

THE POINTER

Volume 47, No. 21

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

March 27, 2003

Smoking shelters planned for fall semester

By Andrew Bloeser
NEWS EDITOR

UW-Stevens Point will become smoke free beginning this fall, but at a price.

Residential Living, the university department that championed the ban on smoking in the residence halls, announced Monday that "smoking shelters" will be erected on campus to coincide with the implementation of its new policy.

The shelters, which will each cost an estimated \$3,500, will ultimately be paid for with student money.

"Residential Living, as a department, relies on program revenue to cover its expenses, and that means that student money is involved," said Bob Mosier, the director of Residential Living.

The department has not released an estimate on how many shelters it intends to create and has not yet determined the precise locations of the enclosures.

"We're still investigating the

See **Smoking Shelters**, page 2

Counter-protest overshadows "God Hates Fags" demonstration

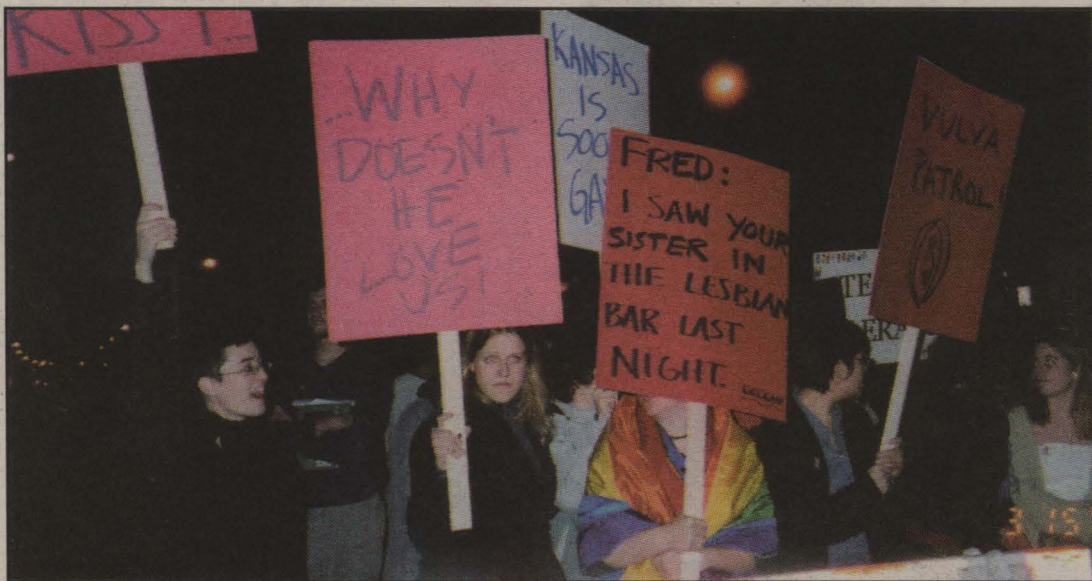


Photo by David Cohen

A counter-protestor displays a banner as part of the mass effort to demonstrate against an anti-gay protest organized by the Westboro Baptist Church. Counter-protestors outnumbered protestors 10-1.

By David Cohen
NEWS REPORTER

The Westboro Baptist Church (WBC) arrived in Wausau March 15 to protest UW-Marathon County's final night of production of *The Laramie Project*, but met with a broad based counter-protest from community members of central Wisconsin.

The play, which is about the murder of Matthew Shepard, a homosexual, is regarded as evil by the church in accordance

with its belief that "God Hates Fags."

The WBC's leader, the Reverend Fred Phelps, was not in attendance despite his announcement that he would be. The eight protestors who drove from Topeka, Kansas were all members of the Phelps family including a boy in his early teens.

A counter presence had gathered in response to the protest, which included the Gay-Straight Alliance of UWSP and

other UW schools such as Madison.

An area had been designated by UWMC's Dean James Veninga for the counter demonstration on the other side of the campus, but the gathering took place directly across the street from the members of the WBC.

People in support of the play outnumbered the WBC approximately 10-1 and were on campus about an hour earlier.

Some members of the gathering
See **Counter-protest**, page 3

UW System responds to budget cuts

JFC testimony and listening session demonstrate new sense of urgency

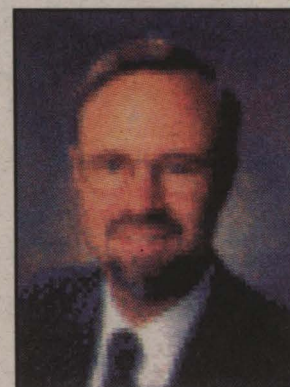
By Andrew Bloeser
NEWS EDITOR

The Joint Finance Committee (JFC) began hearings Monday, marking one of the last opportunities for the UW System to avoid the full impact of Gov. Doyle's proposed \$250 million budget reductions.



Richlen

The JFC, which will render its decision on the state budget next month, convened in Rhinelander for a day-long session, receiving testimonies from interests affected by the budget proposal, including student and administrative leaders from UW-Stevens Point.



George

Chancellor Thomas George and Beth Ann Richlen, president of the UWSP Student Government Association (SGA), provided testimonies at the hearing, urging JFC members to refrain from bringing

See **Budget cuts**, page 2

Laird Day closes doors to UWSP students



Photo courtesy of CNN

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld met with Saddam Hussein during an effort to provide intelligence services to the Iraqi military in the mid '80's.

By John Baeten
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

April 28 marks a somber day for many UWSP students not allowed to attend the highly anticipated Melvin Laird Youth Leadership Day (MLYLD). Following its long history of limited access, and increased security measures due to the key note speaker Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, MLYLD will close its doors to the UW-Stevens Point community.

Entitled, "Proud to be an American," MLYLD brings together close to 400 high school students from 71 different high schools around the state and takes place in the UC Laird Room.

According to Bob Tomlinson, assistant chancellor of student affairs, "The main reasons for the restrictions on the program relate to capacity in the Laird room and the individual meeting rooms, the Pentagon has also restricted access to the media as they consider this a program for the invited students, and not a public event."

The event is stated as being "a celebration of leadership and a coming together of Wisconsin's young leaders — America's future."

The event takes its name from Melvin Laird, UWSP alumnus and former Secretary of Defense

See **Laird Day**, page 3

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Local elections decided next week

Mayoral and state senate races go to the ballots April 1

By John Baeten
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

April Fools Day is sure to pull no pranks on candidates running for local office in Stevens Point. A number of positions are up for grabs including the Mayoral seat along with a spot on State Senate.

Amy Heart is running against incumbent Mayor Gary Wescott for the four year term as elected official. If Heart succeeds, it will be the first time in history that Stevens Point elects a female mayor.

Heart's platform is based on having a sustainable community, an increase in local democracy, concern for the environment and support of the education system, including UWSP.

Heart states, "All citizens must have a voice in our local decisions. As mayor, I will listen and learn from all residents and lead the community to a vision we have developed together."

The seventh district senate seat is also up for grabs following the resignation of former senator Kevin Shibilski.

The three main candidates running for the seat are Jo Seiser

from the Green Party, Julie Lassa, a Democrat and Gregory Swank, running under the Republican Party.

The Stevens Point School Board also has eight candidates running for the four elected positions available.

Voting booths are designated to the specific ward in which you live; currently there are 11 different wards in Stevens Point.

Students who live in the residence halls are assigned to different wards depending on their hall.

Hyer, Prey Sims, Roach and Smith Halls are in the 2nd District

and vote at the Recreation Center, located at 2442 Sims Ave.

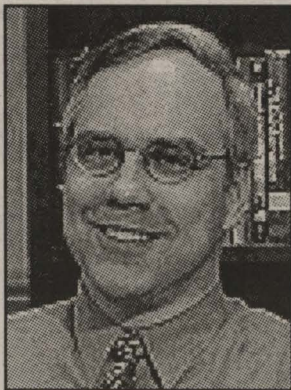
Students who reside in Baldwin, Delzell, Hansen, Neale, Nelson, South, and Steiner halls are placed in the 3rd District and vote at the Stevens Point Fire Station, located 1701 Franklin Street.

Residents of Burroughs, Knutsen, Thomson, and Watson Halls are in the 11th District, and vote at Pacelli High School, located at 1301 Maria Drive.

The Student Government Association (SGA) will provide two shuttle vans to facilitate transportation to the polling areas which will

leave from in front of the University Center every 15 minutes.

Off campus students can find their ward online at the city of Stevens Point homepage found at <http://stevenspoint.com/>



Wescott



Heart

Smoking shelters

from page 1

costs," said Mike Zsido, head of building services, "but we'll try to accommodate what [students] would like to see."

Plans for the construction of the shelters still remain in their infancy and await clearance from the Department of Facilities Development, which must approve all building projects proposed by the university.

The proposal must also receive approval from the UWSP campus planner, Carl Rasmussen, who anticipates examining the issue in the near future.

"I'm still waiting to see what the proposal is, but this is something that will definitely be considered," said Rasmussen.

Rasmussen stated the proposal might be rejected if the concept behind the shelters fails to meet criteria concerning location, maintenance issues and durability, but that such concerns were remote at present.

"From what I've been hearing, they're looking for a structure that will have long term durability and that will blend in with architecture on campus," said Rasmussen. "Those things will be taken into consideration."

Residential Living and building services currently plan to generate a survey to measure student sentiments on the proposed shelters and have also raised the possibility of creating a committee of student smokers to gain further insight.

Based on self-reports, 6-8% of residents living in campus residence halls identify themselves as smokers, a figure that encompasses 240 UWSP students.

Budget cuts

from page 1

deeper base budget cuts to UW System campuses.

"[The historical] record clearly shows that over the past two years, public education has played a role in resolving our budget deficit, while over the past generation we have seen a steady decline of state support for public higher education," said Richlen during her testimony.

"While the UW System cannot and will not shirk from its institutional responsibility in helping the state during these troubled times, our hope is that the JFC will look at the historical record."

The proposed \$250 million cut to the UW System budget for the 2003-05 biennium comes as just the latest chapter in the system's history of reductions, following cuts of \$50 million that occurred during the current fiscal year.

The UW Board of Regents reacted to the severity of the reductions at a listening session held Tuesday afternoon in the Alumni Room, stressing the adverse effects that will be rendered upon enrollment rates and student access to programs and services.

A combination of budget reductions and a 24% increase in admissions across the UW System has forced many UW campuses to face the possibility of cutting enrollment rates and eliminating a number of academic programs and majors, which would ultimately bring less tuition revenue into the system and impair academic diversity.

"We need a truth in cutting policy," said James Veniga, the dean of UW-Marathon County, who attended the session.

"We need to be honest as to what the consequences will be if there's a cut of this magnitude. My concern is that a university system that has built a reputation as one of the best in the country will lose that status."

The issue of financial aid also surfaced at both the JFC hearing and the board of regents meeting, as university supporters took an adamant stance that the JFC fund the governor's pro-

posed \$23.6 million increase for student financial aid from new general purpose revenue sources instead of drawing upon existing system auxiliary reserves.

Reliance on the UW system auxiliary reserves would ultimately translate into a reliance on using student fees to pay for financial aid costs, a precedent the system would rather avoid.

"Using the auxiliaries makes students pay twice," said Matt Kamke, speaker of the SGA senate. "It's taking money students already paid into the system and using to pay for financial aid to allow students to get an education in the system, which is not what the auxiliaries should be used for."

Kamke, also the president of the UWSP College Republicans currently has a meeting scheduled next month with Mary Panzer, the state senate majority leader, and members of the JFC, specifically intended to voice university interests to Republican leadership.

Kamke stressed that his involvement with Republican leaders will occur outside of his capacity as an SGA senator and emphasized that the efforts of the College Republicans were separate from those of the United Council, a student advocacy group which also involved in budget lobbying on behalf on the university system.

"It's going to take more than just college kids with signs to influence legislators in this case," said Kamke. "It's going to take a discussion between groups with similar perspectives to reach a common ground."

United Council has organized its own effort to lobby state legislators and will hold its "Statewide Day of Action" in Madison on April 3.

The event aims to gather a mass of several thousand students on Madison's State Street for a march to the capital in protest of the current state budget proposal and its implications for UW students.

Students interested in traveling to the event can obtain further information by contacting the SGA, which has organized transportation to Madison and began taking reservations this week.

