

the pointer

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Photo by Jack McLaughlin

Men's Hockey Putting Opponents on Ice

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The Pointers men's hockey team has put on an impressive showing up to this point in the season.

With the only blemish on their season coming last Saturday, losing to the University of Wisconsin-Stout, the Pointers are currently ranked 3rd in Division III and hold a record of 9-1.

Coming into the season the team knew it had talent. High expectations were set by both players and coaches. Thus far they have lived up to them.

"We realized that we had a legitimate chance to win every game in our opening stretch and besides Saturday's setback, we have done that," said junior goalie Brandon Jaeger.

So what is the reason behind the

Pointers early season success? Senior forward Kyle Heck explained that the team's offense has been one of its strengths.

"We are all clicking very well and scoring a lot of goals, and it's everyone scoring, not just a few guys," Heck said.

Heck also pointed to Jaeger's play as a major reason for the team's success. "Our goaltending has been

awesome. Brandon Jaeger has been playing great and keeps us in the close games," Heck said.

Head Coach Chris Brooks explained that the team's depth has been pivotal in keeping everyone fresh and allowing multiple scoring threats to emerge.

"It is a battle to get in our lineup each night and that balance has been a big part of our early success," Brooks

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Campus Strives to Improve University Conditions



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In effort to continuously improve the campus environment, an inspection team conducted the annual safety walk last month.

The walk brought to light potential safety hazards by having a group of selected individuals write down campus problems they find and think could be dangerous.

The groups that participated included employees from Facility Services, Protective Services, SGA, Risk Management, the Stevens Point Police Department, Residential Living, and Buildings and Grounds.

The walk determined the general conditions affecting personal safety, which includes items such as the lighting at buildings, entrances, walkways, parking lots, walkway impediments, criminal concealment areas, and other general safety related conditions.

Findings from the walk were reported to appropriate parties that took care of any issues found.

Overall, the campus proved to be safe. The biggest area for improvement was the lighting, which requires attention year-round due lights burning out or gradually getting dimmer.

Paul Hasler from Facility Services participated in the walk.

"From a Facility Services standpoint, the safety walk is a critical annual activity that helps maintain campus safety and security by proactively identifying outdoor safety concerns," Hasler said. "We look forward to participating in the

walk and feel it brings great value to campus."

The report from the safety walk is available to anyone interested. A complete list of the 10 inspected categories are included in the report. These categories are walkways and roads, pole lights, building issues, centers, parking lots, landscaping, code blue phones, city streets and residential living.

"The safety walk has been occurring for more than twenty years at UWSP and has helped identify hundreds of improvements during that timeframe," said Jeff Karcher, the safety walk chair.

According to Karcher, the safety walk happens at night to identify issues with lighting and night security.

Karcher stresses that safety is a priority year-round.

"It is important to note that safety improvements and observations occur continuously throughout the year on campus. The safety walk helps with gathering key campus groups once per year to proactively audit the current conditions, provide focus and attention while also emphasizing the importance of year-round observations," Karcher said.

There were many issues that needed attention. There were reports of uneven pavement and broken curbs and places that could be used for stealth, such as overgrown bushes and shrubs.

The primary focus is always to improve safety on campus. With the annual safety walk, measures can be taken to advance the security that students and faculty enjoy at the university.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPORT

Monday, Dec. 2

Silver Jetta, unoccupied, arrived in lot around 3:00-3:10am

Noise complaint by Knutzen Hall; caller stated a group of people were being very loud and throwing snowballs. He was told that we do not break up snowball fights, but a unit would be sent over to check out the excessive noise.

Tuesday, Dec. 3

A resident of May Roach called to report the sound of several people yelling "help me, help me!" Outside of the dorm. She does not know if there is an emergency situation but can hear them yelling even though her window is closed.

Male was stuck in an elevator. Electrician was called to get him out.

Man came in and said that his car had been hit outside of Protective Services.

Wednesday, Dec. 4

Faculty member called to inform Protective Services that deer that were legally shot by hired bowhunters are suspected to have gone into Schmeekle. If any calls concerning blood in Schmeekle are received this is likely what they are referring to.

Faculty reported that there was a student in his class playing with a bullet and a lighter in the lecture hall area. Suspect is wearing all Packers clothing.

Thursday, Dec. 5

Staff member of the Bursar office called P.S. Stating that a folder with 5 checks went missing. Would look P.S. to review security video.

Friday, Dec. 6

Staff member called to report seeing a drunk male, wearing a black hoodie and jeans, roaming Lot P, pulling on signs, pulling on the door handles of residential living etc. Moving down Isadore towards Burrows.

Saturday, Dec. 7

Student called in saying that there was an unruly individual that needed to be removed from the area.

THE POINTER

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



Photo by Emily Hoffmann

New LED Lighting up the Encore

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There will be new LED lighting fixtures installed in the Encore next semester, if approved by SGA and pending funding by the Green Fund.

"They will hopefully be installed in the Encore either over Spring Break or at the end of the Spring 2014 semester," said Isaiah Sonnenfeld.

Sonnenfeld is the Centers Services Supervisor who will be responsible for the oversight of the installation and was instrumental in developing the proposal.

The budget for the project is roughly \$43,000, and if approved, will be funded by the SGA initiated Green Fund.

"LED lighting fixtures are the future of event productions, yet they are here now," Sonnenfeld said. "To give the UWSP student community the best possible experience at events in the Encore, an upgrade to the lighting structure is necessary."

Sonnenfeld fully expects the new LED lighting fixtures to increase the show experience value in the Encore.

"LED light fixtures offer so much flexibility in what a light designer can do, that it's really night and day between conventional lighting fixtures and LED lighting fixtures," Sonnenfeld said.

The LED lighting fixtures are approximately 70 percent more efficient than controversial incandescent fixtures that are currently used in the Encore. They draw less power and require lower maintenance costs, with no replacement lamp purchases and no need to buy gels, or colored inserts

that are put in front of a fixture. Along with no longer having to replace lamps and gels over a period of time, they can also cut down on the waste that happens because of the changeable parts.

"The benefits of LED lighting fixtures are numerous, beginning

staff of Program Services, and possibly some consultation with the outside vendor of the LED lighting fixtures.

"Most of the technical research for this project was completed by Oriana Dentici, a student technician from Program Services," Sonnenfeld

choose from.

"When I had narrowed down the selection to five or six possible fixtures, I spoke with other lighting and production technicians that I had the opportunity to work with in the past and got their opinions on some of the fixtures that I had been researching," Dentici said.

