



THE POINTER

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - STEVENS POINT

Inside This Week

Ever wanted to have your own
pet dinosaur? Now you can!
Read all about it on
page 12.



Couldn't make it to Saturday night's
hockey game? Find out what you
missed on page 8.



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tales of Wisconsin
hauntings...if you
dare! Page 10.

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Preparations for UC renovation beginning to take place

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Don't bother taking your text-
books back to the Dreyfus University
Center (UC) after final exams. No
one will be there.

By 2008, the Allen Health and
Wellness Center, the Debot Residential
Dining Center, and the UC, collec-
tively known as The Centers, will all
have undergone complete updating
and renovation.

Starting in May, it's the University
Center's turn.

"See those boxes in our win-
dows," asked Emily Thousand, the
graphic design and promotions
coordinator for the University Store,
"It's not just for show."

Thousand said that the store has
been sporting a moving theme with
stacked boxes dominating space in
the store to inform everyone of the
upcoming move.

The store is also having a mov-
ing sale, which has attracted a lot of
attention from students.

"After all, who doesn't love 50 or
70 percent off," said Thousand.

Lara Ketchum-Cifti, director for The
Centers, is excited about the \$22.7 mil-
lion dollar project, which calls for the
last of the UC operations and Residence
Hall Association to desert the building
by May 22.

"We're closing a building, not any



Four sketches above detail the planned design of the new University Center.

of our programs," Ketchum-Cifti said.
"All of our programs will continue,
even if we don't have a building."

The renovation was approved by
a collective representation of members
from the student body, The Centers, and
alumni.

According to Ketchum-Cifti, the
UC is past due for a facelift, both inside

and out.

"The oldest parts of the building
are 50 years old," said Ketchum-Cifti.

The UC is not up to state build-
ing code in various areas. The popular
student gathering location has a worn
out internal structure, old pipes, and

see **Renovation** pg. 2

International program headlining talks of budget cuts for campus

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A budget review meeting
was held yesterday, Feb. 15,
in the Legacy Room of the
Dreyfus University Center
to discuss UW-SP's budget
issues, mainly that of future
cuts.

In an open discussion
led by Greg Diemer, co-chair
of the budget committee,
issues were raised on how
the school is going to bring
in new revenue.

Currently, UW-SP is look-
ing to cut \$426,000 of base
funding as well as \$263,000
of its one-time funding. The
\$689,000 projected cut is a
figure lower than initially
anticipated, but UW-SP is
still searching to cut an addi-
tional \$35,000.

The budget cut recom-
mendation process is led by
the budget review commit-
tee, a group put together to
help advise Chancellor Linda
Bunnell in her final decision.

The group has met sev-
eral times to create ideas
on how to help solve the
situation. One recommen-
dation of emphasis was to
change the funding source
on the position of director of
International Programs.

Dave Staszak, the direc-
tor of International Programs,
holds a half-time position
and is retiring at semester's
ends. With the decision to
keep the position around, the
committee recommended to
change the funding source
from the UW-SP's general
purpose revenue (GPR) to
program revenue only. This

would in effect, clear up
\$77,000.

The GPR program
is an operation of UW-SP
which funds areas around
the school such as instruc-
tional programs and admin-
istrational operations. This
includes areas like career
services, student advising,
and groundskeeping. The
GPR receives some state tax
support that is steadily drop-
ping, thus a partial reason in
tuition increases.

However, Bunnell has
set a vision for the UW-SP
to increase students who
study abroad by 30 percent.
The Student Government
Association (SGA) has
shown support in retaining
the programs GPR funding
noting that the international
programs would need addi-

tional resources for this to
happen, rather than cutting
their GPR.

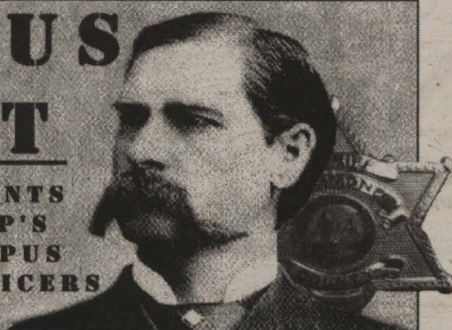
"International study pro-
vides numerous benefits to
students including an edge
in employment opportuni-
ties," SGA released in a state-
ment on resolving the inter-
national program's support

Currently UW-SP is a top-
20 school in the nation for
sending students abroad and
is also near the top of that list
in program revenue spend-
ing. By losing the GPR fund-
ing for the director position,
the program would have to
find and depend even more
upon other resources, most
notable would be a student
cost increase for those who
wish to travel abroad.

see **Budget** pg. 2

CAMPUS BEAT

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



Parking Lot F

Feb. 7, 2006 12:30 a.m.

Type: **VANDALISM**

Report of a vandalized car located in parking lot F West.

Hansen Hall

Feb. 8, 2006 12:55 p.m.

Type: **HIT AND RUN**

Report of a vehicle running into Hansen Hall – vehicle was damaged and left the scene. Skid marks lead from the circle to the door with no damage to the building.

Learning Resource Center

Feb. 9, 2006 7:41 p.m.

Type: **HARASSMENT**

A female called in to report that on her way home from campus, she was followed by an unknown male. No description of the individual was made available.

Steiner Hall

Feb. 10, 2006 2:25 a.m.

Type: **INTOXICATION**

Report of a male individual passed out on the third floor of Steiner Hall, south wing men's bathroom. He was found unconscious, but breathing with a steady pulse.

Pray/Sims Hall

Feb. 10, 2006 10:16 p.m.

Type: **INTOXICATION**

CA in Pray/Sims Hall called to report an individual locked in the third floor bathroom, possibly passed out/not responding. Underage drinking citation was issued.

Baldwin Hall

Feb. 12, 2006 12:11 a.m.

Type: **INTOXICATION**

CA in Baldwin Hall called to report having an intoxicated individual in the second floor kitchen.

Parking Lot Q

Feb. 13, 2006 10:23 p.m.

Type: **FORCED ENTRY**

Report of a vehicle in parking lot Q that was broken into.

from **Renovation** pg. 1

no building-wide sprinkler system.

Student services normally housed inside the UC will temporarily be moving to various locations both on and off campus. Several services, including text rental and the Point Card Office, will be moving to the old County Market building at 200 Division Street near Family Video. Other services, such as Student Employment, UC Administration and Centertainment, will be moving to Nelson Hall. Campus Information will be relocating to the LRC main desk.

While the Brewhaus is the only area not being maintained during the rebuilding process, Ketchum-Cifti said students still won't need to go far for their coffee fix.

"We're opening up a little café in the Library Resource Center (LRC) to offset the (temporary) Brewhaus closing," said Ketchum-Cifti.

She says the café will serve bagels and soup and even sandwiches and subs during the summer. The food will be allowed into the first floor library area.

"In fact, the library staff is encouraging that," she said. "It's a group study area, anyway."

The dust will begin to settle in September of 2007 when some services will more than likely move back into the new University Center.

"Not everyone's going to be back in the building right away," said Ketchum-Cifti.

She added that the food court will more than likely

be among the first services up and running. No information is available yet as to what new or continuing chain restaurants would be on contract.

Once the UC is completely up and running again, students can expect most of the same shops and services.

The Haircraft salon, the copy center, a bank, a larger computer lab and the Information Center are among the services that will be found at the front of the building in the main concourse.

Text rental will remain in its usual location, though it will look completely different, and will be slightly larger.

The UC will also be home to a brand new 250-seat theatre, suitable for movie showings and small-scale theatrical productions.

Funding for projects like this come directly from student's segmented fees, which are put solely towards student services. Segmented fees for The Centers have risen \$239 per student over a three-year period specifically for funding the UC renovation.

"It's like building a house," Ketchum-Cifti said. "Once you're done building it, you have to start paying it off."

Further updates, including where to purchase graduation caps, gowns and tassels, will be made available soon.

For further information on the construction and relocation of various student services, visit www.uwsp.edu/centers/construction.

From **Budget** pg. 1

If this route was taken, Staszak said that each student in the program would have to pay about \$85 more to travel to make up for this possible cut. However, this figure would only be accurate if the number of students in the program remains constant, which could fluctuate with the program funding cut. SGA states in their resolution plan that program revenue will come through increased student fees on top of already significant tuition increases.

"We hope that this is only a temporary move ... and at some point reinstate the GPR funding," said Virginia Helm, vice chancellor of Academic Affairs.

Diemer said that International Programs was targeted because the program has other forms of funding such as fundraising, whereas those other areas covered by the GPR

do not.

Staszak said the program is receiving some state support just short of \$75,000.

"It is in no way significant enough to go around," Staszak said.

However, another reason for the central focus on the program is because the university evaluates programs when office members retire to determine whether or not changes can be made to benefit the university.

Chancellor Bunnell's final decision on all budget issues will be made on Monday, Feb. 20.

"The Budget Review Committee will continue to operate throughout the year," Diemer said.

"We are looking to find something acceptable with the least possible burden on students," said Helm.

Once the final decisions are made, the changes would go into effect July 1 of this year.

THE POINTER

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ASSOCIATED
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Because I said so...

From the editor's Desk

Liz Bolton
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When I first came to college, I had a few assumptions about how my life would change. I assumed I would become smarter and more confident. I thought I would make a lot of friends, and I thought that I would mature into a more polished self. All that has seemed to happen, arguably.

The one thing that I didn't expect, however, is that I would become shallower.

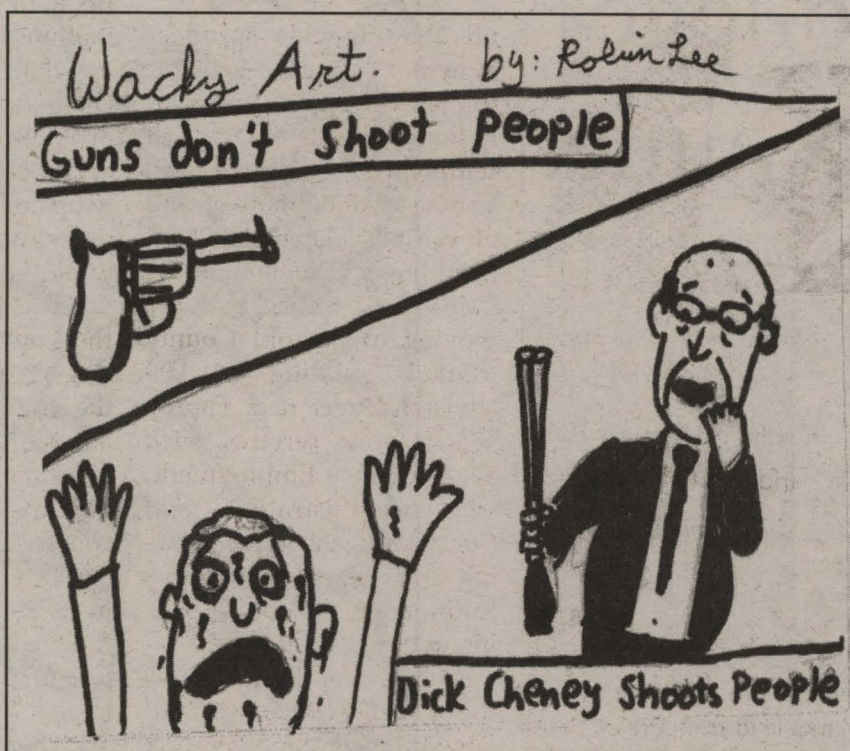
This newfound practicality has invaded me like a bitter, yet lustful disease. When I first entered college, I was going to become a wildlife ecologist or rehabilitator, pulling in \$20,000 if I was lucky. I thought it was my calling. I

thought, hey, I don't need fancy stuff, just give me a few baby squirrels to nurse back to health, and I'll die happy.