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Monday	7:45 am	to	11:00 pm
Tuesday	7:45 am	to	11:00 pm
Wednesday	7:45 am	to	11:00 pm
Thursday	7:45 am	to	11:00 pm
Friday	7:45 am	to	4:45 pm
Saturday	11:00 am	to	5:00 pm
Sunday	2:00 pm	to	11:00 pm

The Information Technology Help Desk is located in the lower level of the library, Room 023.
Phone: 346-HELP (4357) or **Email:** helpdesk@uwsp.edu.



Collins Classroom Center
Monday, March 24 9:34 a.m.

Damage to a computer mouse was reported.

Learning Resources Center
Saturday, March 22 3:56 p.m.

Two individuals were rollerblading in the building's west stairway, near the sundial.

Roach Hall
Thursday, March 13 9 a.m.

A female student received a phone call from a male pretending to be her boyfriend.

Lot P
Wednesday, March 12 10:03 p.m.

A vehicle was reported vandalized.

Counter-protest

from page 1

were dressed as angels and held signs such as "God doesn't teach hate."

The WBC had started the day's activity at the Wausau Police Department where they protested the public comments of Chief William Brandimore, who stated "The protestors will not find us friendly" in the Wausau Daily Herald. In front of the Police Department on Wausau's busiest street, a member of the WBC held an American Flag in the dirt before going to UWMC.

At UWMC, the WBC held signs such as "Fags die, God laughs," "Thank God for Sept. 11" and "God destroyed the space Shuttle" while one woman sang "God Hates America" to the tune of "God Bless America." The WBC believes that incidents such as September 11 and the destruction of the space shuttle are evidence of God's wrath toward a "fag friendly nation."

Police were in attendance at the event and had barricaded off the two parties, not allowing them to be in direct confrontation. Some members of the counter presence to the WBC hurled insults at the protestors, but there was no direct confrontation. Among the nearly 100 people in support of the play were Chief Brandimore, Dean Veninga and the play's director Sarah Rudolph.

The WBC had expressed outrage on their website about the community of Wausau being supportive of *The Laramie Project*. They called the Wausau area "a modern

day Sodom" and launched what they termed "Mission to Wausau" against a decadent city. The day following the play, the WBC protested six Wausau churches who had spoken out against the protestors.

Director Sarah Rudolph expressed delight at the response from the community. She said she is thankful for the experience as it created valuable dialogue. She also stated "Everyone involved in the show feels incredible

was by sending him a thank you card for generating publicity for the play, which sold out on its final night. The card thanks Phelps for "doing what only you can do in your special way." When asked if she would like to meet Phelps and talk to him in person, Rudolph replied quickly that she would not.

Ian Dreger, president of UWSP's Gay-Straight Alliance, organized the GSA to join the counter presence.

Prior to the rally he had expressed disappointment that the protest was occurring, but also feels that it was a rewarding experience. He described the group's participation saying, "We sang, held signs, and burned candles during the protest. After about an hour, the Phelps group packed up and left. That was sort of a victory in itself. It was a pleasure helping plan the peaceful protest, because I knew I was sticking up for individuals all over the state."

The WBC's current activities in the aftermath of the Wausau rally include publicly proclaiming that the recently late Fred Rogers, star of children's television, is in Hell for being a "fag enabler" and a protest is scheduled against a judge who ruled against the WBC in the past, who they now call a "dirty Jew." The WBC had also announced plans to protest the funeral of the late Sen. D. Patrick Moynihan prior to his death, upon learning the senator was in the hospital in deteriorating health.

Moynihan once appointed a lesbian to a court position. These announcements were made on the WBC's website, www.Godhatesfags.com.



Photo by David Cohen

Anti-gay protestors led by the Westboro Baptist Church gathered on the UWMC campus at the culmination of a day-long protest.

gratitude for the support we received. I am also glad, however, to be done with daily contact with 'god hates fags.' (It) gets hard on the soul."

Rudolph's personal way of dealing with Fred Phelps

Laird Day

from page 1

under the Nixon administration, who played a role in promoting Vietnamization during his term in the Pentagon. Vietnamization was the process of turning over responsibility for waging the war on the South Vietnamese government in order to implement withdrawal of U.S. military personnel.

After his four-year term as Secretary of Defense, Laird moved on to an array of business and civic activities. He presently sits on the boards of the Scientific Applications International Corp. (SAIC), a multi-billion dollar military technology corporation, and Lockheed Martin, a multinational aeronautics corporation. Both corporations annually generate over 90% of their income from government contracts according to Corp Watch.

The Laird Foundation is funding this event, as well as currently donating close to \$570,000 to the UWSP foundation.

According to Tammi David, director of accounting for the UWSP Foundation, "These funds have been donated each year by the honorable Melvin Laird, his family, colleagues, friends and the Laird Youth Foundation."

Through his many acts of large monetary contributions to UWSP, a few years ago Laird was honored by the renaming of the University Center's largest meeting room from Program Banquet Room, to the current Laird Room.

MLYLD also features key-note speaker Donald Rumsfeld, who has been secretary of defense since 2001. Rumsfeld had an earlier stint as secretary of defense in 1975, becoming the youngest ever to hold that position. With the

current situation in Iraq and the increased threat of terrorist attacks on the United States, added security measures are sure to be taken.

According to Tomlinson, "Obviously, there will be security issues that will be beyond the control of the university and the local law enforcement staff."

Rumsfeld's upcoming visit has brought about a mixed bag of emotions towards the secretary of defense from love to loathing.

According to UWSP student Ryan Drum, "It can be logically argued, by their own definitions, that Rumsfeld is working with a terrorist regime that is the center of an axis of evil, disregarding international laws and promoting further terrorism — ironically that regime is usually called the Bush administration."

However, former College Republican Christopher Tillman states, "Rumsfeld is speaking here for the Laird Youth Leadership Day which is specifically and

“Obviously, there will be security issues that will be beyond the control of the University.

-Asst. Chancellor Tomlinson

“— exclusively geared towards high school students. My father has been involved with this for a while, and I, being a fan of Rumsfeld, was hoping to see him. Unfortunately for the public, this event is for high school students, and it has always been this way as

far as I can remember."

UWSP student Matt Oldenburg contends, "I think Rumsfeld is the perfect guest speaker for Laird Day. Why not have one tyrant honor another and give a speech about how Americans should be proud to have such great leaders."

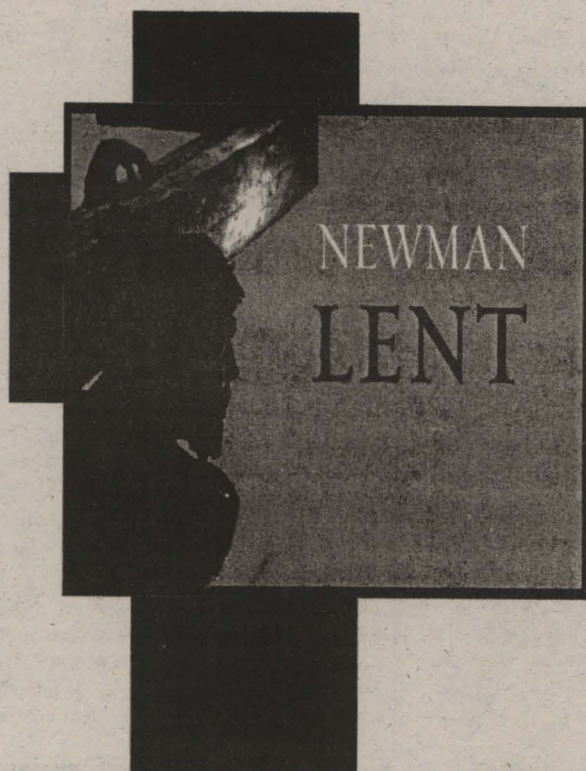
MLYLD promises attendees, "You can expect that you'll visit with respected leaders from around the United States and Wisconsin. You'll learn that, in a variety of ways, we are all involved in building a healthier America — for all Americans. You'll learn more about yourself, and you'll learn how working hard to develop your potential and reach your goals, while working with others, will help build a stronger America and a better

world."

"Or better yet, Rumsfeld should just come right out and say that we should be glad we were so lucky to be born into the most powerful empire in the world and don't ever have to worry about some imperialistic country doing to us what we have done to the whole world," said Matt Oldenburg.

Governor Jim Doyle, an NFL official, members from the Wisconsin Supreme Court, Chancellor George and a former chair of the Federal Trade Commission are all featured speakers at the MLYLD event.

UWSP students can catch MLYLD over closed circuit television, airing in the Encore room of the UC and over local college station STV on the day of the event.



A DIFFERENT TIME A HOLY TIME

Catholic Mass Schedule

5 PM Saturday

10:15 AM Sunday

6 PM Sunday

St. Joseph Convent Chapel

1300 Maria Drive, just west of Kmart

Stations of the Cross for PEACE: 7 PM Monday, Newman Center Chapel

Late-Night Mass: 9 PM Wednesday, Newman Center Chapel

NEWMAN — The Roman Catholic Parish at UWSP | www.newmanuwsp.org

Whatever...the world according to Steve

The media's gold mine: being on the idiot box doesn't make war any more justified.

By Steve Seamandel
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Death tolls are mounting. Iraqi soldiers, civilians and American and British forces have all suffered casualties. Bush's war is here.

The definition of "here," though, is not a meaning to take lightly. War is not overseas. War is here. At home. You can watch it in your living room, 24 hours a day.

Last week, while many of you were sunning in beautiful lands far, far away from Stevens Point, I intently monitored the double-bill of War TV and the NCAA Tournament basketball coverage.

CBS had debated all week long what to do in case of a strike on Iraq on Thursday, the first day of Tournament games. ESPN stepped up and made a deal with CBS that they'd run any CBS Tournament coverage when a pressing issue warranted coverage.

The initial Thursday afternoon games were pushed to ESPN, although the Thursday night games were run on CBS as scheduled. The funny thing about the whole ESPN and CBS exchange was how the ESPN ticker read, "For latest news and coverage on the War in Iraq, tune in to ABC." Minutes later, the CBS sports ticker would chime in and push ESPN's off the screen, only to read, "Tune to CBS for more war news." Nothing like the major powers collaborating to kill two birds with one stone, only to induce more unwanted competition.

With cable all-news stations like CNN, Fox News and MSNBC, it's literally like tuning into a station with the call letters of WARTV. You can watch the bombs explode from the sanctity of your own living room couch and sleep comfortably knowing that any precision bombs most likely won't be coming down your chimney, even though two American "smart" bombs did end up in Iran last week, somehow. Hmm. Oops.

It seems that these news giants have this war coverage thing down to a science. First, you need a name for your programming. This can be a general title, like "War in Iraq," or could get real specific for day to day battles. Switch it up. The news junkies need variation. Make a cool backdrop with your station's title, add some cool overly-dramatic music, and boom, you're the newest competition to Fox News.

Second, you need to constantly repeat things like "We're not sure exactly what is going on here, but if you'll look at the night-vision scope on Baghdad, you can see your very own tax-dollars

kicking the bejesus out of Iraq's capital right now." Over-emphasize that everything being reported is speculated and unconfirmed. Repeat (and repeat again) that "The US is not sure of the whereabouts of Saddam Hussein, his sons, their health or whether they still enjoy control of the country."

Third, never, ever, ever take that split-screen shot of the streets of Baghdad off your station. Ever. Something could happen. Also, timers and clocks help. Multiple all-news stations have the Baghdad time plastered in the upper left corner of their screen and MSNBC actually had a countdown clock for the Ultimatum Deadline for Saddam to leave Iraq. MSNBC would have received my true appreciation if they had included a tenth-second measurement too; I mean, really nail that deadline down to the millisecond. The cameras intently focused on Baghdad, seemingly waiting for bombs to start exploding once the clocks hit zero.

Seeing all of these reporters alongside the military ranks really upsets me as well. It's a journalist's duty to report

what's happening, but it's another to keep the live cameras running and show the general public things that shouldn't be seen. Case in point, cameras ran alongside injured soldiers being carted off after an embarrassing internal attack at Camp Pennsylvania. Respect the injured and stay the hell out of the way.

And if you haven't learned yet, FoxNews is not legitimate journalism. When you have to advertise against this by announcing that you're "fair and balanced" at every commercial break, it rings like Richard Nixon saying, "I am not a crook."

