

THE POINTER

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Est. 1895

ACLU wary of PATRIOT Act use

Wisconsin director cites allegations of government abuse of new powers

By John T. Larson
NEWS EDITOR

The government is using a hastily-assembled bill made of off-the-shelf Justice Department parts to abuse the civil liberties of the American public. This is the state of affairs in the nation according to Wisconsin ACLU director Chris Ahmuty.

He delivered a lecture sponsored by the UWSP Student Legal Society to inform the public about the ACLU's on-going legal battle with the federal government and its efforts to use and in his view abuse the new powers granted to the Justice Department through the USA PATRIOT Act and attempts being made by the Bush Administration to expand and enhance the act in this election year.

He set the tone of his lecture by reminding the audience of the horror of 9/11 to mentally take the audience back three years ago, to help make light of the conditions under which the PATRIOT Act, which Ahmuty contends was hastily assembled with little afterthought to the effect it would have on the civil liberties of the American people.

He attempted to describe what the letters in PATRIOT stood for, but gave up stating, "They put more effort into the acronym than they did the actual legislation." He contended that much of the PATRIOT Act was a compilation of ideas that the Justice Department had already proposed but had been rejected by Congress.

"Most of the act was stuff that some Justice Department staffer pulled out of a filing cabinet and stuffed it into the legislation. Most of it were requests that Justice had already proposed to Congress but were defeated.

Now was their chance to see **ACLU lecture**, page 2



Photo by A.M. Mella

Wisconsin ACLU Director Chris Ahmuty speaking to an audience Wednesday, Oct. 6 at the UWSP Laird Room. Ahmuty spoke of the rushed nature of the passing of the USA PATRIOT Act and what he sees as on-going attempts by the Bush Administration to abuse it.

UWSP professor publishes book on militarized culture

Book details life in the Dominican Republic under a military dictatorship

By John T. Larson
NEWS EDITOR

Imagine living in a nation where the military and the civil institutions have been fused into one entity, where an entire people are indoctrinated into a martial society from birth to feed the grand designs of a dictatorship.

This was the reality of daily life in the Dominican Republic, and thanks to a new book by UWSP History Professor Valentina Peguero, others will have a chance to see a governing system and a way of life that is a dramatic departure for most Americans.

Professor Peguero is a native of the Dominican Republic and lived in the nation during a period of military dictatorship. Peguero's book, *The Militarization of Culture in the Dominican Republic, from the Captains General to General Trujillo* describes the life and times of the Caribbean nation during the 30-year reign of General Rafael Trujillo, the U.S. supported anti-communist leader that saw the near-total militarization of society.

As portrayed in Peguero's book, the military dictatorship attempted to use the militarization of the nation and its people as a means to create La Nueva Patria (The New Fatherland), where education and a rule of fear would extort the people into following a society where the military and the state were fused as a single entity for the purposes of law and order.

As Peguero put it, "It was not unlike this country, where children are taught from a young age about the democratic process.

"In the Dominican Republic, children were indoctrinated into this military way of thinking." Peguero said that for this purpose the Trujillo government poured large sums of money into the education system.

Rather than be content with a nation where the population was too impoverished and illiterate to rise up, Trujillo sought to use the school system to bring up generations of citizens that would know no other system of government.

Children attended public schools in uniforms that were very similar to military uniforms. "All of us wore the same khaki-colored military-style to school. The only difference was the girls wore a khaki skirt rather than the slacks worn by the see **Military society**, page 2



Misconceptions of feminism discussion Features, page 6



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Vets offer support to Kerry

By Ben Wydeven
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Just hours before Kerry and Bush went head to head in the first 2004 presidential debate, several Kerry campaign activists visited the Stevens Point Democratic Headquarters Thursday to proclaim their support for Kerry and debunk the political slashing against him.

"John Kerry deserved every medal he received," said Rich McCann, who fought side by side with Kerry in the Vietnam War. McCann is proud of Kerry for standing up and telling the truth about Vietnam, a stance Kerry has since been attacked for. "He had the courage to tell the truth about the war; we were not going to win the war."

Chad Vance, 31, who returned from Iraq in March after serving overseas for a year, expressed his disappointment and disapproval of Bush's actions.

Vance said he believes Kerry can restore the confidence of our allies, which the nation has lost by attacking Iraq. "The real difference is Kerry is going to bring other nations to the table whereas Bush has squandered all that goodwill."

At the beginning of the presidential debate later that evening Kerry said, "I'll never give a veto to any country over our security. But I also know how to lead those

alliances. This president has left them in shatters across the globe, and we're now 90 percent of the casualties in Iraq and 90 percent of the costs."

For most of the debate Kerry stated what mistakes Bush has made and how he would act differently in the interest of the American people, while Bush scoffed and contradicted Kerry by repeatedly accusing him of saying, "The wrong war at the wrong place at the wrong time." Bush also listed the things he has done in Iraq with facts and statistics, avoiding the chance to admit what he is doing wrong.

During his opening statement in the debate, President Bush defended his credibility in Iraq by saying, "We pursued al Qaeda wherever al Qaeda tries to hide. Seventy-five percent of known al Qaeda leaders have been brought to justice. The rest of them know we're after them."

Kerry repeated his goal again at the end of the debate stating, "I believe we're strongest when we reach out and lead the world and build strong alliances. I have a plan for Iraq. I believe we can be successful. I'm not talking about leaving. I'm talking about winning."

Vance feels Bush doesn't really appreciate sacrifice or understand what soldiers in Iraq have to go through; experiences he thinks see **Bush-Kerry debate**, page 2

Military society

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boys."

According to the book, all subjects ranging from math and science to foreign languages were taught in this curriculum, and the English language was given special attention as it would make it easier for Trujillo's military to make use of the U.S.-made military equipment and training manuals that the government had access to.

Trujillo combined this system with a rule of terror that did not allow for any descent. Soldiers were taught that their loyalty was first to Trujillo and everyone else was second. "One person I spoke to said that as part of his training they were told to put Trujillo ahead of everyone else. He was to be first in their minds; even their family had to be second. He started to cry and had to leave; he just could not handle that thought."

No opposition political parties were allowed to exist in opposition of Trujillo and his military government. "We knew that if any of us spoke out against Trujillo and the government, not only would we as a person suffer, but our entire family could have property confiscated or be killed as well. We knew to watch what we said. He had no respect for human life if anyone spoke out against him."

Peguero said that once students reached high school, they knew that they were being brainwashed by a civics curriculum that was designed in part by the general's wife, but they still knew well enough to stay silent of their opposition to the government.

When asked if they even discussed these thoughts with one another, Peguero said, "Is that a joke? We knew what would happen if we dared to say anything negative about the government."

The Trujillo government, which had enjoyed U.S. favor due to the general's staunch anti-communism. As former Secretary of State Cordell Hull put it "He may be a son-of-a-bitch, but he is our son-of-a-bitch."

The regime, established in 1930, finally collapsed in 1961 with the dictator's assassination. In his last days the dictator had grown erratic, distancing himself from the U.S.

According to the book, he made several radio denunciations of "yankee imperialism" and made attempts to align himself with the Soviet Union and Cuba.

The assassination was assisted in part by the US, which by this time had begun to distance itself from the increasingly erratic and brutal regime that was also being undermined from within by military plots and dissatisfaction by Dominican elites.

In the chaos that followed Trujillo's death, many Dominicans refused to believe that Trujillo was dead for several months, demonstrating just how effective his rule by fear and militarization campaign had been.

"For months we refused to believe that he was really dead. So many people were afraid to celebrate that he was gone out of fear that he would come out of hiding and punish those who would be glad he was gone."

For her book, which Peguero said is work that began years ago with her Ph.D. dissertation; she traveled several times to the Dominican Republic to examine how the nation is still dealing with the Trujillo legacy.

"There are still those that wish he was around. They miss the law and order aspect that he brought to the nation. They miss the sense of purpose that he gave to the nation." Another legacy that outlasted the dictator

was the difficulty the nation had in establishing a lasting democracy.

"Democracy is not something that comes together overnight, it takes a long time. People made the mistake that democracy meant you can do whatever you want, and this caused us many problems."

The Dominican Republic suffered several coups and unstable governments for nearly a decade after the end of the regime. Peguero said that the ultimate inspiration for writing the book was not just to inform readers about the state of affairs in her native land, but to give others a chance to have more appreciation for their own system of government.

"You really don't know about your own country until you have a chance to learn about how other countries work, and then have a chance to compare it to the way your country works."

ACLU lecture

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get some of it through." Ahmuty said that less-invasive legislation was proposed by Rep. James Sensenbrenner [R-WI], the judiciary committee chair on Oct. 24, 2001.

The measure was pulled and Sensenbrenner, according to Ahmuty, was "rolled by the House leadership and the White House" to pass the stronger PATRIOT Act under threats of losing his position as head of that committee. On Oct. 26, 2001 the USA PATRIOT Act was passed by Congress. As Ahmuty put it, "There are 157 sections to the bill, nobody read it of course."

The ACLU is currently involved in a number of cases challenging the legality of the act, including requesting information from the federal government as to whether or not FBI agents have been gathering reader information from libraries. "The cases we are involved in all have a gag order in place, so we cannot even discuss the details of the cases we are seeking information."

Ahmuty said the new surveillance powers of the government have had a chilling effect on the nation's Muslim community. "Many of them are afraid to attend mosque or donate to charity, a pillar of their religion, out of fear of winding up on some list like Cat Stevens."

Bush-Kerry debate

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Kerry can relate to.

"When you think of combat, you think of close hand-gun fighting, seeing your buddies get wounded and killed," said Vance, who served for the Oklahoma Army National Guard for 14 years. "I was a truck driver [in Iraq]. I didn't have to kill anybody or have to be put in a situation where I had to do that. But the guys that are, they're all young people."

Kerry expressed his concern with America's stationed troops during the debate, clearly understanding that America needed help. "You don't send troops to war without the body armor that they need. I've met kids in Ohio, parents in Wisconsin, Iowa, where they're going out on the Internet to get the state-of-the-art body gear to send to their kids," said Kerry. "Some of them got body armor for a birthday present. I think that's wrong."

Bush also expressed his concern for America's troops by relating his experience with Missy Johnson of Charlotte, N.C. who lost her husband in Iraq.

"I told her after we prayed and teared up and laughed some that I thought her husband's sacrifice was noble and worthy, because I understand the stakes of this war on terror. I understand that we must find al Qaeda wherever they hide."

But Kerry wasn't convinced. "It is vital for us not to confuse the war, ever, with the warriors. That happened before," he said. "I don't know if he sees what's really happened out there."

Students who saw Thursday's debate agreed that Kerry was the stronger speaker.

"George Bush kind of appeared nervous," said Julie Milliren, a fourth-year forestry major. "Whereas Kerry was very concrete in what he was saying." Milliren, who plans to vote Democratic in November, wants Bush out of the White House.

"I think this one went in the favor of Kerry by far," said Robert Forseth, SGA senator for the College of Letters and Science. "He seemed to put Bush on the defensive and you could just hear it in Bush's voice at the end; he had long pauses and started to stutter at times."

