



THE POINTER

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University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

February 17, 2005

The Normal Pointer was established in 1895 by the Press Association. The Stork first appeared in 1902 and continued to grace the cover for the following year.

Changes made to SGA housing site

Web site where students can list complaints about landlords changed under threat of legal action

By Joe Pisciotto
NEWS REPORTER

Citing legal issues, the Student Government Association (SGA) has made changes to its "Landlord Compendium," a Web site that allows students to post comments about their landlords.

The compendium was launched this past fall as a forum for UW-SP students to anonymously comment on a number of topics related to their apartments and leases. Any interested party could then browse the site by the landlord's name or company to see the comments. Complaints started to roll in from landlords and the Central Wisconsin Apartment Association (CWAA).

According to Eric Krszjaniek, communication and public relations director of SGA, CWAA threatened the university and SGA with litigation if the site was not taken down. Many landlords were concerned with libelous entries appearing on the site.

"Landlords were afraid of the open forum," said Travis Haines, CWAA board member.

Complaints ranged from concerns that anonymous students could not be held accountable for their comments to worries that people who had never even rented from them might post false information on the site.

SGA agreed to pull the plug on the Web site to make changes. "The decision pretty much came from the top down," said Krszjaniek. In order to make the change an amicable process, Krszjaniek has been working with CWAA to find out what would be agreeable to landlords.

The new submission form addresses some of the main concerns. Instead of allowing students to freely comment on each issue related to their lease, the form asks students to assign a letter grade regarding landlord performance under eight different criteria.

Students still have an opportunity to leave an open comment, with the stipulation that their names will be published with the message. A disclaimer has been posted on the submission form that reads, "The SGA, UW-SP, and Board of Regents are not responsible for any content and all comments are assumed to be fact."

Krszjaniek did not want to give in too much. "A lot of us around here wanted to keep it anonymous to protect the students' privacy," said Krszjaniek, "but we also realized that we see Housing site, page 2



Photo by Holly Sandbo

The SGA Landlord Compendium Web site is back in operation after being down for a week. Although students will still have the ability to voice complaints about their landlords, the postings will no longer be anonymous.



See just what people have to say about The Pointer, and maybe more than that in Letters and Opinion, page 4



Ko-Thi Dance Company performs exotic African dances as part of the World of Neighbors cultural fair. The dance will begin this Friday, Feb. 18. For more information, see Pointlife, page 6.



UW-SP wrestlers defeat UW-Eau Claire in preparation for the fast approaching Division III National Wrestling Tournament. See Sports, page 9 to get more information on the qualification process.

Privitization debate

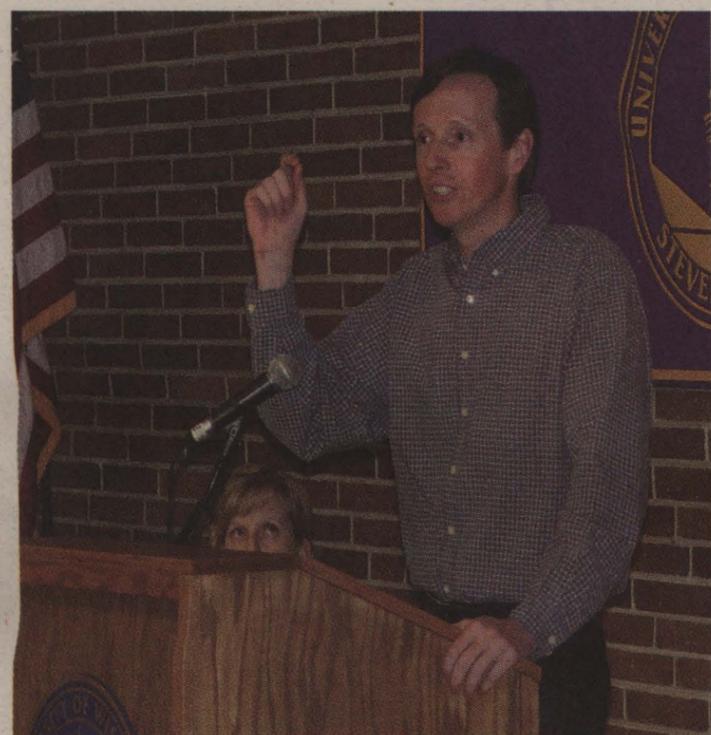


Photo by Trendelina Spahija

Mike McCabe, executive director of Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, lectures as part of a presentation discussing the potential harm that could be done to higher education by privatization efforts.

Social Security reform debate builds

By John T. Larson
NEWS EDITOR

As part of an ambitious second term in office, President George W. Bush has called for an overhaul to the Social Security program, the retirement fund that many in Washington and elsewhere consider in dire need of change as millions of aging Baby Boomers start to retire and tax the ability of the system to meet its obligations.

The president called for lawmakers to approve "voluntary personal retirement accounts," that would apply to workers under the age of 55, while those over the age requirement would be guaranteed the funds that they have already paid into the system.

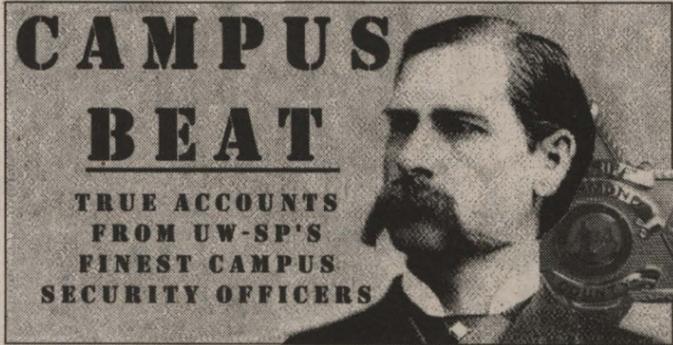
The move, according to Dr. Dennis Riley, professor of political science, is based in part on a desire to address perceived problems with the system and political ideology. "It (changes to the system) is based on the honest belief that anything done by the government is done worse than the private sector."

Under the current system, where retirees receive an annual cost of living increase in their benefits based upon the wage increase scale rather than the inflation rate, the program is expected to be in financial trouble by 2042 or as late as 2052.

"If things are left as they are right now, Social Security will be able to pay 75 percent of the money it owes to retirees by 2042," said Dr. Ed Miller, professor of political science at UW-SP.

The controversial plan has met some resistance by congressional leaders on both sides of the political spectrum. "The Democrats are as united as they're going to get. As long as the Senate democrats are united there is no way to defeat a filibuster on this, and while (Senate Majority Leader) Bill Frist might try to slip in a rule saying you can't filibuster a judicial nominee, he's not going to try that on an important piece of social legislation," Riley said. Some republican lawmakers have also addressed some concerns about the potential dangers see Social Security, page 2

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CAMPUS BEAT

TRUE ACCOUNTS FROM UW-SP'S FINEST CAMPUS SECURITY OFFICERS

The Campus Beat is taking a week off for some R&R and a redesign. The continuing adventures of the men and women of the UW-SP Protective Services force will return with a fresh new look next week. Until then, pardon our dust and do your best not to appear in this section of The Pointer.

Smoking ban considered

By Marty Grosse
NEWS REPORTER

The city of Stevens Point will hold an April referendum deciding whether or not to implement a proposed ban on smoking in all city businesses, including restaurants and bars.

Many local business proprietors, especially many of those who own the 55 taverns in Stevens Point, are quite concerned that legislation of this type will negatively affect their business. These owners feel that students and other customers who smoke would take their business elsewhere to avoid the no-smoking policy.

Certainly tobacco and alcohol are analogous to peas and carrots, so the question is wheth-

er or not customers are willing to travel extra distances to be able to enjoy both at once. If people chose to do this, there is the possibility of there being more intoxicated drivers on the road, and smokers gathering outside bars causing excessive noise, both very undesirable ramifications of the ban.

BreatheFree, the local advocacy group for the ban, feels that the ban would benefit local consumers and employees by limiting their exposure to second-hand smoke.

The ban's supporters have a strong argument aimed at protecting workers such as wait staff and bartenders who may not be smokers, but suffer ill effects from constant exposure to the carcinogenic haze. As it

stands, BreatheFree offers a list of smoke-free local businesses available to concerned consumers.

A compromise on the issue may turn out to be the final answer. A possible alternate no-smoking ordinance could only apply to establishments which earn less than 50 percent of their sales via alcohol.

This would allow bars to continue allowing smoking, while removing smokers from restaurants. Neighboring towns, such as Plover, Whiting, and Park Ridge, are expected to emulate Stevens Point's actions after the final decision is made. These municipalities feel that autonomously implementing a ban in their areas would be moot.

Housing site

from page 1

represent the university." He believes students will still benefit from the compendium since the purpose of the site has always been for tenants to give an honest account of their living conditions. SGA will continue to monitor submissions for obscen-

ity and obvious defamation of character.

Haines is satisfied with the changes and understands the need for students to have a voice to critique their landlords. While he acknowledges the possibility of landlords retaliating against tenants for comments published on the site, he believes that most landlords in the area make an attempt at running a good

business. If there is any retaliation "the landlord can be held accountable in court," he said.

The revamped site is currently up and running and any student can make a submission online. Members of SGA and CWAA will be meeting this week to discuss the possibility of further changes to the compendium.

Social Security

from page 1

of reforming the aging system, as well as the costs of transitioning some workers to private accounts while paying benefits guaranteed to those that have paid into the system.

Sen. Rick Santorum (R-PA) has gone on record stating some concerns and hesitation for Social Security changes, and has acknowledged that the reform process will take some time to work out between the two parties.

According to Santorum, "It's very early in the game here. I don't think that anyone was expecting after a few speeches by the president and a couple of trips around the country that the other side would flock to support this."

The stopping point of the debate centers partially on the estimated \$4 trillion that is not accounted for in the recently

proposed federal budget, a move opposed by fiscal conservatives out of concern the only way the federal government would be able to finance such a move would be to float more public debt, a move that could have the potential to weaken the U.S. economy in the long term.

According to Miller, the money would be required to make the transition for private accounts for those that qualify while paying benefits to those guaranteed money as payroll taxes are diverted to the private accounts. "People who are eligible for a private account, what (the government) will do is divert some of that money that is supposed to go to the Social Security fund to the private account. For those that are 55 and over, their benefits are guaranteed, and someone has to pay them."

One way to shore up Social Security in the event reform plans do not fully match the private account vision of the president

would be to raise the earnings cap on benefits. Under the current system, only the first \$90,000 that an individual earns is eligible to be taxed for the Social Security fund, which generates \$5,580 in payroll tax revenue per year. If the cap was raised to \$200,000, a high wage earner would pay \$12,400 per year into the system.

Dr. Riley said that there is room to maneuver on the issue of how to reform Social Security; it will simply require compromise by both parties. "They could haggle back and forth like used car dealers and eventually come up with a plan that is basically intact and financially stable."

Regardless of how the negotiation process shapes the final look of any major changes to Social Security, the president remains committed to the creation of an "ownership society." "I believe the so-called investor class ought to be every American, regardless of his or her background," said the president.

Tsunami concert



Photo by Holly Sandbo

Happy Drum Love performs as the opening act of the tsunami benefit concert at Clark Place on Sunday, Feb. 13. The concert was one of many efforts launched since the start of the spring semester to raise money for the devastating tsunami that has claimed the lives of over 250,000 people in southeast Asia.



How much could you collect?

A student born in 1982, retiring at age 67 in the year 2049 earning an average of \$55,000 per year since 2006, if adjusted for potential inflation, could expect to draw benefits of \$8,414.00 under the current system.



Where have all the flowers gone?

Recent study finds diversity in Wisconsin plants declining in 50 year period

Fifty years ago, noted ecologist and author of *The Vegetation of Wisconsin* John T. Curtis surveyed Wisconsin to determine baseline data for different parcels of land in Wisconsin.

Recently UW-Madison botanist Donald Waller and students Tom Rooney and David Rogers went back to all of Curtis' sites to document changes, and on Wednesday Rogers spoke to an audience in the latest installment of the CNR-Biology Colloquium

series.

Although Wisconsin was less than pristine when Curtis made his formal inquiry, the changes we see between now and then are alarming. Diversity, measured by richness and heterogeneity, is considered key for environmental stability by scientists. Richness is the amount of plant life in a given space, while heterogeneity represents the diversity of life. These are two primary characteristics which spell health for a particular forest or savanna.

Wisconsin can be divided into the northern half and the southern half. To the north we experience cool, moist air and forests of maple, hemlock and birch, while the south is home to prairie savannas and diverse forests of oak and hickory. The

southern half is generally dryer than its northern counterpart.

