Gustavus Men’s Basketball: Celebrating A Century of Excellence

First Row (l to r): Otto Naujokas, Ron White, Dan Carlson, Tony Nelson
Second Row (l to r): Equipment Manager Willie Lindquist, Head Coach Whitey Skoog, Jim Chalin, Dan Houck, Bob Wiesner, Jim Ellingson, Dan Grunst, Tom Carlson, Duane Thompson, Dennis Houck, Dave Mjolsness, Asst. Coach Randy Bratrud

It was a big year for the hoopsters as they shared the MIAC title with Augsburg, which was a first in many years. Why, we can’t say just yet, but it might have been the fact that “Carly” didn’t have to deal with the gentle giant from St. Thomas this year. Maybe it was Chalin’s height in the backcourt. Head Coach Whitey Skoog in his 18th season was named the MIAC Coach of the Year by his fellow conference coaches. Dan Houck averaged 17.1 points per game, which won him All-MIAC and NAIA All-District 13 honors. Jim Ellingson, who will return next year, averaged a nice 16.3 points per game, which won him All-MIAC honors as well. Skoog said, “Houck is a real pure shooter, and is the complete basketball player a college coach looks for. Tony Nelson, Otto Naujokas, Dan Carlson, and Ron White culminated four years of bouncing and sweating by gettin’ out while the gettin’ was good and while they were on the top.”

The Gustavus men’s basketball program is celebrating its 100th season this year. To commemorate this special occasion, there will be an insert in each game program highlighting one of the 16 MIAC Championship teams as well the outstanding individuals and coaches that have helped make the Gustavus men’s basketball program one of the most successful programs in the history of Division III basketball.
Gustavus in National Post-Season Competition

1953-54 NAIA National Tournament
1st Rd. Gustavus 64 def. Mankato Teachers College 61
2nd Rd. Gustavus 104 def. Mississippi South 64
3rd Rd. Southwest Missouri State 66 def. Gustavus 57

1954-55 NAIA National Tournament
1st Rd. Gustavus 63 def. Mankato Teachers College 50
2nd Rd. Gustavus 80 def. Eastern Tennessee 60
3rd Rd. Gustavus 69 def. San Diego State 60
Quarterfinals Wheaton 90 def. Gustavus 73

1955-56 NAIA National Tournament
1st Rd. Gustavus 80 def. Mankato Teachers College 58
2nd Rd. Gustavus 80 def. Eastern Tennessee 60
3rd Rd. Gustavus 69 def. San Diego State 60
Quarterfinals Wheaton 90 def. Gustavus 73

1957-58 NCAA Regional Tournament
1st Rd. Knox 76 def. Gustavus 65
2nd Rd. Wartburg 83 def. Gustavus 73

1960-61 NAIA National Tournament
1st Rd. Gustavus 61 def. Mankato State 60
2nd Rd. Illinois Wesleyan 79 def. Gustavus 63

1967-68 NAIA National Tournament
1st Rd. St. Cloud State 41 def. Gustavus 38
St. Cloud State 79 def. Gustavus 54

1973-74 NAIA National Tournament
1st Rd. St. Thomas 77 def. Gustavus 64

1974-75 NAIA National Tournament
1st Rd. Gustavus 92 def. Hamline 69
2nd Rd. Winona State 70 def. Gustavus 69

1975-76 NAIA National Tournament
1st Rd. Gustavus 80 def. Southwest State 75
2nd Rd. Gustavus 64 def. Augsburg 60
3rd Rd. Edward State 88 def. Gustavus 73

1977-78 NAIA National Tournament
1st Rd. Saint John’s 92 def. Gustavus 66

1986-87 NCAA National Tournament
1st Rd. Gustavus 70 def. Nebraska Wesleyan 59
2nd Rd. Wartburg 74 def. Gustavus 72

1988-89 NCAA National Tournament
1st Rd. Wartburg 78 def. Gustavus 62

1991-92 NCAA National Tournament
2nd Rd. Gustavus 77 def. Colorado College 73 (OT)
Sweet Sixteen Calvin* 69 def. Gustavus 68

1995-96 NCAA National Tournament
1st Rd. Gustavus 72 def. Concordia 61
2nd Rd. Gustavus 61 def. UW-Oshkosh 60 (2 OT)
Sweet Sixteen Wittenberg 76 def. Gustavus 68

1996-97 NCAA National Tournament
1st Rd. Gustavus 82 def. UW-Whitewater 67
2nd Rd. Nebraska Wesleyan 61 def. Gustavus 59

1997-98 NCAA National Tournament
1st Rd. Gustavus 78 def. Augsburg 70
2nd Rd. Gustavus 65 def. Nebraska Wesleyan 51
Sweet Sixteen Gustavus 67 def. Illinois Wesleyan 61
Elite Eight UW-Platteville* 78 def. Gustavus 71

1998-99 NCAA National Tournament
1st Rd. Gustavus 67 def. Pomona-Pitzer 37
2nd Rd. Gustavus 58 def. Upper Iowa 55
Sweet Sixteen Gustavus 66 def. Franklin 65
Elite Eight UW-Platteville* 61 def. Gustavus 47

2000-01 NCAA National Tournament
1st Rd. Gustavus 69 def. Nebraska Wesleyan 60
2nd Rd. Saint John’s 85 def. Gustavus 74

2001-02 NCAA National Tournament
1st Rd. Gustavus 74 def. Edgewood 65
2nd Rd. Gustavus 88 def. Buena Vista 60
Sweet Sixteen Carthage 71 def. Gustavus 65

2002-03 NCAA National Tournament
1st Rd. Gustavus 65 def. Whitworth 55
2nd Rd. Gustavus 75 def. UW-Stevens Point 62
Sweet Sixteen Gustavus 79 def. Hanover 66
Elite Eight Gustavus 74 def. Occidental 56
National Semifinal Gustavus 79 def. Hampden-Sydney 68
Championship Williams 67 def. Gustavus 65

2003-04 NCAA National Tournament
2nd Rd. UW-Stevens Point* 66 def. Gustavus 55

2004-05 NCAA National Tournament
1st Rd. Lawrence 70 def. Gustavus 56

*Went on to win the NCAA Division III Championship