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SGA takes stance against marriage amendment

Megan Hablewitz
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During their meeting on Thursday, September 28, senators from the Student Government Association voted to take a stance against the proposed marriage amendment that will appear on state ballots for the November 7 elections, and they will encourage students to do the same when they head to the polls.

Co-authored by Gay-Straight Alliance Co-President Aidan Arnold and SGA Legislative Issues Director Andy Janicki, the resolution explains why SGA believes the amendment is unnecessary and the implications it will have for homosexual partnerships and partnerships between unmarried residents in Wisconsin if it is passed.

The amendment to the state constitution was passed by state legislators and will get put to the popular vote during the upcoming election.

"Put simply, this amendment would not change the status of marriage in Wisconsin," said Arnold. "There already exists a statute defining marriage as between a husband and wife, which has never been interpreted as anything but a man and woman.

"But in saying that anything substantially similar to marriage would be illegal would make civil unions in Wisconsin impossible, and may challenge domestic partnerships that are already established for gay and straight couples alike."

SGA's decision to oppose the amendment was based on input they received from University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students.

"We received a lot of feedback by talking to our constituents, and from the responses to our SMOD (Student Message of the Day)," said Justin Glodowski, a

senator from the College of Professional Studies. "We also invited students to attend our meeting.

"The response we initially received was overwhelmingly against the marriage amendment."

According to Arnold, three senators co-sponsored the resolution immediately, with only one senator in opposition.

"It excites me that the majority of students on campus oppose this amendment and I hope that they will

remember to vote when Nov. 7 comes along," said Arnold.

On Friday morning after the resolution was passed, a campus-wide e-mail was sent urging students to vote against the amendment during the upcoming election. This e-mail upset many students who felt that SGA should not be advocating a position for or against the amendment.

"That e-mail got us a lot of flack," said Glodowski.

According to Janicki, the e-mail was taken out of con-

see SGA pg. 2

Campus Clean-up Campaign begins

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With all of the construction equipment and supplies occupying the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus these days, it's easy to forget what the campus used to look like.

But that's exactly what Chancellor Linda Bunnell hopes to change.

Bunnell, along with

the members of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) launched the Campus Clean-up Campaign Monday in an attempt to keep the campus clean and litter-free.

"I asked PRSSA for help because I thought, who would know better about how to appeal to students than the students them-

Chancellor Brunnell speaks to students at the kickoff of the campaign.

Photo by Megan Hablewitz

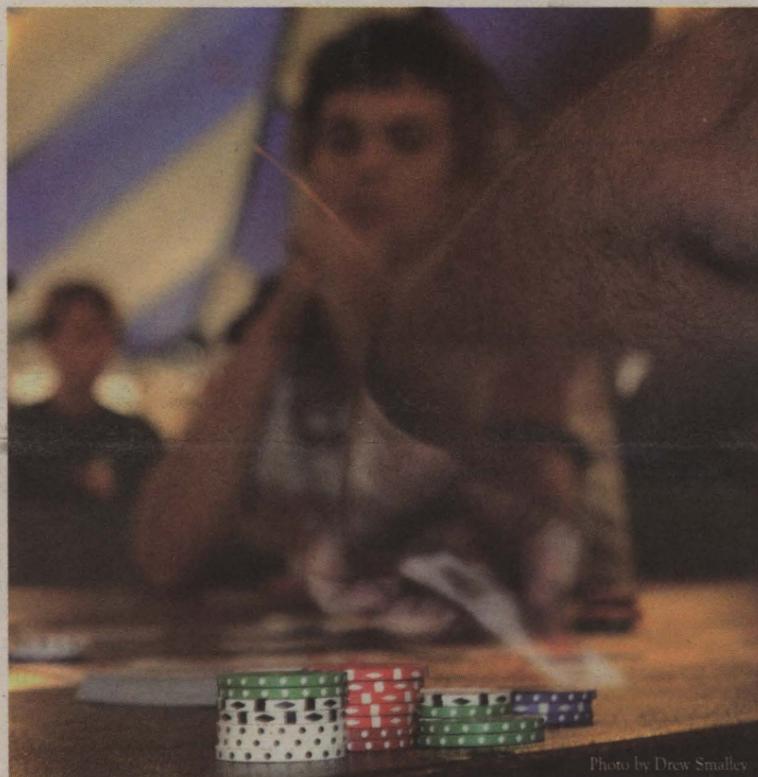


Photo by Drew Stalvey

A student reveals his hand in hopes to increase chip stack at Tuesday's Poker Tournament in the DeBot Tent.

selves?" said Bunnell. "They made the proposal to me."

"Students need to take pride and responsibility in their campus," said PRSSA President Chelsey Ross. "When potential new students are here visiting, they notice what the campus looks like. And now with the closure of the Dreyfus University Center, more students are bringing fast food to campus, which means more wrappers and garbage are ending up on the ground."

"I pick up litter every day," said Bunnell, "and I hope students will help do the same."

The goal of the campaign is to make students more aware of trash on the ground and get them to utilize the trash bins that are located all across campus. As part of the initiative, a large banner was hung outside of the DeBot Center, and

large stickers bearing the campaign's slogan, "Don't be a dirty dawg-keep your campus clean!" were placed on all of the garbage and recycling bins. The decals are illustrated with a picture of Stevie Pointer, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point mascot, and a globe.

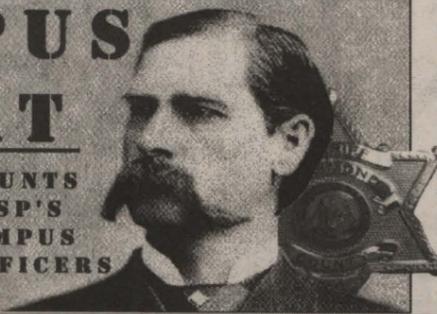
"We chose Stevie because every UW-SP student can relate to him and to being a Pointer, and we chose the globe to represent the strong environmental awareness this university is so proud to have," said Ross.

The campaign, which will continue throughout the school year, will culminate with Earth Day in April.

"The first step is just to get the word out," said Ross. "Then we can start getting the garbage off of the ground."

CAMPUS BEAT

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



SUSPICIOUS

College of Natural Resources
September 20, 2006 11:16 a.m.

The Biology office called in about a suspicious black case left on the sidewalk outside of the CNR,

ABANDONED PROPERTY

Learning Resource Center
September 20, 2006 11:21 a.m.

A bike and some food were reported as sitting outside of the LRC for several days.

VEHICLE DAMAGE

Parking Lot P
September 22, 2006

A side mirror was broken off of a vehicle in Lot P.

LITTERING

DeBot
September 23, 2006 5:27 p.m.

An individual was caught throwing trash around outside of DeBot. The individual was forced to pick up the trash.

MEDICAL EMERGENCY

September 23, 2006 7:03 p.m.

An ambulance was called to DeBot after a girl reported feeling ill.

DRUGS

Smith Hall
October 1, 2006 10:12 p.m.

A yellow bag containing narcotic equipment was found behind Smith Hall.

from SGA pg. 1

text.

"One of the executives sent out the e-mail," he said. "We weren't telling anyone how to vote."

The marriage amendment is a controversial issue that has been stirring up strong opinions since it was voted on by Wisconsin lawmakers.

UW-SP experienced this firsthand Wednesday as a group of protesters holding signs bearing slogans against homosexuality gathered outside of the College of Natural Resources. The protesters made their presence felt, and by 11 a.m. a crowd of onlook-

ers had gathered to see what the commotion was about. The Stevens Point Police Department was also present to make sure the protests did not get out of hand.

"I believe everyone is allowed to have their own opinion," said Gina Patovisti, a senior Psychology major. "However, (the demonstrators) are wrong for trying to disturb education on campus and for trying to get people to believe one thing.

"It makes me laugh how ridiculous and ignorant people can be," said Patovisti.

Students can view the resolution passed by SGA at www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/sga/legislation.html.

Clean money makes for a clean election

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It seems that in every major election, with very few exceptions, the citizens of the United States of America have a choice between rich old white guy number one and rich old white guy number two. This is true in part because it costs so much money to run for office that the only people with the resources to run are rich old white guys.

Joan Mandle and the people of Clean Money, Clean Election are trying to change this truth about American politics, one campus at a time.

The Clean Money, Clean Election campaign is part of a larger grass roots organization called, Democracy Matters which encourages students to get involved in politics and make a difference in their world.

Mandle was on campus Monday morning to talk to political science majors at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point about the Clean Money, Clean Election campaign. The program allows for a public funding of any candidate who wishes to run for office in any election provided they have enough local support.

This would mean that in states with this program, if a student (or any citizen) wanted to run for public office, all they would need to do is get enough signatures of support and they would be granted a certain amount of money which they could use to campaign.

"This program would help open up the political system to those who

didn't have the money to run before because now they have the funds to compete," said Mandle.

Mandle is hoping the UW-SP will get involved in the grassroots organization and advocate for change in the political system.

"We already have about 100 campuses on board," said Mandle, and several states have already passed into law the clean money clean election bill.

Tara Spurlock, a senior political science major, is spearheading this project on campus. "We hope to get other already established student organizations on campus involved in this cause," said Spurlock, "we just need to get the word out there."

"Not only is this a good idea, but it works," said Mandle. There have been election campaigns run by regular citizens using the money provided by governments who have already singed into law Clean Money, Clean Elections and have won.

"In Maine, 10 out of the 11 state office positions were won by candidates who used the clean money clean election system," said Mandle.

Now Mandle and Spurlock are working tirelessly to make this vision a reality for the state of Wisconsin and the nation.

"This is our chance to take back our democracy," said Mandle, "we are empowering young people to get involved and use their voice in politics because they can make a difference."

For more information on how to get involved in Clean Money, Clean Election or Democracy Matters, please contact Tara Spurlock.

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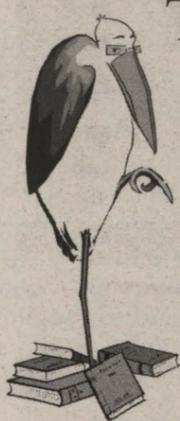
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ASSOCIATED COLLEGIATE PRESS

Dream becomes a reality for Koepke family home



This week ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" comes to Dundee, Wis., to tear down and rebuild the Koepke family home.

Photos Provided by The Fond du Lac Reporter



people care and are willing to put their lives on hold to help someone else. On Friday, the Koepke family will come home to family, friends and a brand new home. Matt may not physically be in the house, but his presence will no doubt be felt in all that the house is made of.

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For a community of sixty people, this week will never be forgotten. But for one family within this small community, the week is one that is almost too bittersweet to take in. In Dundee, Wis., home of Hamburger Haus and Dundee Mill Park, lives a family who is taking each day at a time, making it as worthwhile as possible, as they have been for the past six months.

