



The Pointer

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CAMPUS

Students elect new SGA president, vice president

LOGAN CARLSON
lcarl555@uwsp.edu

Ryan Rutledge and Elizabeth Westberg, both juniors, defeated Alex Fink, freshman, and Jeff Hassinger, sophomore, in the Student Government Association elections to serve as President and Vice-President during next year's academic term.

Rutledge currently serves as the legislative issues director for SGA in Michael Wilson's administration and previously served as a justice on the judicial branch. Westberg is currently the communications coordinator for the Residence Hall Association, as well as a senator for the College of Natural Resources, and has previously served as delegate to RHA.

While officially not taking over duties from the current SGA administration until the last senate meeting of the year, the two have been busy working on a smooth transition, and are already laying the groundwork for some bold initiatives.

"We want to create a lower house of government, an assembly of student government that would feature one member of every student organization," Rutledge said. "Every student organization would have one seat at the assembly. They would have the same responsibilities of the SGA Senate; they would approve and write legislation and approve the budget as well. That way it gives more voices to the student body."

Rutledge acknowledged some of the issues that would inevitably come up with such an implementation.

With the large number of student organizations present on campus, rules on the number of representatives present to vote on legislation would have to be agreed upon, as well as the issue with organizations voting on their own budgets.

Westberg said that they hope to have information ready by the end of the year to present to the senate.

Rutledge also stressed the role that accountability towards the student body will play in the administration.

"We want to initiate 'feedback hours' for senators. Basically just more feedback from the student body, going out there and having senators holding hours where they get feedback from students," Rutledge said.

This would essentially work the same way as professors holding office hours for their students to stop by and talk about various issues regarding classes.

Both Rutledge and Westberg feel that the partnership forged between them will benefit the student body as they bring different experiences and expertise to the table.

"Liz and I have very different opinions on things. I think we can put aside our differences and work really well together. I think it is very important to have a VP that will check you and won't just agree with everything you do. Liz has had experience with the residence halls and UCAPB, and has very good relationships with those organizations. While I on the other hand have been solely involved on student government, so



Photo by Samantha Feld

Elizabeth Westberg and Ryan Rutledge, both juniors, are the new Student Government Association's president and vice president for next year.

I have expertise on by-laws and the constitution," Rutledge said.

"I think cast a 'broad net' was the term used. He is coming from philosophy and history, I'm coming from the CNR and the art building. We definitely reach out to a broad variety of students," Westberg said. "We have a diverse set of backgrounds. Not even just the academic side. I have a very strong Res Life background while he has the more SGA background. I

really think our strengths and weaknesses play off each other."

Rutledge and Westberg plan to fill the rest of the SGA executive board by the end of the month, as the senate has to approve the selections at the last meeting. Westberg said that both chief of staff and budget director are being advertised, as they hope to bring whoever is selected for those positions into the hiring process for the rest of the board.

Wilson leads state student coalition against Walker's budget

DUSTIN KLEIN
dklein025@uwsp.edu

Student Government Association President Michael Wilson has taken the lead across the state in student activism against Governor Scott Walker's budget proposals.

Wilson says he's fighting for students across the state because he has a responsibility to do so in his position.

"I am in a position that requires me to act on student interests, and therefore have a huge responsibility

to speak up against these cuts. Students elected me because I promised them that I would fight for their rights," Wilson said.

The budget proposal from the governor's office would cut \$250 million from the public university system schools that are not UW-Madison.

"I understand the 'encourage business' argument, but to then ask the working class to pay for it is plain wrong," he argued.

Governor Scott Walker is proposing the cuts to the University of Wisconsin System to close the pro-

jected \$3.6 billion budget shortfall in the State of Wisconsin.

Walker has said that the state is "broke" and argues that the state cannot keep spending the way that it has in the past.

"Also, notice that the City Common Council, the Mayor, local police, the Regents, the UW Chancellors and the UW Student Representatives have spoken up against this bill. Therefore, if all these groups are saying the budget cuts are going to be destructive for our state in the short and long run, then I

have no choice but to oppose them," Wilson said.

The cuts also expand to issues like public transportation, the loss of funding for Planned Parenthood, and, as Wilson pointed out, "12-18% cuts in teacher's salaries."

Wilson and SGA are not alone in the decision to stand against the budget. He has worked to form a coalition with students across the state, labor, public employees and farmers.

"To speak up is not something

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NEWS

Wilson/New leaders welcome student feedback

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anyone or any group can do alone. Students all across the state need to come together with labor, with public employees, farmers, etc. to stand together for quality public services in Wisconsin," Wilson stated.

Wilson, though, still looks to enlarge his group of people that he organizes collectively with SGA.

"Any student looking for more information on how the bill affects them, or how they can get involved, should feel free to contact our office, or me personally at michael.s.wilson@uwsp.edu," he said.

Students can get involved in the budget process on Thursday when the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point will be hosting the first Joint Finance Committee hearing on the budget. The event will be hosted in the Quandt from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Wilson hopes students will join him over the coming months in opposing the budget.

"This is no time for apathy. Our future is at stake," he said.

CAMPUS

Students unite in solidarity for Building Unity

SETH HOFFMEISTER
shoff583@uwsp.edu

Hundreds of students from across the state converged in Stevens Point over the weekend for the state's largest student empowerment conference. Building Unity, the biggest of many conferences hosted by the United Council of UW Students, brings together students from all corners of the state to foster and build an effective, inclusive, and outspoken student movement.

In a normal year, if there is such a thing, Building Unity does exactly what it says: it builds unity among students in order to stand up for the common interest of students and enables us to stand up for the issues facing us that we deem most imperative. UW-Stevens Point Alumni and current United Council Communications Director Matt Guidry described the conference as "An amazing coming together of students from across the state to have workshops, trainings, and networking opportunities to make the student movement stronger and more effective."

This year, Building Unity had a more pressing relevance to accom-

plishing student solidarity. Wisconsin has been the epicenter of a national movement that seeks to stand up and stop corporate-backed attacks to public services like higher education that people rely on today and need for tomorrow. Students have been leading this charge since day one of this movement, and the momentum gained in the past few months hit a high water mark at Building Unity this weekend when 200 students met to celebrate the progress we've made and plan how to move forward together.

The conference took place April 1-3 in the Dreyfus University Center at UW-Stevens Point. The method of constructing consensus, or building unity, took many forms at the conference. Friday, the United Council staff gave a presentation that highlighted the role students have been playing in recent protests against cuts to higher education in the state budget and gave students the facts on how this affects higher education today and tomorrow.

One of the most engaging parts of any United Council convention is the workshops offered. Students, staff,

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CAMPUS

NPR reporter visits UWSP, tells tales of Iraq

AARON OSOWSKI
aosow812@uwsp.edu

A journalist is someone who is willing to ask the hard questions, to dig deeper into a story to find the truth that often lies somewhere between two extremes. Last week, one of National Public Radio's reporters was at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point not to ask questions, but to answer them.

