aren't even services that require this kind of strategy to help their workers. It is more about the benefit of profits rather than for their workers. It might start with a place like Wendy's that not many people go to otner than their loyal customers, but then it'll start being places like Chick-fil-A that are always packed with lines around the building during certain hours. My concern is that this will become the new norm for corporation pricing strategies and then problems with affordability will become even more difficult for people who are entering the workforce and the housing market in the next few years. Fast food is genuinely addictive and also genuinely ex-

pensive if it is coming out of your budget constantly. This model appears to be genuinely dangerous for students like us, and we should be looking into how to change this economic outlook for ourselves and others in the next few years.



A Wendy's exterior shot

For the love of folk!



Houston McLaury
Opinion Columnist

can remember clearly when I first fell in love Lwith folk music. I was sitting in my living room when I was about twelve years old, finishing up a rewatch of the autumn classic movie Fantastic Mr. Fox by Wes Anderson. This wasn't the first time I've seen the movie, mind you, my parents made sure that I saw the movie years before, and I'm ever grateful for it. But, during the few final scenes of the movie I heard the first of many folk songs that I would soon fall in love with.

While climbing up a ladder, Mr. Fox and his family are talking, and in the background comes the wonderful sounds of The Beach Boys. But, they aren't playing their usual upbeat songs with multitudes of instruments. Instead, it's an organ that backs them up as they sing in what seems to be a quartet. And, of all the songs they're singing, they sing "Old Man River," a song originally sung by Paul Robeson in the 1936 film Showboat.

Of course, I didn't know this at the time, and instead waited until the credits came rolling around to try and find where that song came from. After finding the title, I rushed to the family computer and looked the song up, and instantly I was enraptured by the deep bassy voice he held. I could not let his voice leave my ears, looking up his songs on my phone when I had the chance, and eventually finding a biographical book on his life that I read in my sophomore year of high school.

Finding Paul Robeson opened multiple doors to other folk musicians, people like Pete Seeger, Phil Ochs, Vashti Bunyan, The Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem, Leadbelly, Woody Guthrie, and so many more that I have yet to find. I write this not just to gush and praise the singers of folk music, but to make an argument that this music is important, as it allows us a look into the past through the stories told in them, and offers a distinct way of protest that has been weaved and built into the entirety of the genre.

"After finding the title, I rushed to the family computer and looked the song up, and instantly I was enraptured by the deep bassy voice he held"

Some of the first few songs I've listened to in the folk music genre have dealt with tumultuous moments in American history. Take, for example, the song "Ballad of the Fort Hood Three" which was written by Pete Seeger. It details three college-educated people discussing their refusal to join the Vietnam War, as in 1966 they refused to be deployed into Vietnam. It refers to the problems facing a majority of the people who were alive during the time, allowing us a look into America's history. Folk music like this offers a snapshot of the time the song was written, as is evident in older American folk songs.

"It details three college-educated people discussing their refusal to join the Vietnam War, as in 1966 they refused to be deployed into Vietnam. It refers to the problems facing a majority of the people who were alive during the time, allowing us a look into America's history"

Another example comes in the form of a Great Depression song, titled "The Big Rock Candy Mountain." If you've seen Oh Brother, Where Art Thou? Then you'll know this as the song that plays over the opening of three men escaping a chain gang. But, again, this song offers a great insight into the dreams of many unemployed Americans during the Depression era. It details how "the railroad bulls are blind" and the "farmers' trees are full of fruit," discussing kinder and better times while hoping for a better tomorrow in the Big Rock Candy Mountains. Folk songs trail back through a lot of American history, allowing a look into the past through the songs the people made to discuss what they were experiencing in their time.

Even with these historical lenses that can be used in folk music, they are useful in the ways of protest as well. This can be seen in the dozens upon dozens of Union folk songs that are out there, one significant one is "Casey Jones (The Union Scab)," detailing the life of a wreckless scab train conductor, who died when he went to heaven started "scabbing on the angels." This song makes a clear stance against people who cross picket lines, and those who actively work to break apart protests.