The Koepke family, consisting of Matthew and Christine, and their children Derek, 22, Jayna, 20, Mitchell, 17, and Johanna, 16, were given the news no family ever wants to hear. In April, Matt was diagnosed with metastatic melanoma, a rare form of cancer that had begun under his left arm, but had spread to his brain. Luckily family, friends and a certain call from California helped take the attention off of the illness.

The Koepke household has been filled with excitement the past few months, as hopes of being selected for ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" grew more possible with each letter and visit from executives of the show. After being nominated by Friends of Matt, an organization started by friends and family of the Koepkes to raise money for medical expenses, the family was contacted by the show's executives to inform them that they were in the running for the one and only house to be remodeled in Wisconsin.

After months of uncertainty, the dream became reality on Friday, September 29, when the Koepkes were greeted by Ty Pennington, star of the show, and the design team, on their doorstep. Unfortunately, only five members of the family were able to greet Ty and the cast. Matt passed away on August 21, at the age of 41,

while surrounded by his loving family.

This week is filled with anticipation and wonder of what Ty and the team will create, but the experience is not as fulfilling as it would be if Matt was present.

Jennifer Braatz, 23, a former co-worker of Chris', said "It is so sad that a devoted father must leave his family. But, it is comforting to know that Matt's dream of having his family in a wonderful home is becoming reality."

While the Koepke family is in San Diego for an all-expense paid vacation during the remodeling, cast and crew are working very hard to finish the house for the Friday, October 6, 2 p.m. deadline. With the help of over 1,200 volunteers throughout the week, the project is several hours ahead of deadline as of Wednesday. Even, Wisconsin weather, with severe winds and thunderstorms, has been unable to halt the work.

"I got chills when I saw the new home after it was framed. I couldn't be more thrilled that the family is getting this house" said Pam Giebel, 23, Chris' co-worker at ShopKo.

In addition to all of the volunteers working non-stop to give the Koepke family a brand new home, work will be done to repair the mill at Dundee Mill Park, located just down the road from the Koepke home. A new turbine, costing approximately \$9,400 will be installed some time this week. The mill was a project and hobby of Matt's which included keeping the mill clean and checking water levels in the pond and at Long Lake. He also served as president of the Mill Pond Association.

"This community is not only able to see the Koepke family get a brand new home, they all are receiving a brand new turbine. This truly is a

double blessing," said Emily Arndt, 18, another one of Chris' co-workers.

This entire experience has turned the small community

of Dundee into a statewide tourist attraction. People are coming from all over to see the amazing task and dream come true. It really shows that

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Tattoos: a growing trend for self-expression

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There are many ways for people to express themselves. Some write poetry, others choose to make their feelings known through music. Perhaps one of the most unique ways for an individual to let the world know who they are is to mark it permanently on their skin. Tattoos have become a popular trend in recent years as a way to set individuals apart from the crowd. Once seen only on sailors and circus performers, tattoos can now be found almost anywhere, including right here on the college students at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Tattoos have a very extensive history. According to Stephen G. Gilbert, author of "Tattoo History Source Book," archeological excavations in Europe have revealed tools that may have been used for tattoo application during the Upper Paleolithic era, up to 40,000 years ago.

The art of tattooing has different meanings and interpretations in many cultures around the world. Tribes in Polynesia signified their marital status, class and special skills by the tattoos they wore. South and Central American people used tattooing in some religious rituals.

Samuel O'Reilly, who patented an electric tattoo machine in 1891, brought tattooing into the mainstream. Before O'Reilly's invention, tattoos were done with hand-held instruments and took much more time to apply. Because of the electric machine,

everyone had the opportunity to get tattoos, instead of just the wealthy upper class.

By the time the 20th century came along, tattoos were only associated with certain groups. People with an excessive number of tattoos toured with the circus as sideshow performers. Crowds would pay to see the bodies permanently adorned with ink and hear the stories behind the art. Another group associated with tattooing was sailors. Many of the pieces the men displayed had specific meanings that coincided with their profession.

Tattooing fell out of favor after World War II, however, because of the social fear of contracting a disease from poorly sterilized equipment. During this time, the only people who seemed to have tattoos were bikers and social outcasts. Even so, the art did not take long to come back in style; a decade or so later, the trend was revived with the 1960s and the anti-war/hippie movement.

Today, the art of tattooing has grown as a way for someone to express his or her individual tastes. Television shows like "Miami Ink," on The Learning Channel, and "Inked," on A&E, have popularized them even more. They show that a wide variety of

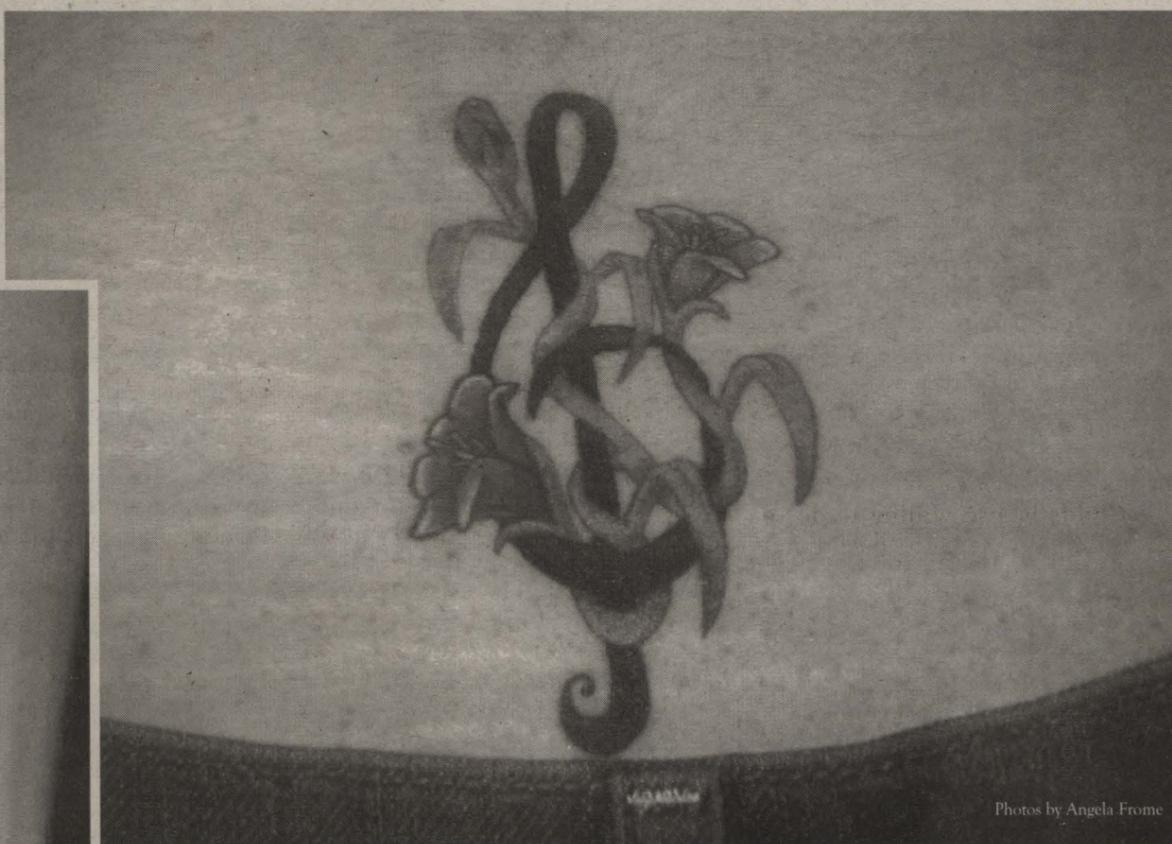
people get tattoos for many different reasons.

One study estimates that close to 39 million people in North America have tattoos. Some of them can be found right here on campus. Student Shawn Connelly's tattoo features the symbol for 'natural' enclosed in a guitar pick shape on his left wrist. His passion for music inspired the design: "music is a huge part of my life."

Rachel Rucinski, a junior, has a triskele, which is a Celtic symbol that means, "mother goddess" on the back of her neck. The individual colors in the design symbolize earth, water and sky.

Getting a tattoo is not for the delicate. The process involves piercing the skin, so the experience can be painful, depending on an individual's tolerance. Connelly, for example, describes his encounter as "tingly," while others may judge it excruciating. The entire process can last from less than an hour to several weeks, depending on the amount of detail involved in the design, the colors used and the number of sittings required to complete the piece.

For more information, visit www.body-jewelry-useek.com/history-of-tattoos.htm or tattoos.com.



Photos by Angela Frome

Tattoos adorn many students who attend UW-Stevens Point.

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Sports

Pointer football trounces Trinity International

Football

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For the second straight week, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point football team claimed a road victory in impressive fashion. Like last week's game in Iowa, the Pointers got off to another quick start and never looked back. The 35-0 victory over Trinity International was the second in as many weeks for the Pointers.

Leading the Pointers offensively was senior running back Cody Childs, who tallied his third 100-yard performance of the season. Childs finished the day with 194 yards on 24 carries, reaching the end zone three times. Childs' dominance over Trinity began early, as he totaled 140 rushing yards in the first quarter alone. Childs now leads the WIAC conference in rushing yards, averaging 138.8 yards per game.

Besides leading the team statistically, Childs has also evolved as a player his teammates can turn to.

"Cody is a terrific runner," teammate Brain Borchart says. "But, he is a lot more to this team than rushing yards and touchdowns. He's a terrific leader who knows what to say when the team is losing focus or hanging our heads."

Childs is also willing to do the little things that help the Pointers succeed.

The offense continued its balanced attack running and passing, ending the game with 258 rushing yards and 217 passing yards. Quarterback Brett Borchart completed 19 of 29 passes for 205 yards

and two touchdowns. The senior quarterback now stands at second in the conference in passing yards and touchdown passes. Borchart was able to spread the ball around to eight different receivers, including receivers Luke Gunderson and Brad Kalsow. Gunderson ended the day with five catches for 48 yards while Kalsow caught four balls for 54 yards and two touchdowns.

While the offense continued to impress, the day belonged to the defense, which turned in their second consecutive dominant performance. Trinity was only able to muster four first downs the entire game. The Pointer defenders held Trinity to a miniscule 104 total yards, thanks in large part to their run defense. Trinity was unable to get anything going on the ground as Point held them to just 25 yards on 22 carries en route to their first shutout since 2003. Defensive back Lincoln Berg recorded an interception for the third consecutive game.

The win in Illinois evened the Pointers' record to 2-2. Over the last two games the Pointers have outscored their opponents 80-7, raising the team's confidence level as they head to Whitewater for their toughest test of the season.

"Right now we are all clicking," Borchart said. "You can really see the difference in the player's attitudes and swagger."

With Saturday's game, the Pointers will become the first team in Division III this season to play three teams nationally ranked in the top ten (Whitewater, La Crosse, Hardin-Simmons). Whitewater comes into the game with a 4-0 record, ranked second nationally in



Photo courtesy of UW-SP Athletic Department

Pointer squad gets win number two with help from #2 Cody Childs.

both polls.

