



EARTH'S DAY

By Alya Jorde, Features Writer

What's one of the most important holidays on this planet?

Any guesses?

None, not my "birthday" (although I would argue it's up there)...

It's my BEARTHday!!

Well, I guess it's our BEARTHday...

...the Earth's BEARTHday...?

...It's Earth Day.

Falling on April 22nd, Earth Day marks a time to recognize the astounding beauty of our planet and show some gratitude to Mother Earth. Plus, it's a day where you will be heavily side-eyed and publicly shamed if you're seen leaving the water running as you brush your teeth or throwing recycling in the trash (not to trash talk but if you don't recycle, you're a waste). Let's take the time to learn the history behind Earth Day and ways that we can celebrate this planet that truly means the world to us.

History

Can you believe that before 1970, it was perfectly legal for companies to dump tons of toxic sludge into any nearby river or emit thick clouds of black toxic smoke into the air? At the time, because America was quite ignorant to environmental issues and the link between pollution and human health, there were no legal regulations to protect the environment. In response, Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson, inspired by the energy of the Vietnam War protesters, proposed the concept of Earth Day in order to "shake up the political establishment and force this issue onto the national agenda." Hoping to attract college students who had a reputation for being politically active, Senator Nelson chose to hold the date on April 22nd because it fell between spring break and finals. Right away, Earth Day was a success with 20 million Americans celebrating the first Earth Day in 1970. As a result, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other legislation on clean air, clean water, toxic waste, and endangered species were all passed shortly after by President Richard Nixon. In 1990, Earth Day gained worldwide attention and was celebrated in over 140 nations by over 200 million people. Today, more than 1 billion people worldwide are involved in Earth Day activities, which makes it "the largest secular civic event in the world."

Ways to celebrate

- **Go for a walk outside:** Whether it's around campus or the arb, spending time outdoors is one of the easiest ways to appreciate our natural world. Plus, nature walking has been shown to offer not only physical benefits, but cognitive benefits as well!
- **Pick up litter:** Whether you do it solo or get a group together, walking around and picking up trash is not as boring as it sounds. In fact, it can feel like an exhilarating Easter egg hunt to walk around and find the hidden eggs of trash (fun, huh?). You would be surprised at how much litter you can pick up in just 60 seconds.
- **Invest in a refillable water bottle and cloth bag:** Humans are estimated to use 4 TRILLION plastic bags every year, only for them to end up in a landfill for hundreds of years after. Similarly, disposable plastic water bottles are often only used once and end up sitting in landfills way past our lifetime. Luckily, there's an extremely simple solution to this problem: buy a reusable water bottle and cloth bag!
- **Become involved in Gustavus Earth Day activities:** Join the Gustavus community in a "campus-wide opportunity to get outside, help take care of our beautiful campus, and have fun together while doing something good for the Earth. Students, staff and faculty can choose activities ranging from campus clean-up to helping out at Big Hill Farm." Sign up can be found on the Gustavus Adolphus website.

For what it's worth, I think every day is Earth Day. Remember, every small change does make a difference. I hope this article inspires you to take small steps to show love to our beautiful Earth.



Be kind to our planet

Stop talking about feet



Jonas Doerr
Opinion Columnist

There are three ways to start a conversation: asking a question, commenting on something going on, or talking about something that's happened before.

Most ways are simple and safe. "The weather's awfully nice today, huh?" "I like your hat!" "There sure are a lot of sunburnt people wandering around campus today!"

The weather is a safe topic. Anyone can talk about the weather. It's a comfortable topic unless one has astraphobia (the fear of storms).

Questions start to get scarier. You can ask a question about the weather: "Is it supposed to rain today?" Or ask for directions: "Which way are the free frost-your-owns?" But most people rightly stay away from questions like "What's troubling your soul today?" or "What do you regret most about your life?" when starting a conversation.

But there is one way to start a conversation that is worse than any other: commenting on someone's feet.

"Who would do that?" one might ask. Too many people, I reply. Far too many people.

Sunny days practically beg for sandals. Thus, I and others happily toss some on and let our toes wiggle in the warmth of the April weather. Apparently, however, this is a magnet for unwanted feet comments.