The southern half of Wisconsin has experienced much urbanization and introduction of invasive species, while the north has been relatively untouched in comparison.

Waller found that different things were happening in the north and south. In the north, flowers had been replaced by grasses, sedges, and ferns; in the south those same plants had been overthrown by hardier, longer-lived or cloning plants and certain flowers.

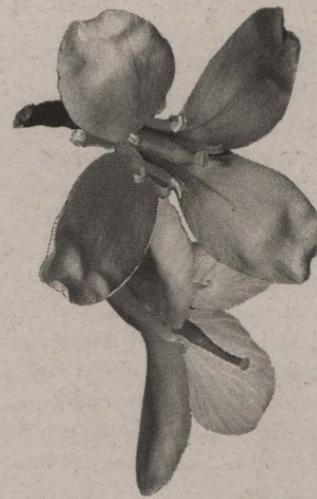
On average, each site surveyed had lost nearly 20 percent of its native plants from 50 years ago. Invasive species showed up on two-thirds of the sites resurveyed, while fifty years ago invasives appeared in only one site.

Make no mistake, this study is special. Having a complete survey of Wisconsin plant life from 50 years ago to compare the current conditions too makes this study very special. The rareness of this study, one of the first in the world, further convinces scientists of the inevitability of a sixth mass extinction.

The first five great extinctions were caused by asteroids, an eruption which formed the Atlantic, and dramatic warming and cooling of the planet. This new situation, at least in Wisconsin, has simpler roots.

Although invasive species are a serious problem in many places, this threat takes a back seat to out of control deer populations, logging, fragmentation by roads and buildings, and even recreational usage. Even protected lands are not immune.

This study is widely gaining attention in resource management circles, and hopefully measures can be taken to stop the current



trends and even reverse some of the damage.

Of course, some of the damage is probably irreversible. The forests of southern Wisconsin are well on their way to environmental ruin, while the north is still in its beginning stages of change. So enjoy the forests of Wisconsin while you can, because they might not always be around.



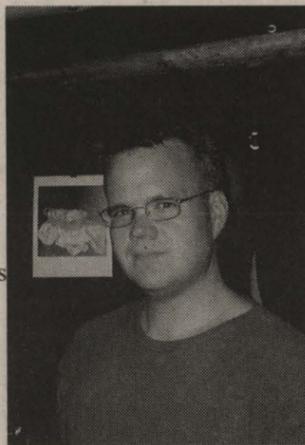
Forests such as these in northern Wisconsin are under severe threats from overgrazing by deer, and human development.

Laser light show features mind-blowing tunes, hot visuals

For two weeks only, come see the laser light shows at the Allen F. Blocher Planetarium. On February 23-26 and March 2-5, a full sky multicolor laser system provided by Audio Visual Imagineering Inc. will light up the planetarium to the sounds of U2 on Wednesday, Led Zepplin on Thursday, and Pink Floyd; The Wall on Friday and *Dark Side of the Moon* on Saturday.

The shows start at 8 and 9 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday. These shows are open to the public, and admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for students, and \$2 for UW-SP students with ID. Any proceeds support educational events at the planetarium.

The planetarium is located on the second floor of the UW-SP Science Building at the corner of Reserve Street and Fourth Avenue. Parking is free in the university lots after 7 p.m. weekdays.



Eric Olson - Professor, UW-SP College of Natural Resources.

Research Corner

So what kind of research are you doing here at the university?

The main focus of research at the Center for Land Use Education on the actual practices and regulations used to manage land resources in Wisconsin. We cover the entire state, but tend to emphasize rural areas and areas where residential developing is occurring at a fast rate. We have projects underway in several communities, including Ashland, Iron, Douglas, Washburn, and Waupaca counties.

What have you found?

Wisconsin's citizens are passionate about natural resources, be it wildlife, farm fields, or lakes and forests. Everyday people are willing to commit a significant amount of time to serve on planning committees and develop strategies for protecting resources. They face a

difficult challenge in balancing what's good for the community with the economic needs of individual land owners. Our planning systems work well when there is widespread community agreement on what's important to protect and what's the best strategy, but these vary from community to community, so there are no real hard and fast rules.

Are you looking for assistants?

Right now we have two openings for summer interns in the Center for Land Use Education to help with a citizen survey project in Douglas County. Students will live in the Wascott area, where there are plenty of fishing and recreational opportunities. Contact Eric Olson at ecolson@uwsp.edu for more information.

Consumer health report for women

Rebecca Conn
ARTS & REVIEW EDITOR

Would you use a product that could leave dangerous chemicals in your body, fill up landfills with its packaging, and even make you sick? Every day, thousands of women worldwide use mass-produced disposable tampons and sanitary napkins and do this very thing.

According to bloodsisters.org, chlorine-bleached tampons contain the by-product dioxin, which, besides polluting rivers, can build up in the body over time and potentially cause serious health problems, including headaches, toxic shock syndrome and cervical cancer. These products are bleached for no reason beyond aesthetics; as [bloodsisters](http://bloodsisters.org) states, "tampons are not sterile."

They are also overpackaged, as are sanitary napkins, and clog landfills unnecessarily. It was the emergence of this knowledge in recent years that led to the mass-marketing of safer, more environmentally friendly sanitary products.

It is now possible to find, even in small towns, products made by Natracare, GladRags and other companies on co-op or sympathetic grocery store shelves. Natracare specializes in 100 percent organic cotton, non-dioxin-bleached disposable sanitary items with minimum packaging, while GladRags features products like reusable pads, sea sponges, which are an organic alternative to tampons, and the Keeper, another alternative that collects rather than absorbs menstrual flow.

The Stevens Point Area Co-Op carries many of these products, but for those without access to such stores, these and other sanitary items can be purchased online at sites such as www.gladrags.com.

It is true that some of these products, especially the GladRags reusable pads, are fairly expensive and outside the range of many student budgets. For those unable or unwilling to pay the price but who still want to use healthier, more environmentally friendly pads, do it the way your great grandmother did: Sew your own. The materials are relatively inexpensive, and [bloodsisters](http://bloodsisters.org) even posts free pad-making instructions on its Web site.

So rev up the sewing machine, hoist the red flag, and get stitching for your health and the world's.

Check out
the Vagina
Monologues.
Feb. 22, 24, 26th,
V-Day 2005

Letters & Opinion

THE POINTER

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The Editor's Desk

Body Worlds exhibit repulsive, amazing.

German mad-scientist uses actual human bodies in "educational" display.

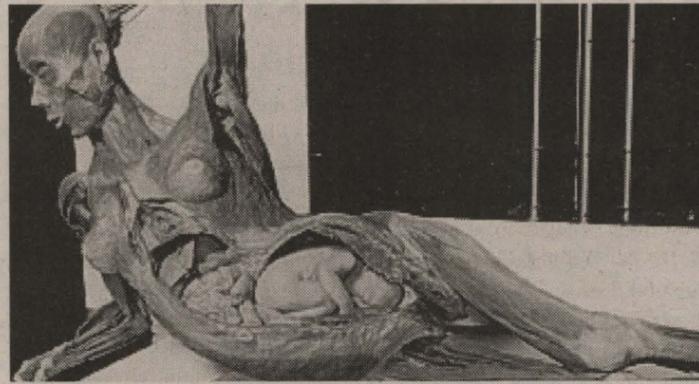
Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry recently welcomed the Body Worlds exhibit from Los Angeles via Europe. Using actual human cadavers and a special "plastination" technique, German mad-scientist Gunther Von Hagens creates detailed models, accurate to the cell level. In other words, Hagens revolutionized the mummy.

Labeled as "educational," it could just as easily pass for freak show or ethically wrong, depending on who is commenting. This ethical question is both essential and irrelevant. It's here either way.

Hagens insists that all of his models willingly apply for plastination. I sure hope so; perpetual modeling is rather perverse.

These mummies go wrap-free, or rather, nude – although I'm not sure *nude* is the most accurate descriptor. *Exposed*, perhaps. Or *skinless*.

And these mummies are active. The centerpiece of the exhibit is a young lad riding a gallant steed, hands filled with brains, human and horse alike. Some are playful, like the fel-



low contemplating his next chess move – I'd move that rook. Other mummies are sadly, dead mummies – the exhibit's most controversial model – with eight-month-old fetus fully exposed.

The majority of Hagens' pieces are full body models, however, individual organs are present. The lung blackened from smoke, or the liver destroyed by alcoholism are great examples.

Still, how should we classify this exhibition? I for one, am eager to view Hagens' work, however, *educational* value marks the exact bottom of my imaginary ranking system. I'm curious towards the ripe aorta. Just begging to glimpse a spinal chord glowing green with injected plastic ink. Raw tendons and cartilage. This is my favorable motivation towards *skinless*, *dead* humans ... educational and mummified, of course.

I actually can't imagine something more bizarre, with all due respect to the concept of bizarre-ity. It'd be worth the \$19. So I'm planning a big weekend to Chi-town sometime before September, when Hagens' freak

show shakes dust. I'll zip down the four-lane in my pick-up, pay a toll or two, ride the L, strain my neck against the ridiculous tallness of it all – it'll be hucky-duck.

Imagine looking eternity in the face. What remains? Something must be missing in these high-def mummies.

Perhaps a soul? A story of happiness, remorse? Wisdom, I'd bet. The minuteness remains and an iceberg is lost. Hagens' art – no longer self-proclaimed – is both repulsive and amazing. Probably more original than Arthur Dove, even, or Ani Difranco. Thought-provoking, indeed. The ideal apex floats within individual indulgence, the personal reaction those glamorous mummies manifest.

Still, something suggests a brilliant strangeness that should not be ignored. And I find myself pushing art I haven't even seen. I'm glad life, and crazy people, still mystify me, even when I find myself on a massive, wandering, slab of ice.

Adam Mella
EIC



pointersoapbox@yahoo.com

This is your Pointer Soapbox.

Have something to complain about? Want to voice an opinion? Give a shout out? Need information?

E-mail your message, up to 30 words in length, to pointersoapbox@yahoo.com. Each week, the Pointer editorial staff will compile these messages and print them unedited (no cursing or advertising, please) for the entire world to read. Yes, it's really that simple.

I'm going to set a record this winter for unwanted diggers. I've piled it at least a dozen times, and the melting season has just begun. Any suggestions? - 3:56 p.m. Monday.

Spent six hours contemplating which is cooler: Harmonicas or Violins. I don't think you can really compare the two though. - 6:27 a.m. Tuesday.

Drinkin' floaters is the best! Separate the liquor from the mixer, using a hankerchief as a strainer. Works well with vodka and some type of thick juice. - 4:03 a.m. Thursday.

THE POINTER EDITORIAL POLICIES

The Pointer is a student-run newspaper published weekly for the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. The Pointer staff is solely responsible for content and editorial policy.

No article is available for inspection prior to publication. No article is available for further publication without expressed written permission of The Pointer staff.

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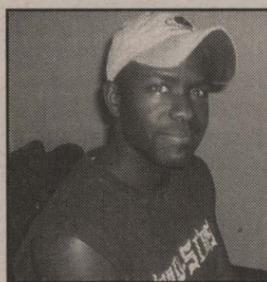
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Pointer Poll

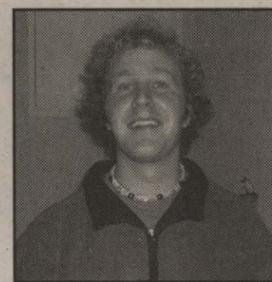
Photos by Trendelina Spahija

What's your take on the proposed smoking ban?



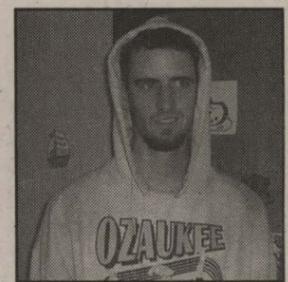
Donnie King, Jun. English

It should be. Kill the cigarettes.



Jesse Schwingle, Sen. Wild Life Ed.

I believe they should have different sections for smokers.



Noah Utecht, Jun. CIS

I think they should have a smoking ban.



Katie Adams, Fr. Elementary Ed.

I don't agree because it's infringement on people's rights.



Margaret Guttman, Soph. Education

I'm not for a ban, I respect smoker's right.



Sino Choi, Soph. CLS

I don't think it's a good idea.

Your College Survival Guide: V-DAY AFTERMATH

By: Pat "Poser" Rothfuss

SEXY WAR CRIMINAL

WITH HELP FROM: GAMES PEOPLE PLAY.