Lastly, although casualties are never less than a serious matter, it's odd seeing a death toll. Thus far, the reported number of casualties from accidents and combat is 47. At every notice of a death, the respective news station airs a picture, if available, or at least the name of the casualty.

If war had been televised during World War II, Fox News and the likes would have had to put over 400,000 names and pictures of killed American soldiers. Imagine storming the beaches of Normandy or nuking Japan and seeing it unfold live.

Is the coverage necessary? No, but then again, declaring war wasn't necessary either, and that didn't seem to make much of a difference. Sadly and undeservedly, it's become the American way.



Photo by author

City needs Heart transplant

Amy Heart brings a fresh voice and a new vision to the Stevens Point mayoral race.

We can take heart that she will revitalize the sagging economic infrastructure of not only the downtown, but also the southside and northside businesses. She will work to create an environment where residents won't have to drive to the city fringes for essential goods and services. She will address pedestrian safety and traffic congestion in the city while working for alternatives to a bypass through our forests, wetlands and recreational areas.

Amy Heart is an experienced leader. She is a member of the Health & Human Services Advisory Committee, Portage County Hunger Prevention Partnership, Network of

Environmental and Outdoor Groups and Stevens Point Transportation Development Plan. Her managerial and organizational skills will provide guidance and leadership as Stevens Point faces tough new challenges in the future.

Most importantly, Amy Heart listens. She will be accessible by all segments of the city's population through an expanded open door policy and proposed neighborhood meetings.

As Stevens Point, along with the surrounding municipalities, faces the complex problems associated with Smart Growth, it becomes very clear that the answer begins with Amy Heart—here's your opportunity to make a difference—vote on April 1.

—Linda & Gerry Steltenpohl,
Stevens Point

THE POINTER

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The Pointer is printed Thursdays during the academic year with a circulation of 4,000 copies. The paper is free to all tuition-paying students. Non-student subscription price is \$10 per academic year.

Letters to the editor can be mailed or delivered to The Pointer, 104 CAC, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI 54481, or sent by e-mail to pointer@uwsp.edu. We reserve the right to deny publication for any letter for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit letters for inappropriate length or content. Names will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate reason is given.

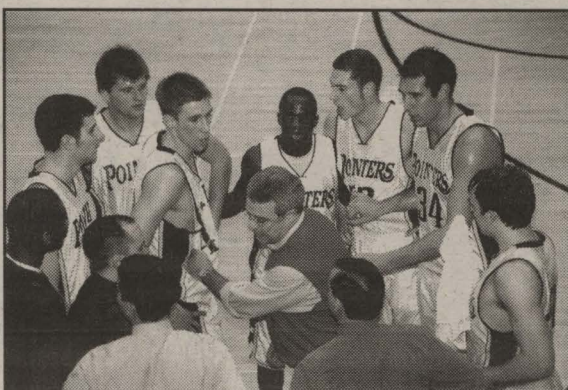
Letters to the editor and all other material submitted to The Pointer becomes the property of The Pointer.

Thanks to the fans for a great season

It may be difficult to express my gratitude and thanks so close to the end of our season, but I want all our fans to know how much we appreciate them. Winning our fourth straight WIAC Championship and qualifying for the NCAA are things we cherish along with your support.

The ability to stay humble in victory and determined in defeat are lessons that truly are learned through intercollegiate athletics. We will miss Josh Iserloth from our 24-4 team but with our returning nucleus and your backing we will go after our dreams in the 2003-2004 campaign.

Thanks again for being with us during the adventure.



Sincerely,

Coach Jack Bennett, UWSP Men's Basketball Coach

104 CAC

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Are we freeing Iraq or American corporations?

Well, the war is on. "Operation Iraqi Freedom" is underway. The US sure has a funny way of freeing nations from tyrants. Our way of freeing people always seems to consist of bombing the hell out of both the military and civilian targets. Proposed plans for post-war Iraq include a military dictatorship set up by the US to oversee the "rebuilding of Iraq" by US corporations. Wouldn't setting up a democratic government (ran by the people of Iraq) be a better way to free them?

Maybe, just maybe, the main focus isn't all about freeing the oppressed people of Iraq. I mean killing them isn't exactly freeing them, is it? Could US corporations be playing a part in our war-mongering?

Halliburton (Vice-President Cheney was a top CEO between 95 and 2000 and still receives about \$1 million a year in contributions) has already received a contract (which wasn't open to bidding) for \$1 billion for various tasks in Iraq, including setting up the tent villages for our soldiers, fire extinguishing the oil fields and rebuilding them, for which they will receive some extra U.S. tax-dollars.

Other corporations that are profiting immensely are the two aeronautical giants Lockheed-Martin (Melvin Laird receives \$1.6 million from them a year) and Northrop Grumman. These two corporations received a combined sum of \$250 billion for stealth fighters, the most expensive military contract ever awarded. It seems kind of funny that James Roche, the newly appointed Air Force Secretary who awarded the contract, served as a Northrop Grumman executive until this summer when he was nominated for the secretary position.

Not to mention, all weapons manufacturers have to demonstrate the capabilities of their

weapons in battle before the Pentagon will award them military contracts worth billions of dollars. A few weapon manufacturing corporations proving their products in Iraq right now are Boeing, General Atomics Aeronautical Systems and Raytheon Co.

These are just a couple of corporate interests benefiting from our war in Iraq. But it gets even more interesting when you consider the corporate interests in the Bush gang that is currently running our "democratic" nation:

1. Rumsfeld (Secretary of Defense): former CEO of G.D. Searle, which is a major pharmaceutical company that is going to benefit from U.S. contracts for smallpox and anthrax vaccinations, not to mention he sat on the boards of Kellogg and the holding company that prints the *L.A. Times* and the *Chicago Tribune*.

2. Andrew Card (Chief of Staff): former chief lobbyist for GM.

3. Condoleezza Rice (National Security Advisor): served on boards for Chevron, Charles Schwab Corporation, and TransAmerica.

4. Mitch Daniels (director of the Office of Management and Budget): was vice-president of Eli Lilly, another pharmaceutical company.

5. The list goes on and on. Some more people with former corporate ties appointed to government positions include Paul O'Neill, Robert Card, Donald Evans, Ann Veneman and Elaine Chao.

Is it possible that our "democratic" system is no longer run by the people of the US? Could the only votes heard by our government be the ones cast by corporations? Are we willing to sacrifice our men and women of our Armed Forces to advance corporate gains?

-Matt Oldenburg, UWSP student

UWSP students take in German tradition at Oktoberfest

In the city of stiletto shoes, thousands of bicycles and millions of people always on the go comes the opposite tradition referred to as Oktoberfest. When most people hear the term Oktoberfest, they think of loud, beer guzzling Germans in lederhosen. Well, they are absolutely right. I had never thought I would go to the 'Fest. Maybe the LaCrosse version, but never the real thing. When I signed up to study abroad in Munich, it still had not crossed my mind. It was not until many months later that the fest was brought to my attention; then I couldn't wait.

Before I get into the details, I think everyone should know a little bit of the history behind Oktoberfest. Yes, there is one. It all started with the wedding of Crown Prince Ludwig of Bavaria to Princess Theresa of Saxony-Hildburg Hausen on Oct. 17, 1810. It was celebrated by a horse race that became an annual event up to the present. Few people know that the festival takes place the last two weeks of September to the first Sunday of October. That's enough history though.

Now for the excitement. My friends and I arrived at the Oktoberfest grounds at

10:30 a.m. The place was already filled with thirsty people waiting for the mayor of Muenchen to tap the first keg and put back the first liter. That didn't happen until noon, and in the meantime, many people became anxious. I was just trying to take in all of the excitement and try to find a seat, which you need to be served. We ended up finding the opening day parade. We watched for awhile, but then found a seat at the Spaten beer tent while everybody else was up watching. By now it was past noon and all the wait staff had started serving giant liters of beer. Most waiters could carry at least six liters, some could carry up to twelve, but we lucked out and got the one waitress that could only carry three at a time.

Most people don't know that the beer is made special just for Oktoberfest with a higher percent alcohol and is only served in liters. For some reason, I think it's a plan to make sure everyone gets drunk. By 3 p.m., the crowd starts to get rowdy and the line for two stalls in the bathroom is like running the gauntlet of horny men, not to mention the entire crowd sings the theme song about a thousand times and prosts (toasts) every five seconds. The famed chant from "The Man Show," "Ziggy Zoggy, Ziggy Zoggy, Oy Oy Oy," is chanted by everyone.

By noon on the second day, we had memorized all of the chants and joined in on the dancing on the tables. Everybody does it, especially the 70-year-old drunk

men. We made about a hundred new friends that we will probably never see again.

Oktoberfest was a blast, and I did have a great time. However, I can understand why many people don't.

For example, most people that live in Muenchen hate Oktoberfest because people come from all over to get drunk and make a huge mess all over the city. I only met about five locals. They come out for the parades, but they usually don't stay for the nightlife. There were many other Germans there, but I met more Americans and many Italians, who we could only communicate with through song.

In comparison, American fairs are very similar to Oktoberfest. They have all the stands and rides, but instead of having exhibits and animals, Oktoberfest has every type of Bavarian beer.

I do recommend that you come and try it out for about three days, the first weekend. That should satisfy your craving for at least another year until the next one comes around. And that's the best thing to know: it does come back every year and it will continue coming back in the future.

-Mary Skull, UWSP student

Pointer Poll

Why do you think we're at war?

Photos by Kent Hutchison



Julie Puyleart, Sr., Comm

Because Saddam is an idiot.



Travis Coles, Soph., Bus. Admin.

To remove Saddam from leadership in Iraq.



Vm Shan, Jr., CIS/Comm

To prevent economic turmoil.



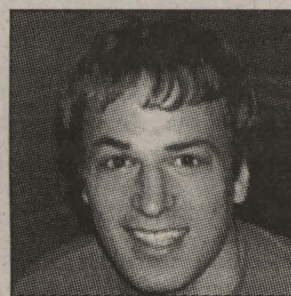
Candice Courtright, Fr., Pre-Nursing

The problems with Saddam and his choices.



Heidi Savage, Sr., Intn'l Humanities

To ensure global stability and safety.



Neal Krajnik, Jr., Spanish

To establish democracy in Iraq.



Photo submitted by author

UWSP students Mary Skull and Chris Kaye enjoy a liter and a pretzel at Oktoberfest.

Are students working themselves ragged?

Jobs lower student grades and morale

By Sara Daehn
FEATURES EDITOR

A working student has little time for relaxation. A student who will be called Susan begins every day at 8 a.m. by taking a quick shower, getting dressed and grabbing a Pop Tart on the go. Then she rushes to her first class of the day, biology lecture. Susan's first set of classes lasts until noon, when she gets a half hour lunch break. She then sprints back to class and stays there until 2 p.m.

After all her classes of the day, Susan runs back to her dorm room to change clothes, then dashes off to work. She gets off work at 9:30 p.m., at which time she craves sleep to an unhealthy extent.

But this unfortunate soul can't go to bed. She has to read 50 pages for biology, 40 pages for her sociology class and study for that astronomy midterm that's hastily approaching.

Does this sound like a healthy, lively, motivated college student to you?

No, it doesn't. And many other students out there are in the same situation as the student mentioned above.

College students should not have outside jobs, especially if they are first or second year students.

Students need to focus on their schoolwork. After all, that is why most students are paying outrageous amounts of money to attend a college or university. We're paying the money to learn. Some students may claim that they are just going to college so they can secure a high

paying job later in life, but there are plenty of jobs, such as factory work, that don't require a college degree or pay just as much and more than some of us will be earning with our degrees.

Getting involved in extra-curricular activities is another important part of college. Extra-curriculars help students learn about their majors, meet new people and hopefully have fun while doing it.

Extra-curriculars differ from jobs because students can join them whenever they decide to. Unlike a job, joining a club or playing on an intramural sports team isn't going to take away time from people's studies. If someone is unusually bogged down with homework during a particular week, there is no obligation to attend an extra curricular activity. On the other hand, bosses will not accept homework as an excuse.

Scholars who hold outside jobs often have lower grades than those who can focus more time on studies. Even if university students who hold jobs spend as much time on their school work as those without jobs, the students with jobs have much higher stress levels because they have so little time for personal relaxation and time to themselves.