Some of the criteria Dentici kept in mind while choosing fixtures were: ease of use, how easy would it be for a technician that had no prior lighting knowledge to use this fixture; what type of power connector does this fixture use, will the power cable easily fall out or does it have a locking feature to the power connector; and how many color LED's can this fixture mix together, just the standard red, blue and green, or was there an amber or a white group of LED's to get a more rich looking color mix.

"The need for LED technology in the Encore stems from how the industry has evolved. Many concert venues, theatres and bands use LED technology for their versatility in color picking, ease of transport, and how much lower the maintenance and energy costs are," Dentici said. "The Encore is one of the main venues on campus where many of these touring groups perform and Program Services is often asked for LED fixtures. Our hope is that by installing LED fixtures we can better meet the requests of the performers."

There still had not been confirmation from the Green Fund Steering Committee that the project has been approved.

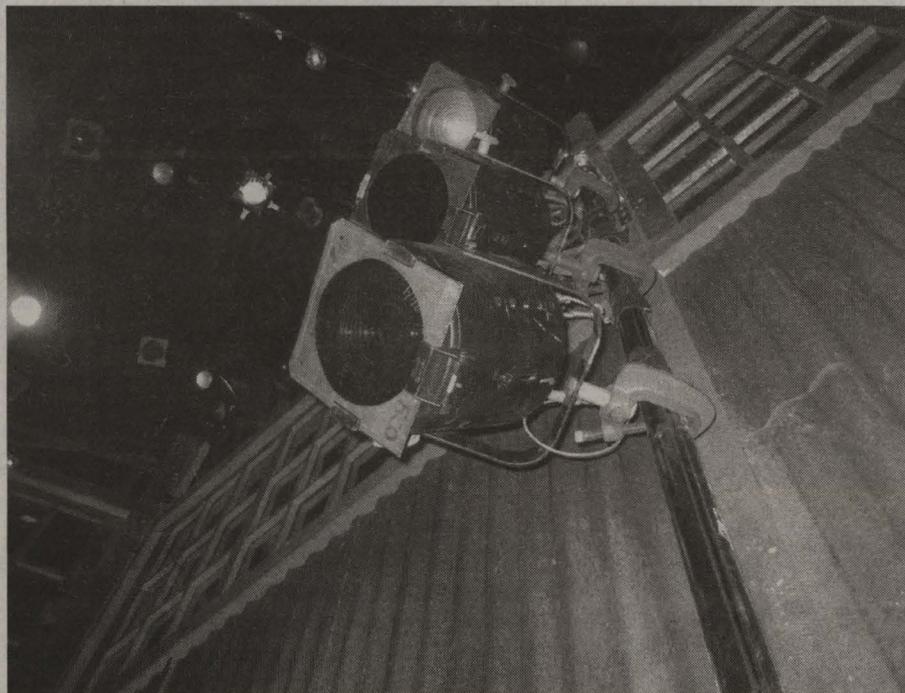


Photo by Emily Hoffmann

Replacements for old LED lights possibly coming soon.

with the energy savings," Sonnenfeld said. "LED lights also give off virtually no heat, meaning that HVAC systems won't have to account for the room overheating by the heat given off from conventional fixtures."

The installation effort will be multifaceted, including electricians from Facility Services, the Center's Maintenance Department, student

said. "We've relied on her experience as a theater & design technology major, along with her two summer's internship with a major production company to develop this project."

When Dentici was presented with the opportunity to do the research for this project, she started making a list of reputable lighting companies and dealers who had a wide variety of LED fixtures to

City Finance Committee Advocates \$6.3 Million Apartment Complex

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Monday evening during a public forum, a city finance committee endorsed the building of a large apartment complex immediately off campus, which will be paid for partially with taxpayer's money.

As a whole, the apartment building will cost roughly \$6.3 million and will be a five-story, 182-bedroom facility that will be built in the current location of the Point Motel at 209 Division Street.

Officially, this area is also known as a tax increment financing district, otherwise known as TIF, which was created by the city of Stevens Point to generate revenue for redevelopment

opportunities.

The city is proposing to pay developers \$500,000 directly from the general budget to fund the project.

This decision came after a debate over the allocation of taxpayer dollars in public housing projects. In particular, many local landlords, like Mary Ann Laszewski, were present to voice their distain.

"To do this plan, we are using taxpayer's money to buy the hotel in the long run," Laszewski told the Stevens Point Journal. "With normal capitalism, the price on this hotel will just fall until it sells. If we do this one, who's to say that Papa Joe's or anyone in this TIF area will not want to hold out for incentive sales."

Barb Jacob, another Stevens Point

landlord, also disapproved of the proposal, citing that, unlike the cities recent decision to give \$500,000 to Great Lakes Student Loans Services, this project does little to stimulate the local economy.

"This project is creating no jobs. At least when we gave half a million to Great Lakes it created jobs, and they're paying it back," Jacob also told local sources.

The referenced incentive money would be paid to CCFS Group, which consists of project manager Jack L. Fischer, development manager Jim Corcoran and project engineer Jim Lundberg.

Much like Jacob, finance committee member Jeremy Slowinski believes that TIF districts should be

utilized only to create jobs amongst the local community.

"It just seems like we talk about this so much, about funding these housing projects with TIF money, and I'm pretty much sick of it. It's very attractive to see, if this project would go through, how much revenue the city would collect by the increased value of this development," Slowinski told The Stevens Point Journal. "My fear is we're basically pulling money from student housing with the community already."

Among the entire committee, Slowinski was the only member to vote against the proposal, which will be voted upon by the full city council on Dec. 16.

CORRECTION:

In last week's article regarding subsidy allocations from the Student Government Association, there was a factual error. Student organizations are not eligible for subsidy funding.

Narrative Project has its Start on Campus

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Members of SGA and Diversity and College Access group are working together on a project that will reflect on how students view campus.

This endeavor will be known as The Narrative Project, which focuses on getting student opinion about campus issues.

"We have been trying to get an accurate view of how the students feel about campus when it comes to their particular identity or how they identify themselves," said SGA Inclusivity Director Shawn Ward.

So far the project involves video recording regular students during interviews to see how they feel about the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus as a whole.

Ward wants students to be honest in their interviews so he can get an accurate description of how people feel about UWSP and whether they think our campus has a comfortable environment.

"We want the students to tell their stories to the camera and from there we can get a sense of how students think our campus is. From there we

can get rid of misconceptions," Ward said.

