



Asian Market Night shows off culture with style and color

Taylor Storlien
Staff Writer

Each year, the Asian Student Union puts on the Asian Night Market. There, students are welcome to play games, win prizes, enjoy food and drinks, and be entertained by both student and professional performances. This year, they had the Lions Dancer group called Tay Phoung Lions perform, as well as two circus performers: Aidan Chang and Olivia Monson-Haefel from Circus Juventas. Leading up to the Asian Night Market, ASU puts in the effort to have events throughout the week.

They kicked off their week with Trivia Night in the Courtyard Cafe. After that, they hosted a Ramen Night in the IC kitchen. In order to prepare for the big event last Saturday, they invited all hands to be on deck for their Prep Night in the IC kitchen. And as many might have noticed, the rock was painted for the Asian Night Market as well.

A lot happens to ensure the success of these events: "Lead-up is fun and stressful! We have great events that promote Asian culture on campus such as Ramen Night and Asian Trivia with food. But behind the scenes is crazy!! We have to make sure everything is ready ahead of time and that our decorations and food are on point." ASU Risk Advisor and Senior Jackie Len Patterson said. Patterson also ran the stage and helped procure the performers. These stressful times, however, create opportunities for members to bond. "Making sure we have everything laid out and planned and ensuring we have the needed materials for each event--however, amidst the chaos, it is a great way to bond!" Co-President and Senior Ellen Curtin said. Curtin's role for ANM was managing the event as a whole before and during



A dragon dance being performed during Asian Market Night.

Izabela Taylor

alongside her Co-President and Senior Sophie Schmitz, which included setting up Lund as well as making sure everyone was prepared.

Asian Student Union, under its current name, has not been around for long. It was originally named Asian American Outreach (AAO) before being renamed ASU in 2019. It was re-

named "as smaller Asian-based organizations began to consolidate with it, such as Chinese Cultures Club and Vietnamese Student Association," Curtin said. That doesn't mean the presence of Asian-based clubs and organizations at Gustavus isn't brand new: "However, behind the printer in the Campus Center, there is a painting that was gifted

by the "Asian Cultures Club" in 2003, so who really knows how long Asian-based clubs have been Gustavus," Curtin said.

While Asian-based clubs and organizations on campus have been around for a while, Asian Night Market is still a newer event to the Gustavus campus. It was first put on in 2019, and it was unable to be hosted until

2022 due to COVID-19 restrictions. "The co-presidents then, Mary and Dang, put everything they possibly could into really making it a big event. Happily, it was a super successful event for Asian Student Union. That is when it really became an annual event for ASU, and it only continues to grow," Curtin said.

Patterson refers to ASU as "one of the big three alongside OLAS and PASO." As an international student, ANM is a big deal for Patterson: "As an international student from Papua New Guinea and the Philippines, this event and ASU in general creates a sense of belonging for me on campus. I believe ANM is important because it shows the majority of campus what Asian culture is and empowers people who are a part of Asian culture or simply appreciate it," Patterson said.

One of Curtin's favorite parts about ASU is its value on campus. "The Asian Student Union club is valuable to Gustavus because it offers an open space to build a community between students of Asian heritage and students who are eager to learn about different cultures! Through cultural events and general meetings, the club provides a supportive and fun environment where students can both celebrate their heritage and broaden their understanding of others," Curtin said. Asian Night Market is a perfect example of this, as it is one of their largest events throughout the year. "ANM also provides a gateway to try Asian food and see Asian performers to broaden our cultural experience on campus. Asia is so broad, so we try our best to touch all bases of Asian culture through music, food, and games!" Patterson said.

As an annual event, it varies from year to year. "Through a variety of activities, vendors, performances, and food, this event presents an engaging display of Asian cultures that enriches the campus experience for students, faculty, staff, as well as any outside event goers attending that creates a stronger sense of community," Curtin said.

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Published weekly on Fridays, except during academic breaks, by the students of Gustavus Adolphus College. Subscriptions are available from THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY for \$50 per year.

Opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of the institution or of its student body. The editors assume full responsibility for editorial and unsigned material.

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Events Calendar

Feminist Fika and Art Break
 May 14, 1 - 3 p.m.
 Hillstrom Museum of Art, lower level of
 Campus Center JCC 124

Final Day of Classes
 May 16, All day
 Campus wide

Reading Day
 May 17, All day
 Campus wide

Final Exams
 May 18 - 21, All day
 Campus wide

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

Co-President Elects Swenson and Korpela presented their proposed Cabinet members for the 24-25 academic year, the new Cabinet was approved by the Senate at large. If you have any interest in joining the Student Senate as a class or dorm hall representative, look out for an email in the Fall about how to run for a position

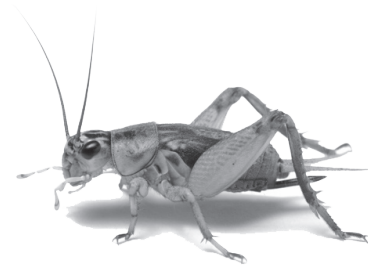
This past week the Senate began approving budgets for organizations on campus for the next upcoming academic year. If you have any questions about funding for organizations please reach out to Finance Director Beltran (martizabeltran@gustavus.edu)

The Senate's proposed constitutional change was passed by the student body this past week. This means that the student activity fee will increase \$10 this upcoming academic year and will then be tied to tuition rates in the following years. If you have any questions or concerns about this, please feel free to contact any member of the Senate!

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

Follow the Student Senate Instagram! : [gac.studentsenate](https://www.instagram.com/gac.studentsenate)

Campus Safety Report



Nothing new.....Again....

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

Seeds of hope: giving tree comes back to spread kindness



A picture of the cards available to use to participate in the Giving Tree.

Soren Sackreiter

Katie Samek
Staff Writer

The Community Engagement Center is partnering with Seeds of Hope to bring children in need an unforgettable summer camp experience, and they're collecting donations via the Giving Tree.

Students interested in donating can go downstairs in the Jackson Campus Center and find the two inflatable palm trees set up by the Courtyard Cafe, which will be left up until either Wednesday, May 15th or until all of the tags have been claimed. Peruse the tags, then select one (or several) that you would like to fulfill. Purchase all of the items listed on the tag(s), then deliver them to the Community Engagement Center, also located downstairs in the Jackson Campus Center. The CEC is requesting that all donation items be delivered by the end of the day on Friday,

May 24th, so if you'd like to donate, then now is the time to grab a tag.

Donations listed on the tags are all items that will go towards the summer camp that Seeds of Hope is organizing for later this summer. Items to be found on these tags include sunscreen, kids' swimsuits (all child sizes), kids' tennis shoes (all child sizes), bug spray, swimming goggles, and twin-size bed-sheets, just to name a few. Each tag has its own unique list of items, so each student can look through and select a tag with donation items that are within their own budget. Please note that all items purchased should be appropriate for kids to use/wear, so please keep that in mind when purchasing items that may contain patterns or characters on them.

Seeds of Hope is proud to have had several Gusties serve as camp counselors in years past and is currently looking for volunteers to help at camp

or assist with registration for this year. Interested students can go to <https://www.seedsof-hopekids.org/get-involved> and scroll down to the section which reads "Become A Volunteer", which contains the links for volunteers to sign up for either camp or registration volunteer opportunities.