UW-SP will be looking for their third consecutive win in Whitewater after winning there in 2002 and 2004. But in order to do that they must avoid an early deficit. Whitewater

has jumped on their opponents throughout their first four games, outscoring the competition by a 61-7 margin in the first quarter.

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- GNC

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Five top 10 finishers put Pointers second at Invite

Golf

UW-SP Athletic Department
PRESS RELEASE

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point had five players among the top 10 finishers to place second among eight teams at the Pointers' only home fall meet of the season on Saturday and Sunday at the Stevens Point Country Club.

All five players in the Pointers' lineup shot within seven strokes of one another as UW-SP posted a 647 team score to finish four strokes behind UW-Eau Claire. The Pointers were 36 strokes ahead of third place UW-Whitewater.

Freshman Amy Stiloski shot a season-best, two-over

par 75 to match the day's best score on Sunday and place fifth overall with a 160 total. Jessica Urban had an 80 on Sunday to drop one stroke from her Saturday score and place sixth with a 161. Susie Lewis carded an 81 each day to place seventh with a 162.

Katie Kautz fired an 84 on Saturday and an 82 on Sunday for a two-day total of 166 to place ninth, while Sarah Mosher was 10th with an 83 on Saturday and an 84 on Sunday for a 167.

The meet was the Pointers' final tune-up for this weekend's Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championships in Watertown that will determine the league's automatic berth to the NCAA Division III championships.

Women's soccer team falls short in Eau Claire

Soccer

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Saturday's women's soccer game between University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and UW-Eau Claire pitted two of the top teams in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference battling for control over the conference standings. Unfortunately for the Pointers, it's the Blugolds who are now in the driver's seat. Point's 3-0 loss in Eau Claire dropped their record to 1-1-1 in conference while Eau Claire improved to 4-0-0.

Despite staying even in shots (both teams totaled nine), Point was unable to find the back of the net. The Pointers were unable to muster many scoring chances as Eau Claire held the UW-SP offense in check. Leading scorers Amanda Prawat and Kaylee Weiss struggled to get open shots, ending the day with just one shot each. UW-EC put the match away early in the second half with a pair of goals spaced three minutes apart.

Goalie Meredith DeCaluwe finished with six saves, but surrendered three goals. The three point total for Eau Claire were the most

allowed by a Pointer squad in 108 all-time conference games. The loss was just the second of the season for the Pointers, both of which came against top five nationally ranked teams.

Coming into the game, the Pointers had 24 straight matches against Eau Claire without a loss. Such dominance undoubtedly puts a bull's-eye on the Pointers' backs. Eau Claire was determined to end the streak, which dated all the way back to 1991, and did so successfully.

The Pointers will look to rebound this week when they take on UW-La Crosse at the Pointer Soccer Bowl. A win would put the Pointers ahead of La Crosse in the conference standings. The game begins a streak in which Point will play four out of their next five games at home as they attempt to get back into the WIAC race. The latter half of the home stretch features teams within the conference who are near the bottom of the conference standings. If the Pointers plan to contend for yet another conference championship, putting together a winning streak during this stretch is imperative.

The Pointers will also be making their only television

appearance of the season this week on Sunday October 8. Fox Sports Network North will televise the Pointers 1-0 victory over UW-Oshkosh on September 20. The telecast is scheduled to begin at noon.

Senior on the Spot

Brad Seeley - Cross Country



Major - History/Broad Field Social Science (Education emphasis).

Hometown - Ringle, Wis.

Do you have any nicknames? - My friends have come up with a lot, but "Seel" has stuck the most.

What are your plans after graduation? - Hopefully grab a teaching and coaching job in the area. My ultimate dream would be to eventually do both at the collegiate level.

What has helped you become such an accomplished athlete? - I don't know if I am an "accomplished athlete" but I guess there are two things. First, is the fact that I am afraid of failure. I just don't want to let anyone (like my teammates) down. Second, is that I love running. I always say, running isn't for everyone but for me it is everything.

What is your favorite Pointer sports memory? - Running at the National meet in cross country. It is indescribable and something that I am hoping will happen again this season.

What's your most embarrassing moment? - I am going to plead the fifth on this one.

What CD is in your stereo right now? - Stone Sour's new album. I definitely lean towards rock music.

What DVD is currently in your DVD player? - Season Three of "Arrested Development." That show is genius.

What will you remember most about UW-SP? - My teammates. I am lucky because I get to run with some of the greatest guys in the world every day.

What are the three biggest influences in your life? - Number one has got to be my parents. They are absolutely amazing. Number two is my brothers. They taught me everything. And number three is all my friends. I don't know what I would do without them.

Get out of here!

Editorial

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The man pictured below is Albert Haynesworth, defensive tackle for the Tennessee Titans. This man was recently handed a five-game suspension for stomping on the head of Dallas Cowboys' center

Andre Gurode while he lay defenselessly on the ground, without a helmet. Gurode's wounds from the encounter left him with seven cuts which required 30 stitches. A five-game suspension for assault? Get out of here!

This is the largest suspension in NFL history, but frankly it just isn't enough. Gurode has the option to press charges and he would be stupid not to. But even if he does, will that be enough punishment for Haynesworth? Assuming he avoids jail time, get out of here!

Chances are he'll be back in uniform after five weeks since the Titan's offensive line is depleted even with him on the line. He'll be down tens of thousands of dollars but that won't matter. This guy has a six-year, \$9.6 million contract.

Shortly after the event happened, he said he was sorry for what he had done. I'm sure he'll have all sorts of kind words to say about Gurode, and will extend gifts of platinum chains and other random shiny objects to compensate for his manical behavior. But is he really sorry? Get out of here! Haynesworth is not sane. Sane people do not stomp on other people's heads.

Haynesworth does not belong on the field with normal athletes. He belongs in jail.

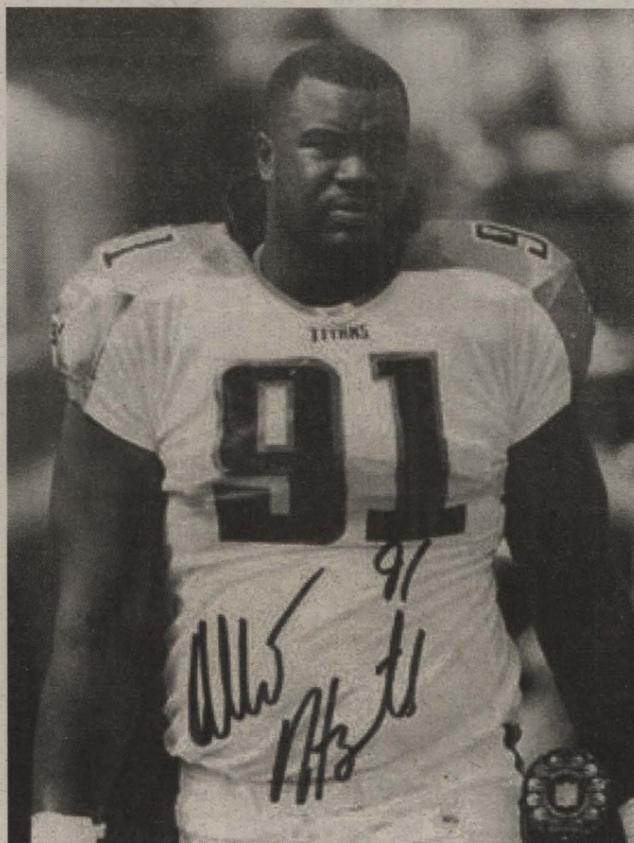


Photo provided by www.athlonsports.com

Dear Andre, sorry about your head. Love, Albert

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Science, Health & Tech.

University looks towards first steps in energy initiative

Jeff Peters
SCIENCE, HEALTH & TECH. REPORTER

Only a week after Governor Doyle came to the campus and announced his plan to make The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, along with three other University of Wisconsin schools, completely energy independent within five years, the University is faced with a daunting question--now what?

"We asked to be put on this list, although now that it's here, no one has the precise answer as to how we're going to accomplish this," said Larry Beck, Director of Facilities Services at UW-SP. "There will be a state-wide group formed from some highly technical people, and we'll start examining the various avenues to try to get this done."

UW-SP will be joining hands with UW-Green Bay, UW-Oshkosh, and UW-River Falls to try to find solutions for weaning such large institutions off their dependence on fossil fuels and converting them entirely to renewable energy.

"We'll all be working together. Not necessarily the same solution will fit every campus," said Beck.

Now that the Governor has given UW-SP his blessing, the next step is for the students, faculty, and administration to get the ball rolling, said Ross Cohen, President of the Student Government Association.

"Obviously to get an institution of this size completely energy independent and off the grid, it will take a whole lot of money and a whole lot of resources to make that happen. The Governor didn't come and say, 'Here's a check. Get it done.' He came and said, 'UW-SP you are an institution filled with bright minds and creative people. Go forth, figure out what it would take to make your campus become energy independent and make it happen.'

"The students, before this happened, have already taken the first step in this direction," said Cohen, referring to the surcharge students pay through their tuition to purchase ten percent of the University's electricity as renewable energy. Based on last December's rates, the renewable energy purchased from the NatureWise program cost twenty percent more than standard fossil fuels. UW-SP students pay that difference.

"The students really have taken the step in the right direction. I feel that it is up to the Chancellor, the administration, and the faculty to really step up to the plate, because they're not even on the same playing field as the students right now. It's just not fair, because we as students, we're only going to be here for three or four years, and those people are all going to be here for a very long time," said Cohen. "The very next step is to get the faculty and administration to get on the same

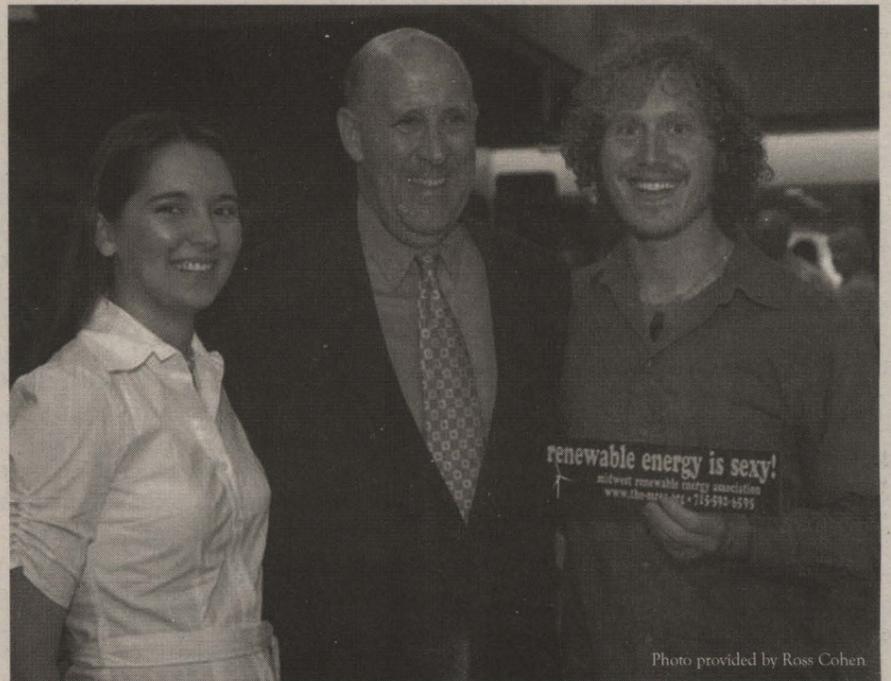


Photo provided by Ross Cohen

SGA Vice President Reha Owen, Gov. Jim Doyle, and SGA President Ross Cohen show off a "sexy" bumper sticker at the Governor's speech last week.

playing field as the students so that we can figure out what the rules of the game are going to be and how we can play ball."