"This song makes a clear stance against people who cross picket lines, and those who actively work to break apart protests"

These songs aren't just used for union protests, but for protests against war, protests for the environment, and many were made and used during the Civil Rights protests of the 1960s. If you feel moved to listen to some great music, look into the many many different covers of the song "We Shall Overcome," which became an anthem for the Civil Rights Movement. Throughout most of American history, folk music has been utilized to protest against the cruelties of the world, used so that one voice can be many as people sing in picket lines or protest marches.

"These songs aren't just used for union protests, but for protests against war, protests for the environment, and many were made and used during the Civil Rights protests of the 1960s"

I love folk music, not only for the sound it provides, but the looks into American history that is rarely told, and the multitude of protest songs that fueled so many movements. Hearing this music always transports me to the past, but it also puts me back onto that couch in my parent's house, watching Fantastic Mr. Fox, and hearing that same sweet tune of "Old Man River" for the first time again. Please, be curious about the music you listen to, look into who wrote it, if there are any covers, find your favorite, and continue to explore with all your heart.



Folk group The Clancy Brothers

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Civil War

Will Sorg Movies Guy

If you haven't been paying attention, America is in a very tense place politically. I don't feel the need to elaborate on this beyond mentioning that we're only a few years removed from a genuine attempted coup on the capital. British filmmaker Alex Garland's newest movie has garnered a lot of attention and controversy due to its portrayal of a modern civil war for control over the United States of America. Civil War follows a group of war journalists on an odyssey through the war-torn Eastern U.S. with their ultimate destination being a soon-to-be-invaded Washington D.C.

The film keeps the actual details of the conflict vague. Florida and a few other states have seemingly declared independence from the USA while Texas and California have joined into a coalition to destroy the current U.S. government. The president is definitively controlling the U.S. as a fascist dictatorship with his rule being compared to Gaddafi and Mussolini. However, all of this is essentially irrelevant in the grand scheme of the movie. The film has drawn criticism for this deliberate sidelining of the specific politics of the war, however, the obfuscation of Civil War's politics is very much the goal.

Not only does this make the movie age better when we hopefully move past this period of political instability, but it also furthers the actual goals of this movie. Civil War is not really about Democrats, Republicans, Donald Trump, or whatever current culture war is currently blowing up on social media. It's about inaction and how it is killing America. If you need proof of this, look no further than the main characters of the story.

The two core characters of the film are Lee and Jessie. Lee is a photojournalist who has been documenting wars for decades. Played by the wonderful Kirsten Dunst, Lee is a callous and disillusioned woman who almost exclusively sees the war through a potential for career success. Jessie meanwhile is the young optimistic amateur photographer hoping to become as well-regarded as Lee. Cailee Spaeny's performance as Jessie is almost the perfect opposite to Dunst's Lee as she is deeply affected by the atrocities shown in the film. However what's most interesting about these two is not their starting characterizations, but where they end up.

We watch as Lee slowly begins to experience a crisis of faith in not only her worldview but her entire life. She slowly gets eaten up by all that she's done. The warzones she's been to, the people she's photographed as they slowly died in front of her. It's shown by the intense blurring around her head each time the camera focuses on her, she's unraveling and it's happening fast. Meanwhile, Jessie slowly begins to realize that if you want to be a famous war photographer a part of you needs to die; That part being your humanity.

Without spoiling everything this movie is visceral and incredibly anxiety-inducing. Not only because of the rough, almost too real subject matter but also because our main characters all respond to it in different ways. There is a constant refrain by the journalist characters that they're not intervening or taking a deliberate stance for any particular side because they need to accurately document what is going on; for the people who won't acknowledge that this war is as bad as it is. However, it is shown constantly that our key characters are adrenaline junkies who use their work as war journalists to distract from their own issues and so they can't fully come to grips with the war themselves. After all, if you're constantly on the move, weaving through gunfire and drinking yourself to sleep there's not much time left to deal with the atrocities happening in war. Compartmentalization and the ethics of war journalism are at the forefront of this film. We see our protagonists witness unspeakable things. Several times prisoners of war and civilians are gunned down and it is heavily implied that unless those actions are done by the fascist side of the war our main characters will probably not tell anyone about what they saw.