"Your feet are all out today!" "The dogs are out!" "Isn't it a little bit cold for sandals?" Each person smiles smugly, thinking they've just contributed to the Top 100 Most Witty Quotes of 2023. There is no such thing, but they think so anyways.

Meanwhile, the sandal-wear-

er feels uncomfortable that their feet are up for analysis. They wore sandals for comfort, not for public entertainment. What can they say in return? Yes? Thank you very much? You are the funniest person I know?

Most people would be stunned into silence by such an audacious comment. Yet this is not all! Usually, the inquisitor continues on. They ask if one's toes are getting hypothermic, if maybe it wouldn't have been better to wear socks with those sandals, and what one's comprehensive foot hygiene program is like.

"They ask if one's toes are getting hypothermic, if maybe it wouldn't have been better to wear socks with those sandals, and what one's comprehensive foot hygiene program is like."

The sandal-wearer sits and bears the interrogation. No real conversation is possible at this point.

Yet this discomfort is not reserved for sockless sandal-wearers only. Those who choose to wear their Chacos, Birkenstocks, Crocs, or Bedrock sandals with socks also fall under intense scrutiny. Their fashion sense, foot health, and sanity is questioned silently if not verbally. The glares and stares sock-and-sandal people receive are enough to pound home their social rejection.

"Those who choose to wear their Chacos, Birkenstocks, Crocs, or Bedrock sandals with socks also fall under intense scrutiny."

But they are doing nothing wrong! Clearly, there is a reason most main sandals brands rhyme with socks. Socks and sandals are like peanut butter and jelly, beaches and sand, and Gustavus and freezing winters. Picky



Socks and sandals.

Submitted

toddlers, Anakin Skywalker, and warm-blooded shoe-wearers might have problems with those pairings, but most people like them just fine.

The same goes for socks and sandals. There will always be the vocal people who taunt this toeless fashion statement. That does not mean that everyone else should conform and join in with their insults. Instead, they ought to see the beauty and comfort of the combination and, if not join in, avoid petty jealousy. For, clearly, the negative comments are nothing but pure envy!

Envy is at the root of most foot comments. People who talk about sandal-wearers with or without socks mostly reveal their wish to also free their feet. Although they cloak the comments as 'conversation starters', those statements are probably Freudian slips unveiling their normal human desire to let their toes loose.

Our feet are not meant to be caged in expensive boxes! Michael Jordan might disagree, but it feels a lot better not to smother

one's extremities in several layers of fabric except in the middle of winter. Instead, everyone can enjoy the lovely sensations of the breeze between their toes, long grass tickling their ankles, and friendly ants crawling up their feet and into their pants.

"Socks and sandals are like peanut butter and jelly, beaches and sand, and Gustavus and freezing winters."

Let us no longer stigmatize those on our campus who choose to wear sandals. Instead of judgy comments about sandals, let us only speak well of other people's feet! But not in a creepy way; if you can't handle the assignment, you probably should just avoid talking about feet at all. You can always talk about the weather if you're stumped.

And do not let your sandal envy simmer any longer. Find a pair that you can wear, and slip

your 'dogs' into them. Enjoy true freedom like you never have before. Frolic through Gustavus' fields, and if you want to wear socks too, just do it.

Shoe-shaming has been an Achilles heel here for far too long. It is time for it to meet its defeat, and for Gustavus to move on to a new age of toetal happiness.

The dangers of the digital age



David Eide
Opinion Columnist

Last Thursday saw the arrest of Jack Teixeira, a member of the Massachusetts National Guard who had leaked a large amount of classified military documents to his Discord server for internet clout. I had been following the story of the Discord document leaks for a while and the fact that the culprit was literally the same age as I piqued my interest even more and got me thinking about data security more generally. The last decade has seen a number of high-profile data breaches: the release of NSA documents by Edward Snowden, the Russian hacking and release of Hillary Clinton's emails during the 2016 elections, to the recent hack of Minneapolis Public Schools information for use as blackmail material. These examples are just what came to mind immediately and represent only a small fraction of data security failures, indeed it seems like every other day you hear about some new hacking that has compromised the information of a huge amount of people. I would like to examine the idea of data security and how it interacts with the ever-increasing digitization of more and more aspects of our lives.