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The Pointer interview with Lewis Black - Part two

This interview was conducted by A.M. Mella, in The Pointer business office, using our high-tech speaker phone and a three-dollar tape recorder. This is a word-for-word account of that interview, presented in two parts. The first part was printed in the Sept. 30 issue.

A: I was watching one of your DVDs at my dad's place, and you had this bit about the most stupefying thing you've ever heard - something about a horse.

L: "If it weren't for my horse, I wouldn't have spent that year in college."

A: That's probably one of the funniest things I've ever heard. What's the most stupefying thing you've heard in the last year?

L: Well it's tough, because Bush said a lot of stuff - it

political consciousness started because the people in authority that I ran into were idiots. You do this thing as a kid, and you're supposed to listen to this person, but you just go, holy f***, they have no clue. So then you think, 'maybe I'll have to pay more attention,' - but at the end of the day, or after a couple of years, you realize, I am going to have to pay attention, but I may even have to do it.

A: Being an election year, are you covering a lot of political topics in your stand-up?

L: Well, it is hard to keep up with. A lot of what I do is social stuff, especially in the set you guys will be seeing, and about 15 to 20 percent of it is political.

A: What do you think of the two candidates?

L: The thing is, I don't think I can get through all the

I have not found the tools to pull that off. And I love what I'm doing.

A: Coming to the Midwest, is there a lot about it that pisses you off, or is it more relaxing?

L: Oh, I like the Midwest, I love Wisconsin, Iowa, Kansas. The audiences are great, and a little less bitter. They're bright, if not brighter. And they can hold their liquor better during the late show. The first album I did, the first 12 minutes were all about Wisconsin.

A: There's got to be something about the road that pisses you off though.

L: No, not the road, I like it. I have friends all over. I mean, you feel alone from time to time, but who doesn't feel that?

A: Yeah, even at home.

L: Yeah, I'm going to Boise and Eugene for the first time, and for all these people who talk about America, not many of them have actually seen it.

A: You are the 'foremost commentator on everything', so I was wondering, what would piss you off more, a koala bear or a magician?

L: Magicians. They're a weird bunch. The only ones I like are Penn and Teller.

A: How do you write comedy? Do you just look for something that makes you snap, or is it more of a release?

L: I don't really write it, I just see it and think about it and talk about it.

A: So does the performance change from night to night?

L: I don't change the basic gist of it, there are certain things I'll talk about in front of the college audience, but that's about it. I don't really f***** think about it. About 30 percent of my audiences - parents bring their kids. I'm like America's weirdest family comic.

A: Do you dress up for Halloween?

L: I will not, never ever ever. If you're over the age of 21 and you put on a costume, you need psychiatric help.

A: Come on, now.

L: It's a kids' holiday, get a grip. You're an adult, you can dress up in costume any time you want.

A: Alright alright. Do you like tacos?

L: I like tacos. Not from Taco Bell, unless I'm really trashed, then it's the only game in town.

A: How about fun, you like fun?

L: I like fun, it comes in all shapes and sizes.

A: The reason I ask is, I'm starting a club in Stevens Point; Taco Club, are you interested in joining? I think you'd be our most famous member.

L: I'd certainly join your taco club.

A: That's the best news I've heard all day. Did you see the harvest moon the other night?

L: I missed it. Nobody point-

ed it out.

A: I read you were nervous on stage for 12 years, is that weird, looking back?

L: I'm kind of amazed that it took that long.

A: Do you speak any other languages?

L: I spoke Spanish, until my brains

A: They just raised our tuition again, what do you think about the state of higher education, and what goes into it?

L: I think that the highest priority in this country needs to be education, and it hasn't been for 25 years. It's ridiculous what they're allowing to happen to education; they don't put focus or money into education. Now, the elementary schools used to be sh***, then the high schools, and now the higher education. It's got to be funded to the tits, and available to everybody, and the more you do that, the better off we are, and it certainly showed in my generation, which is the last generation to learn during a time when education was considered to be important. And you can see it in how far my generation was able to go with it. And as shi*** as we are as leaders, what we accomplished with the economy was pretty amazing, but that doesn't help now. When you have f***** highschool kids' parents having to pay for goddamn f***** football uniforms, cut me a f***** break. That's ridiculous. Then you have idiots

saying, "I don't have kids so I shouldn't have to pay property taxes to pay for education," You know what I say to you, "f*** you." If you don't think that the kid across the street is as important as your kid, then go someplace else. Nothing makes me more livid than this. I know kids who can't afford to go to college and it shouldn't be that way. If you have the smarts to continue your education, it shouldn't be made f***** difficult. That's really a bone that drives me f***** nuts.

----break to take another call----

L: One more question, I've got to run.

A: Do you like musicals, or have you ever acted in one? They kind of creep me out.

L: They creep me out too, I was in Carousel, or Carnival? No, Carousel, and that was all I needed.

A: That's a relief. Any questions about Stevens Point before you get here?

L: I'm looking forward to it. Just make sure to point us towards the right bars.

A: There's a couple good ones.

L: OK, let me know when I get there.

Click. (Smiling). I think that went pretty well.

"I think that the highest priority in this country needs to be education, and it hasn't been for 25 years. It's ridiculous what they're allowing to happen to education ..."

was just one after the other. You know, Bush said "we've got an enemy that's trying to get us, and destroy us." But basically, nobody does a better job of trying to destroy us than we do. It was one of those, 'are you kidding me?' Or John Edwards, when asked, "if you knew what you know now, would you still invade Iraq", and he said yes. Well, that's just beyond dumb. It's like, what were you thinking? You know what you know, and you would do this again? And you want to govern? Let's see, I got the information in front of me, and I can see what kind of hell-hole I'm going into, and I say, 'well, let's do that again.'

A: Lots of stand-up deals with politics. Can you give some insight into the development of your political consciousness?

L: Well I was born and raised around Washington, so that kind of shoves it right in your snout. So my local news was national news. And a lot of the people I knew worked for the government. Most of the government is just people who are getting paid to do jobs. No one is being controlled. Ahh yes, our freedoms. There are a lot of people being paid money, and if you don't want to pay people money, figure out f***** something else for them to do. Cause you know what, we're not out there building s*** anymore. And the more you want to redistribute income, well, there's not a lot of other ways to do that except government. So it's always been in my face. I've always had a certain amount of faith in it because it's just people, and I think that the problem is leadership. My

debates without killing myself. And another big problem we have now, I don't know when journalism, in the last year, it has just gone into the sh***** I mean, ever since this war, it's incomprehensible. There was an article in the USA Today, which is not America's greatest paper, but more and more, it gives you an idea of what people know. They run an article that says Bush is ahead in the gallop poll, but on the second paragraph, they say he is tied in the PEW poll. So why would you write it that way? If you have two polls with totally different information, isn't that the news story? It's incredible.

A: Have you heard about this O'Reilly thing, how he's trashing the Daily Show's audience, calling them a bunch of pot-head burnouts. When in fact, the average Daily Show viewer is more educated? What does that say about our media?

L: The O'Reilly show, it's beyond belief, it's just amazing. I just watch it with my mouth open. Just take an opinion and bash someone over the head with it - and that's called reasoning. I wonder why he doesn't just go into stand-up; it's really just comedy anyways.

He's got a lot of the qualities of your Wisconsin boy, Joe McCarthy.

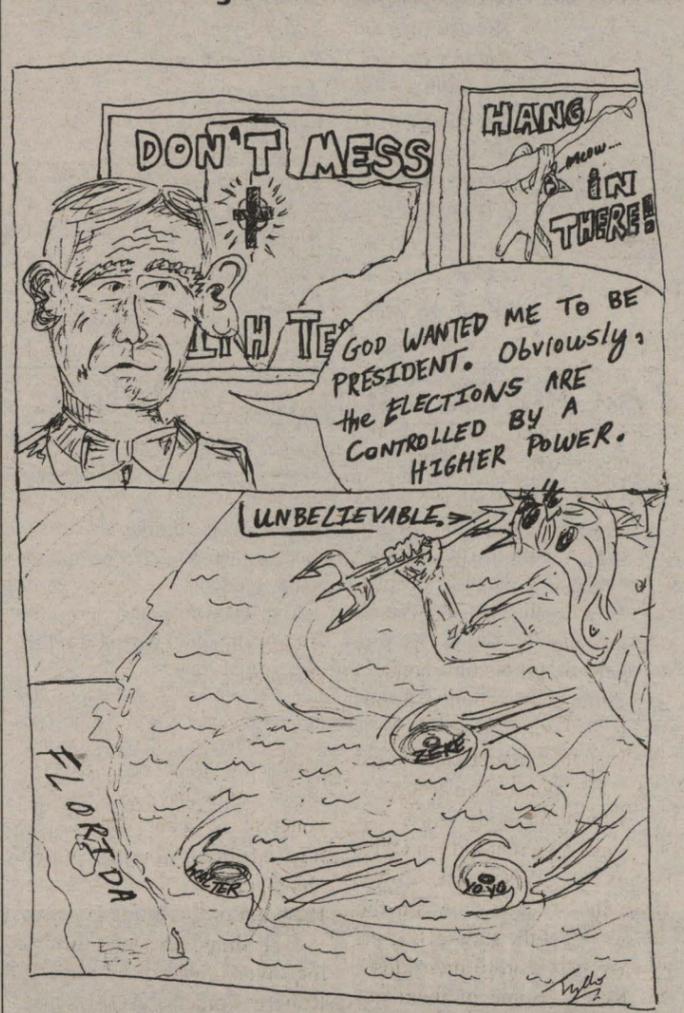
A: Moving along, where is home for you?

L: I'm in New York.

A: Do you have any family or loved ones?

L: No, family is ... I don't know how guys do it. Family is tough when you're not at home. There are people in the business that do it, but I don't know how.

Damnation By John T. Larson and A.M. Mella



Like to write your opinions in letter-form? Give the letters and opinion section a try. We're down with that.

Veteran fed up with Bush's policies

I'm a veteran, a hunter, a retired college professor, and a grandparent, and I have come to loathe George Bush and his agenda. I've been watching politics rather closely for over forty years and, in my opinion, there has never been a more dangerous administration than this one. For some time I foolishly believed that Bush was actually a decent person who was being duped by his handlers, but it is now clear to me that he is neither decent, nor a dupe.

In fact, he is a shameless huckster who operates from the very core of the neo-conservative conspiracy that is promoting plutocracy at home and in the empire abroad. These greed-based policies are undermining our democracy and poisoning our children's future.

To see how sinister this administration is, just take a look at all the insiders who have jumped ship and written books trying to warn us of the dangers:

Paul O' Neill, Richard Clarke, Joseph Wilson, Kevin Phillips, John Dean and David Brock. All of these authors worked for, or supported Republican presidents in the past, but are now speaking against this president.

Hopefully, enough moderate Republicans and Independents will hear the truth before the election.

John See, Ph.D.
Menomonie, Wis.

