Global Trees: Releaf-Relief

Gustavus students have an opportunity to experience the wonders of nature right on the Gustavus campus. This year’s Linnaeus Symposium features the topic “Global Trees: Releaf-Relief.” The conference will take place on Wednesday, April 22, hosting a mélange of exciting speakers, activities and art work.

“This whole point is to get people exposed to nature,” said Bob Dunlap, an Arboretum naturalist specializing in birds and a 2008 graduate of Gustavus. This conference is held bionically and draws attention to the importance of all nature, as well as the beautiful surroundings that can be found right on campus. “Sometimes I will talk to [first-years] or even other students who really have no idea what the arboretum is,” said Dunlap.

This conference is a chance to change that. While the Linnaeus Symposium may not be as well recognized as conferences like Nobel or MAYDAY!, it is attracting a comparable amount of expertise. Kicking off the presentation portion of the symposium will be a lecture by Dr. Patrick Hossay, a Political Science professor at Richard Stockton College. The presentation at 2:30 p.m. in Alumni Hall is entitled “Can Trees Save Us?” It will discuss how trees relate to humans and whether or not they can save us from our current environmental issues.

The keynote address, titled “Life in the Treetops,” will be given by Dr. Margaret Lowmen at 7:30 p.m. in Alumni Hall. Lowmen is a biologist and ecologist who conducted extensive research in various rainforest canopies.

Continued on page 2
Insulindependence

Ally Billion  Staff Writer

The Epsilon Pi Alpha Fraternity, also known as the Eppies, has a long-standing tradition of outstanding community service. One of their many contributions is the Juvenile Diabetes Triathlon. The event is a part of Diabetes Awareness Week, which will kick off on Sunday, April 19 and wrap up with the triathlon on Saturday, April 25.

The triathlon serves not only as a way to raise awareness about diabetes, but also as a way to raise money. The money raised during the triathlon will be donated to the non-profit organization Insulindependence. This year the Eppies hope to surpass last year’s mark of $7,000 raised.

Insulindependence was founded by Peter Nerolin, a Gustavus alumnus, who also happens to be a former Eppie. The organization promotes active and healthy lifestyles for individuals who have Type 1 Diabetes.

Andrew Michelson, a senior social studies teaching and geography major, who is a member of the Epsilon Pi Alpha Fraternity and the director of this activity, has been greatly influenced by diabetes. In his first year at Gustavus he was diagnosed with diabetes.

“It was a really big change in my life, and I had to learn a lot of new things about myself. Also, my father and my little cousin have it as well, so it is something I have been around my whole life,” said Michelson.

“Diabetes can happen to anyone. It doesn’t discriminate,” said John Anderson, a senior history major and Eppie. “One of my close friends was just diagnosed with it.” Anderson will be competing as a biker in the triathlon along with two other teammates who will swim and run.

Many Gustavus students are attending the triathlon to encourage their friends and to support the competitors. “I’m not competing, but I definitely want to go to watch and cheer everyone on,” said Annie Ahlbrecht, a sophomore art studio major.

“[Hopefully], people who are participating will think about how hard it was for them to complete it and then imagine how hard it would be to complete it when you have diabetes and you have to worry about yourself during the race, checking your blood sugar ... how much insulin is in your system and all the factors that go along with being diabetic,” said Michelson.

The triathlon will consist of a 500 yard swim in the natatorium in Lund Center, a 12.5 mile bike ride around St. Peter and a 3.3 mile run through the Gustavus campus and surrounding areas in St. Peter. Between 70 and 80 athletes will compete in the triathlon, which will be held at Gustavus on Saturday, April 25.

Registration fees for students are $15 for an individual and $35 for a relay team of three. For people who wish to compete but are not from the Gustavus community, the fee for an individual is $25 and $60 for a team of three. Competitors can register through Sunday, April 19.

Tip of the Week:

As the weather warms and you enjoy more outdoor activities, please use caution when approaching and crossing roadways. Watch for traffic, use sidewalks and crosswalks where available and avoid excessive distractions (texting, listening to music) while crossing roadways. While driving, pay attention and watch out for pedestrians—be aware of your surroundings. Please check the Department of Campus Safety web page for the full list of regulations, and note the following fines for breaches of traffic policies:

• Speeding $75
• Failure to obey traffic sign $75
• Careless/reckless driving $100
• Failure to yield to pedestrian $25
• Driving too fast for conditions $100
• Failure to obey a traffic officer $100

WEEKLY Campus Safety Report

Monday, April 6
A Campus Safety officer responded to a vandalism incident at Norelius Hall. A Gustavus student received a nuisance phone call and reported it to the Campus Safety department.

A student reported his/her bicycle stolen from the bike rack at Southwest Hall.

Tuesday, April 7
A student while in College View Apartments notified Campus Safety about suspicious activity.

A Gustavus student received a nuisance phone call and reported it to the Campus Safety department.

A Campus Safety officer responded to a vandalism incident at Norelius Hall.

A student reported his/her bicycle stolen from the bike rack at Southwest Hall.

Wednesday, April 8
A Gustavus student backed a golf cart into a vehicle in the Norelius circle.

Tip of the Week:

As the weather warms and you enjoy more outdoor activities, please use caution when approaching and crossing roadways. Watch for traffic, use sidewalks and crosswalks where available and avoid excessive distractions (texting, listening to music) while crossing roadways. While driving, pay attention and watch out for pedestrians—be aware of your surroundings. Please check the Department of Campus Safety web page for the full list of regulations, and note the following fines for breaches of traffic policies:

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Classifieds

ATTENTION GUSTAVUS STUDENTS / PROFESSIONAL WOMEN:

Wanted: 2 roommates to share Master Bedroom of newer upscale townhouse. Comes completely furnished w/ private bath and many shared features and amenities.

Living Room Area: leather couch and love seat large picture window coffee table and television

Dining Area: 4-6 place table and chairs, chandelier, china hutch

Kitchen: Open form Kitchen with center island and stainless steel sinks, food processor, Kitchen Aide mixer, dish washer, plates, pans and more!