Now I want to pull in the big bucks, and am vaguely thinking about the Peace Corps because it looks good on a grad school application, not, as a friend pointed out, to actually help people.

People ask me what I want to do after I graduate, and do you know what I tell them? I want to own a nice entertainment center. Not to cure cancer, write a novel, or even have a family; I want an entertainment center. And matching furniture. And fancy kitchen utensils.

It gets worse. I was raised by civil servants, and taught to believe in community and compassion for others. Once I appreciated this, now every time I go home I accuse my dad of being a communist and completely out-of-date. It's kind of funny, but jeez, what the hell happened?!



I think my transformation is due partially to the current political environment we live in. We, as new members of the work-force, don't really have the same security that our parents had.

For example, take health insurance. I feel I have two options. Either make a lot of money, or have a lot of kids. If I pump out enough, one of them is bound to take me in when I am old and frail, right? (Secretly I wait for the day when the government proclaims this as the solution to the social security problem.)

Unfortunately, relying on my un-born children just doesn't sit well with me, so I figure I just have to have a ton of money to take care of any issues I may have in the future. I figure I have a good chance of getting cancer twice, and at least one hip replacement. I think that would set me back about half a million dollars. So after that, I'm totally in the clear!

I just want to avoid the fate that thousands are going through right now, with all of the big companies defaulting on their pensions and benefits. Like the Polaroid company.

They refused to let their employees sell their stock in the company when it was going under. Everyone lost their entire savings. The employees sued, and each received \$20. One woman in Nebraska had lost \$500,000 in the debacle, and now spends her days collecting cans at 78.

There is no way I am going to be a can-collector at 78. No thank you. If that means I have to sell my soul to the corporate world for 50 years, so be it. I'll toil away in that stupid cubicle, the one I made a pact with myself promising I would never enter. Forgoing what ever higher purpose I was destined in life, I'll live out my retirement quietly in Barbados. Or become the world's first blue-haired terrorist.

Renewable Energy on Campus!

An important vote is taking place next week and your voice is needed. Every morning next week you will be receiving an email regarding three referendum items that you can, at that time, vote on. One of these is whether students would like a portion of their tuition fees to be put towards 10 percent renewable energy on campus and I would like to encourage you to vote "YES" on this item.

Our university is nationally recognized for its College of Natural Resources and strong environmental studies. Despite this fact, our efforts toward making UW-SP a sustainable, environmentally-friendly campus have been meager, to say the least. In an era of dwindling resources and polluted air and waters,

we need to start making a serious commitment to clean, renewable sources of energy, not only for our planet, but for our health as well. A 10 percent increase on our campus is a great first step and will show the administration that students care not only about a good education, but also decreasing the impact that we have on the Earth.

This referendum would cost students less than two dollars a semester, a more than reasonable price considering the effect that it will have. Please help our campus set an example for the rest of the country by voting "YES" next week to 10 percent renewable energy on campus.

Andy Janicki
Student

SGA Update

Looking for an exciting event for the weekend? Join us for the 14th Annual Building Unity Conference, right here at UW-SP! "Learning from the Past, Present to Build the Future" is the theme of the year. Building Unity is presented by United Council for a three day event with a diverse group of over 350 students. It will include over 50 workshops with a wide variety of topics on diversity issues to skill building.

We also have two reputable speakers from NYC and LA - "Faces of America" and Bobby Gonzalez. Bobby Gonzalez, a known lecturer, story teller and poet born and raised in New York City. For his performances, he draws on his childhood experiences in a bicultural environment, being half Native-American and half Latino. "Faces of America" is a solo-performance depicting the extraordinarily truthful and sometimes shocking portrayal of American society. Meals are provided and the conference starts on Friday, March 10. Workshops, performances and entertainment continue until Sunday at 1:15 p.m.

One more piece of good news is: IT'S FREE!!! That's right! UW-SP is a United Council member, therefore the entire conference is free for students! That's a savings of \$35 per student! Time is running out. You must register before Feb. 17 or it will be \$50. For non-students, registration costs \$50 before Feb. 17, and will be \$75 after. If you are interested or know of an awesome faculty who would be interested in giving a workshop on diversity for the conference, you are welcome to register for workshop submission too!

You can visit www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/sga/ that will direct you to the registration forms online, or if you are having lunch at the UC, just fill a form out located at the office of SGA in lower level of the UC.

Building Unity 2006 is going to be an unbelievable time, so grab your friends. Open your mind and have an intellectually mind-blowing weekend! Hope to see you all there!

International Programs

International Programs still has openings for YOU in its fall 2006/07 - Semester Abroad Trips to:



BRITAIN -- based in London w/ a continental trip to Italy, France, Switzerland, Austria and Germany.

POLAND -- with an entry tour through Germany, Hungary, Austria, the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

GERMANY: MUNICH -- with a tour to Prague (CZ), Vienna (A) and Berlin.

Germany: Magdeburg -- with a tour to Berlin.

and ... AUSTRALIA -- with entry and exit tours to New Zealand and Fiji.

Apply and you'll never regret it. Yes, you can still be abroad next term. And we guarantee that you'll get into every class offered!



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Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors from all disciplines - everyone benefits from studying over-seas.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Room 108 Collins Classroom Center
UW - Stevens Point, WI 54481 USA
TEL: 715-346-2717



E-Mail: intlprog@uwsp.edu --
www.uwsp.edu/studyabroad

Your College Survival Guide:

Living the dream...

By: Pat "pervert" Rothfuss
WITH HELP FROM: THE MISSION-
COFFEE HOUSE.

Dear Pat,

Last semester I took a class that required lab work. I had three wonderful partners whom I enjoyed learning with and respected very much. One lab partner was a little arrogant about how smart he was compared to me, but it was not without good reason, and I learned a lot from him. Without his help, I would probably have not passed the course, and I hold him in high regard for that.

I had serious doubts about taking the next course in line, but when I found I had a B, I thought to myself, "Why not take the next one? You only live once."

SO, I went into the lecture room the first day of class, and found that I was the butt of some people's jokes. Okay, I can take that in stride, and most of it stopped when the professor started his lecture. Unfortunately, I heard my name being uttered more than once by the Slightly-Arrogant-Lab-Partner, followed by "I can't believe she's taking this course," "I can't stand her,"

and "I hope she's not in my lab." Apparently, he absolutely hates me.

What can I do to stop the disrupting whispering, and possibly alleviate the lab situation? Note: I can't avoid it/him, and dating him as a solution isn't an option. As open minded as I am, I know for a fact it wouldn't work.

Thank you for your time, because I know you're busy dealing out your form of justice throughout the campus (if not the world).

TML

Do you think it's a little odd that when confronted with a guy who feels hate and contempt for you, you consider dating him as a coping mechanism? Wow. Just Wow. I could do a whole column just on that...

Your letter made me think of something that happened a couple weeks ago. I was at the grocery store picking up something to eat. At the check-out line, I ended up behind a mom and her little boy. She was buying hamburger, milk, celery, saltines, green peppers, tomatoes....

I was buying some Doritos, some Mountain Dew, and a box of Fruity Pebbles.

I watched as the boy looked at his mom's groceries, then at my groceries. Back and forth. I could see his mind spinning, putting together the pieces. His mom's groceries were going to make some manner of grown-up, nutritious food, probably meatloaf. My groceries....

That's when I realized the

truth. I am living every child's dream. My life is awesome.

I looked at him and pointed at the Doritos. "When I get home, I'm going to eat all of those." I said. "It's going to completely spoil my dinner." I smiled and pointed to the box of Fruity Pebbles. "That's my dinner."

He didn't say anything. He was only about six or seven, and I'm guessing that he was too stunned with my untrammelled glory to put together a full sentence. But he looked up at me with eyes that said, "I want to be like you. How can I do these things which you have shown me?"

"Go to college," I told him.

I was just about to tell him that I was going to put the Mountain Dew on the cereal instead of milk when his mom hustled him away, probably because she thought I was some kind of pervert.

Which is fair enough, really. From her perspective, I probably am.

What's the point? Here's the point: sometimes we can't really appreciate how good we have it until we compare our situation with someone else's. That night my Fruity Pebbles were extra-tasty because I knew that somewhere out there a little kid was eating meatloaf.

It's human nature, and for the most part it's harmless, but there's a dark side. Some people only feel good when they're making other people feel bad about themselves. They only feel good by comparison. These people are assholes, and there's a good chance that your ex-lab partner is one of them.

What should you do when confronted with assholes? First off, don't date them.

Other than that, ignoring them is probably the best way to go. I know it lacks the visceral joy of a brick through a window, but it's the best way. In my experience, the road to happiness is paved with not giving a f*ck about what other people think about you.

Huh... That's not nearly as poetic as I'd hoped. Let me illustrate this another way.