The game is to convert the 7,000 tons of coal, as well as the natural gas, that the university burns each year into a renewable form without sending last year's \$1.27 million energy tab into the stratosphere.

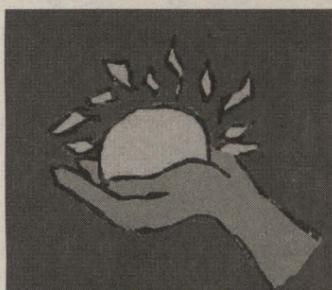
When an audience member raised the money issue during Governor Doyle's visit, Doyle responded with it would save the taxpayers money.

Beck, however, doesn't see the same future.

"It's not going to save us any money. It's going to cost us more money," said Beck. "But we do possibly have a real opportunity to reduce our footprint here on global warming."

Solar thermal panels like those on Knutzen and Pray-Sims Residence

see Energy pg. 8



Association For Community Tasks (A.C.T.)

Spring Break Trip to the
GULF COAST

to help with clean up and relief efforts.

March 16-23

Applications due: October 14

<http://studio.unitedway.org/asb/>

What's happening at the Allen Center for Health and Wellness Programs...

by Chelsey Ross
ALLEN CENTER

Have you signed up for a Cardio Center membership yet? UWSP students only pay \$105 for a membership for the academic year! That averages out to under \$12 per month. If you'd rather purchase a membership for just one semester, it's only \$75. All memberships are billed to your student account, so you don't have to pay today. Take advantage of this great deal now! Visit www.go2allen.com to sign up!

Don't forget...every Friday, from 5:00-9:00 p.m. all students can workout at the Cardio Center for FREE! Just bring a photo ID! The Cardio Center is located in upper Allen Center, at 401 Reserve Street, behind May Roach and Smith residence halls.

Cardio Center Hours

5:45 a.m.-11:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday
5:45 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Friday
8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Saturday
10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Sunday

Lizards on campus!

Sara Suchy
THE POINTER
SSUCH489@UWSP.EDU

"They are not the nicest lizards," said Danielle Mazur, as Ed, a three-foot long Argus Monitor Lizard, took a bite at her hand and clawed his way through her leather handling gloves while she was trying to weigh it.

Mazur, a biology major in the College of Natural Resources, is the care taker of two Argus Monitor lizards in the Herpetology club at The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. The Lizards, Ed and Hissy Fit, are part of a research project Mazur is doing on the lizards about their behavior, interaction with their environment, and their reaction to environmental stimuli.

"There isn't much out there about how these lizards live," said Mazur. "This is all new research."

You may have seen a monitor lizard or two on the late Steve Irwin's "Crocodile Hunter" shows.

"He liked to play around with Monitor lizards," said Mazur

This specific species is a close cousin to the well known Komodo dragon and are native to Australia. The lizards are very active and almost violent creatures. After Mazur put Ed back in the Vivarium (his home in the CNR) after weighing him, he started to charge at her ankles and it took two herpetology club members to hold him down so he could be measured.

As the caretaker of Ed and Hissy Fit (Hissy Fit was named because when she first arrived, all she did was hiss until she fell asleep), Mazur is responsible for feeding them, cleaning up after them, monitoring their environment

and monitoring their behavior and growth.

The lizards are fed twice a week and usually dine on chicken, mice, crickets, insects, or boiled eggs.

One Herpetology club member commented that, "the lizards are fed better than we are at DeBot."

Mazur has been experimenting with different environmental stimuli to record the lizard's reactions. So far she has discovered that the lizards are neat freaks about hygiene.

"If they get their mouths dirty after they eat, they find a rock or use the ground to clean themselves up," said Mazur.

Mazur plans to start putting different toys in the vivarium to see their reaction. "There was an interesting observation made at a zoo with some turtles," said Mazur. They found that when the turtles were bored they started to injure themselves for stimulation. Once a toy was put in with the turtle, it stopped hurting itself and started playing with the toy. The same theory could be applied to the Monitor lizards.

Despite their masochistic tendencies, these lizards are very smart creatures.

"You can train them to answer to their name," said Mazur.

So far Mazur is having a ball with her lizards, "they're great fun to work with...it's so nice that they have such a big area to live in."

Mazur will be graduating in May and is hoping that someone else continues her research project once she graduates.

Ed and Hissy Fit are on display on the first floor of the CNR in the vivarium and they're definitely worth a peak.



Ed and Hissy Fit engage in a stare off in the CNR vivarium.

from Energy pg. 7

Halls and the Health Enhancement Center pool will pay for themselves in about twenty years, providing good payback as a long-term investment, said Beck. The downside is they can only cover about ten percent of the university's energy need.

Additional renewable energy will have to be generated through a costly overhaul of the power plant from coal to either wood or biomass, and by purchasing more blocks of renewable energy through the NatureWise program at the twenty percent premium.

Even though it may cost more now, Beck is optimistic that we're moving in the right direction.

"As the price of fossil fuels go up, all of this stuff is going to end up looking better, and that's the basis for investing in a lot of this stuff now. Part of that's in anticipation for the rise in fossil fuels," said Beck.

As for when policy and talk will

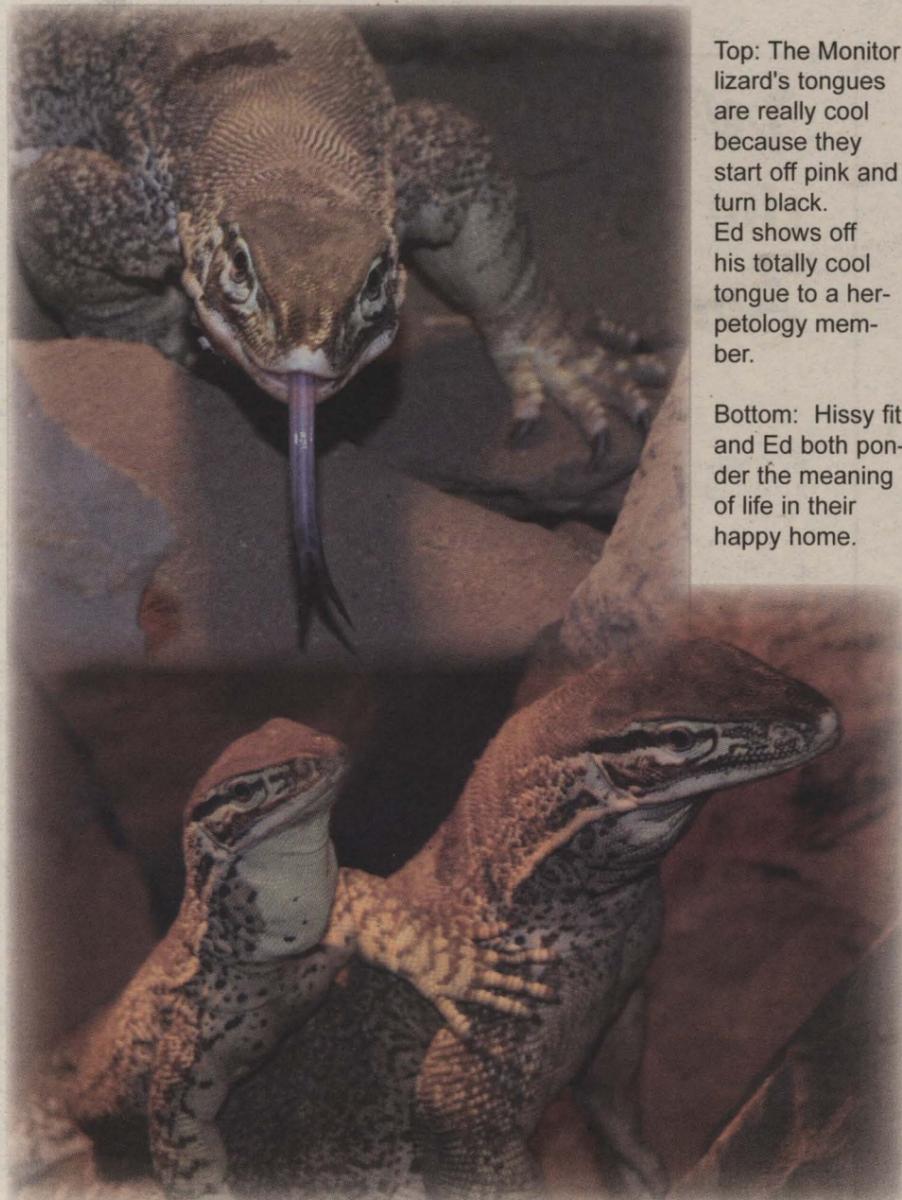
turn to planning and action, all eyes turn towards November 7, and the gubernatorial election.

"We're expecting a lot of help from the state. We don't really have a lot of money to put into this," said Beck. "It'll take the Governor's pushing to do that. If that doesn't all fall together, than it can be a little harder to obtain."

Cohen hopes the project moves forward even if the Governor's seat should change hands.

"Regardless of whether he's elected or not, he's challenged the university to take this on, and so I hope that no matter what the outcome of any election is, the administration respects that challenge."

"The most important thing right now is just to stay on top of how exciting and important this is," said Cohen. "Stay persistent, keep asking the questions, because they're the ones that ultimately have to come up with the answers."



Top: The Monitor lizard's tongues are really cool because they start off pink and turn black. Ed shows off his totally cool tongue to a herpetology member.

Bottom: Hissy fit and Ed both ponder the meaning of life in their happy home.

View the universe at the UW-SP planetarium

Press Release
UNIVERSITY RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Take a peek into stellar nurseries, star clusters and galaxies through the Hubble Space Telescope beginning Sunday, October 1, at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Allen F. Blocher Planetarium.

"Hubble Vision" will be shown Sundays at 2 p.m. on October 1, 8, 15 and 22. Planetarium doors open one-half hour before scheduled programs.

Since its launch in 1990, the Hubble space telescope has provided incredible images in unprecedented detail, and has made a range of discoveries from nearby objects in the solar system to the most distant galaxies at the limits of the observable universe. Hubble Vision presents new views of the planets and of the universe when the earliest galaxies first shone in addition to explanations of major themes in current astronomy and cosmology.