Although it may seem students need to hold jobs in this age of tuition inflation and national debt, those who work hard during the summer and other breaks will have an advantage over school year workers mentally, emotionally and physically.

Working provides experience and teaches responsibility

By Nora F. Bates
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

Many UW-Stevens Point students work, whether it is through work-study or it's off campus. Working gives students extra money in their pockets and the work experience they will need in the "real world."

Allowing students to get the real experience they will need when applying for a job, working also teaches students responsibility, time management and communication skills. Students also learn about balance. Being able to juggle school, work and a personal life is a very useful quality.

During the rest of their lives, students will have to find that balance between their careers and their personal lives. The sooner they learn, the easier it will become.

Many employers like to see that applicants have had some work experience during their school years. Employers know that it is hard to balance work and school, so when students can do it, it is always impressive. I am not suggesting 40 hours a week, but rather a 15-hour a week job. That is all the time needed to gain some experience while concentrating on your studies.

It is probably best to find a job in the field in which you are interested. If you plan on getting a degree in mass media, look into an internship at the local TV or radio station. If you are obtaining a degree in education, look to get some experience by working at a day care. If you can find a practical job for your anticipated degree, not only will you enjoy the job more, you will be accomplishing two things at once.

Working is not all bad. The experience, the extra money and the people you will work with will make it a rewarding experience all around.

Week in Point

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Multicultural Affairs Presents:
Women of Juarez, UC, 6:30 PM

Centertainment Productions
Presents: Dave Rudolph (Children's
Performer), UC The Encore,
7:00 PM

American Music Recital, sponsored
by Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, FAC
Michelsen Hall, 7:30 PM

Cardio Center Presents: Pilates
Class w/Patrick Strong, Allen
Center, 7:30 - 8:30 PM

Friday, March 28, 2003

Centertainment Productions
Presents: Jack Ass, DEBOT 073,
7:00 PM & 9:30 PM

Performing Arts Series: Roger
Braun, Solo Percussion Performance,
FAC Michelsen Hall, 7:30 PM

Centertainment Productions
Presents: A Man and His Marionette
(Theatrical Student Production),
UC The Encore, 8:00 PM

Saturday, March 29, 2003

UWSP Men's and Women's Track
and Field Colman Invitational, at
Colman Field, All Day

ORFF Workshop, FAC, 8:30 - 2:30 PM

Centertainment Productions
Presents: Metal Salad, UC The
Encore, 7:00 PM

Multicultural Affairs Presents:
Roger Braun, Solo Percussion
Presentation Master, Class on
Cultural Diversity, FAC Michelsen
Hall, 7:30 PM

Sunday, March 30, 2003

The Stargazer Planetarium Show,
Planetarium/Observatory,
2:00 - 3:00 PM

Cardio Center Presents: Pilates
Class w/Patrick Strong, Allen
Center, 7:30 - 8:30 PM

Monday, March 31, 2003

Cardio Center Presents: Gentle
Yoga, Series I and II, Class B
w/Maureen Houlihan, Allen
Center, 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Student Recital: Tracy Kosloski,
saxophone, FAC Michelsen Hall,
7:30 PM

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

UW System Board of Regents,
budget listening session, UC,
4:00 - 6:00 PM

Faculty Recital: Nicholas Roth,
piano, FAC Michelsen Hall,
7:30 PM

Wednesday, April 2, 2003

Cardio Center Presents: Gentle
Yoga w/Maureen Houlihan, Allen
Center, 4:30 - 5:30 PM

UWSP Jazz Jam Session, UC
Basement Brewhaus,
7:00 - 10:00 PM

Jazz Composer's Recital, FAC
Michelsen Hall, 7:30 - 9:00 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE EVENTS CONTACT CAMPUS ACTIVITIES & RECREATION X4343
OR VISIT THE EVENT CALENDAR ON THE UWSP HOME PAGE



Julie Lassa wants you to know what she'll bring to the party.



Honesty, integrity, hard work, common sense and passion for good public service are what Julie Lassa brings to the residents and the taxpayers of the 24th State Senate District. Julie Lassa has demonstrated these qualities in her service as a legislator and prior to that as director of area business associations and a town board supervisor. She's shown courage in voting against expanded gaming, has voted to keep the lid on property taxes and help area schools stay strong.

☒ Vote Julie Lassa in the April 1st Democratic primary for State Senate.

Paid for by Volunteers for Agriculture, Jeff Fuller, Treasurer. Not authorized by any candidate, candidate's agent or candidate committee.

Student group speaks out about Big Tobacco

UW-Stevens Point student group is committed to teaching people about the danger of tobacco products

By Emily Nowak
By Anne Hoffman
By Katie Gaulin
FEATURES REPORTERS

Are students aware that they are being targeted by Big Tobacco?

This question provided the inspiration for the campus program PhotoVoice sponsored by the Student Health Promotion Office. PhotoVoice objectives are to identify ways in which Big Tobacco targets UWSP students and to foster commitment from UWSP students to combat Big Tobacco.

Health Advocates set out with disposable cameras and captured images of Big Tobacco on campus and in the surrounding community. Designed to give "voice" to the presence of tobacco, these images included cigarette urns, door signs, people smoking, tobacco advertisements and cigarette butt litter. These pictures were arranged in a collage for UWSP students to see.

Students viewed the display board and answered questions about tobacco promotion and tobacco presence on the campus, posed by Health Advocates at DeBot and the University Center. In addition to answering questions, several students agreed to be videotaped talking about their feelings regarding Big Tobacco. Petitions were available to encourage students to commit to fighting big tobacco in a variety of ways.

Students could choose to boycott products produced by tobacco companies, encourage a

friend to quit smoking and/or support smoke-free establishments in Portage County.

PhotoVoice is going to be featured as a plenary session at the upcoming Wisconsin College Tobacco Summit in Oshkosh, Wis. on April 4.

The Health Advocates are peer educators who provide behavior interventions for UWSP students to help them achieve academic objectives. Health Advocates provide information on alcohol, sexual assault, tobacco, stress, fitness and nutrition.

Organization of the Week: Women in Communication

By Nora F. Bates
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

Women in Communication is a group open to all students on campus and not just women, but men too. Women in Communication meets twice a month, with the next meeting occurring on April 6 at 6:30 in room 207 in the University Center.

Women in Communication is made up of president Sara Clauder, vice president Bethany Retzlaff, secretary Melanie Joseph, treasurer Leanne Hedrick, forum director Nicole LaReau and PR director Roberta Lind. The Women in Communication adviser is Karlene Ferrante.

Women in Communication is heading to Milwaukee this weekend to tour a major

PR/advertising firm, with a possible tour of the Miller Brewing Company. They have been active around campus with their famous caramel apple and flower sales in the University Center, as well as a hot dog/brat sale at Wal-Mart. Next planned for Women in Communication is their end of the year picnic.

Women in Communication brings local business speakers in to talk about their successes and ways to be successful in a career. You can find upcoming events for Women in Communication on Student Message of the Day or on the white boards in your classrooms.

If you would like to be added to their distribution list you can email president Sara Clauder at sclau823@uwsp.edu.

A YEAR IN EUROPE!

Students have, in the past, combined a semester abroad, i.e. Germany and Britain, or Poland and France, but UWSP International Programs now introduces a *Year in Europe*. This program is designed specifically to couple with existing fall semesters in Europe: Britain, Germany: Munich and East Central Europe: Poland.

Students in London, Munich and Krakow can continue on to Szeged after the end of their fall term. Though it is not imperative to sequence Hungary with one of these trips, International Programs does enforce previous international experience for participation in the Hungarian program.

After your fall program ends you may stay on in Europe for personal exploration/ travel. In this way you will save the costs of airfare and the Semester in Hungary program can be done for about the same cost as spending a term in Stevens Point!

A YEAR IN EUROPE 2003/04: WITH A SEMESTER II IN HUNGARY

COST: \$3,500-3,800 (approximate) This includes:

- ☒ **15 Weeks in residence at the University of Szeged**
- ☒ **Room and Board throughout the semester.**
- ☒ **UWSP tuition for Wisconsin Residents** (Minnesota students qualify for reciprocity. Surcharge for other out-of-staters.)
- ☒ **Study tours within Hungary throughout the semester**
- ☒ UW-System Health and Travel Insurance is provided.
- ☒ Plan your budget to cover international airfare and/or ground train to Szeged, passport, and personal expenses. If you are flying to Europe to start the program, International Programs can help you find a flight.
- ☒ A UWSP International Programs staff member will fly to Budapest approximately three days before the Szeged program begins; though not part of the program package, students are welcome to travel along from Chicago to Budapest and then on to Szeged with her/him. After seeing that the program is running smoothly, that staff member will return to the States.

CLASSES: Upper division classes concentrating on the Humanities and Social Sciences: Conversational/Survival, Intermediate and Advanced Hungarian Language (no prior knowledge of Hungarian is required), Art History, Culture, Civilization and History of Hungary; East European Politics, Geography, Literature, International Studies. **Small classes, taught by Hungarian faculty in English, provide individual attention.** Easy transfer of UWSP granted credit.



Want to
contribute to
The Pointer?

Email us with
ideas, articles or
suggestions at:

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Fastpitch gets some spring break action

Team returns from Florida with a 6-4 mark

By Jana Jurkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

Spring break is supposed to be a time to relax and regroup; however, the UWSP softball team didn't relax in Florida. They got right to work and returned home with a season starting record of 6-4.

The Pointers started out the 2003 season with 10 games in five days, facing nine different opponents as they traveled to Fort Myers, Fla. Having so many games definitely pushed the Pointer women into gear and they were pleased to return home with six wins.

"We were happy with the week and with the performance of the new players," said Coach Paul Caufield.

The week started out with a doubleheader as the Pointers faced Pine Manor (Md.) followed by North Dakota. After thoroughly beating Pine Manor by a decisive score of 15-7, the Pointers lost a close game to North Dakota 2-1. The game, which stayed scoreless until the Pointers took the lead in the top of the sixth inning, was decided when North Dakota capitalized on a few Pointer mistakes in the bottom of the sixth inning.

softball

Same song, second verse seemed to bode well for the Pointers as they obtained their second doubleheader split on March 17. This was the Pointers' toughest day as they not only had another doubleheader, but they also faced the 12th ranked team in the nation, Wheaton, in their first game. The Pointers fell behind 1-0 in the first inning but then held Wheaton in check until the sixth inning, when once again the opponent capitalized on Pointer errors. The Pointers were unable to come back and lost the game 4-0.

"Although we lost 4-0, the team played well," said

Caufield.

However, the Pointers picked up the pace for their second game of the day and pounded Worcester State (Mass.) 9-3. Both Meagan Strmsek and Amy Schumacher had two-run singles in a five-run second inning; giving the Pointers momentum throughout the games.



Van Wychen

for the Pointers, but they picked up where they left off the night before and swept all three games.

Nevertheless, the week was not all work and no fun for the women. They were able to escape to Sanibel Island to watch the dolphins and also got to soak up some sun and go parasailing at Fort Myers Beach on their day off.

With so many new players on the team this year, the trip proved to be a learning experience. Playing a number of games gave the coaches an opportunity to take a closer look at the newcomers. Freshmen Jenny Feidt, Jenny Van Cuyk and Liz Boettcher showed much promise during the week.

"We are excited about those three and they will be looked to as key players for the future," said Caufield.

Senior pitcher Karen Guckenberger, who pitched extremely well throughout the trip, will be looked to for leadership and experience while having such a young team under her belt. "She [Guckenberger] will be a key player for us as the year unfolds," said Caufield.



File Photo

Senior Karen Guckenberger earned two wins and a save in one day during the Pointers' trip to Florida.

Another key upperclassman for the Pointers throughout the week was senior Jill Van Wychen. Wychen was player of the week in the WIAC as she stole seven bases and batted .447 throughout the week.

The Pointers will face St. Norbert Saturday and will play their first home game Wednesday against Edgewood before heading off to Illinois for the Augustana Tournament.

"We got a lot of experience in Florida and want to have our best lineup in for the tournament. We are hoping to get a lot of people involved in the tournament to help find out who key players will be down the stretch," said Caufield.