Okay, before we get to the letters this week, I have a Public Service Announcement.

Don't watch *Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow*. Avoid it like a case of genital herpes. Trust me here, I rented it last week and I feel like someone came into my home, beat me sadistically about the head and shoulders, then stole two precious hours of my life.

Don't believe me? Maybe this will change your mind: Angelina Jolie's acting was the best part of the movie. If that doesn't tell you everything you need to know about the quality of the movie, then I don't know what else I can say.

Alright. Moving on.

Dear Pat,

You suck. I read your Sadie Hawkins Valentines day column and it pissed me off. You're right, women DO expect men to cater to us on Valentine's day, and you know what? We deserve it. Compare what women and men earn working the same jobs and you'll find that women earn, on average, only 80% of what men do. We're discriminated against in the workplace, in our government's laws, and in the policies of our HMO's.

So back off Valentines day. We women get the short end of the stick every other day of the year. Why shouldn't we cash in when we get the chance?

Pissed Off Woman.

Woah there, POW, hold on. Suddenly, just because I happen to have a penis, I'm forced to pay reparations for war crimes in the battle of the sexes? Nuh-uh. I refuse.

Now don't get me wrong. Everything you say is true, (except you earn closer to 76 percent compared to a man, as opposed to 80 percent). Women are treated unfairly in our society, and anyone who says otherwise has

their head firmly, undeniably up their own ass.

But sexual equity goes both ways. You can't complain about sexism and then turn around and engage in it yourself. Discrimination is dirty pool no matter what side you're on, or how much you feel the other people deserve it.

Besides, POW, you make it sound like getting free dinner and some candy somehow makes up a year's worth of societal abuse. I'd argue that you deserve a little more than that. That's just my opinion though, I've been wrong before.

Dear Pat,

I read your pre-valentine collum and thought that you had a few good points buried in the vaguely humorous bullshit of your collum. Guys have to do it all, make the reservations, pay for dinner, presence, flowers. I was glad to see someone finally point this out without being afraid to look like a sexist asshole.

But then on Monday I saw you walking through the UC carrying a bunch of flowers. After all the noise you made, you cave in and buy flowers for your girlfriend. I felt betrayed. You may talk a good line Rothfuss, but ultimately, you're a poser.

Disappointed,

Jasonjedi@yahoo.com

Okay, first off Jason, words can hurt. I'm not talking about the words, "sexist asshole" or "poser." I'm talking about, "vaguely humorous." Ouch. You made my inner child all sad and hurt.

Of course, the pain is mitigated by the fact that you wrote me from a generic Yahoo e-mail account and didn't include even a fake name, let alone your real one. Honestly, I'd rather be "vaguely humorous" than some semi-literate fuckwit without the guts to sign his own letters.

But more importantly, Jason, they weren't flowers FOR my girlfriend, they were FROM my girlfriend. She took the

Sadie Hawkins Valentine's day thing to heart and bought me flowers and candy. What's more, tonight, she'll be taking me out to a slightly belated V-day dinner. Sushi, if you're interested.

You know what I learned from this experience? Well the first thing I learned is that my girlfriend is way cooler than I already expected. That's right: smart, pretty, and willing to take a stand on gender equity. She rocks the casbah.

But the other thing I learned is that getting flowers is really cool.

You see, I've bought a lot of flowers for girls over the years and honestly, it always seemed a little silly to me. I drop 20 bucks on flowers. She puts them in a vase. After a few days they start to wilt and drop leaves all over. After a week they're dead and you throw them away. As far as symbols of everlasting love goes, it's pretty weak.

But I'd only seen flowers from the giving end. This time, when I got flowers, I was flattered. When I walk past them in my house I'm reminded of my girlfriend's coolness, and I get to smell them, and it gives me a big warm fuzzy.

Now don't get me wrong, as far as traditions go, giving someone the severed sexual organs of a plant as a token of your love is still pretty weird in my book. But it's not ALL bad. You know?

Pat Rothfuss encourages his readers, male and female, to check out the Vagina Monologues next week on the 22nd, 24th and 26th. It's in the Laird room of the UC at 7 p.m. I caught it last year and it was awesome.

Games People Play has acquired a large number of old-school RPG books and is selling them off really, really cheap. They'll be displaying all their goodies at Pointcon, our local gaming convention, but you can get first crack at the stuff by stopping by the store before then. Remember they're right next door to Family Video, and the sign outside says, "JadeCo Hobby."

E-mail Pat your pitiful, mewling pleas for college survival advice at proth@wsunix.wsu.edu.

Get involved in WISPIRG.

It has been about a whole five minutes since I stepped out of the WISPIRG kickoff meeting and I am shaking with excitement. To see the turnout and the number of concerned students was wonderful. For the past week I have been working with WISPIRG to bring important issues to student's attention.

This semester we have two great campaigns, ecological footprint and homelessness and hunger campaign. Everyone can get involved and make a difference in some way. Tonight proved that there are many of us that care about the environmental issues around us.

The goal was to have 40 students attend the meeting. Fifty-eight students showed up. This number is amazing and makes me very proud to say that I am an active WISPIRG member.

This is my third year at Stevens Point. Over the years I have taken part in some volunteer work and have checked out other groups on campus, but have sometimes been left with a feeling of disappointment. This definitely is not the case with WISPIRG. Jobs are being accomplished and people are serious about making a difference. WISPIRG has so far been the best experience I have had on campus. I have been on a natural high for the past week and it has been because of the wonderful rewards of working with such an amazing group, WISPIRG.

Stacy Iruk
WISPIRG



Who Controls The Democratic Party?

www.DiscoverTheNetwork.org

Faces in the crowd:

Spend 10 minutes with Ben Hacker

By Alli Himle
POINTLIFE REPORTER

Reporter's Note: "Faces in the Crowd" will be a new feature of Pointlife. This section will feature a particular person on campus who has been actively involved at UW-SP. If you are interested in being featured, or would like to nominate someone for this section, please contact Alli Himle through e-mail at ahiml618@uwsp.edu.

Major: Communications with an emphasis in public relations
Hometown: Ripon, Wis.
Year in School: Senior

Unique characteristic about yourself:

I have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and I strive to put that into practice in my daily life.

Favorite food:
My mom's chicken pot pie is by far the best. It simply rocks!

What attracted you to UW-SP?
The music department was what sold me on Point, specifically Lucy Thayer.

What activities/organizations are you involved in?

I am heavily involved in Student Impact, maintaining a number of roles, as well as being the leader for the CRU band on Thursday nights. I also have done shows for Centertainment Productions and I am hoping to become involved in PRSSA.

What is your favorite memory at college thus far?

Hanging out with John Anderson and Ryan Gerlach freshman year in Smith Hall, doing film work made for some great memories.

How has being at college changed you?

College has allowed for me to develop into the person that I am today, while realizing who I want to be and what it is that I want to do with my life.

Dream job:
Ideally, I would love to spend my days touring and performing music across the globe.

If you could meet one person, living or dead, who would it be and why?

I would really enjoy meeting Toby Mac of D.C. Talk (a Christian band). He was a huge inspiration to me when I was growing up and I would like to pick his brain.

What one word would you use to describe yourself?
Honest.

If you could have one superpower, what would you choose

and why?
I would choose to fly because then I could go anywhere, anytime.

I would like to thank Ben for taking time out of his day for this interview and for giving us avid Pointer readers the opportunity to get to know him better.



Good Eats in Point:

By Rebecca Conn
ARTS & REVIEW EDITOR

Here's the scenario: It's late at night and you're hungry. Sure, you could call Topper's and have pizza delivered. Or you could be adventurous and try something else for a change. If you only have five bucks burning a hole in your pocket and you just want a quick fix, try South Point Restaurant, located at 3057 Church Street.

As you walk in, you will be transported back to the mid 60s. South Point has the ambiance of an old-school greasy spoon diner. There is a bar that you can sit at and be served while you read the paper and there is an assortment of tables (just enough room for a large group of late-night diners.)

The crowd that usually frequents South Point is an interesting one. Bar hoppers after a night on the town, middle-aged couples, visiting punk rockers, Beautiful Bert - you just never know who you will see there. Either way, it's an experience everyone needs to have at least once.

The food at South Point is surprisingly good. It is hot and cheap, but don't expect gourmet taste. Typical diner fare like hamburgers and cheeseburgers are plentiful. The fries are plain, old-fashioned and delectable. There are always several soups, if you are in the mood.

The marquee in front of South Point usually announces its dinner special: South Point is the kind of place where you can order chicken dinners or even that perennial favorite, liver and onions.

For cheap nighttime eating, it is the perfect place to go.

African dance captivates many

Ko-Thi Dance Company is set to kick off the World of Neighbors cultural fair

By Alli Himle
POINTLIFE REPORTER

Rhythm and movement will be displayed in the opening act for the Marshfield cultural fair as the Ko-Thi Dance Company takes to the stage.

The performing arts series, in collaboration with the Marshfield Cultural Fair, will present the event on Friday, Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Helen Laird Theatre as the opening act for the Marshfield Cultural Fair being held the following day. The fair is an event meant to promote the awareness of ethnic diversity and international connections, while creating an atmosphere of friendly celebration.

Founded in 1969 by Ferne

Caulker, a native of West Africa, the Ko-Thi Dance Company is dedicated to the preservation and proliferation of African, African-American, and Caribbean traditional and contemporary performing arts.

The Ko-Thi Dance Company uses an array of traditional instruments, authentic costumes, and exhilarating songs and dances to bridge the cultural gap between people of all backgrounds. Through training the artists in the history, tradition, philosophy, and techniques of this dance and music, the spread of their cultural movement has become further enhanced.

Sponsored by the Laird Endowment Fund for the Arts, in conjunction with the Marshfield

Clinic and St. Joseph's Hospital Ministry Health Care, the Ko-Thi Dance Company is an ensemble of energetic rhythms and soothing movement.

Tickets for the event are \$5 and may be purchased at the campus box office in between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tickets will also be avail-

able one hour prior to the performance. Additionally, tickets can be bought using a credit card by calling (715) 389-6534.

For more information on the performing arts series, contact Patti Jaromin-Meis, performing arts coordinator at UW-Marshfield/Wood County, at (715) 387-6555.



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PRSSA enters into an era of prosperity

By Jessica Sword
POINTLIFE CONTRIBUTOR

They are builders of status quo, to maintain an make an image. This is the role of Public Relations and they are members of the Stevens Point chapter of Public Relations Student Society of America.

The Stevens Point chapter has now reached its peak production after 20 years in operation. Communication professor and co-advisor to the group, Richard Dubiel believes, "With leadership such as this, PRSSA will prosper, these are the golden years."

In just seven months, membership has doubled, a result of co-presidents Alexis Stutsman and Sarah Ceranski's efforts to make PRSSA a rewarding experience.

"We have the talent and creativity to do great things."
- Sarah Ceranski
PRSSA President

The group has run various promotional campaigns including the U-Pass and attended regional networking field trips.

Next week the group will participate in "PR Pro Day" in Madison where they get an opportunity to meet professionals in the field. UW-Athletic Communications and the Heibing Group are just a two companies participating. UW-Athletic Communications handles media relations for 23 men's and women's athletic teams at UW, and the Heibing Group has been one of the leading strategic marketing firms for nearly 20 years. Contacts such as these will give members a clear view of their future in the field.

PRSSA provides members with hands-on experience in a variety of fields. "Public Relations is a skill set that individuals in any career path can benefit from," said Ceranski. "Students just aren't aware of how large PRSSA really is." With 238 chapters and more than 8,100 members nationally, PRSSA continues to expand.

"I think we've created a strong foundation, now it's up to future PR leaders to keep the tradition going," concludes Ceranski. "We have the talent and creativity to do great things."

Here's looking at a hill of beans...

By Adam Rodewald
POINTLIFE EDITOR

It is after 11:30 p.m. on Valentines Day. The sky is dark, the air is chilling, and the sidewalks are sodden with slush. The moon is hidden behind clouds; the stars are burnt out.

Inside, a flickering television screen reflects harshly off white dorm room walls. A voice is singing:

"You must remember this... A kiss is still a kiss... A sigh is just a sigh... The fundamental things apply... As time goes by. And when two lovers woo... They still say, 'I love you...'"

A young man named AJ Schmittfranz watches from a black futon which serves as both his couch and bed. He is still wearing a maroon Kwik Trip uniform.

Every few minutes a sneeze erupts from his lungs that threatens to shred his throat. He has fallen victim to this terrible epidemic that shuts so many people down this time of year – a cold that threatens to leave you bed ridden.