Data security has been a concept for a long time, essentially for as long as there was information that you didn't want other people to know. However, in the past this was mostly limited to things like state secrets or military movements rather than the foundations of our lives such as our personal information or com-

munications. This all changed with the advent of the internet and the resulting movement of much of our personal information online. Previously, if you wanted to break into someone's bank account, you would've had to pull off some complicated con to gain access. Now all you have to do is exploit some flaw in one of the numerous websites linked to that account in order to access someone's life savings. The same is true for communications that you might not want to be shared with the general public. In the past, these were usually kept in secure locations, to the point where gaining access to them would have constituted several different crimes on top of theft whereas now all it takes is someone on their computer figuring out your Gmail password.

"This all changed with the advent of the internet and the resulting movement of much of our personal information online."

In effect, the switch to online has made us more vulnerable to having our information potentially stolen, representing a trade-off between convenience and data safety. This is compounded by the fact that more and more critical information has been moved online, from medical records to government secrets. A malicious hacker hacking the right entities could theoretically piece together a timeline of your life from your birth to your high school GPA to the results of your last physical and I find that somewhat unsettling. There have already been several instances in my life where the passwords to my accounts on various websites showed up in some massive data breach or another and I'm sure that has been the case for many of you reading this as well. For those who are aware of this issue, there can be no

peace of mind, only constant vigilance in the form of frequent password changes and duo-factor authentication.

"In effect, the switch to online has made us more vulnerable to having our information potentially stolen, representing a trade-off between convenience and data safety."

This is a fascinating conundrum to me because it's clear that there is no going back to the way things used to be so we thus need to find some way to adapt to the fact that our private information can be so easily stolen. I've seen some people put forth blockchain technology as a potential solu-

tion to this issue but looking at how many major cryptocurrency scams and frauds have gone on recently, I don't think that is remotely viable. Quantum computing is also touted as a way to guarantee the security of information due to the particular nature of the mechanics involved at the quantum scale. At the moment however, quantum computing is still a ways off from reaching everyday consumers so we'll have to see how the technology develops in the coming decade before it can provide the answer to our data security woes. Looking for a technological fix for the issue is the wrong way to think about the issue in my opinion. At this point, it seems like we just have to accept that we live in an age of insecurity where our data and our very identities can be stolen by a random individual or group that might live hundreds of miles away. It's a major adjustment but it's either that or we just stop using

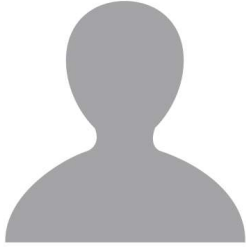
computers and the internet entirely, which is something that I am not willing to do. Whether it be duo-factor authentication or insanely long passwords, the best we can do at this point is cope with this increased exposure and hope someone comes along with the next big encryption advance to restore some sense of security to interacting with online spaces.



Data security.

Submitted

The tyranny of hard beds, and the joys of a soft bed



Houston McLaury
Opinion Columnist

Throughout my life, I have always been blessed with a soft bed and warm, soft covers to come home to. Yet, over the weekend, I have seen and experienced the influence of the devil. Over the weekend, I traveled to Wisconsin with my friends to celebrate a birthday, and when dividing the beds and who sleeps where, I was given the opportunity to sleep in a nautical-themed room... with a bed as hard as rocks. Through my

night of endless tossing and turning, I realized how lucky I was to have that soft bed I have always known throughout my life. Further, I came to the realization that hard mattresses are terrible, mainly because they lack the comfort the soft beds of my youth offered, and because of the effects it has on the back the morning after.

On the subject of comfort, the soft bed with a memory foam mattress pulls miles ahead of the obstructive and destructive rock-hard bed. When one is dreadfully tired from the stresses of the day, from the weight of work and studying and everything else one must deal with, the bed offers a sanctuary from these outside obstructions and from the anxiety they induce. The soft bed immediately offers its comfort, allowing the user to sink into its pillowy fluffy and let their anxieties wash away. One memory that continues to come back to me when considering the comfort of a soft bed

is the memory of jumping onto a bed after a long day of middle school filled with fractions and divisions, breathing out and relaxing into the pillows and soft memory foam mattress. This was my comfort, my space to relax, and to let everything wash away.