Just technically this film is a journey into the heart of darkness. The sound design is immaculate, the guns sound terrifyingly real, and in every scene there's a palpable texture to the audio. It sounds like a warzone, the tension of a too-quiet street, the rubble crunched underneath people's feet, the tires squealing with the sense of an urgent animal. We are reduced to a more primal state within the film and we feel it in our ears. Visually too this is a deeply arresting movie. Of course, it plays with familiar anxieties showing DC as an active warzone or New York being bombed, but the countryside is a constantly dangerous place in the film. Visually the greens and browns of the rural eastern U.S. are deeply unnerving. Bombed-out buildings and hidden soldiers are around every corner and there's never the sense of security that is given to our protagonists when they are officially escorted by soldiers.

This is a careful movie. It's careful to never portray any of the military forces as "the good guys." In fact part of the terror of this movie is that beyond maybe the final act, you never know who belongs to what side. Everyone is in camo, everyone is American, and everyone is shooting at someone else. You always feel nervous when there are soldiers and you can never know if the group of journalists are in danger or not. Along with this you slowly come to realize that there's really hardly anyone to root for in the movie. Our protagonists are all exploiting people's suffering for profit with no real belief in the system beyond career gain. They follow soldiers into battle with cameras rather than guns. After showing how these pursuits lead to nothing but confusion, exploitation, and death the film seems to be asking a question: are cameras and guns all that different?

Commonalities

Sort these words into groups of 4 that share a common thread (bonus points if you guess the categories!)

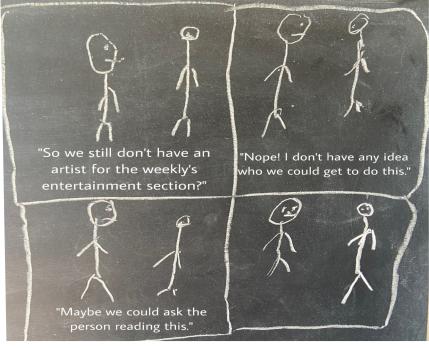
Happy Browning Dopey Jake Matty Michael Doc Beretta Tom Taurus Barret Alan Joe John Sneezy Rudolph

Answers in the next issue

LAST WEEKS ANSWERS

- 1. Gorge
- 2. Orangutan
- 3. Baby
- 4. Cook
- 5. Odious
- 6. Yeah
- 7. Bongo
- 8. Sheep9. Undercover

Will Sorg
Unwilling Comics Guy



Golfers take 4th out of 14

Strong first day followed by lackluster 2nd day



Gustie athelete gets ready to hurl the disc

Parker Burman Sports Writer

This past weekend the Gustavus men's golf team traveled to Le Sueur to square off in the Bobby Krig invitational, played at Le Sueur Country Club. The Gusties totaled 296-306-602 (+38) good for a fourth-place finish. Saint John's won the event with a 296-285-581.

Sophomore Pelayo Perez Crespo led the way for the Gusties, tying for 10th place with a 71-76-147 (+6). Senior Tommy Hiniker was one stroke behind and tied for 14th at 73-75-148. "I was happy with my performance on the first day of the tournament, as I was capable of making a lot of birdies which gave me the chance to put myself one shot away from the lead. However, in the second round, I found myself not striking the ball pretty well and was unable to shoot the score I wanted. The second round was frustrating, nonetheless, it's all part of the process," Perez Crespo said.

"After the first day, we were tied for first. Considering the second round was at our home course, I think as a team we were disappointed we did not win the tournament. Nonetheless, putting ourselves in a position to have the chance to win a tournament is something we should be proud of and learn from" Perez Crespo said.