After taking what the students have said in their testimonials into consideration, SGA will hopefully be able to make improvements to the campus with regards to students concerns or issues.

The Narrative Project is in working stages. Originally, the groups were going to have the project displayed in a book format, however Ward explained that meaning would be lost in the translation and the project would probably be overlooked.

"The video format is a better fit for the purpose of our project," Ward said.

There are currently 20 full-interview videos of student testimonials which range from four to 18 minutes.

Once the project is in full swing, the videos will be available to watch online at the UWSP homepage.

Ward said there is not a set date for the videos to be accessible to the public, but hopes the Narrative Project will be available to watch online in March or April.

Local, Campus and City News Briefs

Science Building Update

Design firm Potter Lawson Inc. was selected to design UWSP's new \$75 million biology and chemistry building. The building will be 169,000-square-feet and construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in the summer of 2015.

Courtesy of the Stevens Point Journal

Cornerstone Press Holds Book Launch for "The Great Cat Nap"

Cornerstone Press selected, edited and published Abigail Bostwicks' book, "The Great Cat Nap". The book launch was held last Thursday in the CPS. It is a children's book about a cat journalist who is also a part-time detective.

Courtesy of University Relations and Communications

Jeffrey Decker Arrested on UWSP Campus

Campus police arrested Jeffrey Decker from the Dreyfus University Center on Saturday for allegedly violating his restraining order. A Dane County circuit judge granted a four-year injunction against Decker in 2011, ruling that Decker was harassing UW employees attending meetings on UW campuses, contrary to his Nov. 2010 suspension. Decker claims that the restraining was repealed and that he is legally allowed on UW campuses again.

Courtesy of Northwestern

Commencement Speakers

UWSP Alumnus Cliff King, now a chief executive of Skyward Inc., will speak to nearly 700 graduates on Saturday, Dec. 14 at the graduation ceremony. In addition graduates will hear from student speaker Penny Warren, senior Emily Cihlar and Chancellor Bernie Patterson.

Courtesy of University Relations and Communications

Central State Chamber Orchestra to hold Concert in Stevens Point

A holiday concert and sing-along offered by the Central State Chamber Orchestra will benefit the Lincoln Center in Stevens Point. The concert will be held Saturday, Dec. 14, at 2 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 1519 Water Street, Stevens Point. The concert is open to the public with a \$3 donation to benefit the Lincoln Center. A reception will follow.

Courtesy of University Relations and Communications

Holiday Shows at the UWSP Planetarium

Two programs, "Winter Wonders" and "Season of Light," will be shown on the Sundays of Dec. 8, 15 and 22, at 2 and 3:15 p.m. respectively. Both are open to the public free of charge. Planetarium seating is first come, first served for up to 60 people. The planetarium is located on the second floor of the UW-Stevens Point Science Building at the corner of Reserve Street and Fourth Avenue.

Courtesy of University Relations and Communications

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Wrestling Team Hopes to Improve For New Season

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The Pointers wrestling team is hoping to improve from last season as they went 17-8, and 3-2 in conference.

The Pointers have six starters returning, led by senior Dustin Wozniak who is ranked 9th in the National Wrestling Coaching Association pre-season rankings, Jamey Simmons who was 2nd Team All-Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Jordan Koranda who led the nation in falls last year.

Joining the team this year is redshirt sophomore Jared Kust, a transfer from St. Cloud State University.

"It's not like bringing in a young kid to the team, it's bringing in a kid who knows how to wrestle at the collegiate level already. And a kid who's had a lot of success in the past; he knows how to win matches too," said Head Coach Johnny Johnson. "Jordan was an iron man for us. Jordan never missed a practice, never missed a match, had over a 100 career wins and I see Jared as the same type of kid."

Wozniak is off to a strong start in his senior year, going 8-1 and 7-1 in conference.

"He brings a lot of intensity to the wrestling room. He's got leadership and guys see how hard he works in practice, and then when he goes out to compete he's always looking to get a fall," Johnson said. "Dustin accounts for a lot of falls, and that's because he brings the same intensity

to matches that he does in practice."

Koranda, who also has started strong this season at 9-3, 6-3 in conference, spoke highly of Wozniak as well.

"Dustin, great leadership, he's working hard. He's probably one of the hardest workers, especially in the weight room," said Koranda. "I look at him as a role-model; I try to work as hard as he does to get better."

The Pointers hope to improve this season after their 4th place finish in the Midwest Regional.

"First of all we have to have guys win the matches we expect to win; they're going to have to beat good kids. They can't just win some of them, they're going to have to win them all and we're going to have to get guys in the top three," Johnson said. "That's how you win the regional and qualify guys for the national tournament."

The Pointers hope to do just that as they start the season 2-3, 0-2 in conference. Their wins came back-to-back against Lakeland 29-15 and Concordia 34-8.

As of late, they have lost their last three to UW-Parkside 26-18, UW-Oshkosh 22-14 and UW-Whitewater 29-7.

With a 2-3 start, Johnson had a few words to say about the future for the Pointers wrestling team.

"Get tough. I see it as a strong tournament team and one of the reasons we struggle a little bit as a dual team is because we have four or five guys that are established that are good and are going to go onto the

tournament and score big points, and they're going to go on to the dual meets and win the matches for us," Johnson said. "The other five or six are guys that are new to the line-up or freshmen are going to have a lot of development over the year. And depending on how those guys develop that will kind of dictate where we are at the end of the season. We look at it we could be sending four to five guys to the national tournament."