Mella's got the conch

The gloriousness of Taco Club

By **A.M. Mella**
EDITOR IN CHIEF

I don't have to name names, but people have been starting clubs for thousands of years. Clubs are a great way to get together and meet people - life-long friends, lovers and mentors. Most clubs hook you with dazzling benefits and shiny things, only to drop the bomb: You have to do something in return. Maybe it's that twice-a-week practice for the Galloping Club, or working the bake-sale stand for the League of Middle-Named Garyies or paying your monthly dues to the Hot-Air Balloon Union. Either way, clubs always have a catch.

Until now.

Last year around this time I got to thinking about this whole club and organization problem. Why can't people have something in common, and just leave it at that? - A warm understanding between acquaintances.

So I started Taco Club. Oh, it's a club alright, but I won't ask anything of a member except to believe in it. Taco Club has two rules: You must like tacos, and you must like fun. Tacos and fun - it is really that simple.

Delving further into rule one, there is no limit on what a taco is. I've heard that people in the jungle eat a sort of fish taco, and that's cool. And if you hold a sandwich just right, and think about The Great Taco, then that's probably a taco too. Some folks don't enjoy the old Taco Bell, but as Lewis Black says, "I'll eat it if I'm drunk enough." Personally, I eat Taco Bell for at least 60 percent of my meals, and that's not an exaggeration. You can ask anyone who knows me. Using your imagination, I'll bet half the stuff you eat could be re-classified as a taco, if you really think about it.

Just what is a taco? Well, if you wrap food inside a type of bread or dough product, I think that counts. You see, in Taco Club, the term "taco" is used loosely. Like loose bird meat falling from a soft, steamy, warm tortilla shell, loosely.

And on that second rule, yes, all you have to



do is have fun. For clarification here, I'll give some examples of what is fun to me: Bowling, building shelves, fishing, bocce ball, camping and shark rodeo. So, as long as I eat a taco once in a while and play a round of bocce, I'm in good standing as a member.

But here's the best part: Your good standing in the club is entirely up to you, because unlike most stupid clubs, we have no medals or mandatory meetings or officers. You see, if the club really takes off, and the whole world starts eating more tacos and having more fun, then success is ensured.

Success and happiness.

So how do you get into Taco Club, you ask? It's so very simple, a mongoose could join (and we do have several mongooses).

There are no forms to fill out. You don't need a secret password. Forget an ID card and handshakes and electronic mail. All you have to do is say, "I'm in Taco Club." Then, let the fun and tacos start pouring into your soul.

The ultimate goal for any Taco Club member is to reach the Nirvana-like-state of Tacosis.

Only after years and years of reckless taco and fun binging, does one become Tacosis. In this state, the world becomes clearer, and salsa flows from your veins and feet. Tacos and fun replace all the pain that life brings.

Taco Club is already sweeping the nation, or so I've heard. We have a couple hundred members in the central Wisconsin region alone, plus a Western Division, located in Greeley, Col. Lewis Black even agreed to spread the word on the east coast (check out the interview). If we keep it up at this pace, there may be fun and tacos covering the entire universe by 2024.

I'm sure you'll like it once you start living the Taco Club life, and as a result, you might want to tell your friends. And that's cool too, because the only thing more fun than eating a taco and having fun, is knowing that other people are eating tacos and having fun too. That's the Taco Club way. That is the true path to Tacosis.

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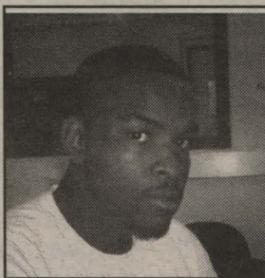
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Pointer Poll

Photos by Trendelina Spahija

What is your opinion of the first presidential debate of the election?



Michael Henry, Fr., Political Science

I think that Kerry did a better job answering questions clearly.



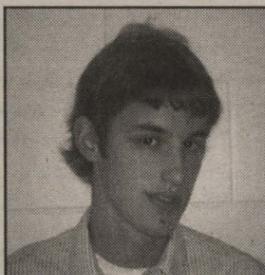
Megan Kusiak, Fr., Undecided

I think Kerry was better.



Juan Mora, So., Psychology

I thought it was a joke.



Joe Peters, Fr., Undecided

I think Kerry did a better job.



Erica Eirschele, So., Architecture

I think Bush had better speeches, and Kerry is better for our economy.



Paula Sallach, So., French

I think Bush did a better job.

Your College Survival Guide: Scars upon Thars

By Pat Rothfuss

WITH HELP FROM: GAMES PEOPLE PLAY.
THE FIX IT UP CHAPPY.

Pat,

I've got a question for you. My friend thinks I'm crazy for writing to you about something serious, but I've noticed over the years that there's some surprisingly good advice hidden in all your funny bullshit. Anyway, here goes nothing. Don't let me down.

Recently, I met a cool guy and it's getting to the point where nakedness is going to start happening. That's not the problem, I'm ready for some naked time with this guy. Very ready. The problem is, I've got scars. About a dozen across my arms and legs. Don't ask how I got them. It's a long story.

I'm not horrible to look at, I'm young, athletic, and pretty... with scars. But even if he doesn't get weird when he sees them, he's bound to ask me where they came from. And in the past when I've told people the truth, they've been less than cool about it.

I've gotten used to keeping them covered up. (Thank god we live in Wisconsin, where we pretty much have to wear pants and long sleeves eight months out of the year.) But lately I find myself wishing I could wear a skirt or a t-shirt without worrying about having to answer "The Question."

So here's your chance, big guy. What should I do?

Someone Cautious About Relationship Stuff.

Well SCARS, you've exposed my terrible secret. I do usually try to slide a little worthwhile advice in with all the funny bullshit. The technical breakdown for the column is usually: 50% Ridiculous Bullshit. 20% Megalomania. 10% Rage. 8% False Humility. 7% Pimping for my sponsor: Games People Play. 3% Good Advice. The remaining 2 percent usually consists of puns, grammatical errors, bad Latin, clown sex, and fresh cilantro.

It seems you've really got two different questions here. "How do I successfully get naked with this guy?" And "How can I deal with people being nosy assholes?" Let's deal with the last one first, shall we?

Truth is, everyone has a few things

they've done in the past that are embarrassing, highly personal, or just plain hard to explain. Usually, those closet skeletons are only revealed to family and close friends. However, when these experiences leave scars, people ask about them while trying to make small-talk, not realizing that what they're actually doing is prying into your personal business.

Believe it or not, you've come to the right guy for scar advice. I've got a few notable ones myself. Back when they were new, people asked about them, and being an honest young fella by nature, I told them the truth. Trouble was, the truth freaked them out. You see, they didn't want to hear my dark personal secrets, they were just trying (and failing) to make polite conversation.

So here's how I deal with "The Question."

Plan A: The polite brush-off.

Generally, when someone asks me, "Dude, what happened to your arm?" I know they don't mean any harm. So I don't like to respond with a rude brush-off like, "None of your damn business, asshole."

Instead, I say something like: "It's a long story. I'll tell you sometime if you're really interested."

Now anyone who isn't socially retarded can recognize this for what it is: a polite brush-off. A gentle hint that you've put one foot into conversational quicksand. Anyone with a little common sense knows to back off the subject at this point.

Unfortunately, statistics show that 50 percent of the people in America today are of below average intelligence. That means a lot of people just won't get the hint. Hence the need for....

Plan B: Lie Lie Lie.

Lying gets a bad rap these days. But really, lies are the all-important grease that keeps society's wheels turning smoothly. Think about it. When the girl behind the counter at the coffee shop asks you, "How's your day?" you don't tell the truth. You don't say, "I'm worried because I just peed blood in your bathroom." Or "I woke up this morning naked in a cornfield with a sock monkey

jabbed up my ass."

That's personal stuff. They don't want to hear it, and, generally speaking, you don't want to share it with a stranger.

So when someone asks you, "How's your day?" you say, "Fine." Maybe it's not completely true, but that doesn't matter. You're not having a heart-to-heart. You're making social noise, like birds whistling back and forth to each other.

The same holds true if you're having a conversation with someone who accidentally touches on a subject you don't want to talk about: your scars, recent divorce, pregnancy, alien abduction, or shrine to Alyson Hannigan. Sweet, sweet, Alyson Hannigan.

Now unless you're an accomplished bullshitter like myself, I recommend that you pick your lie ahead of time. You can go with the "classic" lie. Something realistic that you're hoping they'll believe. These could include: "I was in a car wreck." "I jumped through a sliding glass door." "I was run over by a thresher." That sort of thing.

Problem is, plausible lies sound like cool stories, which can lead people to ask you more questions, which means you might be forced to ad lib additional lies, which generally never goes well. Also, straight-up lying to folks can lead to lost friends, hurt feelings, and war in Iraq. Nobody wants that.

That's why I prefer the more outra-

geous, I'm-lying-right-to-your-face style of lie. When a casual acquaintance asks me about my scars, I usually tell them that I was attacked by pirates, or that I was stabbed by an orc while trying to destroy the One Ring, or that as a child I was assaulted by a hideous devil-clown that lives up under the rafters of my parents' attic.

Here's the key: make it obvious that you're lying. Blindingly obvious. That way, all but the most glaringly stupid people take the hint, laugh it off, and back the fuck out of your personal business. Trust me, it works like a charm.

Well, damn. It looks like we're out of space, and I haven't managed to get to your second question. See, this is why I usually skimp on the good advice, SCARS; it takes up way too much space.

Tune in next week and we'll deal with the fascinating subject of how to successfully get naked with someone when you're not sure how they'll react to how you look. If any of y'all out there have something clever to say on the issue, or to SCARS herself, you can drop me a line at proth@wsunix.wsu.edu.

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Democratic process gone wild

What has happened to the democratic process in Wisconsin?

I could hardly believe my ears yesterday on two counts:

#1 - Wisconsin Public Radio aired a discussion on efforts to stop Ralph Nader from registering as a presidential candidate in Wisconsin. A goodly amount of dollars, legal expertise, and time has been spent. Shouldn't candidates with a message to the citizens of this country be available for the people to vote on their message?

#2 - The concerted attacks on the political process have been growing. I participated in a conference call last night, covering 27 counties in the state, and the chair estimated that 47 percent of the large Bush signs in the state have been smashed, damaged or stolen. Locally in Portage County, we have had 82 percent of our campaign signs damaged, slurs painted on private property and homes, a volunteer's car hood scratched so badly that it had to be repainted, people slamming our campaign headquarter's door and receiving phone calls between one and five in the morning.

These tactics do not bode well for the future of our freedoms in the USA. The freedoms that so many of our veterans fought and died for.

We hope that in the remaining days leading up to the election, that decent people will be on the alert and report the persons responsible for such evil action to the proper authorities for prosecution.

Ken Shibilski
Plover, Wis.

A march of spirit brought Point together

Saturday's Homecoming parade prepped the community for a day of school pride

By Adam Rodewald

FEATURES EDITOR

As the week of Homecoming reached its climax, the jazzy sounds of music and cheers pointed the way to a march of pride.

It was late morning--10 a.m. to be exact--and the wind blew silently through the crowd, leaving a refreshing chill on their waiting bodies. Their faces remained eager and delightful while a brilliant sun shown down with a brightly defying warmth.