"On the subject of comfort, the soft bed with a memory foam mattress pulls miles ahead of the obstructive and destructive rock-hard bed."

Meanwhile, the hard stone slab of a bed stands in utter opposition to this ideal: the basic idea of comfort. No, instead the hard bed pushes against its user. It doesn't welcome one into its embrace but forces it-self away from them, holding

them at an arm's length away. Now, one may ask if this bed that I had to sleep on for both nights of my stay was really as hard as I assure you it is in this article. This bed was as hard as a rock, both nights my side ached as what felt like stones and wood was pressed into my body, thanks to the manufacturers of the mattress. It felt as if someone had their knee to my side the entire night, and after about four hours of desperately trying to lull myself to sleep, the sandman came for me and whisked me away to dreamland. The hard bed offered me no comfort and seemed to want to harm me instead.

And harmed me it did, for the morning after I arose with a horrid pain in my back, right at one of the points where the bed seemed to have focused on hurting me. Not only had this bed failed to provide me with any comfort, but it also had adverse effects on my body the following day, making me

sore and irritated as I arose to make the breakfast of eggs, bacon, and hashbrowns for my friends and me. The adverse effects of that bed are too many to list after years of sleeping in the comfort and warm embrace of my own bed, and even the one I have at college. I felt like an old man, complaining about the pain in my back throughout the day as we tried to enjoy the beautiful sights of Lake Superior, and it was all thanks to the pain offered by that horrid bed. Going to Duluth as well proved troublesome, walking amongst the aquarium and museums, I was ever plagued with the ill effects from the bed at our quaint little cabin. These beds are not made for the average person, no, they're instead made for the masochist, the person who loves to wake up with pain in their back and an ache in their neck.

"I felt like an old man, complaining about the pain in my back..."

No, these hard beds are not meant for average people, and they are not meant for me. Like stone slabs, they sit in the bedrooms, and if one were to jump on these slabs they would immediately break their back as they made contact with the hard surface. These beds have turned out to be the bane of my existence, following me wherever I go and taunting me with their soft look but unloving surface. Although some individuals may claim they love and adore these concrete slabs in their rooms, the hard bed can offer no single person any comfort during the late hours of the night, often leaving them with a back riddled with pains and pain aches. The soft bed is better in every way, simply because it actually comforts the person using it, and actually supports the back as well. No more will I suffer under the tyranny of the hard bed that ruined my poor back. Instead, I shall rejoice under the reign and under the covers of a soft, comforting bed.



Beds.

Submitted

Will Sorg
Movies Guy

Renfield: Nicolas Cage vs. Nicholas

This last weekend saw the theatrical opening of *Renfield*. The horror action-comedy takes the characters of Dracula and his servant R.M. Renfield and recontextualizes them in the modern day as a toxic, codependent relationship. The film is a flop; it is being absolutely ripped to pieces at the box office. It was released only a few weeks after *Super Mario Bros. Movie*, which is dominating against every other movie this month. Critically, *Renfield* is getting no fanfare with the general consensus being that it's completely fine for what it is. I would say that much of the movie's commercial failure is due to its poor timing, but the film really has a lot of strange issues. *Renfield* is trying to be four different movies at once and it rarely fully commits to being just one of them.

The film is at its core a split idea. It follows the title character as he visits a codependents anonymous support group, gathers victims for Dracula to feed off of, and is generally focused on Renfield's attempts to escape from Dracula's horrible treatment. However, on top of that, there is a side plot with a police officer named Rebecca: a character so unmemorable that I just had to look up her name. Rebecca is played by Awkwafina and, while the character makes sense within the story as she serves as a way to give Renfield an ally

to work and talk with in the movie, I have to admit that I found Awkwafina's portrayal of the character to be agonizingly dull. Along with Rebecca is a comically overplayed plotline about an organized crime family that has control of the entire city – including the police department. They serve as 'easy bad guys' to give Renfield and Rebecca people to fight. Ben Schwartz plays Tedward, the son of the mob boss and one of the funniest actors in the cast. His appearance makes every scene a little brighter as his goofy demeanor plays off of the rest of the characters perfectly. So, while I would say Awkwafina is the only actor who drags the movie down for me, the general construction of the film is hard to fully appreciate. It tries to be simultaneously a lighthearted romp, an over-the-top gory action film, a film with emotional character payoffs, a horror film, a statement on abusive relationships, and an adult comedy. While it definitely can balance some of those aspects perfectly, it falters under too many ideas quite frequently. It's trying to do a million things 'okay' instead of focusing on a couple and doing them perfectly.