A man on the television speaks, "Don't you sometimes wonder if it's worth all this? I mean what you're fighting for."

"You might as well question why we breathe," someone replies. "If we stop breathing,



we'll die. If we stop fighting our enemies, the world will die."

AJ is alone in his room watching *Casablanca* while so many young men dote upon their beloved. Even his roommate had left, but it all went unnoticed.

Five empty beer cans lie on the floor, and he reaches into the off-white refrigerator for another. The rank odor of pickles and beer seeps into the air. He takes a handful of candy valentine hearts; he eats them slowly, one-by-one, listening to the crunch as it echoes in his head.

He watches Ingrid Bergman

closely, enchanted by her pleading eyes. She always appears to be on the verge of tears.

In the movie, Ilsa was saying, "A penny for your thoughts."

Rick replied, "In America they'd bring only a penny, and, huh, I guess that's about all they're worth."

AJ was somewhat bitter about the night, yet whenever he'd share his thoughts he was consoled with a sorrowful "aaawww." He hates that. To him it sounds like false pity, and he just wants people to be themselves.

He's always wanted some-

one to be his own, but every Feb. 14 brings him the same disappointment. His teddy bear smile and charming eyes grew embarrassed at this thought.

"Ilsa, I'm no good at being noble," said Rick at the end of the movie, "...but it doesn't take much to see that the problems of three little people don't amount to a hill of beans in this crazy world. Someday you'll understand that..."

At 2:30 a.m., AJ put on his pajamas, turned off the light, and went to sleep.

Star Search winner mocks bad cars

Up and coming comedian delivered a hilarious yet profanity-free comedy routine

By Jake Eggener
POINTLIFE CONTRIBUTOR

Dollar store airplanes, Dodge Neons, and raggedy cars all came under attack by Horace "HB" Sanders last Saturday in the Encore. Sanders, winner of CBS's Star Search in 2003, performed to a mostly enthusiastic crowd of around 90.

Sanders was late because of a flight delay, so those in attendance were treated to an

Horace's question: "Can two midgets grow up together?"

impromptu performance by event organizer Andy Liesener. Liesener played guitar and sang several songs, including Nirvana's "About a Girl" and Green Day's "She." The crowd stayed put throughout the 30-minute delay and applauded when Liesener finished a song.

Sanders' material, which

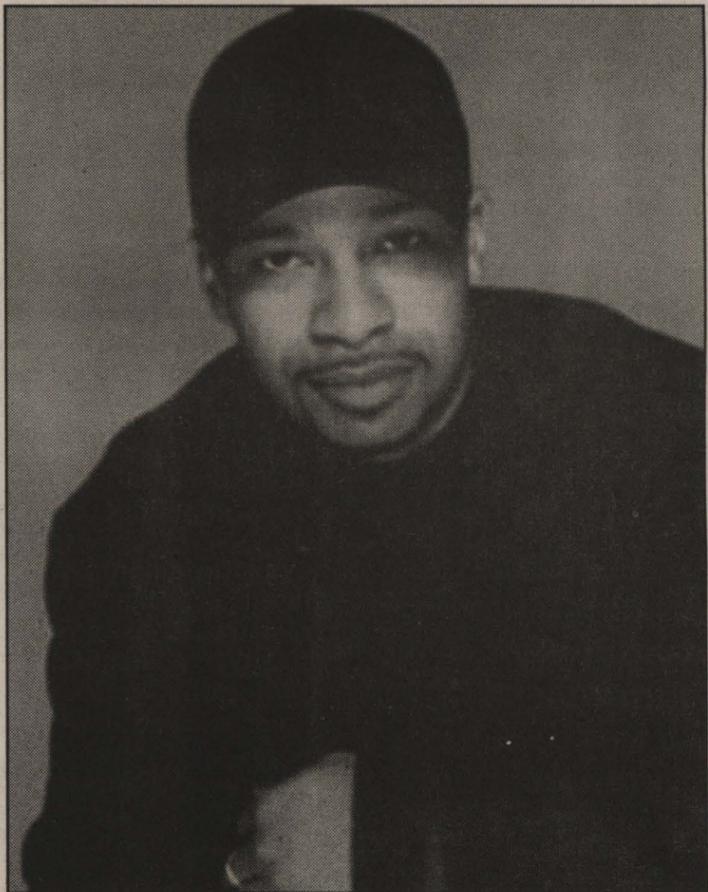
was profanity-free, depended on audience participation, and for the most part his material worked very well. His routine about "raggedy cars" got the audience involved, and most seemed to connect to the jokes.

Audience member Dave Lein said he could "relate to the jokes about cars, because my car is definitely raggedy."

Although Sanders refrained from using profanity, he still managed to be edgy and original with his comedy. He was able to adapt to the environment and seemed able to poke fun at everything. When one audience member started talking on his cell phone, Sanders paused the joke he was telling to tell jokes about cell phones.

The set lagged a little when Sanders began to spout off jokes reminiscent of Jack Handey, such as, "Can two midgets grow up together?" But it picked up again towards the end, notably with Sanders' comparisons of men to dogs and women to cats.

Sanders' hour-and-a-half performance was proof that standup doesn't need to be full of profanity to be funny.



Born in Detroit, Mich., Horace "HB" Sanders has found the key to being funny without indulging in profanity: Being himself!

Sports

UW-SP to host Lake Forest in NCHA

Quarterfinals

By Kelly Vant
SPORTS REPORTER

The UW-SP men's hockey team finished their regular season schedule on the road with a Friday night 5-2 loss to UW-River Falls and a Saturday night 8-2 trouncing of UW-Stout.

Men's Hockey

The Pointers finished their 04-05 season 12-10-3 overall, and 7-6-1 in the NCHA.

UW-SP's Anthony Forgione got the first goal of the night at 2:16 of the first period, and UW-RF came back to score two goals before the end of the first period.

Ryan Kirchoff notched Point's final goal of the night at 4:56 of the second period on a pass from Adam Kostichka during a power play.

Starting between the pipes was goaltender Eric Shimon for just the second time in his collegiate career in the loss.

Bryn Davies was the goaltender Saturday night against the Blue Devils.

Tom Vernelli started the evening off at 4:08 of the first period with a power play goal assisted by Jordan Blair and Dan Francis.

Stout tied the game at 1-1 before Dan Francis scored on a pass from Forgione.

Stout once again evened the game at 2-2 before the end of the first period.

Mike Brolsma notched the game-winning goal in the second period on a pass from Brett Coburn while Vernelli added his second goal of the night later in the period.

UW-SP opened the third period with a score from Nate Sorenson on a pass from Coburn making it 5-2 just 22 seconds into the third period.

Chris Gehrke scored on a power play at 3:35, assisted by Nick Zebro and Coburn.

Brolsma scored another goal at 10:39 and Vernelli tallied his third goal of the night on a pass from Kirchoff at 17:31, earning Vernelli his first collegiate hat trick.

Saturday night's win locked up the fourth place position with 15 points, just one point ahead of Lake Forest. The difference of one point means that UW-SP will be hosting Lake Forest College this weekend, Feb. 18-19 at 7:30 p.m. in the NCHA Quarterfinals.

UW-SP lost to Lake Forest 3-2 in Illinois on Jan. 22 before beating them at home on Jan. 28 3-2.

In the event of a split, a 20-minute mini-game will follow. The winner of the quarterfinal series will likely face St. Norbert College in the semifinal at Ashwaubenon on Saturday, Feb. 26.

Quandt Fieldhouse win streak increases to 15 games

By Adam Wise
SPORTS EDITOR

The last time the Pointer men's basketball team played UW-Superior on their home court they were defeated 61-52. A game in which both Nick Bennett and Jason Kalsow combined to convert on eight of their 30 combined shots.

Men's Basketball

The Pointers exacted their revenge last Saturday against Superior as they won their 15th consecutive game in the Fieldhouse with an impressive 83-58 victory.

The Pointers were extremely efficient on the offensive end of the court for the game, especially in the first half when they converted on 14 of their first 17 field goal attempts.

UW-SP took a 36-26 lead into halftime, and that is where Head Coach Jack Bennett said the right adjustments were made as the team increased their pressure on the other team until they broke.

"We're wearing teams down," he said. "Everybody comes after us physically, but we tend, in the second half, to adjust to what teams are doing and we try to grind them down. That's been going on all season, we've had some of our best ball

played in the second halves of games."

The Pointers were led by Kalsow's 23 points (11-12 from the field), eight rebounds, four assists, and a steal. While Bennett contributed 14 of his 19 points (6-10 from the field), in the second half to go with his four rebounds and three assists.

Superior's defense seemed fixated on pressuring the ball, which then left the middle open for Kalsow or center Eric Maus (five points) to create their own shots over Superior's smallish front court.

"They pressure out there, so that leaves the perimeter open and when they pressured, we were able to back cut," Kalsow said. "We did a good job of finding the open guy tonight."

The team also received substantial contributions from guards Tamaris Relerford (13 points) and John Krull (six points) who both applied heavy amounts of pressure to Superior's backcourt making it tough for them to get into their offensive set.

The Pointers' second half lead, which reached a high of 31 points at one point, did not keep either of the teams' head coaches from being active during the game as both benches received technical fouls at different points of the second half. When asked about it after the game, Coach Bennett was all smiles.



Photo by Trendelina Spahija

Sophomore guard Brett Hirsch looks to move the ball during Wednesday night's 94-66 victory against UW-River Falls.

"They (referees) did a fine job," Bennett said. "Sometimes you gotta shake things up, (I) shook it up, but I deserved it."

For as quick as the first half was completed, the second half seemed to drone on for a long time. Between the two technical fouls, multiple time outs, 51 field goal and 46 free throw attempts, both benches received technical fouls arguing over calls with a trio of referees who heard shouts from the crowd throughout the night due to several questionable calls made during the game.

Superior was only able to convert on 42 percent of their shots on the evening as senior

guard and leading scorer on the season for the Yellowjackets, Laron Reed, scored only 16 points while Marc Rothschild added 11 points.

The Pointers received good news shortly after the game as they were informed of UW-River Falls' narrow 60-59 defeat of UW-Platteville who was previously tied atop the WIAC for the lead with UW-SP.

The Pointers close out the season this Saturday in Oshkosh at 7:30 p.m. followed by the first round of the WIAC Tournament beginning next Tuesday.

Senior on the Spot Eric Maus - Men's Basketball



Maus

Career Highlights

- Started all 34 games on last season's championship team
- Hit the game-winning shot in OT to beat Lawrence, sending team to the Final Four
- Fox River Valley Conference Player of the Year in High School senior year.

Major - Business Administration

Hometown - Green Bay

Do you have any nicknames? - Mausy, EMO, Shorty, Tall Kid, BigE.

What are your plans after graduation? - Make a boatload of money and move someplace warm.

What has helped you become such an accomplished basketball player? - Practice and hard work helps, but mainly being tall.

What is your favorite Pointer sports memory? - Winning the national championship last year, but beating a quality Mount Senario team my freshman year is a close second.

What's your most embarrassing moment? - Hitting random people over the head with a 3-foot-long margarita bottle in a Denver airport...oh wait, that was T. Showing up late for a team meeting in Vegas because I had "locker" trouble...no, that was Kalsow. Maybe it was the time a Houston scout said I was the best non-athletic basketball player he's ever seen...no, that was Nick. (I guess I tend to leave being embarrassed to my teammates.)

What CD is in your stereo right now? - Def Leppard Greatest Hits

What DVD is currently in your DVD player? - Seinfeld, Seasons 1 and 2

What will you remember most about UW-SP? - Coaches constantly telling me to stop shooting the ball so much, and to pass once and awhile.

What are the three biggest influences in your life? - Packer football, the weather, family.

UW-SP women's hockey makes NCHA history

By Steve Roeland
SPORTS EDITOR

No team in the five-year history of the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association women's division had ever gone undefeated through the conference schedule.

That was until now.

Women's Hockey

With last Saturday's scoreless tie with Lake Forest, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point became the first team in NCHA women's history to finish the conference schedule without a loss. The Pointers, who finished the regular season 20-2-1 overall and 9-0-1 in the NCHA, will host the conference tournament on Feb. 26 and 27.

The Pointers had plenty of scoring opportunities at Ice Hawks Arena last Saturday, but failed to capitalize on them. UW-SP blasted away 38 shots in the contest, but Lake Forest goaltender Sally Bevis denied each and every one of them.

The Foresters sputtered on their offensive end, getting off only nine shots in the game. In the overtime period, the two teams only attempted a combined four shots.