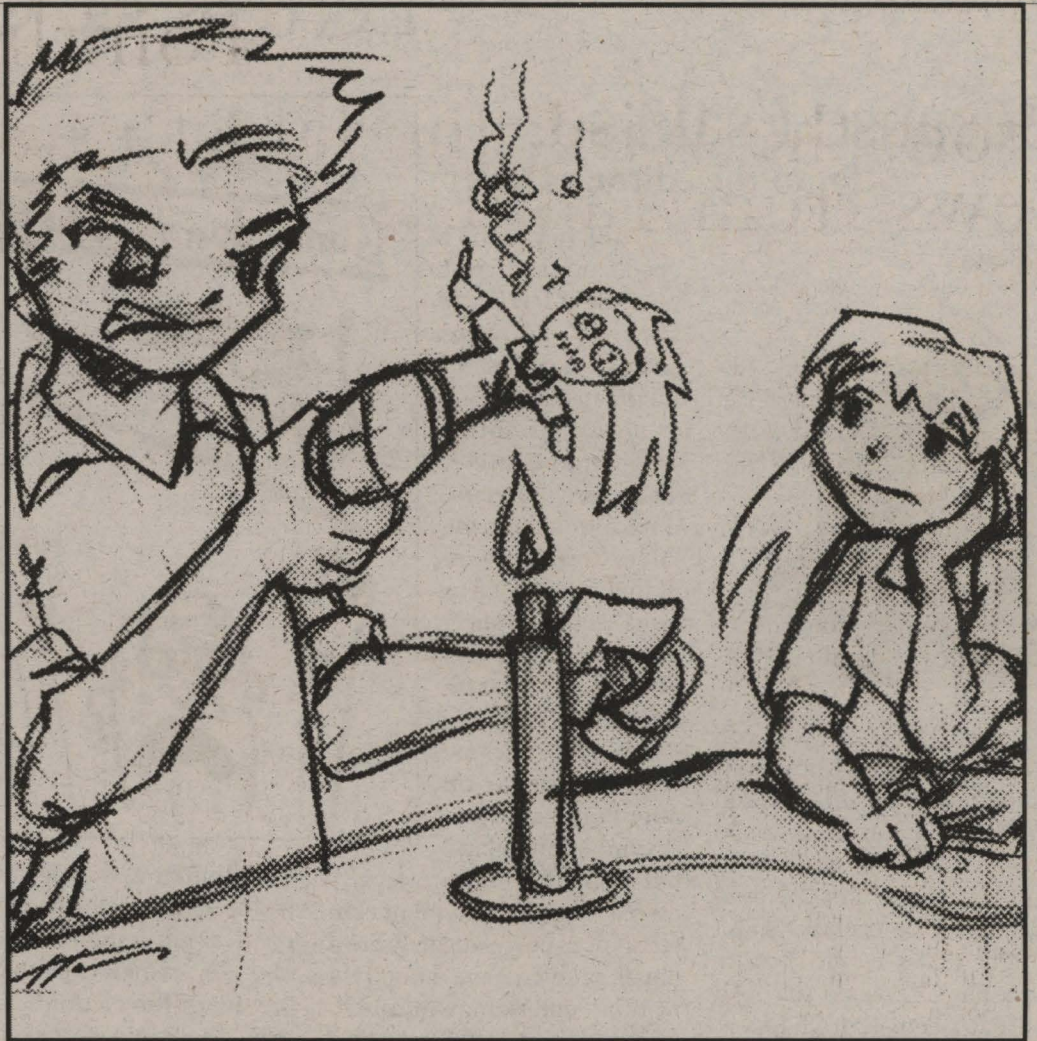
If I'd overheard that little boy's mom say: "He's going to eat cereal for dinner! And he's probably a pervert too!" I wouldn't care. Why should I give a damn what some stranger thinks of me? Why should you care what some dickhole science guy's opinion is? If you care too much about what other people think of you, you give them control over your life. That's not a good way to live your life.

Trust me on this. The quality of my life vastly improved as soon as I stopped giving a damn what people thought of me. Yours will do the same. It's delightfully liberating not giving a damn.

But if you still need approval from an outside source, rest assured that I like you. And you've got a \$10 gift certificate coming from the mission.

Remember, Pat Rothfuss is your source for coffee, advice and unconditional positive regard. E-mail him at proth@wsuunix.wsu.edu.

This weekend at the Mission you've got a hardcore smorgasbord. Friday there's White Knuckle Trip with Movement to June and others. On Saturday there's Dead Hands Rising, 715, and ForTomorrowWeDie. Those who are about to rock, we salute you. Remember, all shows = all ages.



Pointer Poll

photos by Eva Heule

ARE YOU WILLING TO PAY 16¢ MORE FOR A CUP OF COFFEE IN ORDER TO SUPPORT FAIR-TRADE, WHICH GUARANTEES WORKERS A LIVING WAGE AND SAFE WORKING CONDITIONS, AMONG OTHER FAIR BENEFITS?



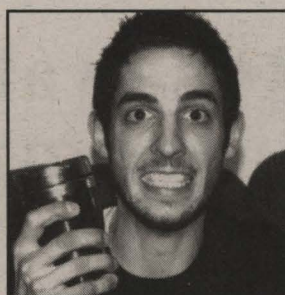
Jessica Liszewski, Sr. General Studies

"Most definitely."



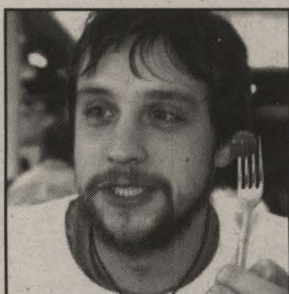
Dhany Soehartono

"Yeah, of course!"



Jesse Maas, Jr. Communication

"F*ck yeah."



Andy Janicki, Sr. Aquatic Biology

"Yes, because I like to know where my products come from. I'm only sassaified by sustainability. Dick Cheney is a liar!"



Skater Matt, Sr. English

"Most definitely, anything to stick it to the man."



Sarah Kleinschmidt, So. Graphic Design

"Yeah; if they sold it at the Brew Haus that'd be nice because that's where I usually get my coffee."

Pointlife

From the Wire: the latest news from Tahiti

Sara Rae
NEW ZEALAND CORRESPONDENT

I am serving as an intern and one of the fourteen student participants in the spring 2006 semester abroad to Tahiti and New Zealand. We began our journey from Chicago's O'Hare national airport Jan. 18 at 1 p.m. with temperatures near 20 degrees Fahrenheit. Approximately 10 flight hours later, we arrived in Papeete (pa-peh-eh-teh), Tahiti where our group had to adjust to 80 degree Fahrenheit temperatures with near 100 percent humidity in a matter of a few hours travel. The scenery was drastically different from where we had come from. Eroding giant oceanic volcanoes make up the French Polynesian islands of Tahiti and Moorea (moor-eh-ah) with lush green vegetation covering every mountain and valley. We spent most of the first 10 days of our semester abroad in the South Pacific island of Moorea. The station of CRILOBE (Centre de

Recherches Insulaires et Observatoire de L'Environnement) provided most of our accommodations while on the island. Mountains with hiking trails, a bay with extensive beaches, main and less travelled roads that revealed the depth of Tahitian culture if one ventured in the right direction were all near our station's location.

The students quickly became aware of a few interesting cultural differences between home and our short time on the islands. Mosquitoes are plentiful, but there were no screens on windows and doors. Dogs that appeared to be mutts roam the streets. Chickens also roam extensively and the roosters replace the usefulness of an alarm clock. Many Tahitians greet each stranger with "Bonjour" and a smile. In general, dress is very casual and their lives appeared quite content without numerous material items that we have become accustomed to rely on. The flip-flop sandal



Pictured from left to right. Shelley Samet, Logan Anderson, Drew Carlson and other students swim with stingrays off the coast of Moorea (French Polynesia).

is an all-purpose shoe; however, a few Tahitians proved that bare feet could be equally as effective while hiking and going about daily business. We learned about island culture, vegeta-

tion and marine life through lectures that involved field trips with snorkeling, tours and hikes.

Campus organization spotlight: College Feminists

Ashleigh Marzynski
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One evening Pat Rothfuss stuck his head into a room full of students at the University Center and asked if the College Feminists of UWSP, the organization he advises, was meeting there.

"Do we look like feminists?" one woman said.

"Do I look like a Feminist?" he said, laughing.

Others in the room laughed, but the woman didn't get the joke. What Rothfuss meant was that you can't define a feminist by appearance.

"Feminism is the belief that all people, of any gender, should be

treated with equal value, politically, economically, socially and culturally," said Busara Melrose, co-president of the College Feminists.

Rothfuss, a UW-SP graduate and assistant lecturer in English, defines feminism as "knowing there is something wrong with the way our culture perceives and treats women, and wanting to do something to make it better."

"I don't think feminism is only a woman's issue," said Melrose. "It's everybody's issue."

The idea that it's only a woman's issue comes from the stereotypes feminists still face, such as the belief that they think they are superior to men.

"The common misconception is that feminists are a bunch of man-hating lesbians," said Rothfuss. "It's just silly."

This stereotype especially bothers Melrose.

"We're for gender equality, not dominance one way or another," she said. "People think women are so liberated today that it's like we're complaining. As long as we live in a sexist society, feminism is always going to have a bad name."

That stigma associated with the word "feminism" is exactly what the College

Feminists of UWSP want to change. Rothfuss said that the purpose of the organization is to raise awareness of feminist issues both on campus and off. These issues include a woman's ability to be in control of her own body, the sexual discrimination many women face within corporations, and the treatment of women in other countries, he said.

Rothfuss said that it all stems from a cultural belief that women aren't as good as men and that women need men to make decisions for them and the rest of society.

"Most people are sexist through no fault of their own," he said. "When we're children we learn that men are doctors and women are nurses. Men are pilots and women are stewardesses. We absorb those cultural beliefs before we can think for ourselves, before we know any better."

To combat this, the College Feminists, now in their third semester as an organization, strive to promote social, political, and economical equality of the genders through education and activism.

The educational aspect includes an open forum led by Rothfuss called the Inappropriate Question Hour. Rothfuss said the idea for it came from a philosophy club he attended when he was a student at UW-SP. It's a chance for people to come and ask questions they have always been curious about and get answers from people who have no reason to lie, he said.

"It's a safe arena where anyone can ask or say anything and nothing will be held against them," he said. "I think it's important for people to have a place to discuss things we aren't supposed to talk about. The most important things in our culture are the things we aren't supposed to talk about."

Topics include sex, dating experiences and gender roles, but discussion is not limited to those areas. Whatever anyone wants to talk about can be discussed. Melrose refers to it as a therapy group and said that it's very popular with the organization's members.

This month the College Feminists are planning a fundraiser for the World on Fire charities, including Heifer International. Heifer International provides livestock to malnourished families and communities in hopes to equip them with the ability to escape poverty and hunger.

Rothfuss said it was like the Chinese proverb "Give a man a fish and you will feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you will feed him for a lifetime." Instead of just giving food, Heifer International teaches how livestock can be used to provide a continuous food supply.

One of Heifer International's initiatives is gender equity. According to www.heifer.org, gender issues are crucial to sustainable development. Improving people's livelihoods is dependent on participation from both men and women. According to the website, 70 percent of the world's poor are female.

Heifer International outlines four major principles to understanding gender equity. First, gender equity can lead to the end of poverty and hunger. Second, it requires the recognition that men and women face poverty differently. Third, gender equity requires women's participation to move from passive to active at all levels and in all fields. Finally, gender equity can only be achieved by promoting the sharing of resources, benefits, workloads and decision-making between men and women.

Both Rothfuss and Melrose said the College Feminists would match any donation "dollar for dollar." Though the Feminists are actively promoting groups such as Heifer International, people will be able to donate to whichever World on Fire charity they prefer.