Kelly McEvers, NPR's Baghdad Correspondent, spoke at the Noel Fine Arts Center last Wednesday, bringing with her stories of Iraq and its people in the years following the U.S. intervention in the country. The talk was entitled "In the Time of Revolution: Reporting in the Arab World." During the speech, McEvers stressed the paramount importance of being informed about Iraq and the United States' role in the country.

"The ghost of Iraq cannot be ignored," McEvers said. "Nothing will ever be the same way again."

In the seven plus years since the U.S. has been involved in Iraq, she notes that the country is still divided, especially between Sunnis (many of whom were once loyal to Saddam Hussein) and Shias.

Violence has decreased dramatically since the initial years after the invasion, but McEvers questions the reasons for this decline.

"Did the Americans bring about that peace by fighting or did they bring that peace by leaving?" McEvers asked. "I ask this question every day."

Inefficient and corrupt are two words that best sum up the current government, and, McEvers says, many Iraqis believe that they may have lost one dictator, but they have gained 100 in the process. Indeed, in 2005, 26 political parties shared seats in Iraqi Parliament, and political infighting and rivalries have characterized the country's government.

Because of government corruption, many Iraqis are also not being provided with basic necessities, such as electricity, clean water and security. According to the U.S. State Department, electricity generation meets only half of demand and only 32% of the population has access to clean drinking water.

With Iraqi citizens reduced to numbers and figures like this on the world news, McEvers wanted to give them a voice.

"When the Arab uprising first started, I thought it would be pretty interesting to hear what Iraqis thought," McEvers said. "After all, they were the first ones to get rid of their dictator."

Libya, the next Iraq?

With the crisis in Libya and the constant debate over the United States' perceived role in the country flooding newscasts everywhere, McEvers believes the lessons learned in Iraq can serve us well in Libya.

She recalled that in 1998, President Bill Clinton ordered the creation of a no-fly zone in Iraq in response to the

threat of Saddam Hussein. The no-fly zone had to be maintained, of course, and it lasted for almost 12 years, coinciding with the United States' lengthy involvement in Iraq.

The debate over the U.S. role in Libya is still alive, but McEvers notes the similarities between these two situations.

"I can't help but think as I listen to the debate playing out, that we've already done this. We've tried this before," McEvers said. "We've tried it in a...place called Iraq. It didn't work. It didn't get rid of a dictator."

McEvers notes that Obama faces a "pernicious dilemma" in Libya, as he must decide whether to escalate the conflict, which brings the risk of making it another Iraq, or standing by, which would essentially allow Gadhafi to kill and imprison thousands of innocent Libyans.

The value of journalism

The ever-changing and dynamic nature of the Middle East is what draws McEvers to countries such as Iraq. She believes that journalists play a vital role in exposing the truths of tyrannical regimes, and this quest for truth is what drives her work in Baghdad.

"One of the most fascinating things about working as a reporter in Iraq is that I truly don't know how the story will end," McEvers said. "Whether you're an Arab dictator or a Wisconsin lawmaker, we traditional journalists are out there, watching."

THE POINTER

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NEWS

Unity/Conference featured workshops, entertainment

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people from other organizations, and members of the community have the opportunity to lead a discussion, lesson, or forum on what they see fit in an engaging and interactive way. Almost 50 workshops were offered at Building Unity in five separate sessions, with topics ranging from Environmental Justice to Planning a Rally to Building CommUNITY to Human Rights in the Middle East.

"In the workshops I attended you could feel the energy and enthusiasm coming from everyone simply by sitting down and talking about these issues and how they effect us," said Mike Wilson, Student Body President of UWSP, who attended the conference and led a workshop that bridged the Four Noble Truths of Buddhism with the idea of social change.

In addition to the numerous workshops offered that build skills to unite and move forward, Building Unity had not one, but two keynote speakers that highlighted the importance of building this inclusive and effective student movement.

Peggy McIntosh, education activist and white-privilege scholar, spoke on Saturday about the "invisible knapsack" that is white privilege. It is something that isn't noticed if one has it, but the advantages one receives from it enable them to succeed in ways that non-privileged people do not have access to. Recognizing it and determining whether you have it or not is the first step. If you're like me, white and male, she says it is our job to use that privilege to break down the systematic barriers that face those who are burdened by prejudices rooted in fear that prevent each individual from reaching their potential.

"It challenged students to confront their unearned privileges and make their campuses and student organizations more inclusive," said Jolie Lizotte, a UW-Madison student who attended the conference.

"Peggy taught us the lesson on privilege that is not only refreshing, but it isn't something you hear every day. Realizing that, it is something that effects us here everyday," said Greg Hartman, UWSP SGA Multicultural and Diversity Issues Director.

Sunday's keynote speaker was Ben Manski, executive director of the Liberty Tree Foundation out of Madison, Wisconsin, and former co-chair of the Green Party of the United States. Manski has been working actively in the Wisconsin pro-Democracy protests in recent months and stressed the necessity of returning the voice of the people into government, particularly students voice into governing our education.

Through direct action, he said, students can effectively drown out the voice of corporate interests that for years have been buying the priority of universities and colleges. Having been involved as a student in

similar protests in the 1990s, Manski drove home the idea that students are often looked to to spark social movements.

At Building Unity there was work that was done, but not without having fun. Brother Ali, acclaimed hip-hop artist from the Rhymesayers label out of Minneapolis, performed in the Laird Room in a celebration of our right to fight and our right to party. The themes behind his music drove home the ideas being discussed at the convention, and gave everyone a

reason to stand up, make some noise, and dance for democracy.

The participants of the conference were happy with the outcome. "This was by far the most successful conference I've been to," said Wilson, who has been to numerous United Council conventions, including Building Unity at UW-Madison last year. "It was incredible the level of dedication and commitment put into this by the convention organizers Greg Hartman and Ben Klingenberg."

After this weekend, it seems that

the student movement is building on the momentum gained in the past few months, years, and decades. Despite challenges that face us, the mood leaving the convention was optimistic.

Matt Guidry sums it up well in saying, "Peggy McIntosh, Ben Manski, and Brother Ali brought together the strong message that the students and the community can come together in these troubling times."

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SPORTS

Why We Love Centerfielder, Josh Hamilton

AUGUSTUS MARCELLINO-MERWIN
amarc543@uwsp.edu

Nowadays, it's hard to find someone with something bad to say about Rangers centerfielder Josh Hamilton. His peers within baseball have accepted him as their brother. The fans, regardless of city, have embraced him as one of their own. He is one of the greatest stories in all of sports and has become a household name throughout the country. People who don't follow baseball at all follow Josh Hamilton. He has won his way into our hearts through his struggles off the field, and he has stayed there through his masterful performances on it.

As the number one pick in the 1999 draft by the Tampa Bay Rays, Hamilton was by all regards the next big thing. Hamilton showed a lot of promise after a successful start to his professional career; however, a slew of injuries derailed his ascent to the Majors. Now with a laundry list of pains and an inability to play the game that gave them to him, Hamilton fell into a sea of drug and alcohol abuse.