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Available immediately! 350.00/mo. per person. Contact Vince Turnbull at 507-931-1977 Home 507-381-8282 Cell or Mary Lager at 507-931-1834

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Revamping Safety and Security

Steve Palmer
Staff Writer

Ray Thrower, who has served as the head of Safety and Security for 11 years, will be leaving his position at Gustavus for a new position in Saudi Arabia. Jason Stratman, manager of environmental health and safety, will be taking over in the meantime as the department shifts leadership.

Thrower will helm the Security wing at the soon-to-be King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, located fifty miles north of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia’s second largest city. Thrower spoke of the opportunity as “very exciting,” remarking on the unique opportunity he has in working “for a university from its conception.”

King Abdullah University is a new, graduate-level research university that is currently finalizing construction of facilities. The university focuses on engineering, math and science, and it will open in September of 2009. Thrower is already on site, making preparations and planning for the eventual opening.

Safety and Security will also be changing its name, continuing preparations and planning for a new, graduate-level research university that is currently finalizing construction of facilities. The university focuses on engineering, math and science, and it will open in September of 2009. Thrower is already on site, making preparations and planning for the eventual opening.

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Earlier this week, three large pieces of canvas were placed on the wall of the C. Charles Jackson Campus Center across from the Dean of Students Office. The banners were put in place to serve as a Democracy Wall, on which anyone can write thoughts about government.

“The idea of the Democracy Wall is for people of the community to express their opinions about circumstances that are confronting the community and the government’s role in either creating those circumstances or resolving those circumstances,” said Associate Professor of Political Science and Environmental Studies Richard Leitch.

“It is based off the Democracy Wall … in China at the time [of the] Tiananmen Square [riots]. [The Chinese] weren’t really able to voice their opinions about their government. They really still aren’t able to voice as many opinions as we are. We thought we would celebrate our ability to express opinions by having our own wall,” said Senior Psychology Major Holly Andersen.

Organizers of the wall encourage members of the community to discuss difficult issues surrounding the government. Individuals can write about any topic, be it an international, national, state, local or Gustavus issue. “We have the ability to voice these things, so we should. Even if it is uncomfortable and uneasy to voice something about things like government here at Gustavus … it’s needed. That’s how we keep power from getting … too crazy,” said Senior Psychology Major Rita Stevermer.

“I have heard my own peers criticize our own generation for not being radical enough, for not getting out there. If you feel fired up about [something], put it out there. We have that right,” said Andersen.

Organizers hope that the wall serves as a safe place for all people to discuss their views about difficult topics. “I hope this [is] in the spirit of respect, but also the spirit of education and thoughtfulness,” said Leitch.

“I feel like people here have enough opinions. It would be cool to let them do what they want. It’s not us guiding, but seeing what people want to talk about,” said Stevermer.

The Democracy Wall is a part of this year’s MAYDAY! Conference, which reflects on the widespread protests that occurred in Tiananmen Square and throughout China in 1989.

“[Deng Xiaoping] was the leader of China in 1978 and decided that he was going to have a Democracy Wall to let people say what they wanted to say. A lot of people ended up saying that they wanted democracy, and that’s where it got the name Democracy Wall,” said Leitch.

“Chinese people really do believe in the practice of democracy. Every time they would try to express their opinions, they would get shut up. We saw that with Tiananmen Square when tanks were moved in and people ran for their lives and people were imprisoned,” said Leitch.

The theme for this year’s MAYDAY! Conference was selected partially because of the impact of the Tiananmen Square protests on college students. “People who were leading that Tiananmen Protest were students. … Hopefully it’s going to make people think. … Are there certain things that we are really willing to fight for to the point that it’s almost going to cost us our life? [We] might not appreciate what [we] have right now. [We] can elect people to represent [our] interests and [we] can speak out against the government,” said Leitch.

The Democracy Wall will be available for the community to comment on through MAYDAY! Once MAYDAY! is over, the contents will not simply be discarded. “Our first thought was to … physically write on the wall, and then we would paint it over after [MAYDAY!] was over. Hank Toutain … had the idea of preserving it forever. We are going to put the canvas(es) on frames. We will be able to remove it … roll it up and keep it,” said Stevermer.

“This is going to be a really great way for students to write down their thoughts, feelings, emotions, opinions about current events, both at Gustavus and then off the hill as well,” said Stevermer.

The MAYDAY! Conference will be held Wednesday, April 29. More information about the MAYDAY! Conference is available online at: gustavus.edu/events/mayday/.
Gustie of the Week:
First-year Chloe Radcliffe: the champ with no sense of timing

Maggie Sotos
Staff Writer

She is the most decorated forensics speaker in the state of Minnesota. She practices ten hours a week. She qualified for Nationals in all six of her events this April, helping the Gustavus Forensics Team achieve 18th place in the country.

But First-year Chloe Marie Radcliffe harbors a dark secret: “I can’t read analog clocks,” she said. “Oh, and I can’t whistle either, and I have an irrational fear that the mechanical arm outside of a parking lot will crush my car someday.”

Yet this 18-year-old does not let such anxieties stand in her way. “I came to Gustavus for its speech program, and I wanted to compete with the best in the country,” she said. In the last year, she has proven herself to be a strong competitor.

“Chloe is probably the most diligent and analytical competitor I’ve worked with. She is very detail-oriented. She is one of the most talented students I’ve ever worked with, and certainly one of the hardest working,” said Professor of Communication Studies and Forensics Team Coach Kris Kracht.

Entered in the maximum number of categories at the collegiate level, Chloe has earned unprecedented accolades for her persuasive oratories, her dramatic interpretations and her impromptu speaking.

Forensics speaking is a competitive extracurricular activity at Gustavus consisting of eleven categories. Chloe took the Minnesota state title in three events: Drama (a ten-minute dramatic monologue), After Dinner Speaking (a ten-minute humorous persuasive speech) and Program Oral Interpretation (a compilation of prose, poems and dramatic text chosen and arranged at the speaker’s choosing).