However, the one thing the film definitely nails is the incredibly important roles of Renfield and Dracula. Nicholas Hoult, who plays Renfield, is an actor who has consistently been one of the

best parts of whatever movie he is cast in. The man is perfect to play the subservient Renfield and a lot of the movie is elevated due to his pitch-perfect performance. Hoult hits exactly the right emotions at the perfect time and really puts a lot of heart into the role. Meanwhile, Dracula is portrayed by one of the most versatile and entertaining actors of all time: Nicolas Cage. Cage steps into the shoes of one of the most iconic horror characters and proceeds to fill those shoes quicker than anyone ever could. Cage's Dracula is a malevolent, gleefully grotesque creature; the man has a talent for portraying off-the-walls characters but what impresses me the most is the way he controls the character. Cage takes what could be expected to be a completely ridiculous version of Dracula and plays him mostly serious. Of course, he flavors the Prince of Darkness with his classic strange affectations but the character is genuinely menacing at times and Cage's performance is clearly done with a great deal of reverence for the character and its history.

You won't be missing out on too much if you don't go to see this film. It's got some great action and a ton of corny, over-the-top gore. There's some truly solid jokes surrounded by a lot of groan worthy ones and there's never really a point where the film feels truly incredible. However, if you do go to

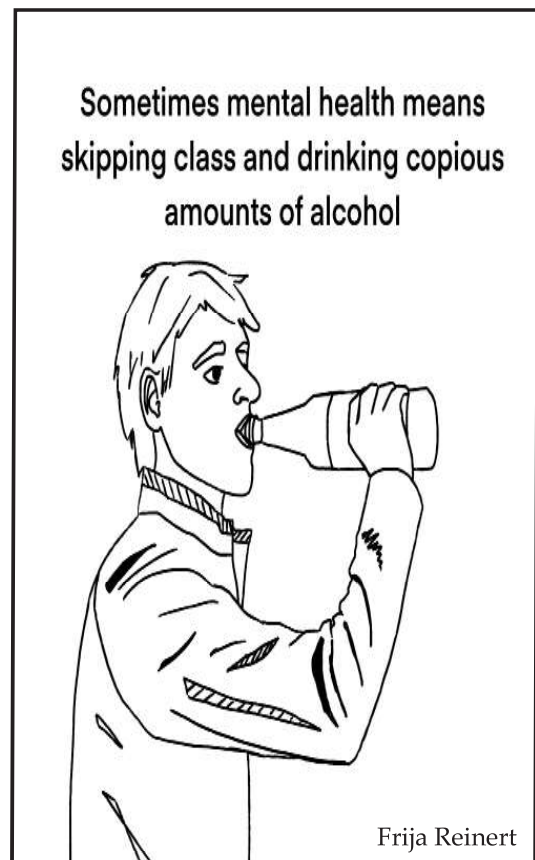
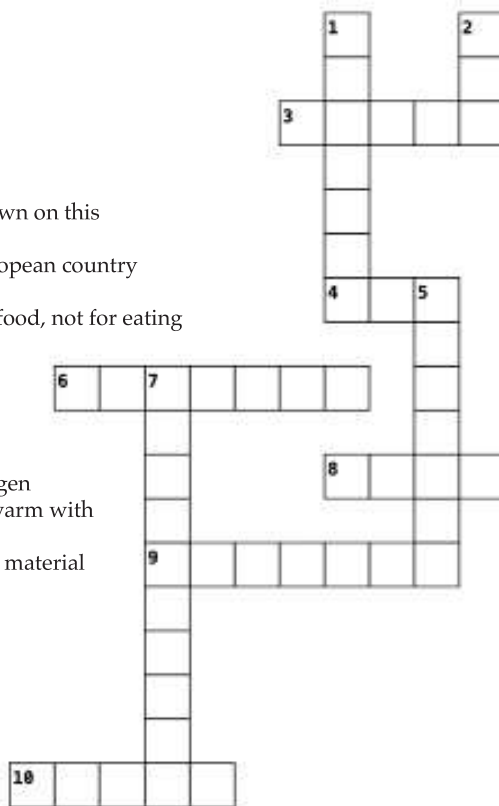
Renfield, there's certainly a good chance that you might walk away from it with a smile and a newfound appreciation for the weird little guy who works for Dracula.