The College Feminists of UW-SP meet Thursday evenings. Meetings include the Inappropriate Question Hour. For more information on the fundraiser organizations check out www.worldonfire.ca and www.heifer.org.

Winter will be over soon enough. Don't forget to register for your study abroad program for this coming summer - because the world calls you!



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UW-SP faculty member opens Gyro House

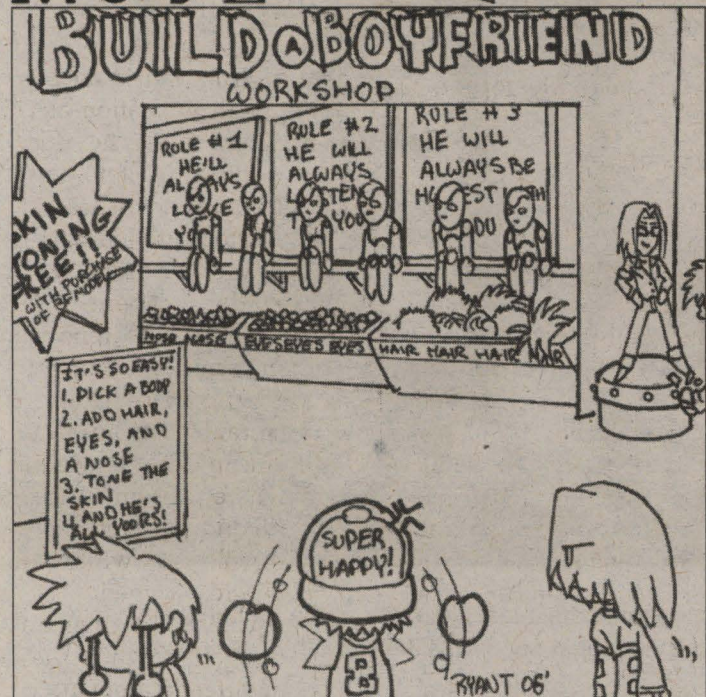
The restaurant opens this Thursday and will be open for lunch from 11:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m., then re-open for dinner at 4:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. Vaezzadeh said he would consider staying open Friday and Saturday nights so long as things don't get "too rowdy."

A stylized, high-contrast black and white illustration of a giant panda. The panda is shown in a side profile, facing left, with its head slightly lowered. It has large black patches around its eyes, on its ears, and on its limbs, contrasting with its white body. The background is a dark, textured grey.

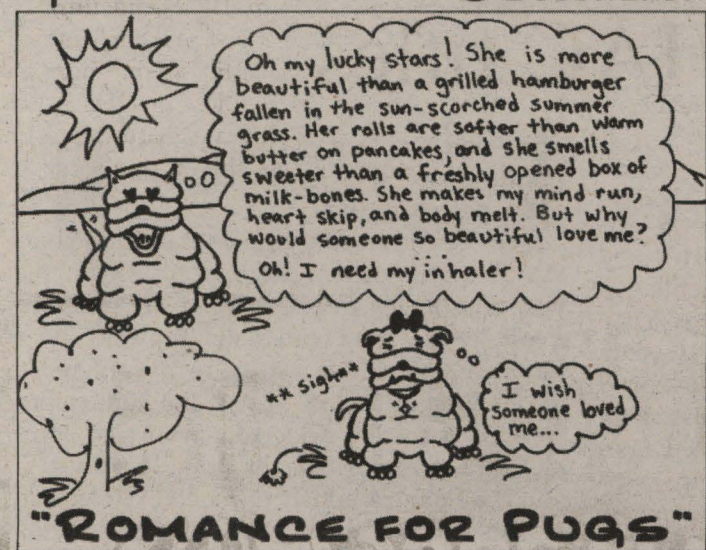


Comics

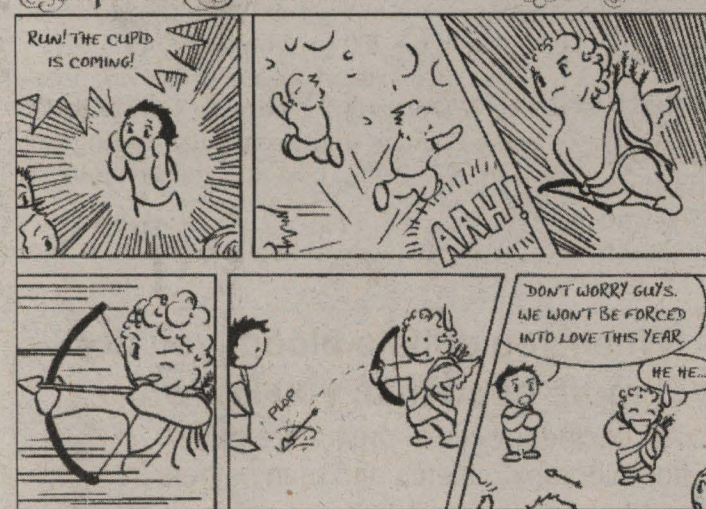
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GRRR... :O DOOBALABA



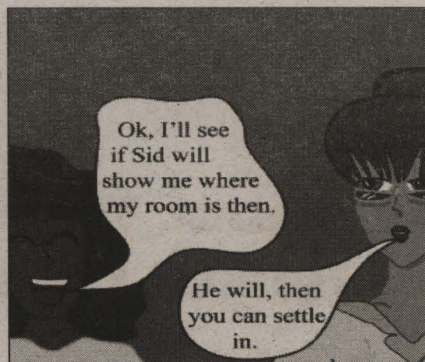
Cupid's Mistake Sue Tamaki



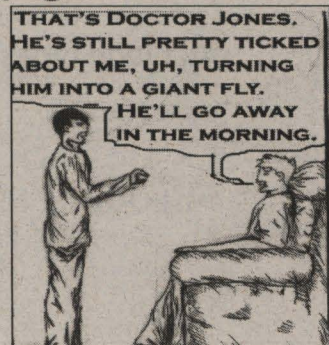
Venus di PSYCHO



Jen Miller



Here We Are



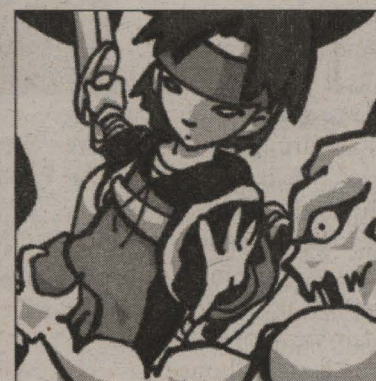
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Resident's Evil



Joy

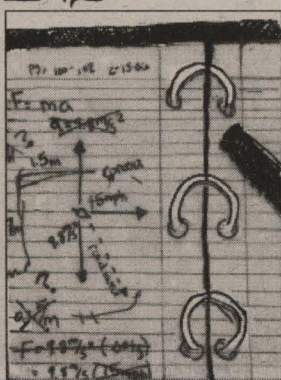
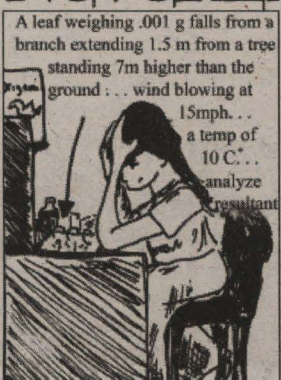
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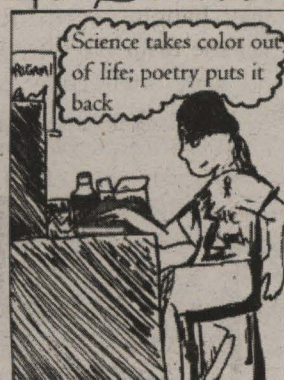
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SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONS COMMENTS AND COMICS TO: JRATC567@UWSP.EDU

COUNT JAMES



Freshmen hoopsters prove clutch in comeback win over UW-Stout

Robert Lucas
SPORTS REPORTER

Down 18 with 13 minutes to play, on the road against the top team in the conference and without one of their star players, it seemed like the UW-SP men's basketball team was out for the count Saturday night. Too bad no one told them the game was over. Drew Jackson hit a shot with 1.2 seconds remaining to lift Point over the Blue Devils and keep their chances at a league title alive.

"I couldn't be prouder of what these guys accomplished," Pointers' coach Bob Semling said. "We could have easily folded in the second half, but they hung with it."

The Pointers shot an abysmal 29 percent in the first half and were lucky to only be down eight to begin the second half. Stout's lead was extended to 53-35 in the second half. However, it was then that UW-SP's freshmen began to play like seniors. Bryan Beamish hit two big three-pointers and Jackson made four from the charity stripe to bring the Pointers closer.

However, the biggest shot during the comeback might have been a three-pointer by Khalifa El-Amin, who was starting in place of Bauer. El-Amin hit a 35-footer with two minutes to play to bring UW-

SP within two points.

"It was one of those shots where you say, 'No no no!' until he makes it," said assistant coach Kyle Grusczyński. "Then you say, 'Good shot, good shot.'"

Jackson converted a three point play with under a minute left to give Point a short-lived one point lead. Stout hit a shot on their end, which set up Jackson for the winner. Jon Krull was double-teamed and found Jackson for one of his team-high five assists.

Point's three bench players who received playing time were all freshmen and outscored the Blue Devil bench 25-6.

"Our freshmen came up huge," said Grusczyński. "Our kids grew up a lot today."

With Brian Bauer out and leading scorer Krull not having his shooting day, other players for UW-SP were forced to step up. Jackson's 11 points were a career high along with Jerome Wotachek and Beamish who each chipped in seven. Steve Hicklin led the Pointers with 16 and Krull added 10 points and nine boards.

UW-SP must win-out and hope for a Whitewater loss in order to gain piece of the league title. Their last conference home game is Saturday against UW-Superior at 5 p.m. in the Quandt Fieldhouse.

UW - Stevens Point took part in the Eastbay Invitational, held last Saturday at the Multi-Activity Center. The Pointer men's and women's teams finished the meet in second place in each of their divisions.



Photo by Mae Wernicke

Pointers sweep men's and women's WIAC titles

Press Release

UNIVERSITY RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

For the third time in school history, UW-Stevens Point captured both the men's and women's WIAC swimming and diving titles on Saturday in Minneapolis.

The Pointer men cruised to their seventh straight title, while the women's team avenged four straight close losses to UW-La Crosse with a narrow win of its own, outscoring the Eagles by 46.5 points to earn the championship.

All 15 of UW-SP's women's swimmers in Saturday's preliminaries qualified for the finals and the team's distance squad put the Pointers in position to win as Alissa Colbert, Steph Boehme and Lindsey Googins opened the night by finishing second through fourth in the 1,650-yard freestyle.