“Chloe takes in everything around her and recognizes exactly what she has to do in order to succeed and become a top performer. She placed first in individual sweeps at the Minnesota state tournament, said Senior Communication Studies Major and Forensics Team Member Tasha Carlson. Chloe also earned second place for her Prose reading and competes in Impromptu Speaking (the speaker is given a topic and must prepare a short speech about it in one to one-and-a-half minutes), as well as Dramatic Duo with fellow First-year Chloe Goldade. Her outstanding achievements won her the Individual Sweepstakes title, making her the highest-ranking competitor in Minnesota.

Chloe is not only the first Gustavus first-year in our school’s history to break at the national level, she is also the first Gustavus student to break in the category of Program Oral Interpretation (POI). Her program’s topic? “Staring at people who look different. I’ve had some personal experience with that,” Chloe says, “so it had particular significance for me.” The speech was one of three Gustavus performances to reach the quarterfinals at Nationals.

“It’s an amazing support network. And a really good program. And a really good network. And a really good speaker. And a really good Persuasive oratory will have no sense of timing.

“Balancing six events was probably the biggest challenge,” Chloe said. “It’s easy to get wrapped up in one and forget about the other five. I don’t think I fully understood how crazy it would be to take on as many events as I did, but I am glad I challenged myself to do it.”

Chloe is no stranger to challenging herself. Raised in Prior Lake, MN, she was captain of the speech team, a National Honor Society member, first chair clarinet in her high school band and participant in both her high school and community theater programs. She recalls one particularly memorable performance involving an accidental wardrobe malfunction in Annie Get Your Gun. “The whole audience got to see my bra. That was pretty great,” she said.

Yet despite all of these passions, forensics remains her true love. “I watched a POI at Nationals that was so powerful, when the speaker sat down, people kept clapping for over a minute-and-a-half,” Chloe said. “It’s an amazing support network. And a really good speech can make you laugh, cry and persuade you. That is why I am in speech.”

With the season over now, Chloe hopes to focus on school and her friends. She enjoys volunteering at the St. Peter Soup Kitchen and is currently performing in a student-written, ten-minute play at Gustavus.

This past month, Chloe Radcliffe took the Minnesota state title in forensics in three different categories. She will also be traveling with her mother to Greece in 2012 as part of their mother-daughter international vacationing tradition. Perhaps by then this accomplished orator will have mastered the analog clock.
Jazz Lab Band excels in Eau Claire competition

Ethan Marxhausen  
Staff Writer

Gustavus’ jazz bands have traditionally been groups that the college can brag about, but according to Gustavus Jazz Lab Band Director Steve Wright, this year’s group has been one of, if not the best, he has directed during his 19 years at Gustavus.

On April 3, the Gustavus Jazz Lab Band got the chance to demonstrate its talents at the Eau Claire Jazz Festival alongside groups from St. Olaf College, Iowa State University and a number of Minnesota schools. In the last six times the Jazz Lab Band has performed at the competition, it has consistently placed within the top three. Considering the high caliber of talent it was up against, it makes this year’s second place finish that much more impressive.

“It’s great to be perpetuating a music that is unique to American art. It’s truly a unique idiom to work in,” -Steve Wright.

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“It was a little disappointing, but the school that beat us was a music school. It would have been an embarrassment for them if they didn’t win,” said Senior Biology/Life Science Teaching Major Andrew Haashein. Haashein is the drummer for the Jazz Lab Band, and he, along with bandmates Jonathan Monk, Erik Mahon and Tom Oelfke, left the festival with an individual award for Outstanding Performer.

The festival performance came on the heels of the Jazz Lab Band’s week-long Spring Break tour across Wisconsin and Illinois, including a very special performance at a Chicago jazz club.

“During the tour we performed some of our greatest concerts, came back to have three rehearsals, which prepared us for an even better concert at the Eau Claire Jazz Festival,” said Monk, one of the group’s saxophonists and a sophomore geology and philosophy major.

“I’ve found that playing jazz generally creates an atmosphere that is laid back and where I can just have a … good time doing what I love. Eau Claire was definitely a good experience for us—we finally realized how good we actually are,” said Mahon, a trumpeter and a senior music honors major.

One of the things that makes Gustavus’ Jazz Lab Band unique is its relative lack of music majors when compared to similar groups at other schools. “I’m proud that we have become such a high caliber group, considering that there are only three music majors in the band,” said Oelfke, a trombonist and a junior biology major.

The Eau Claire Jazz Festival offers opportunities for groups to interact and learn from other jazz artists, some of them from the international scene. The competition consists of each band playing three pieces of contrasting natures and then being subjected to comments from judges. “We performed marvelously,” said Wright. “We received great comments from the judges, but I think they were hard pressed to find things for us to improve on.”

With only three music majors in the band, the Gustavus Jazz Lab Band made a name for itself by taking second place at the Eau Claire Jazz Festival in early April.

Gustavus students and anybody else who’s interested will have the opportunity to hear the Jazz Lab Band perform during its home concert this Saturday, April 18 at 7:30 p.m. in Bjorling Hall. The performance will feature pieces by Thad James, Mark Taylor, Steve Wright and Thelonious Monk.

The Gustavus Chamber Singers and the Gustavus Jazz Ensemble will also be performing jointly in Bjorling Hall the following evening, Sunday, April 19 at 7:30 p.m., in a concert that will include works such as Dave Brubeck’s “Take Five,” Charlie Chaplin’s “Smile” and maybe even a Beatles tune or two.

“It’s great to be perpetuating a music that is unique to American art,” said Wright. “It’s truly a unique idiom to work in.”

Whether you’re a Herbie Hancock wannabe, a jazz connoisseur or a casual listener who feels in need of some grooving, the Gustavus Jazz Lab Band has plenty to offer to its audience.