Each Monday at 8 p.m., the Night Sky program looks in detail at objects in the current night sky. If skies are clear, there is an optional observatory visit for sky viewing through the telescope. A forecast of viewing conditions and a statement about whether the observatory is open is available by calling (715) 346-2208.

Both the Sunday and Monday shows are open to the public free of charge. Designed for a general audience, planetarium programs appeal to all age groups. Seating are first come, first serve for up to 70 people. Groups of 15 or more may schedule a special showing of any planetarium program by calling (715) 346-2208. There is a cost of \$15 for these presentations.

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 available in Lot X near the building entrance and is free in all university lots after 7 p.m.

Outdoors

Alaska inspires learning beyond the classroom

Editor's note: 17 University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point students from the student chapter of The Wildlife Society (TWS) attended the 13th Annual National Wildlife Society Conference in Anchorage, Alaska. From September 22-29, these students joined more than 1,500 wildlife professionals and student members from TWS chapters around the country.

Throughout the week, the latest in wildlife research and wildlife management techniques were presented. Two of the UW-SP students who participated wrote about their experiences at the TWS conference in Alaska.



Lisa Brien

Ahh, Alaska. A state that brings to mind images of snow-capped mountains, abundant wildlife and pristine wilderness.

What a fitting place to hold the National Wildlife Society's 13th Annual Conference.

The purpose of this trip was, of course, to attend the conference. Each day, I attended a variety of sessions that covered the latest in wildlife research. I also had the opportunity to meet with professionals and other students from around the country.

During the week, I joined several other students from our group and attended a student chapter breakfast. At the breakfast, representatives from student chapters shared current projects and activities

their chapters were involved with.

I also participated with three other UW-SP students in a challenging game of Student Quiz Bowl, a fun competition involving wildlife trivia questions. Our group competed against eight other universities, including Madison, Penn State and Purdue.

While most of the trip was spent indoors at the conference in Anchorage, I was still able to spend some time enjoying the beautiful Alaskan wilderness.

On the last day of our trip, I went up to Flat Top State Park, which is a half-hour drive outside of Anchorage. I enjoyed hiking and seeing the views of the mountains in their peak autumn colors.

While hiking back to the car, I heard a grunting sound coming from some spruce trees about 30 yards from the trail. As I turned my head, I caught a glimpse of an enormous pair of antlers shaking several trees. Moments later, the animal with the big rack on its head stepped out from the tree line, and I had my first look at a huge bull moose.

It was at that moment when I realized why I appreciated my decision to attend the Wildlife Society Conference. Seeing the wild animal inspired me to continue to pursue a job protecting and managing unique species, like the one that stood in front of me that day.

My advice to undergrads is to go and attend a conference related to your major. It will give you a sense of what is currently going on in your field of study, and attending one can only help you advance in your career field.

And who knows, you might get to travel to a neat place, like Alaska.



Karla Koch

Student organizations are great. They are an excellent way to explore the field of study you're interested in, and they often provide opportunities for involvement and hands-on experiences you won't find in class.

I challenge you, however, to take your involvement a step further: join a professional organization in your field on the national level. In fact, take it two steps further: join an organization and attend its annual conference.

While I was in Alaska, I attended research symposia, meetings, socials and other

organized events. Not only did I learn about emerging wildlife issues and the latest in wildlife research, but I was able to meet and network with other students, professors and researchers from all over the world.

The Wildlife Society holds its national conference in a different state each year. Although traveling to another state can make attendance challenging, I assure you that the benefits of attending a conference will far outweigh any costs of getting there.

What better way to see another part of the country, observe its wildlife (in this case, at least), and get to know people you could potentially be working with after you graduate? And what better way to hear about jobs that might never get posted, internships that might otherwise go unfilled, or research just waiting to happen?

If you find yourself intimidated by the thought of attending a large national conference, don't worry - many

associations welcome college-aged members and even hold special workshops and events for them.

At this year's TWS conference, I took part in a mentoring program and was paired up with a professional from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. She shared advice about graduate school and possible career paths, and introduced me to other professionals and professors who became part of my network.

I attended other organized events including a student-professional mixer (in the form of an ice cream social), an all-student dinner and the annual Student Quiz Bowl. At these events I also got to meet students from other universities and learn about their student chapters of TWS as well.

Attending the national conference is definitely one of the best things I have done as an undergraduate. My advice to you: don't be afraid to step beyond student organizations to explore professional ones.



View of Alaskan wilderness near the National Wildlife Society Conference in Anchorage, Alaska.

Mountain ash: a tavern for tipsy birds?



Anne Frie
THE POINTER
AFRIE140@UWSP.EDU

Along the east side of the College of Natural Resources on the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point campus sits a small tavern. But this place isn't your average saloon; this one caters to the birds.

For a limited time this season, birds, particularly cedar waxwings and grosbeaks, get a little tipsy as they treat themselves to hundreds of fermented berries produced on mountain ash shrubs. These shrubs act as "taverns" to the birds until all the berries are gone.

Around campus, mountain ash is commonly used as an ornamental landscaping plant because its fruit, which are about a quarter of an inch in diameter, persist through much of the winter. The sour red-orange flesh of the berry matures in the fall and is relished by birds for food.

After a killing frost, usually in early fall, the sugar in the berries stops being produced and converts into alcohol, setting the stage for a comical gathering of avian drunkards. Watching birds after consuming post-frost

mountain ash berries can be as amusing as witnessing the effect alcohol has on college students in downtown bars in Stevens Point.

American mountain ash (*Sorbus americana*) is found in several places around campus. Many people will often confuse this upper Midwest native shrub with a tree, as its height can range between 15 to 30 feet. The shrub is best identified by its slender branches that extend from its base to form a narrow, rounded crown.

There is also an imported European species of mountain ash (*Sorbus aucuparia*), which is described as having larger clusters of more showy fruits than the native species. Either of these two species are a common bird-catcher in the fall.

There are no known medical conditions that prohibit the consumption of mountain ash. In northern Europe, it has been written that the dried fruit were once turned into flour and further fermented to produce a strong spirit.

If you are considering trying these berries for yourself, use caution. They are highly acidic when fresh and can cause stomach irritation, diarrhea, kidney damage and skin rashes. Drying the fresh berries will help to eliminate some of this acid.

Upcoming meetings and events:

Anne Frie
THE POINTER
AFRIE140@UWSP.EDU

Saturday, October 7
Dozynki Harvest Fest (Polish Thanksgiving) - All-day event in Downtown, Stevens Point
Nekoosa Giant Pumpkin Festival - All-day event at Riverside Park, Nekoosa

Monday, October 9
Waste Management Society - 5:30 p.m. in CNR 271
Student Law Enforcement Association meeting - 6 p.m. in CNR 170
Herpetology Society - 6 p.m. in CNR 354

Tuesday, October 10
Trap shooting with Women in Natural Resources & Bill Cook Student Chapter of Izaak Walton League - 4:30 p.m. at Izaak Walton League in Stevens Point
The Wildlife Society meeting - 5:30 p.m. in CNR 170
American Water Resources Association - 5 p.m. in CNR 240
Sustainable Agriculture in Communities Society meeting - 7 p.m. in CPS 116

Wednesday, October 11
Slack Line Techniques Demonstration - 3:30 to 5 p.m. at Outdoor EdVentures; Call in advance to reserve your spot
Roots & Shoots meeting - 5 p.m. in LRC Food for Thought Café (room subject to change)
UW-SP Parks & Recreation Association meeting - 5 p.m. in CNR 361
American Fisheries Society meeting - 5:30 p.m. in CNR 122

Thursday, October 12
Society of American Foresters meeting - 5 p.m. in CNR 170
Soil & Water Conservation Society meeting - 5:30 p.m. in CNR 255
UW-SP Fire Crew meeting - 6 p.m. in CNR 170

Saturday, October 14
GIS/GPS Workshop - Oct. 14-15 at Treehaven, Tomahawk, Wis. To register, contact Kevin Lawton (klawton@uwsp.edu) by Oct. 6

If your outdoor-based club or organization would like to submit meeting times and/or events, please contact Outdoor Editor Anne Frie at afrie140@uwsp.edu.

A local's guide to autumn adventure in Door County

Paul Frater
OUTDOORS REPORTER
PFRAT695@UWSP.EDU

It usually happens right around this time of year. Students get settled into a familiar routine and studies start to overtake a once carefree summertime lifestyle. Meanwhile, as students labor over books and papers, autumn is in full swing, displaying brilliant colors on the trees outside.

If you are looking to get away from your usual school routine for one weekend, there is no better place to experience fall than in Door County, Wis.

By now, most of you are probably thinking to yourself, "Wait, at school I'm constantly surrounded by people. Why go to Door County, the 'tourism capital of the universe?'"

As a native Door County resident, I've seen the tourists come and go. I can tell you that after the big Labor Day rush, most of the tourists head back to school or their jobs. But this doesn't mean all the great places in the area shut down. There are still plenty of exciting places to go see.

There are a variety of fun activities to fill up your weekend in Door County. One way to start is by visiting any of the five scenic state parks scattered around the county.

Peninsula State Park, located in the town of Fish Creek, is one of the more popular places in Door County, followed by Potawatami, Whitefish Dunes, Newport and Rock Island State Parks. These parks include miles of hiking trails, secluded wilderness camping sites, plenty of water for fishing and boating and numerous places to just relax and enjoy the scenery.

Up the road from Whitefish Dunes State Park is Cave Point, one of Door County's natural wonders on the edge of Lake Michigan. See large waves crash against the shoreline cliffs as they carve

away at the rocks. In the fall, the waves are bigger and put on a spectacular water show, occasionally giving spectators a spray.

Between your visits to the state parks, take the back roads. A back-country drive is the best way to view the real Door County that visitor brochures often won't tell you about.

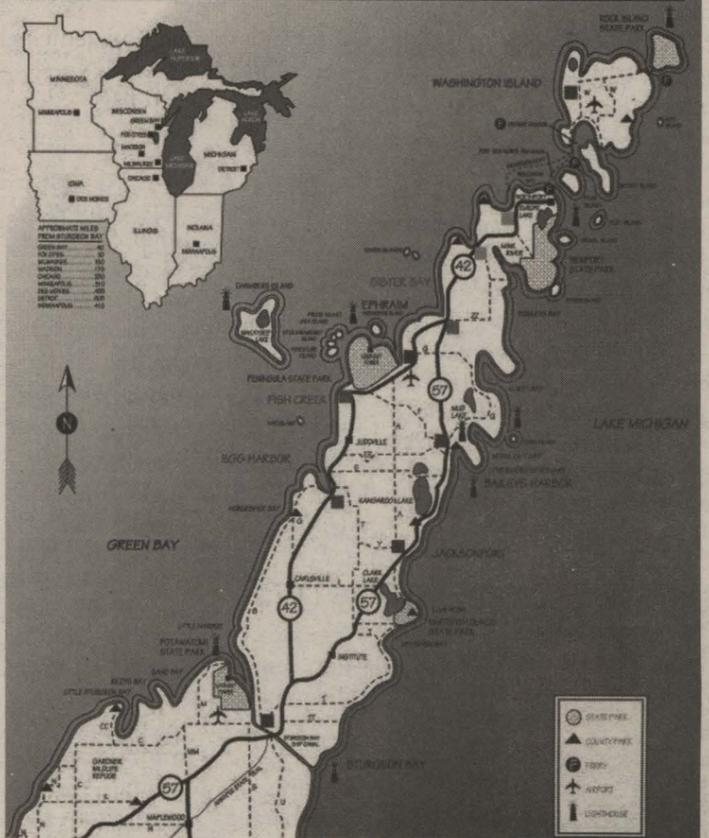
County Road A runs straight down the middle of the northern half of the peninsula. It is a beautiful drive that will allow you to see some of the local farms and woodlots. County Road E, which crosses County Road A, also has some beautiful scenery as it bridges Kangaroo Lake.