The sky illuminated in sharp contrast to the previous night, when ominous clouds and vicious wind threatened the campus with harsh storms. The community could not have asked for a better day. "It's Homecoming weather!" exclaimed Tami Schneider of Baldwin Hall.

And just as the rays of light shot through the cloudless sky, the annual homecoming parade progressed down the street, proclaiming the week's theme: "Point the Way!"

The procession began with the Alumni Marching Band walking in a clumped up mass of funk and jazz. The tune of "Roll out the Barrel" echoed down the street in a swinging tune to raise the spirit of the campus. Stevie and Stephanie Pointer, the school's mascots, trotted behind with a gleeful bounce in every step and a welcoming wave to all who watched.

Greek organizations took advantage of the moment with two of the largest floats. First came the moving stage, featuring a Nirvana look-a-like grunge band rocking to the sounds of "Smells Like Greek Spirit." A second float came a few minutes

later, pulled by a semi truck. It portrayed a mock classroom set-up where a huge pink banner cried out, "Today's assignment: Kick Ass!"



Perhaps the highlight of the parade was the numerous residents hall's floats. "I'm impressed with how much time and effort the halls and organizations put into it," exclaimed Renee Stieve, one of several on-looking students.

Among the most extravagant floats was that of Knutzen Hall on which Atlas, the mythological god who holds the world on his shoulders, carried a gigantic globe in the shape of a brain.

Surrounding Atlas were numerous dancing trees representing Knutzen's title "The Eco-hall."

Burroughs Hall didn't have a float, but they came equipped with a creative slogan and some fun costumes. Five residents of the hall dressed up as lions and carried an appropriate banner saying, "Burroughs Pride." As they marched along, they handed candy to all the kids who would join them in a roar for Stevens Point.

Other participating halls' included Hyer, Smith, Baldwin, Thomson, and May



"Today's Assignment: Kick Ass!"

A gender discussion

Misconceptions of feminism brought forth

By Alli Himle

ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

"Women are not equal and never should be." These are the famous words of Actor Charles Bronson in 1977. Indeed, the notion of female liberation, as it may be termed, has been a long time coming. A great many would even venture to say that we have an extensive journey yet before us if we are to deal with this issue, so termed as feminism.

These ideas, and countless others, were discussed Tuesday evening through a feminist panel discussion by UWSP professors Karin Fry (philosophy) and Michelle Brophy-Baermann (political science).

There has been a long history of sexism in our country that has been continually linked to the notion of feminism, Prof. Fry noted. One would think that people who fight for equality would be admired and, in some sort of mystical way, stand above the masses. However, that idea is anything but real. The truth of the matter is that those who fight for equality--whether racial, social,

or cultural--are regarded in negative aspects. The same is true for those that fight for gender equality.

Often times the terms sex and gender become intermixed when we think of what feminism entails. It is crucial that a distinction is made between the two, for it is the gender roles that form the cultural norms and practices associated with being male and female.

As Prof. Fry said, "Often times people get confused and think feminists have a tendency to be sexist. In fact, those that are sexist are anti-feminist." A misrepresentation exists here, for the basis of feminism stems from discovering new possibilities and/or opportunities for all people. The feminist movement is anything but making cookie-cutter images of the same being; it is rooted in opening up the door to a new concept of meaning in life.

Two central beliefs encompass **Meaning of Feminism**, page 7

Roach.

Last but not least, Little Caesar's Pizza brought up the rear, and though his name claims otherwise, Caesar was anything but little! A giant Little Caesar, standing about seven feet tall, waved to the crowd with his smiling mouth agape and his crooked eyes sparkling with glee.

Though the crowd quickly dispersed after the parade passed, they were left with a feeling of joy. Many gathered to

watch, especially around the HEC, and just as many non-students joined in the fun as students themselves. "There were a lot of little kids, more than I thought there would be," said Kendi Shadick, parade participant.

Jamie Boegh, a senior, came to the parade for the first time in her college career, and was very glad she did. "It was a good showing; a good representation of Pointer spirit!" she said.

Coping with tuition

Students find increasing cost of school a burden

By Carmen Speich

FEATURES REPORTER

As many students fall farther into debt and can no longer afford to be educated, they find themselves questioning the advantages of going to a public university.

The rising tuition creates problems for students, who face the inflation in different ways. Some have to work overtime and search for higher-paying jobs over the summer. Others find that they desperately need to work over winter break, and hold down not one, but two summer jobs.

Others still are put in an uncomfortable situation, having to choose between necessary summer school classes and a much-needed full-time job. Alyson Johnson took a year off before her freshman year to get a financial base. Now she still works to fund her way, and explains that the tuition increases "limits my plans for the summer to [take] only a high-paying job."

For the majority of students the high cost of tuition means the same thing: more loans and more debt. Even if students are in the fortunate minority and get subsidized loans or help from parents, they explain that the hikes in tuition "still affect us."

And perhaps the most unfortunate effect of this problem is the opportunities that students are missing out on, because they simply can't foot the bill. Fifteen percent of students at UWSP study abroad, but many are realizing that their dream of spending a semester in Spain, New Zealand, Germany or England simply will not happen.

Senior Alyssa Brown has come to the conclusion that she will finish her Spanish major in Stevens Point instead of Valladolid, Spain, because she simply can't pay for the extra cost of studying abroad. Others are coming to the conclusion that fulfilling their higher education might not even be possible.

"Financial aid covers slightly less than half. I pay for school on my own. It's killing me. Pretty soon I won't be able to pay for school," said Adam Eiler, a UWSP student.

Nathan Lubich, another student, summed up the thoughts of many, "Eight percent [tuition increase] is fine if I knew it would stop, but it will just keep going higher and higher. So then, what's the point of public school?"

Acoustic, folk show

Tree of Woe and Emilia Dahlin set to perform in Point

By Carmen Speich

FEATURES REPORTER

Tree of Woe will perform acoustically this Friday night in a concert with headlining Solo Artist Emilia Dahlin.

Dahlin is renowned for her huge voice and for songs that fuse together folk, jazz and funk. The 26-year-old singer/songwriter grew up playing classical piano and started a self-study on guitar while attending Stonehill College in Eaton, Mass., where she graduated in 2000.

Dahlin was nominated for best local folk singer/songwriter of 2003 by Portland's WFNX Radio, and has also created two CDs. Her debut album is entitled *Stealing Glimpses*, and her most recent self-titled album is a blend of rootsy folk rock with a funk and jazz twist. She has been featured recently in *Face* magazine, and tours nationally.

Opening band, Tree of Woe has been compared in sound to bands like Days of the New, Smashing Pumpkins and Coldplay. The band, which was conceived by band mate brothers "at birth," started in 1999 and became whole in 2003 with the addition of the percussion section, which started the band's turn toward an edgier sound.

While all the members started playing music at an early age, the emotions that seep out of these musicians seem to be the glue that binds them together. "Fueled by hardships, pressures of life and religious trauma," it is clear that these band mates sing to the soul.

To understand these artists, one must only read the last few lines of "A Heritage of Mystery," a poem by Quincy C. Carnegie. "Rain from the tree--it covers me in a flood of melancholy, a storm of sadness, thunder clashes in vehement gloom throwing itself against my chest because this is my tree. This is my tree and those are my branches. Those are my spiders and those are my knots, because this is my tree of woe."

Tree of Woe will perform acoustically with a special guest on the violin.

Catch these musicians Friday, Oct. 8 at the Encore. Admission is free with student I.D. and \$3 for the general public.

Tree of Woe will also perform with local band Planet of 9 at CJ's in Stevens Point on Oct. 15 at 10 p.m. There will be a \$5 cover charge, and attendees must be 21.

Club strives to help in the community

The Rotaract Club offers an opportunity to help humanity while building leadership skills

By Dawn VerHaagh
FEATURES REPORTER

For less than three years, the Rotaract Club has been a relatively new, but active organization on the UWSP campus.

The Rotaract Club, the base of operations for people who want to help others, is a college forum of Rotary International, which is a group of professional people striving to help humanity and build professional leadership skills. Rotaract is similar to this group; however, it succeeds in their achievements at a college level.

Making individuals aware of situations around the world and the community and building professional and leadership

skills, the Rotaract Club on campus is comprised of a strong and determined group of 12-20 students.

Roger Bullis, UWSP professor and Rotaract advisor, assists the team while they work with the Boys and Girls Club, Relay for Life, Children's International, Habitat for Humanity, the Humane Society, and perform other general services to the community.

Junior Pete Prusinski, president of the Rotaract Club, is working toward a double major in business administration and philosophy. He became involved in the orga-

nization last year, and has since moved up from previously holding the vice president position.

"I wanted an avenue to participate in community service and voluntary acts and with a group who would work with my schedule," said Prusinski.

The Rotaract Club is not demanding on a student's time, and still allows one to volunteer with goodwill-type activities around the community.

The club holds a bi-weekly meeting for general members, and on the opposite weeks, holds a meeting for the six officers.

"Items and activities of interest to the group are brought up and whoever can participate does them," said Prusinski.

Currently the Rotaract Club is looking forward to more fundraising and programs for Children's International as well as continuing their work with the Boys and Girls Club and once again gathering a team for Relay for Life.

If you have an interest in this organization, please contact Pete Prusinski via E-mail.

Meaning of Feminism from page 6

pass feminism as Prof. Brophy-Baermann pointed out. The first view is a central belief that gender is an important aspect of human life, and that it deserves attention and study. Secondly, feminists hold true to the notion of continually striving for political, social, and economic equality between the sexes.

In this age of renewed growth and prosperity, it is alarming that only 14 percent of the U.S. Senate is comprised of women, when they make up 50 percent of the population. With that statistic in mind, in addition to a great many others, the call for feminism is increasingly being heard.

Often feminism is constrained in a way that prevents people from truly understanding the goals of the movement. Various types of feminists exist in our society - from ecofeminists who connect society's treatment of the environment, animals, or resources to its treatment of women to radical feminists who view the oppression of women as the most fundamental form of oppression, which cuts across boundaries of race, culture, and economic class.

"Some people reward feminists and man-hating lesbian women who refuse to shave their armpits," said Prof. Brophy-Baermann. The truth of the matter is that feminists come in all forms. Yes, there are lesbian and even men-hating feminists, but there are also conservative, pro-life feminists. Just as people come in all forms, so do feminists. Often people have this mental image of what a feminist is without truly seeking out what it is that they are fighting for since they cannot get past the false image that they have placed in their mind.

And so, in truly grasping what feminism entails, one must move away from the view they previously held. One must realize that feminists are people too, fighting for a cause that is more than justifiable. Most importantly we must come to learn that being female is not something to either shy away from or be ashamed of. And in the end, we must "come to live in a world where these things that we call feminine are valued," concluded Prof. Brophy-Baermann.

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Pointers push Platteville, come up short

By Pamela Waukau
SPORTS REPORTER

The University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point women's volleyball team had what it took in terms of skill, but lacked the confidence needed to pull out a victory against the UW-Platteville Pioneers, Sept. 29 on home territory.

VOLLEYBALL

UW-P is currently the eighth-ranked team in the nation. The Pioneers beat former top-ranked Washington University earlier this year, which demonstrates how good of a team they are.