Following multiple failed drug tests and several stints in rehab, Hamilton was out of baseball for three years. During that period he burned through his nearly four million dollar signing bonus he received from the Rays like it was pocket change. He had a \$2,000 bounce check that he wrote out to a crack dealer, forcing Hamilton's step-father to go to the dealer and pay him. He woke up in a random trailer following an aggressive crack binge surrounded by a group of people he had never seen before.

It was during this time, at the bottom of the barrel, when he moved in with his grandmother. The same grandmother that Hamilton kissed before every high school baseball game was now the grandmother that he would climb into bed with after another of his drug induced nightmares. And it was his grandmother who would ultimately give Hamilton the greatest gift he could have received: her support. It wasn't until she sat Hamilton down and gave him an intervention that the former phenom got back in touch with his faith and was able to turn himself around.

Just a couple years removed from crack pipes and empty bottles, Josh Hamilton is now living the life he should have been living the entire time. His homerun power is just as intact as it was the day he was drafted. It was never more apparent than during his first year as an All Star participating in the 2008 Home

Run Derby at Old Yankee Stadium. Hamilton broke the all-time homerun record for a single round when he belted out 28 homers in the first round, his longest an estimated 518 feet. Gone are the lines of cocaine. The only lines in Hamilton's life now are the ones that encompass his personal stage.

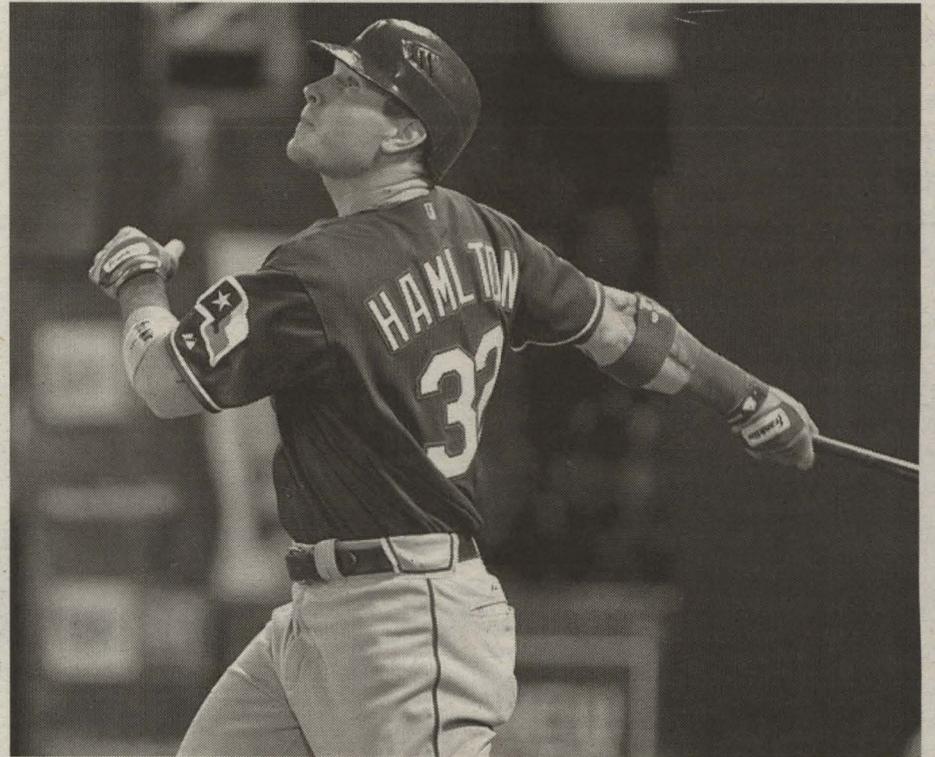
It is with a sense of humility unlike any other player that Josh Hamilton plays the game of baseball. He is able to appreciate where he is now because he understands the hell that once ruled his life. It's this humility that allows him to relate to the fans. People that have a loved one battling addiction or are in the midst of it themselves flock to Hamilton. He is their hero, their guiding light. He represents a perseverance that they all need, and an ideal that they all hope to achieve once they have put their demons behind them.

So when my aunt told me that the Rangers play their spring training home games just 10 minutes from her home, I immediately made plans to go watch my favorite player as many times as I could. I didn't care if he didn't catch one fly ball or make a single plate appearance; I simply wanted to catch a glimpse of the man who has become an icon and a hero to so many.

The day after I stepped off the plane, I found myself at Surprise Stadium, home of the Texas Rangers and Kansas City Royals during spring training. Upon entering I knew just where I wanted to be, so I made my way down to the outfield railing and set up shop directly behind Josh Hamilton. Being just yards away from my favorite major leaguer had an odd effect on me.

I wasn't an eighteen-year-old college student anymore. Suddenly I was nine again and before I could stop myself, little Gus shouted, "Josh you're my favorite player!" But that is one of the beauties of having heroes. Even the most composed person in the world turns into the kid they once were in the presence of their hero.

As soon as we saw that Hamilton had been pulled from the game we rushed over to the first base line near the Rangers dugout, seeking an autograph. The problem was, so did everyone else. When Hamilton was taken out of the game, half the fans in attendance flocked over to try and see him, making the chances of getting that coveted signature slim. So it was with determination and childlike cunning that my nine-year-old cousin Riley took my ball along with my friend Adam's and rushed deep into the ocean of fans. We lost sight of her for a few minutes but she reemerged with a big smile on her face holding out two freshly



Hamilton swinging away.

autographed baseballs.

As it turns out, we could have stood in that crowd until an hour after the game had ended and Hamilton would have still been there signing. After Riley got our autographs for us I walked back to the top of the right field stands and watched as number 32 went down the assembly line of eager kids and parents and signed every hat, shirt, glove, and ball that was pushed his way. The crowd that gathered in the bleachers stretched across three sections and from the first row all the way up to the concourse. It would have been easy for Josh to sign about a hundred then duck into the clubhouse. Who would have blamed him? He just got done playing a game. He's tired, dirty, and hungry. He could have just said, "Alright, I gotta go shower." But no, he stayed out there for as long as it took to sign for everyone. And the special thing is, he does this all the time.

When Hamilton had signed everything thrust in his direction and the throngs of fans had dissipated, he pulled his hat down and began to stroll towards the clubhouse. I purposely stationed myself directly above the clubhouse doors so that I could be the last person he heard before he got to the locker room. Right before he passed through the entryway, little Gus let out one last parting remark.

"You're the man, Josh."

On many autographed items you can find a special phrase or reference that the specific player holds dear, and Hamilton is no exception. Josh frequently adds certain verses from the Bible on the things he signs, and my ball was one of those lucky



Photos courtesy of pardonmybias.com

enough to have something special on it. Underneath his signature he had written "1 Peter 2:24." When we got home I looked up the passage that he had written. First Peter 2:24 says: "He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed."

It's obvious why Hamilton would reference a verse about forgiveness since he has spent the last few years of his life seeking it. The kid that many veteran scouts considered the greatest talent they had ever seen was soon reduced to a strung out drug addict and alcoholic. But there is light on the brink of destruction, and Josh Hamilton is a living testament to that. He has been to hell and back and is now one of the faces of Major League Baseball. But his appeal transcends the game and that is why he travels the country to tell his story to anybody looking for inspiration or a reaffirming of faith. He retells the struggles he lived through in hopes that they will keep people from making the same mistakes he did. When asked about how he was able to gain a second chance so that there could be a second coming of Josh Hamilton he explains it the best way he knows how.