Door County is also famous for its apple orchards. Although most of the apples may have already been picked, you'll still be able to find Macintosh, Cortland, Golden Delicious and an abundance of other apple varieties picked and ready for the taking at any of the orchards.

And with Halloween right around the corner, there are plenty of opportunities to pick a nice big Jack-O-Lantern, as many of the apple farms also have pick-your-own pumpkin patches.

If you're looking for something to do for a day or a weekend this month, take the short drive to Door County and check out some of these sites. There's no better place to go during the autumn months to get away from the stresses of school. Hope to see you around the area!

DOOR COUNTY



Map of Door County, Wisconsin's best kept secret. Photo courtesy of www.dcwis.com

City of Stevens Point Leaves/ Yard Waste and Brush Fall 2006 Pickup Schedule

If your garbage day is Tuesday:
October 24 - Have leaves/yard waste in plastic bags at curbside by 7 a.m.
October 23-27 - Have branches at curbside on Monday, October 24 by 7 a.m.

If your garbage day is Wednesday:
October 25 - Have leaves/yard waste in plastic bags at curbside by 7 a.m.
October 16-20 - Have branches at curbside on Monday, October 17 by 7 a.m.

If your garbage day is Thursday:
October 26 - Have leaves/yard waste in plastic bags at curbside by 7 a.m.
October 9-13 - Have branches at curbside on Monday, October 10 by 7 a.m.

If your garbage day is Friday:
October 27 - Have leaves/yard waste in plastic bags at curbside by 7 a.m.
October 2-6 - Have branches at curbside on Monday, October 3 by 7 a.m.

Leaves / Yard Waste
- Leaves and grass clippings should be at curbside by 7 a.m. in any color plastic bag.
- Do not put brush/yard waste at curbside any earlier than the day before your scheduled pick-up. Any brush or yard waste prematurely placed out is subject to removal with the cost charged to the property owner.
- No bags or containers larger than 33 gallons.

Brush
- Only tree/shrub trimmings 3 inches in diameter and under can be taken.
- Should be stacked with cut ends towards street/curbside separate from other waste or debris.
- Do not put brush/yard waste at curbside any earlier than the day before your scheduled pick-up.

For more information, call the City Garage at (715) 346-1537.

LAST DAY OF THE SEASON
SUNDAY OCT. 8TH



OPEN 11 AM - 10 PM
2140 DIVISION ST.

OUTDOOR EDVENTURES'
TIP OF THE WEEK

Josh Spice
MANAGER/TRIP LEADER

So you got a blister. Damn. Whatchya gonna do?

First off, clean it. Then, grab some moleskin, hold it over your blister to get an idea of its size. Cut a hole in the moleskin the same size and shape as the blister, and put it over the sore so there is no direct pressure on it. This will protect and prevent your blister from becoming worse.

To learn more about this tip, along with many other tricks and techniques for improving your wilderness forays, stop by Outdoor EdVentures, located in the lower level of the Allen Center.

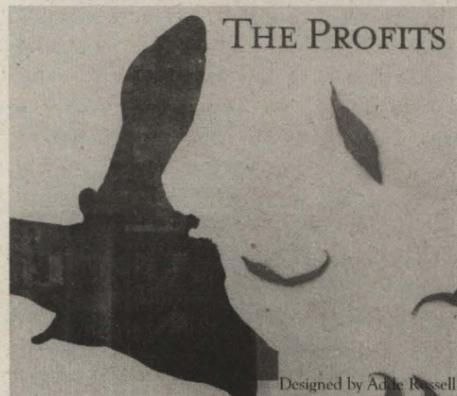
Arts & Review

September concerts rock the Tent

The Profits

Joy E. Ratchman
ARTS AND REVIEW EDITOR
JRATC567@UWSP.EDU

The Profits may be the most popular local band in Wisconsin. On MySpace, lead singer John Paul Roney has been listed as the number one performer in Wisconsin. While this may be news to some, the students of the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point have known about the Profits for a long time.



Cover Art for the Profits' Album.

The Profits' latest performance took place on Thursday, September 14, in the Tent outside DeBot. The Tent officially opened at 7:30 p.m., and before long a legion of loyal fans arrived. By the time the concert began, the fans had packed the tent, crowding the stage to be close to the musicians. Some stood on chairs for a better view. The lights dimmed and the cheering began.

I wasn't quite sure what to expect, but by the end of the concert I was quite impressed. According to the advertisement posters, The Profits' sound is "alternative," but

the band exhibited incredible versatility. Their sound varied from laid back and psychedelic, to hard and dark, to soulful balladry. The pulsing beat inspired many in the audience to dance, clap, and bob along to the music. The Profits' repertoire included the peppy and up-beat originals "Life's Worth Living" and "High Horse," and covers of Nelly's "Ride Wit Me" and Oasis' "Wonderwall." My personal favorite was an energetic country number, "Shame" Unfortunately, it's not on their CD, "Far From You and Your Everyday Noise". The band waited almost to the very end of the concert to play the crowd's favorite, "Sex at Six," and also performed several new songs that will be featured on their next album.

The Profits exited to cheers of "One more song!" only to join the cheering audience. The students were excited to learn that the band was staying to greet their fans and sign autographs. Friendly on-stage and off, the band posed for pictures with many excited fans. At an economical \$10, the CD was a must-have, and each of the band members signed it personally for me. Not bad for my first rock concert.

Right now The Profits are touring Wisconsin and the the Midwest. They certainly seem to be on the road to fame, and I hope that the road includes a few more stops in Stevens Point. I'll be there.

The Scourge of the Sea and The Good Luck Joes

Leah A Gernetzke
ARTS AND REVIEW REPORTER

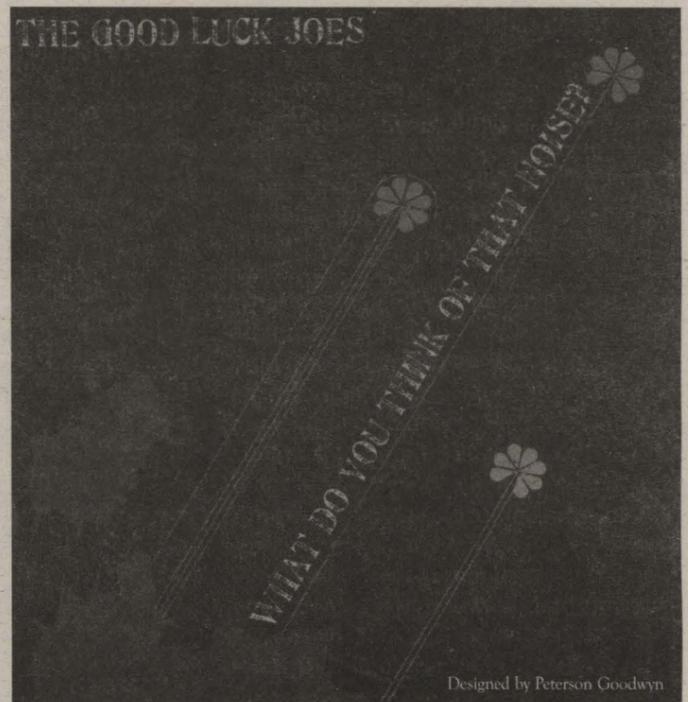
The night was bitterly cold and the crowd small, but two bands, The Scourge of the Sea and The Good Luck Joes quickly warmed up the DeBot tent on Thursday, September 25.

The Scourge of the Sea started the night out with a series of deep, lyrical, yet electric songs. This Kentucky band is composed of skilled musicians who play together with extreme ease. Their songs, with names like "Goodbye, Darkness," "The Birds of a Feather," and "Chocolate Chips," are poetic, intelligent, and varied. One member from the audience likened The Scourge of the Sea to Bob Dylan in terms of lyrical quality. However, I find the band's voice much more melodious and easier to listen to.

The guitar and drum talents of this band add an obvious kick to the music. The songs are diverse and the composition complex, ranging from soft and easy to a definite hard edge. Their laid back but energetic stage presence is backed by discernable energy. It is easy to see why this band is one of Kentucky's top ten leading musical artists.

Compared to The Scourge of the Sea, The Good Luck Joes lean more closely toward pop-rock and punk. The band is local--it was formed in Milwaukee in 2002. Their music has been played on the television show "Grey's Anatomy," and they are currently touring the East Coast and the Midwest to promote their latest album, "What Do You Think of That Noise?"

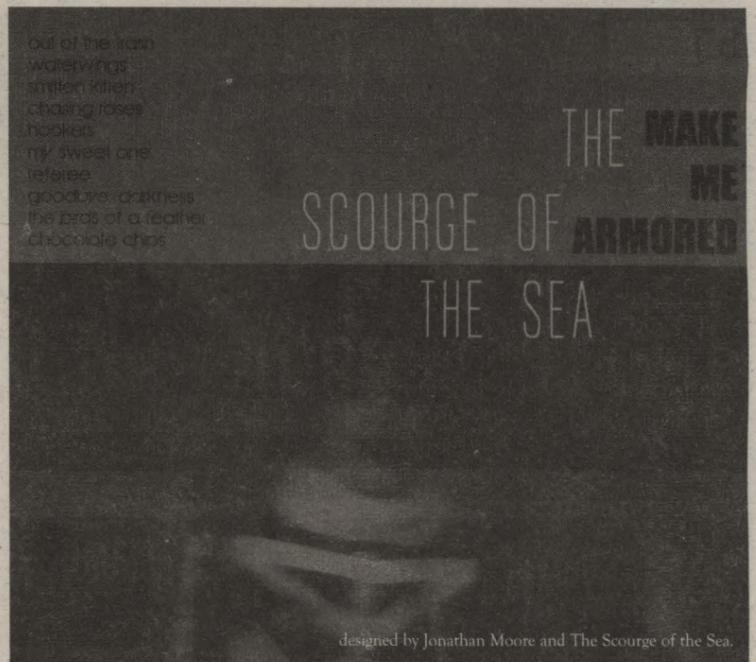
The reason for this upcoming band's success lies in their emotional and energetic sound. Their music is easy to listen to and easy to dance to. The lyrics are relatable. The band members also have obvious chemistry, a lot



Cover art for The Good Luck Joes' album.

of energy and electric solos. They have been likened to artists such as Coldplay and Wilco, but they have a sound of their own that is sure to one day make the charts.

