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GSU View

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News and Events

Students Collect the Trash



In preparation for Earth Day – and because it badly needed it – students from the Biology Club braved the pouring rain and chilly temperatures on Tuesday, April 19 to clean up the drainage ditch along Dralle Road and Thorn Creek, which runs through the campus.

The students filled bags with discarded bottles, plastic bags, cans, and paper – all of which they expected to find. They were surprised, however, when they hauled up a porcelain toilet complete with water tank, a queen size mattress, old

tires, a hot water tank, and yards of metal fencing, fence posts, and coiled wire.

Perhaps the most surprising, and most ironic, trash find was a blue recycling bin, which wasn't even filled with recyclables. It was just tossed into the creek, blocking the flow of water and harming the natural environment.

"This is a part of the campus usually only seen by our biology students conducting field work, but all this trash has an adverse effect on the environment. It clogs the flow of water and impedes water run-off. This effects local farms as well as the animal and plant life in the area that need the water," explained Dr. John Yunger, professor of biology who worked with his students to collect the trash.



The fruits of their labors – the piles of refuse – will be on display during today's GSU Earth Day celebration from 11 to 2 p.m., on the patio by the lake outside of the Hall of Governors.

Students who participated in the clean-up were Rodney Balitewicz of Chicago, Peter Gladstone of Park Forest, Angie Tapley of Homewood, Fannie Stanfa of Tinley Park, and Jessica Woodman of Country Club Hills.

Facilities Development and Management employees Kevin Barto, Percy Cornelious, Bill Lopez, Eric Villagomez, Steven Turner, and Ron Bachus assisted the students with heavy equipment to haul large items from the creek bed and dispose of the items. Wherever possible, the trash will be recycled.

Weather Emergency Awareness



Recent events across the nation remind us that tornado season is upon us. According to the National Weather Service, tornado activity is most prevalent between March and June.

In the event of a tornado, the campus community will be informed via the hallway fire alarm public address system and the Berbee interoffice telephone system.

Once a tornado warning is issued on campus, all students, faculty, and staff must move to their nearest shelter area.

Please take note of tornado shelter areas throughout campus, which are indicated by red signs. [Maps of all shelters](#) are also available on the [Emergency Response website](#).

As with other emergencies, movement toward shelter areas will be facilitated by GSU's Emergency Volunteer Corps.

Celebrate Table Tennis Success – April 27

In celebration of the table tennis team's victory, Thursday, April 27 has been named GSU Spirit Day.

Show your spirit and pride in the success of the GSU table tennis team. Wear the school colors, black and white, and attend a victory celebration from noon to 1:30 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. The team will proudly display its trophy.

The four member co-ed team representing GSU captured fourth place at the National Collegiate Table Tennis tournament last weekend in Rochester, Minnesota. Team captain Wenjie Nie, and members Yuefan Lin, Yuanfei Cai, and Lishun Lu were led by coach T.J Wang.



Cultural Evolution Presentation

The final presentation of the University Honors Program's Community Speakers Series will be held Wednesday, April 27. Guest speaker Jim Kenney is the co-founder and Executive Director of Common Ground and Founder of the Inter-Religious Engagement Project. His talk on *Sea Change: Cultural Evolution in the Early 21st Century*, begins at 5 p.m. in the Hall of Honors.

This event is free and open to the public.

Recyclemania Success

For the third year in a row, GSU shows it knows how to take out the trash. The university again competed in RecycleMania – a nationwide challenge for colleges and universities to increase awareness of waste reduction and recycling initiatives. And once again GSU came out on top.



Competing in the Waste Minimization category, GSU once again placed first among Illinois schools in the competition and ninth out of 180 schools at the national level – besting last year’s placement.

The university’s efforts were measured by adding the weight of our recyclables to the weight of our trash and dividing that number by the number of students and employees of GSU.

“We are very excited to have done so well this year,” said Peggy Schiesher, Building Service Supervisor for Facilities Development and management. “We look forward to even more student involvement next year.”

Congratulations to the GSU community for remembering to recycle whenever possible. Keep up the good work!

Le Nouveau Cirque Art Exhibit

The Visual Arts Gallery will exhibit the printmaking work of graduate student Diana Lynch in *Le Nouveau Cirque*. The exhibit will be on display from May 1 to 7. A public reception on May 5, from 5 to 8 p.m., celebrates the artist and her achievement. These events are free and open to the public.