The 0-0 tie ended UW-SP's 20-game winning streak against Lake Forest.

The Pointers found their offensive stride on Tuesday with a convincing 6-2 triumph over St. Olaf College. The Pointers took an early lead in the first period on Kim Lunneborg's ninth goal of the year.

A fury of UW-SP goals came in the second period, as Lunneborg, Jackie Schmitt, Ashley Howe and Katy Lankey all found the back of the net. The Pointers went into the second intermission with a 5-0 lead.

The Oles managed to muster up some offense in the third period. St. Olaf's Lindsay Weier and Lindsay Boeser scored goals to bring the game back within reach at 5-2. The Pointers couldn't be denied, though, as Liz Goergen nabbed her 13th score of the year late in the third to secure a 6-2 UW-SP win.

The Pointers fired off 44 shots in the game, compared to the Oles' 24. UW-SP goalie Amy Statz collected 22 saves in the contest and improved her regular season record to 18-2-1.

The Pointers are ranked sixth in the nation according to the USCHO Division III poll.



Lunneborg

Late-season loss puts Pointers' championship hopes in limbo

By Steve Roeland
SPORTS EDITOR

The UW-SP women's basketball team had the 2004-05 WIAC title in their sights on Tuesday, but let the opportunity slip through their fingers.

Women's Basketball

The Pointers were in position to claim the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference on Tuesday after last Saturday's 73-42 drubbing of the UW-Superior Yellowjackets. The Pointers opened up the game at the Berg Gym with a 7-0 run and took a 12-5 lead. UW-SP never looked back, taking a 35-25 lead into the half.

Another big run for the Pointers came in the second half, as UW-SP went on a 17-0 streak after the Yellowjackets scored the first points of the half. Holding a 24 or more point lead in the last 12:30, the Pointers cruised through the rest of the game, claiming a 31-point victory.

Amanda Nechuta scored 18 against UW-S and snared seven rebounds. Nathalie Lechault scored in double digits as well with 11.

The win over the Yellowjackets put the Pointers in sole possession of first place in the WIAC for the first time since 1987. A UW-SP win in Tuesday's contest with UW-River Falls would give the Pointers at least a share of the conference title.



Photo by Holly Sandbo

Haley Houghton drives to the hoop against UW-River Falls Tuesday night.

The Pointers trailed the Falcons 34-32 after one half of play on Tuesday. UW-SP was able to climb back on top in the second half with a 15-1 scoring run to make the score 51-40.

The Pointers couldn't hold off the surging Falcons, however, as UW-RF scored on their final 12 possessions and capitalized on a 26-5 run. The Falcons also connected on their final 15 free throws as the Pointers, who held a 60-47 lead with just over six minutes to play, fell to the UW-RF Falcons 75-68.

The Falcons shot a stellar 52.1 percent from the field, more than 20 percentage points higher than they had in their last six trips to the Berg Gym.

Cassandra Schultz scored 20 to lead the Pointers in scoring.

Laura Neuenfeldt and Nechuta also dropped in double digit scoring with 12 and 11 respectively.

Erin Effle and Krista Cordes led the offensive charge for UW-RF. Effle collected 29 points, 18 coming in the first half. Cordes scored 13 points in only 14 minutes of action and hit a crucial three-pointer to put the Falcons ahead 67-64 late in the game.

UW-SP must wait until this Saturday for another attempt at winning the WIAC title. The Pointers face the UW-Oshkosh Titans and will need to win, as well as hope for a UW-Platteville victory over UW-Stout in order for the conference tournament to be held in Stevens Point.

The Pointers are 19-5 overall and are 11-4 in the WIAC.

Wrestling wrap-up

Heavyweight Mike Hayes recorded a pin in the final match of the night, but the UW-Stevens Point wrestling team lost to top-ranked Augsburg 31-9 in a non-conference dual last Friday at Berg Gym in Stevens Point.

Hayes pinned Andrew Neumann in 2:57 for his eighth consecutive victory.

Cody Koenig had the Pointers' other victory, posting his 11th straight win with a 7-5 decision over Robbie Gotreau at 174 pounds. Koenig, ranked fifth nationally, used a takedown and two-point near fall at the end of the second period to rally from a 4-1 deficit and improve 22-2 for the season.

UW-Stevens Point's Al Stacilauskas battled Augsburg's Joe Moon into overtime at 184 pounds. The nation's top-ranked 174-pounder was wrestling up a class and had a takedown in the final minute of sudden death for a 6-4 win.

Also, Joel Burdick lost a tough match to second-ranked Jamell Tidwell at 141 pounds, losing 3-2 on a riding time point. Seven of the Auggies'

wrestlers were ranked in the top four nationally, including four No. 1 ranked grapplers. Marcus LeVesseur extended his NCAA Division III record with his 115th straight win at 157 pounds with a pin over Greg Metzler in 1:17.

Overall results:

125 - Matt Shankey (AUG) major dec. David Davila 12-4

133 - Mark Matzek (AUG) tech. fall Jake Calhoun 18-2 (6:17)

141 - Jamell Tidwell (AUG) dec. Joel Burdick 3-2

149 - Ryan Stroud (AUG) dec. Jon Burdick 9-2

157 - Marcus LeVesseur (AUG) pinned Greg Metzler 1:17

165 - Ryan Valek (AUG) dec. Nate Kurszewski 5-0

174 - Cody Koenig (SP) dec. Robbie Gotreau 7-5

184 - Joe Moon (AUG) dec. Al Stacilauskas 6-4 OT

197 - Justin Sorensen (AUG) major dec. Mitch Szwet 8-0

285 - Mike Hayes (SP) pinned Andrew Neumann 2:57

1st Annual Intramural Trench Tournament

Feb. 18-19

Signup deadline - Feb. 18, 3 p.m.

Listen to Pointer Sports on 90FM!

Track and field team cleans up at Eastbay Invite

The Pointers had few individual champions, but still amassed enough team points to sweep the men's and women's titles at the Pointer Eastbay Invitational on Saturday.

UW-Stevens Point's women's team had 166.5 points to outscore Minnesota-Duluth by 12 points in the 13-team event. The men's squad totaled 181.5 points for an 11-point win over the Bulldogs.

The women's team had four individual winners with Megan Craig (Bangor, Wis.) claiming the 800-meter run in an NCAA provisional qualifying time of 2:14.84 for the only track champion. Amanda Nechuta (Mosinee, Wis.) won the shot put with an NCAA provisional throw of 13.72 meters, Amy Frey

(Spencer, Wis.) captured the triple jump in 10.85 meters and Kaetley Haberman (Whitewater, Wis.) won the pole vault at 3.30 meters.

Mitch Ellis (Three Lakes, Wis.) was the only individual champion for the men's team, taking the title in the high jump at 1.98 meters. The Pointers also won the 4x200 meter relay at 1:33.37. UW-Stevens Point's men's team had nine runner-up finishes in the 17 events and the women had eight second place performances to pile up enough points for the team titles.

UW-Stevens Point will compete on Saturday at the UW-Oshkosh Invitational and will host its other home meet on Feb. 26.

Wrestlers seeking bids to nationals in upcoming conference tourney

By Brady Holtz
SPORTS REPORTER

The Pointer wrestling team is currently preparing for their upcoming conference championship which will take place at Lawrence University on Sunday, Feb. 20.

Wrestling

The wrestlers have had a very successful second half of the season as they went 3-1 in duals for the month of February.

The Pointers, who are led by Coach Johnny Johnson, will be looking forward to making a good run at the tournament which will consist of seven teams.

Seventy individuals will attempt to earn a bid at the tournament to the Division III National Wrestling Tournament.

There are 10 automatic qualifiers with six wild card selections who will represent the conference at the National Wrestling Tournament.

The tournament is scheduled to be held in Northfield, Minn., on March 4-5.

Even though the team has lost some talent that helped them at the conference tournament last

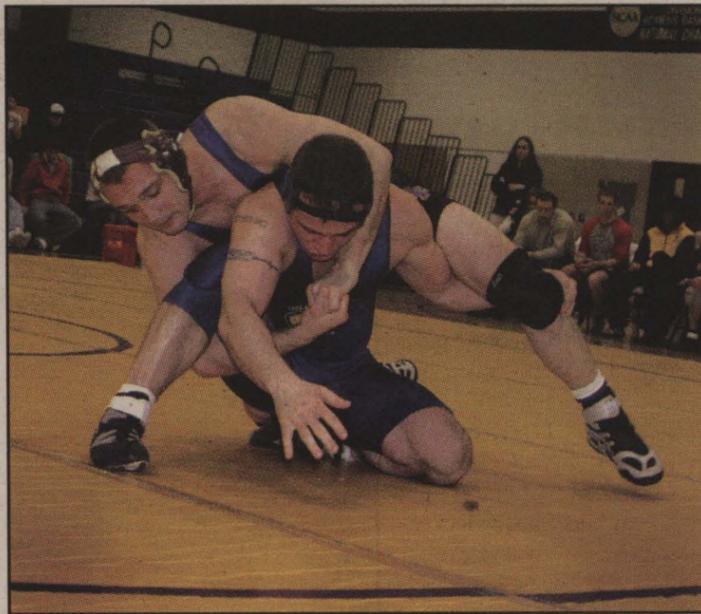


Photo by Holly Sandbo

Two wrestlers seen here struggling Saturday during UW-SP's 35-7 victory against UW-Eau Claire.

year, they enter this year with an equally talented and prepared team.

The Pointers are led by two time All-American Cody Koenig and last year's national qualifier, Joel Burdick.

Koenig brings a 23-2 record to the tournament and looks for a third consecutive conference title.

Burdick enters the tourna-

ment with an 18-5 record and looks to win his first conference title and a second berth to the national tournament.

Along with Burdick and Koenig, Mike Hayes and David Davila are looking to improve on their second place finishes at last year's conference championships.

The rest of the team is working very hard to bring home a

Our View From the Cheap Seats

Why peanuts and popcorn have been eclipsed by beer and brats

By Adam Wise
SPORTS EDITOR

What the hell is going on with professional sports lately?

A canceled NHL season, pot-smoking power forwards in the NBA, Jose Canseco sharing a bathroom stall with Mark McGwire, and Drew Bledsoe being cut by the Buffalo Bills. O.K., so three out of four ain't bad.

I don't have prescriptions for the NHL or NBA. While the latter is in better shape, both lose in a popularity contest to NASCAR. Enough said.

My main focus of attention is on baseball and football.

Football is the main draw. It's the martini while baseball is

the Heineken. Not exactly cheap, but lacks in class and smells of rotten skunk.

For the most part, the NFL controls our country, in terms of viewer-ship and interest. If the MLB had its head on straight, this wouldn't be a contest.

Think about it. Think of everything baseball has had to endure recently.

Between Jose Canseco's book, the possibility of Barry Bonds breaking the all-time home run record within the next few years after having allegedly used steroids, and rumors that the league ignored information received from the FBI regarding steroid use, the league faces a lot of criticism right now. Unfortunately for the MLB, that

was just a short list.

I was listening to "The Herd" on ESPN radio earlier this week and he brought up an interesting point: There is absolutely no reason why professional baseball isn't the No. 1 sport in America.

Half of the season is during the summer when people are more active and take vacations, they have no competition during that time from any of the other leagues, you can wear sandals and a tank top to a game and be comfortable, and you can buy fairly reasonable tickets for less than 10 bucks.

On the other hand, the NFL has to combat cold weather, the World Series, college bowl games, the beginning of the NBA season, and the fact that when

people go to watch a game, they are only going to receive 11 minutes of action during a three to four hour time span.

Even though the NFL has the large TV contracts, baseball isn't that far behind. The 90s were a quiet decade for baseball until 1998 when McGwire and Sammy Sosa battled it out for the home run record that was eventually won by McGwire.

While some sports writers are now taking offense to having enjoyed that season because of the rumors swirling about McGwire, baseball still plans to truck through this without a substantial drop in attendance this year.

When all is said and done and the truth comes out about the



Supplements have threatened the integrity of baseball.

booming 90s, I predict the MLB will make it pretty easy to the other side.

While I don't think it is perfect, the new steroid testing regulations provide a step in the right direction to restoring the integrity to the game of baseball.

Springing into a new year: 2005 MLB preview

By Steve Roeland
SPORTS EDITOR

While snow still rests upon the ground here in Stevens Point, the weather in Florida and Arizona is perfect for baseball.