Campus Activities Board presents:

Steven Thompson  
A sexual assault speaker will be on campus on April 30th at 7 pm in Alumni Hall

Chapter 6  
An all-male a cappella group will be performing in the Courtyard Cafe at 8 pm on April 21st

Darcy Motz  
A speaker for GOLD leadership will be discussing women in leadership on April 23rd at 6 pm in Olin

Twins Game  
Tickets for the MN Twins game on April 29th are available for $10 at the Information Desk

The weekend movie will be Gran Torino in Wallenburg at 10 pm on Friday, 7 & 10 pm on Saturday
**Adventureland proves a winner**

Ryan McGinty  
Staff Writer

From the moment the opening titles flashed on the screen, accompanied by the warbling guitar of The Replacements’ beautifully gritty “Bastards of Young,” I knew I would enjoy Adventureland. However, I had no idea I would be watching the best movie of the year.

*Adventureland* comes from Greg Motolla (director of *Superbad*). The year is 1987, and James Brennan (Jesse Eisenberg) has just graduated from college with a nearly useless degree in comparative literature. His plans for graduate school are cut short when his father receives a silent auction (at which Mitch’s parents spoke this year), and the year’s nominated Mr. Gustavus show.

This year’s nominated Mr. Gustavus contestants are juniors Christian Vanek, Matt Schueffner, Sam Paulson and Schueffner’s partner, Se-niors Brian Berglund, Brian Wade, Casey Dynan and Luke Garrison.

These Gusties will compete in the following categories: Gustie spirit, question and answer, talent and evening wear. The contestants will also be performing a dance that is choreographed by Theta Xi Gamma member Kaylee Munson.

Dave Christians, a senior communication studies major, was the winner of Mr. Gustavus last year. It was fun being a part of something that was big on campus—the icing on the cake was winning,” said Riley Blythe, a sophomore Theta Xi Gamma member.

“Mr. Gustavus is a chance for people to come to a fun event for a good cause,” said Caitlin Anderson, a sophomore Theta Xi Gamma member.

The newly released *Adventureland* proved to be both comical and relatable, creating a plot that is bound to entertain.

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**Thetas sponsor annual Mr. Gustavus show**

Katie Kaderlik  
Staff Writer

Mark your calendars for some great weekend entertainment and the opportunity to help raise money for cancer patients and their families.

On Saturday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the Market Place, the Theta Xi Gamma sorority will host Mr. Gustavus, a kind of talent show competition, to raise money for the Miracles of Mitch Foundation.

“Miracles of Mitch Foundation started because of a young boy named Mitch who had cancer. He was in and out of the hospital and before he died he told his dad that ‘We need to help other families.’ Mitch wanted to start a program to help families with the little things,” said Senior Nursing Major and Theta Member Kalei Wayne.

“The contestants really are doing a lot of work, practicing their talents and learning how to strut their stuff.”

-Alex Parker

Members of Theta Xi Gamma helped raise money for the Miracles of Mitch Foundation by hosting two events during the year. In the fall they held a silent auction (at which Mitch’s parents spoke this year), and they raised $5,000 for the foundation.

“Miracles of Mitch means a lot to the Thetas because his parents spoke this year, and they were very supportive,” said Riley Blythe, a sophomore health fitness major and Theta Xi Gamma Co-President Katelyn Johnson.

“Mr. Gustavus is a chance for people to come to a fun event for a good cause,” said Caitlin Anderson, a sophomore Theta Xi Gamma member.

If you forgot to buy a ticket during the week, you can still purchase them for $4 at the door on Saturday, April 18.

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**Variety | Page 7**
listening to one of his first mixed CDs, Cobb recalls, “said Assistant Professor of English Sean Cobb. Cobb recalls this, "I remember making my first mixed CD, and it had on it all this new indie and alternative music that I had never listened to before. It expanded my musical horizons."

The advent of the CD burner eliminated the messiness of dual tape decks and fast-forwarding through tracks (or waiting for them to play on the radio), and controlling the on-screen program was easier than ever.

"It was the first time people were able to do something like this," said Assistant Professor of English Dave Squire. "I remember my first mixed CD, I listened to all of his first mixed tapes, a compilation of early garage punk, called "Nickel.

"So we did it. According to art historians, mixed CDs were a "creative act as well as a record of one's experience with tapes in the past."

Eventually technology took mixing to a new level. Once CD burners could be installed on home PCs, music mixing grew exponentially. "Squire remembers that mixed CDs are "a dying art form," said Cobb. "It's been a while."

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The advent of the CD burner eliminated the messiness of dual tape decks and fast-forwarding through tracks (or waiting for them to play on the radio), and controlling the on-screen program was easier than ever.
Like the rest of you, I’m re-_lieved_ that Lent is finally over. Not that I gave up any-_thing_ per se, but the forty days after Mardi Gras and before Easter seemed gloomier in general than the rest of the year. The church services are more de-_pressing_ (especially the “Christ is dying and it is all your fault!” ones), and the people who gave up chocolate or masturbation are much more cranky. Don’t get me wrong; I totally respect those forty days without a vice is bad, imagine if Lent lasted a lifetime.

Living a life of simplicity and restraint is definitely not a core virtue of American society. During the Middle Ages, however, the ascetic lifestyle was the way to be. After the fall of Rome, Christianity became the glue that held European communities together. During those sparse times, people took the poverty gospel to heart. As a result, monasticism flourished; shaving your head and wearing a brown robe all day became the cool thing to do. Medical practitioners who took vows of poverty and resolved to com-_mune_ ownership. In his book of monastic rules, Saint Benedict takes an extreme view on ownership: “We mean that without an order from the abbot, no one among the brothers shall give, receive or retain anything as his own, nothing at all—not a book, a stone, a tunic, a set of pants or a shirt—in short, not a single item.” The point of such an order was to promote inter-_dependent_ living and service to God.

In addition to liv-_ing_ a life of poverty, monks and nuns were also in-_strumental_ in aiding the poor. Like Christ’s story of the Good Samaritan, the medieval church considered caring for the poor and downtrodden a top priority.

Monasteries distributed large amounts of alms, often in the form of food and money, to pro-_vide_ for destitute communities. Monks and nuns also provided meals and shelter where the poor could rest.

