

Inside
This Week



Basketball
SPORTS Page 6



Super Bowl Pointer Poll
POINTLIFE
Page 3

UWSP
STRENGTH
CENTER

Science & Health
Page 4



Black Bears
OUTDOORS
Page 5

Newsroom • 346 - 2249
Business • 346 - 3800
Advertising • 346 - 3707

U. S. House of Representatives passes legislation to lower student loan interest rates

Aaron Hull
THE POINTER
AHULL192@UWSP.EDU

The U.S. House passed legislation Jan. 17 to lower interest rates on student loans over the next five years. The vote was 356 to 71.

According to an analysis by the Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group (WISPIRG), the move would save the average low or middle-income borrower starting school in 2007 \$2,280 in debt.

"This is a good first step to make college more affordable for America's students and families," said Ben Vondra of WISPIRG.

The Senate will likely take up the issue of lower interest rates as part of a larger package of higher education policies in the next several months.

Student borrowers traditionally take out a new loan before each semester. Since the proposed legislation phases in the interest rate cut, student borrowers will graduate with loans at a variety of interest rates, according to a WISPIRG analysis. Students will be able to simplify their loan repay-

ment by consolidating their loans into one payment, as many already do.

Despite the growing importance of higher education, many state governments have cut funding for colleges and universities over the past decade.

"As federal grants have grown slowly or remained stagnant, more students have had to take out larger loans to pay for college," said Luke Swarthout, Higher Education Advocate for WISPIRG. "More than two-thirds of students now borrow to pay for college, and their average debt more than doubled between 1993 and 2004."

Roughly 5.5 million students borrow subsidized Stafford loans every year, according to a WISPIRG analysis. Of those borrowers, nearly 3.3 million attend four-year public or private non-profit institutions. The vast majority of these borrowers come from low and middle-income families. According to the Congressional Research Service, 75 percent of traditional-aged borrowers with subsidized Stafford loans

come from families with incomes below \$67,374. The median annual income for an American family of four is \$65,000.

"H.R. 5 pays for better benefits for students by cutting excessive federal subsidies to private lenders," said Vondra. "The bill saves millions of students thousands of dollars over the life of their loans by eliminating wasteful subsidies."

Congressional leadership proposed new legislation to cut interest rates on subsidized Stafford undergraduate

loans in half: from a fixed rate of 6.8 percent to a fixed rate of 3.4 percent. The specific proposal phases in the cut over five years, lowering the interest rate on those loans by .68 percent each year.

"The cut to student loan interest rates is only the first step WISPIRG is taking to make college more affordable," said Cari Weitzel, UWSP Campus Organizer for WISPIRG. "The next thing we are doing is working with

See WISPIRG pg. 2



Photo courtesy WISPIRG
NJPIRG student chair Sarah Clader at a press event in Washington, D.C. the day the House passed H.R. 5.

WDM D students team up with City University, London

Jeff Peters
THE POINTER
JPETE256@UWSP.EDU

When asked to consult with City University, London about their purchase of a Flash Media Server, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point Web and Digital Media Development Professor Anthony Ellertson didn't realize those initial talks were the beginning of an intriguing relationship between the two universities. Now, even his students are getting involved.

"It started to dawn on me that this would be a great opportunity for our students to create cutting edge, streaming media applications for the web that would give us an international connection," said Ellertson. "It's a very exciting project."

Last Friday, eight WDM D students, in an independent study group led by Ellertson, started doing just that as they began the process of developing a series of web-based applications for CUL.

The tools at WDM D

students' disposal make them uniquely positioned for this kind of project, said Ellertson.

"We're really one of only a few, in fact I think maybe only one or two other campuses, that gives their students access to a Flash Media Server."

Flash Media Server has become one of the foundations of the new internet, where static web pages have given way to sites that promote interactivity and streaming video and audio.

This semester the students in the project will be creating a web radio station, a video conferencing center for distance learning education, and a video delivery system that allows professors to stream portions of longer videos to their students.

It's a partnership that benefits all those involved. The students get to develop professional applications for a client, the department gets international exposure, and CUL gets their otherwise expensive web applications at no cost.

"They recognize this is a great opportunity because here they have a program which has the logistics and the theoretical know-how to do things," said Ellertson.

"The kind of web development places that have access to a Flash Media Sever are very large, very expensive web companies. It's not a server you can generally go to your local web shop for, because they just don't have that resource."

Working with an outside company to provide web applications for international use will be a good experience, said Joe Frost, a Computer Information Systems major with a WDM D minor and one of the students participating in the project.

All the students involved had to write eight page papers detailing their qualifications just to get into the class.

"This will be a nice portfolio object students can take to employers and showcase they've been working in the field already," said Frost.

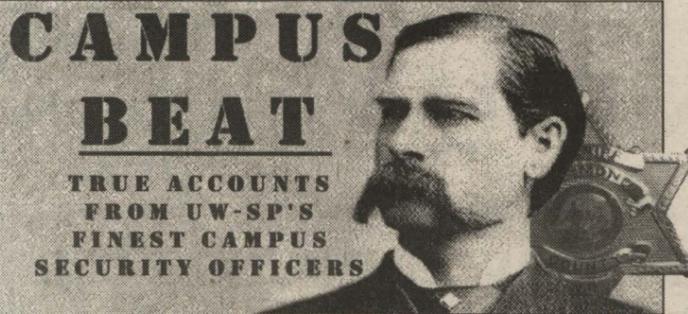
Ellertson is hoping the experience will be able to

move outside of the classroom as well.

"The pie-in-the-sky dream is that we'll be able to find funding so that at the end of the semester we'll be able to take the students in the class and go to London and in person present our ideas. I don't know if that's going to happen. There's always a scarcity of resources at a university. We're trying. We're hunting around for money."

He's also hoping this project will generate more opportunities for students in the future.

"If someone is willing to accept the fact that we might take a whole semester or even a whole year to finish a project, I think we'll have a lot of interest. We do this for the City University of London, hopefully other projects will come from that, but then I also hope that we develop enough word of mouth reputation that other institutions needing similar types of things will come to us and start discussing things with us."



Reserve Street
Jan. 24, 2007 5:40 a.m.
Type: ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN
Individual(s) used mop to unsuccessfully pry open gate.

Off-Campus
Jan. 25, 2007 9:03 p.m.
Type: THREAT
Professor had been receiving threatening e-mails.

Isadore Street
Jan. 25, 2007 10:30 p.m.
Type: SUSPICIOUS SUSPECT
Nothing to report/unfounded.

Reserve Street
Jan. 28, 2007 2:30 p.m.
Type: DISTURBANCE
Students were skateboarding and rollerskating on railings and sidewalks by the Allen Center.

SGA Update

It seems to be getting colder and colder outside, so don't forget to utilize the city bus! If you're not sure how to do that, come to the "Get to Know the Bus" forum! On Monday, Feb. 5 at 7 p.m., come to room 213 of the CCC to get all of your questions answered!

Interested in having a big impact on this campus? Consider running for SGA president, vice president or senator! Elections are this semester! Applications are available! For more information, e-mail rfors140@uwsp.edu!

We need students on the following University Committees:

- University Affairs
- University Awards (CPS student)
- Council of Advisors
- Curriculum

If you are the treasurer of an organization, get ready for annual budgets!

Senate meetings are held every Thursday at 6 pm in the Founder's Room of Old Main. Everyone is welcome!

Mayoral Forum on Wednesday, Feb. 7 at 7 p.m. in COFAC 221. Find out who you want to vote for!

By Sarah Falat

from **WISPIRG** pg. 1

[Representative David Obey] to re-authorize the Higher Education Act to ensure students receive significantly more funding for

school through Pell Grants. "We call on Congress to build on this first vote by increasing the maximum Pell Grant to \$5,100 and passing strong protections for student loan borrowers," Vondra said.

Vice-chancellor Helm announces retirement

Press Release
UNIVERSITY RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Virginia Helm announced she will retire from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in July, having served as head of Academic Affairs and in a one-year term as interim chancellor since coming to the university in 2002.

Helm made the announcement Wednesday during her State of Academic Affairs address, during which she highlighted the university's academic accomplishments over the past four-and-a-half years, as well as its current projects and vision for the future.

The search process for Helm's replacement will begin immediately.

As interim chancellor during the 2003-04 year after the departure of Chancellor Thomas George, Helm served as the first female leader of the campus in its 109-year his-

tory. During her tenure as vice chancellor, faculty development opportunities increased through the newly created Center for Academic Excellence and Student Engagement as well as through technology training. Helm also initiated the University Evening program in which faculty noted for significant scholarship and teaching were chosen to present a lecture or performance for the campus and community.

Under her leadership, online courses and participation in Winterim session have doubled, new programs in Web and Digital Media Development and health sciences were created, and a partnership was formed with UW-Madison to provide a doctoral program in audiology. Her work will continue during the current semester as she is spearheading the university's reaccreditation activity as well as the strategic planning initiative beginning this month.

UW-SP's economic impact for the region approaching \$400 million

Press Release
UNIVERSITY RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Students have returned to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point for the spring 2007 semester. By the end of this year, our nearly 9,000 students will have spent almost \$78 million annually in the region according to the just-released 37-page report, "University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point - Economic Contribution to the Region," prepared by Dennis Winters of NorthStar Economics, Inc. of Madison.

"UW-SP is realizing the vision of those who worked hard back in the 1890s to bring first a normal school, those who followed later to make it a state college, and today a university. UW-SP is at the core of Central Wisconsin's higher education outreach and destined to be a major contributor to economic development," said UW-SP Chancellor Linda Bunnell. "UW-SP is part of the very fabric of the community and the greater region. Its students and workforce are vital to the communities and businesses of Portage, Marathon and Wood counties and all of Central Wisconsin. We're here to stay and we will do our part to meet the needs of the region and the state."