What started out to be a neck-and-neck match turned out to be a struggle for UW-SP. Only losing by five points in the first two matches and six in the last, the Pointers were able to challenge the Pioneers. In the end, UW-SP lost three games to none.

At the beginning of the match, the Pointers stood poised for whatever Platteville handed out. According to the statistics, UW-SP was not blown out by the

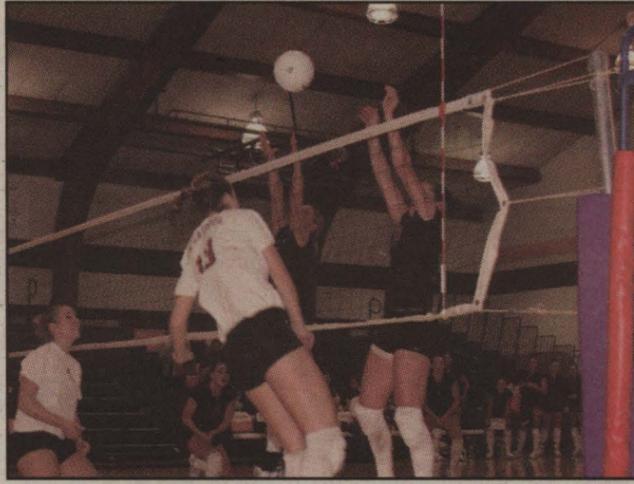


Photo by Liz Bolton
Nichole Stahovich (right, in black) goes up with a teammate to block a shot.

Pioneers. Middle hitter and team captain Nicole Stahovich went head to head with UW-P middle Andrea Coffman. added.

Stahovich had 10 kills to Coffman's 12. Both players led their teams in kills in the contest. Platteville had more kills overall with 45. UW-SP finished the match with 32.

"We could not effectively run our offense as often as we needed too," Head Coach Stacey White stated. "We started out game three very explosive."

In the third game, the Pointers exploded for a 13-point lead on UW-P. After a time out, Platteville came back and took the third match. "We let them get back in," said White.

Defensively, both teams were even. Lori Martin contributed with 12 defensive digs for the Pointers.

Going into the game, the Pointers believed they were ready and could beat a team like UW-P. UW-SP had the potential to win against the Pioneers, yet mentally they needed to believe. That belief will give the Pointers the momentum they need to take into further conference games.

"I think this will be a great lesson," White added.

Pointer Athletes of the Week

Mark Lalonde - Men's CC - The senior runner placed second overall in the Notre Dame Invitational gold race at South Bend, Ind.

Jenna Mitchler - Women's CC - The junior runner chose a great moment to win her first career collegiate cross country race. Mitchler claimed the Pre-National meet title at White Tail Golf Course in Colfax in a time of 22:14.

Cody Childs - Football - Offense - The sophomore running back piled up 128 all-purpose yards in the Pointers 35-14 loss to UW-L.

Clint Bakken - Football - Defense - The senior defensive tackle anchored the Pointers line that held UW-L to just 3.1 yards per rushing attempt.

Kick Return Team - Football - Special Teams - The Pointers finished the game with UW-La Crosse with four kickoff returns for a total of 104 yards.

Suzie Lewis - Golf - The sophomore earned another top-10 finish by scoring 170 at the UW-O Invitational.

Erin Walsh - Soccer - The junior midfielder scored the game-winning goal in the 77th minute against UW-O.

Tiffany Serpico - Tennis - Singles - Playing at No. 1 singles, the senior recorded a 1-1 record this week.

Tiffany Serpico and Emily Bouche - Tennis - Doubles - The pair split a pair of WIAC matches this week, playing at No. 1 doubles. Serpico and Bouche defeated UW-S's Jenna Bettman and Elizabeth Hanson 8-4. Since being paired together last week, Serpico and Bouche are 2-1.

Shelly Maus - Volleyball - The freshman middle hitter recorded 12 kills in a 3-0 sweep of Lawrence University. She was named to the All-Tournament team at the St. Norbert College Invitational. For the week, Maus had 38 kills on 80 attempts, and committed just seven errors. She racked up 15 blocks, including five solo efforts, 18 digs and three aces.

Pointers encounter first losing streak in six years

By Steve Roeland
SPORTS EDITOR

This past week proved to be a difficult one for the Pointer women's soccer team, as they lost two games in a row for the first time since 1998. UW-SP's first loss in the past week was also the team's first conference loss of the year, which came last Friday at the hands of the UW-Stout Blue Devils. After taking a 2-0 lead, the Pointers lost hold of the margin and allowed four straight Blue Devil scores. UW-SP was unable to overcome the deficit and fell to UW-S, 4-2.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

In unfavorable conditions last Friday, the Pointers took the lead late in the first half. Kimie Wieps's unassisted goal at the 39:47 mark gave UW-SP a 1-0 lead going into the half. Liz Kidd added an insurance goal early in the second half to put the Pointers in control with a 2-0 lead. The tables then turned and the Blue Devils took over.

UW-S's Kelly Stolarczyk put the Blue Devils on the board less than five minutes after UW-SP's second goal making the tally

2-1. The score stayed that way for about 18 minutes, until the Blue Devil offense took to flight. At the 70:50 mark, Shannon Hermes got the ball rolling for UW-S, scoring the game-tying goal, her sixth of the year. The Blue Devils proceeded to add two more scores in the next eight minutes to take the lead and seal the deal. Blue Devil Al Smith scored her first career goal at the 74:37 mark. That score proved to be the game winner. Stolarczyk added her second goal of the game at 77:56 to put the nail in the Pointer coffin.

"The most dangerous score in soccer is 2-0," said Pointer Head Coach Sheila Miech. "They (UW-S) got momentum on us. We didn't stay focused and concentrate. It's a letdown and we'll learn."

UW-S's four goals in the second half were the most allowed in one half by UW-SP since Sept. 4, 1992. This defeat was only the second conference loss that the Pointers have encountered in WIAC play. UW-SP's all-time WIAC record is 87-2-4.

The Pointers tried to bounce back on Tuesday against longtime rival Wheaton College, who were ranked fourth in the country prior to the contest with UW-SP. The Thunder took no time jumping on top, as they scored on their first two shots of the match.

The Wheaton offense didn't stop there. The Thunder went on to blank the Pointers, taking the match 5-0. UW-SP was out shot in the contest by a margin of 24-6. The Pointers had not allowed that many goals at home since Oct. 16, 1987 in a match up with UW-L. With the decisive victory, Wheaton moved up to the No. 1 ranking in the country on the NSCAA Division III Coaches' Poll.

"You have nothing to lose by playing a team that's ranked," said Coach Miech. "It helps us play at the level we are used to playing."

The Pointers will need to play at their best level because things don't get much easier in the coming week. UW-SP faces nationally-ranked Macalester College in Saint Paul, Minn. on Friday and then tangles with three WIAC opponents in a row, UW-Superior, UW-Whitewater and, finally, UW-Eau Claire next week.

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— Alan Xu, chiropractic student



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Pointers roll over and take hit from La Crosse

By Adam Wise
SPORTS EDITOR

One of the most important facets of playing good football is ball control. If teams can hold on to the ball, they keep their defense off the field and thus give themselves a better chance to win the game. The Pointers learned this rule the tough way last Saturday.

FOOTBALL

The Pointers had a very tough home game scheduled for the second time in three weeks Saturday and for the second straight time they came out to play uninspired and lackadaisical in the 35-14 defeat.

The loss, which came at the hands of the third-ranked University of Wisconsin-La Crosse team - who improved their record to 2-1 with the victory - saw the Pointers commit seven turnovers (4 INTs, 3 fumbles) on offense and many missed tackles and poor coverage on defense.

The secondary was exposed once again by a very capable and fairly accurate quar-

terback. Steve Tennies completed 19 of 31 passes for 322 yards while also throwing two touchdowns.

UW-L established themselves right off the bat on their first possession when Ben Dorsey took a pass from Tennies for 56 yards scoring on the seventh play of the game.

The Pointers got a spark from Kurt Kielblock on the ensuing kickoff when the senior returned the kick 46 yards to mid-field.

UW-SP quarterback Brett Borchart, given the short field, engineered the team down to the 13-yard line. On second down Borchart completed a pass to Kielblock inside the five yard line then fumbled the ball and UW-L recovered at the 3-yard line.

The lone turnover from UW-L came on their first possession of the second quarter on a fumble from running back Matt Pagel forced by Joe Parks and recovered by Steve Garvoille.

The momentum that suddenly shifted to the Pointers, shifted just as quickly back to UW-L on the next play when Borchart threw one of his four interceptions of the game.

UW-SP's lone touchdown of the game came on their last possession of the

second quarter.

The drive was set up by another impressive Pointer kickoff return from Kasey Morgan for 44 yards up to mid-field.

After runs of 16 and 26 yards from the legs of Dustin Robinson and Borchart, the

quarterback ran a QB draw up the middle from the two-yard line to bring UW-SP within two points.

The Pointers attempted a successful two point conversion when Borchart hooked up with Tony Romano on a short crossing route. That was the last time they would score.

UW-L scored on two of their first three possessions of the second half which made the rest of the game a clear uphill battle for the Pointers.

UW-SP had two punts, two fumbles, two interceptions, and two possessions ending on fourth down to close out the game.

The loss, which dropped the Pointers in the polls from nine to 15, is the second in a row at home and it won't get any easier as they go on the road to face 18th ranked University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire this weekend and the University of Wisconsin-Stout the following week.

The next home game is scheduled for Oct. 23 against the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

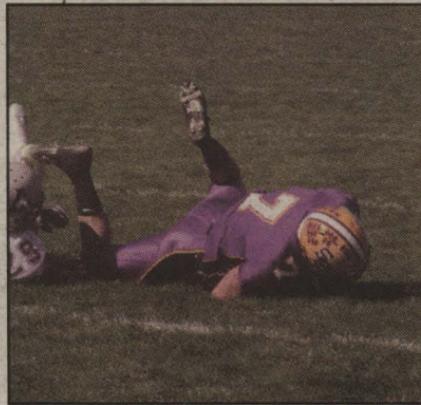


Photo by Liz Bolton

Tony Romano meets the turf in a 35-14 Pointer loss at the hands of UW-La Crosse.

SENIOR ON THE SPOT ALYSSA SOUZA - SOCCER



Souza

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Six goals and four assists this year
- Played in all 22 matches in 2003
- Made three starts in WIAC tournament in 2001

Major - Exceptional Education

Minor - Emotionally Disturbed and Learning Disabled

Hometown - Madison, WI

Do you have any Nicknames? -Lyssa, Souzie, Casper, but known best as Souza.

What are your plans after graduation? -Eventually teach special ed. in an elementary school somewhere in the country, get married and have kids once I'm financially stable. Until then, travel a lot and see all the cool things this planet has to offer. Overall, ENJOY MY LIFE!

What has helped you become such an accomplished soccer player? -All of my coaches from the time I was 5 years old until now, especially Tim Patton, my high school coach, Ian Plant, the former assistant coach here, and all of my teammates along the way.

What is your favorite Pointer sports memory? -Playing Wheaton College my freshman year in post-season. I've never had such team support and comrodery.