Seeds of Hope is a faith-based camp for kids in southern Minnesota currently in foster care or the social services system. First established in 2013 as Royal Family KIDS Mankato, Seeds of Hope orchestrates a week-long summer camp for children in need to celebrate the joy of childhood with the most vulnerable in our community. While Seeds of Hope works primarily with children currently served by the social services system, it also caters to children who may be experiencing trauma from significant loss and economic instability.

As quoted from the Seeds of Hope website: "Some of our

campers have been abused or neglected, some have experienced the recent trauma of losing a parent or family member, and some are dealing with mental health issues within the family unit. Some are currently living in a foster care home, and others are going through the process of reunification with their biological families. Regardless of the circumstances that bring them to our attention, these kids and their families are in need of some respite, and we are here to provide it."

While there are no organizations on campus formally affiliated with this Giving Tree, it does serve to further the goals of the Community Engagement Center, which seeks to serve and engage campus community members in service that is beyond the on-campus community. Dr. Kate Knutson, professor of Political Science here at Gustavus, is also closely involved with Seeds of Hope and helped coordinate this

event with the CEC.

"This event is a great way to educate about the needs that are prevalent here in southern Minnesota," Community Engagement Center Director Amy Pehrson said. "Seeds of Hope is a great way for Gustavus students to help support children in need, as well as giving these kids a chance to build connections with their peers and have a safe, fun place to interact with each other over the summer."

Students who are interested in contributing to Seeds of Hope outside of the Giving Tree can learn more about the organization and its goals at their website, <https://www.seedsof-hopekids.org/>. Seeds of Hope offers opportunities to sponsor a child's week at camp, donate to the organization, volunteer sign-ups for those interested in helping at camp, and many more opportunities for community engagement.

Finals season descends upon GAC



Student Nora Fisher posing as a stressed out student.

Kate Bienapfl

Grace LaTourelle Staff Writer

The sun is shining and the ever-persistent winds are blowing students straight into Finals Season. With the 2023-2024 school year coming to a close, Gusties are encouraged to get outside, enjoy the remaining weeks on The Hill, and lock in for finals.

“Locking in’ means that you need to get it together and focus so that you can get something done on time, whether it’s a paper, presentation, or studying for a certain class when a deadline is coming up,” Chemistry Academic Assistant and Graduating Senior, Ryan Schimek said.

The best ways to lock in for finals is studying in advance, paying attention during class, and utilizing study groups and

final prep events.

“The Gustavus Chemistry Club hosts finals trivia to help students study for their upcoming finals each semester,” Schimek said.

The Chemistry event is to be held on Tuesday, May 14th and will have trivia for Organic Chemistry I taking place in Nobel 1413 from 5:00-6:00 p.m., Inorganic Chemistry I in Nobel 1412 from 5:00-6:00 p.m., and Biochemistry in Nobel 2300 from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Events such as those help to promote good study techniques as well as leaning on peers for support during a stressful time. Study breaks with friends are also important, to refresh the mind and focus on well-being. With the stress of finals, health must also become a priority, encompassing body, mind, and spirit.

“Help each other out,”

the Director of the Academic Support Center, Tom McHugh said. “Model healthy behavior and encourage healthy habits when you see your friends making good decisions.”

Some of these suggestions for healthy habits are to eat nutritious foods, exercise, and sleep well.

“...I wholeheartedly believe that it’s better to get a good night’s sleep before a final than it is to stay up cramming for it,” Schimek noted. “It’s not worth cramming for 12 hours in the days before a final, because you get diminishing returns on your studying. It’s better to study for a couple of hours here and there, while also taking care of yourself.”

Spending time outdoors and making use of places such as the Arboretum are also tools to help mindfulness and mental health

amidst stress.

“Use the improving weather to your advantage. Getting some fresh air and sunshine are perfect excuses for taking well-deserved study breaks and walks with friends,” McHugh said.

In three short weeks, the class of 2024 will not only have finished their finals but will be saying goodbye to campus and the deep connections they’ve made through friends and professors. Underclassmen students are encouraged to hug their friends at least a couple more times and listen to the wisdom of seniors.

“Find people on campus that you can connect with. Making connections with faculty and peers is going to help make all of your classes better in so many ways, and having friends is going to make the time you aren’t in classes so much better,”

Schimek said. “Gustavus is a community, so take advantage of that fact during your time here.”

Schimek also advised underclassmen to get involved on campus, while still leaving room to breathe and enjoy as to avoid burnout.

And as the school year wraps up, students are also reminded to make time for “closing activities”. Remember to spend your remaining Caf money, deconstruct your loft, and make a plan to transport your clothes, bedding, school supplies, and 7 new adoptee plants home. And above all, Gusties are encouraged to make the most of it all.

“These sun-soaked spring days will likely be some of the best memories from your time at Gustavus, so take the time to appreciate and enjoy them,” McHugh said.

The Entrepreneur Cup returns to Gustavus

Elliot Steeves
Staff Writer

The annual Gustie Entrepreneur Cup will take place in the Beck Atrium on Saturday, May 11th, at 11:00 a.m. The event is the culmination of a multi-step process for several student projects involving their new business ideas.

The Cup is a competition and learning opportunity for students in which they develop original entrepreneurial ideas, as well as submit business plans and pitch their projects to alumni judges. The event is part of the creation of the newly formed Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurial Leadership.

In addition to two different categories of competition, there are multiple levels of prize money: \$5,000 for first place and \$2,500 for second. The winner of each category will advance to the Minnesota Cup.

The categories encompass either scalable or sustainable projects.

"Scale projects are more about growth," Professor of Business and Economics and Director of the Center for Innova-

tive and Entrepreneurial Leadership Tara Cadenhead '97 said. "Sustain is more for lifestyle and community-based projects."

There were five steps by which each student pitched and submitted their business idea for the competition. First, students attended an info session or idea lab, where they brainstormed ideas. Then, there was a startup lab where students would analyze whether an idea had enough potential to be carried forward.

After practicing a pitch for a business to a small group, students refined their pitch with an alumni mentor or entrepreneur. All this will culminate in final pitches at the Gustie Cup itself.

"The first session had a lot of ideas," Junior Petr Philippov said. "During the final session, we whittled those ideas down to be more robust. Some people wanted to solve a problem if they did not have a concrete idea, and figure out how the project would come about."

Cadenhead helped many students prepare their ideas for the cup, whether it was the pitches themselves or the submission process.

"Our goal is to engage students from across cam-

pus, not just in the Business and Economics departments," Cadenhead said.

The goal of Cadenhead and the rest of the CEIL is to grow participation and engagement with the Gustie Cup substantially within a one year period. They hope that students recognize the value that can come from innovating their own business or product plan.

"Our goal is to engage students from across campus, not just in the Business and Economics departments."

"Students are innovators regardless, even though only some actually go to become entrepreneurs," Cadenhead said. "So, even if the prize money is important, learning how to take an idea into a business or non-profit is a very valuable skill."

Philippov emphasized that doing this kind of work alone was extremely hard, and the fact that the Gustie Cup gave students the opportunity to do it as a part of a larger project was key to their success.

"The competition increases motivation and engagement, and the experience gained from that process is a lot," Philippov said.

Other departments besides Business and Economics are involved in widening the appeal of the Gustie Cup. In particular, the Fine Arts department encourages students to participate who are taking the Art Entrepreneurship minor.

"Every student is an innovator, and should think like one," Cadenhead said. "Some will become entrepreneurs. We also have students from fine arts, from music, from computer science, and from theater."