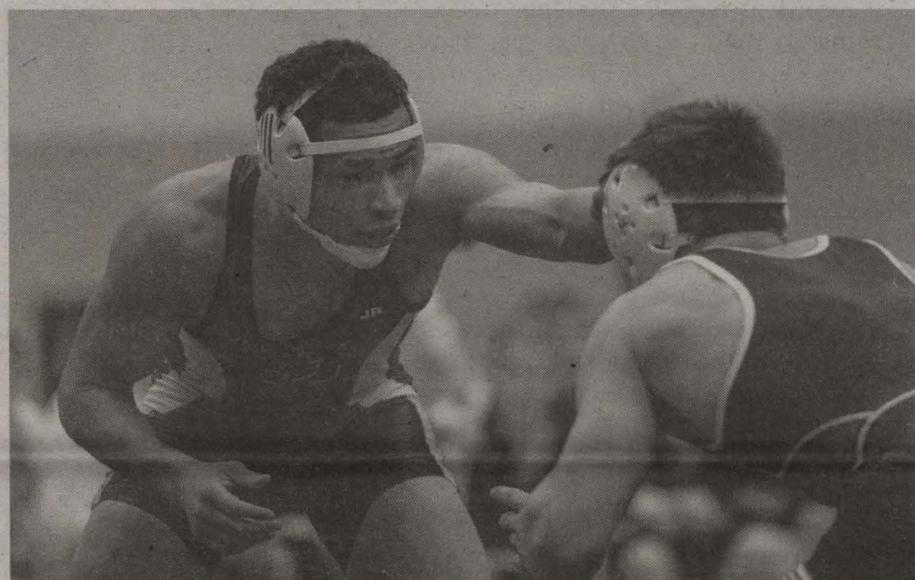
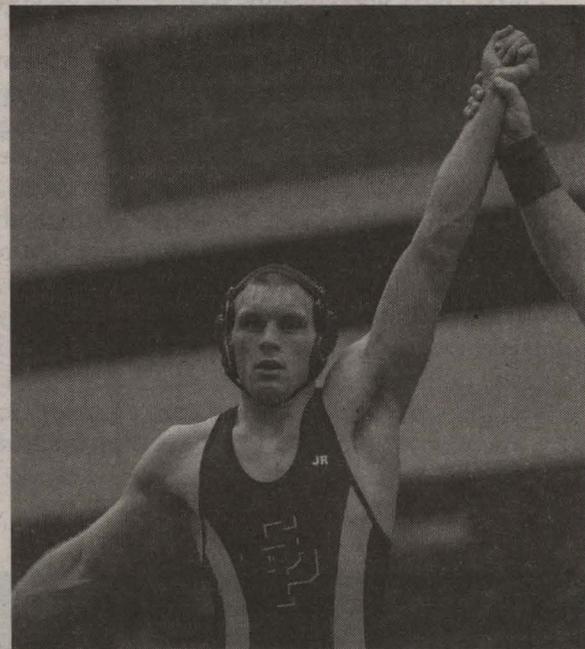


Photo by Jack McLaughlin

Despite early season struggles the wrestling team is still confident in their teams abilities.

Hall of Fame Spotlight: Scott Krause

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Scott Krause, who played on the Pointers football team from 2000-2003, is receiving the honor of being inducted into the Pointers Hall of Fame.

After redshirting his freshman year in 1999, the former quarterback took advantage of an opportunity given to him and pushed his way into the Pointers' record book.

Krause ranks in the top five for most passing attempts, pass completions, passing yards, and touchdowns in a career.

Krause has also been named Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Player of the Year, WIAC All-Centennial Team, First Team All-American and Academic All-American, and is a two-time First Team All-WIAC player.

As a Pointer, Krause was 15-13 in the WIAC. In his first season at quarterback, the Pointers went 1-6 in conference play, but turned things around over the course of Krause's career and finished with an 8-2 overall record in 2003.

Following the 2003 season, Krause was elected as a team captain for the USA Aztec

Bowl team, who played against Mexico in the Division III All-Star game. At the time, Krause was only the fifth Pointer ever to be elected to the All-Star game, and the first to be named team captain.

Despite the personal success that Krause has had over his career, he still brings the focus back to the team.

"What I'm most proud of is winning 14 games when trailing during the 4th quarter," Krause said. "Our team always kept fighting, no matter what the score was."

Having the support of his coaches, teammates, and family allowed for Krause to succeed as a Pointer.

"My parents never missed a game and always supported me, no matter how I played," Krause said.

Now that he's been inducted into the Hall of Fame, Krause is among the many Pointers who have helped bring success to the Pointers tradition.

"I was extremely excited and proud to be joining the Hall of Fame," Krause said. "There are so many great athletes that have been inducted; it's an honor to join them."

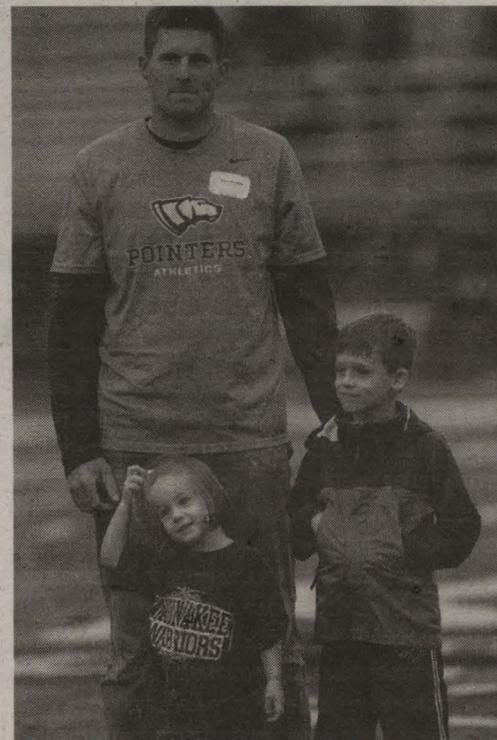


Photo by Jack McLaughlin

Scott Krause and children at the halftime of the homecoming football game.



Continued from page 1

said.

Players have also cited the team's depth as one of its greatest strengths. "Every player that we have in the lineup has the capability to positively impact the game so we haven't had to rely on just one or two players," Jaeger said.

The team's depth can be seen by scanning the score sheet. Eight players have four goals or more this season and 12 players have seven points or more on the year.

Even with a great start, the players and coach Brooks know that there are always things to work on.

"Our power play must improve in the second half of the season," Brooks said.

"I think we can always improve on everything; there is always something to work on from week to week," Heck said.

With the team being ranked so high this year, there is always a question of if the team deserves that respect so early in the season.