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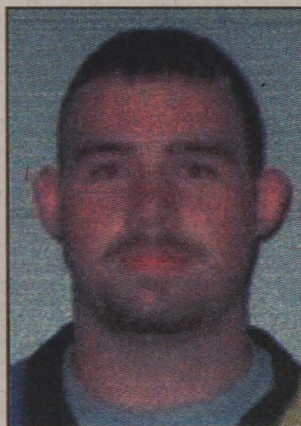
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SENIOR ON THE SPOT NOAH ESCHENBAUCH - TRACK & FIELD



Eschenbauch

Career Highlights

- National champion in the weight throw for the 2003 indoor season
- Second place in the weight throw in 2002
- Fourth place in the weight throw in 2001

Major - English

Hometown - Rosholt, Wis.

Nickname - "ETCH"

Idol while growing up - I really didn't have one

What are your plans after graduation? - Either grad school and coaching or trying to compete professionally.

Do you plan on participating in track & field after graduation? - If things work out, yes.

What is your favorite aspect of track & field? - That it is a team sport, but there is so much emphasis on the individual competitive aspect.

Most embarrassing moment - "Naked Run."

If you could be anyone for a day, who would you choose? - Dirk Diggler

If you were going to be stranded on a desert island and could choose only three things to bring with you, what would you choose?

1. Amber
2. Halle Berry
3. A Boat

What will you remember most about participating in track & field at UWSP? - Standing at the top of the podium at nationals.

Do you have any parting words for the underclassmen? - Whatever you are doing, someone is always working harder.

Swimmers end season on a high

By Tyler Drummond & Alexis Sustman
SPORTS REPORTERS

The UW-Stevens Point men's and women's swimming teams have recently concluded their seasons with a trip to Atlanta for the NCAA Division III National Championships, held at Emory University.

swimming

The women, who were in Atlanta Thursday-Saturday March 13-15, sent six women: Lindsay Correll, Elizabeth Herder, Alissa Bartz, Erica Janssen, Jennifer Randall and Jaclyn Menzel.

"We finished better in a lot of events than we thought we were going to do. So overall the girls swam great," said Correll.



Correll

The 200m medley relay that Correll swam on came in seventh, which was good enough to give that team All-American status.

Though the women swam great, Correll can see some room for improvement.

"This year's Nationals team was a young team, and we are only graduating one senior; so, we have a lot of improving to do. Since we all improved from last year. I think we can just hope to be in the same or better positions next year."



Sievers

The UWSP men got a chance to travel down to Atlanta March 20-22 where they competed in the NCAA DIII National Championships.

The men, who only sent four swimmers to Atlanta, placed 18th. The four men who took place were Matt Sievers, Alex Anderson, Aaron Marshall and Thad Gunther.

"It's a higher finish than last year and may be the highest finish for a public school in the nation," said Sievers.

The men's 200m medley finished 12th, the 400m medley finished 15th and the 200m free relay finished 16th.

"Next year we need to qualify some more swimmers, which we were only hundreds of seconds away from doing," said

Now on to the outdoor season



Submitted Photo

Seniors Jesse Baumann and Steve Gillespie display their All-American trophies at the Division III Indoor Track & Field Nationals this past weekend.

Etch tosses his way to a title

By Tony Bastien
SPORTS REPORTER

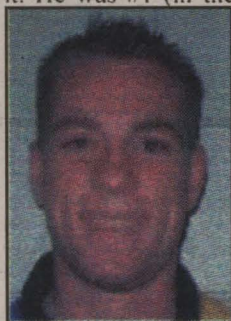
While the majority of UWSP was sprinting off to various spring break locales, the Pointer men's track & field team traveled to DePauw University in Indiana for the Indoor National meet on March 14 and 15. The ten men who represented UWSP finished seventh out of over 80 teams with over 200 men competing.

men's track & field

A major part of the men's success can be attributed to Stevens Point's eighth indoor track national champion, senior Noah Eschenbach. Eschenbach won the weight throw event on Friday with a toss of 62 feet 5 inches. That distance is the fourth longest in the 19 year history of the event.

Of Eschenbach, coach Rick Witt said, "We had expected Noah to win it. He was #1 (in the nation) all year and that made it that much harder to accomplish. I'm very proud of how he handled it."

Also gaining points for the men were seniors Steve Gillespie with his eighth place finish in the 1500 meter run and Jesse Baumann's fifth place finish in the 800 meter.



Baumann

The WIAC was well represented at Depauw with UW-La Crosse staking claim to their third straight national championship with a dominating and record-setting team performance outscoring second place UW-Oshkosh by 37 points, the widest margin of victory in DIII history.

On March 17, the final indoor national power rankings were revealed by M&F Athletic Company. The squad finished on the medal podium, receiving the gold.

Also the WIAC was well represented. Following the men were UW-La Crosse and UW-Oshkosh.

When asked about the strength of the WIAC, coach Witt said, "It shows that the talk about the Wisconsin league to be one of the best in Division III is true and the ranking exemplifies the fact. What may be good in our conference may be great in other leagues."

Unlike the national meet in Indiana, these rankings examine a team's performance over the entire year. The men were recognized for the accomplishment at the meet on Saturday.

Craig and Nechuta named All-American

By Jody Butkowski
SPORTS REPORTER

Five women made the trek to Greencastle, Ind. to compete in the NCAA Division III track and field championships. The women earned two All-American honors out of three events and finished 20th overall.

Coach Hill said he was "both pleased and disappointed - although the disappointment was out of our control with Megan's illness."

women's track & field

Megan Craig, a sophomore who qualified in both the open 1500 and the distance medley relay (DMR), was not feeling 100% due to an illness.

Friday night, the DMR team consisting of junior Jesalyn Maher, freshman Jenna Mitchler and sophomores Megan Craig and Leah Herlache placed ninth with a time of 12:18, missing All-American honors by one place.

Although the relay members were disappointed with the results, the team consisted of three underclassman and one junior and has high expectations for both the outdoor season and next year's indoor season.

Hours earlier, Craig ran the 1500m trials before anchoring the 1600m leg of the DMR.

"The first race took everything out of [Megan]," said Hill.

Sophomore Amanda Nechuta proved her depth in Saturday's competition in the shot put with a toss of 45'5 3/4" earning her sixth place All-American honors. Weeks after completion of an all-conference basketball season, Nechuta quickly stepped up to earn her first indoor All-American trophy.

"She had a solid performance in a very strong field of athletes and hasn't really had much time to work on the shot put yet this season," said Hill.

Craig, who competed with a stress fracture a year ago, replaced those bitter memories with a stellar fourth place finish in the 1500.

Her time of 4:35.93 was a personal best, and broke her own school record of a year ago. Although plagued by a sickness, Craig was happy with her fourth place finish.

As the outdoor season begins, the Pointer women hope to qualify several athletes in both individual events and relays for outdoor nationals in Canton, New York.



Nechuta

Pitching strong so far

By Dan Mirman
SPORTS EDITOR

The Pointer baseball team (7-2-1) traveled south for spring break, but they provided the heat wave going 7-1 for the week.

The Pointers had six pitchers record victories as their spring trip took them to Clarksville, Tenn. and Terre Haute, Ind.

baseball

"I thought we performed at the level we're capable of, we were in every game and finished 7-1 against impressive competition," said Coach Brian Nelson. "I also feel a lot of our younger pitchers grew up this week; I expected to get hit a little early on, but our pitching depth should be a strength for us."



Blaha

The Pointers fell behind 10-1 in the second game and made a great comeback before falling 11-9. That would be their last setback as they reeled off six straight victories.

Senior Jeff Pieper was the lone Pointer pitcher to record a pair of victories. Pieper pitched five strong for the victory over Peay. Later in the week Pieper tossed a complete game, surrendering just one unearned run while striking out five in a 2-1 win over Rose Hulman (Ind.). Catcher Joe Waksmonski provided the game-winning homer (2) in the top of the seventh to give Point the win.

The Pointers also defeated Rose Hulman to finish their trip 15-7 on Sunday. Shortstop Mike Hall had four hits on the day including his third home-run of the season. Hall is batting a robust .428 for the season.



Waksmonski

Waksmonski and DH Matt Peetz both batted three for four and combined for six RBI as the Pointer bats combined for 15 hits off eight different Rose Hulman pitchers.

The Pointers also won a pair of games over Albion College (8-0, 13-1) and Lipscomb (12-10, 5-4).

In the first Albion match-up Josh Blaha captured the Pointers first shutout of the season for the complete game victory. Blaha struck out nine, giving up just one hit while notching nine



midwest

By Jason Nihles
SPORTS REPORTER



Wisconsin pride will be in full force as fans of the Wisconsin Badgers and the Marquette Golden Eagles will be on hand to cheer for their respective teams as they play for a chance to move on to the Elite 8 on Saturday.

The Badgers will face the top seed Kentucky at 6:10 p.m. and Marquette will tip-off against the #2 seed Pittsburgh at approximately 8:40 p.m.

The Wildcats use a high-pressure defense to generate turnovers and turn them into offensive opportunities. They like to play an up-tempo game and are led by senior guard Keith Bogans, who is averaging 15.8 points per game.

The good news for Wisconsin is that they make few mistakes and do not beat themselves. They average only 10 turnovers per game and

coach Bo Ryan's swing offense generates plenty of good shots. Senior Kirk Penny is Wisconsin's floor leader and averages 16.1 points and 6.0 rebounds per game.

Pittsburgh is perhaps the quickest and most athletic team in the tournament. The Panthers feed off leader and point guard Brandin Knight. He averages just over 11 points and six assists per game and executes Pitt's offense perfectly.

All-American guard Dwyane Wade (21.3 ppg, 6.3 rpg) is the go-to guy for Marquette but sophomore guard Travis Diener is having an exceptional tournament.

The Badgers will keep it close for the first half but in the end Kentucky's defense and down low presence will be too much for them to handle. In contrast, Dwyane Wade and Travis Diener will once again come up big and upset the Panthers.

The Wisconsin magic will come to an end Saturday, however, when Kentucky will prove why they are the best team in the country when they dispatch of Marquette on their way to the Final Four.

NCAA Sweet 16 Preview

west

By Craig Mandli
SPORTS EDITOR



The west bracket may have the most firepower with Arizona, Duke, Kansas and the underrated Notre Dame.

Arizona plays Notre Dame in a matchup of teams that were almost shown the door in the earlier rounds by Gonzaga and UW-Milwaukee, respectively.

The Wildcats probably have two of the most talented players in college ball with guard Jason Gardner and post player Luke Walton. Those players give Arizona the most rounded team in the tournament.

Notre Dame's balanced attack is led by guard Matt Carroll's 20 points per game. Although the Irish will give Arizona a game, they can't match up with the Wildcats' size.

In the other game, Duke-

outside touch of Kirk Hinrich.

Write the Jayhawks' ticket right now. They are too deep and have too much talent to be beat. Kansas represents the west.

south

By Dan Mirman
SPORTS EDITOR



To this point, the South region has proved the toughest for top seeds. The south is the only bracket with its two, three and four seeds eliminated.

Expect the upsets to continue for this bracket when 5th-seeded UConn meets Texas. The Huskies have looked very impressive in their two victories and have a tremendous inside/outside game with Emeka Okafor and Ben Gordon.

Texas struggled before pulling away from a banged up Purdue team to advance to the Sweet 16 match-up. The key for Texas always starts with T.J. Ford; the sophomore point guard is one of the best players in the country and could create problems for the Huskies.

The other half of the bracket features two upset-minded teams as both 7th-seed Michigan State and 6th-seed Maryland will square off.

The Terrapins are the choice in this contest as they have too much experience for the younger Spartans. Steve Blake and Drew Nicholas make up one of the best backcourts in the nation and they have shown the ability to hit the clutch shot with a buzzer-beater to down UNC-Wilmington in the first round.

By the time the south region has finished their play this weekend, look for Maryland to reach their fourth consecutive Final Four.

Baseball

from page 9

strikeouts.

"Josh really proved himself last year in the playoffs and he did what he had to do," said Nelson. "He's a strike-out pitcher for us, and the only hit he gave up was an infield hit that went off his glove."

Rightfielder Jared Ferguson provided all the offense Point would need, picking up two hits and five RBIs. Ferguson also hit his first home run of the year, a two run shot.

With the victories over Lipscomb, Point improved their records against Division I schools to 3-1.

Swimming

from page 9

Sievers.

"We need to work on our technique and the streamline," said Anderson.

Swimming wasn't the only thing to do in Atlanta; the team also had a chance to do a little sightseeing around the city.