At this point, you’re probably wondering why I’m lecturing on history you learned back in high school. The reason is this: in the coming week, author and speaker Shane Claiborne is coming to campus to give an address called “Another World is Possible.” Claiborne is living proof that the legacy of mo-_nasticism_ continues even to this day. He is one of the found-_ing_ members of the Potter Street Com-_munity, a house in Philadelphia where people congregate and serve one an-_other_. Like medieval monks, he tries to live a life of poverty, sharing everything, and to serve the poor. The community grounds itself in faith, echoing the zeal of the early church. Claiborne has also been in-_volved_ in activism around the world. While in college, he spent a summer in Calcutta serving the sick and handicapped along-_side_ the likes of Mother Teresa. After the war in Iraq broke out in 2003, he joined Christian missionaries on a trip to Bagh-dad to serve those affected by the violence. Back in the U.S., Claiborne participated in acts of nonviolent civil disobedi-_ence_, such as sleeping outside to protest unfair laws against the homeless. Another example, as told in his book _The Irresistible Revolution_, recounts how he and many others reenacted a biblical Jubilee on Wall Street. In ancient Jewish law, a Jubilee indicated a time when wealth was to be re-_distributed_ and debts were to be cancelled. To celebrate in the modern era, Claiborne and his friends released thousands of dollars worth of coins and paper money along the streets for everyone to share.

Continues on page 12

_The Gustavian Weekly_
**Wonders of social media**

Greg Boone  
Staff columnist

What is “social media”? Put simply, it is a new wave of organic, influential and rapidly developing communication tools that connect us to people, brands and other niches of our lives that are important to us. They allow us to share photos, videos, random thoughts, interests and just about anything else. (Someone on Twitter asked during last month’s South By Southwest Interactive Festival if anyone would consider sharing their genome—yes, your human genome—on Twitter. I think that goes a bit too far, but that’s just me.) It has been a subject of a lot of underground discussion among social media nerds (like your columnist), but has not really emerged into the mainstream until just recently.

Part of this emergence has to do with the rise of Blackberries, iPhones and other web-enabled phones that let consumers take the Internet with them wherever they want. If you can get a cell phone signal, you can get the Internet. This phenomenon has not only widened the venues for communication and recreation, but it has also expanded the accessibility of likes RSS, podcasts and especially other social media like Twitter and Facebook. People have begun making social media a major part of their lives, taking to the Internet and庵 what Forbes recently called “The Social Nervous System.”

Social media, Forbes says, is essential communication because the Internet—off of which all social media run—is an important communication network. For those who are less familiar, the Internet began as a method of sending information from one computer to another, and, with a little help from a thing called the World Wide Web, it became the massive information sharing network we have today—the same one that is threatening to put newspapers, radio stations and traditional media organizations of all kinds out of business. If we take a basic definition of communication to be the use of symbols or language, the Internet is clearly a highly sophisticated communication tool. That, at least, is the thesis put forth by Forbes and many others who have risen to prominence on human action. But what does that mean? Does it mean that as soon as we throw out a tweet or post a link on Facebook that we are automatically being targeted for some new advertising campaign or having our every move watched by Corporate America? In some ways it does, I suppose, but the much cooler ushered in is far more evil.

There is no steadfast or empirical way of demonstrating how exactly the Internet is transforming human communication, except to see where it fails. Recently the airline industry (no surprise really, they failed at so much else) showed the world how to fail to respond to the human input they receive from social media. A few weeks ago RyanAir called Irish blogger Jason Roe an “idiot” on a blog entry about a flaw in the company’s website. Roe’s claim ended up being wrong, but instead of phlatently explaining how he was wrong, the RyanAir employees who responded treated him like a hack, when in fact he was a blogger who found a plausible and serious hole in the company’s web security.

The story exploded on both new media—aerobliss and other blogs—and the traditional outlets (including The Economist, Wired and CNN), which actually traced the snarky comments back to a RyanAir’s IP address, and the controversy turned into one of the biggest communication crises in the airline’s history.

The second example comes from Jet Blue, an airline that a few years ago stranded two planes full of people on the tarmac. Dave Peck, social media guru and South By Southwest Interactive Festival attendee, was on that plane and on his way home to San Francisco. When Peck attempted to get information via Twitter about the status of his flight and whether he would be spending another night in Austin, he was stonewalled by both the Jet Blue gate attendants and the Jet Blue Twitter account. While being ignored by his airline, the more Twitter-savvy Southwest Air- line picked up on his crisis and offered him a flight to Oakland.

Peck eventually got off the ground, but flight problems like these, which five years ago would have stopped at neighborhood legends, now circulate to hundreds of millions of users instantly. While social media actively can transform minor problems into full-scale communication crises, it also opens the door for opportunity to provide better services more efficiently.

Jet Blue could have easily saved face by at least communi- cating with Peck about his flight problems, giving him a phone number to call or telling him the information he wanted was not available. Instead he was ignored and, consequently, Jet Blue was lambasted across the Internet. Instead of potentially losing the business of a few friends of Dave’s, the company stands to lose the business of its entire Internet following.

I spend Sunday afternoons in the library, in an attempt to go to a head start on what I have to do for the week. My tasks are extremely simple—usually finish my online Spanish homework, do a few readings and write my article for the Weekly. Yet I find that I lack the ability to do what should take literally minutes because I have a computer screen in front of me. It is possible that I am an extreme case, and maybe I could use some Adderall or something, but I think this is a common problem.

We all know that Facebook is the universal procrastination tool. I have an even harder time because for some unknown reason I choose to submit other aspects of my life to the great abyss of the Internet through equally inane sites like last.fm. This means that some aspect of my identity only exists as numbers, zeroes and ones, on some server somewhere. As this terri- fies me a little, I try sometimes to make myself promise that I let technology influence me.

When you are on a laptop, your body may as well not exist except for your mental capacities being taken place on the screen. The mouse mov- ing on the screen is an extension of your body. Your mind is mov- ing that mouse and your body is sitting stationary. A laptop allows you to expand your brain in order to be operated. Think about it. That’s an exten- sion of your brain on the screen. Even a laptop can wholly dominate you.