The report was conducted by Winters, vice president and director of research for NorthStar Economics, Inc. NorthStar Economics is a private economic consulting and research firm dedicated to the development and implementation of New Economy economic development strategies.

The purpose of the report is to quantify the monetary contribution UW-SP makes to the regional economy, primarily Portage, Wood and Marathon counties. NorthStar's report

quantifies the total economic contribution the campus makes to the region by collecting data, analyzing spending patterns, applying multiplier coefficients and calculating the final fiscal effects.

Key report findings include:

- UW-SP contribution of almost \$378 million to the regional economy annually;
- UW-SP responsible for almost 5,700 jobs in the region, nearly 6,400 statewide;
- UW-SP students spent almost \$78 million annually in the region, over and above student tuition, fees, and room and board;
- UW-SP employees spent almost \$31 million directly in the region annually;
- UW-SP visitors spent almost \$19 million annually in Portage County;
- UW-SP generates almost \$17 million in state income and sales tax revenue annually;
- UW-SP students contributed almost 46,000 volunteer hours and \$2.7 million worth of time to local community services.

"This report reminds us how important continued growth in participation in all of our higher education institutions is to Central Wisconsin. UW-SP and its sister colleges as well as area technical colleges are fortunate to enjoy the excellent private and public sector backing throughout the region and for that we are grateful," said Bunnell. "We hope that support will encourage Governor Doyle to continue his investment in the University of Wisconsin in his upcoming budget."

The report demonstrates the strong connection between higher education and the historical economic growth and success of the state's economy.

THE POINTER

Editorial

- Editor in Chief
.....Steve Roeland
Managing Editor
.....Katie Guntz
News Editor
.....Aaron Hull
Outdoors Editor
.....Anne Frie
Co-Pointlife Editors
.....Angela Frome
.....Katie Leb
Sports Editor
.....Stephen Kaiser
Science Editor
.....Sara Suchy
Arts & Review Editor
.....Joy Ratchman
Comics Editor
.....Joy Ratchman
Head Copy Editor
.....Sara Jensen
Copy Editors
.....Erica Berg
.....Jeff Peters
Reporters
.....June Flick
.....Nick Gerritsen
.....Justin Glodowski
Faculty Adviser
.....Liz Fakazis

Photography and Design

- Photo and Graphics Editor
.....Drew Smalley
Page Designers
.....Andrea Mutsch
.....Stephanie Schauer
.....Ben Whitman
Photographers
.....Lue Vang
.....Eva Heule

Business

- Business Manager
.....Stevett Heller
Advertising Manager
.....Taja Dahl
Assistant Advertising Manager
.....Paul Kurth
Public Relations
.....Laura Farahzad

EDITORIAL POLICIES

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

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

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

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

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



THE POINTER

Newsroom
715.346.2249

Business
715.346.3800

Advertising
715.346.3707

Fax
715.346.4712

pointer@uwsp.edu



ASSOCIATED
COLLEGIATE
PRESS

www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/pointer

University of Wisconsin Stevens Point
104 CAC Stevens Point, WI 54481

Pointlife

Lambda Pi Eta helps to unite the communication department

Angela Frome
THE POINTER
AFROM244@UWSP.EDU

This week's featured student organization is Lambda Pi Eta (LPE), the national communication honor society. The University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point chapter, Nu Omicron, which was formed in 2001, makes an effort to get involved on campus and in the community.

LPE actively contributes to the UW-SP communication department. Last semester, one of the main projects was selling department t-shirts "as a way to unify the department," said Steven Heller, the president of the organization.

The group also inducted 18 new members in fall 2006. As new inductees they received membership certificates, pins and will also wear honor cords during graduation.

LPE follows strict academic expectations. In order to become a member, a student must be at a junior or senior status, and must have completed at least 12 communication credits. Members must also maintain a 3.0 GPA, with a 3.25 GPA in their communication classes.

Another project that LPE takes on is to award pre-majors in communication with a scholarship, which they provide by hosting fundraisers.

"We will be focusing most of our attention this semester on helping put on the communication awards banquet at the end of the semester," Heller said.

Meetings take place on the first Wednesday of every month. The next meeting is on Feb. 7 in room 201 CAC.

For more information on LPE and how to get involved, contact Heller, faculty advisor Rhonda Sprague, or visit the organization's website, www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/lpe.



Photo courtesy of Lambda Pi Eta

Officers of Lambda Pi Eta pose for a picture at the most recent induction ceremony.

Upcoming Super Bowl sparks interest around UW-SP campus

Katie Leb
THE POINTER
KLEB524@UWSP.EDU

In only a few days, football fans will experience Super Bowl XLI, pitting the Chicago Bears against the Indianapolis Colts. This year's Super Bowl is being held on Sunday, Feb. 4, at 5 p.m. in Dolphin Stadium located in Miami Gardens, Florida.

Since the beginning of the Super Bowl on Jan. 15, 1967, which featured the Green Bay Packers and the Kansas City Chiefs, a great deal of importance and pride has been placed on the annual event. Millions of people tune in to see what team will be awarded the Vince Lombardi Trophy. Last year's Super Bowl event, featuring the Pittsburgh Steelers and Seattle Seahawks, was watched by 141.4 million viewers.

However, what seems to be most important about Super Bowl Sunday for millions of

the viewers is the array of commercials presented during the breaks in the game. This year's estimated cost for a 30-second commercial during Super Bowl XLI is \$2.6 million. For the companies purchasing this limited time, exposure to their product is worth the hefty chunk of change.

Although the Super Bowl is taking place thousands of miles away, its presence is felt at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Former UW-SP standout Clint Kriewaldt, playing for the Pittsburgh Steelers, can forever claim to have made the first tackle of Super Bowl XL. Kriewaldt attended the university from 1995-98, leaving his mark by becoming the all-time leading tackler with 416 career tackles.

Sports editor Stephen Kaiser weighed in regarding what will happen in the upcoming game.

"The Colts really deserve

to win it. They have a great coach in Tony Dungy who has not yet made it to a Super Bowl previously," said Kaiser. "They have Peyton Manning and Marvin Harrison, possibly the best quarterback-receiver duo of all time."

On the other side of the ball, "The Bears are mediocre at best on offense, with a horrible quarterback only in his third year," believes Kaiser. "The only aspect of the Bears' game that I truly respect is their defense."

In regards to the Chicago Bears' chances of winning Kaiser stated, "If they are going to win this game it will be through their defense, but it is not likely to happen."

No one knows who will be the victor of Super Bowl XLI until the final whistle is blown on Sunday. Until then, find more information about the upcoming Super Bowl at www.superbowl.com.

Pointer Poll

...What are you doing on Super Bowl Sunday? Who do you want to win?

"Finding the biggest Colts party ever."

Becky Seiler
Senior



"I have to work, but after I am going to my friend's house to see what happened. Colts better win."

Mike Klesmith
Freshman

"Throwing a party... apparently. I don't care who wins. I'm just throwing the party."

Melissa Hubbard
Senior

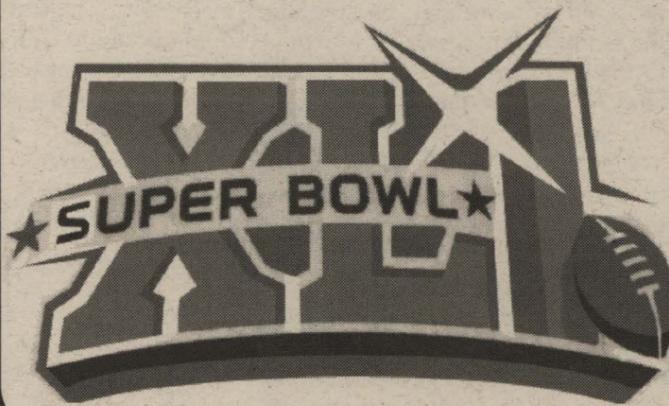


"Probably go to the Score. I'm not really a football fan but I'll go with the Bears."

Nate Sorenson
Senior

"I don't know. But I'm from Chicago so I'm going to be watching the Bears."

Anthony Noreen
Senior



Pregnant and Distressed??

Birthright can help.

Alternatives to Abortions;
Pregnancy Tests, Confidential.
No Charge For Any services.



Call: 341-HELP

Science, Health & Tech.

UW-SP Strength Center offers more options

Sara Suchy
THE POINTER
SSUCH489@UWSP.EDU

Tucked away inside the vast land of gyms, dance studios, locker rooms and classrooms within the Health Enhancement Center, there is another room filled with so many bench presses, squat racks and free weights Rocky's jaw would drop.

This place is called the Strength Center, and if you happen to be a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point athlete, you probably already know this place as your home away from home. At any given time in the Strength Center you may be benching next to the star quarterback on the football team or spotting for the top sprinter on the swim team.

"The Strength Center definitely draws a lot of the school's athletes," said Kelsey Miedtke, a desk worker at the Strength Center.

Looking around, it's clear that is the understatement of

the year. The facility was filled with dozens of muscled-up guys in ripped shirts lifting huge bars stacked with weights that are bigger than a small child.

"We are obviously very lifting oriented," said Miedtke.

In fact, many of the UW-SP sports teams and weight lifting classes hold sessions in the Strength Center.

"We have the equipment for members to power clean or bench with free weights that the Cardio Center does not offer," said Chad Malchow, a desk worker at the Strength Center.

The Strength Center offers a much wider array of lifting equipment than the Cardio Center. To be exact, the center boasts a 7,000 square foot workspace, an 8-rack dumbbell area with 5 to 150 pound dumbbells, a 16-piece Hammer strength room and several benches, squat racks, power platforms and numerous selectorized machines.