Both bands displayed a solid knowledge of music, excellent stage presence, and an obvious passion for their music. If you like music you can dance to, quality lyrics, and musicians who know how to rock an audience, these bands are for you.



Cover art for The Scourge of the Sea's album.

out of the rain
wearing a
smitten when
changing roles
hobbies
my sweet one
refuse
goodbye darkness
the birds of a feather
chocolate chips

THE MAKE ME
SCOURGE OF ARMORED
THE SEA

designed by Jonathan Moore and The Scourge of the Sea.



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In the Limelight: Drew Smalley



Photo by Drew Smalley

Hometown: Mendon, Vt.

What led you to major in Art? I don't know, I think I was just raised in a crafty, artistic, household.

Who do you consider to be your greatest artistic role model? Jim Brandenburg. He is one of the world's best nature and wildlife photographers. He was one of the last staff photographers for National Geographic, and he holds the largest spread ever published by the Geographic, a story about the Boundary Waters of Minnesota. His work has made a huge impact with environmental awareness, even sparking new legislation. He is an absolute master of photography, and genuinely nice guy!

What do you plan to do after your graduation? I would like to work as a professional photographer, whether working for an outdoors publication or even for a local newspaper. It doesn't matter, as long as I can push the shutter. Eventually I would like to do freelance nature and wildlife photography, especially if I could make an impact with my work to spread the environmental community that we desperately need to reach a sufficient level of co-habitation.

What has been your most memorable moment as a UW-SP artist? Seeing the sun rise

after working all night in the FAC... I think every art student can relate...putting your work before basic necessities such as food and sleep happens all too often. The dedication of art students is underestimated; most people think they get off easy!

Who or what inspires you the most in your art? Not to be too trippy, but my main inspiration comes from Nature. Its power and beauty is constantly underestimated, and there is always something different and exciting to capture. My subject is never the same and it's often gone in a flash. This makes it challenging and it allows me to explore everyday, but most importantly, I want to share that experience with others. If I do my job right, I will get the viewer to awe and question the influence and importance of the environment that we so depend on.

What is your favorite part of being a UW-SP art major? The art community at UW-SP is my favorite part of being an art major. The students and faculty of the art program are so friendly and helpful that there really is a community feeling, more so than any other major, I feel. Of course not everyone gets along, but the community mentality pushes students to develop their skills and talents, and have some fun at the same time.

What will you remember most about UW-SP? I will remember the people I work with. There are so many good artists here, and I really have enjoyed watching and working with them. Their work has pushed me to become a better artist.

What's in your CD Player? Dust.

Do you have a favorite quote? No, there are too many good quotes to choose just a single one.

Second "Pirates of the Caribbean" movie worth its weight in gold

Cassandra Kilponen
ARTS AND REVIEW REPORTER

Who says all sequels suck? "Pirates of the Caribbean II: Dead Man's Chest" far outshines its predecessor with an intriguing plotline, tons of action and suspense, and top-notch special effects.

In "Dead Man's Chest," Johnny Depp steals the show once again as the staggering swashbuckler Jack Sparrow. As the movie begins, Sparrow is desperately trying to weasel his way out of a blood debt to the legendary Davy Jones. The payment Jones demands is an eternity of damnation and servitude on his ship, the Flying Dutchman. Also involved are William Turner (Orlando Bloom) and Elizabeth Swann (Kiera Knightley). The East India Trading Company, whose schemes for world trading domination also involve Jack Sparrow and Davy Jones, has put Will and Elizabeth's wedding on hold.

Depp gives viewers an even more comical performance than they enjoyed in the first film. As Sparrow, he finds himself in ever-more-precarious situations, then finds still more amusing ways to get out of them. Bloom also gives a good performance. Although Knightley's performance provided some comic relief in the first film, I found her somewhat less appealing this time around.

The film also introduces several new char-

acters, including the late Bootstrap Bill Turner, who is a prisoner on Jones' ship and also Will's father, the fortune-teller Tia Dalma, and of course, Davy Jones himself.

While the visual effects in the first film were impressive, the effects in "Dead Man's Chest" far surpass those of their predecessor. One example worth noting is Davy Jones' beard, which is made from octopus tentacles. Its motion is continuous and realistic. On a similar note, the rest of the Dutchman's crew sport a decidedly nautical appearance. Many are half human, half sea creature. Bootstrap Bill is the most human of the bunch, and even he is covered in seaweed and barnacles.

The movie's plot is swift and intense. One action sequence flows seamlessly into another. There is plenty of sword fighting, including a three-way battle on top of a moving water wheel. In addition, the sequel introduces a decidedly sinister villain. Davy Jones makes Geoffrey Rush's Captain Barbossa look comical in comparison. As with most second installments in a movie trilogy, "Dead Man's Chest" ends on a cliffhanger and leaves several characters in certain peril. However, a surprise twist at the end leaves viewers excited for the next installment. The ending actually got applause in the theatre where I saw it.

Overall, I would give this film 9 out of 10. It is most definitely worth seeing. If you don't catch it on the big screen, its DVD release is scheduled for December 5.

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Letters & Opinion

Your College Survival Guide: The Perils of TMI

By Pat Rothfuss

WITH HELP FROM THE MISSION COFFEE BAR

Okay, before we get started today, I'd just like to make a public service announcement: "Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang" is the best movie I've seen in a long, long time. If you haven't seen it already you should check it out.

Alright, moving on to this week's letter.

Dear Pat,

I love your column, I've been reading for two years now, but this is my first time writing in to you. Please go easy on me, I'm trying to get my grammar and spelling right. I want to be a writer too; can you give me some writing advice?

The other reason I'm writing is because I was at a party and someone told me that you have a book coming out. I'm not talking about the collection of College Survival Guides, but, like, a real book. A novel. A fantasy novel.

Is it true? If so, what is the book called and where can I find it? Can you describe it for me?

Your biggest fan,

Ben

P.S. I have a copy of your College Survival Guide book, and let me tell you. It's ideal "throne" reading material, if you know what I mean. I love the column about prostitution. I can't believe you published that...

P.P.S. In case you don't get the "throne" thing, I mean that your book is perfect for reading while I'm on the toilet.

First Ben, I'd like to thank you for your kind words. Your grammar and spelling were quite nice.

Second, I'd like to say that I'm glad you bought the CSG book, and doubly glad you find it to be an entertaining read.

Third, I'd like you to imagine a long, uncomfortable silence. Imagine me sitting here in front of my computer, late at night, looking uneasy and refusing to make eye contact with you for about 45 seconds.

Why am I uncomfortable, Ben? Well, honestly, because the thought of you with your pants down, sitting on the crapper, holding my book... it's just not a mental image that brings me great joy. Nobody wants to think of that, Ben. Nobody.

It's made worse by the fact that you described yourself as my "biggest fan." Not that calling yourself my No. 1 fan would have been any better in these circumstances...

So, my first piece of writing advice to you will involve a talk about TMI, Ben. TMI stands for Too Much Information. When you give someone Too Much Information, things get weird.

Take the little part where I mention myself sitting in front of the computer. I need to give a little detail to set the scene. So I mention it's late at night. Could I add more? Sure. I could mention that I drank an entire pot of coffee just fifteen minutes ago, and, as a consequence, my pupils are the size of pinheads. I could tell you that because of my special coffee, which I brew using Mountain Dew instead of water, I'm vibrating slightly in my chair, producing a low hum barely audible to the human ear. I could mention that my desk is strewn with empty pizza boxes, soiled sock-monkeys, and ampoules of sweet, sweet methadone.

I could tell you that, in addition to all of this, I'm totally buck-ass naked.

You see how that crossed the line? You see how TMI ruined an otherwise good moment between us and made it creepy?

That's my writing advice to you Ben. Sometimes the truth hurts. I know the "College Survival Guide" book is perfect for reading on the toilet. I know the articles are the perfect length for certain bodily functions. I know that occasionally people will laugh so hard at my columns that they will occasionally, involuntarily, perform a biological excretory function. But you don't need to mention it. Stop before you hit the TMI line. Please.



Other writing advice:

1) Get used to people reading your stuff. Part of the reason my novel is getting a lot of attention now is because over the years I've had hundreds of people read it and give me advice. Since I don't know many writers, most of my feedback comes from plain old readers: biologists, musicians, janitors, historians.

Generally speaking, I like reader feedback better than writer feedback. Most writers feel like they have something to prove when they read your stuff, like if they don't find a mistake, they aren't doing their job. But a farmer or a chemist will point out tiny inconsistencies that ruin the verisimilitude of your story.

Also, if a person gives you advice on your writing and you disagree with them, you're probably right. If three people give you the same piece of advice on your writing and you disagree, you're probably wrong.

2) Read everything. Read outside your genre. For years I read a novel a day, sometimes two, mostly fantasy. Because of that I know the genre inside and out. I know what's cliché so I can avoid it, and I know what's cool, so I can steal it.

In answer to your other questions: your mysterious source is correct. I do have a book coming out. It's a fantasy novel, the first book of a trilogy. Title: "The Name of the Wind." You can't get it anywhere yet, because it won't be published until April of 2007.

Your last question is the hardest, Ben. I can't really describe the book for you. Why? Well, the biggest reason is that if I could sum up my book in 50 words, I

wouldn't need to write a thousand page novel, would I? I'd just write a poem instead and save a whole shit-load of paper.

The other problem is that any honest summaries are boring as hell. They're flat and unappealing as a slice of stale white bread. A summary of "Hamlet": A guy gets pissed because his dad died. "Don Quixote": A guy goes crazy and thinks he's a knight. "The Odyssey": A guy has trouble getting home to his wife. Boring. Boring. Boring. An honest summary doesn't have any of the real flavor of the story.

I think this is how the Hollywood-style summary started. I've been out to Los Angeles a couple of times and they want you to talk about your book as if it were a movie. Those summaries are all flavor and just a tiny bit of truth. How do you pitch "Hamlet"? It's Sherlock Holmes meets "Reservoir Dogs" with an emo twist. "Don Quixote"? The Secret Life of Walter Mitty meets The Once and Future King. "The Odyssey"? "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" meets "Xena: Warrior Princess"....

So what sort of description would you like? Something honest and flavorless, or a captivating lie? I guess since you asked nicely I can give you both.

"The Name of the Wind" is the story of a hero's life, told from the hero's point of view. It's like "The Lord of the Rings" meets "The Crow." No...wait, it's like the Princess Bride having a three-way with the Wizard of Earthsea and Harry Potter.