Abby Strobel followed with her second victory of the meet, winning the 200-yard backstroke in 2:09.06 and Jennie Roskopf added her second title with her third straight 200-yard breaststroke title in 2:24.69. Meghan Walsh also won her second event, taking the 200-yard butterfly crown in 2:11.70.

The 400-yard freestyle relay team of Caitlin Hake, Beth Bard, Jerica Crook and Kelsey Crunstedt finished off the victory with a winning time of 3:33.04. It marked the women's team's third title, having also won in 2000 and 2001.

The Pointers totaled 985 points in the win after finishing second by less than 51 points in each of the past four years.

Senior Alex Anderson was named the outstanding swimmer of the men's meet for the first time in his career, helping the 400-yard freestyle relay team with Matt Grunwald, Tyler Eloranta and Chase Gross to a conference record time of 3:04.98. It was the 12th career winning relay for Anderson, who also completed his career with eight individual titles.

The Pointers added two other conference records as Gross posted a time of 45.98 seconds in the 100-yard freestyle and Ben Gensler won the 200-yard breaststroke in 2:03.97, nudging Anderson by a half-second. Rob Donisch posted a win in the 200-yard butterfly in 1:53.41.

The men's team amassed 1,017.5 points with UW-L placing second with 781.5 points. It was the Pointers' 10th men's title, having also won in 1977, 1997, 1998 and the previous six years.

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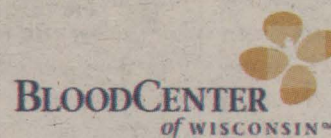
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Senior on the Spot

Alex Anderson – Swimming and Diving

Career Highlights:

- Conference champion 14 times and runner-up five times during career.
- Eight-time All-American and 11-time honorable mention All-American.
- Named team's Most Valuable Swimmer twice

Major – Web and Digital Media Development

Hometown – La Crosse, Wis.

Do you have any nicknames? – None.

What are your plans after graduation? – Working in the real world.

What has helped you become such an accomplished swimmer?

The team and coaching staff, none of my accomplishments could have been made without the team and coaches to push me harder.

What is your favorite Pointer sports memory?

Cutting Al's hair at the conference meet because we unified the conference title.

What's your most embarrassing moment?

I was standing on the block and got pushed off and ended up straddling the lane line.

What CD is in your stereo right now?

Tim McGraw – Greatest Hits.

What DVD is currently in your DVD player?

Tombstone.

What will you remember most about UW-SP?

Deep sea fishing over training trip!

What are the three biggest influences in your life?

Family, the swim team (which is like a family) and my coaches.



Pointer women without Schultz, lose to Blue Devils

Melissa Dyszelski

THE POINTER
MDYZ026@UWSP.EDU

It was a mirror image Saturday, as the UW-SP women's basketball team played without their leading scorer, just as UW-Stout had done in January in their first meeting of the year.

The top two teams in the WIAC battled it out in Menomonee Saturday, but the Blue Devils dominated in the first half and defeated the Pointers 80-54.

Jan. 7's Stout-Pointer game ended in victory due to the loss of the Blue Devil's leading scorer, Kelsey Duoss. This time around, the Pointers were without their leading scorer, Cassandra Schultz.

UW-Stout came off strong to hold a 14-11 lead midway through the first half. Stout continued to score, shooting 63.3 percent, while the Pointers only

maintained 37.5 percent.

UW-SP was the first to score in the second half, but continued to trail behind Stout the remainder of the game.

Chelsea Kranz was the Pointers lone double digit scorer as she led with 16 points and four rebounds for the evening. Haley Houghton split those in half and scored eight points with four total rebounds.

The top three leading scorers for the Blue Devils were Molly Hendricks with 15 points, Lindsey Geissler with 11, and Joanna Bird with 10. This time around, Duoss scored a total of eight points.

UW-SP is now 16-7 overall, and 9-5 in the WIAC, a game and a half behind UW-Stout, who is now 16-7 overall and 11-4 in the WIAC.

The Pointers will face UW-Superior in the Berg Gymnasium for Senior Day at 3 p.m. on Feb. 18.

Pointers take their show on the road in the NCHA playoffs

Robert Lucas
SPORTS REPORTER

With a home and home series against the UW-Eau Claire Bugolds, the Pointers had a chance to assure themselves home ice in the first round of the NCHA with a sweep. They came up just a little bit short. The Pointers won 4-2 Friday night in Eau Claire and tied the Bugolds 2-2 Saturday night at Willett Arena.

After a scoreless first period, each team picked up the offense in the second. Point's Shane Foster scored his fourth goal of the year at the 1:33 mark. UW-EC came back with two quick goals near the midpoint of the period, one by Chip Dunleavy to tie the game and another by Jeremiah Weber to put the Bugolds ahead. The lead would be short lived, however.

UW-SP's top three scorers on the year, Rolf Ulvin, Sean Fish and Russel Law, knew what this game meant. Law scored the next two goals for the Pointers off assists from Ulvin and Fish each time, putting the Pointers ahead 3-2. Brett Beckfeld scored an empty netter to seal it for the Pointers.

On Saturday, the Pointers

jumped ahead early as Brett Coburn scored his sixth goal of the year off assists from Nick Zebro and Matt Stendahl. Point held the lead until Chip Dunleavy scored his 13th of the year on a two-man advantage for the Bugolds in the second period.

The game remained tied until the third when Russel Law struck again, scoring his team leading 13th goal. Fish and Nate Sorenson assisted on the goal, which tied Fish for the team lead at 15.

The Pointers lead was short-lived, however, as UW-EC scored eight minutes later as Andy Klapperick picked the most opportune time in the Bugolds' season to score his second goal of the year.

The Pointers weren't able to muster another goal and, with a surprising win by Lake Forest over conference-leading St. Norberts, the Pointers dropped into a tie for fourth with the Foresters.

However, since Lake Forest swept the Pointers in the regular season, the Foresters receive the home-ice advantage. Now UW-SP must travel to Lake Forest for a two game series starting this Friday and Saturday to keep their season alive.

America's "best team ever" stumbles out of the blocks

Steve Roeland

THE POINTER
SROEL908@UWSP.EDU

The games of the twentieth Winter Olympiad were supposed to be dominated by the United States. According to the multitude of promos on NBC, flagship network of Olympic coverage, the group of American Olympians sent to Torino, Italy this month was the best ever assembled in the history of the games.

Too bad foresight isn't 20/20.

In less than a week, prominent athletes from the U.S. have stumbled, fallen and faltered their way to an unimpressive third place in the overall medal standings. Third place may sound good to most casual observers, but four of the eight total U.S. medals were obtained in snowboard-

ing events, which were not even Olympic competitions until the 1998 Nagano games.

While there is plenty of time for the American delegation to rekindle their early mistakes, some Torino troubles have left competitors from the U.S. red, white, black and blue.

Two American athletes, Lindsey Kildow in downhill skiing and Samantha Retrosi in the luge, were taken to hospitals for injuries sustained during runs in their respective events. Kildow came away

from a nasty spill with a severe back contusion, forcing her to be subjected to CAT scans and a myriad of tests. Retrosi was also sent to the hospital and was diagnosed with a concussion after coming in contact with the wall two-thirds of the way through her run in the second heat of Monday's competition.

Crashes and falls happen during the fast-paced competition at the Olympics. However, the seasoned Olympic veterans are failing to provide a

see **Olympics** pg. 15



Photo courtesy of The Conservative Voice
Bode Miller (above) was disqualified from the men's alpine combined event.

Outdoors

Haunted Wisconsin

*Beneath the tides of sleep and time
Strange fish are moving*
-Thomas Wolfe

Scott Butterfield
THE POINTER
SBUTT196@UWSP.EDU

Call them apparitions, spirits, spooks, shades, wraiths, specters, phantoms, poltergeists, visions, nightshades or just plain ghosts. Names do not matter. The very presence of these metaphysical bodies in our material world is what curious individuals have been searching for long before you and I and our great-great-grandparents ever lived. Before recorded history (we're talking thousands and thousands of years ago) numerous cultures and peoples throughout the world have shared the belief that the human soul, or some variation of it, continues on after the death of the body. Some Native American tribes believed you could converse with the dead spirits of your deceased relatives and win their favor so that they may endow you with a good harvest, a good hunt or ward off other, more malevolent spirits. People of ancient Assyria and Babylonia believed in three different kinds of spirits, each with their own special powers to influence the environ-

ment of living human beings. Whatever time period you wish to study and observe it will be clear that the problem of life after death, of what happens to a person once they die, is of paramount importance.

And so, in this present day of scientific superiority, of unassailable empirical truth, we find that much of the supernatural can be explained away by those researchers who love to debunk the unusual. Mystery is taken away from us. But we can get it back. You just need to develop that trait common to all but used only by some: curiosity. Right here in Wisconsin, in fact right here in Stevens Point, are chances for you to test your curiosity.

The famous folklorist Robert Gard has said that Wisconsin has the most ghosts per square mile than any other state in the nation. While this cannot be proven concretely, a cursory glance at any Web site dedicated to hauntings of Wisconsin will give one an endless stream of stories about ghouls, goblins and assorted beings of the "other persuasion." In fact, Stevens Point

OUTDOOR EDVENTURES' TIP OF THE WEEK

Josh Spice

MANAGER/TRIP LEADER AND OUTDOOR EDVENTURES AND RENTALS

Use of a sled on winter camping trips can be mighty convenient, especially when set up correctly. Putting some weight or cumbersome items in a sled helps to take some weight off your back and makes it safer crossing ice by spreading out the weight. Make a harness out of rope and three carabiners, two to attach to your backpack's hip belt or ice axe loops and one to attach to the sled's rope. Add a short section of bungee or shock cord to keep the sled from jerking with each step, especially when ascending. The sled should be narrow enough to track in your own footprints, without creating its own path. Put gear in a dry bag in a sled with vertical sidewalls to help keep it from rolling out. Add straps or bungee netting to secure gear in the sled, especially when traversing slopes, walking over logs, etc, can cause it to capsize. Stop in Outdoor EdVentures to learn more about this trick, along with many other tips and techniques to improve your outdoor experiences.

has some hauntings that are well known around the state. For instance, travel northeast on Highway 66 near Jordan and you'll cross a bridge called "Bloody Bride Road" where a young bride was killed on her wedding night. Her ghost haunts the bridge where her life ended. There is also a place called Boy Scout Lane which is rumored to be haunted by dead Boy Scouts. After dark, along the road, it is said that a swinging light,

a lantern, is seen on the road as the dead Boy Scouts search for their troop. The cemeteries at Plainfield in which Ed Gein and some of his victims are buried is also, not surprisingly, supposed to be haunted.