"Some will become entrepreneurs. We also have students from fine arts, from music, from computer science, and from theater."

Philippov's idea was related to a new computer program that he came up with. He received assistance from Computer Science professor Guarionex

Salvia in developing the idea for the resulting business.

"He was super supportive, and helped with anything I needed," Philippov said.

It is not just computer projects that get attention at the Gustie Cup. Other project ideas for everything from entertainment to retail to nonprofit and civic service ideas get special attention at the event.

Additionally, students will be happy to know that Paddlefish Brewery, the winner of the 2023 competition, will host the afterparty. Further, Eric Johnson '23 will serve as an alumni judge at this year's event.

Both Cadenhead and Philippov encouraged students to attend for the perks and for the reward of seeing ambitious students put their projects to light.

"There will be fascinating ideas, impressive things from peers, and free lunch!" Cadenhead said.

"Students who are a little timid at their business ideas can see other people do it, and find the motivation to enter into next year's competition," Philippov said.



Speaker at 2023 Gustavus Entrepreneur Cup

Submitted

GUSTIE of the WEEK

Thomas LoFaro

Amelia Dewberry
Staff Writer
and
Willa Brown
Head Copy Editor

This week's Gustie of the Week is Clifford M. Swanson Professor of Mathematics, Thomas LoFaro. He is also the department chair for Math, Computer Science, and Statistics.

LoFaro earned his B.A. and M.S. in Mathematics from the University of Missouri and his Ph.D. from Boston University. However, he did not always plan to major in math: "I started

out pre-med but I learned that I would need to memorize a lot of stuff in organic chem and anatomy. I never had to memorize math, I could just work it out again if necessary."

"I started out pre-med but I learned that I would need to memorize a lot of stuff in organic chem and anatomy. I never had to memorize math, I could just work it out again if

necessary."

LoFaro has been teaching at Gustavus for over 20 years. Before coming here, "I circled the country from Boston University to Washington State University to Harvey Mudd in LA," LoFaro said. He teaches all the math classes offered here at Gustavus, but he thinks MCS-222 (Multivariable Calculus) is his favorite. He explained, "It is incredibly geometric, and I've always loved mathematics with a visual component."

"... hated math so much. But [LoFaro] made me look forward to going to a math class; something I never thought possible!"

He is a beloved teacher at Gustavus. He occasionally teaches 100-level classes, one of those being MCS-115 (Nature of Math). This is a course students often take to fulfill their mathematics general education requirement. One student, Junior Willa Brown, had him for

this course last year. "He was such a fun teacher. On the first day of class, he said 'My name is Thomas LoFaro. You can call me Professor, Tom, or even TLo.' For the rest of the semester, anytime anyone needed him, you would hear echoes of 'Hey, TLo!' He has a very welcoming, humorous presence." She said that coming into Gustavus, she "... hated math so much. But [LoFaro] made me look forward to going to a math class; something I never thought possible!"

In his free time, LoFaro loves to fly fish. "There is nothing I would rather do than be on a trout stream with my fly rod," he said. He often fly fishes with Recreation Program Coordinator Mark Hanson. Hanson described LoFaro as "honest, thoughtful, and loyal."

The two have known each other for a long time and started fishing together 12 years ago. They also play golf together when possible.

"Our shared value in fly fishing and appreciation of rivers, lakes, and natural environments drives our time together," Hanson said. Their passion has taken them on many fishing trips in Minnesota, Montana, and Missouri, but they have certainly

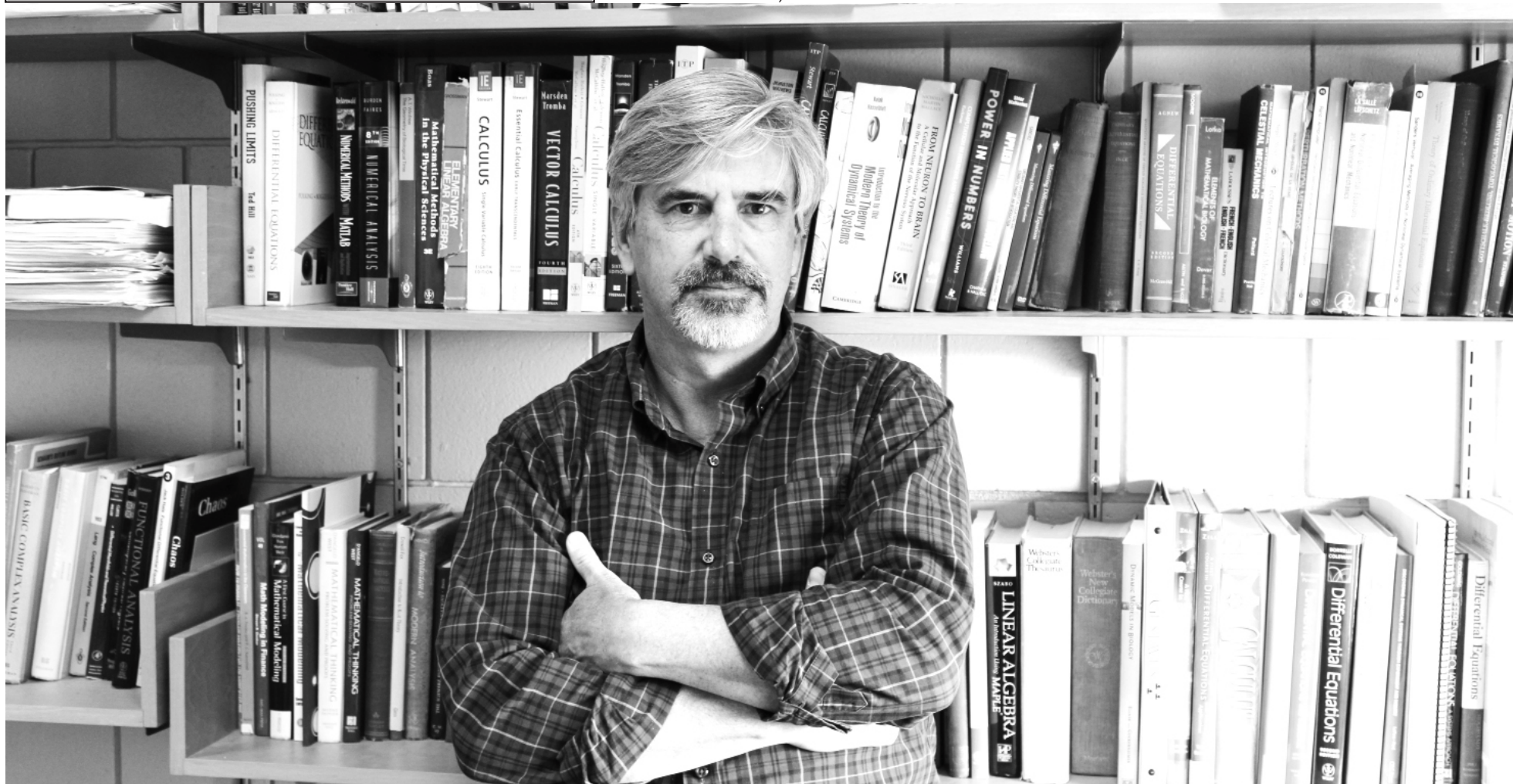
talked about fishing in other places.