Across:

- 3. Write things down on this
- 4. Wet dirt
- 6. An Eastern-European country
- 8. Used to clean
- 9. For heating up food, not for eating
- 10. Breaks easily

Down:

- 1. A major carcinogen
- 2. Animals keep warm with this
- 5. A type of house material
- 7. Illuminates



Baseball takes down Central Iowa

Undefeated home streak continues to rise



Gustie pitcher lets a pitch fly.

Submitted.

Kieran Ripken
Staff Writer

The Gustavus baseball team hosted Central Iowa for a doubleheader last Saturday and continued their recent dominance, sweeping their non-conference opponent with scores of 13-6 and 10-0. Coming into the game, the Gusties were 10-1 in their last eleven games. With the pair of wins, the Gusties improved to 11-0 at home on the season.

The weather was far from ideal during each game with frequent wind gusts, but the team's familiarity and comfort at home gave the Gusties the confidence to overcome and thrive.

"The weather was far from ideal during each game with frequent wind gusts, but the team's familiarity and comfort at home gave the Gusties the confidence to overcome and thrive."

"We adapted to the environment where we are with the wind. Some teams struggle with the wind, but that is a benefit in our favor," Senior

Bryce Novak said.

"We like being at the field that we know and practice on every day and we play on every day. We like having that feeling of being comfortable," Senior Drake Siens said.

In the first game, the Gusties got off to a quick 3-0 lead in the first inning with a two-run blast from All-American Senior Jack Hanson and an RBI double from Senior Logan Bjorkman.

"Getting runs in the first inning definitely helps energy levels throughout the game... It was big for creating energy and it also created confidence for me getting a good barrel on that ball," Hanson said.

Central responded with two runs of their own in the top of the second inning, but the Gusties kept the momentum rolling in the bottom of the second. Senior Luke Johnson led off with a triple and Junior Mitch Casperson sent his teammate home with an RBI groundout. Novak and Senior Gavin Baker each singled and were brought home by a double from Siens to build a commanding 6-2 lead.

Central scored another run in the third, but yet again the Gusties answered with an RBI from Senior Nick Azar, scoring Junior Chris Knowles. In the sixth inning, the Gusties tacked on three more runs. Novak, fresh off winning MIAC

Player of the Week, was the first Gustie to get on base with a single and was brought home on a Hanson double to center. Baker walked and Siens launched another double to center, bringing home Hanson and Baker. In the seventh, Central tallied their fourth run of the game. However, the Gusties' hot bats continued with RBIs from Hanson, Baker, and Siens to build a 13-4 lead.

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"Our team did a really good job of staying up-tempo the whole game... and wanting to keep scoring more and more," said Hanson.

Senior Luke Siegle, who leads the MIAC in wins with five, earned the start for the Gusties. Senior Jayce Luna earned the win with two strikeouts in 1.2 innings of relief and

First-year Jackson Thielen tossed 3.1 scoreless innings with four strikeouts.

"[I planned to] attack early with the fastball. My off-speed felt good too, so I threw those for strikes early to establish the [strike] zone and build off that," said Thielen.

The Gusties allowed a run in each of the final innings, but Central's comeback bid fell short as Gustavus won 13-6.

In the second game of the day, the Gusties continued their excellence at the plate with another quick start from familiar faces. In the first inning, with Novak and Hanson on base, Baker sent a three-run shot over the right field fence for his MIAC-leading seventh home run of the season. Johnson and Azar each tallied an RBI to give the Gusties a 5-0 lead. Gustavus also received some assistance from the Central shortstop, who committed three costly errors that put Gustavus runners in scoring position.