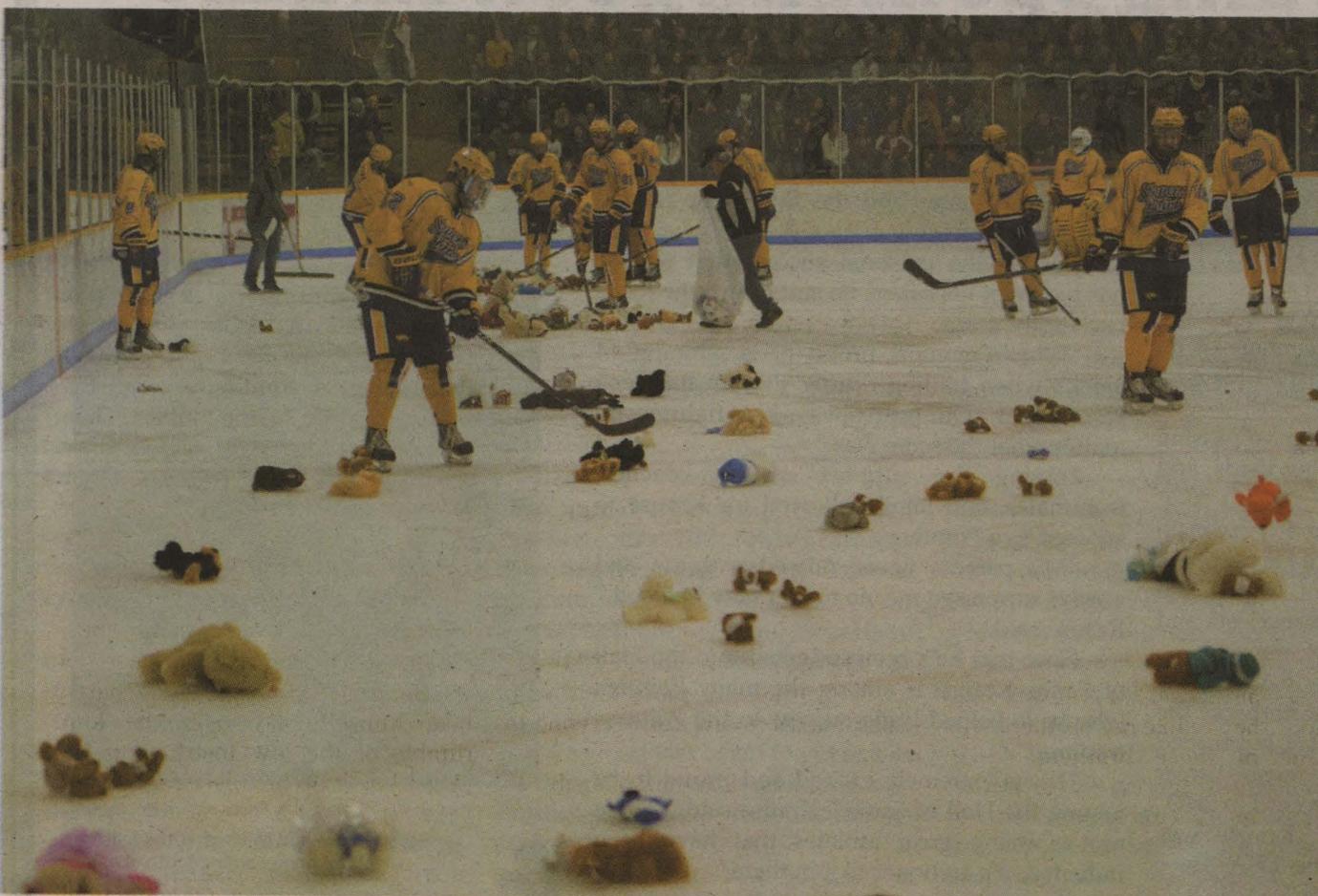
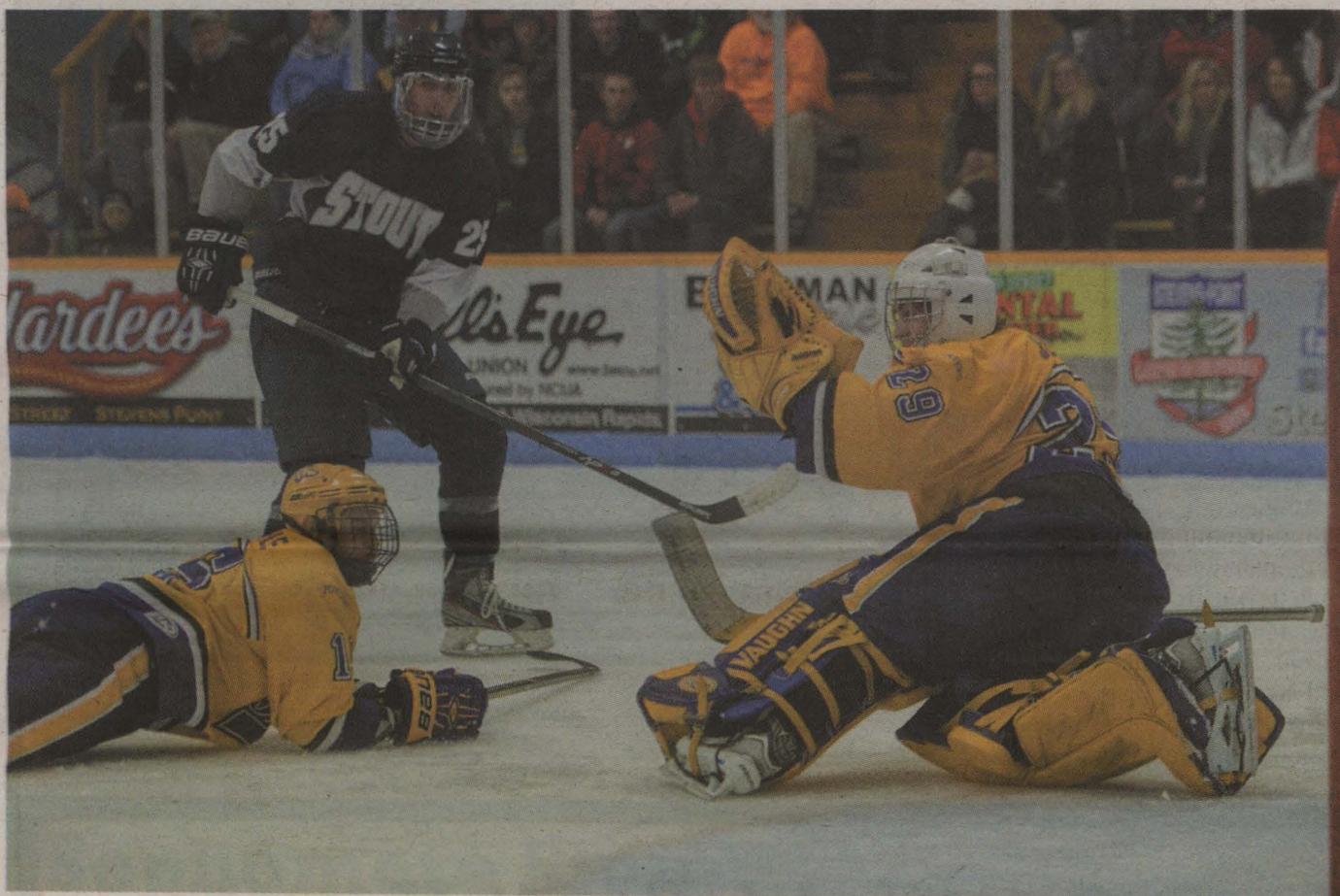
This year, Brooks believes that this team is the real deal. "Our team has played well through our first ten games," Brooks said. We were 9-0 and probably deserved the recognition we

were getting."