In some sense, trying to mini- mize how technology influence us is a meaning- less exercise, especially because after the Industrial Revolution, technology became a funda- mental aspect of our lives and of humankind. Even the wheel was considered high technology at some point, and now we cannot imagine life without being wedded to the wheel.

It is unlikely that our tech- nological capacities will ever stop advancing (unless we consume all resources on the planet, which is also feasible). This means that the trite side effects of technology like cell phones, radio stations and trade advance in dominance and sophistication. As we stand on the precipice of hysteresis in information technology, this means that we need to make sure we figure out where we end and technology begins.

I think this question is one that our generation needs to start thinking about. We are some of the first people to enter the real world who have had computers in the classroom since Kindergarten. Where has it gotten us? Personally, I feel like I have the attention span of a flea when I’m on the com- puter. Technology has addled my brain, and tabbed browsing has made it impossible to focus on anything for more than four seconds. Not only does technology addle us so that we are unable to focus on anything, but it also changes the way we live, intruding into things that were formally exclusive to “reality-based” side of things.

One thing I have noticed is that we have started turning the events of our daily lives into Facebook photo shoots. We are surrendering real, actual events to the abyss of zeroes and ones. I like to save memories as well, and value the ability to have a nice collection of photographs for future times, but on some level I wonder if we can’t just live our lives without cameras around us.

Social media, social networking, the idea of social technologies like Face- book and iPhones because they are there, not because of some underlying need for them. The need comes from the fact that “everyone else has one.” How else can you explain our technology. It is inevitable that advances will occur in this realm because as technological grow, fundamentally useless ones will grow as well. But is socializing something that need to be doing? Socializing is something that has remained fairly consistent over the years—all you need is a functioning brain to commun- icate and socialize. While these sites definitely have their place and need to be in our lives, it wouldn’t hurt to remember that having a good conversation re- quires no battery of any sort.

**Where will we hide when the robots take over?**

Steve Palmer  
Staff columnist

If nobody had a Facebook or Twitter account, Twitterers and Facebookers would be a weird minority of geeks typing away at their phones while the real world had actual conversations (well, Twitterers currently still are—just kidding)! And as cell phones become more and more sophisticated, it means that this creepy dominance over our lives will end up in our pocket, taken with us everywhere we go. I already feel like a cyborg with an iPod and headphones.

Social technology grows with applicable and useful applications that people want to be updated on the inane minutia of our daily lives on Twitter. If nobody had a Facebook or Twitter account, Twitterers and Facebookers would be a weird minority of geeks typing away at their phones while the real world had actual conversations (well, Twitterers currently still are—just kidding)! And as cell phones become more and more sophisticated, it means that this creepy dominance over our lives will end up in our pocket, taken with us everywhere we go. I already feel like a cyborg with an iPod and headphones.

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Commentary | Page 12

We certainly important, but not so they do, so we think this quality which I've talked about before, leggie's core values are excellence, ascribe to and what our com -

important that we know what of persons from diverse back -

vus "aspires to be a community -

because after all, according to our mission statement, Gusta -

mindedness is exercised by ... thoughts of the Bible and the Christian religion ... is the way in which we account for the existence of this institution," Mattson said. "Our creed should not be sac -

right? In the times and lately things have been happening at the Times similar to what happened to the Haight-Ashbury philosophy of the 1960s, well before Watergate, so the next time anyone tries to shush you up, just say no. And get those copies out. Benjamin Franklin would be proud.

By the way, Gustavus faculty members are not so bold. They censored their own campus publication, not for a week but for three months, in fear of concerns that some honored guest at the Guest House might see it.

Rich Hilbert
Professor of Sociology / Anthropology

"Gustavus Adolphus! Remember thy past!" proclaims our school song. However, what exactly is "thy past"? We claim that we are a college firmly rooted in its Lutheran and Swedish heritage. Is that true? You decide.

The first sentence is, in my opinion, a good one. I think most of us agree that we should have a "sense of concern for every member of the College community." But I’m going to take issue with the second sen -

Diversity Center and many di -

issues of poverty and equality -

universes." Diversity, if it’s going -

ences. Diversity, if it’s going -

Diversity is the rejection of the status quo, and there is nothing civil about that. "Civil disobedience" is a bit of a misnomer. Civility is akin to passivity, and there is nothing passive about disobedience or resistance. So, I guess what I’m asking here is whether our community ought to be built on words like "civility" and "respect." Is a Gustie a respectful and civil person? Or, is a Gustie someone who has "a pervasive sense of concern for every member of the College community."" These two ideas don’t seem to be compatible.

I’ll leave you with a quote from the mission statement and core values on excellence: "The words of Eric Norelius, founder of the College, ‘Whatever we do, let us do it well.’ … our purchase of diversity is the rejection of the status quo, and there is nothing civil about that. "Civil disobedience" is a bit of a misnomer. Civility is akin to passivity, and there is nothing passive about disobedience or resistance. So, I guess what I’m asking here is whether our community ought to be built on words like "civility" and "respect." Is a Gustie a respectful and civil person? Or, is a Gustie someone who has "a pervasive sense of concern for every member of the College community."" These two ideas don’t seem to be compatible.

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**Friday, April 17**

**Announcement:**
Withdrawal deadline from spring semester classes. Who are you kidding? You’re not going to pass Calculus.

**Biology Department Seminar on Biological Clocks**
3:00 p.m.
I am actually blessed with an Atomic Clock. It notifies me the exact second I become fertile.

**Relay for Life**
6:00 p.m.
That’s also the title of the horror movie I’m working on. A band of teenagers falls into the clutches of a zombie Charles Darwin who haunts a race track, only letting the fast and strong survive.

**On-Campus Film, Gran Torino**
7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
The saying goes, “Love is watching someone die.” I think we’ve all been loving Clint Eastwood’s career for the last ten years.

**Friday, April 18**

**Baseball vs. Hamline University (Double Header)**
4:00 p.m.
“Double header”? I thought they preferred to be known as “conjoined twins.” Oh well.