"It's a God thing."

SPORTS

Stevens Point La Crosse Team Season Begins

SETH HOFFMEISTER
shoff583@uwsp.edu



The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point La Crosse team's season began last weekend in a match that highlighted the potential this young team holds for the year, despite the game being cancelled halfway through due to sleet, hail, and storms.

Competing as a Division 3 Club Team, UWSP's La Crosse Club is

ready for their season and is prepared to take on opponents from around the Midwest. This year the team consists of 16 guys who came together to play the fast paced and physically intensive game of La Crosse. Although most of the guys have little or no experience in playing La Crosse, the team is optimistic on what is to come this season.

The first game against UW-Oshkosh, although being cancelled halfway through due to weather, showed good signs for what is to come for this young team. Joe McCarthy, freshman midfielder on the team, said, "We did decent. We still have a lot of stuff to work on. Oshkosh is considered one of the better teams, but we still did pretty well against them considering we're younger and inexperienced compared to them." Point had the majority of ball possessions and had more shots on goal than Oshkosh, and allowed only one point in the first half of game play.

Based on the outcome of the first game, the team is optimistic looking forward into the season. While they are not hoping to be undefeated and win the championship, they hope to continue to get better at the game and become better as a team. "We hope to win the majority of our games," said McCarthy.

La Crosse, a sort of fusion between hockey and basketball, is engaging to watch and even more engaging while playing. "There's a lot of physical contact. It's a fast paced sport, but it requires precision and finesse," said McCarthy.

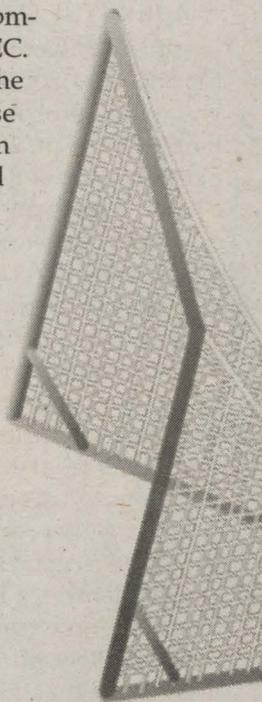
La Crosse is ten on ten, with three on the attack, three in the mid-field, three defenders, and one goalie. Games are divided into 15-minute quarters. Protective gear is required, and the ball is thrown from player to player to goal using a basket on a stick. As McCarthy said, this is fast-paced and can get brutal.

"It's a perfect sport. It's bru-

tal, but with all the skill involved it becomes a perfect challenge."

It's still not too late to get involved with the La Crosse team. They practice every Tuesday and Thursday from 9pm-11pm in the HEC. Next weekend, the Point La Crosse Team will take on Ripon College and Michigan Tech on the road.

The next home game will be on April 16th against UW-River Falls at 1:00p.m. in the field across from Schmeckle Reserve.



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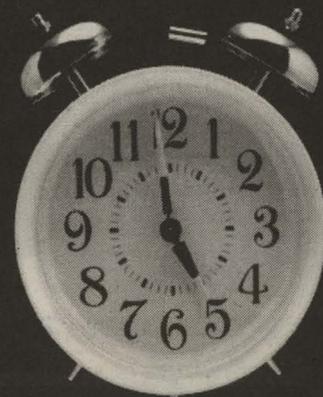
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It's Time.

SPORTS

UConn Captures Third NCAA Championship

AUGUSTUS MARCELLINO-MERWIN
amarc543@uwsp.edu

If you were a sniper in the Marines and you hit 12 of 64 targets, you would probably not make it very long in combat. If you were a competitive eater and you ate just 12 of 64 hot dogs, you would save yourself from gaining weight, but you wouldn't win very many trophies. If you were a division one NCAA basketball team playing for the national championship and you made 12 of 64 shots, you probably are going to lose that championship. But that didn't stop Butler from giving it a try in their 41-53 loss to UConn.

The Butler Bulldogs may have been the feel good story of two NCAA Tournaments in a row, but hopes and dreams don't win championships; made baskets do. Butler shot 18.8% in a game that many people across the country had them favored in. It was the worst shooting percentage ever in a title game. That's not the only new record the Bulldogs now currently hold. Their 41 points scored is the lowest ever in a championship game since the NCAA instituted the shot-clock. The Michigan Wolverines, the previous record holders, put up 51 against Duke in 1992. Butler's 12 made baskets are the second fewest in championship history, just three more than Oklahoma made back in 1949.

But Butler didn't achieve futility all by themselves. UConn played solid defense for 40 minutes, and despite the fact that they were trailing at half they were able to keep a lid on Butler's offense while jumpstarting their own.

"They're very athletic," said Butler guard Shelvin Mack. "They would contest shots that people normally wouldn't be able to contest."

The Huskies didn't play lights-out basketball either as they made just 19 of 55 shots in the game. Junior

guard Kemba Walker, the tournament's Most Outstanding Player, shot just 5-for-19 for 16 points. But Walker led his team to victory in other ways collecting nine rebounds in the game, and being a vocal presence for his team. Joining Walker in double digits was Jeremy Lamb and Alex Oriakhi, who also gathered 11 boards.

With this win, Coach Jim Calhoun joins an elite group of head coaches with at least three championship wins. The group consists of John Wooden, Adolph Rupp, Bob Knight, and the only other active coach, Mike Krzyzewski.

While the game was by no means handed to UConn, Butler didn't do themselves any favors by shooting like a bunch of fifth graders at recess. UConn played defense and stuck to their inside play, something that Calhoun asserted before the game. Butler had proven to be weak down low throughout the tournament and the Huskies capitalized. UConn outscored Butler 26 to 2 in the paint. The Bulldogs' lone basket in the lane came on star player Matt Howard's only basket of the game.

Butler was the sexy pick coming into the game because of their experience and "the Butler way." They were supposed to put their school of 4,500 students on their back and redeem themselves after last season's loss to Duke. Yet it's the Huskies that are cutting down the net at the end of the night. They are the new top dogs, and Kemba Walker certainly agrees.

"We were unstoppable," Walker said. "That's why we're national champions. We're the best team in the country."

HUSKIES
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UConn players celebrate their success.



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POINTLIFE

It's Trivia time!

NATE ENWALD
nenwal28@uwsp.edu

It's that time of year again for Stevens Point residents and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point to team up and bunker down with computers and beer for the world's largest trivia competition.

Trivia this year will be themed "I Love Trivia" in tribute to the popular TV show "I Love Lucy."

"I once heard that at any given minute any day of the year, 'I Love Lucy' is showing somewhere in the world," said Trivia coordinator Jim "The Oz" Oliva. "There were innovations in the show that are still used today and were not used prior to that show. The three-camera system was developed by Desi Arnez, as well as the idea of a live audience, revolutionary at the time. Then there is Lucille Ball, without question the funniest woman ever. She inspired so many to not only go into comedy, but also go into acting."