Many other stories exist and can be found in the excellent "Wisconsin Road Guide to Haunted Locations" by Chad Lewis and Terry Fisk, both professional paranormal investigators. This book gives directions and exact locations

of the best haunted sites in Wisconsin. Another good book is "The W-Files: Reports of Wisconsin's Unexplained Phenomena" by Jay Rath. This book has some fascinating stories of Chupacabras right here in Wisconsin, and also presents the theory that people from Atlantis settled in Wisconsin and mined copper by Lake Mills in Jefferson County. Lots of strange hap-

see Haunted pg. 11

Bike tune-ups can cure those cold winter blues

Adam Eader
THE POINTER
AEADE085@UWSP.EDU

Maintaining a bike is one of the most enjoyable aspects of bike ownership. With proper cleaning and care, bikes will run smoothly and last longer.

During the winter, dreams of cruising along country roads

on a road bike mixed with pumping legs on a mountain bike downhill through a forest roll along in my mind. While I journey through winter, keeping busy with other outdoor activities, my bikes still hang heavy in the back of my thoughts like they do in my garage.

Usually around mid-winter I pull my cold bikes from the garage and bring them inside for surgery. The first step in cleaning my bikes is to remove both wheels. Once they are removed I apply a degreasing liquid to the chain, crankset, front and rear derailleurs and cassette. A degreaser gets rid of old lubricants, which collect dirt and grime that cause bike parts to run roughly. After 5-10 minutes of letting the degreaser set in, I take the chain off. Most newer model chains have a master link, which provides an easy way to detach as well as attach the chain together. If your chain doesn't have a quick release chain link you will need to buy one. To detach a bike chain without a quick release link, you will need a chain link extractor.

I scrub dirt, grit and old grease from the chain (using a sponge and hot water) as well as check each individual link for stiffness. If any of my chain's links are stiff, I replace them with a new link or replace the whole chain. I let my chain sit in a de-rusting liquid if necessary.

The next step entails using either a brush or rags to clean the cassette. Scrape or wipe between the cogs of the cassette to eliminate debris. It is a good idea to brush down the



Bike maintenance + six pack = a well spent Saturday

Photo by Eva Heule

rims and tires with hot soapy water.

Next, wipe and brush the crankset and derailleurs clean of debris, followed by washing the bike frame with hot soapy water and a sponge. After washing the different parts of the bike make sure to dry them off. A bike lubricant should be added to the chain, areas where the derailleurs move and cable housings, while grease should be applied to cables and hubs.

Maintaining a bike without the help of a bike maintenance technician is fairly new to me. With helpful advice

from bike knowledgeable friends and bike maintenance books, I'm picking up pointers that make bike mechanics easier.

There are many knowledgeable and friendly bike shops in our area. I buy parts and take my bike in when needed to Pump and Pedal in Plover. A bicycle maintenance book I've been following is "Bicycle Repair Manual" by Chris Sidwells.

There is nothing that feels quite as smooth as riding on a maintained bike, especially when you cleaned and repaired it yourself.



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The North Star: A constant guide throughout time

Melissa Dyszelski
THE POINTER
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"Twinkle, twinkle, little star, how I wonder what you are..."

I've often wondered about the North Star. Why is it there? Why is it so significant? Now that it is colder outside and the night sky is more visible on clear nights, it is often fairly easy to spot the famous star that is a part of the Little Dipper.

Here are some facts and maybe even answers to your questions about the North Star.

According to www.ms.essortment.com, the North Star, also called the Pole Star or Polaris, is the star that the earth's axis points toward in the Northern Sky. Some say that it seems like the star doesn't move and some have created legends about why the star is there and why it doesn't move. But what is so important about it?

Well, for many years, the North Star has been used as a navigation aid and to chart navigational maps. It has also been used to measure astronomical latitude since we generally map latitudes to the equivalent sky positions. (Ex. The North Pole equates to + 90 degrees latitude on Earth as does its projection into the sky.)

Pretty neat, huh?

Over time, many cultures, without any knowledge or interest in mapmaking or astronomy, have created stories explaining why it seemingly never moves.

As I have learned, the most famous story about the North Star is the Native American myth explaining why the North Star stands still. In this story, a brave son named Na-Gah tried to impress his father by climbing the tallest cliff he could find. Even through difficult weather conditions, he persisted until he found himself at the top of a very high mountain. The mountain was so tall that Na-Gah looked down on all the other mountains. Unfortunately, there was no way down. When his

father came looking for him, he found Na-Gah stuck high above. Not wanting his son to suffer for his bravery, he turned Na-Gah into a star that can be seen and honored by all things.

There are many other stories to explain how the North Star came about. One of my favorites is about a girl with seven fathers who was kidnapped by a monster, but eventually returned home with the help of a man who could turn into an eagle. Her seven fathers dedicated the North Star to her in honor of her return and became the seven stars of the Little Dipper so that they would always be there to guide her.

Over the course of time, the North Star changes. Right now, the current North Star is Polaris, which is the brightest star in the constellation Ursa Minor (also known as the Little Dipper). The North Star changes over time because the direction of the earth's axis slowly changes over time.

Hmm...very interesting.

To find Polaris in the sky, locate the Big Dipper and follow the two stars at the end of



Look up and fathom the one constant star, Polaris. Photo provided by Google.com

the basin upward. Following this should lead you directly to Polaris, which is the last star in the tail of the Little Dipper.

If you'd like to learn more, the UW-SP Observatory offers public viewing three nights a week, with the exception of cloudy skies. If the skies are clear, the observatory is open on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights, from 8:30 - 10 p.m.

I encourage you to check out the night sky with some knowledgeable guides, who will be more than happy to answer any questions you have. Maybe bring a significant other if possible. It could be a date that may brighten up your night!

Wisconsin Legislators discuss lowering the hunting age

Brandi Pettit
THE POINTER
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There has been an incredible stink within the media and liberal-environmental groups lately. Everybody has their shoelaces in triple knots over the idea that an 8-year-old may be allowed to hunt under the newly proposed Assembly Bill 586 (AB 586).

The problem is that 8-year-olds aren't mentioned once in the legislation's eight pages. I can't help but wonder how many opponents of AB 586 have even read the bill.

How bad would it really be to allow 8-year-olds to hunt within an arm's reach of their parent or guardian? This is how children learn to hunt to begin with, and muscle memory for safe hunting can never start too early.

The 2005 Hunting Season Incident Report for Wisconsin shows only one shooting incident with a child under 12, and that involved a 10-year-old who hadn't graduated from a hunter's education course.

At one point in the legislation's history, 8-year-olds were included in the proposal's language. After completing a Hunter's Education course, children at this age would be allowed to bow or gun hunt with their parent or guardian, provided that the child and adult share the same weapon.

Unfortunately, some state senators felt that type of responsibility was too much for a young child to handle, including Rockland's Senator Alan Lasee.

"We feel that there are a variety of amendments that would make this a better piece

from **Haunted** pg. 10

penings have been reported here. There are a great many Web sites that are devoted to these areas, some more reliable than others. So use good judgment.

Do ghosts exist? Who knows? They may or may not, but nobody should take another's word for it one way or the other. That question of life after death has plagued humankind since we have been able to think abstractly and philosophically, and it cannot be answered by anybody but oneself. Einstein



A Hodag: Northwoods fact or fiction?

of legislation," said Jennifer Esser, Lasee's aide.

While one reason for lowering the legal hunting age would be to expose children to hunting sooner, the bill itself seems altruistic. It's no secret that few crowbars can match the rigidity of Wisconsin's wallet during the past several years, and the Department of Natural Resources has been suffering right along with the rest of us.

Despite selling millions of hunting and fishing licenses annually, the Wisconsin DNR is forced to make painful cuts that will affect our state's outdoors programs. In order to offset negative program changes and account for inflation, license fees should be increased yearly, but many haven't been in nearly a decade.

The budget cuts within the DNR have created vacancies in Conservation Warden and Wildlife Biologist positions, caused a 70 percent reduction in operating funds for public land management and strongly influenced an overall decrease in the quality of our lakes and streams.

Legislators knew something had to be done to fix the problem. Lowering the hunting age seemed to be the most logical way to boost income. With the number of baby boomers soon retiring from the hunting lifestyle, it seemed prudent to engage younger people into outdoor activities.

"It's important to get kids involved in hunting at a younger age. If they're not engaged in hunting by 12 or 13, they probably won't ever

once said, "the most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science. He to whom this emotion is a stranger, who can no longer pause to wonder and stand rapt in awe, is as good as dead: his eyes are closed." So get up off the couch, shut off the video games, stop complaining of boredom and journey to the haunts of Wisconsin that just might freak you out and disturb your gentle intelligence with what you may see. Remember, eyes are made for seeing. Open yours.

be," said Scott Gunderson, a Republican Senator from Waterford and one of AB 586's authors.

With 8-year-olds in the bill's language, it was sent to the Senate with a strong bipartisan vote of 74 in favor and 19 against.

But some influential Wisconsin Legislators have a way of making children seem like poor quivering victims in society. Seeing that Governor Doyle recently made a law sticking kids back into car seats until they are eight years old, caterwauling about AB 586 surely abounded at the state capital until a compromise was reached.

And so, the majority of legislators in favor of the bill as it was, had to agree on new terms.

"Rather than rush into a vote, we should decide to work on a compromise to address some of the concern," said Mike Prentice, a spokesman for Republican Senator Scott Fitzgerald from Juneau.

The bill was amended to include that 10-year-olds, not 8-year-olds, would be allowed to obtain a hunting license and discharge weapons both while hunting and during target practice, as long as they were within arm's distance of a parent or guardian. Completion of a Hunter's Education course is still part of the package.

With these new changes in place, the new bill is expected to go back to the floor for a vote this week.

To read this bill in its entirety, go to www.legis.state.wi.us.

Campus Calendar of Outdoor Events

2/25 - 2/26

Winter Backpacking Trip
With Outdoor EdVentures

3/3 - 3/5

Wolf Ecology Workshop
With Treehaven

3/8

Primitive Fire Making
With Outdoor EdVentures

Science, Health & Tech.

Reiki heals their pain when nothing else can

Joe Pisciotto
THE POINTER
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Jason Lund used to have severe neck pains. His pain was so debilitating that, on certain days he could do nothing but sleep it off. Pain killers were largely ineffective, chiropractor visits and acupuncture offered only temporary relief and no one could tell Lund what the cause was. Then he discovered Reiki.

Lund, a 26-year-old ice delivery driver and massage therapy student in Chicago recalled his pain intensifying in 2001 after he lost control of his car on the highway and slammed into the concrete

median. He described the chronic pain that would begin to plague him as horrible. When no one could diagnose him, Lund took the diagnosis into his own hands.

In 2002 Lund moved to Salt Lake City to begin his studies at the Utah School of Massage Therapy. "I had seen a chiropractor for a couple of things," he said. "Then I got into massage and, you know, you start looking things up."