"Atlanta was great, and there were some crazy people on the subway," said



east

By Steve Seamandel
EDITOR IN CHIEF



Two major developments in the East Region make it a

special one this year: Wake Forest tanking against Auburn and Butler, proud we are of all of them, knocking off both Mississippi State and Louisville to make it to the Sweet 16.

Unfortunately, the gents on Butler will have to play the game of their lives to knock off the #1 seeded Oklahoma Sooners on Friday. Nothing's short of impossible when it comes to March Madness, but Butler may have run out of pixie dust after that last bout with Pitino's Louisville squad.

Butler will have to stay focused on Oklahoma's Hollis Price, a 6'1" senior guard averaging 19 points per game and hitting 44% of his three-pointers in addition to shooting 94% from the charity stripe.

The other matchup, Syracuse and Auburn, is a bracket-breaker for everyone who picked Wake Forest for the Final Four. Auburn will have to contain the Orangemen's 6'8" all-purpose freshman Carmelo Anthony, who is a major threat in the paint as well as beyond the arch, and maintain guard Billy Edelin, who had a combined thirty points in last weekend's first round games. However, Syracuse is a very young team and may be lacking in the experience department.

After Friday, expect an Oklahoma and Syracuse match-up on Sunday. Don't be surprised if Syracuse plays a tough one against the Sooners; in fact, they are my pick for the Final Four.

Point used late rallies in both games to secure victory. In the opener Point broke a 10-10 tie in the final inning without a hit. The Pointers took advantage of two Lipscomb errors to score the winning run.

In the second contest Senior Matt Peetz provided the game-winning single in the top of the seventh as he drove home Ryan Jones for the 5-4 win.

The Pointers will play their first game in Wisconsin on Sunday as they travel to De Pere to take on St. Norbert in a doubleheader. Then Point will host their first home game of the season Wednesday when UW-Platteville comes in for the conference opener, which will begin at 1 p.m.

Sievers. "I think everyone should transfer to Emory University, due to the good weather, beautiful campus and the abundance of hot college babes."

Even though they are already gearing up for next season, the swimmers were able to reflect on the accomplishments and enjoy the moments this season.

"This year has been great and I have learned a lot about my teammates," said Correll.

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Everyone @ International Programs...

G'day from Sydney, Australia !! :) Just wanted to thank you all for your hard work that enabled me to have this amazing experience. I am truly having the time of my life. If it weren't for family and friends back home, I would consider staying here forever. The weather is really starting to heat up. Next week is our spring break. Heading to Cairns to do some diving at the Great Barrier Reef. Hope all is well back in Point!

Amanda Kloes

Hello Mark, Dave, Linda, & all,

Greetings from sunny Cinque Terra on the Italian Riviera! The Munich crew is currently on Fall Break from our studies. My semester abroad has been such an incredible monumentous experience for me—I have learned so much about life outside the U.S. and also about myself. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you for making a dream come true!

Rachel A. Caben

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Chain-ging faces of area disc golf courses

By Leigh Ann Ruddy
OUTDOORS EDITOR

On March 10, the City of Stevens Point finance committee authorized Mayor Wescott to discuss purchasing land from Stora Enso on Patch Street where the old McDill Pond disc golf course used to lay.

Stora Enso contacted the Mayor to set up a meeting with him on the discussion of the Patch Street land in late February. Stora Enso is interested in divesting property in the state and the Patch Street land had been used for a disc golf course prior to the pond getting dredged last spring and summer. Mayor Wescott asked the approval of the finance committee before discussing anything with Stora Enso.

Currently, the finance committee is waiting for further information from the Mayor after his meeting with Stora Enso.

Speculation in Stevens Point is that the land could be turned back into a disc golf course if the city decides to purchase the land. If the city does not purchase the land, it is not known what it would be used for.

If you would like more information on the progress of the land purchase contact the City of Stevens Point Mayor Gary Wescott or the finance committee:

Stevens Point City Hall
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point WI 54481

Additionally, the current situation in Yulga Park is as follows:

Tuesday, March 25, I set out with three of my friends for a nice round of disc golf while the nice weather lasted—it'll be gone by this weekend. As we pulled into Yulga Park in the Town of Hull, we noticed the lack of cars in the parking lot, which was strange for such a nice day in early spring.

We walked toward the practice cage, but nothing was there. We walked to the first tee, but no basket was in sight. We then thought about the back nine, but still there were no cages.

Then one of my friends decided to check the notices on the boards near the entrance of the park. It said something about slashing.

The trees are coming down.

Beginning this week, trees will be cut down that have been marked for clearing over the past few months. The Yulga disc golf course will look very different as soon as all the trees are cut and cleared.



Let's go fishing

Hot weather scares ice off local waters

By Adam M.T.H. Mella
ASSISTANT OUTDOORS EDITOR

All those rascals coming back from the southland seem to have brought some sweet spring heat along with them. Just last week I was straining to drill through a foot of good ice, and now waves lap the sandy shores. With the river once again running free and inland lakes retaking the shorelines, it seems that the 2003 ice fishing season has ended for Portage County.

I'm not saying that it is impossible to get out, but I'd take great precautions in attempting the feat. Use the southern shore when crossing out to safer ice as the shallower water often melts away first. Walking slowly in a single file line helps to distribute weight evenly. Ice-picks, a good length of rope and a few friends also help your chances if someone does fall through. If it is possible to get out safely, I would bet that the panfish are still biting pretty well; however, if this warm weather holds on, I would quit ice fishing after this weekend, or else head further north.

Now just because your favorite ice fishing hole is off-limits doesn't mean that you can't enjoy this great weather. In fact, many open water opportunities await.



Many of the better river spots are now wide open for hook and line fishing. Spots like dams and spillways have been rip-roaring for several weeks, and now with the recent heat wave, many of the best backwater spots and sloughs have loosed themselves

UWSP Adopt-A-Species Program

By Serene Granstrom
OUTDOORS REPORTER

The giant panda is one of the most endangered mammals on this planet. The continued disappearance of the bamboo forests, their low reproduction rates and the numbers of pandas that are killed in traps set for other animals keeps pushing them towards extinction. While no one really knows how many of the animals roamed through the high mountains of China in the past, experts know now that only as few as 1000 pandas survive in the wild.

With continued disappearance of the bamboo forests because of land clearing, climate changes and an unusually long bamboo growth cycle, the panda can no longer migrate in order to find food. Twice in the last twenty years, large numbers of pandas have starved to death when the bamboo in their habitat stopped growing. With so few forests left, the future of the giant panda is extremely precarious.

Ancient superstitions have long cursed the panda. At one time, the animal was hunted for its beautiful coat because it was thought to possess the power of prediction and protection. It was believed that having a good night sleep on a panda pelt indicated good fortune. Natural characteristics also keep the panda at risk. Most of the time, the panda prefers to be alone. The female is available for mating for only one day a year, and among all mammals, the panda is the smallest baby born in relation to the size of its mother. The baby, who is usually born in a den in the hollow of a tree, is 900 times smaller than the mother at birth. This puts the baby at high risk of injury and death due to its small size. Usually one out of every two baby pandas born survive through adulthood.

The Chinese government, zoos and panda-lovers continue to work to help the survival of the panda. Pandas are now legally



protected from hunters. Special bamboo reserves have been set up to preserve food, and rescue efforts in the wild have helped individual animals as well as educating the public about the plight of the panda. In China, 13 nature reserves have been established to provide giant pandas with a safe environment. But there is still more that needs to be done.

With your help, the Center for Reproduction and Endangered Species (CRES) at the San Diego Zoo is able to continue studying the giant pandas on loan from the Chinese government. Scientists are attempting to find out more about the reproduction habits, mating and communication in

order to discover ways to sustain more animals in the wild. The CRES is also involved in the exchange of expertise with China. Working together, scientists may be able to find ways to keep this endangered species from disappearing. For only \$20, your

panda adoption kit will include an adoption registration card, a poster, an informational booklet, stickers and many other treats. After you fill out the registration card and return it to the center, you will receive a color photograph of your adoptee and a newsletter subscription.

Drop donations off at the Wildlife Society office, CNR 359A. Include your name, home address, email address and a telephone number so that you may be reached once the adoption is complete. Make checks payable to Friends of the Forest. For more information contact www.friendsoftheforest.org or email questions to sgran184@uwsp.edu.

of their icy shields. Boaters report very fast spring water and even large ice chunks still floating in the current. Stay safe out there, and we can all enjoy the return of open water.

By the way, remember that new licenses for 2003 are now on sale and will be mandatory at the end of March when the old ones expire. Don't be a fool and put off this necessity until the last minute! The DNR agents are real sticklers about this rule. Students from out of state can purchase adult licenses for the regular in-state price by showing a valid UW student ID card. The closest place to campus to buy one is the K-mart outdoors section.



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**THE CITY OF STEVENS POINT
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*City Life guards - Head Guards - Pool Maintenance and Pool Cashier Positions (Certifications required).
*Recreation Positions - Playground leaders, Tennis, Nature/Sports Camp, Naturalists and Preschool Instructors.

Applications may be picked up Monday through Friday from 7:30am - 4:00pm at the Stevens Point Parks and Recreation Department office, 2442 Sims Ave. or at the K.B. Willett Ice Arena east entrance lobby, 1000 Minnesota Ave. Call 346-1531 for more information. Applications will be accepted until positions are filled.
AA/EDE stevenspoint.com

Water you waiting for? Volunteers needed

First annual groundwater festival to take place at the beginning of May

The 1st Annual Wisconsin Groundwater Festival, Get WET and Energized, is quickly approaching.

The Wisconsin Groundwater Festival will be a fun-packed two-day event offering hands-on activities, presentations and exhibit booths on May 9 and 10 at UWSP. Friday will be a "School Day" for Wisconsin fifth and sixth grade students and their teachers and Saturday will be open to the general public. The purpose of the Wisconsin Groundwater Festival is to enhance the ability and motivation of Wisconsin fifth and sixth grade students, their teachers, and the general public to understand and take responsible action regarding environmental issues affecting groundwater and energy. Wisconsin Groundwater Guardians are expecting participants from across the state with 600 fifth and sixth grade students and their teachers attending Friday (9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.) and a minimum of 300 attendees on Saturday (10 a.m.-4 p.m.).

With an event of this magnitude, Wisconsin Groundwater Guardians need the support of many volunteers to help make this festival a success. At this point in time, Wisconsin Groundwater Guardians really need volunteers to help on Saturday. For Saturday, Wisconsin Groundwater Guardians need lesson leaders, Kid's Tent leaders (crafts and games), monitors for the exhibit area and presentation rooms, water lab guides to assist groups in finding the water lab, a clean-up crew immediately following the event and additional volunteers for other various tasks. Training will be provided for lesson leaders. On Saturday, you may volunteer for all day or for portions of the day. Please take a look at the proposed schedules for Saturday and Friday at <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/gwguardian/wigg/fest.htm>.

Wisconsin Groundwater Guardians could always use more help on Friday, too. Friday is a more demanding schedule, since

Wisconsin Groundwater Guardians will have 20 lessons going on simultaneously. If you volunteer to be a lesson leader, Wisconsin Groundwater Guardians ask that you lead the same 45 minute lesson four times. However, there are many other less demanding volunteer opportunities, too.

Wisconsin Groundwater Guardians do need your help, but you'll benefit too. Wisconsin Groundwater Guardians are sure you will have fun working with the students on Friday and the general public on Saturday and experiencing all the Groundwater Festival activities. You will also receive free breakfast and lunch on the days you volunteer.

Please download a flyer and volunteer form to fill it out for the Groundwater Festival at <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/gwguardian/wigg/fest.htm>. Please review this volunteer form for a more complete listing of volunteer opportunities. Please let us know how you will contribute to the festival. Please forward this message on to others that you know of who would like to help. Please return your form as soon as possible.

Remember, the Groundwater Festival is not possible without you! On behalf of the Wisconsin Groundwater Guardians and the youth and adults of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Groundwater Guardians thank you in advance for your enthusiasm and support of the 2003 Wisconsin Groundwater Festival.

If you have any questions, please call Wisconsin Groundwater Guardians at 715-346-2722 or email dkilkenn@uwsp.edu or gwguardian@uwsp.edu. For more details on the festival, go to www.uwsp.edu/cnr/gwguardian/wigg/fest.htm.