Trivia will kick off with a parade at 4 p.m. on Friday. The parade will start near Lot Q on the UWSP campus, with floats from many of the registered teams as well as a 90FM float.

The Trivia movie were shown at midnight on Friday, April 1, and Saturday, April 2, at Rogers Cinema on Church Street in Stevens Point. The Trivia movie will also be shown at 10:30 a.m. Saturday. Admission

Then starting at 6 p.m. on Friday WWSP 90FM will commence its broadcasting of trivia questions to eagerly waiting teams. Eight questions are read each hour and teams have the length of two songs to call in their answers.

All teams that respond correctly are given an equal share of the 2000 points that each question is worth, with a minimum of 5 points and a maximum of 500 points. Trophies will be given to the top ten teams with the highest point totals.

Registration is \$30 per team and must be completed in advance at the 90FM studios in the CAC between Monday-Thursday April 4-7 from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m., and Friday, April 8, from noon - 6 p.m. All money collected from this event will be used for the general maintenance of 90FM and for 90FM scholarships.

Last year's winners was the team Network: The Men Who Stare at Notes.

"Trivia is something that 90FM does, it puts us on the map and allows us to spread the word about how awesome this station is," said Station Manager Mason Meulemans.

"Trivia is something that 90FM does, it puts us on the map and allows us to spread the word about how awesome this station is," said Station Manager Mason Meulemans, "We're an Alternative Radio station that hosts The World's Largest Trivia contest. We couldn't be where it is today without either of those elements."

is \$3. The title of this year's Trivia movie will be announced at the first midnight show.

The documentary, "Triviatown," was filmed during the 2004 trivia weekend, debuted in 2006 and won Best Film at the Wisconsin Film Festival in Madison and Best Documentary at the Westchester (New York) Film Festival.

How to survive Trivia

- 1) Keep Politos on speed dial
- 2) Stock up on coffee before the shops close
- 3) Bribe a Google master
- 4) Befriend Perez Hilton
- 5) Go on the tours of The Point Brewery all weekend (you may learn something)
- 6) Have an extra radio on hand
- 7) Have a shift schedule planned
- 8) Remember: There are places that are open 24/7 ie. Trig's
- 9) Make sure your Four Loko is ready for Saturday and your Advil is ready for Sunday
- 10) Don't get distracted by pornography

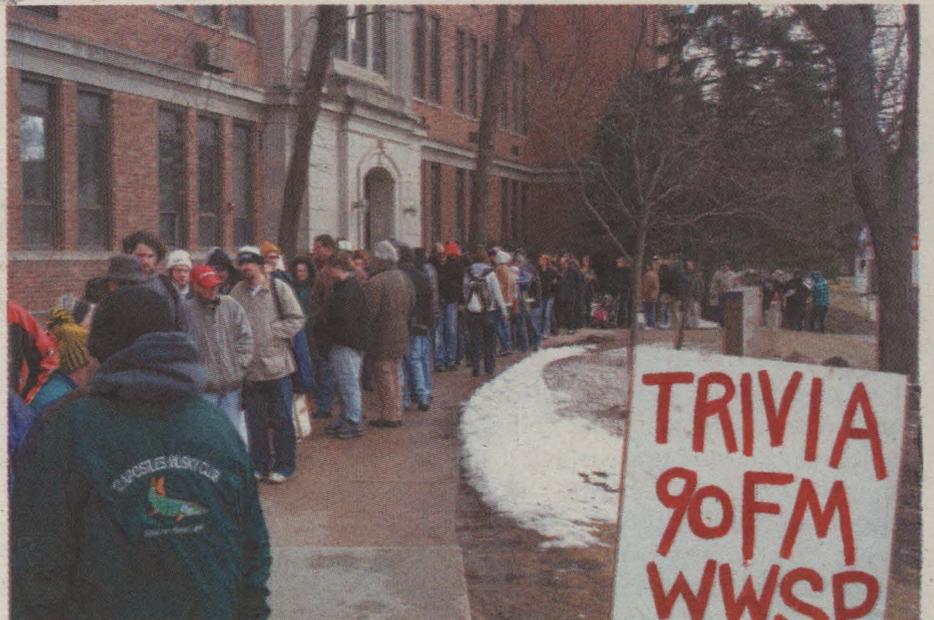


Photo by Dan Neckar

Trivia lovers line up to register their team as early as 7 a.m outside the Communication Arts Center at UWSP.



Photo by Dan Neckar

POINTLIFE

Renowned composer visits UW-Stevens Point

MADISON HEID
mheid209@uwsp.edu

Tuesday and Wednesday were exciting days for those interested in composing. Well-known American composer Philip Glass visited the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus for two days of education and music.

Glass has been active in the music industry for 50 years, and has written around 40 film scores. He has been nominated for Academy and Golden Globe Awards, and won a Golden Globe in 1999 for best original score in *The Truman Show*.

C.J. Robinson, who is the Director of Development at the College of Fine Arts and Communication, had a big hand in having Glass come here.

"I manage our relationship with the Sentry Insurance Foundation, and having artists come here is a unique process," Robinson said. "We were going to focus on 'A Year of Glass' through the Sentry Insurance Invitation to the Arts program."

While here, Glass did a few different things involving the students at UWSP and students in the area. He did a screening of one of the movies he scored music for, which is entitled *Koyaanisqatsi*, which is a Hopi Indian word for "life without balance."



Renowned composer, Phillip Glass, performed at Sentry Theater Tuesday night.

During the question and answer session following the screening, Philip Glass explained what the art film meant.

"The film went back to a time where life was more balanced,"

Glass said. "It then moved to a time where everything is high-tech and is changing the world."

The film, which premiered in 1981, consisted of many sweeping views of landscapes, machines tak-

ing over the landscapes, and then bustling city life. Glass is proud of the staying power *Koyaanisqatsi* has maintained.

"I've composed symphonies, operas and dance, and it is rare that a film can be that interesting 30 years later," Glass said.

Alex Meronek, a senior jazz performance and music education major, was in attendance at the screening, and enjoyed Glass's work.

"[I went] because I'm interested in music for film and I really liked the music he did for *Candy Man*, so I was interested to see what some of his other works were," Meronek said.

In addition to the screening on Tuesday, he also put on a solo piano performance Tuesday night, and visited the Noel Fine Arts Center on Wednesday to interact with students. Robinson is happy that such a well-known composer has visited UWSP.

"I think the opportunity to interact with such an influential composer is not only an incredible personal experience, but also a great professional one," Robinson said. "Whether you're a fan of his music or not, you've got to take a look at his body of work and give him tremendous credit."

For more information about Philip Glass, visit <http://www.philipglass.com/>.

Students perform operas with acclaimed pianist

KAITLYN LUCKOW
kluck791@uwsp.edu

A night full of comedy, sorrow, star-crossed lovers, and dead bodies might seem unusual to some, but it's just another night at the opera. This weekend, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Opera Workshop will be performing "Suor Angelica" and "Gianni Schicchi," both one-act operas by Giacomo Puccini.