The Strength Center caters

not only to the athletes on campus but to the average student on campus and even to the community members of Stevens Point.

"The athletes on campus get a big discount, but we have membership options for students, staff, alumni and community members as well," said Malchow.

The Strength Center also has an area devoted to cardio machines.

"We have treadmills, bikes, stair climbers, elliptical machines. It's not just weights here," said Malchow.

The Strength Center also rents out equipment for students to use in one of the many gyms in the HEC.

"We've got basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, racquet balls just about anything you can think of," said Malchow.

The Strength Center is currently working on several promotions to get the word out about the facility. One of them is called the Iron Dawg bench press.

"Members may pay a small fee and receive a T-shirt with the amount they bench pressed stated on the shirt," said Lee Meyer, the student manager of the Strength Center. This project is slated to begin in April.

"We are in the process of developing a clothing line for the SC. We are hoping to get

this out by mid-April, if not earlier," said Meyer.

The Strength Center is also developing a personal training program and free lifting days which will be selected at random throughout the semester.

For more information about the Strength Center and membership options call 346-4165 or stop in.



Photo by Drew Smalley

Photographer Drew Smalley managed to capture the elusive dumbbell in its natural habitat. It scurried away shortly after.

FITNESS CORNER

Sara Suchy
THE POINTER
SSUCH489@UWSP.EDU

I hate weight lifting. When I am working out, I will go out of my way to make sure I don't have time to lift because I hate it so much. The idea of sitting at a machine and repeatedly pulling or pushing against it in order to achieve "bikini-ready" arms is just not something I find fun. I can almost guarantee you that if you open up this week's issue of some fitness magazine there will be some article about how beneficial lifting is, or how it helps boost metabolism or that it prevents every kind of cancer known to man. I don't care, I still hate it.

So you can imagine how excited I was to learn that the Cardio Center on campus is currently phasing out the old lifting machines I have come to loathe to make room for a new kind of machine that may be more effective.

Eric Christianson, a certified personal trainer at the Cardio Center, uses a new kind of weight training equipment called Freemotion with his clients. Freemotion is different from other weight lifting machines because it is unsupported or not manipulated by the structure of the machine. Rather than lifting up a bar attached to a weight, the weight is attached to a cable.

"The Freemotion machines recruit several muscles to do lifts rather than just one," said Christensen. "On a regular shoulder press only the shoulder muscles are involved. The Freemotion machine forces other muscles to become involved."

Christensen also explained that the Freemotion machines allow him to help his clients train the specific

muscles they use every day using motions they use every day rather than larger groups of muscles using motions they may not ever use in daily life.

"I have elderly clients that need to train the muscles involved in picking a can off the shelves in the grocery store. The Freemotion lets them do that exact movement," said Christensen.

Despite the benefits of Freemotion, Christensen said that many of his clients and regular members of the Cardio Center are reluctant to try the Freemotion machines.

"Without guidance, they can be pretty intimidating," said Christensen.

And intimidating they are. There are so many options on each machine, it's hard to know what to do and how to do it. It's tempting to throw up your hands and go back to the same old leg press you're used to.

Christensen explained that there's no need to be scared of them.

"It just takes some getting used to like everything else," said Christensen. "I always get my clients to try the Freemotion equipment, and they almost always end up preferring it to the old machines."

The personal trainers at the Cardio Center offer free orientation to the Freemotion machines as well as a circuit training class called "X-FIT" which employs the use of the Freemotion equipment.

Christensen uses the Freemotion equipment himself in his workout routine.

"My personal favorite is the cable cross," said Christensen. "I can work just about every muscle with one machine."

THINK SUMMER

Green Bay area residents, heading home for the summer?

Check out the expanded summer course listing at UW-Green Bay.

Most credits are transferable. On-line courses available:

www.uwgb.edu/summercourses

UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN
GREEN BAY
Connecting learning to life

Outdoors

Giving birth while sleeping: female black bears can do it!

Anne Frie
THE POINTER
AFRIE140@UWSP.EDU

When it comes to giving birth, most women might agree that female black bears have it good.

Imagine what it would be like to give birth to a child while you sleep, after having had nothing to eat or drink for the last month.

Imagine then waking up months later and finding a three-month-old child walking around and calling you, "Mommy."

Hard to imagine? Not if you're a breeding female black bear.

Females can actually delay their eggs from being fertilized until later in the year when they can be more available to the cubs and provide more food.

It begins in June or early July, when a female black bear, or sow, has reached sexual maturity and breeds

with one or several male black bears. After she breeds, the fertilized egg floats free in her uterus for five to six months.

As students begin a new school year in September, the sow is getting ready to go to sleep for the winter.

The sow will then find a den, which can be a nice cave, under a pile of leaves or even in a tree, and then fall into a deep winter sleep, or torpor, which is not the same as true hibernation.

A bear's body temperature, heart-beat, respiration and metabolism will drop, but not as low as that of true hibernating animals such as chipmunks or woodchucks.

While in torpor, the female black bear will still burn about 4,000 calories a day. More interestingly, she won't lose bone mass or muscle mass or release of bodily fluids for the majority of the winter.

Then, in late November or early

December, the egg finally implants itself into the urine wall of the female black bear and begins to grow until January or early February when the cubs are born.

Here's the interesting part - the mother is still in her winter sleep when they are born! Her cubs weigh only as much as a stick of butter and are born blind and naked. One of the greatest threats to their survival is their 200-pound mother accidentally rolling over on them as she sleeps. This tragedy rarely occurs, however.

The cubs will crawl out of the den with their mother when she awakens from her long winter's nap, and they will stay with her for the next two years.

For more information about black bears in Wisconsin, visit the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife/PUBL/wlnotebook/bear.htm>.

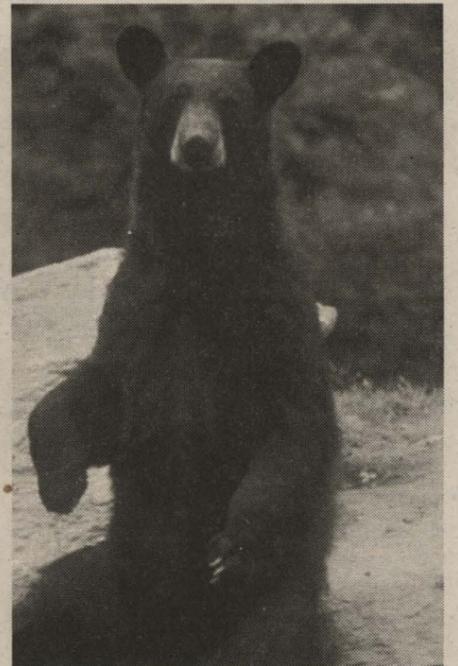


Photo courtesy of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Now is the time when many black bears in Wisconsin are giving birth.

Pointer outdoor gear picks of the week

Never leave home without it - Ozark Trail multi-tool utensil serves all

Sara Jensen
THE POINTER
SJENS236@UWSP.EDU

The campfire crackles in front of you, causing scents of a sizzling dinner to waft towards you. Soon a friend hands you a plate of warm food. You eye it greedily, ready to dig in after a long day of hiking and fishing.

As you're about to devour your meal, something clicks in your head. You realize something is missing - utensils. However, if you had the Ozark Trail utensil multi-tool, this would not be you.

The utensil tool is a convenient way for any camper, or any type of traveler for that matter, to carry around all the utensils he or she will ever need. In Swiss-army-knife-fashion, this tool contains a fork, spoon, knife, corkscrew, bottle opener, and small blade.

With all your utensils in one, easy-to-carry mechanism, you won't have to be burdened by the worry of wondering whether or not all the necessary eating tools were packed.

Made of stainless steel, the



utensil multi-tool is durable and much better, not only for eating, but it is better for the environment.

One handy feature of the utensil multi-tool is the way it separates into two smaller, easier to handle pieces. When both the spoon and fork are pulled out at the same time, the tool separates in half making them easier to grip and eat with.

And though a corkscrew may not seem necessary on a camping trip, it's nice to know you have one in case you stumble across a bottle of wine on your camping excursion.

At about four-and-a-half inches when completely closed up, this multi-tool will fit just about anywhere, including a purse, so that anyone, not just campers, can be prepared to eat in any situation. There is even a key ring at one end so it can be easily made to stay in one place.

With the three main eating utensils included, plus a few bonus pieces, this multi-tool is a must for any camper, traveler or world wanderer who doesn't want to be the only one not enjoying a meal.

Stay warm this winter with the Marmot Helium

Stephen Kaiser
THE POINTER
SKAIS309@UWSP.EDU

Most of us have had some sort of experience camping, whether it was in the middle of a forest in a state park or in the backyard of your parent's house when you were a kid.

Whatever the case, the sleeping bag that you used in the tent is probably long past its prime. If you found that you needed to stuff seven additional blankets into the bag to retain heat, it may be time to purchase the Marmot Helium sleeping bag.

Perhaps the biggest draw for the Helium is its lightweight features. As most backpackers know, every ounce counts while traversing the wilderness for multiple days in a row.

At 29 ounces, the Helium becomes the size of a loaf of bread when stuffed in a stuff-sack, which allows for plenty of room for other necessities for the journey.

For such a compact bag, the Helium can be quite spa-

cious when it comes time to sleep. The mummy-style bag and the classic trapezoidal foot box lets feet move freely and comfortably.

Now you might be asking yourself, "Why would I want to spend \$359 on a simple sleeping bag?"

The answer is that it is not an average sleeping bag.

The Helium is filled with certified 850-plus goose down feather, the best weight-to-warmth down sold in the market today.