One of Hanson's favorite memories with LoFaro was during a trip to Montana. "We were on the Madison River a few years ago fishing a couple hundred yards apart and I saw an osprey fly down and take a fish from in front of him at about the same time that I saw him react in frustration for missing a fish. When we got together later I found out that he had hooked the fish that the osprey then took from him," Hanson said.

LoFaro, as many of those close to him will attest to, is a guy who seeks fun in everything he does. In the class she had with him, Brown talked about the new ways he would keep the class engaged. "We had a wide variety of students in our class: athletes, mathematicians, people just trying to complete their GenEds – it was quite the hodgepodge of personalities. [LoFaro] managed to keep everyone engaged and attendance never dropped as the semester went on. We all looked forward to attending his class and seeing what whacky story he'd tell in class that day!"

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 Thomas LoFaro

Kate Bienapfl

Senior Art Exhibition now open in the Hillstrom Museum of Art

Colleen Coleman
Staff Writer

The Gustavus Senior Studio Art majors recently presented their final exhibition: "Sincerely Yours, The Comeback Kids," a capstone of their artistic careers at Gustavus. The exhibition is now on display in the Hillstrom Museum of Art on the lower level of the Campus Center and will be shown until May 25th. The exhibit displays a variety of artistic styles and themes to bring eclectic and fascinating perspectives.

The nine seniors have worked diligently throughout the year to create their work, with the exhibition showcasing a variety of artistic styles. From watercolor scenes to auditory soundscapes, the work shown travels through many memories, connections, and moments in the artists' lives. "We have been creating and compiling these works since the beginning of Fall semester of this school year, and going through the lengthy process of critiques and juries of our art pieces," Senior Studio Art major Anna Pozdnyakov said.

"We chose the title of this show to commemorate the COVID years, of being so isolated and detached from one another. As we started the cooperative back in 2023, we decided to call it 'The Comeback Kids,' to highlight that we will take

back our year and bring back light to the art department together," Pozdnyakov said. Pozdnyakov's work focused on the "unsettling sides of humanity and our self-destructive tendencies throughout our day to day lives," according to her artist statement. Pozdnyakov's work showcased in the exhibit is a part of an ongoing personal project entitled Diary Series which is an artistic manifestation of her thoughts, worries, and anxieties.

"We chose the title of this show to commemorate the COVID years, of being so isolated and detached from one another. As we started the cooperative back in 2023, we decided to call it 'The Comeback Kids.'"

Senior Studio Art and Art History double major Beck LaCanne focused her work on lost memories and illustrated the deep pangs of nostalgia. Her work draws inspiration from many sources, such as Danish photographer Tina Enghoff, and favorite children's book

authors and illustrators such as Patricia Polacco and Eric Carle. "Overall, I think everybody is incredibly proud of the exhibition - we all felt so professional and were elated to share our work with everyone," LaCanne said. "A highlight for me was our Press Preview, which was hosted the Friday morning before we opened. It was great to practice pitching our work to Gustavus faculty and professors from other departments," LaCanne stated.

Senior Studio Art major Olivia Norquist inspired her work on a fresh Minnesota spring, pushing the views to "notice the little moments that make living in the Midwest so beautiful," according to her artist statement. Norquist's work portrays the precious aspect of the changing of seasons, and is inspired by local spring plants and landscapes. In the exhibit, Norquist showcases familiar Midwestern scenes, such as an April Snow Shower, and early budding branches.

The exhibit showcases many different perspectives on life and artistic mediums, such as Senior Psychological Science, GWS, and Studio Art triple major Jada Zevenvergen's sculpture Cow Pants! being a somewhat satirical representation of the public's response to climate change, and Senior Studio art major Abby Willis'



Exhibit from the Senior Art Exhibit

Soren Sackreiter

stoneware collection demonstrating and incorporating the unpredictable aspects of clay and life itself, incorporating text such as I am Fine Stop Asking, and Everything is Perfect, Don't Worry. The diversity of artistic styles and meanings showcased in the exhibition not only represents the senior artists themselves, but life on campus and beyond.

"I love the studio art community at Gustavus, because of the small size of the major, everyone can get really close to each other. We work together in an art co-op and created the shirts we sold at the show collaboratively," said Norquist. "We found peace and comfort in one another and were able to finish strong with the tiny community we made and knowing that we are all in this together, and as cheesy as it sounds, it was the only thing that got us through the year," said Pozdnyakov.

"I love the studio art community at Gusta-

vus, because of the small size of the major, everyone can get really close to each other. We work together in an art co-op and created the shirts we sold at the show collaboratively."

The Hillstrom Museum of Art will be showcasing the Senior Studio Art majors' final exhibition at Gustavus, "Sincerely Yours, The Comeback Kids" until commencement on May 25th. The exhibit takes the viewers through many aspects of life, society, and culture through numerous artistic mediums. The exhibit encapsulates the nine artists' time at Gustavus - of diversity, collaboration, and growth.

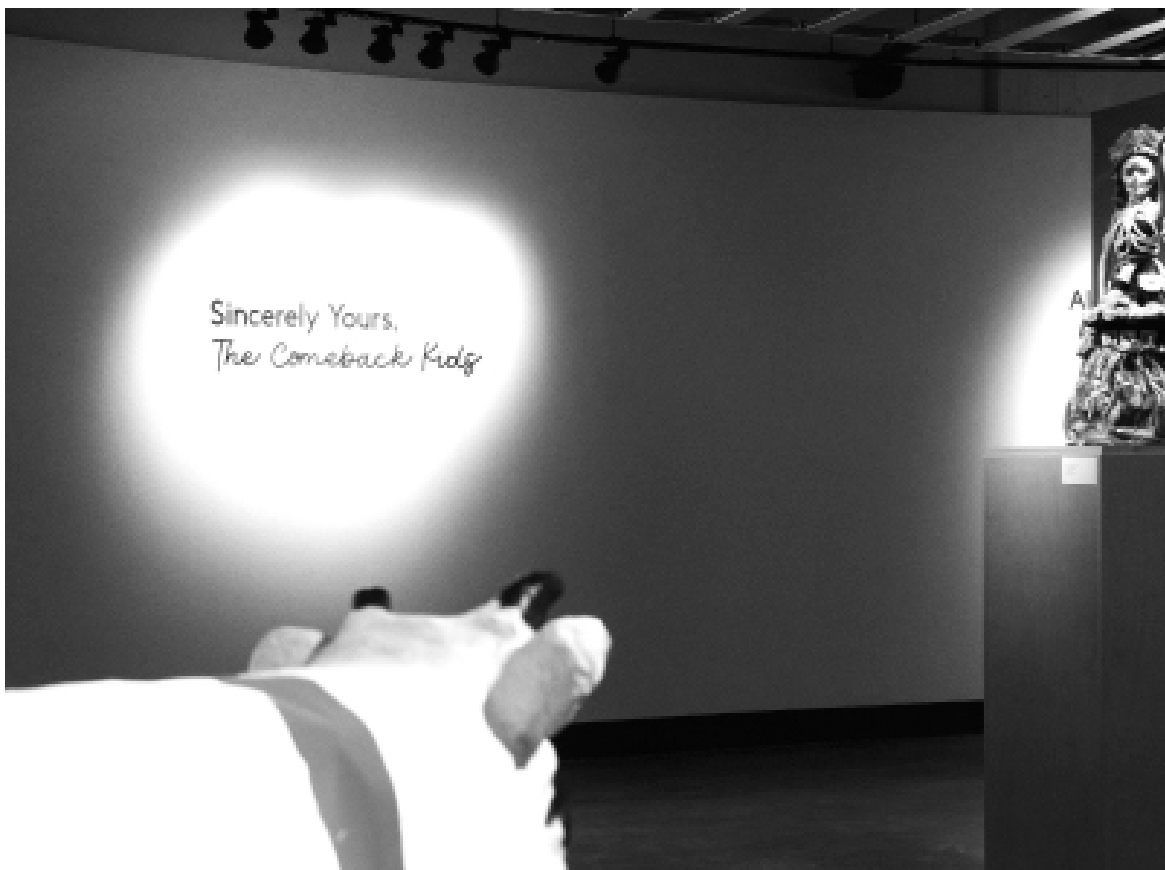


Exhibit from the Senior Art Exhibit

Soren Sackreiter

Welcome to the Asian Night Market



All pictures taken by Izabela Taylor.