What's your most embarrassing moment? -Chicago airport broken back chair, Greg Brady, 'sailor in my seat' and broken windshield, candy and note from my boyfriend, Sponge Bob, Six Flags, ring toss dog, Pamela Anderson, black eye, tatertot casserole, and dish soap.

What CD is in your stereo right now? -A mix Dean Pie made for me.

What DVD is currently in your DVD player? -soccer pregame tape...thanks Sheila.

What will you remember most about UW-SP? -Soccer and everything that comes with it, friends/teammates/roommates/boyfriend and his goofy friends, Hilltop and Waterstreet Grill, late night downtown atmosphere/bars, and the freezing cold temperatures!

What are the three biggest influences in your life? -My mother, my family, and my friends.

Pointers to host WIAC tournament

By Matthew Inda
SPORTS REPORTER

The final regular season tournament wrapped up this past weekend with the Oshkosh Invitational at the Whispering Springs Golf Club.

WOMEN'S GOLF

At the brisk and windy event, the Pointers gave a good effort but came up short, finishing seventh out of eight teams. Although the team had a 14-stroke improvement on day two, the Pointers tallied their second highest opening day score with a 383 - the highest was at Knoxville with 386 - to give them a 752 for the two-day event.

With another strong performance, sophomore Susie Lewis finished ninth among all golfers with an 84-86-170, which gives her four top-10 finishes in six tournaments this year.

Sarah Mosher finished second on the team with a 95-94-189. Katie Kautz was right behind her with a 99-93-192. Courtney Timblin improved her day one score by 10 strokes on day two for a

106-96-202. Alesia Nordahl scored a 105-98-203 in her third tournament of the year. Genna Saari added a 110-104-214 in her weekend of play.

"Our players hung in there and played hard all the way through," Coach Battaglia said.

The Pointers are hosting this year's WIAC women's golf conference championship. Last year, the team finished fourth and the Pointers are optimistic heading into this weekend.

"We have a huge advantage over the other teams in our conference coming into the last week. We know the course, whereas many of the other teams have not taken the opportunity over the past years to get familiar with the Country Club," said junior Courtney Timblin. "It is very possible that everyone on the team could put all the pieces together at our last meet of the season to post some really good scores."

"This year's team has been so dedicated and hardworking. No one gave up after a bad round, they always had a positive attitude," Junior Genna Saari stated. "I really want us to show what we can really do."

The WIAC Golf Championship will be held at the Stevens Point Country Club Oct. 9-10.

THE WEEK AHEAD IN POINTER ATHLETICS...

CROSS COUNTRY - MEN AT

BELOIT INVITE - OCT. 9

FOOTBALL - AT EAU

CLAIRE 1:00 P.M. - OCT. 9

GOLF - WIAC GOLF

CHAMPIONSHIP - STEVENS

POINT CC - OCT. 9-10

SOCCER - AT MACALESTER

ON OCT. 8 - AT UW-

SUPERIOR ON OCT. 9

TENNIS - AT UW-

WHITEWATER VS. UW-

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Our View From the Cheap Seats

If it's in the game, it's in my system

By Steve Roeland
SPORTS EDITOR

After I completed another season of college football in NCAA Football 2005, I turned off the system, felt pride because I had won the Liberty Bowl with UW-SP - whom I created in the game and placed in a dynasty - and placed the game back in its case. As I stepped back from the entertainment center, I took a moment to gander at the library of games that I have compiled over the years and proceeded to shock myself.

Ten out of the 23 games that I own are those made by Electronic Arts (EA) Sports, a division of EA Games. As many sports gamers know, EA Sports is responsible for the NCAA game I was playing, the Madden NFL series, Tiger Woods PGA Tour series, as well as games for the NBA,

MLB, and NHL, FIFA soccer, NASCAR, college basketball, boxing and Formula 1 racing. Needless to say, EA Sports appeals to a very broad audience.

The effect of gaming in sports is also very pertinent in the public eye, as Sportscenter on ESPN recently did a five-part series on the impact of gaming in the sports world. In that series, many athletes admitted that they use videogames to train or prepare for their on-field performances.

I guess that's my new excuse that I will use for playing Madden all the time. With enough "training," I too can be in the NFL someday.

I feel that sports videogames do replicate the sports they portray, now more than ever. Every year, I purchase new EA

Sports games and shake my head in awe of the many "real-life" features that the games have. For example, NCAA Football 2005 allows a gamer to not only take control of a football program from recruiting to redshirting players, but actually allows you to suspend your players for breaking team rules and failing in academics. You actually feel like you are the orchestrator of a Division I football program. And it's all in the palm of your hand.

The Madden games are the king of realism in sports videogames. The "Owner Mode" lets you control NFL team's players and personnel, finances, stadium upkeep and - my favorite - prices for concessions, parking, tickets and advertising. With all this to do, it's a surprise I still

make it to class on a regular basis. Sports videogames allow gamers to try their best at running a complete professional franchise and gives us armchair quarterbacks a chance to relive the glory days of our previous athletic experiences. We can once again hit fastballs out of the park and hit game-winning three-point shots at the buzzer.

Only this time, we won't have coaches screaming in our ears or have to attend daily practices to get better. Besides, the practice time would run into contract negotiations I have scheduled for the Chicago Cubs on MVP Baseball 2004. We sure have come a long way since Tecmo Super Bowl.

Nothing is left out from any of the EA Sports games. Just as EA Sports' slogan says, "If it's in the game, it's in the game."



NHL locked-out, do you care?

By Adam Wise
SPORTS EDITOR

I know this is a tough subject to pass as interesting in Wisconsin, but I am going to try anyways.

As a life-long fan of the Detroit Red Wings - I was born in Michigan - I find myself somewhat saddened over the current state of affairs in hockey.

The Collective Bargaining Agreement, a contract signed between the players and the owners on established laws of the league, ended this summer and the inability to come even remotely close on agreeable terms of a new CBA forced the owners to lock the players out.

While there is some semblance of optimism in the league that at least half of the season can be salvaged at this point, teams are preparing for the worst.

It has been only 10 years since the last lock-out and the main sticking points once again all revolve around money.

The determination of the owners to force a salary cap on all teams and the unwillingness of the players' union to accept this proposal is, and will be, the focal point of discussions this fall.

It is my opinion that a salary cap will be good for the league. The cap saved the NFL and has helped the NBA in many ways as well.

It's gotten to a point where people don't care that much about hockey. Unless you live in or are

from a place that has a perennial winner, you are not likely to care all that much.

The NHL isn't even considered among the top four major sports out there (NFL, MLB, NBA, and NASCAR) based on miniscule 2003-04 television ratings.

The other problem negotiators will have this fall resides in the topic of revenue sharing, which I am completely against.

While I think revenue sharing is a good idea in the bottomless money well that is major league baseball, owners need to contract the NHL to avoid having teams in debt.

Why should the smart owners who spend their money wisely have to give money to profitless blunder organizations such as the Pittsburgh Penguins?

The talent is spread too thin in the NHL and contracting four or six teams would be a good idea.

I imagine that with football lasting through January and basketball starting in November, I won't miss hockey that much for awhile, but if the lock-out lasts into the spring of next year and I am deprived of watching the Wings make another run at the cup, I'm going to wish I was watching Steve Yzerman, Peter Forsberg, and Martin Brodeur making amazing plays on the ice instead of Shaq scoring 30 points a game in the amazingly weak Eastern Conference.

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This is what it's all about

By Joel Borski
OUTDOORS EDITOR

As I sat, holding on for dear life and reminding myself what an embarrassing way to leave the world this was going to be, I couldn't help but think, "There must be better ways to spend a Friday evening." What had started out as a perfectly innocent, rainy Friday afternoon, unpredictably took a turn for the worse.

I was 25 feet up a tree this past weekend, in my bow-hunting stand, when a horrific little Sauk County storm suddenly sprung upon me. Trees were literally snapping in half and limbs were falling all around me. I vividly recall the incredible crash of one oak tree as it fell, not 75 yards from where I was positioned. Winds must have reached at least 50 or 60 miles per hour by my estimate, as I later found trees felled across roads and branches and leaves scattered in every yard I drove past. I was at the mercy of Mother Nature and there was absolutely nothing I could do about it.

The storm had snuck in so quietly behind low-lying clouds and a steady drizzle that I had no time to climb down before it reached me, and I certainly wasn't going to try to climb down when I could barely hang on just sitting still. It was the most helpless feeling that I can ever recall experiencing. I maintained a firm grip on my tree until the winds subsided, as a steady rain proceeded to soak me from head to toe.

When all was said and done, and I was able to climb down from the tree that night, I stood and looked up at the now still night sky and thought about the fear that had gripped me just a short time earlier and how lucky I was to be standing there now. Other than my soaked clothing and dampened pride, I was able to exit the woods with my body in pretty much the same condition it was when I had entered.

In sudden retrospect, I reminded myself of the natural high that the outdoors provides for me and other outdoor enthusiasts like me. Sure, I had just been cycling through premonitions of death, but for some reason I couldn't even think of that now. For the first time in a long time, I remembered that I was alive.

A smile came to my face as I packed up my gear for the hike out of the woods that night. I had to hurry up and get my clothes dry. Tomorrow was going to be the best day of hunting yet.

Find "Spooky Fun" for all ages at Hoot and Howl Fest

By Joel Borski
OUTDOORS EDITOR

For anyone seeking some clean, inexpensive fun this Halloween season, the Central Wisconsin Environmental Station (CWES), a field station of the CNR, may have just what you are looking for.

The annual Hoot and Howl Fest, scheduled for Oct. 22 from 5:30-8:30 p.m., is sure to provide fun and perhaps even some education for college students and children alike as people of all ages are invited to attend.

This year's theme is "Spooky Services of Scavengers and Slithering Slimies" and will focus on the "gutsy" living of decomposers in nature.

According to Bobbi Kubish, director at CWES, there will be "guided night hikes, ghoulish arts and crafts, ghostly games, "spook"tacular food and drinks, and even a haunted general store."

All attendees are encouraged -but not required- to wear costumes, and event organizers ask that everyone bring a flashlight for him or herself. Organizers also ask that groups of 10 or more people RSVP at (715) 824-2428.

The Central Wisconsin Environmental Station is located just a short drive away from UWSP at 10186 County Road MM (on Sunset Lake) in



College of Natural Resources

Amherst Junction. Admission is \$4 for people ages three and up and free for ages three and under. All proceeds will benefit future environmental education programs at CWES.

This will be a great event to attend, especially for those with children, or even young nieces and nephews, brothers and sisters, or any special youngsters you'd like to take along. To be quite honest, it will be fun for even a group of friends here at UWSP, not to mention it provides you a chance to give this year's Halloween costume a little test run.

For questions or more information contact CWES at (715) 824-2428 or check out their website at www.uwsp.edu/cwes.