The Marmot sought an independent laboratory to test and certify their product, and then retested during the production process. Not only this, the down is protected by water-resistant fabric to guarantee warm sleeping for years.

The Marmot Helium is the Cadillac of



sleeping bags for the casual camper, but with this analogy, it comes in the size of a Geo. Because of its outstanding combination of light weight, weather-resistant material and high insulation count, I give this a rating of 9.7 out of 10.

\$\$ Cash to Study Abroad!
12 new scholarships for students studying abroad in summer 2007, fall 2007 and Winterim 2008. Apply by March 15, 2007

\$\$ I want that money!
So where will you study abroad?
Need to know more? Call us:
International Programs Office
108 Collins Classroom Center
University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point
WI 54481 USA ~~~ 346-2717
www.uwsp.edu/studyabroad

STOR-IT Mini Warehouse
Low prices, close to campus,
\$15 off 1st month rent.
Any size. (715)592-4472

Pointers drop WIAC showdown

Men's Basketball

Nick Gerritsen
THE POINTER
NGERR519@UWSP.EDU

Pitted as the game of the year in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh men's basketball team came away with a convincing victory in front of a standing-room-only crowd at the Quandt Center. The loss was the first in conference play this season for the Pointers as they watched their conference lead shrink to a single game.

The Pointers started off hot, maintaining a comfortable lead for much of the first half. On two separate occasions in the half, Oshkosh rallied to take a small lead, only to see the Pointers grab it right back. The second time Point answered with three consecutive three-point field goals to take an eight-point lead with just over seven minutes left.

But that was the last lead the Pointers would enjoy the rest of the night. Oshkosh proved to be too big and more athletic than the Pointers, who struggled with their shots all night long. After a timeout, Oshkosh came out roaring, breaking off a 15-0 run toward the end of the first half. Point answered with a late basket, cutting the deficit at halftime to four points.

After the two teams exchanged baskets to start the second half, Oshkosh again went on a big run, this time 14-0, to put the game all but out of reach. Point came out of the locker room at half flat, missing six of its first eight

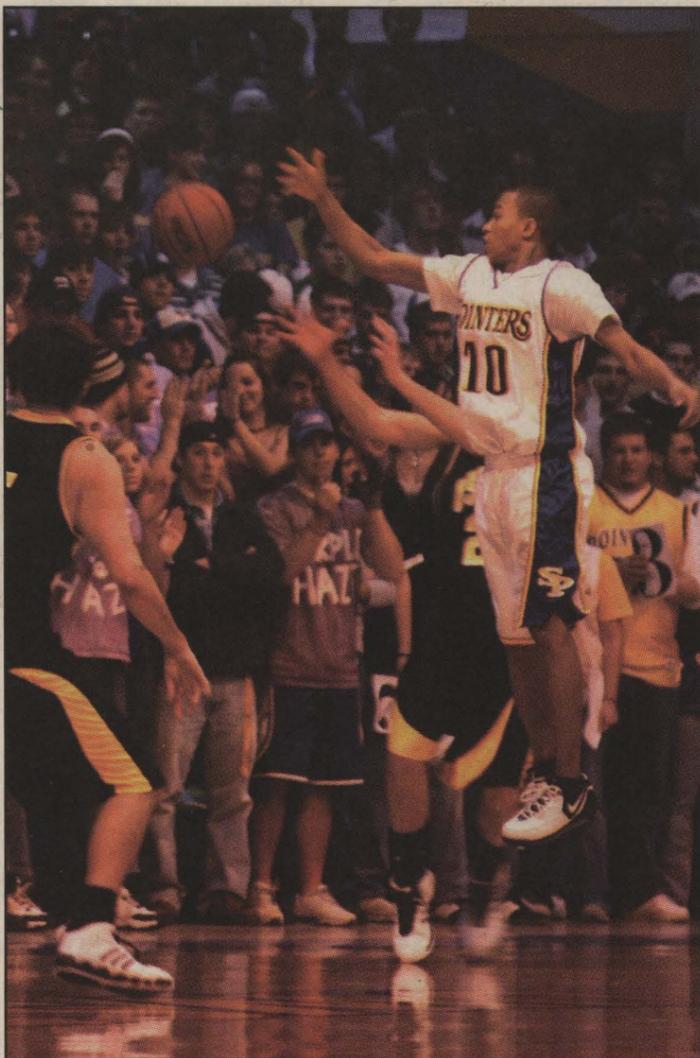


Photo by Drew Smalley

Khalifa El-Amin reaches for the ball but it was just out of reach, as any hopes of a comeback were just out of the reach of the Pointers in the final minutes.

second half shot attempts while committing three early turnovers.

The dominant runs by Oshkosh were led by their 7'1" center Kerry Gibson and D.J. Marsh. They provided the bulk of the Titans' points during those runs to silence the sold-out crowd. Gibson finished with 23 points on 9-13 shooting while Marsh added 19 points, including a perfect 3-3 from three point range.

Point's scoring was led by Bryan Beamish and Pete Rortvedt, who scored 14 and 13 points, respectively. As a

team the Pointers connected on just 37 percent of their shots and became dependent on the three ball, where they made 12 of 31 shots. When the shots stopped falling, they were unable to keep up with Oshkosh who shot over 54 percent from the field.

Despite the loss, the Pointers still find themselves ahead of Oshkosh in both the conference standings and the national polls. The win bolted the Titans to the fifth slot in the national rankings while the Pointers slipped to third.

Hanson, Nelson, Statz lead Pointers in St. Thomas shutout

Women's Hockey

Julianne LaClair
SPORTS REPORTER

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's hockey team was led by a pair of unlikely heroes as they rolled past the University of St. Thomas 6-0 on Sunday, January 29 in a non-conference contest.

Senior defenseman Chris Hanson and freshman Kellye Nelson each had a pair of goals in Sunday's win. Coming into the game, both Hanson and Nelson had only one goal on the season.

"That is what we strive for," said UW-SP head coach Ann Ninnemann. "We don't put all our trust in one or two kids. We play a team game and have a lot of confidence in the depth of our roster."

As the first period progressed it looked like the game might be very tight throughout and the teams went into the first intermission with a 0-0 tie. Hanson broke the scoring drought about three minutes into the second period on an end-to-end rush beating the St. Thomas goalie up high. The Pointers added another nearly two minutes later, as Nelson deflected a puck in front of the net on the power play. Assists on the goal went to sophomore Jenna Daggit and

Hanson. Also scoring in the period was Nicole Grossman with her 11th on the season.

Going into the third, the Pointers decided three just wasn't enough, scoring another trio of goals. Junior defenseman Jamie Lewandowski scored her fifth goal of the season beating the St. Thomas defense on the power play and burying her own rebound. The assist on the goal came from Sophomore Trish Piskula. About a minute later Hanson tallied her second of the night on a shot from the point. Nelson capped off the scoring with her second of the night assisted by Piskula.

"We definitely buried our chances today, myself included" said Hanson. "It was great to play an offensive role in the game, but the shutout was much larger in my book."

Senior goaltender Amy Statz stepped up for the Pointers, pushing away any chance of the St. Thomas getting into the game, had a cool 22 saves and tallied her second shutout of the season.

The Pointers had defeated St. Thomas 2-1 in the opening game of the season, and now hold an 11-4-1 record on the season. The Pointers jump back into conference play this weekend. First up is Finlandia University on Saturday, February 3, then UW-Superior on Sunday, February 4. Both games are scheduled for a 4 p.m. start time at the Ice Hawks Arena.

Pointer women fend off Oshkosh

Women's Basketball

Nick Gerritsen
THE POINTER
NGERR519@UWSP.EDU

Much like last week's loss to River Falls, the Pointer women's basketball team again struggled to find their offensive touch, but their 46-point effort against Oshkosh was just enough for their first league road win of the year, thanks in large part to their defense.

The two teams played evenly in the first half as the Pointers claimed a 26-22 lead at intermission, but the second half became a struggle for both teams to put the ball in

the basket. For the game, the Pointers shot just 34.6 percent from the field.

Despite the offensive struggles, the Pointers got the victory thanks to a superb defensive effort. The Pointers stifled the Titans defensively as Oshkosh shot an even worse 31.9 percent from the field, including a dismal 23.1 percent in the second half. What made the defensive effort even more impressive was that Point was able to get the tough road victory despite being held scoreless themselves for the final 6:12 of the game.

Haley Houghton led the Pointers with 11 points and five rebounds. Nathalie Lechault and Laura Neuenfeldt each added eight points as the Pointers improved to 14-4 overall and 6-4 in league play.



Photo by Drew Smalley

The Quandt Fieldhouse was jam-packed for the clash between two of the WIAC's top basketball powers.

Men's hockey road struggles continue

Men's Hockey

Rochelle Nechuta
SPORTS REPORTER

The Pointers battled this past weekend on Friday, Jan. 26 and Saturday, Jan. 27 with games against University of Wisconsin-Superior and the College of St. Scholastica.

Friday night's face-off in Superior left the Pointers with a 3-5 loss against UW-Superior. The final score improved compared to the last time the two teams met, when the Pointers lost in a 5-0 shutout to the Yellowjackets.

UW-S started the game with two goals early in the first period, but Pointer Josh Calleja scored with an assist from Pat Lee on a short-handed shift. UW-S answered with three more goals in the second and third periods, until late in

the third period when Pointer Brett Beckfield scored on a power-play. With 14 seconds left in the game, Lee scored again, but the Pointers fell short by two goals.

The game against the College of St. Scholastica ended with the Pointers losing by one goal last Saturday. The game ended at 3-2 in favor of the Saints. Beckfield scored early in the second period to gain his second goal of the weekend, and Rolf Ulvin scored his third goal of the season for the Pointers. Pointer goalie Marcus Paulson made 29 saves while Saints goalie Tyler Johnson saved 22.