Stop handing out free things



Jonas Doerr
Opinion Columnist

Last month, the Student Senate passed a referendum and an amendment towards increasing the student activity fee on campus. While the proposed increase was only \$10, the Student Senate should stop allowing organizations to waste money on free gifts and prizes before increasing this form of taxation on students.

Currently, each student pays \$200, which then goes to various organizations on campus. The organizations can use it for equipment, supplies, or hosting events. For example, the Asian Student Union hosted the Asian Night Market last weekend, which gave students an opportunity to try a diverse array of cuisines and learn more about Asian cultures. This type of event is an excellent use of our student activity fee.

Often, organizations will use funds to provide food at events. This encourages students to come to events and builds a strong Gustavus community as students eat together. Plus, it presents a way for students who are already \$350 over their meal plan budget to avoid digging that hole deeper.

However, the most egregious use of the student activity fee is to hand out prizes to event attendees. Whether purchasing Apple devices, Squishmallows, or succulents, Gustavus organizations are creative at buying new things to hand out. But that mental effort ought to go to planning events that don't require a form of bribery to attract students.

First of all, prizes squelch the intrinsic motivation students might have to go to events in the first place. A 1985 study by E. L. Deci and R. M. Ryan found that



Free things bulletin

Submitted

increasing extrinsic motivation often decreases intrinsic motivation. That is to say, if people are offered rewards, they will be more motivated, but the natural motivation they had to do something simply out of enjoyment starts to fade away.

"Often, organizations will use funds to provide food at events.

This encourages students to come to events and builds a strong Gustavus community as students eat together."

The same thing happens by giving away prizes at campus events. Students start to scan emails and posters to see if they like the prizes being handed out, instead of the events happening. Students go to events that were supposed to be educational and smile and nod just to get the prize, immediately forgetting whatever they were supposed to learn.

Prizes indeed attract more students. But isn't our goal to develop students into healthy community members, who will later

take the initiative to build social ties in the environments they find themselves in? We want to build a united community at Gustavus, but the only unity prizes facilitate is the shared desire to win an iPad.

Senior Peer Assistant Jay Baldus says, "Sometimes, I see people come to our events, and when they see we don't have food or prizes, they walk away. So that's why we usually have food or prizes." It's not the Peer Assistants' fault; they put on creative events that cover a lot of useful topics for students' well-being. But since everyone hands out free stuff, students expect to be given something for free at every event they go to.

"Prizes indeed attract more students. But isn't our goal to develop students into healthy community members, who will later take the initiative to build social ties in the environments they find themselves in?"

Second, handing out prizes encourages people to buy things

indiscriminately regardless of whether they actually need it or the environmental price of the prize itself. A good prize, if there is such a thing, is usually something most people don't have. It follows that a good prize is also something most people don't need; otherwise, they would have bought it already. Hence, prizes try to make people happy by giving them something they don't need.

"A good prize, if there is such a thing, is usually something most people don't have."

Does Gustavus want its students to learn to find happiness through unnecessary purchases? That type of behavior is unsustainable, and not just because you'll run out of money. Let's take an Apple device as an example since those are the grand prizes of some events. According to Population Matters, an organization dedicated to reducing humanity's impact on the planet, Apple as a company produces more emissions than 70 nation-states and uses over 100 billion gallons of water per year in its supply chain, and less than a fifth of its materials used

are recyclable or reusable.

We could try to purchase prizes from more sustainable sources, but there will always be shipping and production costs. The most effective way to protect the environment is to buy less.

So should the Student Senate immediately ban organizations from spending money on prizes? That could be one effective solution. The Student Senate already has policies that decrease the budget of organizations that do not spend all of their allocated money. So, this solution would reward organizations that could quickly adjust and find new, creative ways to edify the student body.

However, I think students should have a choice on this matter. Currently, everyone is forced to pay for these prizes, whether they support it or not. Gustavus could implement a system similar to the current Slingshot system, where students can choose to opt out of part of the student activities fee. While students who opt out would not be entered to win prizes at events, they would be able to choose for themselves whether to support sustainability and the intrinsic value of community.

The best summer movies



Raquel Vaughn
Opinion Columnist

Summer is the only time of year when I have the opportunity to watch as many movies as I want. It is also the one time of year when I romanticize my life and think all of these wonderful things will happen. In summer, anything can happen. At least, that's what it seems like in every coming-of-age movie.

The first one, which is a comfort movie for me, is *The Breakfast Club*. It's the ultimate "anything can happen" film because the characters learn new things about themselves and the society they live in. John Bender learns how to open up and be vulnerable;

Claire allows to be seen as less than perfect; Brian defines his worth as beyond what his parents or anybody else says it is; Andrew discovers he doesn't have to fit into the status quo; and Allison allows herself to be seen. The movie may not be set during the summer, hence the fact that they are in detention, but it's proof that you can have a good time in any circumstance. This is what summer is all about. Perhaps you are like me and all you do during the summertime is wake up, go to work, and sleep. And then maybe you do it all over again the next day. This repeats every day until late August when you add school and extracurricular activities into the mix. Whatever your summer looks like, you are capable of growth and a good time.

Two other comfort movies of mine that are perfect for the summer are *The Sandlot* and *The Benchwarmers*. Both movies, if you do not know, are baseball movies. They are made with the baseball fans in mind. *The Sandlot* is a perfect coming-of-age movie in itself as the main character

and narrator, Scotty Smalls, makes friends through the game of baseball -which he knows close to nothing about- and then grows to love it. By the end of the movie, Scotty is shown as an announcer in the major leagues. It's a lovable story about friendship. It's a feel-good movie that reminds everyone that summer is the perfect season to be with friends, make new friends, experience new things, and hone your skills.

"Summer is the only time of year when I have the opportunity to watch as many movies as I want.

It is also the one time of year when I romanticize my life and think all of these wonderful things will happen."

The Benchwarmers is another heartwarming movie about friendship and the love of baseball. The biggest message of the movie is that ev-

eryone deserves to love baseball no matter who the person is, what they look like, and so on. Gus, the main character who is a grown man, rediscovers his love for baseball after warning off some bullies who were trying to monopolize a field at their local park. The entire movie follows him and his friends, Richie and Clark, as they learn how to play baseball. They teach neighborhood kids about the sport and help hone their confidence in sports. By the end of the movie, everyone wins. Bullied kids finally find a safe place on the field and the bullies learn that letting everyone play really isn't all that bad. It's about the love of the game. Baseball is a perfect sport for the summer, whether you're playing it or watching it. If your favorite team isn't playing that day or you can't make it to a ballpark, turn on this fantastic movie!