But Brooks is not satisfied just yet. He knows the end goal for this team. "Bottom line is that the only thing that matters in the polls is that you finish number one after your last game of the season," Brooks said.

The players believe that the Pointers can achieve that final goal of finishing the season on top.

"We can be as good as we want to be," Heck said. "If we work hard, play as a team, learn from our mistakes, there is no reason we can't achieve our ultimate goal of a national title."



LAST WEEK IN POINTERS SPORTS

Wednesday, December 4

Women's Basketball defeated UW-Eau Claire 85-45

Men's Basketball defeated UW-Eau Claire 74-55

Thursday, December 5

Wrestling lost to UW-Whitewater 29-7

Friday, December 6

Men's Hockey defeated UW-Eau Claire 4-1

Women's Hockey defeated UW-Eau Claire 4-3 (OT)

Saturday, December 7

Wrestling lost to St. Johns 28-6

Wrestling lost to Cornell 24-19

Wrestling defeated Loras College 21-15

Men's Hockey lost to UW-Stout 3-2

Women's Hockey defeated UW-Eau Claire 4-3

Men's Swim team finished 2nd and Women's team finished 4th at Wheaton (Ill.) Invitational

THIS WEEK IN POINTERS SPORTS

Friday, Dec. 13

Wrestling at UW-Platteville at 6 p.m.

Men's Hockey vs. Lawrence University at 7 p.m.

Women's Hockey at St. Thomas University at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 14

Women's Hockey at St. Thomas at 2 p.m.

Men's Basketball at Saint John's University at 3 p.m.

Women's Basketball vs. The University of Chicago at 7 p.m.

Frostbite Runners Beat the Cold Weather

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More than 230 participants braved the cold winds and icy weather to compete in the 38th annual Frostbite run last Saturday.

The Stevens Point YMCA plans and operates the event every year to get community members up and active over the winter season.

"Much of the racing season ends in fall and does not start up until late spring. The Frostbite Race is unique because there aren't many runs during the winter months," said Zach Corlett, senior practicum student and wellness center staff member who helped organize the event.

The event is considered a tradition for the Stevens Point YMCA, the community and for many of the participants.

Runners were allowed to sign up for one of two distances: the five mile run or the ten mile run.

First time Frostbite participant and sophomore at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Lily Dettle signed up for the competitive five mile race with her friend Jessica Becker.

The pair enjoy long distance running and participated in the race to keep themselves motivated for the half-marathon they will be running this summer.

"It is a great local event that

encourages physical activity for all age groups and it motivates people to be active, even in the winter," Dettle said.

Her hard work paid off as Dettle took second in the female 18-24 year-old category, only to be beaten by her friend Becker who took first.

Despite below freezing temperatures, dozens of runners still signed up for the race and finished with pride.

"The road and trail conditions were ice free for the most part. Although it was obviously cold, I couldn't have asked for a better day to run outside in December because the sun was shining," Dettle said.

Corlett notes that many races will not carry on in sub-zero temperatures although the Frostbite always does. He also mentioned how a majority of the runners literally had ice in their hair and on their faces after they crossed the finish line.

Senior Jeanette Lapinski participated in the Frostbite run last year and because she likes to run, she said her goal this year was to finish the race for bragging rights.

"I wanted to say I completed a race in single digit weather. I thought it was fun bundling up. It was kind of an adrenaline rush when we were walking towards the start line," Lapinski said.

Dettle and Lapinski both mentioned that they had mainly

positive reactions due to the cold and that it even helped them run their race.

"My legs never got tired because they were so cold I couldn't feel them," Lapinski said.

"Surprisingly, I ran better than usual in the cold, probably because my body was numb," Dettle said.

Regardless of the cold temperatures, the Frostbite Race was a success and most runners know that it is important to stay in shape all

year long regardless of the weather conditions.

Lapinski admits to learning that there is a great deal of crazy people in the area and the turnout at the Frostbite was proof of that, for both runners and volunteer workers.

"I would like to say thank you to all of the volunteers that helped us on that cold race day. The event could not have been accomplished if it wasn't for them," Corlett said.



Photo by Lily Dettle

Jessica Lapinski and Lily Dettle place in the race.



Tuba Christmas Welcomes All

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You don't have to be a tuba player to take part in the holiday festivities of Tuba Christmas this December.

Tuba Christmas is an internationally celebrated event that began in 1974 by Harvey Phillips in honor of his mentor, William J. Bell, who was born on Christmas Day.

The event is as simple as it sounds—a bunch of tuba and euphonium players getting together to make beautiful, rumbling Christmas music just for one night.

Patrick Lawrence, Professor of Low Brass at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, decided two years ago that it was time to create another Tuba Christmas chapter—UWSP style.

Like the past two years, this year it will be held in Michelsen Hall in the Noel Fine Arts Center on Friday, Dec. 13.

The event welcomes anyone who can play and get a hold of his or her own tuba or euphonium.

Even if tuba and euphonium are not your main instruments, you are still encouraged to participate.

Kirstin Stangel, a choral and general education major at UWSP, is an annual participant.

"I started on euphonium in the 6th grade," Stangel said. "Then when I got to high school, my dad, who was also my band director, made me switch to tuba because there wasn't a tuba section."

Although Stangel has been playing since high school, she does not peg herself as a tuba player. She does get a lot of help from those who are, though.

"They're very supportive of me, even if I don't know my fingerings," Stangel said about the low brass studio. "They're like my brothers."

One of those brothers, Mike Pollock, an instrumental music education and low brass performance major, also performed in Tuba Christmas the past two years. His favorite part is seeing the variety of people at the event.

"They're a bunch of wild

characters," Pollock said. "With getting 70 plus of us together, it's just a party."

People who participate make it a very festive event by wrapping their instruments with gift-wrap and even dressing in ugly Christmas sweaters.

Alex Shuffield, an instrumental music education and trumpet performance major, decorated his tuba and dressed festively as well. He had even less experience on the tuba than some of the other participants.

"I didn't have any training; I was self-taught," Shuffield said.