The weekend's losses dropped UW-SP's overall record to 5-14-2. The team's next two games will be played at home this weekend against Lake Forest College and St. Norbert College. These games will count toward UW-SP's league record, which is currently 1-8-1.

Senior on the Spot Daniel Francis - Men's Hockey

Major - Business Administration.
Hometown - Roseville, Michigan.
Do you have any nicknames? - Franny, Sauce, Chicken Sam, Sauceman, and many others (pretty much whatever the guys feel like calling me).
What are your plans after graduation? - To move back to Michigan or Chicago and try and find a job.
What has helped you become such an accomplished athlete? - Working hard everyday on and off the ice, doing whatever I can to make myself better.
What is your favorite Pointer sports memory? Beating Superior in Superior in the first round of playoffs my first year here.
What's your most embarrassing moment? Running into a player on my own team in overtime and the other team went down and scored the game winner.
What CD is in your stereo right now? - 80's powerhour.
What DVD is currently in your DVD player? - Dasha.
What will you remember most about UW-SP? - The A-bars until 7a.m and the guys on the team.
What are the three biggest influences in your life? - I would have to say that my parents have been a big influence in my life as well as my brother and an old coach from youth hockey.



Pointer wrestling ties Parkside, crushes Lawrence

Wrestling

Stephen Kaiser
THE POINTER
SKAIS309@UWSP.EDU

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point wrestling team went into the second week of the new semester with mixed feelings of confidence and fatigue. They came out unbeaten and in good spirits.

On Wednesday, Jan. 24 the Pointers took on a non-conference opponent in 18th ranked UW-Parkside. The night started off at the 174-pound weight class with an explosion of energy, as Dennis Reckelberg came back from a 2-1 deficit with

a last-second takedown to give him the victory with a score of 3-2 over Parkside's Albert Morgan.

For head coach Johnny Johnson, the match went exactly as he had expected.

"We've wrestled against him before, and conditioning has always been an issue for him," Johnson said. "With him coming off of a recent injury, it made the matter even worse."

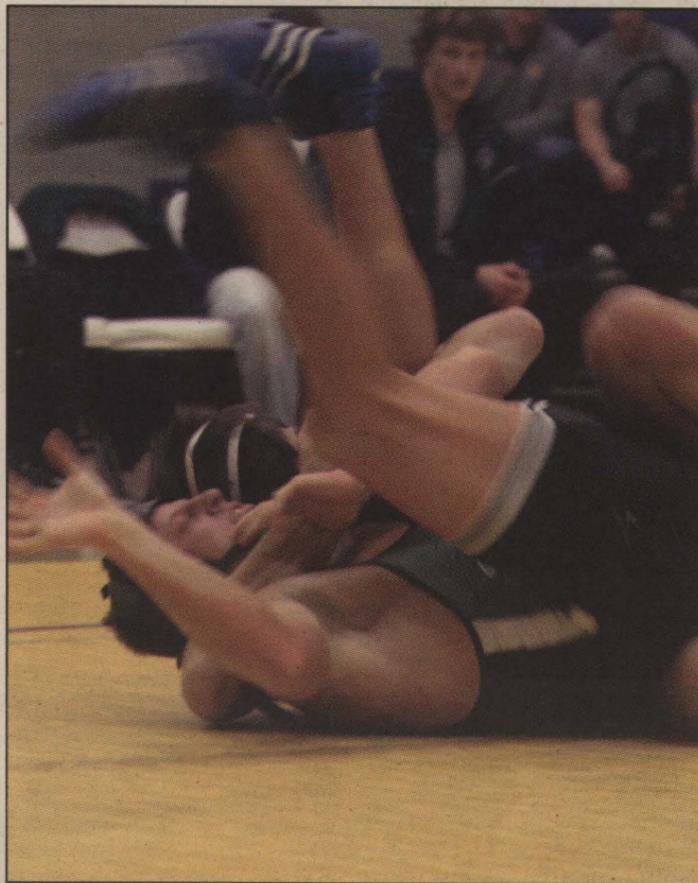
The Rangers took the upper hand after Reckelberg's match, with wins in five weight classes to the Pointers three, one of which was a forfeit at 157. The final match of the night was a 14-1 major decision loss for UW-SP to bring the team score to a 16-16 tie, a disappointment for everyone involved as the crowd

silently departed.

UW-SP hit the road on Tuesday, Jan. 30 to take on Lawrence University in Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference action, and the winner and loser of the dual was a lot more obvious.

The Pointers accumulated four pins and two major decisions on the way to a 38-6 victory over Lawrence, who hasn't yet won a dual in the competitive WIAC. Johnson knew that they were down on their luck this season but found no reason to become complacent.

"Against a team like Lawrence, you want to go in and wrestle tough," Johnson said. "That way you can win it the way you want to win it, not in an ugly, sloppy way."



Photos by Stephen Kaiser

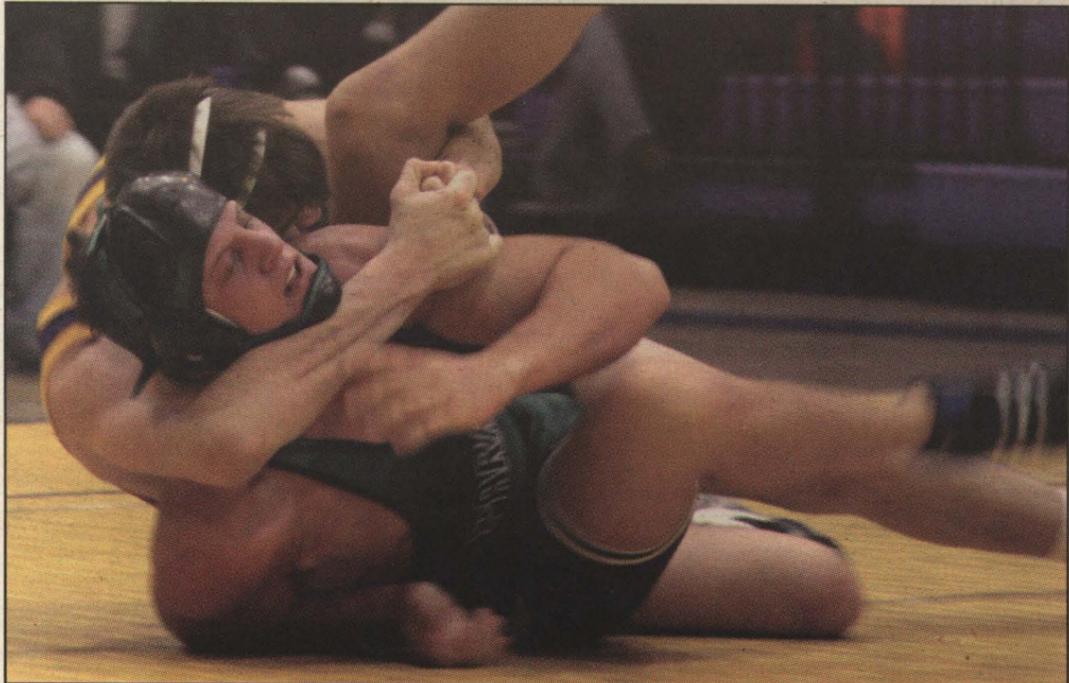
Tyler Wozniak locks in and cradles up Parkside's Jon Tremel in a 10-0 smackdown on Wednesday night. Wozniak looks to continue his dominance as the season winds down, and in whatever weight class he is placed in.

Leading the way in both duals was senior Tyler Wozniak, whose major decision against Parkside and pin against Lawrence are just a small sampling of his season thus far. Wrestling two weight brackets throughout the course of the year, Wozniak has had to make some adjustments.

"Woz has been wrestling really well, both in match-

es and in practice, and has shown his versatility by wrestling at both 184 and 197," Johnson said. "Prior to this season he had only two or three career pins. This year he has seven."

The team will travel to 15th ranked Whitewater on Thursday, Feb. 1 for another tough WIAC match-up, then Saturday, Feb. 3 for the UW-Eau Claire Invitational.



Arts & Review

Patchouli puts an upbeat spin on folk

Elizabeth Drews
ARTS AND REVIEW REPORTER

Patchouli can be described as a folk-rock group, but their performances are anything but stereotypical. The band hails from the west coast and has traveled around the country many times. Their songs have been featured in independent movies, and their calendar of events includes a performance at the Midwest Renewable Energy Association's Energy Fair.

Julie and Bruce Hecksel found each other in 1992 while attending graduate school. Both were musicians looking for a purpose. At the time Julie was a drummer—her instrument was a five gallon pail. Eventually she learned to play bass and guitar. Bruce got his start playing guitar for a punk rock band called Be Safe Be Seen. Julie started writing lyrics for him to sing. It might not have been perfect, but it was the start of something big.

The first song they wrote together was "Patchouli," which they later took as the name for their ensemble. According to the Hecksels, the song has never been performed the same way twice. It is a combination of what they were and what they have become.

Performing as a married couple has brought Patchouli closer together. The group once had a drummer, but Julie Hecksel said that he was let go because the pair wasn't sure how they felt about the dark energy his performance gave to their songs. As a duo, Patchouli have used their combined life experiences and adventures to put a fresh spin on their songs.

"It's fun because we both kind of know how the person is going to play - he does new stuff all the time, adds new elements all the time," said Julie Hecksel. "We keep it fresh."

The band released its first album in 1996 and has gone on to record seven additional albums. Their newest album, "The Light Behind You," was released in 2006.

Patchouli performed at the Faux Core on Thursday, Jan. 25. Their lyrics and music

brought an electric atmosphere to the audience. Ranging from mellow to driving, all of Patchouli's songs had a unique, upbeat flair.