It's not summer without any music and dancing, which brings me to my next favorite movie of the season, *Mamma Mia!: The Movie*. Like sports and teen coming-of-age movies, musicals are a great way to get into

the sunny, beachy vibes of the season. And the best musical to feel ready for the summer is the one of the story about Sophie and her possible three dads: Sam, Harry, and Kurt. With songs like "Our Last Summer" and "Voulez-Vous," *Mamma Mia: The Movie* is not only a great movie, but a great soundtrack for the summer.

"It's not summer without any music and dancing, which brings me to my next favorite movie of the season, 'Mamma Mia!: The Movie.'"

And if you're not into comedy, sports, romance, and musicals, then perhaps horror is more your style. A perfect horror movie for the summer, in my opinion, is *Midsommar*. It is set in the summer at a small commune, with visuals of grass, trees, and wind. The traditional Swedish soundtrack, despite the film's horror aspect, gives summer vibes. And it's not filmed in the dark, so watching it at 7:39 p.m. when the sun is still out won't be an inconvenient time. Have you ever tried watching *Insidious* in broad daylight? It's hard. You can't be scared if you can't see anything.

Summer is a great time to actually relax and lose yourself in a movie or two. The sunlight, the wind, and the warm weather are tempting enough. But what if it's too hot of a day? Or what if the bugs are particularly annoying? Stay inside on a summer evening with the windows open, when the sun is an hour away from fully setting, and when it's 77 degrees outside, and just listen to the birds chirp as you watch a heartwarming movie. Or it can be *Midsommar*. But there's always a good movie to watch on a summer night.



Outdoor movies

Tina Belcher, Bob's Burgers



Sophia White
Opinion Columnist

Tina Belcher is the eldest child in the Belcher family from the animated American Sitcom, *Bob's Burgers*. In the show, Tina is characterized by her many crushes that come out of nowhere, her ability to fantasize deeply to create worlds in her mind about nearly anything, and her general awkwardness towards social situations with her peers. She is incredibly relatable. That being said, I feel like I relate to her more than most, especially with her family members who act incredibly similar to my own. I have had many in-depth discussions with my family as to who is who within the show, and it fits almost perfectly aside from the fact that there is one more person in their family than mine. Even in that situation, the other character usually applies to other aspects of my family's personality and dynamic in some way. It is the reason my family often watches it because the dynamics and behaviors feel so similar to ours. I do not know if this is true of other families when they watch this TV show, but it (almost) perfectly encapsulates my family.

Tina is generally described on Wikipedia as someone who comes off as shy and reserved around her peers and in comparison to her siblings but actually has an active social and romantic life. That is, she is thought to be shy, but her inner life and her off-and-on romances make her almost mysterious. She is obsessed with horses, boys, and buttocks. All of that is very relatable. Even the fact that she writes fanfiction in her journal about TV shows and movies is something that I fully understand. Whether I do that in my head or write a full-out story about a romance that exists between Gandalf and my friends and try to publish it on Wattpad,

remains to be seen (I will not disclose whether that example is true or not). In my early teens, I was very romantically obsessed with 20 people at once and tried to identify as Kelly Clarkson. These small details that create the character of Tina Belcher really make me feel connected to her.

"...I am trying to get out there a bit more and share some of my awkwardness with the world because there is nothing wrong with being a little awkward and owning it."

Sure, I don't look anything like her, but it is more about the way I act and think that I am incredibly similar to her. Her ability to create very vivid images in her mind of scenarios, whether delusional or not, is something that I do every single day. When I was 13, like Tina, I was dreaming up stories with horses and men too. I was also a ninja, pirate, power ranger, and queen. Never was there a better time to daydream than car rides where I was a ninja flipping over cars or when my Little Pony charac-

ters were slapping each other because one of them stole the other's jewels. Tina experiences the world through a set of adventures and imagines herself in a position of authority or vibing with animals, which I do on a daily basis walking to class. Are you even cool if you don't talk to the campus squirrels and imagine a whole thought-out conversation with them about the state of the world's political ecosystem? I don't think so.

"I would look so cool dancing at parties, but the closest I have ever gotten to one is wedding receptions or dancing alone in my room in heels."

Another point that I feel deeply connected with Tina is her rule-following tendencies. Tina is often prompted into precarious situations by her siblings who want to cause chaos in some way. Tina simultaneously feels incredibly uncomfortable with breaking the rules but wants to be seen as cool and do something bad for once. That is me to a T. I have a set of rules that I adhere to in my mind, even though some of

them have never been stated out loud by others. Sometimes I want to go to parties, but my brain says no even though my parents want me to go. I would look so cool dancing at parties, but the closest I have ever gotten to one is wedding receptions or dancing alone in my room in heels. Often, the only way for me to break those rules is by being pushed into it by family members. Like Tina, I want to break my own rules but it is so tied to my personhood that it is the cause of a lot of anxiety. Similarly, like Tina, I have told on myself so many times to my parents. I can't bear the weight of dishonesty for long and blurt it out from the pit of guilt in my stomach. This comes out of a strong understanding of my own morals and personal rule set.

"In my early teens, I was very romantically obsessed with 20 people at once and tried to identify as Kelly Clarkson."

With all of these things said, I really feel for Tina when she goes through hard things because of the way I relate to her character. Even if

she is just an animated character, I understand that 13-year-old girl who is trying to find belonging – even if she does things a little weird and understands the world a little differently. As a 19-year-old version of Tina with more nuances, I am trying to get out there a bit more and share some of my awkwardness with the world because there is nothing wrong with being a little awkward and owning it. Owning it is the hardest part of being awkward in social situations, but it is something that I'll keep pushing toward so I can meet good people. That is who the character Tina is: thriving in the awkward. That is something I desperately need and want to bring back into my life, and I wonder if others feel the same way about this. Especially students who are in their first year of college like me. I hope others can resonate with Tina's character in that way, and you should all watch *Bob's Burgers* if you haven't yet.



Tina Belcher from *Bob's Burgers*

Will Sorg
Movies Guy

Black Rain

This is not a movie about the bombing of Hiroshima. It is, but not really. *Black Rain* is a 1989 film by Japanese director Shōhei Imamura, about what happened after the bombs – a story rarely told, especially to Western audiences. In the film, there is a hauntingly well-done portrayal of the attack itself. A normal day gives way to chaos as a blinding white light renders people blind, with clothes burnt into their skin and the entire city turned upside down. Anyone not killed in the initial blast is left shambling through a ruin slowly being overtaken by a firestorm. Imamura is not interested in giving audiences a moment of reprieve from these images. The haunting background actors with skin falling off of their bodies perfectly implies the hellish state of Hiroshima and the eventual reveal of the terrifying mushroom cloud is breathtaking.

In my opinion, the most fascinating part about this film is the scenes that are not directly within Hiroshima. The film is actually primarily about a man named Shigematsu Shizuma and his family. Shigematsu, his wife, and his niece travel through Hiroshima shortly after the devastation and are subjected to the eponymous Black Rain that came after the nuclear attack. From that point onward, the film is primarily a contemplative family drama about the Shizuma's struggles post-Hiroshima. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the people of Japan have a monstrous degree of unresolved trauma over World War Two. We could go on and on about Japan's imperialism and the horrifying atrocities committed by its military, but it is also important to realize that millions of innocents were killed in the war. There is a glut of Japanese media coming to terms with the shadow of imperial Japan and how it in many ways destroyed the spirit of the country. This film specifically deals with the dark history of the Hibakusha.