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Saturday:	Sunny and pleasant.
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High: 72	Sunday:
Low: 41	Partly Cloudy
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Wild places - Wisconsin's Fox River

Election 2004 - Environmental Issues (Part 2)

By Hilary Bulger
ASSISTANT OUTDOORS EDITOR

The Fox River, which flows through Appleton and Green Bay on its way to Lake Michigan, was literally used as a garbage dump by seven different paper companies which dumped 250,000 pounds of toxic polychlorinated biphenals (PCBs) into it. These cancer-causing toxins flowed into the river as sludge and wastewater from the 1950s to the 1990s. Much of this flowed north with the river to Green Bay and Lake Michigan, but as much as 90,000 pounds remain in the river as muddy sediment.

Fish in the river and its surrounding waters, as well as in Lake Michigan, have tested positive for PCBs. The state has issued warnings to anglers to limit or eliminate their consumption of fish from these areas. Without cleanup, the PCBs will continue to spread their effects for at least 100 years, studies have shown.

Fortunately, after decades of investigation, planning, studies and finger pointing, clean-up began on the Fox two weeks ago. "This is the real deal. We're starting to move mud," said Greg Hill, leader of the contaminated sediment section for the DNR. Preliminary work is being done now, with plans to move into full operation next spring. As soon as it is warm enough, dredging will take place around the clock, six days a week until it gets too cold next fall. Two paper companies, found to be responsible for PCBs, are funding the initial stage of cleanup, expected to cost \$60 million dollars.

The Fox is only one of several rivers in Wisconsin threatened by PCBs. Cleanup is currently being done on the Sheboygan River and at

Hayton Millpond. Unfortunately cleanup at sites such as these may not occur in the future. The current presidential administration has recommended several policies that would interfere, including cutting funding for the Clean Water Act and reducing fines and penalties for polluting companies.

I leave you with a plea to vote, and a quote from E.O. Wilson's book, *The Future of Life*. "We need nature and particularly its wilderness strongholds. It is the alien world that gave rise to our species, and the home to which we can safely return. It offers choices our spirit was designed to enjoy."

Vote

And the bands played on: VFC a success

By Anna Jurovic
ARTS AND REVIEW CO-EDITOR

Where could you be entertained all night long by amazing musicians and support a cause you truly believe in? That's right folks, this is entirely possible...and it happened Tuesday night at the Vote for Change concert in Madison. (Hey, I told you all to go!) Every performer was in tip-top shape and the crowd was more than welcoming to them all. The coolest thing about the whole deal was that you left feeling as if you had something to do with helping to change the condition of our nation.

First on stage was the not-yet-too-popular band My Morning Jacket. Considering the Kohl's center was only a fourth of the way packed for the first opener, they got a decent audience, which was well-deserved considering they played the crap out of their songs...in a good way of course. I personally have never even heard of My Morning Jacket, but by the end of their set, I was convinced that these guys really knew what they were doing. (My Dad even bought one of their CD's right there on the spot...not to discourage any of you, he's cool!) If you like not-too-hard rock music with a twist of nevo-rock, check them out.

Next on stage was the band Jurassic 5. This group is one of the best up and coming rap groups out today...and they even have something to say, as opposed to mindless nonsense about expensive cars and easy "bitches" that we often hear about. My personal favorite moment was included in the song Freedom when they shouted, "*\$!# the President!." The message that these guys often rapped

and sang about was how important freedom is and how it is being taken away from us all in certain ways. They were encouraging us all to get up, take responsibility, point the finger at ourselves, and make a difference by voting and getting involved. I would recommend these guys to anyone.

As the crowd hurried to fill the Kohl's center, Ben Harper and the Innocent Criminals got on stage and ignited an enormous applause from the audience. Ben did his thing, as usual, but he also seemed more hyped up than I have seen him in a long time. Maybe it was because he really believed in the cause he was supporting, or maybe it was because he was feeling the energy the crowd was giving him, especially when he announced how pro-marijuana he was. This part really bothered me. I understand that Ben Harper and his band have a certain extra-curricular activity that they regularly participate in, and that would be fine to talk about it at a concert of his own, but when you are part of the Vote for Change campaign being sponsored by a nation-wide organization like ACT, you have to watch what you say. His main reason in being invited to do this concert was to get the word out to the public that we need a change in our society and instead, he made a small speech about weed and how much he enjoys it, and now all of the right-wingers are going to look at that and now be able to discredit the real reason why everyone was there. I'm just waiting for the first person to say, "What a bunch of pot-smoking hippies. They don't even count

because they only have one thing on their minds." (Which is untrue, but you know how dumb politics can be-they'll try anything!) Even though I was mad at Ben for the last few songs, and pretended to not enjoy them, of course I really did because he is an amazing artist with an amazing band and some of the best music that I have ever heard.

Last, but certainly not least, was the moment we all were waiting for. Dat-dat-dat-dah! The Dave Matthews Band! I really don't know where to start. They were absolutely, positively, without-a-doubt, amazing. This was actually the first time that I had ever seen them live and I now have a new-found respect for them. Each and every one of the musicians in the Dave Matthews Band is extremely talented...especially my favorite, the violin guy-whatever his name might be. Dave even took the time to make a little speech encouraging everyone to get out and vote no matter what side you are for. Although he did mention that he believed we needed a change and added a little known name recognition to help that.

Overall, this concert was definitely worth the trip, the price, and the no-sleep that I got because of it. Not only was the night filled with amazing entertainment, but I also got to support something which I believe is one of the most important causes of our lifetime. For all of you who were there, a pat on the back, and for those of you who missed it, well...too bad for you!

Movie Review: Garden State

Starring Zach Braff,
Natalie Portman.

Written and Directed
by Zach Braff.

By: A.M. Mella
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The name 'Garden State' evokes thoughts of perfectly lush, green rolling hills and sheep and wet air. And such is the paradox of this beautiful movie about life in New Jersey, or more honestly, remembering life in New Jersey.

The state of New Jersey doesn't often remind one of a garden, although this movie rides that misconception to its end. Beautiful things often appear where you least expect them.

The movie opens with Andrew Largeman (Braff) living a life unfulfilled, waiting tables at a Vietnamese restaurant in Los Angeles, and struggling with an acting career that began and ended with one notable role as a 'retarded quarterback.'

In effect, Largeman is living his life in a numbing haze.

A call from his father brings Largeman home to New Jersey for the first time in nine years, sadly, to attend his mother's funeral. With this journey home, Largeman begins his greater struggle - to mend relationships and awaken. Largeman has been heavily medicated on anti-depressants since childhood, and while confronting the childhood he left behind, he finally is able to see life through a clear lens.

"Braff crafts a beautiful film in his directional debut"

So he stops taking the meds and confronts his psychologist father who prescribed them in the first place. This is the film at its most serious - confrontational and forgiving. What is most stunning, and in turn, beautiful, about this film, is how Braff blends this seriousness with the soft

hilarities of returning home.

Soon enough, Largeman uncovers his old WWII-era motorbike, left to him by his grandfather. Scooting around town, he meets old friends, finds a few parties and falls for the sweetly silly Samantha (Portman), who he meets at neurological clinic.

Frame by frame, the audience can see a long-lost smile emerging from this character, buried under years of regret and lithium. And while the story might at times dabble in obvious typicality, the superb chemistry between Braff and Portman make it worth hoping for.

On a more important note are the directorial qualities of Braff. This is where the film leaps from pleasant to exceeding loveliness.

Avoiding montages, he brings some great musical artists to the film - Nick Drake, The Shins, Coldplay and even some Simon and Garfunkel. His most effective tool is the color of this film, which sets the mood, drops beautiful hints and reconnects the audience with a person who had been



missing for too long.

Garden State is a stunning work worth seeing. If not for the odd, yet touching, screenplay, or the simple grace with which Braff controls each scene, then simply for the range of emotions it touches. It has been some time since I've seen a movie that has made me laugh heartily in one moment while breaking my heart in the next. It seems there are gardens where one least expects them.

Lonely Ninjas ready for crowd

By Carmen Speich
ARTS AND REVIEW CONTRIBUTOR

Can a Ninja be lonely? And if so, what's keeping this karate master from having friends? If you're not sure or just plain confused, you might venture to ask John Anderson or Ryan Gerlach, the duo that originated the "Lonely Ninjas." The band's name, as described by Gerlach is a "long story," is a name that will "hopefully catch the essence of who we are."

The musicians, who grew up together and have been friends since childhood, started combining their musical talents and writing songs together last year. Both guitarists

went to primary and secondary school together, attended the same church and were even college roommates.

Gerlach explains that although this will be the "Lonely Ninjas" first headlining concert, they have indeed performed previously at local venues such as the Brewhaus, "Point Brewed Talent" and even in "dorm rooms for fans." He adds that they have entered other various talent shows. (Might "Point Star" be among them?)

Bass player Peter Jantz will join the seasoned self-taught musicians, whose "original acoustic comedy"

is made up of "songs that will bring sunshine and fun to the audience."

Opening for the band will be local talent Ben Hacker. Gerlach explains that this is a special treat, since the "Lonely Ninjas" have opened for Hacker in the past. He adds that his hope for the show is to "bring entertainment, even though we're not officially called music yet." On that note, good luck to all involved.

The "Lonely Ninjas" perform tonight in the Encore at 8 p.m. Tickets free with student I.D.

Calendar of Events

Thursday, October 7:

Lonely Ninjas

Friday, October 8:

Emilia Dahlin featuring Tree of Woe
Harry Potter: The Prisoner of Azkaban

Saturday, October 9:

Lewis Black
Festival of India

Sunday, October 10:

Sherlock's Last Case
Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra at Sentry Theater

Monday, October 11:

