



[COLLEGE ARCHIVES](#)

Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library
Gustavus Adolphus College
800 West College Avenue, Saint Peter, MN 56082-1498

Gustavus Adolphus College Archives

St. Peter, Minnesota

**Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. Collection of the
Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, 1915-Ongoing.**

GACA Collection 251

Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. Collection of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, 1915-Ongoing. GACA Collection 251. 1 Records Center Carton, 2 Hollinger boxes, 2 half Hollinger boxes, and 1 oversize folder.

ABSTRACT:

The Department of Inter-Collegiate Athletics collection contains film strips of the swim team, VHS tapes of Athletic Hall of Fame Banquets, materials from the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC), photographs from the 1920s, '30s, '40s, and '90s of different sports, including football, gymnastics, men's hockey, and men's swimming and diving, as well as posters from various sports. There are also images of some Athletic Banquets and members of the coaching staff. The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics includes all intercollegiate, intramural, club, and recreational athletics at Gustavus Adolphus College.

HISTORICAL NOTE:

Athletics were not an original part of daily life at Gustavus Adolphus College. The first tennis club was organized in 1892-93, and in 1896 an athletic club was organized with a membership of 40 men. This club turned into the Centennial Athletic Organization in 1900. This group was a student-run body that would schedule football, basketball, and baseball games with other schools from neighboring towns. The first intercollegiate game played by Gustavus was a football game against a team from Mankato Normal on 6 November 1902. The first intercollegiate basketball game was played by the 1902-03 women's team against Mankato Normal on 14 February 1903. In 1904, President Peter A. Mattson put an end to football because he felt it interfered with religious, moral, and academic life. At the Augustana Synod meeting in June 1905, they decided to forbid all intercollegiate competition by its colleges.

In the summer of 1910, after much agitation and resistance from students, the synod voted to remove the athletic ban for all sports except football. Football was not reinstated at Gustavus until 1917. By 1920, Gustavus became a charter member of the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC). George Myrum became director of athletics in 1926, and during his 12 years at Gustavus he made a name for the athletic program. During the 1937-38 school year, he won five state championships in football, swimming, basketball, gymnastics, and baseball. Myrum helped push the College to erect a stadium, the first stadium in the region with lights that allowed for evening football games. He also pushed for the construction of a field house; unfortunately, he did not see it completed in 1939 because he died in a bus crash during 1938.

In 1942, new president Walter Lunden tried to discontinue athletics for the duration of the war. Students again resisted this decision, and the board overturned it. However, the victory did not last long; in 1943 MIAC cancelled all official competition for the war's duration. Lloyd Hollingsworth, athletic director under Lunden, found much success after the war, especially in football. Between 1950 and 1955, Gustavus won six consecutive conference titles. This was instrumental in helping to develop a strong tradition of athletics at Gustavus.¹

¹"*Songs of Thy Triumph*": A Short History of Gustavus Adolphus College by Steve Waldhauser.
<http://gustavus.edu/welcome/campushistory.pdf>

From the beginning of MIAC in 1920 through the 2009-10 school year, Gustavus athletics have won 227 MIAC titles.² Currently, Gustavus offers twelve Men's Varsity sports: baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, hockey, Nordic skiing, soccer, swimming and diving, tennis, and indoor and outdoor track and field; and thirteen Women's Varsity sports: basketball, cross country, golf, gymnastics, hockey, Nordic skiing, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, indoor and outdoor track and field, and volleyball.³

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

This collection contains seven sections: Hall of Fame Videotapes, Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, Miscellaneous, Photographs, Posters, Programs and Sports.

Athletics is divided into individual sports. Materials include films, photographs, posters, and certificates. Types of materials differ by each sport.

Hall of Fame Videotapes consists of VHS tapes of the Athletic Hall of Fame banquets, 1991-2003.

Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) is comprised of the constitution, eligibility certificates, meeting minutes, and materials related to the College's suspension during the 1941 season.

Miscellaneous includes athletic awards, board minutes, correspondence, certificated, department review, financial materials, newspaper clippings, and petitions.

Photographs encompasses images from the aquatic league, cheerleading, football, gymnastics, men's hockey, and men's swimming and diving. There are also photos from Athletic banquets and of the coaching staff. Photographs date from 1929, 1937, 1948-49, 1991, and many others are undated.

Posters has athletic event posters from various sports.

Programs holds Athletic Hall of Fame Inauguration of Members programs.

RESTRICTIONS:

There are some restrictions on use of this collection for research purposes. The researcher assumes full responsibility for observing all copyright, property, and libel laws as they apply.

Researchers must use collection in accordance with the policies of the College Archives, the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library, and Gustavus Adolphus College.

COLLECTION CITATION:

Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. Collection of the Department of Intercollegiate

²Official Website of the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, 4 October 2010
http://www.miac-online.org/sports/2007/8/8/records_awards.aspx?tab=recordsawards

³Gustavus Adolphus College Athletics Website, 4 October 2010
<http://gustavus.edu/athletics/quick-facts.php>

Athletics, 1915-Ongoing. GACA Collection 251. Gustavus Adolphus College Archives, St. Peter, Minnesota.