Hibakusha is a term for atom bomb survivors in Japan. There is a deep-seated stigma against these survivors due to a lack of information about radiation. Many people believed rumors that the Hibakusha could give people radiation sickness by simply being near them and it was even believed to be hereditary. As a result, Hibakusha in Japan were the target of discrimination, with many being denied employment and other major needs.

Black Rain's portrayal of the Hibakusha is incredibly empathetic. Each survivor shown in the film is portrayed to be more than just a victim. They have aspirations, interests, families, and friends. This is not a film showcasing how many bodies were made because of the nuke, it is a film showing us the people those bodies were and who they could've been without their destruction. The film sets us in the perspective of the main family as they watch many of their friends die of radiation sickness, never sure if they are next. Yet that tension is mostly only a background hum of anxiety through the melancholic serenity of the film.

Much of the film is made in the style of Yasujiro Ozu, arguably one of the greatest filmmakers of all time. Ozu, who made films both before and after WW2, was a master of family drama. He left an unmatched mark on Japanese culture and this movie homaging his filmic language is not a coincidence. Imamura worked as an assistant director on many of Ozu's films and although he certainly bridges away from his master, Imamura understood what made Ozu's films so masterful: their ability to portray the lives of ordinary people through the lens of transcendental film. The film's adherence to Ozu's signature filmmaking style (long takes, stationary cameras, black and white color grading, and a theatrical style of acting) makes the film feel more immersive in the time period. At times, it can feel as though you are right next to the Shizuma family.

Yasuko, Shigematsu's niece, has no parents and has been searching for a partner for the last five years since Hiroshima. She is treated like an outcast due to her status as Hibakusha and is deeply unhappy with her seemingly endless misfortune. The film's portrayal of her struggle is heartbreaking. She is shown countless times to be a wonderful, loving woman with a supportive family and plenty of potential. Yet, still five years later, the atom bomb looms large over the Shizuma family.

Black Rain's unconventional approach to the aftermath of an atrocity like Hiroshima is something absolutely vital to the world. Films like this are important because they portray the human side of an almost indescribable atrocity. It is a confrontation of world history in hopes that it will create a deeper understanding of how important it is that we must never again subject humankind to the horrors of nuclear warfare.

WORD SEARCH!!!!

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

CHEESE

POSTAGE

GUITAR

HUMBLE

GERIATRIC

FREEING

MOMENTUS

GILDED

SPRITELY

OVERRATED

QUIZZICAL

SEARCHING

ZAP

VORACIOUS

TIMED

Mens Tennis wins MIAC Championship

This win marks 37 in a row for storied program



Tennis players stalk the Gustavus courts

Submitted.

Kieran Ripken
Sports Writer

The Gustavus Men's Tennis team wrote another chapter in the program's storied history on Saturday, besting Carleton 5-0 to secure the team's 13th consecutive MIAC playoff championship and an automatic NCAA tournament bid. The Gusties ranked #14 in Division III, improved to 22-7 overall, and compiled an undefeated record of 9-0 against MIAC opponents on the season.

The Men's performance against MIAC opponents is nothing short of dominance. Since 1970, Gustavus is 562-1 against the MIAC—the sole loss came in 1985. As for the regular season, the Gusties recently recorded their 54th MIAC regular season championship and 37th consecutive, dating all the way back to the 1986 season.

"It's a true honor to be a part of a streak like this. I think the success our team has had is in large part due to the alumni and how big of an impact they've had on the entire program," Sophomore Tyler Haddorff said.

On Saturday, wet courts at the Wilkinson Tennis Complex

delayed the scheduled start time by an hour. Nonetheless, the Gusties emerged from the setback displaying no sign of discomfort.

"We know that we are ready for anything that gets thrown our way. Before the match started, we did not know if we would be playing outside or inside, and we also didn't know that the match would get delayed an hour. Battling through those types of events throughout the season are very important to succeeding late in the season," Sophomore Gage Gohl said.

The Gusties came out against the Knights firing on all cylinders. Senior Caleb Fridinger and First-year Dominik Knutson were the first pair to record a point and registered a dominant 8-1 win at No. 3 doubles.

Junior duo Josh Christensen and Marco Siviero were not far behind at the No. 2 spot and recorded an 8-3 win shortly after.

Gohl and Haddorff clinched the Gustie sweep in doubles with an 8-5 victory at the No. 1 spot, giving the team a 3-0 edge heading into singles.

"Jumping out to an early lead in doubles is something we take a lot of pride in as a team. We feel that doubles is a spot where we can separate ourselves from our opponents and really give ourselves an advantage early in the match," Gohl said.

Shifting to singles play, Fifth-year Jack Bergmeyer put on a master-class performance with a 6-0, 6-0 win in a brief 47 minutes at the No. 5 spot. Bergmeyer's win pushed the Gusties within a point of the necessary five to win.

"My goal for that match was to enjoy what ended up being my last match at home here at Gustavus. I wanted to make sure I got the most out of every point I had left to play, which led to me playing the entire match at a very high level and only losing three points total in the entire first set. I had a lot of energy in my match and I made sure that it could be seen between every point," Bergmeyer said.

Christensen would prove to be the deciding point and emerged victorious at the No. 2 spot with a dominant 6-1, 6-1

win to clinch the MIAC playoff championship for the Gusties.

Junior Rafael de Camargo Costa, Siviero, Knutson, and Fridinger were all in the midst of strong performances before the team had enough points to win and cut the remaining matches short.

"Ending the season on a win-streak is definitely beneficial heading into the postseason. We have competed all year with the intent of getting to our highest level at the right time of the year, and we are doing exactly that," Gohl said.

On Tuesday, the MIAC announced its 2023-2024 awards for Men's Tennis and, to no surprise, an overwhelming number of Gusties received a nomination. Siviero earned the inaugural MIAC Singles Player of the Year distinction while Gohl and Haddorff received MIAC Doubles Team of the Year honors.

In addition, eleven spots were reserved for the Gusties on the All-Conference or All-Conference Honorable Mention singles and/or doubles teams that commemorated their year-long individual

success. "This team always competes and supports each other the same no matter what changes. I think that's one of the biggest things that makes this team special because no matter who we are playing or who is on the court for us, the support for our teammates is always the same," Bergmeyer said.

With the win against Carleton in the MIAC final, the Gusties earned an automatic NCAA tournament bid and will travel to UW-Whitewater for a regional field of six teams. The Gusties will square off against Kalamazoo (9-10) in the first round on Friday; the winner will then face the host, No. 17 UW-Whitewater (18-3). The champion of the regional will advance to the Elite Eight.

This year will mark the 36th time that Gustavus has qualified for the NCAA Championships—third most in Division III history; Kalamazoo is in first with 40. This season, Gustavus is 6-6 against ranked opponents.

Gustavus baseball finishes season with win

Gusties sweep Hamline to end season



Gustie player pieces baseball

Submitted

Zachary Tlusty
Staff Writer

This past weekend, the Gustavus Baseball team wrapped up their season with a pair of games against conference rival Hamline. The Gustavus offense went out with a bang, putting up seventeen runs over the two games, to give them something to build on going into next season. Gustavus claimed game one by a score of 8-7 and game two by a score of 9-3.