Junior Jack Reinardy and Sophomore Chris Gutuza tied for 31st with scores of 78-78-156 and 74-82-156, respectively, while Junior Teddy Kaste played the worst out of the A team with an 84-77-161, tying for 48th

"I thought the weather was nice all weekend but just a little cold where we needed gloves to keep our hands warm for the first day. I don't like to blame the weather for both mine and our team's performance because everyone had to play in it" First-year Blake Forrest said.

Forrest led the second team, tying for 20th place with a 77-74-151. The Gustie B team took 10th with a 317-305-622. "Individually, I feel like I performed pretty well. Going into the weekend, I had a good plan coming in knowing one of the courses was tight off the tee. My driver hasn't been performing well as of recently, so my game plan had to go off of that. My short game felt good the entire weekend, which helped me save par or even make a nice birdie. Overall, I went 77-74, which was a good bounce back after Memphis, "Forrest said.

"Certainly not the results we were working towards today," Head Coach Scott Moe said. "I think we wanted to win so badly that when we fell behind, we felt defeated. Because you can't control what another team or individuals do on the golf course, we need to do a better job of managing the situation directly in front of us and not getting derailed by bad swings, shots, or bounces. We will get prepared and have a lineup ready for next weekend at the Saint John's Invite."

Gustavus will play at the Saint John's Invite on Saturday and Sunday at the Monticello Country Club.

"There are a lot of things we can learn from this past weekend that we can take to our last two tournaments and try to finish strong. As a team we are excited to play our last two tournaments and finish the season with some good results" Perez Crespo said.

"As a team, I believe we could've performed better as a whole throughout the tournament. We have to make sure

that we are committed to every shot and have a purpose with that specific shot. On the first day, the A team (Gold team) had a good day being T1, but there was still room for improvement after the first day. Luckily as a team, we played our home course (Le Sueur CC) on the second day, which I thought was a big advantage over other teams. I thought we had a good chance [of] moving up spots and grabbing that number 1 spot once the day ended, but it just wasn't our day. After finishing that tournament, I believe if we can eliminate the higher scores like double bogey or triple bogey, we will be in good shape and be in contention again. That's what separates us between St John's" Forrest said.

Tennis continues to compete

Men and Women take on fellow MIAC scgools



Josh returns ball to sender

Zachary Tlusty Staff Writer

came out victorious 8-1 against mentum early and handled the Carleton on Saturday at the close moments very well. Ev-Swanson Tennis Center. The eryone played their roles well Gusties improve to 18-7 overall and 7-0 in the MIAC, while the result. the Knights drop to 12-5 overall and 7-1 in the league.

Gustavus, led by the stellar performance of 5th-year Jack ing end to the regular season." Bergmeyer and Sophomore Ty- Head Coach Tommy Valentini ler Haddorff, started the match with a decisive 8-2 win at No. 3 doubles. The Juniors Marco Siviero and Josh Christensen also played a crucial role, securing a win at No. 1. Carleton managed to claim No. 2 doubles 8-6. With their unwavering determination in singles play, the Gusties matches in the past week and won all six matches in straight

"The guys put together a strong team effort today. Carleton played some tough doubles, especially at the one and two spots. We got a huge lift out of the gates from Jack and Tyler at number three, and Marco and Josh showed good poise to

'n a matchup of unbeat- get us the 2-1 lead. From there, en MIAC men's tennis we competed very well in the teams, No. 13 Gustavus singles. We grabbed the motoday, and we're thankful for

> We're looking forward to getting rested and returning to our preparation and progress this week and to an excit-

The men's team will play this Saturday when it hosts Macalester and St. Scholastica to close the regular season.

The women played three went 2-1, improving their record to 12-10 on the season and 6-1 in the MIAC.

The team dropped its first conference match of the season, falling 8-1 to No. 22 Carleton at the Swanson Tennis Center. Carleton started the matchup of previously unbeaten MIAC teams with a clean sweep in doubles. In singles play, Sophomore Kaya De Bruijn claimed the only point for the Gusties, winning 7-6, 1-6, 10-6 at No. 3. The other five singles matches were won in straight sets by the Knights.