All throughout the week, pitchers and catchers are reporting to spring training and position players will follow next week. So, to celebrate the end of winter and the emergence of spring, here's a look at what to watch in the 2005 Major League Baseball season.

American League Preview

Just like every other year, the main topic in the American League is the Red Sox/Yankees

drama. To up the ante in the ongoing struggle for dominance in the AL East, the Yankees traded for Randy Johnson and signed free agent righty Carl Pavano to enhance their starting rotation. The defending World Series champs also made some acquisitions this off-season, signing shortstop Edgar Renteria and pitchers David Wells and Matt Clement. The heated rivalry between these two powerhouse clubs renews itself early; the teams meet in the first series of the year at Yankee Stadium.

Another team in the AL that may make some noise is the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. The Angels lost some key players to free agency, but did make some deals of their own, sign-

ing center fielder Steve Finley and shortstop Orlando Cabrera. The Angels also return with last year's AL Most Valuable Player, Vladimir Guerrero. The Angels' strong offense and solid pitching rotation could get them back into the playoffs again this year.

National League Preview

The National League sees most of its power lie in the NL Central with teams like the St. Louis Cardinals, the Houston Astros and the Chicago Cubs. The Cards return this season as defending NL champions and look to be in good position to contend for another trip to the World Series.

With a line-up that has household names like Albert Pujols, Scott Rolen, Jim Edmonds and Larry Walker, the St. Louis offense should have no problem putting runs on the board. The pitching staff got a huge upgrade when the Cardinals traded for former Oakland A's starter Mark Mulder. The Cards hope to ride these superstars right back into October once again.

The sleeper team in the NL had a huge off-season and hopes to move the New York spotlight from Yankee Stadium in the Bronx over to Shea Stadium in Queens. The New York Mets made the biggest additions this winter, adding offense, defense and speed with center fielder Carlos Beltran. Beltran has four

consecutive seasons of at least 20 home runs, 100 runs scored, 100 runs batted in and 30 stolen bases. The Mets also scored pitcher Pedro Martinez from free agency to secure their rotation.

The Mets look to be a complete ball club and hope to shift the balance of power in the Big Apple.

The 2005 season is shaping up to be very interesting. This year's MLB campaign should have some surprise stories, as well as familiar faces doing some major damage. Lace up the cleats, oil the glove and curve the brim of your cap. It's time for baseball.

Pointer athletics news around the campus

Men's basketball back to No. 1 as four pointer teams remain ranked in national polls

Four UW-Stevens Point athletic teams remain highly ranked in this week's national polls.

The men's basketball team regained its No. 1 ranking after being ranked second the previous two weeks.

The Pointers have been ranked No. 1 in 10 out of the 13 polls so far this year and have been in the D3hoops.com top 25 for 59 straight weeks. They currently have a 20-2 record with two games remaining in the regular season.

The women's basketball team moved up six spots to No. 19 following two victories last week. The Pointers have been ranked for 53 of the past 59 weeks and

currently have a 19-4 record.

The women's hockey team dropped two spots to number six following a 0-0 tie with Lake Forest on Saturday. They currently have a 19-2-1 record and conclude the season Tuesday at St. Olaf.

The wrestling team is ranked 11th with a 13-7 record, however, all seven of the team's losses this season have been to teams ranked in the top nine.

UW-Stevens Point athletes continue to reap conference honors

UW-Stevens Point continues to have multiple athletes named Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Athletes of the Week as four seniors were honored this week.

Nick Bennett became the

second straight Pointer to win the award in men's basketball while Amanda Nechuta is the fourth women's basketball player in the past six weeks to be honored. Megan Craig received the honor in women's track and Cody Koenig is the third wrestler in four weeks to be honored.

Bennett scored a season-high 31 points against UW-Whitewater and followed that with a 19-point performance against UW-Superior.

For the week, Bennett was 16-for-27, including seven-for-13 from the three-point line, and 11-for-12 on free throws. It is the third time in his career that Bennett has been named Conference Athlete of the Week.

Nechuta scored a season-high 26 points against UW-Whitewater while also pulling down seven rebounds and adding six steals.

She then had 18 points and seven rebounds against UW-Superior. It is the second time this year and the fifth time in her

career that Nechuta has earned Conference Athlete of the Week honors.

Craig likely earned a spot in the NCAA Division III indoor championships with a high provisional qualifying mark at the Eastbay/Pointer Invitational. Craig won the 800 meters with a time of 2:14.84.

It is the fourth time in her career that Craig has earned Conference Athlete of the Week honors in indoor track and she has also won the award three times in cross country.

Koenig won both of his matches last week to improve to 23-2 on the season.

Koenig got one victory in a dual match with top-ranked Augsburg and the following day recorded a pin in the Pointers 35-7 victory over UW-Eau Claire.

It is the third time this year and the sixth time in his career that Koenig has been named Conference Athlete of the Week.

This week in Pointer Sports

Men's Basketball - vs. UW-Oshkosh - Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball - at UW-Oshkosh - Feb. 19, 5 p.m.

Men's Hockey - Home vs. Lake Forest (NCHA Quarterfinals) - Feb. 18-19, 7:30 p.m.

Women's Hockey - Home, NCHA Playoffs - Feb. 26-27
Swimming - WIAC Championships (at Whitewater) - Feb. 17-19

Men's & Women's Track - at UW-Oshkosh Titan Invitational, Feb. 19

Wrestling - WIAC Championships (at Appleton) - Feb. 20, 10 a.m.

Oh, snow!

And you thought it was just a frozen form of rain

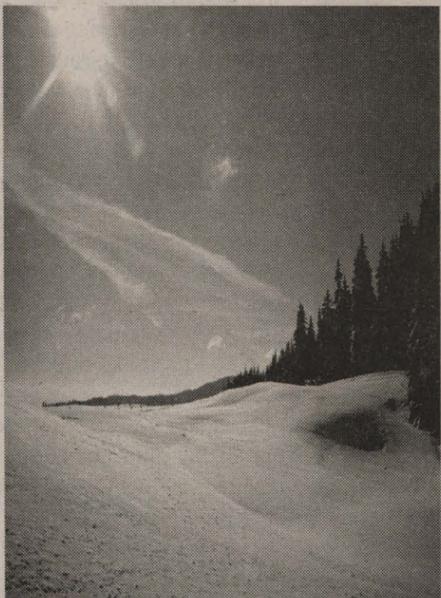
By Hilary Bulger
OUTDOORS REPORTER

I am in love with snow. And my darling snow did not disappoint me this Valentine's Day, though the men in my life did. But we don't need to go there... I woke up the morning of Hallmark's favorite holiday at home in the Twin Cities to a spectacular sight. Every pine needle of every tree, every post of the cedar fence, every cattail in the marsh, and every frozen rose on the trellis was blanketed with magical white. The world was frosted. As I drove down the small, two-lane highway near my house, I could not help but be enchanted. But what was I enchanted by? What is snow? And how does it have the ability to transform our world as it does?

Webster's Dictionary defines snow as "1 a : precipitation in the form of small tabular and columnar white ice crystals formed directly from the water vapor of the air at a temperature of less than 32 degrees F b (1) : a descent of shower of snow crystals (2) : a mass of fallen snow crystals 2 : something resembling snow : as a : a dessert made of stiffly beaten whites of eggs, sugar, and fruit pulp <apple~> b : any of various congealed or crystallized substances resembling snow in appearance c slang (1) : cocaine (2) : heroin d : small transient light or dark spots appearing on a television or radar screen." Certainly the latter definitions are not the snow most of us are referring to when we employ that four letter word, it was not stiffly beaten egg whites that held me so entranced the other morning. There are 46 words that begin with snow following this original definition, including snowman (snow shaped to resemble a human figure), snowblink (a white glare in the sky over a snowfield), and snowscape (a landscape covered with snow). Can you imagine what a snowscape of snowmen with a snowblink would look like?

The World Book Encyclopedia offers a similar destination but adds that the ice crystals are "shimmering." These shimmering crystals are always six sided, though no two are alike. They can be flat, needle shaped, or can cling together to form pellets that can grow as large as two inches. Snow appears white because most of the visible light is reflected with no preference for a particular color in the visible spectrum. When deep snow appears bluish it is due to the length of the path the light takes through the snow, allowing only blue light to pass. When glaciers appear blue it is because they are made of snow that has been compressed into ice, causing it to lose all of its oxygen. The Arctic tundra is home to microscopic plants that can cause snow to appear red or green.

Though every state besides Hawaii has been graced with whiteness at one time or another, the National Weather Service has declared Rochester, N.Y. the nation's snowiest city, with annual average of 94 inches. The single season snow record occurred August 1974 to July 1975, when over 1000 inches fell on Mount Rainer, Wash. A record 76 inches fell in a 24 hour period in Silver Lake, Colo., in 1921. Thompson Pass, Alaska, holds several snow records, including most snow in 48 hours, with 120 inches



in 1955. In Wisconsin we are not quite so lucky; Madison averages 44 inches of snow annually, while Green Bay averages almost 48.

Snow holds different meanings to different people and different cultures. In central Wisconsin, everyone has to deal with snow a little bit, but it is possible to avoid much of it, though I cannot imagine why you would want to. Other groups of people have little choice but to immerse themselves in it, and many embrace it, such as northern indigenous groups. A supposed representative of this is the rumor that in "Eskimo" there are a hundred words for snow. That is inaccurate in several ways. The first inaccuracy is the word "Eskimo," which is not a group of people, but a generic term given to several groups of people by explorers. Also, the English language has 125 compounds of the 46 previously mentioned words containing "snow." The Yup'ik language does have over two dozen roots for snow or things related to snow, from which hundreds of compounds may be formed, which may or may not be related to snow. The Inuit language, similarly, does have several roots for snow, but so does English.

So, call it what you like, but take a lesson from the Yup'ik and the Inuit and embrace the great white, and I am not taking about Webster's 2, c definition. Enjoy the splendor that it is winter while it is still with us and if we are lucky enough to see another magical snowfall that sticks to the world and makes it beautiful, make sure you take the time to enjoy it. Sadly enough, that Valentine's Day snow had melted by evening, along with my hopes for a romantic retail holiday.

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OuTdOoR OdDiTiEs

By Joel Borski
OUTDOORS EDITOR

The streets of Whittier, Iowa are quiet today. Sure, there are the usual cars and people, but somehow things just aren't right. Something is missing and it's not anything you might expect.

Jake is dead. Chuck is dead. Jake, otherwise known as Chuck, is dead.

Murdered on the streets of Whittier by a hit and run driver.

OK, sorry. Perhaps that's a little overly dramatic.

You see, Jake, otherwise known as Chuck, was a turkey.

A turkey? you ask.

Yes. Jake was a turkey.

The story of this goofy gobbler first arose back in the fall, soon after he showed up in this Iowa town and began with his traffic stopping antics.

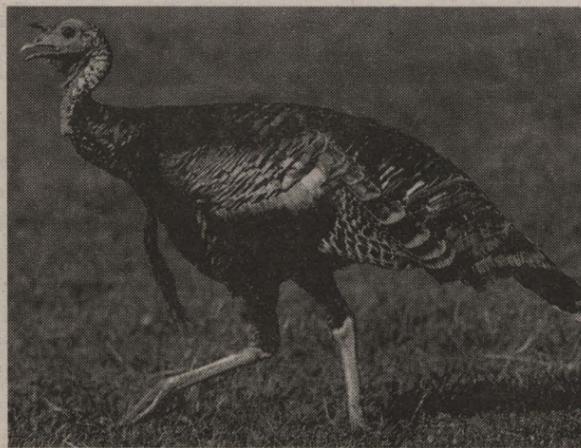
Every morning, for several months, Jake would position himself next to the road and wait, poised to attack - any vehicle that came his way.

No matter whether it was a Geo or a Peterbilt, Jake was afraid of no automobile, nor person for that matter. If a car slowed down to take a closer look at him, Jake would run it off or attack it with the fury of a, well...turkey. If someone was actually brave enough to get out of the vehicle to shoo the bird away, they were in serious risk of attack themselves. The only exceptions Jake made were for farmers. Apparently, he appreciated the people who kept him well-fed. If any tractor or farm equipment came by, the turkey allowed it to pass without incident.

Roosting in the trees behind a nearby house, Jake took his post every day along his stretch of road, soon becoming somewhat of an icon with the locals.

Everything changed on one late January day, however, when an out-of-towner, unaware of the friendly feather-bearer -- sped through Jake's patrol area. Sadly, Jake wasn't able to get out of the way in time. The driver was never identified.

Jake was buried in a private ceremony shortly after his untimely demise. He will be missed by everyone whose life he touched except, perhaps, for those he caused to be late to work.