Even with minimal training, he thought the music was easy enough to read and fun to play with all the other low brass participants.

The music is the same every year, which makes it easy for everyone to rehearse.

Christmas standards such as Jingle Bells and Silent Night are included in the repertoire for the concert.

Even though there is a lot of work involved in getting Tuba Christmas together, Lawrence is still excited for

this year's event.

"I'm looking forward to getting people together and getting a good kick-off to the holiday season," Lawrence said. "It's a fun way to end the semester."

Registration starts at 4:30 p.m. and the rehearsal goes from 5-6:30 p.m. There will be a quick dinner break, then a 40-minute concert at 7:30 p.m., free to the public. There is a registration fee of \$10 and you must purchase your Tuba Christmas music, which can be reused for years to come.

The participants agree there is absolutely no pressure for this event, no nerves and no worries about playing the right notes.

Shuffield said he could barely hear himself play over the loud rumble of the low instruments, let alone know if he played the right notes.

"When it's all said and done, you don't know if you played anything correctly," Shuffield said. "And the audience loves it."

The Pointer's State of the Semester

ANDY DAVIS

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As the semester draws to a close, I feel like it's a good time to take a look at where The Pointer started this semester and inform you, the readers, about where we're headed.

At the beginning of this semester, we as a staff were finding our footing, working from the old model that had been in place for the last couple years. Our print format stayed the same, and for the first few issues little changed except for a gradual improvement of our coverage and content.

On Oct. 24 we tried something new. We included on our front page a column of content. The very next issue we decided a half-and-half design would function better. Since then, we've been printing a commanding photo at the top half of the page with the beginning of a story across the bottom half.

My staff and I hope you find this new design aesthetically pleasing, as it has been a goal of ours to reconnect with campus and make the newspaper more desirable.

We have also added an Arts and Entertainment section, featuring movie and music reviews. We plan to expand coverage to Centertainment events, movie and restaurant reviews and other similar content. As always, contributors and reader responses are always

welcome and appreciated. In order to accommodate this new section, next semester we plan to add a four-page spread, brining our total page count to 16.

In conjunction with layout and section changes, we are also planning to roll out a new website. This new site will be easier to navigate, feature all our videos and PointCasts (a new podcast series) and all of the print content that appears in the newspaper. The website will also be mobile friendly.

A launch party is scheduled for sometime during the second week of classes after our return from winter break. Keep your eyes peeled for more information regarding a time and date. We'll be in touch.

I hope to see a large turnout for this web launch. We are eager to get the ball rolling and to hear what you all think about the new site. Feel free to let us know what you think we're doing right and offer suggestions as to what we can improve.

As always, thank you for your loyal readership. We greatly appreciate it. Every week we bust our butts to deliver campus news to you because that's what we're passionate about. We hope you have a safe and relaxing winter break full of home cooked food and plenty of down time. Happy holidays, and we'll be back in January to blow your minds.

Campus Celebrates at Holiday Party

MARY MARVIN

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Students and staff alike came together to celebrate the end of the semester and the beginning of the holidays at last Monday's campus holiday party.

All were welcome to the campus-wide event, including retired faculty and staff members and the general public.

Attendees were encouraged to bring a non-perishable item for The Cupboard. The Cupboard encourages donations at this time of year so students can utilize their services and the donations during the stress of finals week.

During the party, a slideshow displayed photos of campus buildings and happy students taking advantage of the snow.

Guests were treated to music by a jazz trio from the music department, who played a variety of Christmas and holiday music. The trio consisted of Alex Meronek on drums, Matt Osowski on piano, and Joey Pettit playing the bass.

Brittany Rossman, part of University Relations and Communications, organized the event.

"It's an especially good time of year for a party," Rossman said. "Everyone is stressed out over finals and classes ending, and a party is

just what they need to relax and have fun."

Rossman was glad to see such a good turnout and to see people from different departments come together.

Al Thompson gave a few words, welcoming guests and thanking everyone for their hard work over the semester.

He also discussed the upcoming commencement, which is occurring this Saturday, and the anxiety of graduating seniors, saying that he has seen many anxious Facebook statuses.

The party was a good way to wish attendees well and spread holiday greetings. Everyone was wished an enjoyable time with friends and family and a successful end of the semester.

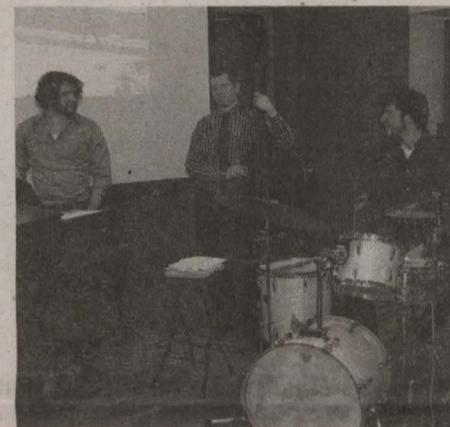


Photo by Doug Moore

Matt Osowski, Joey Pettit and Alex Meronek play for guests at faculty and staff dinner.

Sophomore Slump

JULIA FLAHERTY

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A new semester is approaching which is usually reassuring for most students. Those transitioning into the latter half of sophomore year, however, may feel otherwise.

This phenomenon is known as the sophomore slump and refers to the discomfort many second-year students feel.

As a sophomore, the thrill of the newness of college is gone, but you have not been around long enough to feel like you completely belong.

The sophomore slump brings feelings similar to the phenomenon that is the awkward middle child syndrome.

Particular symptoms include questioning one's major, the importance of college and self-evaluations that include questions like, "is this even worth it?" or "what is college really going to do for me in the long run?"

While sitting in a career fitness course, I realized that there are a number of students who feel this way about their sophomore year of college.

Career specialist and professor of the course, Lauri Martin-Keefe, had briefly mentioned the sophomore slump, which prompted even those who are usually falling asleep in their chairs to participate. A multitude of faces lit up and were interested in the new subject.

The lecture gave students the confidence to question where they are going, what they are doing and how they will get there.

"Once students become sophomores, they are met with a whole new set of expectations and challenges," Martin-Keefe said. "The initial excitement has faded and life comes with fewer warnings regarding do's and don'ts. There is much uncertainty."

Sophomore Tyler Schafman exhibits a similar outlook about the sophomore slump.

"It's stressful and semi-boring and it's when you begin to get sick of the things that you thought you loved during freshmen year," Schafman said.