**Women’s Tennis at Macalester College**
4:00 p.m.
Beating Macalester shouldn’t be hard — logo is a leaf. And not like the kind from the jungle that can cut you—this is just like a maple leaf. Yeah, look out for that.

**Mr. Gustavus Pageant**
6:30 p.m.
Learn from Dave Christians: strip and dance.

**On-Campus Film, Gran Torino**
7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
You might think Clint Eastwood is using a manly technique to make women love him. But believe me, these chicks in China to enjoy them.

**Monday, April 20**

**Happy Birthday, Adolph Hitler!**
Hmm. America has a black president, Ellen DeGeneres is a ground-breaking comedienne and The Diary of Anne Frank is a global bestseller. Sounds like someone didn’t get his birthday wish.

**Daily Chapel**
10:00 a.m.
Does anyone else think our chapel looks like a non-Euclidean horror from a H.P. Lovecraft story? No? Fine, but if the chaplains start growing gills, don’t come crying to me.

**Moovin’ n’ Groovin’**
2:30 p.m.
We just hope this children’s group has stricter regulations than Neverland Ranch.

**Tuesday, April 21**

**College Republicans Meeting**
5:30 p.m.
Agenda Item #1: What the hell happened, Iowa?

**Wine Tasting with Joe Strong**
6:30 p.m.
Not to be confused with the Minnesota Wine Tasting featuring Norm Coleman and Al Franken.

**Chinese Lantern Making**
7:30 p.m.
Chicks dig Chinese Lanterns. If only there were more chicks in China to enjoy them.

**Chapter 6 - A Capella Singing Group**
8:00 p.m.
A Capella means you sing without real instrumental backup. So, kind of like Karaoke Revolution.

**Wednesday, April 22**

**Faculty Meeting**
4:00 p.m.
Now with 42 percent more transparency.

**Thursday, April 23**

**Announcement**
Last day for fall registration. Out of respect for those graduating, I propose this be officially renamed, “Last Day for Fall Registration but What’s the Point, Stuff is Going to Suck When You’re Gone.”

**Study Abroad General Information Session**
4:00 p.m.
I tried to study abroad once. Unfortunately, she caught me. Ha-cha-cha-cha! (Wiggles eyebrows and puffs on cigar.)

**Shane Claiborne Lecture**
7:30 p.m.
Keep in mind while he’s lecturing that Shane Claiborne is not angry with you, just very, very disappointed.

**Wine Café, Mankato**
9:00 p.m.
Tips on pickin’ up chicks at a bar: capture your intended quarry’s interest with your karaoke singing pipes. Next, sweep her off her feet with your air-guitar skills. If she isn’t at your apartment by now, your collar probably wasn’t popped high enough.

**Announcement**
And heads up for **Friday, April 24!**

**Gustie Spirit Day!**
All Day
Wear your gold and black apparel on this day, fellow Gusties! Let’s see if Hufflepuff sues us for color copyrights.

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Easter Day Celebration at The Treaty Site History Center
6:30 p.m.
I shall celebrate Easter Day by picking up all the garbage lying at the feet of Native Americans so they won’t cry a single, judging tear.

**KGSM, Aural Fixation**
7:00 p.m.
Does this have to do with sexual intercourse in your partner’s ear? I’m as kinky as the next person, but golly that’s pushing it.

**Movie Showing: Good Will Hunting**
(Sponsored by SOFA)
8:00 p.m.
Next week’s film will be sponsored by CHAIR, which will not be as comfy as this one.

**Q&A Meeting**
9:15 p.m.
Agenda Item #1: Way to go, Iowa!

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While Gustavus’ Baseball team has seen a fair share of struggles this season, they sit at 13-13 overall, with a 6-4 mark in the MIAC. They have struggled in their past three series, getting swept by Concordia before splitting with both Carleton and Bethel in their respective parks.

The Gusties are led in the batters box and on the hill by Junior Tory Herman (below). Herman is hitting .375 in 25 games this spring, with eight doubles and 24 RBI’s to lead his team. Herman has only committed three errors at third base and boasts a 2.80 ERA in eight appearances on the bump.

Pacing Gustavus on the mound has been Sophomore Cody Sukalski, who has a 2.12 ERA and a 3-0 record in seven appearances with 24 strikeouts, a .292 OBA in 33 innings. Joining Herman and Sukalski in Coach Carroll’s rotation has been Juniors Derek Eddie and Kevin Hagen and Senior Brandon Knoll, who have been knocked around some, but can be relied upon to get big outs in the sweat of the season.

The offensive efforts at the plate have been aided by Juniors Andrew and Alan Woitas, who have been hitting .371 and .337 respectively. The twin brothers have combined for 34 RBI’s and 49 runs scored this season.

Last season, both the Men’s and Women’s Track and Field squads found their biggest opponent wasn’t anyone donning a rival color, but the unmerciful wrath of nature. While the Gusties have endured one competitive dampening, Gustavus hopes to not only build upon their early season success, but to stay outside long enough to do so.

The Gustavus men turned in a good effort this past weekend in the Lee Krough Invitational, an event they hosted in St. Peter. With 14 top eight finishes in a competition of 20 schools, the Gusties cashed in a successful effort. Senior and national indoor competitor Tyler Geyer and Junior Cole Carlson rose (right) victorious in their respective sprints, while senior Chad Arlt finished second in the javelin throw.

On the women’s side, a pair of familiar faces arose victorious in their respective events as Junior Kaelene Lundstrom (far right) continued her dominance of the high jump and Senior Lisa Brown continued on her national championship quest in the javelin toss. Lundstrom also finished second in the 100m hurdles while teammate Elizabeth Pringle (SR) also posted a second place finish in the 400m sprint.

Schedule
4/18 @ Carleton
4/24-4/25 @ Drake
4/25 @ Drake

Tory Herman .375  16  24
Cody Sukalski 2.12  3-0  24

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Last season, both the Men’s and Women’s Track and Field squads found their biggest opponent wasn’t anyone donning a rival color, but the unmerciful wrath of nature. While the Gusties have endured one competitive dampening, Gustavus hopes to not only build upon their early season success, but to stay outside long enough to do so.