Did you know?

- Turkeys can drown if they look up while it's raining.

- Turkeys can also have heart attacks; flocks in fields near Air Force test areas over which the sound barrier was broken were known to drop dead from the shock of passing jets.

Weekend Weather Outlook:

Friday: Partly to mostly sunny.

High: 19

Low: 7

Saturday: Partly cloudy.

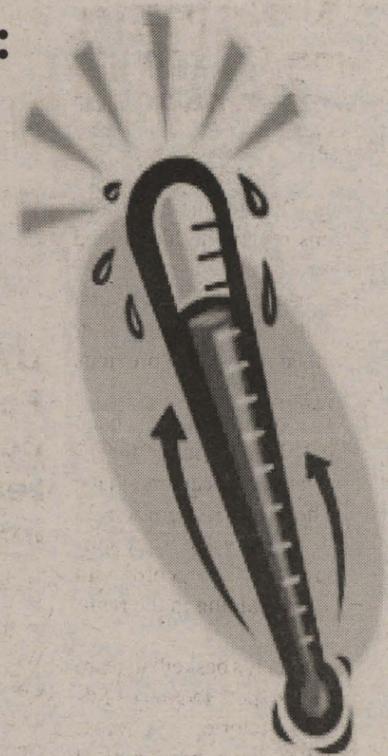
High: 23

Low: 13

**Sunday: Mostly cloudy with
a chance of snow
showers.**

High: 30

Low: 21



Winter tops for northern pike catch, harvest

DNR Press Release

WAUKESHA - Some of the year's best fishing for northern pike is upon us, with anglers having until the game fish season closes March 6 to catch the scrappy water wolf. In fact, a statewide survey of Wisconsin anglers in the 2000-01 season found that northern pike was the only game fish species in which anglers caught and harvested more fish during the winter than at any other time during the year.

That random survey of Wisconsin's licensed anglers revealed that fully 30 percent of the total estimated 3,715,090 northern pike caught during the year were caught during the winter months of December, January and February. Furthermore, the northern pike caught during winter constituted 58 percent of the total harvest of northern pike in that year of 840,307 according to the survey.

That doesn't surprise Randy Schumacher, a DNR fisheries supervisor for inland waters in southeastern Wisconsin.

"The best northern pike fishing of the entire year is just before ice-out, and coming weeks are when our biggest northern pike are caught," Schumacher

said. "This is when you fish for the monsters. Most of our lakes in southeastern Wisconsin don't have a lot of northern pike, but they have huge ones."

"Those big northern, which are usually females, need energy, and lots of it, for the spawning season which is to come at the end of March, just after ice-out. To get that energy, they start feeding now," Schumacher said.

With warm temperatures melting snow and sending fresh water into lakes and rivers through cracks and crevices in the ice and holes drilled by anglers, oxygen levels start to rise making panfish more active. That's great for panfish anglers because their quarry becomes active and starts feeding too. More panfish moving in search of food means more opportunities for ambush predators like northern pike. That large golden shiner you have been fishing with all winter now looks pretty inviting to a hungry water wolf, he said.

"When we get this big dose of fresh water coming in, oxygen in our lakes goes up to 8, 9, 10 parts per million, instead of 2 or 3, as often happens in the deeper waters in winter, and the pike start biting," Schumacher said. "This is when we see the real



big ones caught -- the 20-plus pounders."

Anglers are bringing in some nice-sized northern pike from Madison's Lake Mendota, including reports of a 44-inch long pike. Kurt Welke, DNR fish biologist for the Madison lakes, notes that the lake's special 40-inch size limit exists because of the potential to grow large fish but cautions that because pike are a top predator, their densities are lower so they won't be giving anglers' tip ups the same workout that panfish might at this time of year.

The 2002 population esti-

mate for Lake Mendota's pike was somewhere between 5,100 and 8,000 adult pike, ranging in size from seven inches to 44 inches and weighing up to 23 pounds, Welke said. The lake receives annual stockings of both larger fingerlings and fry. The length distribution in 2002 shows that more stocked fish are surviving well and growing into the catchable sizes in greater numbers now than seven years ago, probably a function of the higher size limits preserving fish longer, he said.

Runoff isn't as far along in northern Wisconsin at this time of year, but northern pike are one of the more popular species targeted by winter ice anglers, according to Heath Benike, DNR fish biologist for Barron and Polk counties.

Northern pike are common on most inland lakes, rivers and larger warmwater streams. Anglers typically fish in 3-10 feet of water located near a aquatic plant bed or near some type of lake feature such as a point or large backwater bay where pike are likely cruising or sitting patiently waiting to ambush prey, Benike said.

Anglers typically use tip-ups, baited with a golden shiner or white sucker. Tip-ups are spaced

out in various depth ranges and an angler or group of anglers will target an area that appears to have the potential to hold a northern pike. In addition, many lakes that hold good pike numbers also harbor good largemouth bass numbers so both species are typically caught on tip-ups to keep an angler guessing what's on the other end of the line.

Since 1995, DNR has had experimental regulations in place on several waters in northwestern Wisconsin. "Our data indicates that many of these regulations appear to have increased the quality and size structure of the northern pike fishery," he said. Dissolved oxygen levels are currently good on many lakes because of the limited snow cover, the higher dissolved oxygen levels will also keep fish more active, he said.

Recently finalized and updated results from the statewide mail survey, conducted by a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point graduate student under contract with DNR, estimated that anglers caught 69,445,957 fish in the 2000-2001 license year. About 18 of the total catch and 23 percent of the total harvest came during the winter.

Angling electronics have gone too far

By Adam Mella
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As a life-long fisherman, knowledge, skill and practice represent the backbone of a sport I thoroughly love. Technology seems a double-edged sword in this natural realm.

Certainly, modern equipment helped improve the angling experience -- although the cane pole still does the trick. A line must exist between technology and nature, and I fear we have crossed it, especially during ice-fishing season.

The shining examples are Aqua-view cameras and Vexilar flash sonars. Oh cruel fishing gods! I both desire and despise these expensive toys. Mostly, I despise them.

For starters, the price tag on these electronic marvels runs around \$400 beyond my fishing equipment budget. And they're ethically disturbing.

A toddler could catch fish using these gadgets. There is literally zero skill involved in using an Aqua view or Vexilar, aside from changing the battery. Oh, and you have to find some frozen water. Allow me to illuminate this corruption more clearly.

Before electronic robots told people how to fish, anglers would spend days searching for a good fishing spot. The reward was often fish for the frying pan and personal respect earned through

hard work. Before folks watched fish eat their bait on a camera, anglers appreciated their surroundings, drank beer and let the fishing gods determine their take. Fishing is not about watching an LED screen. Fishing is about enjoying nature. The price paid from the pocketbook and soul should be deterrent enough. This type of technology transforms fish from wild creatures to wild prostitutes. Thing is, you can buy prostituted fish at the market.

Still, temptation is present, I'll admit, even for a tip-up fisherman.

Whatever the case, weaker anglers out there will keep buying these lousy doodads, so there's probably no sense in griping. Me? I'll continue sacrificing coconuts to the fishing gods, and see what comes my way.



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It's V Day! *The Vagina Monologues* come to Point

By Rebecca Conn
ARTS AND REVIEW EDITOR

The UW-SP Womens' Resource Center will be presenting Eve Ensler's play *The Vagina Monologues* on Feb. 22, 24 and 26 at 7 p.m. in the Laird Room of the University Center. Advance tickets, which will be sold the week of the 21st in the University Concourse, are \$4 for UW-SP students and \$6 for non-students. Tickets purchased at the door before the performance will cost \$6 for UW-SP students and \$8 for non-students. Proceeds will go to Family Center, Inc., which provides shelter and programs for domestic violence victims and their children, and Sexual Assault Victim Services (SAVS).

UW-SP biology and natural science major Elizabeth Bolton is performing in *The Vagina Monologues*, and was kind enough to answer the following inquiries put to her by *The Pointer*:

What are the most fun, challenging things about the show?

The most challenging, and the most fun thing, was knowing that I'd have to get up on stage and say the word "vagina"

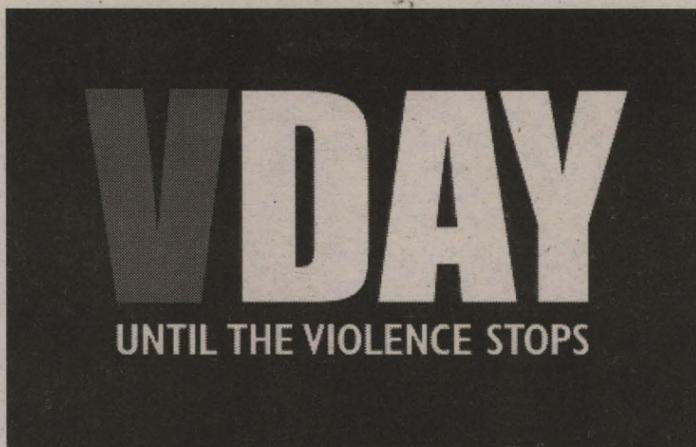
repeatedly. We (the performers) support and feed off each others' energy, which is important because some of the girls may not be comfortable with some of the things they have to say on stage.

Is there anything men can take away from this performance?

There's one part of the play called "My Angry Vagina" that talks about pap smears and all the invasive practices, like douches and tampons, that women undergo, and the boyfriend of a girl I know who saw the play was really surprised and had no idea that women had to deal with such things. Men can get a general awareness of womens' health issues, which are usually relegated to side notes. Men and women share 99.9 percent of their DNA, but that .1 percent gives women some remarkable differences which should be appreciated.

Why does the funding from the show go toward Family Center, Inc. and SAVS?

The whole purpose of the Womens' Resource Center is to put on programs and spread awareness of womens' issues. This is obviously a great program to put on, and it's one of the requirements of (playwright) Ensler that production proceeds go to charities. These two organizations are important to fund because their budgets are decreasing year to year.



Come learn from and enjoy *The Vagina Monologues*.

Logo by www.vday.org

UW-SP hosts design conference

UW-SP Press Release

The student chapter of the American Institute of Graphic Arts and the Department of Art and Design will host the first annual UW-SP nowHERE Design Conference, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 25-26, at UW-SP.

The presentations by visiting artists Lizzie Finn, Julie Hirschfeld and Stefanie Barth are open to the public without charge.

London-based designer and illustrator Finn will present at 7:30 p.m., Friday, in Room 227 Collins Classroom Center. She is a graphic designer and illustrator from London. Her clients have

included Silas, Moloko, Channel 4, Nokia, Orange and Vitra. Magazine credits include: *Dazed & Confused*, *Grafik*, British & Japanese *Vogue*, *Form* (Germany) and *Relax* (Japan). Finn has collaborated closely with UK fashion label Silas since its launch, designing fabric prints, T-shirts and catalogues for them. Her work has been published in leading design publications worldwide. She has exhibited in London, New York, Venice, Stockholm and Tokyo and is associate lecturer at Chelsea College of Art and Design.

Hirschfeld and Barth of Stiletto nyc design, New York, will present at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, in Michelsen Hall of the Noel Fine Arts Center.

Stiletto nyc is the design studio of Hirschfeld and Barth

who met at VH1 in the graphics department five years ago. They quickly realized that they shared a similar aesthetic vision. Together they started Stiletto, a design company with projects spanning motion graphics, live action and print design.

They have worked with such clients as MTV, Nike, Samsung, German music television channel VIVA, USA Networks, the Gap, RCA Records, HBO, RES magazine, a digital lifestyle and film-making publication, Sundance Channel and Rick's Picks, a newly-founded pickle company.

Hirschfeld and Barth continue to seek out projects in new fields, having already put their designs to clothing, commercials, shop designs and corporate identities. More information is available at www.stilettonyc.com.

Barth, who was born in Esslingen a. Neckar, Germany, graduated from the HfG (Hochschule fuer Gestaltung) Offenbach, Germany, and worked as a freelance graphic designer in Frankfurt from 1994 until the Stiletto office was founded in 1999.

Hirschfeld graduated in 1994 from Cornell University with a BFA in painting and a BA in Russian studies. Before forming Stiletto, she worked as a senior designer in the VH1 on-air design department.

CD Review: Marianne Faithfull: *Before the Poison*

By Rebecca Conn
ARTS AND REVIEW EDITOR

It's hard to decide whether *Before the Poison* is a likeable, worthwhile album or not. Its primary recommendations are the roles P.J. Harvey and Nick Cave performed in its lyrical and musical composition, but even that isn't a sure thing. Some of Harvey's lyrics, especially for the track "No Child of Mine," are absolute dreck. Still, the record has some good things going for it, like every song Nick Cave wrote the music for. With the exception of 2003's subpar *Nocturama*, most everything he does is as unassailably strong as the gates of Hell.