Heh heh heh. Hear that? It's the sound of angry copyright lawyers furiously dialing their phones. Don't worry, soon it will be drowned out by the sound of ten thousand teenage girls writing yaoi fanfic about Harry Potter and The Dread Pirate Roberts. God bless America.

And God bless you Ben. Since I used your letter, I guess I owe my biggest fan a gift certificate to the Mission Coffee House. I'll leave it behind the counter with your name on it. Make sure to use its power only for good...

This Saturday, there's going to be some serious techno/industrial/electronic shit happening at the Mission. Studio Gangstas is bringing a Back to Basics show. There are too many DJs and spinners to list here, so if you want all the details you should check out their website at studiogangstas.net.

Best of all, if you show up between 8 and 10 p.m., it's free. After 10 p.m., it will cost you 5 bucks to get in, so why not show up early and use that hard-earned money to get a delicious beverage of some sort?

If you're busy this weekend, or just not into the techno scene, you can always hit the Mission's open mic nights. Tuesday it's music. Wednesday it's poetry. Both start at 8:00, and both shows are free.

Face it, you have serious problems and you can't afford real therapy. "Your College Survival Guide" is the cheap alternative. E-mail Pat at proth@wsuunix.wsu.edu and he'll either help, mock, or ignore you, depending on the quality of your letter....

Point of View: Student government should advocate voting, not take sides



Steve Roeland
THE POINTER
SROEL908@UWSP.EDU

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students who checked their e-mail last Friday were caught off-guard by a message sent by Student Government Association's executive officers.

This e-mail, with the subject heading, "VOTE NO!" declared that SGA had passed a resolution in opposition to Wisconsin's marriage amendment proposal. Wisconsin voters will have the opportunity

to decide if marriage will strictly be between a man and a woman next month, as the proposed legislation will be on state ballots November 7.

The key to the sentence above is that voters will have a chance to decide. It struck me as alarming that our representative government, elected by the students of this university, has taken a universal stance on an issue and is encouraging students how to vote in the

election.

After delving deeper into the situation, it seems that SGA did not intend to have an e-mail sent to the entire student population advocating us how to vote.

However, the legislation that was passed was to be sent to the UW-SP chancellor, the faculty senate, state representatives and a senator, according to lines 42 and 43 of the resolution. The entire

resolution was offered as an attachment to the e-mail sent by an SGA executive.

If you were upset with the e-mail, you were not alone.

According to SGA senator Ben Bishop, many angry replies were sent back in response to the initial message, opposing the decision made by the student government.

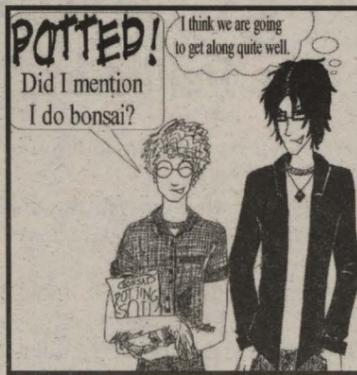
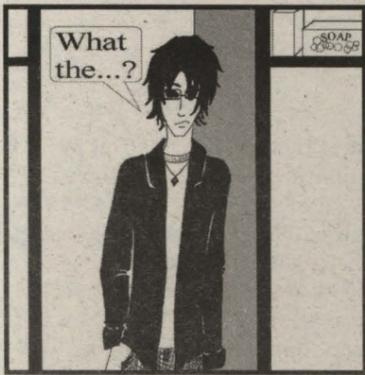
Comics

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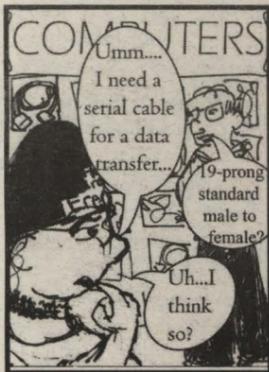
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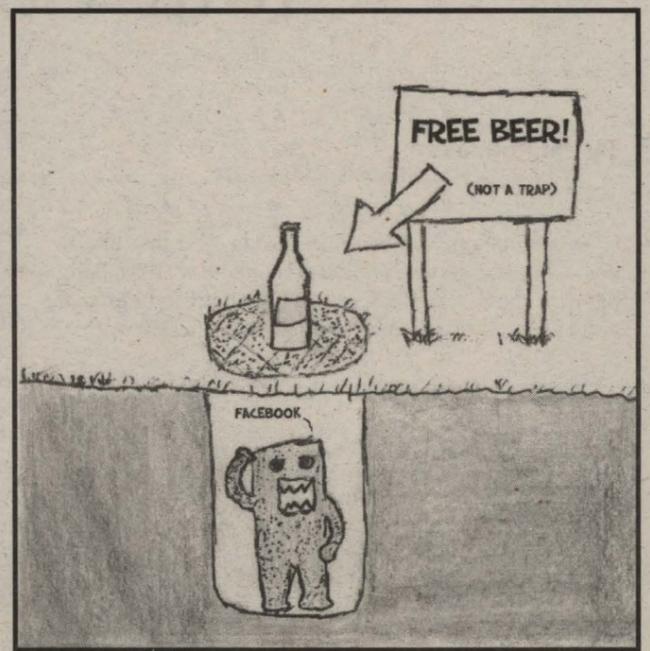
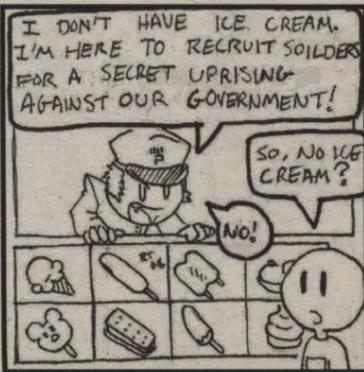
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r n l k d o s t b j y u p j i e d i b w
a j v a u l u l e z x t h y r c d f s o
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q k g z a j f d v a i q m f i y u z m n
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f x y a z x p t k y c z s c p s s d q e
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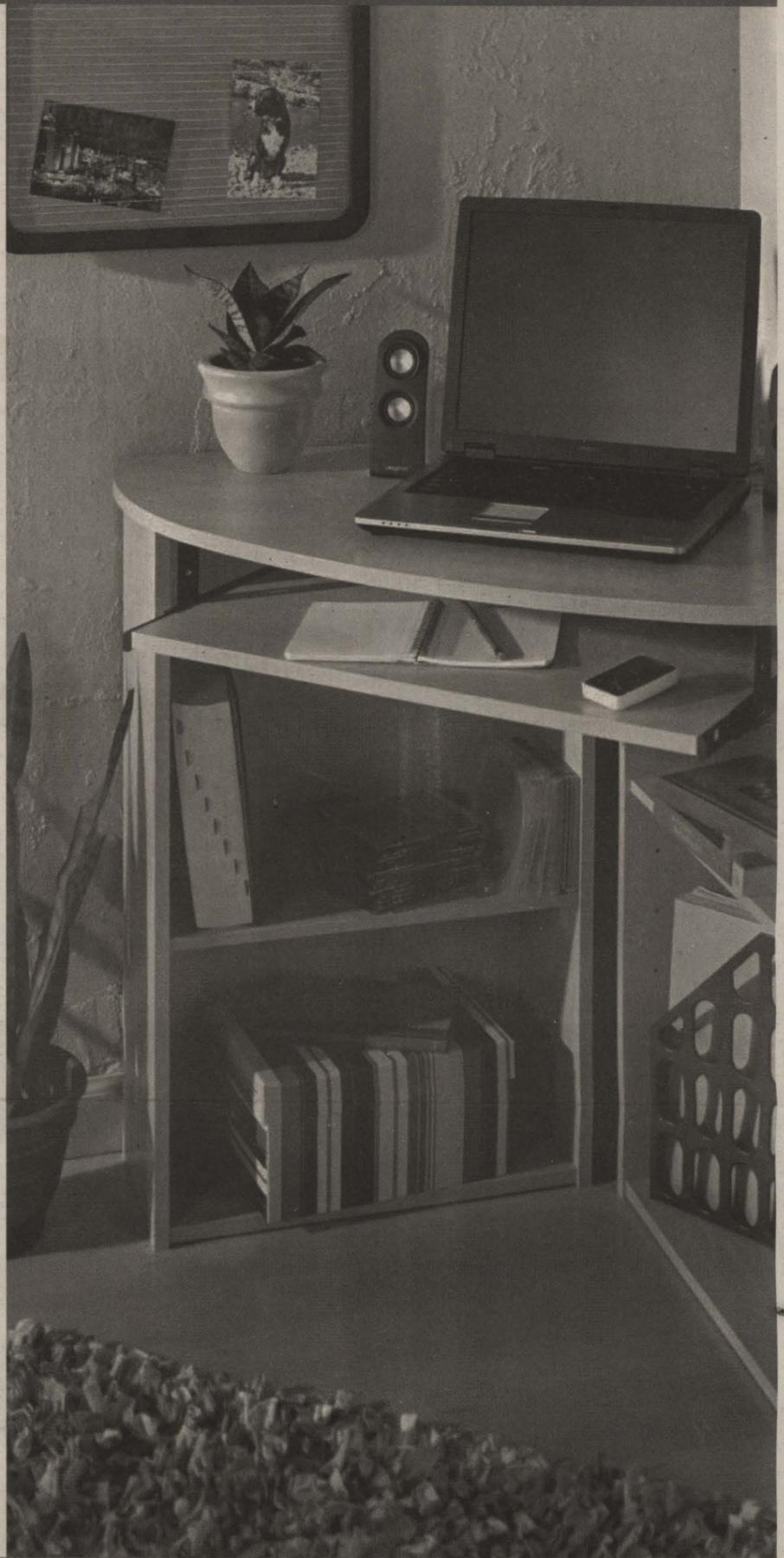
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from Point pg. 13

During a pro-marriage amendment rally held on campus yesterday, SGA members in attendance said that the e-mail was an executive decision, executed by a single member of SGA. That being said, it seems to me that SGA officials are using their elected positions to advocate how voters should side on issues in the upcoming election.

"The e-mail was taken out of context," said SGA Legislative Issues Director Andy Janicki, who co-authored the resolution. "We weren't telling anyone how to vote."

Instead, it appears the e-mail did exactly that.

"The Student Government Association would like to strongly encourage you to VOTE NO on the Marriage Amendment when you exercise your right this November 7th," the e-mail stated. Personally, I disagree with

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the proposed amendment and feel the way the SGA does. Still, I don't think a governing body that represents all UW-SP students should be pressing any opinion that is not shared by all the people they represent.

The one safe stance that SGA should continue to promote is the advocating of registering voters. At the demonstration Wednesday, SGA members encouraged people to register to vote, leaving opinion and prejudice out of their activities. The best part was that many students took the opportunity to register and will have their voices heard next month.

No matter the side students take on any hot-button issue, they should be allowed to develop their own opinions and make their own educated decisions.

Asking students to vote is one thing. Telling them how to vote is another.

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