The next match got the women back on the winning track with a decisive 8-1 victory at Saint Benedict. The Gusties improve to 11-10 overall and 5-1 in the MIAC.

We're looking forward to getting rested and returning to our preparation and progress this week and to an exciting end to the regular season.'

Gustavus started the day with 8-2 wins at Nos. 2 and 3 doubles and dropped its only point of the day at No. 1 doubles. In singles play, the top two spots went to third set breakers where Sophomore Molly Austin won 6-2, 6-7, 10-5 at No. 1, and Sophomore Allison Szalay won 6-7, 7-6, 10-8 at No. 2. The final four singles were claimed in straight sets without allowing more than three points in

"The women competed very well today," proud of the step forward we made as a team, Head Coach Jon Carlson said.

The Gusties opened their third match with a 2-1 lead after the doubles, getting wins at No. 1 and No. 3. Both pairs of Kaya De Bruijn/Molly Austin and Alli Laux/Payla Yakimoya won 8-4 in doubles play, while St. Olaf picked up its only point of the day in the No. 2 doubles, winning 8-7 over Szalay Freshman Bethany Smith.

The Gusties dominated in the singles, winning all six in straight sets. Szalay and Ella De Young were impressive at No. 2 and No. 6 singles, respectively, both holding the Oles to just two points in their victories. Szaláy won 6-2, 6-0, while De Young went 6-0, 6-2. Molly Austin clinched the match with a 6-3, 6-3 win at No. 1 singles.

The Gusties will close out their regular season this weekend, facing Macalester and St. Scholastica on Saturday before

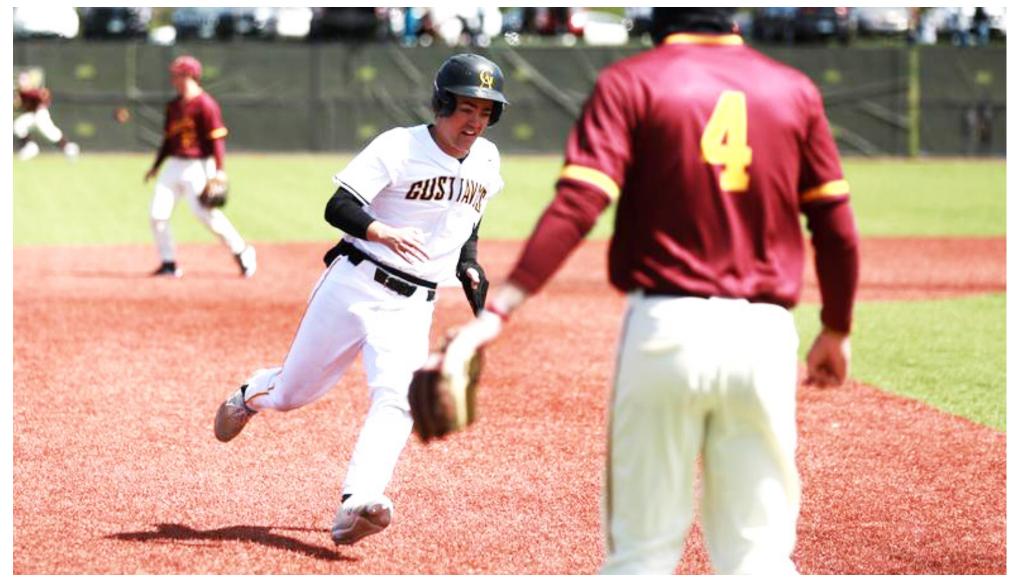
hosting No. 31 Bethel on Sun-

day at noon.

Submitted

Gustavus Baseball bests Concordia

Gustavus picks up huge wins in MIAC play



Gavin Baker races around 3rd base

Kieran Ripken Sports Writer

The Gustavus baseball team hosted Concordia for a doubleheader on Saturday and the matchup of MIAC teams did not disappoint. Gustavus won the first game handily 11-6 and conquered the seemingly insurmountable odds of a seven-run deficit and won 12-11 in the second game. The Gusties improved to 15-12 and 7-5 in the MIAC on the season.