These operas are based on Dante's

"Divine Comedy." Both operas are from Puccini's group of three operas: "Il trittico," each opera holding contrasting themes. "Suor Angelica" is an all-female comedic opera. "Gianni Schicchi" is also a comedy which was highly popular after its first performance in 1918.

"[Puccini] embraces the idea of operatic realism much more than composers before him," said sophomore music major Peter Heid, who

will be performing this weekend.

The UWSP Opera Workshop has been working on the operas since before spring break and have been holding rehearsals ever since under the direction of Susan Bender and Dennis Willhoit. Bender and Willhoit are both faculty members at the UWSP Music Department.

"The cast works really well together and we always have a blast at rehearsals," said Heid. "We have all been working very hard outside of the required rehearsal times to make this a great performance."

Acclaimed pianist Jeffrey Watson

Kennedy Center's award-winning production of "Sunday in the Park with George."

"His piano skills are phenomenal; it is very easy to feed off of his energy while he plays. He brings the cast to a new level," Heid said.

The operas were originally written in Italian, but this weekend they will be performed in English so more people will be able to understand and enjoy them. "Students will not be disappointed if they come see "Suor Angelica" and "Gianni Schicchi," said Heid. "Opera is an art form that is so beautiful and personal."



Accompanied by acclaimed pianist Jeffrey Watson, The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Opera Workshop will be performing two operas, *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicchi*, both by Giacomo Puccini (above).

"His piano skills are phenomenal; it is very easy to feed off of his energy while he plays. He brings the cast to a new level," said Heid.

will be accompanying the performances. Watson has a piano performance degree from DePauw University and has performed with the Honduran National Symphony, the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra, and was an associate conductor for the

The UWSP Opera Workshop's performances of "Suor Angelica" and "Gianni Schicchi" will be at Michelson Hall on April 8 and 9 at 7:30 p.m.

POINTLIFE

International students put on dinner Saturday

LOGAN CARLSON
lcarl555@uwsp.edu

The 41st annual International Dinner is being held Saturday in the Laird Room of the Dreyfus University Center. The dinner will feature food and performances by students from

around 200 current members from 31 nations.

Ten student performances will be featured at this year's dinner, ranging from traditional dances and drumming, to a dance tribute to Michael Jackson.

Dr. Fang said when the

Not only is judging required for the performances, but for the food as well. Dr. Fang said, "Again, we have to have judging to see which dish is served. You can only cook so many dishes."

"We want to make sure we also cater to those who do not eat meat at

people decided to run for office after the dinner," Fang said.

The International Club uses the proceeds from the dinner to fund club activities throughout the year, which include trips to both the Fox Valley Mall and the Mall of America.

"We have activities for interna-

"The International Dinner, to me, is not just an activity, it is a way of developing leadership."

- Dr. Marcus Fang, founder and current interim director of the International Club

the UWSP International Club, as well as a silent auction with all proceeds going to support activities sponsored by the club.

Planning for the International Dinner began during the fall semester but really kicked into gear after winter break.

"The first day we came back we already started planning for it. We made charts and figured out who needs to do what," said Daniel Vaz, the club's secretary.

According to Dr. Marcus Fang, the founder and current interim director of the International Club, there are

International Dinner was first held, there was not much emphasis placed upon the entertainment aspect, but as it progressed through the years it started taking center stage.

"We had very limited entertainment in the beginning, but the entertainment part kept picking up and it came to the point where people were competing. Everyone wanted to showcase their country. So we had to find a way to make sure that as many as people as possible were accommodated. So we had to start judging performances ahead of time," Fang said.

all. In most years we always have a vegetarian option. It is amazing how the vegetarian option has grown over the years. In the beginning only two people asked for it, and then more and more and more," Fang said.

Dr. Fang sees the International Dinner as a great learning experience for students. "The International Dinner, to me, is not just an activity, it is a way of developing leadership. Many people after they have gone through the International Dinner get excited and then they run for office. You would be surprised how many

tional students who are here over the summer who don't go home. We also have a welcome picnic in the fall," said Macie Mace, one of the group's advisors. "The trip to the Mall of America is something new for most international students."

Mace said they expect to sell out all 300+ tickets for the dinner. Tickets to the dinner cost \$12 for students and \$15 for the general public and can be bought at the University Information and Tickets office in the Dreyfus Center or through the group's website.

Rapper Brother Ali comes to Point

NATE ENWALD
nenwal28@uwsp.edu

The popular musician Brother Ali brought his raps to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point this Saturday in the Laird room to an ecstatic crowd.

Centertainment expected the show to attract a large crowd from all over the state of Wisconsin, and it quickly did just that.

"We had about 520 tickets sold and the show went very well," said Centertainment Student Manager Sarah Dowidat, a senior at UWSP.

Brother Ali, who was born in Madison but grew up in Michigan

and Minnesota, got into hip-hop when he was very young and founded an independent record label when he was 20.

appearance on The Late Night Show with Conan O'Brien in 2007 and last year he spent 10 out of 12 months on tour.

"He's super friendly and his team and agents are great to work with,"

- Dowidat.

Since then he has made a career of expressing his music to the world, traveling across big cities as well as small communities across America and Europe. Brother Ali made an

"My music isn't so much a message as it is an expression. You don't ask what's the message behind a painting, it's just an expression of what's inside," said Ali.

Ali said that he believes America has always had an enemy. It started with the Native Americans when immigrants were told through propaganda that they were savages and stealing their land was justified.

Then the American enemy turned its eye to the African slaves to justify slavery. Since then it's shifted to the Japanese during WWII, the Russians during the Red Scare, and since the mid-1980's Arab Muslims have been indoctrinated in our social views through the media as the "uncivilized enemies" of democracy.

"We've always had an enemy," said Brother Ali.

Even though his music speaks hard messages, his personality is warm and easy to get along with. Ali may believe strongly and have vindictive convictions honoring the harsh ideals of justice, but he also believes in peace, equality, and has a deep sense of spiritual oneness.

"He's super friendly and his team and agents are great to work with," said Dowidat. "It's been really something that has shown how well it works to get so many people to work together."

The conception of Brother Ali's show on campus was pioneered by Kirk Cychosz and the United Council. Cychosz said that he wanted to have a big name, something awesome because the conference is being held in Stevens Point this year.

"Since I'm graduating this year, I really wanted to do something cool for the school and his music fits perfectly with the Building Unity's message," said Cychosz.