"It was the second or third week of school and my friend Jaren, a Reiki Master, asked me if I'd like some Reiki. At first I said no, but then I changed my mind," said Lund. He was glad he did.

As Jaren began to work on him by placing his hands just above the crown of Lund's head, Lund said his whole spinal column felt like a lightning rod. "The energy was pouring out of my ears and everywhere," he said. "There was no explanation for it." He felt like he had been healed on a deep level.

The Reiki practitioner acts as a conduit to help channel ambient universal energy called "Rei" to replenish and balance an individual's "Ki," or fundamental life force, which is bodily energy that the individual uses up normally on a daily basis.

According to Tanmaya Honervogt, author of the book "The Power of Reiki," Reiki is an ancient healing form that originated in Buddhist doctrine 2,500 years ago, and at some point was lost. A Japanese monk, Mikao Usui, rediscovered it in the 19th century in an old Sanskrit text. Since then, Usui's interpretation of Reiki has been passed down from teacher to student, mostly in an oral manner.

Not everyone can get on board with all this talk of some amorphous life energy.

Said Lund: "People are like, 'what are you even talking about with the energy?' Most people don't understand it, but that's because they don't feel it normally. It's understandable."

Indeed, little hardcore scientific evidence has been conducted to test the validity of Reiki, even though there are many people out there who swear by it. According to the Ohio State University Medical Center Web site, substantial anecdotal evidence suggests that Reiki is effective for many people.

"After my first Reiki treatment I felt high. It lasted two days," said Meagan McGoldrick, a student at UW-SP. "I was totally skeptical, but I had this pain in my neck for weeks and I tried everything. I even went to physical therapy with no results. The pain didn't disappear immediately after Reiki, but a few days later it was gone and hasn't come back since."

According to Pam Gavrill, a Certified Holistic Nurse and local Reiki Master-Teacher, Reiki can serve as a substantial compliment to traditional Western medicine.

"You're not trying to cure a person, you're trying to heal them. There is a difference. [Reiki] is basically getting to the root of what's caus-



Photo by Mae Wernicke

ing the illness," said Gavrill. "Medicine treats the symptom, which isn't bad - you need that - but if you don't get to the root cause often times the symptoms will just come back."

Gavrill, who has been practicing Reiki for nearly 20 years, will be teaching a Reiki Level I class here on Feb. 24-25. "You are taught a self-

Body Connections in the Allen Center for \$45.

During a Reiki session the healer will place their hands over certain points of the patient's body (most people don't touch the body, but some do), sometimes corresponding to Chakras, or central energy centers. The treatment can be general or focused on particular parts of the body to

heal specific ailments, whether physical, emotional or mental. Evidence from small studies suggests that Reiki is an anti-inflammatory, can relieve stress and boost the immune system.

"When I'm giving Reiki sometimes I can

feel something, and the client can feel nothing," said Lund. "Sometimes I feel nothing, but the client feels something. Sometimes both." Some people report feeling a slight heat sensation during the process. Most report feeling relaxed afterwards.

Lund, who currently has a Level II certification, plans to go on to the next level and become a Master-Teacher. He sees Reiki as a way of being and as a prerequisite for holistic healing.

As for his chronic neck pain, Lund has it under control now.

"I feel a lot better, I'm feeling really good because of Reiki, my own mental preparation and other things."

"Reiki is basically getting to the root of what's causing the illness. Medicine treats the symptom..."

energy treatment so that you can do self-healing, and you are taught to do an energy treatment on another person," she said.

Gavrill will also be offering a Level II class on April 21-22. "It takes you more into a practitioner mode," she said.

"The class provides you an opportunity to get away, relax and learn something new. What you learn is that you really are in control of who you are and your own self-health. When you have that good foundation then you really can offer that up to someone else," said Gavrill.

Each session will be offered to UW-SP students for \$110. Sign up at the Cardio Center front desk.

Students who just want to get a treatment can get 45-minute sessions at Mind &

TECH TIDBIT *Rrrrrr, Mr. Anderson!*

Joe Pisciotto
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The last Camarasaurus roamed this planet nearly 145-million years ago. But that streak ended last Tuesday when Caleb Chung, Ugobe Inc. co-founder and inventor of the Furby, introduced excited onlookers to a life-like robotic dinosaur from the Jurassic era named Pleo.

"He's an autonomous animal," said Chung as he gave the attendees of the DEMO 2006 cutting-edge technology conference in Phoenix a look at the first in a line of "Life Forms" that Ugobe plans to unveil.

With only six minutes allotted for his presentation, Chung set the cat-sized Pleo down on a table and encouraged the little robotic dinosaur to awaken from what seemed to be eons of sleep. Utilizing his 38 sensors and 14 servo motor joints, Pleo appeared to slowly gain consciousness as he made realistic movements to investigate his new world, even stopping at the edge of the table when he realized he couldn't go any farther.

As Pleo cried in despair, Chung lent him a helping hand by picking the dinosaur up. Pleo instantly seemed apprehensive.

"It's the first time he's ever been picked up," explained Chung. "He's got sensors on his feet, so he knows. But the next time he won't be as afraid; and after that he'll probably like to be thrown around quite a bit."

Pleo uses its sensors to register sight, sound and touch. Each Pleo is built with predetermined natural tendencies, but after it comes alive it will develop and evolve according to the unique stimuli around it.

According to the folks at Ugobe, Pleo will gradually learn as it writes its own software code while receiving feedback from the world. It will create a unique personality to interact with people; and, eerily, it will supposedly be able to communicate with other Ugobe Life Forms.

From sadness to aggression and hunger to exhaustion Pleo will let its owners know how it is feeling. During Tuesday's demonstration Pleo appeared to be sad when Chung ignored him, but perked up immediately when played with. When Pleo finally gets tired it can be put to sleep in its regeneration bed to recharge.

Pleo is filled with state-of-the-art technology including eight microprocessors and an upgradeable operating system. Pleo's memory can also be expanded.

Ugobe plans to have Pleo in stores in time for this Christmas shopping season. The price: a rather affordable \$200.

Luckily these creatures don't have teeth. But we might still want to be weary if these self-learning social robots ever get really pissed. Will it be the red pill, or the blue pill?

Birth control options plentiful at University Health Service

Sara Suchy
SCIENCE REPORTER

According to a study done by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services more than 48 percent of college-age females and almost 59 percent of college-age males are sexually active, while 50 percent of college-age women are on birth control pills. It's no secret that college students tend to have an active libido, so it is important that students are educated about the risks of sex and go about it in a safe and responsible manner. University Health Service has all the resources any student could need to practice safer sex.

Sandra Ruston, a women's health nurse practitioner at Delzell Hall, explained some of the options students have for birth control. "All of our staff members are committed to providing students with safe, confidential access to birth control. We are respectful of our patient's wishes and never judgmental... we want to make sure that students are comfortable coming to us."

The University Health Service offers all major types of contraceptive methods that are on the market. If a student, male or female, wishes to obtain or inquire about birth control, the student simply needs to make that request by calling or visiting the reception desk on first floor Delzell. An appointment with a nurse practitioner, physician assistant or physician will be scheduled to discuss options in detail. For a female student requesting a contraceptive method the decision is based on her own medical history as well as her family's medical history and her personal wishes.

"We are always respectful of a student's birth control preferences including complete abstinence," Ruston said. "If she wants to be put on the pill but won't be able to remember to take them every day, then she might consider another option."

At the University Health Service, options are plentiful. They offer condoms and diaphragms as well as hormonal contraceptives such as the pill, Ortho Evra patch, vaginal Nuvaring, Depo-Provera shot and intra-uterine devices (IUD).

One of the newer pills on

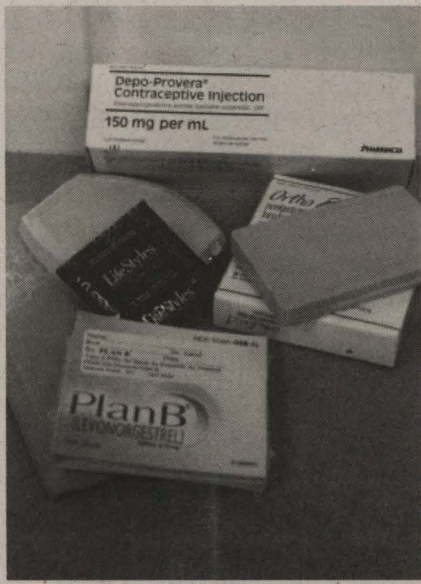


Photo by Mae Wernicke

the market is called Seasonale. It is a pill packet that allows women to have only four periods a year. A current trend is for a woman to take one pill daily for as long as three consecutive months. This continuous option is especially popular among athletes and women who experience lots of cramping, menstrual migraines, acne or heavy bleeding associated with their period.

"Seasonale improves their overall menstrual-related quality of life," said Ruston, adding that "other brands of pills can be used in the same manner."

A government-sponsored program is now being offered at University Health Service called the Family Planning Waiver Program. The purpose is to provide contraceptive services and related reproductive health care to eligible low-income women at no cost. If a single woman's income (not including her family's income) is less than \$1,435 a month (\$1,926 a month for a married student), she is eligible. The program is limited to citizens of the United States.

The services include, but

are not limited to, routine reproductive health exams and tests, pregnancy testing and counseling, emergency contraceptives, and screening and treatment for sexually transmitted infections and urinary tract infections. In the past University Health Service had to charge at least \$20 a month for birth control pills. "Some students would get their prescriptions written through us and then go over to Family Planning to get the pills because they were free. Now we can provide both," said Ruston.

There are two new government warnings out that women should be aware of when choosing contraceptives. According to a new label on the Ortho Evra birth control patch, "[the user] will be exposed to about 60 percent more estrogen... than a typical birth control pill."

The other warning is for women who use the birth control shot, Depo-Provera, which may cause bone density loss. "Since women up to age 25 are building up to their maximum bone density, this may not be the best choice for them," said Ruston.

All matters of personal safety can be discussed with a woman's health provider in determining which method is best.

Finally, let's say you're using your birth control method and it fails (e.g. condom breaks, diaphragm slips, forgot to take that damn pill). The University Health Service offers, free of charge, "Plan B" emergency contracep-

see Birth Control pg. 15

UW-SP renewable energy supply in the hands of students

Referendum up for vote next week

Sara Suchy
SCIENCE REPORTER

On Feb. 20-24 students will have the opportunity to vote on a referendum proposal to add approximately \$1.75 to student fees in order to acquire 10 percent of campus energy from renewable sources. This idea was brought to SGA last year by executive director Justin Gleicher and Senator Michelle Law.

The renewable energy would come from wind turbines and biomass. According to Wisconsin Public Works, wind energy does not pollute the air or water and biomass burns relatively clean compared with coal or natural gas, which harm the environment. If this system is implemented, the UW-SP campus would save 1,000 pounds of coal per unit of renewable energy used.