In the second inning, Novak scored again on a wild pitch. There was an absence of scoring until the fifth inning when the Gusties blew the game open further with three more runs. First-years Taylor Klein and Tomas Nelson scored on a double by Johnson, who then later scored on a single from Novak. The tenth and final

run of the game was scored by Klein in the sixth on a sacrifice fly by First-year Sam Knowles.

"We did a good job of having team at-bats. We placed a priority on moving guys over and scoring them over trying to get hits for ourselves," said Siens.

On the mound, Casperson got the start and struck out two. First-year Cody Johnson took over in the second inning and shined in his first collegiate pitching appearance, holding Central scoreless through three innings to earn the win. Senior Damon Rademacher and Sophomores Sam Baker and Brevin Goetz held Central scoreless through the remainder of the game, giving the team a combined shutout in the 10-0 win.

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The Gusties will travel to Winona for a doubleheader against Saint Mary's College next Saturday.

Women's golf starts hot

Ward earns a win, Gusties place third at Gustie Spring Invite



Gustie swings on the teebox.

Submitted

Nyden Hill
Staff Writer

This past weekend, on Saturday, April 15, the Gustavus women's golf team traveled to Hastings, MN to host the Gustie Spring Invite. The event took place at the Emerald Greens golf course and featured teams from the MIAC, including Carleton College, Bethel University, Wartburg College, and St. Benedict. Going into the tournament, the Gusties certainly hoped to make a splash with this being their first contest of the spring season. In the fall, the Gusties finished their season with a 23rd-place finish at the D3 Golfweek Challenge. This tourney took place in Destin, Florida, on October 17 and 18, and featured some of the nation's best division three golf teams, including Emory University, Washington University-St. Louis, and Carnegie Mellon. With this strong finish to their fall season in mind, the Gusties certainly have some high hopes for how the second half of the year will unfold.

"We have been working hard over the winter to make some swing corrections, putting, and some carry distances and yardages over the winter at the golf facility. We were all eager to get out there and

compete and put our off-season practice to the test," Senior Laurel Ward said.

"We have been working hard over the winter to make some swing corrections, putting, and some carry distances and yardages over the winter at the golf facility. We were all eager to get out there and compete and put our off-season practice to the test."

This tournament consisted of 18 holes that would be played consecutively. The Emerald Greens golf course totaled 5720 yards, with it also being a par 72.

While the weather for much of the past week had been extremely nice, with temperatures reaching up to the upper 80s, the weather on Saturday was nothing short of disappointing. With the high being only 56 degrees, the Gusties would certainly have had to take into consideration the unusual weather when they took the green to begin spring play.

"Spring season is about

learning to play in unpredictable weather, it toughens us up as players and competitors. At the start of the round it was rainy, then it was windy and chilly, it's all about being prepared as best you can to stay warm," Ward said.

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Beginning the tournament at Emerald Greens golf course, the Gusties started the day off strong, with Ward leading the charge. Through the course of the first nine holes, Ward stood only two over par on the day, with her only two bogeys coming on holes four and nine. Some of the other Gusties were not far behind, with Junior Annika Reirson, First-year Emily Kolb, and Senior Hannah Hubbard, being four, eight, and eight over par after nine holes of play, respectively.

Throughout the back nine, Ward continued to impress, with an even last nine holes of play. Ward's excellent performance throughout the back nine not only placed the Gusties in an excellent position to finish the tournament well as a team but also placed Ward in sole possession of the first-place spot with a +2 showing.

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In addition to Ward's stellar performance, the rest of the Gusties continued to impress throughout the last nine holes of the afternoon. Reirson followed up her front half with an equally respectable back half of +4, putting her eight over par on the day and placing her tied for tenth in the tournament. Hubbard put together an even more impressive back nine than her front nine, only

being three over par, compared to her +8 front half. Kolb held steady to finish her afternoon, throwing down an 8 over par back nine, equalling her 8 over front nine.

When the final ball of the afternoon entered the 18th hole, the Gusties finished remarkably strong, earning a third-place finish out of 11 teams, totaling 36 over par as a team, being only seven points off of the lead. Hubbard had this to say about the team's spring debut.

"I think the team played very well. We finished third which is a good start to the season but we have room for improvement. It was fun to be back out on the course again and hitting off of real grass and playing alongside our teammates and competing," Hubbard said.