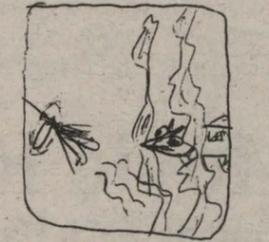
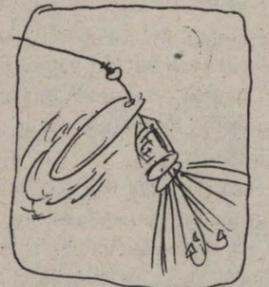
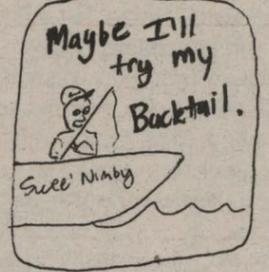
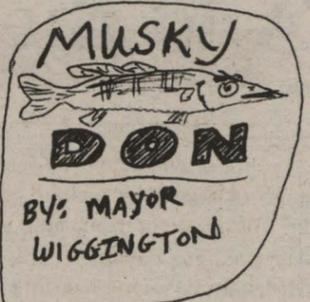
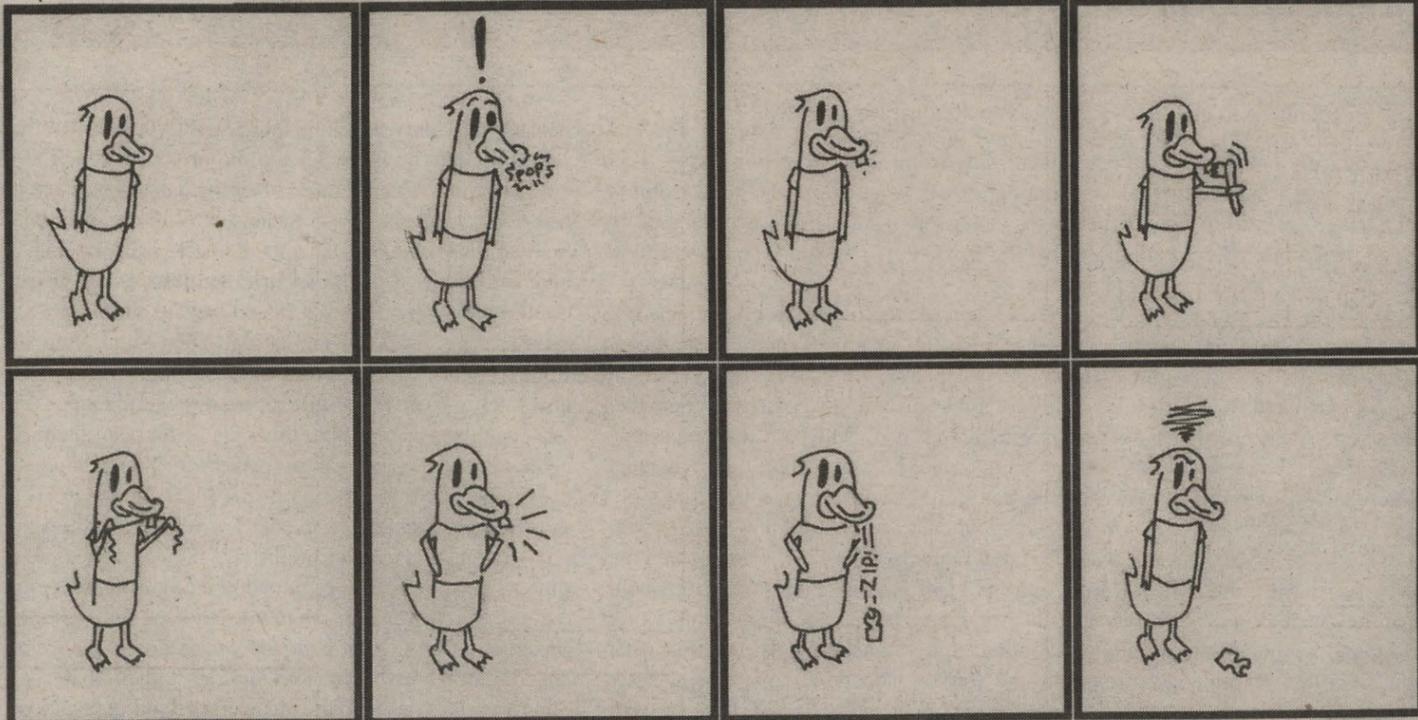
UWSP Jazz Ensemble

Wednesday, October 13:

UWSP Orchestra

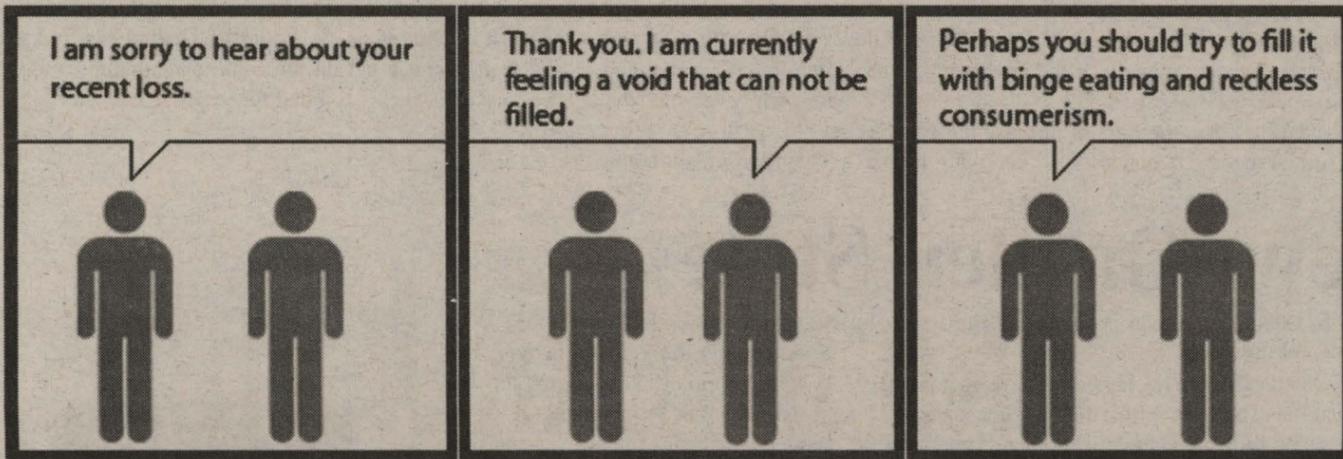
Alpha Duck

by Matt-Rice

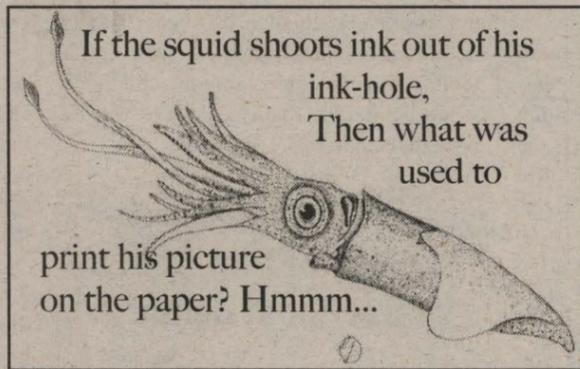
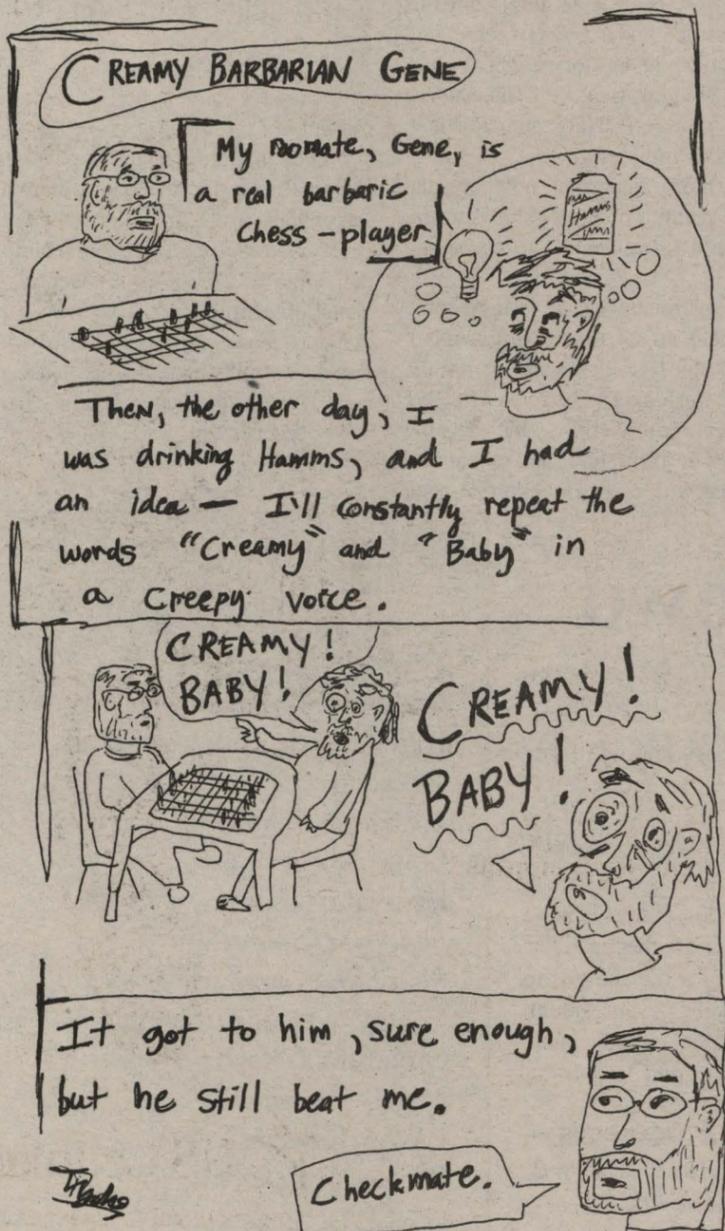


ABSURD

by Jeff Rice



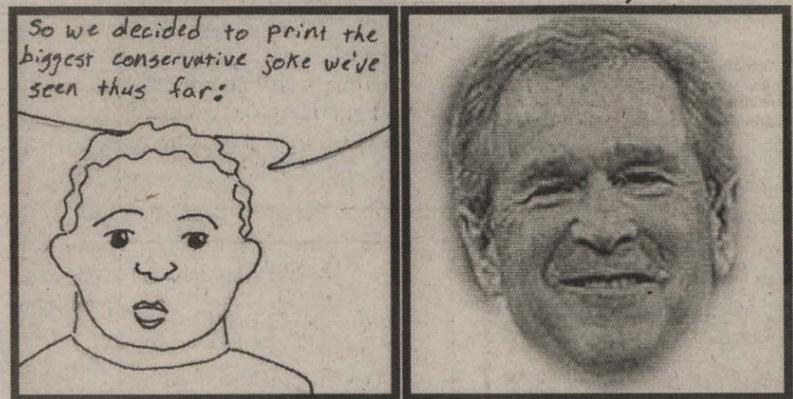
The Causeway Authority By A.M. Mella



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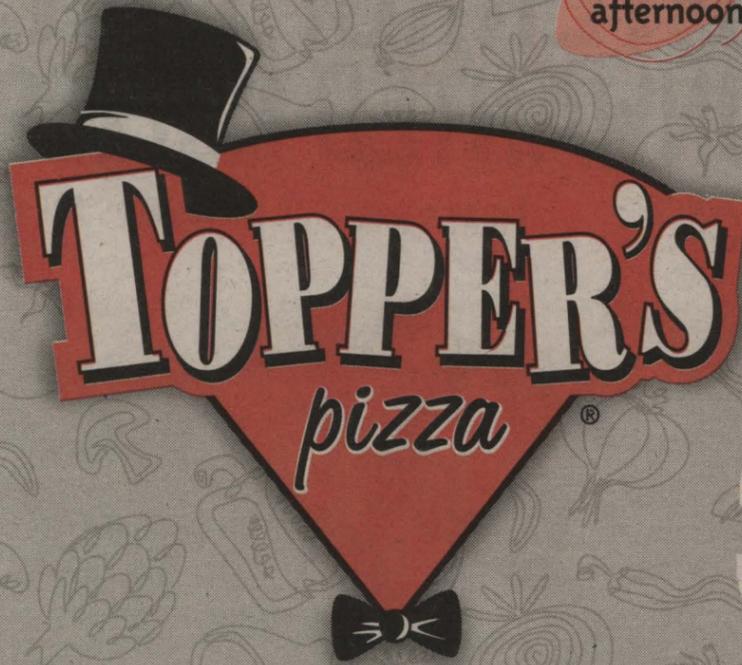
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