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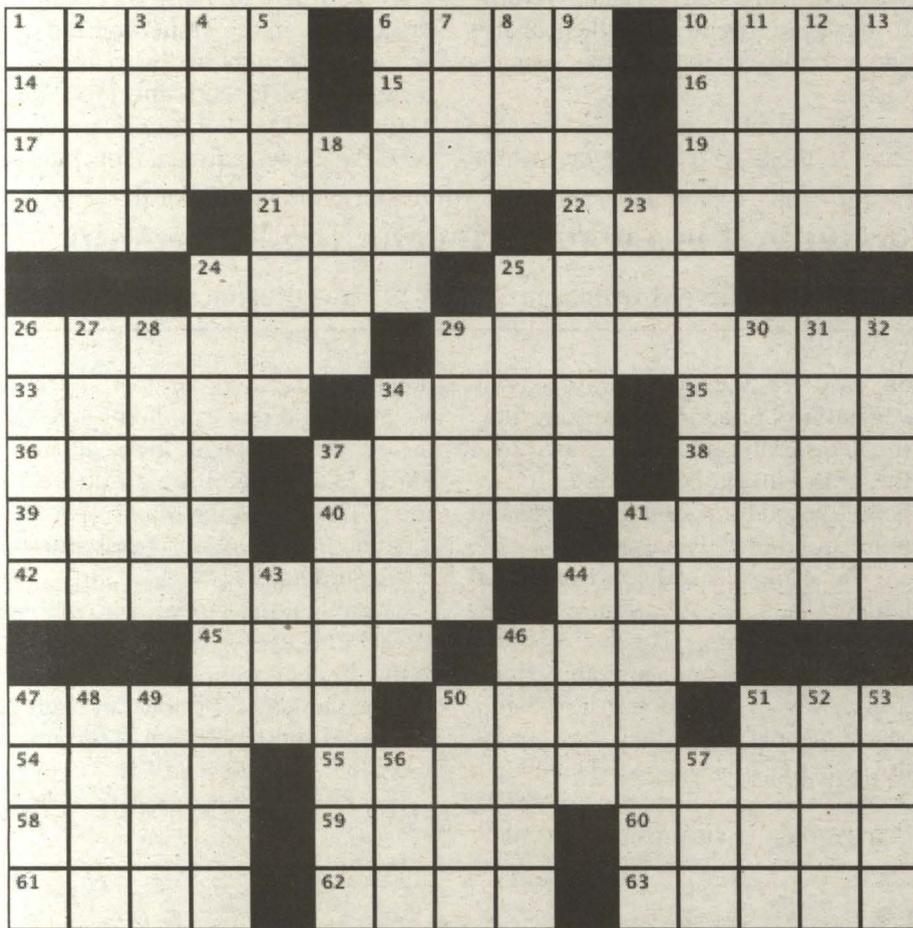
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See **Brother Ali**, page 12

Puzzles



ACROSS

- 1- FLOWERING TREE OF HAWAII
- 6- ANTLERED ANIMAL
- 10- "NO ORDINARY LOVE" SINGER
- 14- CRACKERJACK
- 15- DIES ____
- 16- COIL
- 17- SUITABLE FOR WINEMAKING
- 19- CASPIAN SEA FEEDER
- 20- ALIENS, FOR SHORT
- 21- A BIG FAN OF
- 22- CAPITAL OF CANADA
- 24- BOHEMIAN
- 25- BED SUPPORT
- 26- EVALUATE
- 29- OPEN BUILDING
- 33- MINIMUM
- 34- NOTA ____
- 35- ASHTABULA'S LAKE
- 36- WAIST BAND
- 37- FEAR GREATLY
- 38- BUNDLE
- 39- D-DAY BEACH
- 40- BIT
- 41- SUBDUED
- 42- NOT EXTREME
- 44- SPUDS
- 45- 9TH LETTER OF THE HEBREW ALPHABET
- 46- SEARCH THOROUGHLY
- 47- ELDER
- 50- MRS. CHAPLIN
- 51- BLUBBER
- 54- GATOR'S COUSIN
- 55- FERTILIZE AN ANIMAL
- 58- DOG STAR
- 59- CAVE DWELLERS
- 60- COMPONENT OF ORGANIC FERTILIZER
- 61- REPAST
- 62- "____ QUAM VIDERI" (NORTH CAROLINA'S MOTTO)
- 63- BROTHER OF MOSES

DOWN

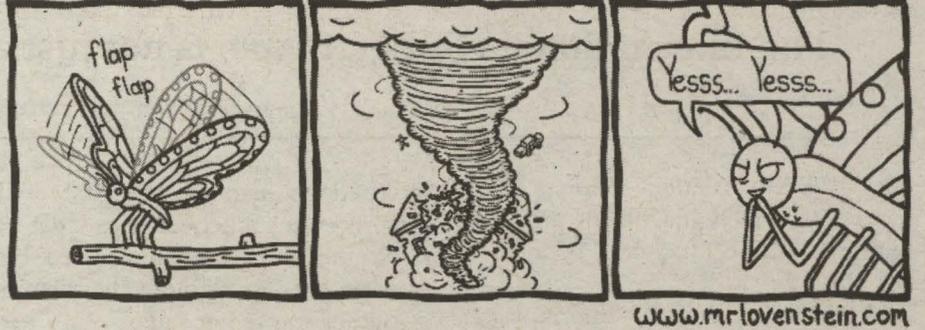
- 1- WASH
- 2- PREPARE A BOOK OR FILM FOR RELEASE
- 3- COOP GROUP
- 4- NEWS LETTERS
- 5- INITIALLY
- 6- GRIMY
- 7- SWITCH ENDING
- 8- SEINE CONTENTS
- 9- DETERMINED
- 10- GOSSIP
- 11- AMBIENCE
- 12- SKETCH
- 13- FIRST NAME IN JAZZ
- 18- TOLKIEN TREE CREATURES
- 23- MAI ____
- 24- CONCERNING THE APPRECIATION OF BEAUTY
- 25- CAPITAL CITY OF YEMEN
- 26- ANTHOLOGY OF ARTWORK
- 27- HANDLE
- 28- COBB, E.G.
- 29- GOLFER CALVIN
- 30- ANGRY
- 31- CRUDE CARRIER
- 32- FOOD AND WATER
- 34- THIN SOUP
- 37- HARANGUE
- 41- CAPITAL OF NICARAGUA
- 43- STUTZ CONTEMPORARY
- 44- AIR
- 46- STALLION, E.G.
- 47- CON
- 48- GAELIC LANGUAGE OF IRELAND OR SCOTLAND;
- 49- ____ BENE
- 50- CHOOSES
- 51- RIVER TO THE MOSELLE
- 52- CONDUCTOR KLEMPERER
- 53- "IT'S ____ REAL"
- 56- BARKER AND BELL
- 57- HESTON'S ORG.

COMICS

The Butterfly Effect.

Mr. Lovenstein

by J. L. Westover



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Mr. Lovenstein

by J. L. Westover



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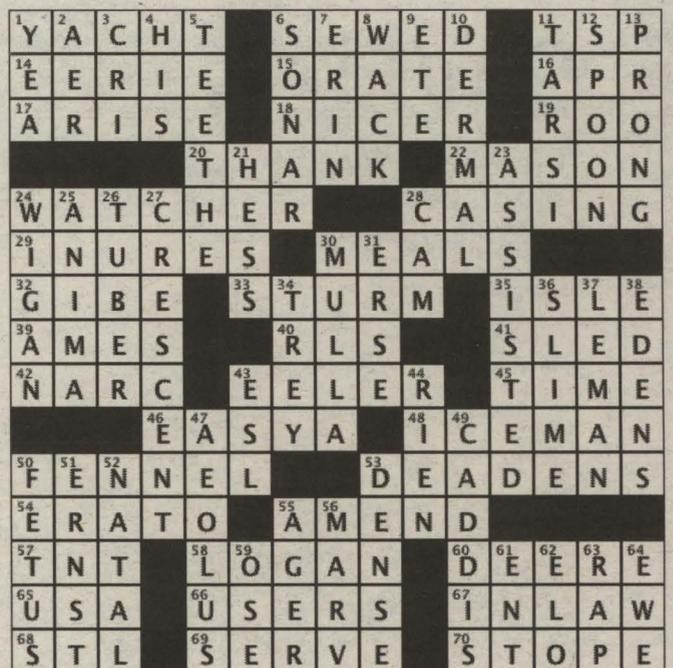
Mr. Lovenstein

by J. L. Westover



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Answers from the March 31st issue.