As the duo states on its website, "Patchouli's deeply rooted musical base combined with advanced studies in yoga, meditation and other healing disciplines work together to make music with a remarkable capacity to inspire and uplift the human spirit."

Julie Hecksel introduced the majority of the songs, sharing the unique story behind each with the audience. The final song of the show proved to be the most exciting - Julie invited the audience to play along with them, handing out many different kinds of percussion-type instruments to the audience. Each instrument section got a solo.

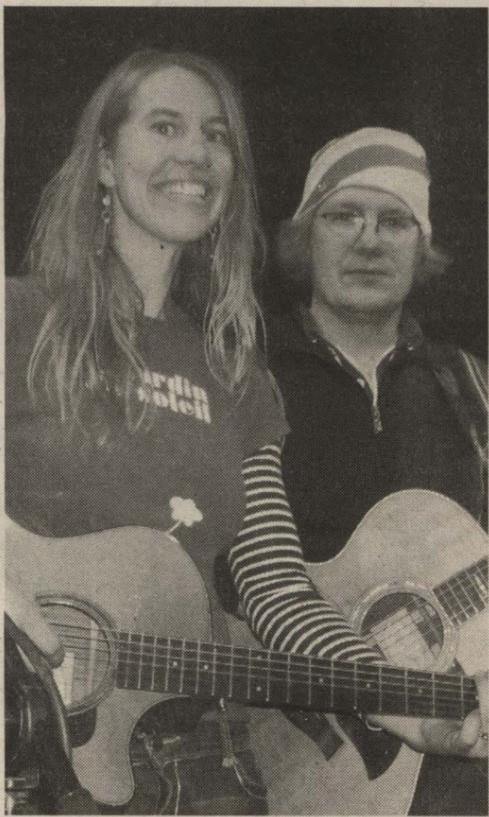


Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Drews

Patchouli is a husband and wife duo.

Patchouli's friendly relationship with their fans is one of the band's greatest strengths. After the show, they remained to sign autographs and discuss music with the fans. They also maintain websites where fans can exchange photos and music, read about the band's history or blog, and purchase CDs.

To find out more about Patchouli or to hear some of their music, check out their websites: www.Patchouli.net or www.myspace.com/patchoulispace.



Julie Hecksel tells the story behind a song.

Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Drews



Arts Bash 2007 promises an evening of arts and fun

Joy Ratchman
THE POINTER
JRATC567@UWSP.EDU

"Guests are encouraged to wear expressive attire," says the press release for Arts Bash 2007.

Arts Bash 2007, the major scholarship fundraiser for the departments of Art & Design and Theater & Dance, will be held at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point on Saturday, Feb. 3. Arts Bash began in 2003 to raise funds for the College of Fine Arts and Communication departments. All proceeds from Arts Bash are directed to two areas, the Arts Bash Scholarship Endowment Fund and the Great Artists and Speakers Endowment. These endowments are used for student scholarships and activities,

including artist residency programs, guest lecturers and trips.

The event will take place at the Noel Fine Arts Center from 7 to 10:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 3. The evening's special features include student performances, tours and demonstrations. One of the highlights of the event will be the Runway Show. Beginning at 7:30 p.m., the show will feature wearable sculptures created by advanced level sculpture students. Student performances will follow the Runway Show, beginning at 8:20 p.m. Art demonstrations, including an active life-drawing session and makeup demonstrations by the theater department, will also be available.

Another essential part

of Arts Bash is the art sale. Professional artists, students, faculty, and alumna have all donated works for the event. The first 50 patrons to arrive will receive a randomly assigned student-created piece of art. All other artwork is available for purchase on a first-come, first-serve basis. The event will also feature a cash bar, desserts and hors d'oeuvres.

Following all of these activities, the College of Fine Arts and Communication will host a dance party with entertainment provided by DJ Wayne "Edwards" Semmerling.

Tickets cost \$35 in advance, and can be purchased with a credit card by calling (715) 346-3956. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$40.



"Children of Men" an apocalyptic masterpiece

Nelson Carvajal
ARTS AND REVIEW REPORTER

Toward the end of each awards season, a dark horse for best picture manages to sneak its way into practically every critics' top ten list. This year that film is Alfonso Cuarón's masterful, dystopian epic "Children of Men," a stunning adaptation of P.D. James' apocalyptic novel. It has also surprised some Hollywood heavyweights by walking away with an impressive three Oscar nominations for Best Cinematography, Best Film Editing, and Best Adapted Screenplay. This isn't bad for a film released in only a handful of cities on Christmas Day. Due to the film's critical success, it has garnered a wider release and is playing now in Stevens Point.

The film stars Academy Award Nominee Clive Owen ("Closer") as Theo Faron, a drunk, working-class civilian living in a futuristic London (the exact date the film cites is Nov. 15, 2027). Civilization is coming to an end around the world because women have been infertile for the last 18 years. The film opens to a news clip of the recent death of "Baby Diego," the world's youngest person, at the age of 19. People weep upon hearing the news. Hope seems

to have left everyone on the planet.

The saying "less is more" has never been more powerful than in this movie, since the exact, prominent cause of the global infertility of women is never really explained. There are hints placed throughout the film, including pollution and genetic experiments, but that's not the real focus. The focus is instead centered on creating a world of despair while still keeping it totally accessible and believable. This is accomplished in part by the art direction and the production design. This future echoes that of "1984" rather than "Back to the Future Part II."

Soon enough, Theo finds himself abducted by a radical organization called The Fishes, who aim to make wild, public statements in an effort to liberate refugees captured by the London government. The leader of The Fishes is, ironically, Theo's ex-lover Julian Taylor (Julianne Moore). Julian wants Theo to help sneak a female refugee to the coast. Theo has a powerful family connection through his cousin Nigel (Danny Huston), who has the power to supply legitimate passport papers for the refugee. At first, Theo is hesitant about the safety of the trip, but after some unexpected plot twists, he is propelled into an enthralling crusade

to get the refugee to the coast.

One of the colorful characters met along the way is Jasper Palmer, a wildly hilarious aging pothead hippie played by two-time Oscar Winner Michael Caine. Jasper figures the world is at an end, regardless of what he can do, so he sits at his reclusive home in the woods growing strawberry marijuana and jamming to the Beatles with his paraplegic wife.

The remainder of Theo's voy-

age is nothing short of exhilarating. Much of the film's suspense is garnered by the filming technique of cinematographer Emmanuel Lubezki's hand-held, one-shot takes. There are one-shot sequences in the film that truly dazzle, raising the question, "How did they do that?"

In the end, "Children of Men" stands on par with "The Departed" and "United 93" as one of the masterpieces of 2006.



NOW HIRING

Spring & Fall
Spring, Summer, Fall

Please Call
592-4729

NOW AVAILABLE IN STEVENS POINT

SOLARUS HIGH-SPEED BROADBAND INTERNET

\$19.99
FOR ONLY MONTH

(and ask how you can keep your current e-mail address!)

For just pennies more than the cost of dial-up you can get a reliable high-speed Internet connection backed by great local service!

- Faster surfing
- Quicker downloads
- Greater access to media



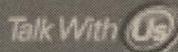
SOLARUS UNLIMITED LOCAL & LONG DISTANCE

\$24.99
FOR ONLY MONTH

(and ask how you can keep your current phone number!)

With a high-speed Internet connection, you can switch to Solarus digital telephone service for unlimited local and long distance domestic calling for one low monthly rate!

- No per call fees
- No per minute fees
- Advanced calling features
- Long distance plan includes domestic U.S., Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Canada



Get both great services on one lower, convenient bill:
Call 1-800-421-9282 or visit www.solarus.net

*Regular rate of \$24.99 applies to high-speed Internet after 3-month introductory period. **Regular rate of \$20.99 applies to digital calling after 3-month introductory period. †Offer expires without prior notice. Not valid with other offers. Additional restrictions may apply. Deposit or prepayment may be required. Taxes and fees may apply with the actual amount depending upon location and service ordered. Solarus reserves the right to limit the level of service to which this offer applies. Offer applies to residential consumers only. Services may not be available in all areas. Call for full details.

Letters & Opinion

Your College Survival Guide "You can't always get what you want..."

By Dr. Pat Rothfus

WITH HELP FROM THE NEW MISSION CAFE.

Dear Pat,

I hope your Christmas was good. Was Santa nice to you? Did he deliver a Christmas-morning bounty of methadone, sock puppets and...damn. I honestly can't even guess at what you get for Christmas. I imagine it's gotta be some pretty crazy shit...

Okay, enough small talk. Here's my problem. I get sucky presents on Christmas. I know, it's the thought that counts and everything, but really, it's been happening for years, and I'm starting to get a little depressed. I drop hints all over the place, and nothing comes of it. I must have mentioned a dozen times that I wished I had a copy of your book, but nobody went out and bought me a copy.

You know what I got? A Garfield joke book. I shit you not. Garfield. I got some slippers too. And stationary.

So that's my question. How can I score better presents?

Grinchily yours,
Katie

Well, Katie, I did have a good Christmas, actually. I got some monkey chow, a sandalwood fan from the Forbidden City, a velvet painting of Jesus making fun of a leper when his disciples aren't looking—all manner of cool stuff. But two of my presents stand out above all the rest.

The first was an unexpected pre-Christmas present. Take a gander at its glory below...

That's right, after years of joking about it, someone finally made a shrine to me. Words cannot bear the full magnitude of its coolness. So rather than waste your time, I've posted pictures up on my Facebook page.

My second unexpected gift was when I found out that the Mission Coffee House was back from the dead. Last year it shut down unexpectedly, leaving me dangerously under-caffinated and all hurty inside.