According to Geography and Geology Professor Salvatore Engel-DiMauro, renewable energy is an important step in decreasing our dependency on fossil fuels.

In an article published on CNN.com by Graham Jones on Oct. 3, 2003, Swedish Professor Kjell Alekett of Sweden's University of Uppsala stated that "oil production levels will hit their maximum soon after 2010, with gas supplies peaking not long afterwards. At that point, prices for petrol and other fuels will reach disastrous levels." Many experts agree that it is more important than ever to shift our resources from fossil fuels, which will run out sooner than most scientists originally thought, to

renewable sources, which are much better for the environment and will last much longer than fossil fuels.

Why the added cost, though? Engel-DiMauro explains that the infrastructure to support renewable energy (i.e. wind turbines, solar panels) is not well established yet. We need to be willing to invest in the program so it can be further developed and become more widespread.

"In 2004 the UW-SP campus used 2.2 million Kilowatts per hour from coal and natural gas sources," said Ross Cohen, executive director of SGA. "If this referendum passes, 10 percent of that could be from environmentally sound renewable energy sources."

UW-Oshkosh is currently the highest user of renewable energy sources in the UW-system. Cohen said, "We have a lot of people who care about the environment on this campus. I think the students should step up and take the initiative."

So what do some students think of this idea? Becca Tucker, a sophomore chemistry major, said, "Renewable energy is very important for the future of the environment; \$1.75 is a small price to pay for peace of mind for future generations."

Stacey Lilla, a freshman on campus agrees with Tucker. "It's a good idea. [The money] is not that big a deal since we are saving our natural resources and it's not that expensive

see Energy pg. 15

What's Happening at the Allen Center...

Chelsey Ross
CARDIO CENTER

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Arts & Review

Wingmen land successfully at the Encore

Aaron Schulz
ARTS AND REVIEW REPORTER

A new band landed at the Encore in Stevens Point last Thursday night, a self-described acoustic rock jam band named Waiting for Wingmen.

The band consists of three multi-talented musicians that combine rock, folk, blues and rap. Members are John Santy (guitar/bass/vocals), Chad Galaszewski (guitar/bass/drums/vocals) and Jared Kropidlowski (drums/guitar/vocals). They delivered in a big way to an appreciative audience.

All three band members are accomplished musicians, each playing several instruments. However, most notable was their singing, especially when

they sang together. Their vocal harmonies are very reminiscent of Dispatch with one singing melody and the other two singing over in a complex round, but it all fits together just right. The Wingmen are obviously paying tribute to their musical heroes: John Mayer, Jack Johnson, Howie Day and Dispatch. But they are not mere copyists. They manage to put their unique sound to the music and make it their own.

They played two sets, the first of which was acoustic. The set-list was a mix of covers and originals. All three displayed their vocal talents. Some highlights of the first set were an excellent cover sung by Santy of Third Eye Blind's "Semi-Charmed Kind of Life,"

Howie Day's "Collide," and Dispatch's "Two Coins." All were sung by Galaszewski. Kropidlowski sang a very soothing original called "The Innocence."

All three musicians sang a rousing original party number, "Drunk Girls," which ended the first set with a bang.

For their second set the band plugged in and rocked out. And, according to Santy, it was their "electric debut." Before Thursday night the band played at open mics as an acoustic act. Among the songs they played was Robert Johnson's heavily covered blues classic "Crossroads," made popular by Cream. Santy did a great job vocally, choosing to sing at a lower pitch which was impres-

sive since most singers that cover that song try to sound like Clapton. The set included two more strong songs, "Girl I Wanna Lay You Down," a blues rocker, and "G-String." "G-String" got the people up and out dancing.

The highlight of the evening came when Kropidlowski made a friendly bet with his band mates and the audience. He said that if enough people would dance in front of the stage, he would stand on top of his drum stool and try to play.

Enough people came and he stood on his stool and played with his knees bent. To his credit he played well for the few seconds he had his balance. He lost his balance and fell off knock-

ing the plug out of the amp while Galaszewski was playing his guitar. The band stopped for a little bit to fix the problem and then went right back at it. Santy had a minor accident as well. While playing and singing he knocked his mouth on the mic a little too hard and chipped a tooth. "Looks like I need a little dental work," he joked to the audience.

Waiting for Wingmen was a treat to see and I highly recommend them to anyone who likes all the artists mentioned above. If you like feel-good music, as well as music that has a message, then check them out.

You will have a winging good time.

Ford channels formulaic "reluctant hero" for role

Blair Nelson
ARTS AND REVIEW REPORTER

Harrison Ford returns in his latest action film, "Firewall." After a three-year acting hiatus, he is directed by Richard Loncraine ("Wimbledon") in this traditional action-thriller.

The film's synopsis: Jack Stanfield (Ford), the head of network security for a global bank, is blackmailed into stealing from his own depository by the film's nemesis, Bill Cox (Paul Bettany, "A Beautiful Mind"), and his gang.

What starts as Jack being the victim of identity theft turns into a far greater dilemma, as Cox's grand intentions are manifested—all while Jack's family is held hostage. But after discovering his opponent is losing the high ground, this ordinary computer specialist decides not to take it, in the Harrison-Ford-action-hero-way.

Fans of Ford are very familiar with this personification over many films. The audience will recognize the blend of traits from his characters in "Patriot Games," "Air Force One," and "The Devil's Own." Many bad guys have found out that if they mess with any of these Ford archetypes—and especially his family—their doom is sealed.

These Ford facades have no doubt been fun to watch over the years. The drawback is, action movies with this specific type of protagonist are rarely made anymore.

"Firewall" is trying to resurrect that action hero; unfortunately, it shows that the character is like a well-worn sweater: aged and essentially dying. Ford is physically getting old, and

pretty soon he won't be able to play these reluctant hero roles.

It's not baffling that after a fairly long absence of acting, he would stick to his guns and choose a typical character type he's made famous. But as he's been script-shopping, why not land the old-

many others) gone to?

The opening of "Firewall" begins well enough. Soon, though, it's off-kilter and unsure what to do with itself. At one point it resembles "The Fugitive" (a Ford movie), and at other times a cheesy, by-the-books thriller. Joe Forte's script is

often weak, and the dialogue is just plain silly at times.

There are a few scenes with good writing. But the catch phrases grow tiresome, as does Ford's husky voice. This is one of those formulaic, no-thinking action movies. Some of us enjoy them; some of us are tired of them.

The film does have its strong foundations.



style Harrison Ford personas, such as ones similar to the charisma and ingenuity of Indiana Jones, or the wit and charm of Han Solo. Where have those Ford characters (and

tions. Camera angles are interesting and creative, as is the look of the film, drenched heavily in rain. Paul Bettany's Cox makes a pretty good baddie here. There is a seg-

ment when you think he's the stereotypical villain, but he changes all thoughts of that later.

He's nowhere near the monster he portrayed in the independent film "Gangster No. 1." Only, sad to say, just when you're going to get inside his head, and hear what makes him tick, the chance is gone.

Likewise, Ford does have moments of subtlety, even if they are scarce. The utter nervousness in Jack's countenance as the situation paralyzes him comes through in Ford's performance well.

There are also some key supporting performances, such as Jack's wife, played by Virginia Madsen ("Sideways"). She does deliver a few powerful lines that show courage, even if she is a hostage and has little to do. But she isn't stuck in the rut of the typical "defenseless" woman that Hollywood has oftentimes placed women in. She embodies tidbits of Ripley (from the "Alien" movies), and plenty of Holly McClane from "Die Hard," both excellent and strong female roles.

nonetheless, in the end "Firewall" is brought down by action movie clichés and unoriginality, and the character Ford helped create from others before him that has become exhausted.

"Face/Off," a 1997 film, if even more far-fetched, demonstrated that the action film genre can always be tweaked and refined. "Firewall" doesn't try hard enough to follow that line of thinking, and many may find that the film ultimately suffers as a result.

from **Energy** pg. 13

per person."

Senior Steve Xiong said, "Yes, it's a good idea. We spend so much money [on student fees] anyway; it's nice to spend it on something that will save the environment."

In addition to the 10 percent that SGA hopes to get from student fees, they are also asking Chancellor Linda Bunnell and the UW-SP administration to fund a matching 10 percent. "If that happens, that's 20 percent of our energy coming from renewable sources, which is a great start. Hopefully we will gain more and more support for this program and be able to increase our usage of renewable energy in the coming years," said Cohen.

For more information on the renewable energy program, visit www.wisconsin-publicworks.com or visit SGA in room 026 of the UC.

from **Birth Control** pg. 13

tives for just such an emergency. According to Planned Parenthood, if taken within 72 hours of unprotected sexual intercourse, it reduces the risk of pregnancy by 75-89 percent, depending on how long the woman waits after unprotected sexual contact.

"We offer Plan B in the case of an emergency and we also give it out to women as a standby if she should ever need it," said Ruston. If a student needs Plan B all she needs to do is come in or call Health Service and an appointment will be made for her to get a prescription. Plan B is available at the Health Service Pharmacy.

For more information on the services University Health Service provides, contraceptive related or otherwise, or to make an appointment, call 346-4646.

from **Olympics** pg. 9

output at the games, allowing the spotlight to be shone on the inabilities of the team rather than the triumphs.

Ice skater Michelle Kwan has been hampered by injury for most of the recent past. Her nagging groin injury has forced her to forgo her chance at finally winning a gold in Olympic competition. Kwan may never get that chance again as an Olympian.

Even before the games began, American skier Bode Miller made waves with his remarks about skiing while drunk and his accusations that Barry Bonds and Lance Armstrong were "cheating" by taking steroids or other illegal substances.

Many critics of Miller were hoping to fry the two-time silver medalist if he performed poorly at this year's games. The critics can begin to practice their tongue lashings, as Miller failed to medal in the men's downhill event, placing fifth. He was also disqualified from the men's Alpine combined event on Tuesday for straddling a gate after leading the competition following his run. Miller can still defy the jeers, as he will compete in several more events at the Torino games.

Another decorated American athlete in Winter Olympics XX is Apolo Anton Ohno, short track speed skater who won silver and gold in 2002 and is a three-time overall World

Cup champion. Ohno's first event in these Olympics was the 1500m, the event he won in Salt Lake. Ohno qualified for the finals in the 1500m, but nearly fell in the finals themselves.

Oh, no!

His slip-up cost him a spot and the medal stand as he finished a distant eighth. Ohno will again compete in Torino in the 1000m, 500m and the 500m relay.

It may be too early to call the U.S. team completely out of contention for respectability at the 2006 Winter Olympics. But to see such decorated athletes like Miller and Ohno fail to finish on the podium in events they have excelled at makes one wonder. Is this really America's best team?

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