OPINION

Republicans: Serious as a Heart Attack

LOGAN CARLSON
lcarl555@uwsp.edu

After trying so hard for years to take Republicans as serious people who truly are interested in working together to resolve problems, I can no longer do so. In the past I was able to handle the wing-nut back benchers and their ridiculous statements, but now these outrageous statements have migrated to congressional leadership.

Just last week, Rep. Eric Cantor, the house majority leader, said a bill would become "the law of the land" unless the senate passed a budget bill by this Friday.

Yes, the Majority Leader of the House of Representatives said that unless the senate passed a budget, then a bill that the senate itself voted down would become a law.

Everyone who has seen Schoolhouse Rock as a child knows how a bill becomes a law. It would appear that Cantor has never seen it.

Apparently Cantor has forgotten how a bill is passed only two months after house Republicans read the constitution aloud in January. Cantor himself read Article 1 Section 2, which gives the requirements for being a member of the House of Representatives. He obviously wasn't listening when Article 2 Section 7 was read aloud on the house floor, which explains how a bill becomes a law.

Cantor says he "is serious." No he isn't. No one who says a bill becomes a law without it passing both houses of the legislature and being signed by the president is a serious person. He is simply playing for theatrics, as is the rest of the Republican Party at this point.

The only way for such a law to have any effect would be for a constitutional amendment to be passed and ratified by the states.

Cantor is an embarrassment to not only his congressional district, but to the entire Republican Party.

I could excuse Cantor if he was a wing-nut backbencher who holds no real power in congress, someone like Peter King, Louis Gohmert or Michelle Bachman. No one who has any resemblance of intelligence holds any of those three people in serious regard when they speak.

Speaking of Louis Gohmert, this is what he had to say, on the floor of the House of Representatives last week, about the president's actions in Libya "When you find out we are being sent to Libya to use our treasure and American lives there, maybe there's intention to so deplete the military that we are going to use that Presidential Reserve Commissioned Corps and Non-Commissioned Corps that the president can call up at a moment's notice involuntarily according to the Obamacare bill."

Gohmert seriously thinks the

Affordable Care Act has a provision that creates a secret army that will be used to enforce health care reform in this country.

This is what the Republican Party is all about, simply espousing insane BS. This is what passes for political debate in this country.

Not to be outdone, Wisconsin's very own Paul Ryan, who chairs the House Budget Committee, introduced the Republican's budget for the next decade on Tuesday. This budget has no chance of ever passing the senate or receiving President Obama's signature.

Medicare would disappear and in its place would be a voucher program for seniors to purchase their own health insurance plans, or as Rachel Maddow put it "here's a coupon, now go buy health insurance." This voucher would receive no additional funding as healthcare costs rise, and would eventually disappear over time as funding would be slowly decreased.

Medicaid and Food Stamps would be transformed into block grants to the states, giving them the flexibility to simply ignore poor people altogether; the

reason the programs were created in the first place.

Instead of using the "savings" created by eliminating these programs, Ryan simply passes this along in the form of tax cuts for the rich.

Is there any problem that Republicans have ever seen where they thought it could be solved by tax cuts for the rich?

Until Republicans can demonstrate that they can be taken as serious people again, it is crucial that we as a nation start to ignore them, and treat them like they deserve; as the wing-nuts that they are. If they refuse to act as adults who hold great responsibility as our elected officials, they must be replaced.



Chancellor Patterson, where do you stand?

DUSTIN KLEIN AND
KAITLYN LUCKOW
dklei025@uwsp.edu
kluck791@uwsp.edu

In the recent weeks we've heard a lot about the budget repair bill, the statewide biennial budget and the University of Wisconsin splitting from the rest of the system in the New Badger Partnership created by their chancellor, Biddy Martin.

It's something that students have certainly been involved with, and it's also something that many people have paid attention to in this state, especially with the election for the supreme court.

But yet, our school administration has been, moreover, silent on the issue of the budget and the budget repair bill, even though it's what is going to impact our community and our students the most.

Instead, the Chancellor and his staff have decided to "lead" on the issue of opposing the UW split.

We usually don't agree on subjects, which is why we fight it out every week, but this is something that we can both agree on. Whether you support the new budget bill or

not, it's going to happen and change is going to come. We must be ready for that change. Instead of focusing on that change and how that is going to affect us here at UWSP, the administration seems to only focus on Madison.

The split is really just a side show compared to the entire university's staff losing their collective bargaining and the millions of dollars that our school is losing in the upcoming budget.

We have questions we want to ask of the chancellor. Where are the strong words you used only weeks ago at the university's union meeting? Where are you on the issue of the millions of dollars in funding that we are being stripped of?

Why are you being silent on this issue when it, obviously, affects every one of the students who pay tuition dollars towards this university and your salary?

It's the chancellor's duty to represent the students of this university and to protect their best interests. Our administration needs to step up and focus on issues that are going to affect us here at UWSP, not what's going to happen to UW-Madison. They work here, for us, at UWSP, not for UWM.

Step up for your students. Oppose this budget, vocally and with action. Stand up for your employees, denounce this attack on worker's rights, work for them again and focus on the main issues at hand.

The UW split is only one issue out of many in this budget, and you're doing nothing.

The students at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point and the community that we serve, deserves better of a community leader. Why hasn't the administration taken the steps necessary to be prepared for the changes that are going to be happening to UWSP?

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POINTLIFE

Brother Ali/

continued from page 9

It wasn't an easy task to get Brother Ali at UWSP. "When we were spitballing ideas, Brother Ali came up as one of the hopefuls but the original price was too high because we are a nonprofit organization we don't have a lot of money but he literally cut his fee in half to support our cause and get his message to the students," said SGA Budget Director Matt Guidry.

The Building Unity and Student Empowerment Conference's goal is to get students to be more aware and active in deep multiculturalism, diversity, anti-oppression, and equality without the discrimination of race, creed, or appearance.

This goal harmonizes with Brother Ali's music, which lifts the guise of government for the people during such a morally bankrupt political system, using song and rhyme to convey thoughts, ideals, and shock value facts.

At right: Performing songs from all six of his albums, including the most recent, Brother Ali gave an incredible performance.



Photo by Samantha Feld

The Minneapolis-based hip-hop artist, Brother Ali, performed in the Laird Room of the Drefus University Center this past Saturday.



Photo by Samantha Feld

CLASSIFIEDS

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