ACQUISITION:

Randall Stuckey, Director of Alumni Relations, transferred part of this collection during August 2004.

PROCESSED BY:

Adrianna Darden processed this collection and developed the finding aid during October 2010.

RELATED COLLECTIONS IN THE ARCHIVES:

Senum, Jon. "The History of Men's Tennis at Gustavus Adolphus College," 1980. GACA Collection 55.

Women's Athletic Association. Constitution and Scrapbook of the Women's Athletic Association, 1922 and 1954-1956. GACA Collection 63.

Gustavus Adolphus Athletic Association. Minutes and Financial Records, 1911-1921 and 1938. GACA Collection 105.

SUBJECT HEADINGS:

Gustavus Adolphus College--Athletics.

College Sports--Minnesota--Saint Peter.

Athletic Hall of Fame (Gustavus Adolphus College).

GACA Collection 251	Box	Folder
Athletics, 1915-1991 and undated		
Football, 1915, 1935, 1938, 1948-50, 1983-84, and undated		
Conference Championship Certificate, 1935	2	4
Film, Homecoming, c. 1950	5	1
Football Team Bus Accident, 1938	2	5
Photograph, Inter-Class Champions, 1915	Map Case	--
Photographs, 1948-49 and undated	2	15
Poster, Teachers College vs. Gustavus Adolphus 2nds, undated	Map Case	--
Poster, "Smoke Carleton," Homecoming 15 October 1983	Map Case	--
Poster, "Hamline Don't Fuss with Gus!," Homecoming 1984	Map Case	--
Gymnastics, 1936 and 1991		
Conference Championship Certificates, 1936	2	4
Photographs, 1991	2	16
Swimming, 1937 and 1952-72		
Film, 1952-53	5	2
Film, 1954	5	3
Film, 1954	5	4
Film, 1955	5	5
Film, 1956	5	6
Film, 1957	5	7
Film, 1958-59	5	8
Film, 1960	5	9
Film, 1962	5	10
Film, 1963	5	11
Film, 1966	5	12
Film, 1967	5	13
Film, 1968	5	14
Film, 1970-72	5	15
"The Gustie Swimmer Story," 1954	2	21
Photographs, Swimming and Diving - Men's, 1937 and undated	2	18
Hall of Fame Videotapes, 1991-2003		
Hall of Fame Banquet, 5 October 1991	1	1
Hall of Fame Banquet, 1992	1	2
Hall of Fame Banquet, 1993	1	3
Hall of Fame Banquet, 14 October 1995	1	4
Hall of Fame Banquet, 1996	1	5
Hall of Fame Banquet, 18 October 1997	1	6
Hall of Fame Banquet, 1998	1	7
Hall of Fame Banquet, 1999	1	8
Hall of Fame Banquet, 28 October 2000	1	9
Hall of Fame Banquet, 20 October 2001	1	10
Hall of Fame Banquet, 21 September 2002	1	11
Hall of Fame Banquet, 27 September 2003	1	12
Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC), 1920-64		

MIAC Constitution, 1964	2	6
MIAC Eligibility Certificates, 1941, 1943, and 1946-49 RESTRICTED	3	1
MIAC Eligibility Certificates, 1950-54 RESTRICTED	3	2
MIAC Eligibility Certificates, 1955-59 RESTRICTED	3	3
MIAC Eligibility Certificates, 1960-62 RESTRICTED	3	4
MIAC Meeting Minutes and Related Correspondence, 1920-29	2	7
MIAC Meeting Minutes, 1930-44	4	3
MIAC Suspension, Correspondence, 1939-42 and undated	2	8
MIAC Suspension, Letters of Support from Gustavus Athletes, 1941	2	9
MIAC Suspension, MIAC Charges and Gustavus Responses, c. 1940	4	4
Miscellaneous, 1920-44		
Athletic Awards, 1941	2	1
Athletic Board, Miscellaneous Minutes, 1939-40	2	2
Athletic Correspondence, 1942-44	2	3
Department Reviews, Internal and External, 1931 and 1940-41	4	1
Financial Materials, 1936-43 and undated	4	2
"The Minnesota College Athletic Manual," 1925-26	2	22
Newspaper Clippings, Primarily Regarding MIAC Suspension, 1941-42 and undated	2	10
Petitions, 1920-21 and 1932	4	5
Student Recruitment, 1941	2	20
Photographs, undated		
Athletic Banquets, undated	2	11
Coaches, 1948 and undated	2	12
Aquatic League, undated	2	13
Cheerleading, undated	2	14
Hockey - Men's, undated	2	17
Oversize, 1929 and undated	1	13
Posters, 1976, 1984, and 2013-14		
Baseball, Minnesota Vikings vs. Gustavus Adolphus Baseball Team Fundraiser, 10 February 1984	Map Case	--
Basketball, Golden Gustie Men, 2013-14	Map Case	--
Basketball, Golden Gustie Women, 2013-14	Map Case	--
Volleyball, Games Schedule, 1976	Map Case	--
Programs, 1981		
Programs, 1981	2	19