But now it's back with new owners and a slightly new name: the New Mission Cafe. They're serving food again, and beer, if you're of age. But best of all, they're going to be open 24 hours every Saturday from now on. Finally, a place that caters to my night-owl lifestyle.

So not only do I now have a place where I can drink coffee and stare lustily at hippie girls, but the College Survival Guide has its sponsor back. That means I can give you a \$10 gift certificate for your lovely letter, Katie. Ho Ho Ho.

Alright. On to your advice: how to score good presents.

The first thing you have to ask yourself is, "Do I have any friends?" If nobody got you any presents this year, it might be because nobody likes you.

Once you're sure you have friends, the question becomes, "Do my friends suck ass?" If your friends suck, you might want to replace them with the non-sucking variety.

Step one: the golden rule.

Once you're sure about your peer group, Katie, you need to think long and hard about whether or not you are the sort of person who deserves gifts.

You see, much like oral sex and backrubs, gift-giving operates under the universal law of reciprocity: as ye sow, so shall ye reap. Or, to put it less biblically, if you ain't givin' any, you ain't gettin' any....

It's also important to consider the quality of the gifts you've been giving. If you did all your Christmas shopping for your friends at Debot this year, it's a small wonder that someone retaliated



with a Garfield book.

If you want to make up for some previous gift-giving laxity, keep in mind that small gifts unattached to any particular holiday make a big impression. A good birthday or Christmas present might not get noticed among all the other presents, but an I-was-just-thinking-of-you present scores big points and ensures that people will remember you fondly when they're doing their next round of holiday shopping.

Step two: dropping the hint.

There is a certain art to dropping a hint. If you're too subtle, nobody will pick up on it. If you're NOT subtle, you'll seem like a shameful present-grubbing whore. Don't get me wrong. There's nothing wrong with being a gift-grubbing-whore. You just don't want to look like one, that's all.

My favorite strategy is to team up with someone who shares the same peer group, or who knows my family. I tell them exactly the sort of things I want and trust them to spread the word to people. In exchange, I do the same for them.

Standard hinting works something like this:

You say: "Boy, I sure wish I could afford this piece of the True Cross. [deep sigh] Oh well. I guess I'll just have to resign myself to the fact that I'm going to spend eternity burning in the lake of fire..."

Your friend thinks: "I get it already, you greedy fuck. Avarice is a sin, you know. No wonder you're going to hell."

But the Pat Rothfuss patented present-shill method works like this:

You say: "Hey! Look at this! It's a Sephiroth Realdoll (tm)! This would be perfect for Katie. Wow. It comes with its own sword and it vibrates and everything. I'd pick this up for her right now, but I already bought her that furry costume she wanted."

Your friend thinks: "Say, Katie would love that. Literally. Wow. Pat's such a considerate person. Maybe I will get him that ounce of black tar heroin that Katie pointed out to me the other day..."

Step three: take care of it yourself.

If all else fails, I suggest you simply indulge your own capitalistic urges. No matter how many hints you give, you know your own desires better than anyone else. If you want a copy of my book, go buy it. Treat yourself. Hell, why not buy two?

The truth is, sometimes a present to yourself is the best gift of all. A couple weeks ago I bought myself some ninja stars. Do you know how long I would have had to wait for somebody else to buy me those as a present? Approximately forever. That's because everyone who knows me well enough to realize I want ninja stars, also knows that as soon as something like that enters my house, I become a danger to myself and others.

They showed up last week and I've been screwing up the woodwork in my house ever since. Sure I broke one of my windows. Sure I hurt myself. But was it worth it? Totally. Money may not be able to buy happiness, but it sure can rent it for a while.

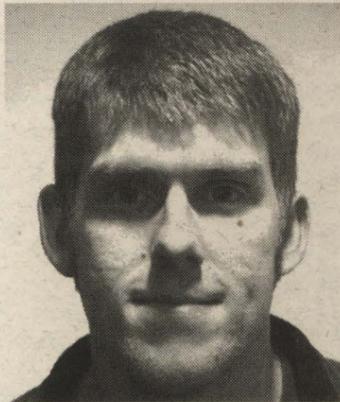
This Saturday, the Mission is having a live show with Effect The Cause Will Play, and Sullen Riot. Doors open at 10 p.m., and as I mentioned before, they're going to be open all night long.

Have problems? Sure you do. Send in your questions to proth@wsuunix.wsu.edu. If I use yours in a column, you'll get lovely free coffee from the Mission. Answers and caffeine, a service only provided by your friendly neighborhood College Survival Guide.

Point of View: Reporting on student's death done with best interests in mind

Steve Roeland

THE POINTER
SROEL908@UWSP.EDU



Every so often, our staff has to cover tragedies involving our peers. It is never an easy task and it forces us to realize how short life can actually be.

However, we must remain objective and cover the story with professionalism and integrity.

The current example of this constantly clashing relationship involves the alleged murder of UW-Stevens Point student Danielle Gorectke in La Crosse on Jan. 21. In last week's issue of The Pointer, our news editor, Aaron Hull, wrote a solid piece on the events and details surrounding the events. Some of our readers, however, felt that the story divulged details that were not appropriate or "exploited" Danielle's death.

I can assure our readers that we did not exploit this situation in any way. The details disclosed in the article were found in police reports and court documents, readily available for viewing. The Pointer was not the only news

source to share the alarming details, as the La Crosse Tribune also quoted the same reports and documents using essentially the same language Aaron's article did.

The reason for publishing these details is because of the fact that most students came back from winter break with no knowledge of the story. While Student Message of the Days may have stated that Danielle had passed away, as well as inviting students to a memorial service, they did not shed any light on the details of the tragedy. Therefore, if students from outside of central Wisconsin came back from break and did not keep up with news in this area, The Pointer may have been the first news source they read that covered Danielle's death.

The Pointer's intent when cover-

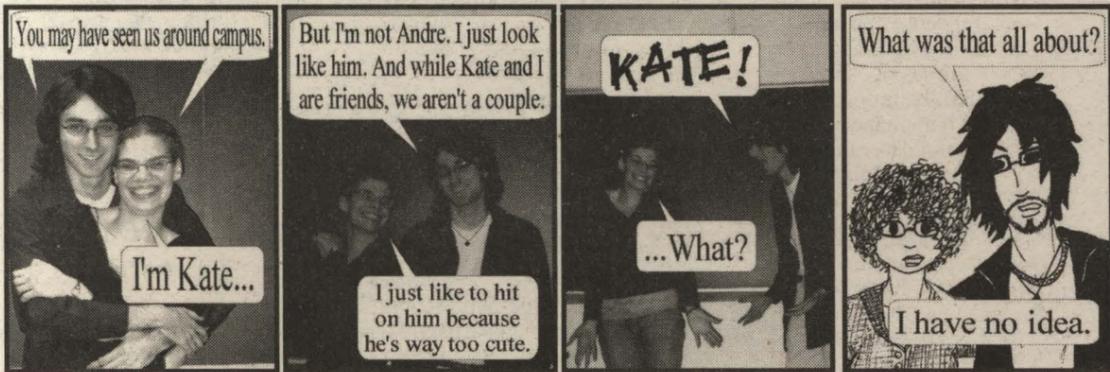
ing this story was to do a comprehensive piece on the entire situation. While Aaron did include details of the alleged murder, he opened the article with coverage of the memorial service and used quotes to show how difficult this situation is for the University and its students.

We, as journalists, have the responsibility to report all facts in a situation and to inform our readers of events that directly impact their lives. In this case, our responsibility to inform students conflicts with our roles as students. To withhold information from our readers would be doing a disservice, not only to our staff of aspiring journalists, but to all those who read The Pointer in search of the complete story of the latest campus news.

Comics

Resident's Evil

Joy Ratchman



Muse

Ryan Tidball



Neverland

Lo Shim



Mistress Nine

Angela Kau

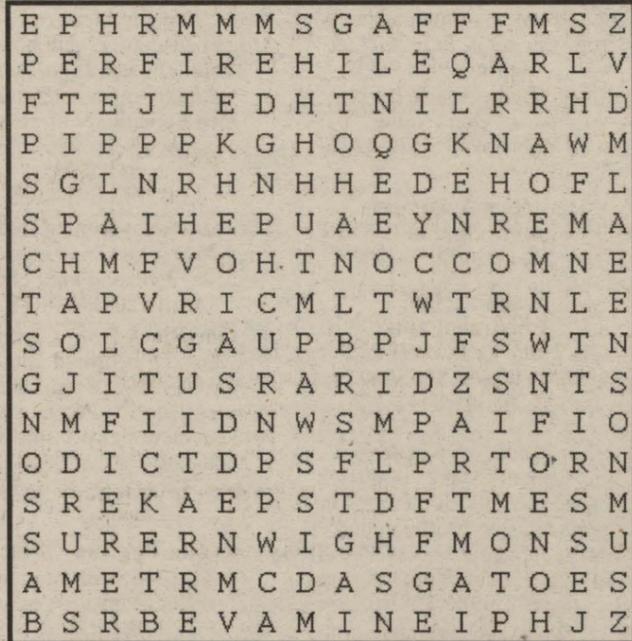


KenAnime

Roger Vang

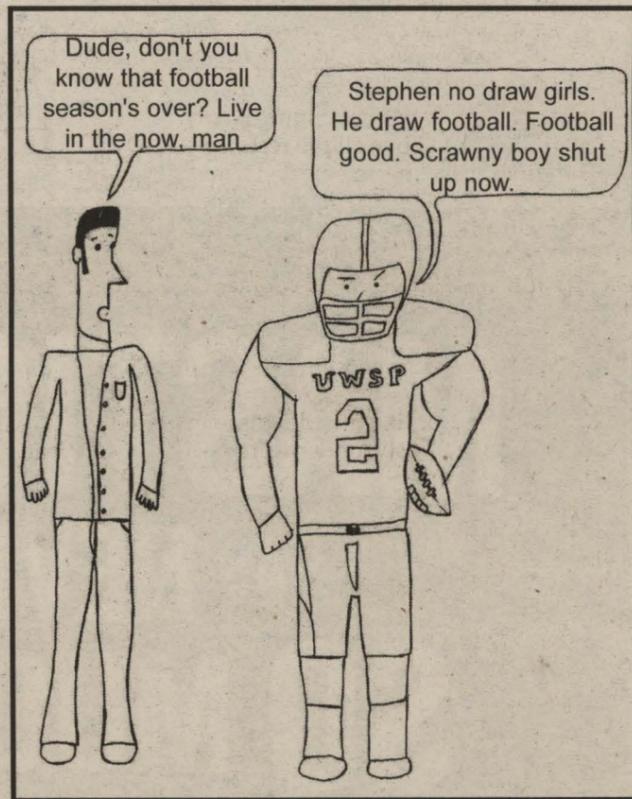


WORD SEARCH: ROCK CONCERT



guitar speakers amplifier
 microphone music crowd
 band songs ticket drums
 singer bass

Stephen's Special Sports Sayings:



THIS SPACE COULD BE YOURS!