Mr. Winters' two cents

Well, back to school, huh kids? I hope you enjoyed yourselves and now are repenting for your sins. Anyways, if you were out of state you missed some decent weather in the good ol' Northwoods, and being an old man, I've definitely decided to stay put on dry land after the recent heat came up from the south. It certainly is a great time of year with stupendous fishing for pike, walrus and even fat crappie. Plus, you can enjoy the swell weather without those pesky insects buzzing about the head!

A time for me in the past when my schoolwork was put on the back burner was when mother wanted me to catch some dinner with pop. So I guess my advice to you youngsters is: don't let the spring bug bite you in the ass, because you got many more springs to go. On the other hand, don't forget about the good fishing either. Oh hell, this fresh spring air has got my brain in a tangle! Anyhoo, don't you folks forget to "go on and geeeeeet", ...a fishing license, that is.



Spring birdfeeder ogling



The pileated woodpecker on a loaded feeder

By Adam M.T.H. Mella
ASSISTANT OUTDOORS EDITOR

Nothing says spring has arrived to me more than the spirited chirp of migrating birds sitting outside my bedroom window. Their sound of song is so very rich that I wonder why humans have generally stopped singing for their mates? Listening to those little winged mammals call in the early morning hour signals to me the beginning of life and the end of the winter bereavement.

That is where my appreciation for birds usually ceases. Aside from eating some of them, I find them to be nothing more than a shifty creature capable of dropping precision "smart feces" and building rough nests.

Oh, how wrong I was! Over the spring holiday I returned home for a visit. Like Stevens Point, the landscape of Cooperstown was teeming with fresh game. At our country estate, my family tends several feeders and actively records their bird sightings each day. And so, I learned a thing or two over the weekend about identifying Wisconsin's wild birds.

During my intense bird-feeder ogling, I spotted tiny black-capped chickadees, blue-jays, male and female cardinals, finches and even a few doves. Eager for more birding, I set off into the woods where I found three different species of woodpeckers. The downy, the red-headed and the peculiar and gangly pileated woodpecker, reminiscent of the famous Woody ("ah-e-ah-ha, ah-e-ah-ha, ah-hya-hya-hya-hya!"), all made an appearance in my focused view. In the blue skies overhead flew Canadian geese, enormous cranes, ducks and gliding red-tailed hawks on the prowl.

Everywhere I go in this state, I now notice more birds. With a sturdy pair of binoculars, a keen eye and a good field guide you can get to know the flying critters Wisconsin has to offer, more so than for their cheerful spring song.

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The Wookie's Corner

It's going to be a Verizon-wonderful and Tweeter-riffic summer. Welcome to summer 2003.

By Steve Seamandel
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Start saving up, mail order's approaching quickly. Within the last four days, The Dead and Phish have unveiled summer tourdates.

Phish's first summer tour since 2000 will be a typical one, beginning on the west coast and hitting only three midwest venues before dashing out to the east coast. Phish's only Midwest appearances will be at Verizon Wireless Amphitheater (formerly Sandstone Amphitheater) in Bonner Springs, Kan. on July 17, Alpine Valley in East Troy, Wis. on Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19, and their second-ever three-night run at Deer Creek Amphitheater in Indianapolis (supposedly now another "Verizon Wireless Amphitheater") on July 21, 22 and 23. This tour marks the band's first two-night run at Alpine Valley, perhaps thanks to Terrapin Station, last summer's Grateful Dead reunion festival.

Phish will end their 21-show tour with a two-night camping festival called "It" on August 2 and 3 at Loring Air Force Base in

Limestone, Maine, the home of 1998's summer-ending "Lemonwheel." Tickets for "It" go on sale via phish.com on Thursday, March 27, but it'll cost you \$137.50 to get "there." Tickets for all other summer tour shows will go on sale through the band's site beginning April 18, and to the general public through Ticketmaster beginning the weekend of May 9.

The Dead unveiled the first leg of their summer tour plans this week as well. Their only midwest appearance, other than St. Louis, will be at The Marcus

play two sets on Friday and Saturday; other bands confirmed to play include Keller Williams, Umphrey's McGee, The New Deal, Particle and Jazz Mandolin Project.

There are many shows to tide the hungry music fan over until the summer months, though. moe. plays at the Barrymore on Sunday, March 30 and Leftover Salmon makes a rare two-city stop in Wisconsin: the Barrymore on Friday, April 4 and Shank Hall in Milwaukee on Sunday, April 6. The next week at the Barrymore, The Big Wu plays on April 11 and Medeski, Martin and Wood on April 16, in addition to playing at the Rave in Milwaukee the next night. That weekend, The Disco Biscuits will play at the Barrymore on April 19, and Rusted Root will play at the Orpheum in Madison on Easter Sunday, April 20, and again in Milwaukee at the Rave on April 24.

And wouldn't you know it, Widespread Panic sold out their April 9 show at Alliant Energy Center in Madison. I'll admit, I was wrong on this one, but I guarantee you it won't be difficult to find a cheap extra in the lots.

In addition to The Dead, a few of the hallowed Summerfest mainstage acts are starting to leak. So far, Marcus Amphitheater headliners include Peter Gabriel, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers (their only summer U.S. stop), and Fleetwood Mac.

On the web:

<http://phish.com/dead.net/thedeatour/index.html>
<http://moe.org>
<http://www.barrymorelive.com>
<http://www.therave.com>
<http://www.shankhall.com>
<http://www.jambase.com>
<http://www.summerfest.com>

Amphitheater at Summerfest on Tuesday, July 1, with Willie Nelson opening the show. Tickets will go on sale through Dead Tickets on April 5 and Ticketmaster on Saturday, April 12 at 11 a.m. Also, the band announced that Joan Osborne has been invited to come aboard for backup vocals on the summer tour. Lookout for that hot Dark Star > Eyes of the World > One of Us > Dark Star.

Summer Camp 2003 has also been confirmed at Three Sisters Park in Chillicothe, Ill. on May 24-26. moe. will headline and

Concert Review

The Gourds
Witz End - March 25

The bluegrass boys who cover "Gin and Juice" throw down a ho-down at the Witz.

By Josh Goller
ARTS & REVIEW EDITOR

It's a common misconception that Phish created the infamous bluegrass cover of Snoop Dogg's "Gin and Juice." However, the actual artists behind the gangsta-rap-turned-folksy romp don't play sold-out shows at the Madison Square Garden.

The Gourds played a two-set show right here in Stevens Point Tuesday at Witz End. Six strings, fiddles, mandolins and squeeze-boxes abounded at the Witz as The Gourds threw down a old-time romp.

While often labeled as bluegrass or folk, it's difficult to pin The Gourds' brand of music

down. Sometimes sounding like country without the annoying twang or whiney lamenting, their stylings quickly changed pace from earthy waltzes and tangos to zydeco and two step ditties.

Following two sets packed full of old-timey goodness that got more than a few toes tapping, The Gourds returned to the stage to unleash their trademark "Gin and Juice" upon the audience. To the yelps and shrieks of the stomping crowd, The Gourds unexpectedly fused their famous mandolin-driven tune with a blistering version of the Rolling Stones' "Miss You," a combination of mind-melting proportions. I'm not venturing too far out on a limb by saying that no one went home unsatisfied.

The Gourds portrayed what southern music should be all about, without the superficiality and formulaic structure of contemporary country music. I'd have only enjoyed the show more if it'd been played on a dirt floor or in a hay mow.

Movie Review

Chicago

By Geoff Fyfe
ARTS & REVIEW REPORTER

It's been a long time since the age when musicals ruled the motion picture industry. Once defined by classics such as *Singing in the Rain*, the genre ended up with clunkers like *Paint Your Wagon* (see Clint Eastwood and Lee Marvin "sing!") and was left for dead by the wayside. That is, until now, thanks to *Chicago*. The popular Broadway musical is a singing, dancing tour-de-force that has become an Oscar darling, yet it's also a scathing look at fame and America's fascination with murderers and trials that turn into media circuses.

The setting is 1920's Chicago, the era of Prohibition, jazz and rampant corruption. The twin protagonists are two women, each at different ends of success, but all too similar in their lust for

fame. Velma Kelly (Catherine Zeta-Jones) is a cabaret dancer who stars in an act with her sister, but the

act's been terminated due to Velma shooting her sister and husband after catching them in bed together. Then there's Roxie Hart (Renee Zellweger), a wannabe-star and unfaithful wife who just gunned down her lover after being jilted.

Now stuck in Cook County Prison under the eye of the opportunistic prison matron (Queen Latifah), Roxie needs help, and fast, so she gets her jilted but still loyal husband Amos (John C. Reilly) to hire Billy Flynn (Richard Gere), the best lawyer in Chicago, to defend her. The trouble is, Flynn is Velma's lawyer, too. So begins a media frenzy as the two murderesses compete for newspaper headlines and learn the hard way that fame, especially illicit fame, is fleeting.

The highlights of *Chicago* are undoubtedly the 12 musical numbers scattered throughout the film, most of them illusions in

Roxie's head. They range from a prison number where Zeta-Jones and other murder-

esses in Cook County dance with the men they've killed to one where Flynn uses Roxie like a ventriloquist and the reporters like puppets. Nothing though, can top Zeta-Jones' robust "And All That Jazz" number at the beginning of the film, a song that perfectly captures the Prohibition era setting.

Luckily, the cast is up to it. Zeta-Jones devours the role of Velma as though she were born to play the stuck-up murderess.

Zellweger fairs less well, but is convincing as the deluded Roxie, who thinks the trial will make her a

star (not understanding she's a flash in the pan). Reilly makes his cuckold husband into the most likable character in the film, while Latifah shows how good an actress she is with her funny performance. The real surprise is Gere; who knew he could sing and dance so well? He also nails Flynn, portraying him as the ultimate courtroom showman and manipulator of both jurors and reporters.

In the end, *Chicago*'s a truly entertaining movie and its song and dance numbers are sights to behold, but it also makes a serious point about illicit fame. Roxie, deluded as she is, thinks she'll always be in the spotlight, and that the pack of media jackals who follow her around actually love her. But the media loves ratings and when fresh news breaks, the old news gets left in the dirt. As Flynn says, "That's Chicago."



Local Live Music Schedule

The Mission Coffeehouse

Friday, March 28

Greenscene
w/
Self Proclaimed Nickname

Witz End

Friday, March 28

Greg Koch &
The Tone Controls

Saturday, March 29

Burnt Toast & Jam

UC Encore

Saturday, March 29

Metal Salad
(multiple metal bands)

Academy Award Winners

Best Picture:
Chicago

Directing:

Roman Polanski
(*The Pianist*)

Actor in Leading Role:

Adrien Brody
(*The Pianist*)

Actress in Leading Role:

Nicole Kidman
(*The Hours*)

Actor in Supporting Role
Chris Cooper
(*Adaptation*)

Actress in Leading Role:
Catherine Zeta-Jones
(*Chicago*)

Documentary Feature:
Bowling for Columbine

Foreign Language Film:
Nowhere in Africa

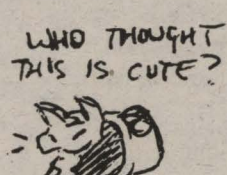
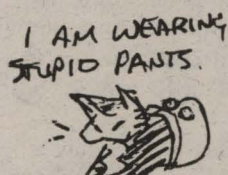
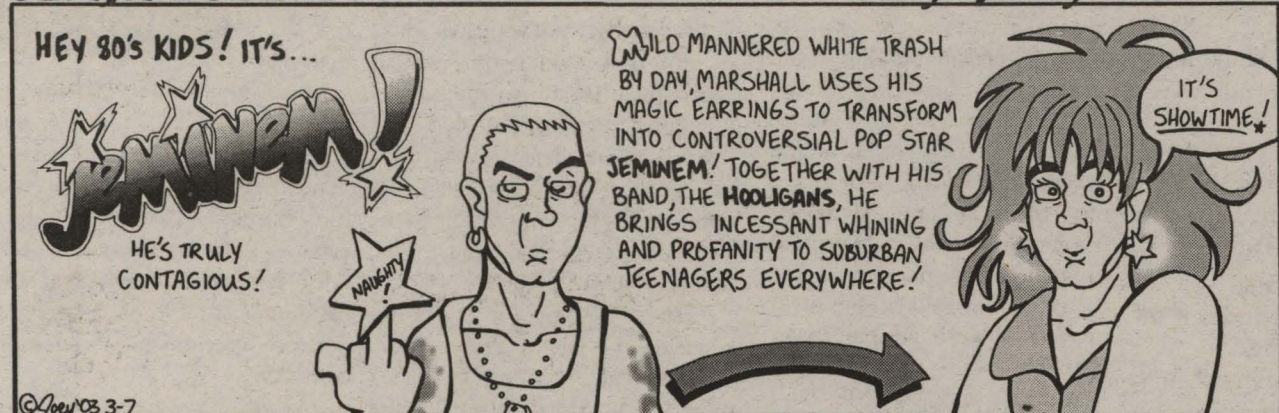
jackie's fridge



by bj hiorns



tonja steele



Your Survival Guide: Truth, Justice, or the American Way

By Pat Rothfuss

POET, PROPHET, PISSED-OFF PATRIOT

If you're looking for funny this week, you can piss right off. This is no time for funny.