In the first of two games, the Gusties stormed out to a commanding lead in the bottom of the first. Senior Bryce Novak and Junior Brady Schmitz each singled in consecutive at-bats at the top of the order, who were then brought home courtesy of a triple from Senior Gavin Baker. An RBI single from Senior Chris Knowles, an RBI triple from First-year Danny Gavin, and a sacrifice fly from Junior Isaac Becker gave the Gusties a comfortable 5-0 lead after the first inning.

"Something that we have done [recently] is just to remind ourselves to have fun and play loose. At times this season we have put too much pressure on ourselves and this weekend we went in with a different mindset," Knowles said.

The Cobbers made a dent in the lead with a two-run homer in the third, but an RBI single from First-year Brayden Kohls raised the score to 6-2. The Gustie lead evaporated quickly in the fourth inning as the Cobbers scored four runs on four hits.

In the bottom of the fourth, Sophomore Sam Schneider reached base on a hit by pitch and Novak followed with a walk. With two runners on base, Schmitz unleashed a three-run homer to right field, bringing his teammates home and regaining the lead at 9-6.

"It was definitely a highpressure situation with runners on base and I was just trying to put the ball in play to hopefully get one run in. But I was really excited and relieved to be able to come through for the team with a home run in a situation like that," Schmitz said.

In the bottom of the sixth, Gavin singled and scored Knowles and Baker to put the game out of reach for the Cobbers in what would be the final score, 11-6.

Senior Adam Biewen earned the start for the Gusties and tallied his fourth win on the season, striking out eight in six innings. Sophomore Jackson Thielen closed the door on the Cobbers in the seventh and earned the save, striking out three.

In the second game of the doubleheader, the Cobbers constructed a 5-0 lead across the first four innings. The Gusties chipped away at the deficit in the fifth, scoring four runs on RBI singles from Schmitz and Knowles and a two-run triple from Baker to close the gap 5-4. The Cobbers responded in a big way in the sixth, scoring six runs to seemingly put the game out of reach at 11-4.

In the seventh, Knowles hit an RBI single with the bases loaded and Gavin nearly cleared them with a threerun triple to bridge the score within three runs. The Cobbers deemed a pitching change appropriate in an effort to stop the damage, but Kohls made the Cobbers pay with a tworun homer to bring the score to 11-10.

"We did a great job of staying confident and staying within ourselves and not changing our approach at the plate. Our pitchers did a great job of shutting it down and holding them and the hitters just took it one pitch at a time," Knowles said.

In the top of the eighth, Junior Hunter Sheehan held down the fort and tossed a scoreless eighth inning. In the bottom of the eighth, Novak doubled and scored Senior Mitch Casperson, tying the game at 11. A bunt from Schmitz and a throwing error from the Cobbers pitcher scored Novak on the gamewinning run.

"What you can't see on paper is our will to not give up. Things have not always been going our way or balls may have not been falling, but we continue to fight to the end," Novak said.

It felt like déjà vu for the Cobbers in the ninth as Thielen returned to the mound with a save opportunity and converted, registering his second save of the season to clinch a seemingly-improbable comeback victory for the Gusties.

Sheehan tallied his first win of the year.

"I would say that the team chemistry and camaraderie [are] at an all-time high right now. After struggling at the start of conference play, we've started to change our mindset into playing loose, having fun, and being there for each other," Schmitz said.

"It was exciting to come back and win the game and definitely needed that extra motivation to carry over moving forward into this week's games," Novak said.

Gustavus will host Macalester on Saturday, April 27th for a doubleheader. Start times are at 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. The Gusties have not surrendered a loss against the Scots since 2019, outscoring their MIAC opponent 58-8 in six games over the span. Last season, the Gusties dominated the Scots 26-2 in a doubleheader (12-0; 14-2).