In the first game, the Gusties got the scoring early, scoring a run in the top half of the first inning to claim an early 1-0 lead. Senior starter Adam Biewen posted a zero in the bottom of the first and allowed the Gusties to tack more runs on in the second, scoring twice more. Another Biewen zero was followed by three more Gustie runs for an early commanding 6-0 lead over Hamline.

This once commanding lead quickly evaporated in the bottom of the third as Gustavus allowed five Hamline runs to cross the plate, cutting the lead from six to one. Junior reliever Hunter Sheehan entered in the middle of the third and got out of a bases-loaded jam for the

Gusties.

"Coming into the game with bases loaded and one out, I knew my role was to limit the damage and the runs scored. I tried to get a ground ball early to get our team out of it and was successful. The rest of the game I knew I just had to attack the batters and let my defense work behind me. The faster I could get the hitters back up to plate was the game plan for the rest of the game since I knew we were going to score more runs," Sheehan said.

Gustavus stretched the lead back out to two runs in the fourth but Hamline tied up the game in the fifth at 7-7. A single off the bat from Senior Bryce Novak knocked in First-year catcher Dylan Kopesky in what would be the winning run in an 8-7 win.

Sheehan would throw 2.2 innings to allow the Gusties a chance to stay in the game and hold on to the victory. Senior Chris Knowles went 3-4 on the day to help lead and drive the Gustie offense in a high-scoring game.

"I always just try to do what-

ever I can to help the team win so whatever that role might be I am happy to do it. This game I was able to help us offensively and that was great so I just take a lot of pride in doing my job whatever it might be that day," Knowles said.

Game two saw the offenses take a few innings to get going as Gustavus only broke through in the third inning, managing to get a single run across the plate. Hamline would answer right back in the bottom half of the inning as they scored twice to give them the lead over Gustavus, 2-1. As they have for most of the year, Gustavus fought right back and tied up the game in the fourth to make the score 2-2.

It was in the fifth inning when the Gustie offense exploded as the lineup put five runs across the plate. Kopesky and First-year Danny Gavin both hit RBI doubles in the frame while Sophomore Ross Hebel and Junior Brady Schmitz both hit sac flies. Knowles knocked in a run with a single to put Gustavus up 7-2. Gustavus scored once again in the sixth and again in the seventh as a homerun came

off the bat of Knowles for his tenth and team-leading home run. Junior Luke Siegle would go 3-5 in the game, Knowles would homer, and First-year lefty Benny McDonald would strike out ten batters in seven innings of relief work.

"I came in early and knew I had the chance to go for a while. With that in mind, I took it one inning at a time while trying to strike everyone out in their last game. Everything felt good and was staying consistent so the coaches let me ride it out as we had to win," McDonald said.

"I just want to thank all the seniors that won't be here next year and congratulate them on their amazing careers. I am really blessed to be a part of this team and really thankful to be able to play one more year," Knowles said.

After just missing the playoffs this year, Gustavus will look to build off of late-season success and carry that into next year hoping to make another run at the MIAC title.

"We were a team with high expectations for us and injuries

came quickly and often unfortunately. We had some younger guys step up in roles and they did outstanding. Next year we will be losing some of the staples of our lineup and from the pitching staff but we will be returning five seniors for their fifth year which will be exciting and hopefully getting everyone back from injury which will be big. I have very high expectations for us and there is no doubt in my mind that we'll be back in the playoffs next year," Sheehan said.

Women's Softball advances to playoffs

Sweep over Carleton secures playoff spot



Softballer belts ball into the outfield

Zachary Tlusty
Sports Writer

This past weekend, the Gustavus Softball team soared to new heights, sweeping the Carleton Knights in a thrilling doubleheader. These back-to-back victories propelled the Gusties to a commendable 22-18 record overall and 16-6 in conference play, guaranteeing their spot in the MIAC playoffs.

The opening game was a nail-biter and a tense pitching duel after a tied 1-1 start in the first inning. Carleton managed a sacrifice fly in the first inning, but it would be their lone offensive highlight for the entire day. The Gustie pitching staff, fueled by an unyielding spirit, shut down the Knights completely for the remainder of the first contest and all of the second.

The tide began to turn for Gustavus in the bottom of the first inning when Sophomore Olivia Guggenberger sparked a scoring rally with a well-executed single to right field. Junior Kayla Herda, showcasing impressive teamwork, followed suit with a single that sent Guggenberger racing to third. A daring attempt by

Carleton to catch Herda stealing backfired, allowing Guggenberger to score the Gusties' first run. This strategic play not only scored a run but also set the tone for the game.

Herda, Gustavus's key offensive weapon, kept the momentum alive in the fourth inning with a hustling play. Her dribbler to second forced a throw to first, which she outran with pure speed and determination. Capitalizing on her aggression, Herda stole a base and advanced to third on a well-executed sacrifice fly by Sophomore Caitlin Olafsson. With the pressure mounting, Sophomore Lauren Lambert delivered a clutch single, sending Herda home and extending the Gustie lead to 2-1.

As the game progressed, the Gustavus defense remained a brick wall, silencing any offensive threats from Carleton. The Gusties' bats, however, weren't finished. In the bottom of the sixth, another offensive burst solidified their victory. Fueled by Lambert's scorching line drive single that just grazed the second baseman's glove, Olafsson capitalized on the chaos and scored the Gusties' crucial

third run.

Sophomore Maizie Anderson, the winning pitcher, delivered a complete game performance, adding another victory to her already impressive season record (12 wins). She struck out two batters and displayed exceptional control throughout the game. Offensively, Herda and Lambert led the charge with two hits each, while Guggenberger and Senior Izzy Reuvers chipped in with a hit apiece. Their individual performances were instrumental in the team's success.

Game two saw the Gusties strike early, setting the tone for another dominant performance. A series of miscues by the Carleton defense allowed Senior Madi Mueller to reach first base and then advance to third on an error. With scoring opportunities knocking, Guggenberger stepped up to the plate with runners in scoring position. Her well-placed line drive found a gap near third base, allowing Mueller and Guggenberger to cross home plate and give the Gusties a comfortable 2-0 lead.

The Gusties added an-

other run in the bottom of the fourth inning. First-year Macy McNally initiated the scoring sequence with a sharp single to left-center field. Mueller laid down a perfect bunt that moved McNally to third. With a runner poised to score, Guggenberger grounded out, but it was enough to bring McNally home and secure Gustavus a 3-0 advantage.

The closing innings of game two showcased exceptional pitching from both sides, with neither team able to break through. First-year Ava Ham-sund, the Gustie pitcher, delivered a complete-game shut-out, adding another dominant performance to her resume. She tallied five strikeouts over seven innings, completely shutting down the Carleton offense. Offensively, Mueller continued her hot streak, collecting two hits in her senior day performance. Herda and McNally also contributed with a hit each, solidifying a well-rounded offensive effort.

With this dominating doubleheader sweep, the Gustavus softball team secured the fifth seed in the MIAC playoffs, determined by tiebreakers.

Their next challenge will be on Thursday against St. Olaf College in a quarterfinal matchup. The Oles and Gusties split their regular season series, setting the stage for a thrilling playoff battle. If the Gusties win on Thursday, they will play on Saturday against either Saint Mary's or Saint Benedict's, depending on the result of Bethel and Maccalster. So come out and support your Gusties as they attempt to make a run at the MIAC Championship.

Submitted.