An open letter to the world, from an American.

Dear Everyone,

I apologize for my country.

Perhaps it would be better to say that I apologize for my government which is right now invading a country, waging war, and killing people. No apology is enough to make this right, but all I, personally, can do is apologize.

Many of us, many Americans, are horrified with what our government is doing. But many of us are too frightened to speak honestly and loudly about how we feel. A country in a frenzy of patriotism is terrifying as an angry

mob. Many fear to speak their minds for fear of what might happen.

Please forgive those of us who are fearful and silent.

In my country there are some who support the war, but many of these have had their minds poisoned by propaganda. In America we like to think that Truth and Justice are the American way. We like to think that our media is honest and unbiased. Unfortunately, this idealism makes us easy to mislead, and many of us have been led astray by appealing lies and half-truths endlessly repeated on the evening news.

Please forgive those of us who have been fooled.

And, of course, there are those who genuinely support this war. They are loud and embarrassing, like a drunken relative. And, like a drunken relative, they irritate and frighten me. They ruin our already shabby reputation and provide our government with the illusion of enthusiastic support. Still, they are not the root of the problem.

Please forgive those of us who are shortsighted and violent.

Lastly, there are those responsible for the war. There are only a few of them, powerful, scattered through our government. They have twisted my country to their own selfish ends. They have betrayed our tenets of "Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." They act for oil. For power. For votes. For vengeance. They say they act for "Freedom" and "Democracy" and "Liberation," but they are liars. They say they are a coalition engaged in a "preventative action," but their mentality is that of schoolyard bullies who think the world is their playground. Their decisions are monstrous. Their actions disgust me. They make me ashamed to be an American.

I apologize for them. But I do not ask you forgive them.

This letter is an apology. I wish it were a call to action, but I can think of no good action to take. I ask that you not place trade

embargoes against us as punishment for our foreign policy. I ask that you not bomb us in order to remove our capability to produce weapons of mass destruction. I ask that you not invade us in order to assassinate our leader despite the fact that his regime has invaded another country.

In short, I ask you to treat my government with more civility, compassion, and temperance than it has shown the rest of the world. It is not fair of me to ask this. Still I ask.

I am not asking you to sit idle. I hope you shout, protest, march, and make your opinions loudly heard. Encourage your government to stand firm against mine. Let them know their actions are unacceptable. Let them know you are not fooled. Let them know that calling an invasion "liberation" does not make it so.

Here in America, I will do the same. I will encourage my fellow Americans to speak out. And, when the time comes, we will vote with our hearts and our heads. Our democracy still works sometimes, and I have faith in its ability to peacefully remove a tyrant from power.

As I prepare to sign this letter, I find I am afraid. A country in the throes of patriotism is terrifying, and while we still have the right to speak freely in America, speaking as freely as this is not necessarily encouraged. In sending this letter, I risk my reputation, such as it is. I risk my relationships, professional and personal. I risk my hope for a good job. I risk being thought of as un-American. Still, I am an American, and I am tired of biting my tongue for fear of being thought non-patriotic, or reckless, or treasonous.

So I am sending this letter out into the world. My message in a bottle. If it reaches you, as I hope it does, it will have passed through the hands of many like-minded Americans on its way. I am only one voice, but if you are reading this, know that there is a chorus of voices behind me.

I am sorry for what is being done in my country's name. I oppose my government's unjust war.

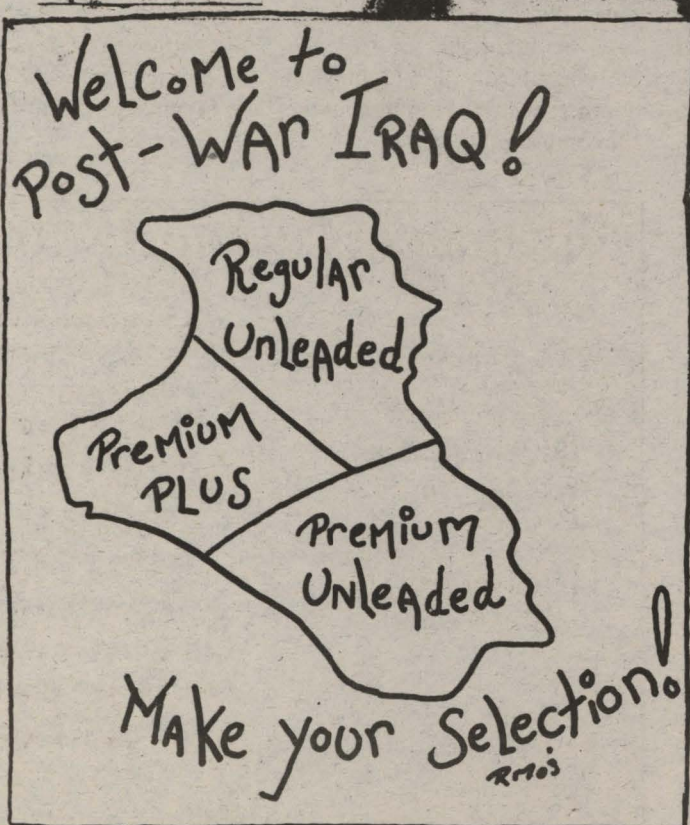
With regret,

Patrick James Rothfuss

Pass it on.

Spark it....

By Pat Rothfuss



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Now Leasing for
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2901 5th Ave
3 bedroom for 3-5 people,
on-site storage units, AC,
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On-site management and
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Available June 1st
Walking distance from
campus.
Call: 344-7875

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school year
5 BR house
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Close to campus
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2003-2004 School Year
3 BR apt or 4 BR Apt
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Free internet. One block
from campus. Fully fur-
nished for your conven-
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Come take a look!
Call Mandy & Nelson
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or Fall '03**
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Large 2+BR upper
\$425/mo. + utilities
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Students. Across
Campus.**
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9 month lease
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1,2 & 3 BR apartments
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One bedroom furnished
Apt. \$435 mo
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A nice place to live.
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cable hook-up and
garage.
Clean and warm
\$490 mo. plus utilities
Call: Tom 262-367-0897
or Rob 715-342-1192

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1200sq. feet
\$200/mth. Heat included
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contact Josh
498-4448

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Parking, water/sewer
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close to campus
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Large unit for five or six
2 blocks from campus
*Also, 3 BR apt (large
bedrooms)
2 1/2 blocks from campus
on site washer/ dryer
Ample free parking
Call: 344-3001

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2003**
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washer & dryer, parking
and garage available,
close to campus, Ellis
Street. \$450/month &
utilities.
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Parking, laundry, prompt
maintenance.
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Kurtenbach
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dbkurtenbach@
charter.net

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BR's, licensed for 4
Washer/Dryer
Contact Pat: 343-1798

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Available May 1st or June
1st. Call Alyson for
details.
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Available for Summer,
Fall & Spring semesters.
3 bedroom/2 bath, newly
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block from Green Circle
Trail.
On UWSP/city bus route.
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5 BR House, 2 Bath
Washer/Dryer Full
Basement. Also available
1 & 2
BR lower duplex
Call 341-0289

Available May 2003
1628 Clark St.
5 & 4 BR Units
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Facilities
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May 20 2004**
1741 College
3BR, licensed for 4
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plenty of parking.
709 Fredrick
1/2 mile from campus
call 342-0325

Fall '03
816 2nd St. #1
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lease.
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College Pro Painters is looking for hard working
individuals to help
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Eric
Rosicky(erosi351@uwsp.edu) to land the summer job
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**Mental Health Shift
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Part-time Entry level 2nd,
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College students w/ a
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ground are encouraged to
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Local Adult needs tutor-
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\$10/hr
Flexible hours.
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FOR SALE

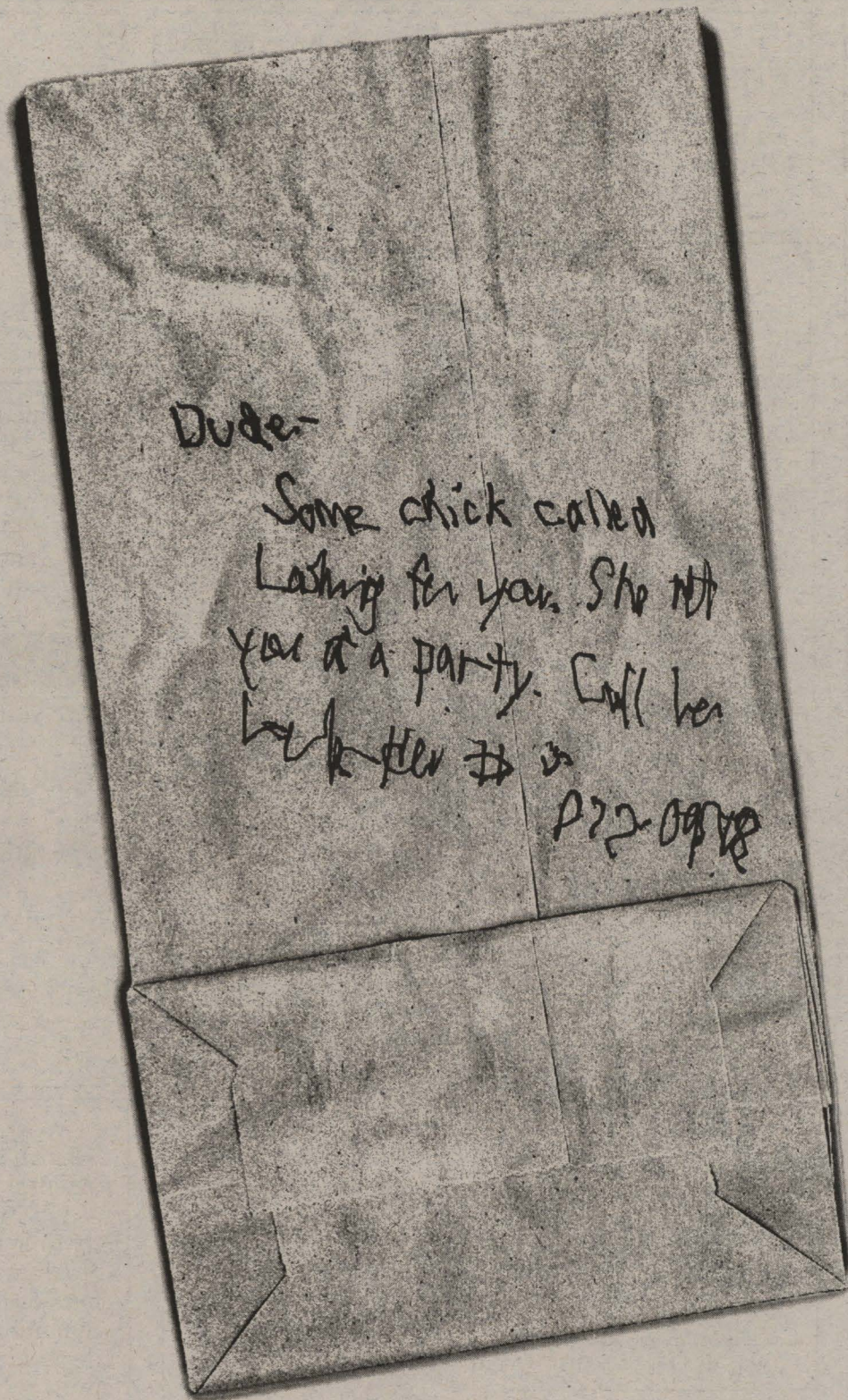
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