The Gustavus men turned in a good effort this past weekend in the Lee Krough Invitational, an event they hosted in St. Peter. With 14 top eight finishes in a competition of 20 schools, the Gusties cashed in a successful effort. Senior and national indoor competitor Tyler Geyer and Junior Cole Carlson rose (right) victorious in their respective sprints, while senior Chad Arlt finished second in the javelin throw.

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This spring has seen the Gustavus softball team get off to the best start they’ve seen under Coach Jeff Annis. With a mark of 21-3, with a 10-0 MIAC record, the Gusties are looking strong in the early stages of the season.

Led by seniors Rachel Click and Emily Klien, Gustavus has been firing on all cylinders, winning their last 12 and 17 of their past 18 contests. Strong pitching from a trio of Gusties, Juniors Betsie Collins and Callie Nelson and Sophomore Erin Truebenbach have combined for a 21-3 record with a 1.32 ERA and 162 strikeouts. They are the only three to throw a pitch for the black and gold this season.

Shortstop and clean-up hitter Rachael Click has returned for her senior campaign, returning to her regularly consistent form hitting .400 with four long balls and 22 runs batted in. She is complimented in Gustavus’ line-up by Klein, a dual-sport athlete, who is hitting .421 with four home runs and a team-leading 24 RBI’s.

Newcomers Lisa Klass (FY) and Emily Wendorff (SO) have both contributed a large amount to their success so far. Klass leads the team with her .453 batting average, and while Wendorff hovers north of .400 herself, both have seen action in each of the season’s games.

After sprinting out to a 17-4 start, the Gustavus Men’s tennis team has taken a faltering step over the past month. The Gusties are 2-4 in their last six matches, and while they remain not only unbeaten, but dominant, over their MIAC opposition, they have been stymied by non-conference opponents.

The team’s cross-country trip to California over spring break left a bad taste in their mouths. After winning their opening match against Pomona-Pitzer by a score of 8-1, the Gusties lost the remaining three matches by a score of 19-8.

Gustavus split their squad last weekend to take on both Loras College and rival Kenyon College. While the squad in Dubuque handled Loras handily 9-0, the top squad lost a heartbreaker in Milwaukee, losing 4-5 to Kenyon.

Their most recent loss may have tumbled Gustavus from their #10 ranking in the country, but sporting the top-rated singles player in the country in John Kauss (seen below) that heads a group entirely made of seniors that have all the experience one could ask for heading into the thicket of the season.
While we were out...

A lot has happened since The Weekly’s last issue in regards to the athletic programs on campus. Here is an inclusive update of the state of Gustavus Athletics.

Andy Keenan
Sports Editor

After a stellar regular season and a roster chalk-full of experienced underclassmen, Gustavus ended the season with a win over Hamline on parents night. That victory proved to be one of much momentum as Gustavus went on to win their next four contests. Wins over St. Thomas and Hamline clinched the MIAC Playoff Championship and another over UW-Superior in the NCAA Quarterfinals sent the Gusties to Lake Placid.

In their first contest on the national stage, Gustavus beat UW-Stout in a white-knuckle, overtime affair. Junior Patrick Dynan, the lone Gustie named to the USHCO All-Tournament team, keyed the offensive charge for the Gusties, with a goal to break the virgin tie with a goal in the second period, officially assisted by his pair of teammate brothers. Patrick, again, found the net via a pass from his brother Casey, this time to break the 2-2 tie in overtime, and send the Gusties to the NCAA Championship game.

Gustavus found the net first in the championship contest, as David Martenson dropped in his 26th goal of the season, setting the high mark posted by a Gustie since 1996. Neumann answered with four goals of their own, and efficiently ending the Gusties season.

Goaltender Matt Lopes, who had been sensational between the pipes down the stretch for Gustavus, ends his career with an 11-5-0 mark in 2008-09, snatching 18 of 22 shots in the championship game loss. After a magnificent performance in the MIAC Playoffs, Lopes fell to the ice early in their contest against Stout, and was pulled soon after. A similar crash happened in the golden round, but Lopes was able to hang in the net.

Looking to the future, Gustavus sits in a tremendous position to build upon their postseason success this season. With the departure of only three seniors, the Gusties have a chance to enjoy a high preseason ranking and will be one of the conference favorites. Led by Martenson, the conference’s leading scorer, and a host of talented players, the future is bright for Gustavus hockey.

Fast Facts:
Gustavus Golf
Men Results
@ Wartburg Invite 14-49
@ Bl-Wesleyan 8 of 25
@ Jekyll Island 18 of 26
@ MIAC Champ 2 of 10
Schedule
4/20-4/21 Hosts B. Krog Inv.
4/26 @ SJU Invite
5/2 @ St. Olaf Invite
5/13 @ NCAA Champ.
Ricky Copeland +3 74.8
Josh Curb +6 77.7
A.J. Olson +6 77.9
John Anderson +7 78.5

Fast Facts:
Gustavus Golf
Women Results
@ Carleton Invite 2 of 8
@ Wartburg Invite 1 of 9
@ Jekyll Island 4 of 22
@ MIAC Champ 1st-10
Schedule
4/18 @ St. Thomas Inv.
5/13 @ NCAA Champ.
Kali Griggs +9 80.7
Katie Schenfeld +9 81.4
Kimbra Kosak +10 81.9
Taylor Dranttell +12 84.3
Annie Jackson +13 85.3

Gustavus has found success on the links early in this spring season. On the women’s side, the Gusties have finished high in all three events of 2009, led by Junior Kali Griggs (left). After a first place finish in the MIAC Championships this past fall, Gustavus finished first at Wartburg, and second at Carleton, along with a fourth-place finish at the Jekyll Island Invitational.

For the men this season, no one has seen more success than Ricky Copeland. The Junior has been named the MIAC Golfer of the Week for the second consecutive week, after his performance at Wartburg. Copeland shot an even par for the tournament and placed fourth overall in the field. He has sparked his team to consistently solid scores, and after a second place finish in last fall’s MIAC Championships, Gustavus looks to close out their remaining four events with confidence.