We're still looking for comics, political comics, and fun extras!

Send a sample comic to Joy at jratc567@uwsp.edu for more information.

Special
CAMPUS 2007
 Rental Housing Section
APARTMENT
ConNeXTion
Rental Guide



FREE
 at convenient,
 friendly retailers.

ONLINE
www.apartmentconnexion.com

HOUSING

GREAT LOCATION!
3 bedroom apartment available for Summer & Fall 2007, & Spring 2008
Huge Bedrooms & Living Space. Great Value!
Call Robin at 715/570-4272

Eastpoint Apartments
1 bedroom, close to UWSP
Now leasing! Call 341-0412

Available Jan. 1
1 bedroom apts
2 blocks to UWSP
short leases, \$365/mo.
Call 341-0412

For Rent: 5 or 6 bedroom apartment for the 2006-07 school year. \$1450 per person per semester, heat included. Your search could be over! Call or Email for complete information. 715-340-7285 or paulw@charter.net

2007-2008 One bedroom, furnished apt. 1233 Franklyn. \$465 month.
Includes, heat, water, A/C, individual basement, storage, laundry. Garage with remote. No smoking.
June or Sept. 12 month lease. A nice place to live.
344-2899

Anchor Apartments
Now Leasing 2007-2008 School Year
1-5 bedrooms,
1 block from campus
Newer & Remodeled units,
Many amenities
715-341-4455

HOUSING

Roommate to share an exceptionally nice remodelled 3 bedroom, 2 bath house about 3 blocks from campus with one other roommate. Open immediately or possibly second semester until the end of May.
Call 715-341-4455

2 bedroom apartment for summer 2007, close to campus, very clean, nice, and very cheap.
Call 920-296-7071

One Block from Campus
1, 2, and 5 bedroom apts. for 2007/2008. Furnished, parking, snow Removal. \$1,325 per semester per student
Updated & clean! 341-2248
<http://webpages.charter.net/mkorgor>

Housing 2007-2008
The Old Train Station
4 Bedrooms/4 People
We Pay
Heat-Water
High Speed Internet
80 Channel Cable TV
A No Party Home \$1595/Person/Semester

Nice Homes for Nice People
Call 343-8222
www.sommer-rentals.com

Now renting for '07-'08 school year many units available for 1-4 students www.mrmproperties.com 342-9982

Off-Campus Housing
www.offcampushousing.info
Select by
-Landlord
-Street
-#Occupants
Hundreds of Listings

HOUSING

New Sandhill Apartments
Student Housing
3-4 bedrooms for groups of 3-5.
Two bathrooms,
All appliances.
Washer and dryer included!
On Bus Route
Very reasonable rates
15-343-8926 (Bonnie)

Two 4 Bedroom Duplex units-one with two baths other has one. MS Properties:
Sue 715-347-3305
Mark 715-498-1187

University Lake Apartments
2007/2008

3 Bedroom Apartments
For groups of 3-5.
1+ Bath., appliances, A/C
Extra Storage, On-site laundry
On-site maintenance,
Responsive managers.
Starting at \$690.00/month
340-9858 (Brian)
343-4404
www.findaplacetoilive.com

Off-Campus Housing
Available for 2007-2008.
Can accommodate from 1 to 10 people. Apts or houses. Contact Pat at Andra Properties, L.L.C.
715/343-1798

3 bedroom apartments on 4th Ave available for summer & 2007-2008 school year. For more information call 341-0826.

2 bedroom duplex unit. On site free washer & dryer. \$1200/bedroom/semester. One block from campus. 2440 Stanley St. Available for summer 2007.
715-344-3091

HOUSING

House available for the 2007-2008 school year. Located 1 block from Collins Classroom Center. Licensed for 5. Includes parking & washer & dryer on site. Call 824-7216

2007-2008. Nice 4 bedroom house. 808 Union St. Laundry, parking, some updates. \$1145/person/semester. 715-652-6833.

Now renting 2007-2008 school year. 2 bedroom apartments. Close to campus. Paramount Enterprises 341-2120

EMPLOYMENT

Belts Soft Serve is now hiring for the 2007 season. Spring, Summer, Fall & Spring/Fall.
Please call 592-4729

Check out our great specials & get your free tan by visiting
www.hawaiiantanningstudios.com

THE NEW MISSION CAFE NOW OPEN!

LIVE MUSIC SCHEDULE

- **FREE Wireless Internet Access**
- **Two Separate Lounges: "Smoking & Non Smoking"**
- **Pool Table Added!!**
- **We're Open 7am-12am**

Mondays:
Live Music + Students
Food Savings!
Tuesdays:
OPEN MIC poetry & comedy
Wednesdays:
Bluegrass
Thursdays:
Ladies' Night Music by DJ
FREE DRINK
Fridays:
Live Music! Reggae
Night Open 24 Hours
Saturdays:
UWSP Party Domes.
Drinks: Dirt Cheap!
Sundays:
Live Music: Punk Rock
All Ages

Any Purchase-With This AD

30% OFF

THE NEW MISSION CAFE
1319 Strongs Avenue @ Main St
Tel: (715) 345.0811

Expiration Date: 03/31/2007 Code: UWSP

MASTICATION HAS NEVER BEEN SO MUCH FUN.

TOPPERS.COM



FEED THE NEED

LARGE I-TOPPING PIZZA \$2.99

WITH PURCHASE OF ANY LARGE PIZZA OR TRIPLE ORDER TOPPERSTIX™

Offer expires 3/25/07. No coupon necessary. Just ask. One discount per order. Additional offers at toppers.com.

OPEN LATER THAN LATE

715-342-4242

240 DIVISION ST. • STEVENS POINT
OPEN 11AM - 3AM EVERY DAY

As if order get the goods delivered.

DELIVERY FASTER THAN FAST

TASTY QUESADILLA \$5.99

ANY CHEESE, CHICKEN, OR SPAN QUESADILLA

Offer expires 3/25/07. No coupon necessary. Just ask. One discount per order. Additional offers at toppers.com.

TOPPERSTIX™ AND WINGS \$9.99

ANY SINGLE ORDER OF TOPPERSTIX™ AND 42 WINGS

Offer expires 3/25/07. No coupon necessary. Just ask. One discount per order. Additional offers at toppers.com.

LARGE I-TOPPING PIZZA \$2.99

WITH PURCHASE OF ANY LARGE PIZZA OR TRIPLE ORDER OF TOPPERSTIX™.

Offer expires 3/25/07. No coupon necessary. Just ask. One discount per order. Additional offers at toppers.com.

TOPPERSTIX™ AND QUESADILLA \$9.99

ANY SINGLE ORDER OF TOPPERSTIX™ AND ANY QUESADILLA

Offer expires 3/25/07. No coupon necessary. Just ask. One discount per order. Additional offers at toppers.com.

SINGLE ORDER TOPPERSTIX™ \$3.99

ANY SINGLE ORDER OF TOPPERSTIX™

Offer expires 3/25/07. No coupon necessary. Just ask. One discount per order. Additional offers at toppers.com.

2 MEDIUM PIZZAS AND TOPPERSTIX™ \$14.99

2 MEDIUM, I-TOPPING PIZZAS AND ANY SINGLE ORDER OF TOPPERSTIX™

Offer expires 3/25/07. No coupon necessary. Just ask. One discount per order. Additional offers at toppers.com.

2 LARGE PIZZAS AND TOPPERSTIX™ \$19.99

2 LARGE, 2-TOPPING PIZZAS AND ANY SINGLE ORDER OF TOPPERSTIX™

Offer expires 3/25/07. No coupon necessary. Just ask. One discount per order. Additional offers at toppers.com.

MEDIUM I-TOPPING PIZZA \$8.99

ANY MEDIUM I-TOPPING PIZZA

Offer expires 3/25/07. No coupon necessary. Just ask. One discount per order. Additional offers at toppers.com.

LARGE 2-TOPPING PIZZA AND SINGLE ORDER TOPPERSTIX™ \$12.99

LARGE 2-TOPPING PIZZA AND ANY SINGLE ORDER OF TOPPERSTIX™

Offer expires 3/25/07. No coupon necessary. Just ask. One discount per order. Additional offers at toppers.com.

CORRUGATED CARDBOARD BOX FREE

WITH EVERY PIZZA OR TOPPERSTIX™ PURCHASED

Offer expires 3/25/07. No coupon necessary. Just ask. One discount per order. Additional offers at toppers.com.