Le Nouveau Cirque is a series of handmade prints primarily done through woodcut, lithograph, and screen print. Lynch explores female performers in traditional and contemporary circus. In a character driven approach, she shows the strong nature of sisterhood, performance outlet, and beauty.



Lynch has exhibited her art both locally and internationally. She holds a Bachelor of Art Degree from Northern Illinois University and Master of Art Degree from Governors State University. She is an oil painting instructor at the Orland Park Cultural Center and is the Art School Coordinator at Tall Grass Art Associations.

The Visual Arts Gallery is located in the E wing and is open Monday and Wednesday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday, from noon to 9 p.m. For more information, visit GSUVisualArtsGallery.blogspot.com, call ext. 4021.

David and Barbara Barr Endowed Scholarship Winner



Mildred Andalvz of Chicago received the David and Barbara Barr Endowed Scholarship. Mildred is a graduate student in the College of Education’s Counseling program. She hopes to become a school counselor serving the underserved Hispanic community where she can use both her education and bilingual skills to help others. She believes her culture and passion for youth will make her a great counselor.

Dance to Fitness

The Recreation and Fitness Center is encouraging everyone to dance their way to better health and fitness by offering three fun classes that teach dance steps while toning muscles and

burning calories.

Stepping lessons will be offered Wednesdays, May 4 through June 8, from noon to 1 p.m. Stepping promotes fitness, health awareness, and discipline for all ages. The class is taught by UniverSoul Steppers, which is dedicated to offering a creative form of modern art and dance that bridges cultural and generational gaps.

Belly dancing lessons will be offered on Wednesdays, May 4 through June 8, from 4 to 5 p.m. Participants will learn the ancient art of belly dance while toning their body. The six sessions include light calisthenics and belly dance moves to pop, R&B, and modern Arabic music.

Zumba, exercise inspired by a fusion of Latin and international dance led by Hip Quake, will be offered Wednesdays, May 4 through June 8, from 5 to 6 p.m. Zumba participants dance away their worries with salsa, merengue, cumbia, reggaetone, samba, and belly dancing. Each workout combines fitness interval training with dance and tones and sculpts while burning calories and fat.

No experience is necessary. The cost is \$25 for Recreation and Fitness Center members and \$40 for non-members.

For more information and to register, call 708.534.4556.

Survey Research Workshop

Members of the GSU community are invited to attend a free workshop on Survey Research on Thursday, April 28, from 1 to 3 p.m., in room B2200. Boxed lunches will be provided at 12:30 p.m.

Conducting the workshop will be Young Ik Cho, Ph.D., Clinical Associate Professor, School of Public Health, Division of Health Policy and Administration, Research Associate Professor, Survey Research Laboratory with the University of Illinois at Chicago. Topics to be discussed include: issues in conducting surveys; advantages and disadvantages of surveys; constructing the survey questionnaire, and analysis of survey results.

Space is limited. RSVP to [Penny L. Havlicek](#) at ext. 3982.

Writing Pedagogy Workshop

The South Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium is sponsoring a workshop for high school and college writing instructors on how to evaluate student writing performance. The workshop will be held on May 6, from 1 to 3 p.m., at Moraine Valley Community College.

Participants are asked to bring samples of their writing evaluation rubrics so everyone can share and learn from each other.

For more information, contact [Nancy Maurer](#) at ext.3972.

Ready, Set, Go

It is time to run, bike, and compete in the second annual GSU Biathlon. The competition is from May 16 to 31 and is open to all GSU students and members of the GSU Recreation and Fitness Center.

In that time, competitors must run three miles on the GSU Center's Stex treadmill and bike two miles on the Center's SportsArt recumbent bike. All times must be verified by a Recreation and Fitness Center staff member.

There will be two age divisions of competition – 18 to 50 years of age and plus 50 years of age.

Prizes will be awarded for best time in each category and best overall time. The registration fee is \$15 and all participants will receive a T-shirt. Proceeds support the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics.

Registration is now open in room A1106 or call 708.534.4556.



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1 University Parkway, University Park, Illinois 60484-0975
708.534.5000 | [Email GSUView](#)