Cave aside, the album has other highlights. Faithfull's clearly aging voice is perfect for songs like "There is a Ghost," during which it achieves a wonderfully woeful state. Its richness fails to last, and it comes off thin on "Desperanto," while in still other places it is distinctly reminiscent of Hermione Gingold.

Before the Poison is best treated as an album to pick and choose from. Some songs will have a measure of staying power, and the whole record is moderately enjoyable. Still, there are better things to put on a favorites list.



The music of preternaturally moody Nick Cave may be all that can save *Before the Poison*.
Drawing by Rebecca Conn.

CDs of note in 2005

By George Lepak
ARTS AND REVIEW CONTRIBUTOR/90
FM MUSIC DIRECTOR

Beck – *Guero* (08 Mar.)
Ben Folds – *Songs for Silverman* (26 Apr.)
Coldplay – TBA (Late 2005)
Gruff Rhys (of Super Furry Animals) *Yr Atal Genhedleath* (15 Mar.)
Iron & Wine – *Woman King EP* (22 Feb.)
The Kills – *No Wow* (08 Mar.)
M83 – *Before the Dawn Heals Us* (25 Jan. 2005)
Spoon – *Gimme Friction* (10 May)
Sufjan Stevens – *Half-Handed Cloud* (01 Mar.)
Queens of the Stone Age – *Lullabies To Paralyze* (22 Mar.)
Weezer – TBS (Summer 2005)

Kick out the Jams: Rediscovering the MC5

By David Cohen
ARTS AND REVIEW CONTRIBUTOR

In the 1960s, rock and roll music was still rather young. It represented rebellion against the older generation, for whom the music was toxic. Rock and roll was the musical liberation of the human spirit and it was the force behind a huge movement of youth culture. Since then, rock music has become an institution and a much larger industry. Today's older generation has grown up on rock and roll and hundreds of rock bands have come and gone from the shelves of the music store. Rock music has changed with the times and doesn't carry the connotations that it did 40 years ago. Influential and innovative rock bands from that time

have been forgotten and lost in the huge mass of music that has been produced since then. Two such bands are the MC5 and Ten Years After.

While most readers have probably not heard of either of these bands, they are both historically and musically significant and the last five years have brought numerous re-releases of their work and new anthologies. These bands were ahead of their time and now they are getting recognition by people who want to return to the true spirit of rock and roll. Their songs can speak to the youth of today just as strongly as they did 40 years ago.

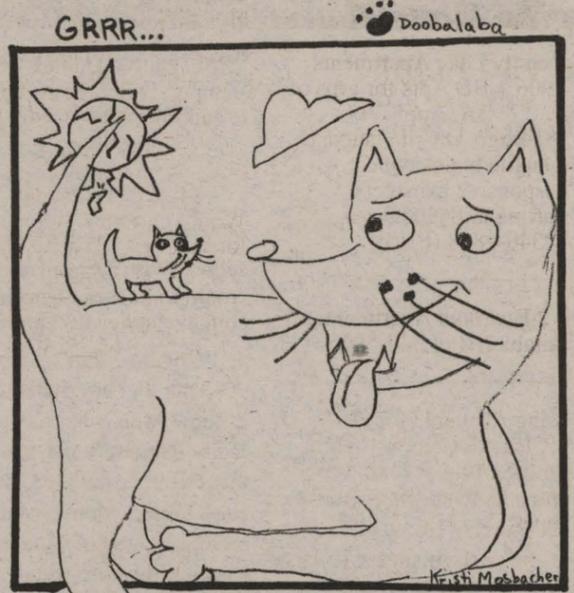
The MC5, or Motor City Five, are considered by many to be the very first garage band, thus paving the way for groups such as Nirvana. They had a very aggressive style that was a kind of prototype for punk rock. Listeners of punk have long been debating if punk originated in the New York area with the Ramones or in England with the Sex Pistols. The roots of punk, however, can be found in 1960s Detroit with the MC5. Actually, the MC5 are kind of the bridge between the acid rock, most prevalent in the 60s, and the punk rock that would come to fruition in the 70s. It is a blend that works very well.

The MC5 were deeply intertwined with the 60s counter-culture. They had a political manifesto that was deeply ingrained in their music and they performed at the gathering held in 1968 outside the Democratic Party national convention, which became a

notorious riot. They had a spiritual advisor who would preach the message of the counter-culture at their concerts and they were instrumental in the White Panthers, a political movement of white people who felt disenfranchised and wanted to work with the Black Panthers.

The MC5 were mostly known for their dynamic live shows and thus their first album, *Kick out the Jams*, was a live one. The band's guitarist, Wayne Kramer, explains on the inside cover of their anthology *The Big Bang* the reasons for the band's limited success. He states that the band was well-received when playing on the east coast and the Midwest, but west coast "hippie music" was flowery, transcendental, and mellow. They were not receptive to MC5's wild "Kick out the Jams, motherfucker" style. Today, however, the MC5 have influenced successful artists such as Beck, who used the riff from MC5's first single, "I Can Only Give You Everything," in his song "Devil's Haircut."

Fortunately, the music of MC5 is ready for a new generation. It is now on CD and can be found at virtually any music store. They can be rediscovered and I cannot recommend strongly enough that you treat yourself to this discovery.



Cookaracha: "What did you do Hermano Enchi? You don't even fit in the set anymore!"
 Enchi: Clifford was my great, great, great, great... (10 minutes later) cousin. Or maybe it's the puppy-chow.



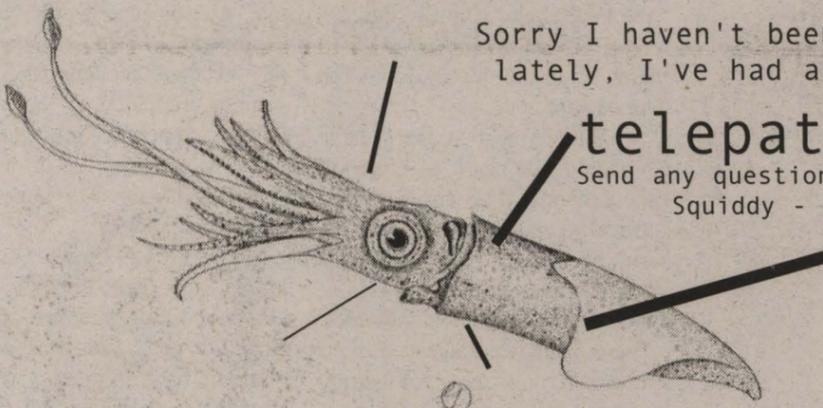
Sorry I haven't been able to chat lately, I've had a nasty case of

telepathy-flu.

Send any questions or fan mail to Squiddy - pointer@uwsu.edu.

Love, Squiddy

(ps - send mango pie recipes for good luck)

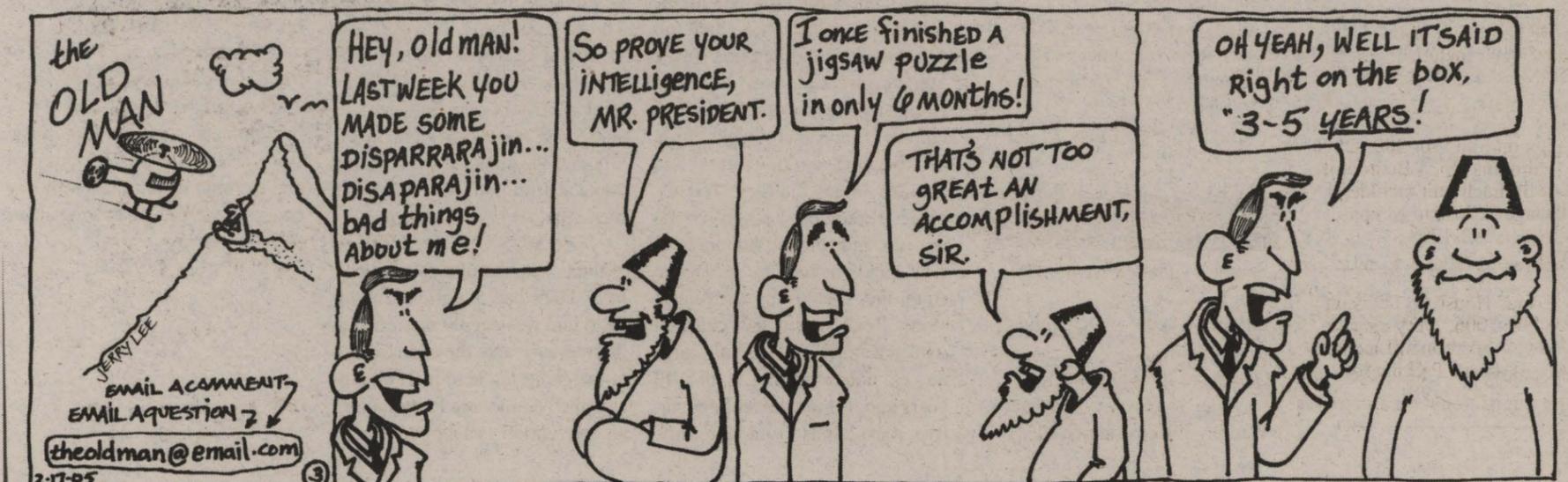


Resident's Evil

By: Joy



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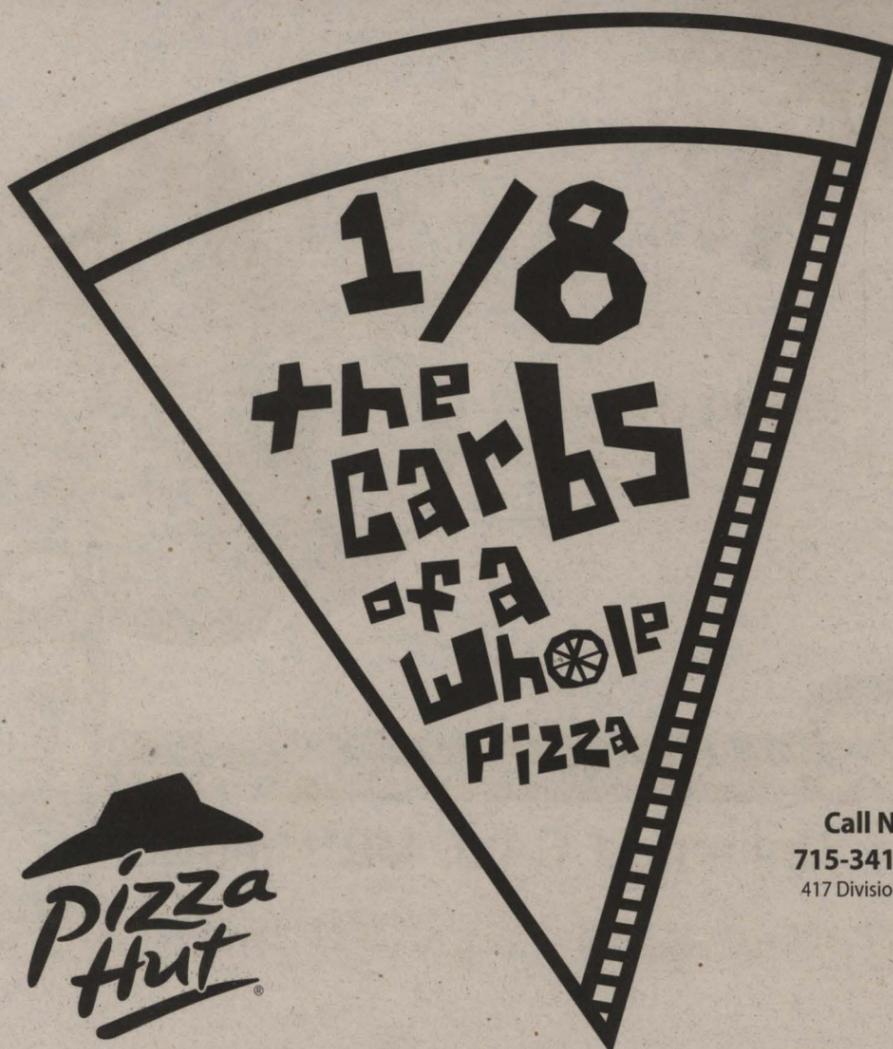
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