With this strong start in mind, the Gusties look to April 22, where they travel to White Bear Lake, MN to take on the Bethel Lions, in the Bethel Spring Invite, where the Gusties hope to continue to add to the momentum created with the Gustie Spring Invite against MIAC competition. We wish the Gusties the best of luck as they hope to make the Gustie community proud!

Gusties break records in bad weather

Team sees school records fall at Bethel Invitational



Gusties battle conditions at Bethel Invitational

Submitted.

Emma Esteb
Staff Writer

The Gustavus men's and women's track and field teams faced the cold at the Bethel Invitational where the Gusties broke one school record and had six individual event winners. This was the team's first outdoor meet in Minnesota and unfortunately, the weather was not on their side. Nonetheless, the weather could not dampen the Gusties' ability to break school records. The women's 4x100 relay of Junior Dani Miller, Senior Birgen Nelson, Sophomore Megan Geraets, and Sophomore Kate Carlson set the school record with a time of 48.02. Gustie event winners included Senior Wyatt Quiring in the 400 meter with a time of 50.25, Nelson in the 400-hurdles with a time of 1:03.21, Senior Annika Poe in the discus with a throw of 126-02 and the shot put at 44-9.5, Senior Josh Beiswanger in the hammer throw at 183-07, and Sophomore Danny Bies in the high jump with a clearance of 6-4.

"I was dealing with a knee injury during warm-ups for the high jump and I really didn't let that stop me. I was still determined to jump the best I could even though my body wasn't feeling the best. I think how dedicated I was to making

the jump and looking at my competition and saying, I know I can out jump these guys really set me up for success," Bies said.

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This was the first meet where the whole team was together and able to compete outside.

"Our team had a really good time despite the weather being sucky. We took it with everything that we had and it unified us as a team where we all cheered and supported each other and got through the meet. Even though times weren't where we wanted them to be, everyone's forms and competitive spirits were really good, so once we get some nicer weather times are gonna drop and we are gonna have a really great season," Junior Grant Baker said. He posted a 56.27 in the

400-meter and a 25.71 in the 200-meter.

The women had a number of top-five finishes across multiple events. Sophomore Kelly Brennan placed fourth in the hammer throw with a distance of 141-2. Junior Ally Rakow took fourth in the high jump with a height of 4-11.

"I like to go in with an open mindset and just be confident in myself. I know that we have put in the time and effort into practices in order to be prepared for this," Rakow said.

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Junior Madi Kes finished second in the triple jump with a distance of 36-1.25 and took fourth in the long jump with a distance of 16-3.75. Miller took second in the 100-hurdles with a time of 15.95 while Nelson was the fastest in the 100-hurdles of the prelims with a time of 14.15. Carlson was runner-up in the 100-meter at 12.56 and got third in the 200-meter with a time of

26.51. For the long-distance runners, Junior Evelyn Villalobos took home fourth place with a time of 18:18.64 in the 5000-meter race.

The men also had quite a few top-ten finishes across the board. Senior Seth Zeitchick finished fourth in the 400-meter at 51.43 with Junior Agro Gushwa finishing right after with a time of 52.31. Senior Trevor Lavigne placed fifth in the 3000-meter steeplechase. Junior Matthew Skelly placed fourth in the 100-meter, running 11.36. For distance, Henry Hinchcliffe led the Gusties in the 5,000 meter where he took sixth place with a time of 15:39.02.

The team is looking forward to the warm weather and being able to host this weekend. "I hope it gets warm out again for our meets. I'm really looking forward to the Conference meet where we can hopefully defend our title for the women's team," Rakow said. The team also will be competing at the University of Minnesota for the M City Classic on Wednesday and then on Thursday at the UW-La Crosse Phil Esten Challenge before hosting the Lee Krough Invitational this weekend.

This dynamic group of individuals is not like any other team on campus and they are looking forward to showcasing their talents as they continue their outdoor season.

"The variety of people we have makes this team different from other teams. The personalities that we have on the team really make us unique. We are a really hard-working group of people and have the most amazing coaches that really push us to become the best we can be while also being respectful of us," Bies said.

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Their season has just begun and the sunshine is hopefully coming their way as they persevere through the rest of the season.