Proving that the sophomore slump goes beyond Stevens Point, Alec Brockman, a sophomore at the Fox Valley Technical College in

Appleton, Wis., is also experiencing the syndrome.

"The challenge as a sophomore is not learning how to manage time; you learned how to do that as a freshman. The challenge is truly believing in your purpose," Brockman said. "Ultimately, I feel like sophomore year is your test year."

Students from different universities agree that sophomore year is about figuring out their major.

It is the time when you have to make that decision if you want to finish in four years.

No matter your discourse or path, there is a weird pressure that is felt by students about sophomore year. The sophomore slump is just a phase that one must go through in order to achieve a well-rounded education.

It is best to keep your head held high and remove the weight of the stressful questions.

Do not rush into giving up because while getting that education you will create life-long friendships and experience self-improvement in the meantime.

Even when there are long periods of time that feel endlessly senseless, it is best to keep your head up and

take the weight off of the heavy heart of questions. It is best to enjoy the moment because things will work out.

For those undergoing this awkward period of academia, keep your friends close.

Do not bottle up your feelings about the sophomore slump because that will not produce a happy ending. Instead, you will likely end up like a spilled bottle of your favorite soda and nobody appreciates a puddle of pop.

Vent it out, and if you are really feeling bad about the slump, seek out the academic counselors at the Career Services center on campus. They are here to help you and they want to see you succeed.

Remember sophomores, next year you will be a "no-joke-junior." Things will start picking up and you will be able to participate in various practicums and internships which might help you understand your interests better.

In the meantime, I suggest staying optimistic. No matter how far students might fall into the sophomore slump, remember that with every fall there is potential to rise.

Afterimages: Student Driven Creativity

AARON VOEKS

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The Noel Fine Arts Center was buzzing with activity Friday and Saturday night as students took the stage for Afterimages, the fall Theatre and Dance department dance showcase.

Afterimages is run almost entirely without the aid of faculty. Each dance is directed, choreographed, cast, and costumed by students.

Professor Michael Estanich is the faculty advisor for the show, but is firm in saying that he is involved as little as he can afford to be.

"Afterimages is student-driven creativity," Estanich said.

Afterimages provides students a unique opportunity to be involved in every part of the creative process.

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student Alyssa Berube choreographed one of the pieces featured in the show.

"It's a really great experience for us when we go out into the real world and know how a whole production is run," Berube said.

This year, Afterimages consists of 11 staff selected pieces from a list of 23 possible entries.

Students must plan their pieces before the semester begins so they are able to cast and direct their pieces before presenting them to faculty.

The pieces are selected based on what will make a good cohesive production. The pieces that were not selected are performed in Afterimages Outtakes, which provides the rest of the dancers a chance to show their creations.

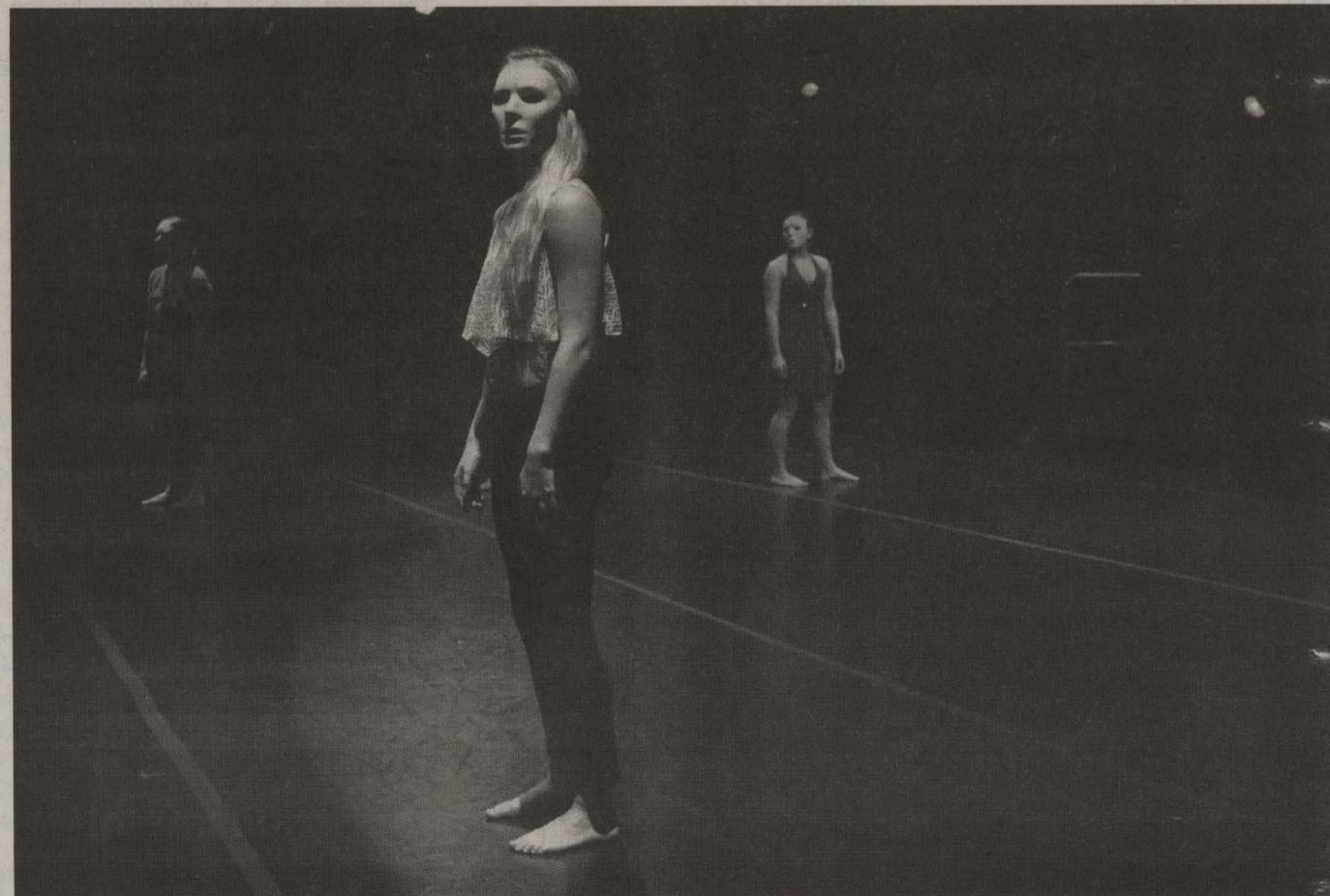
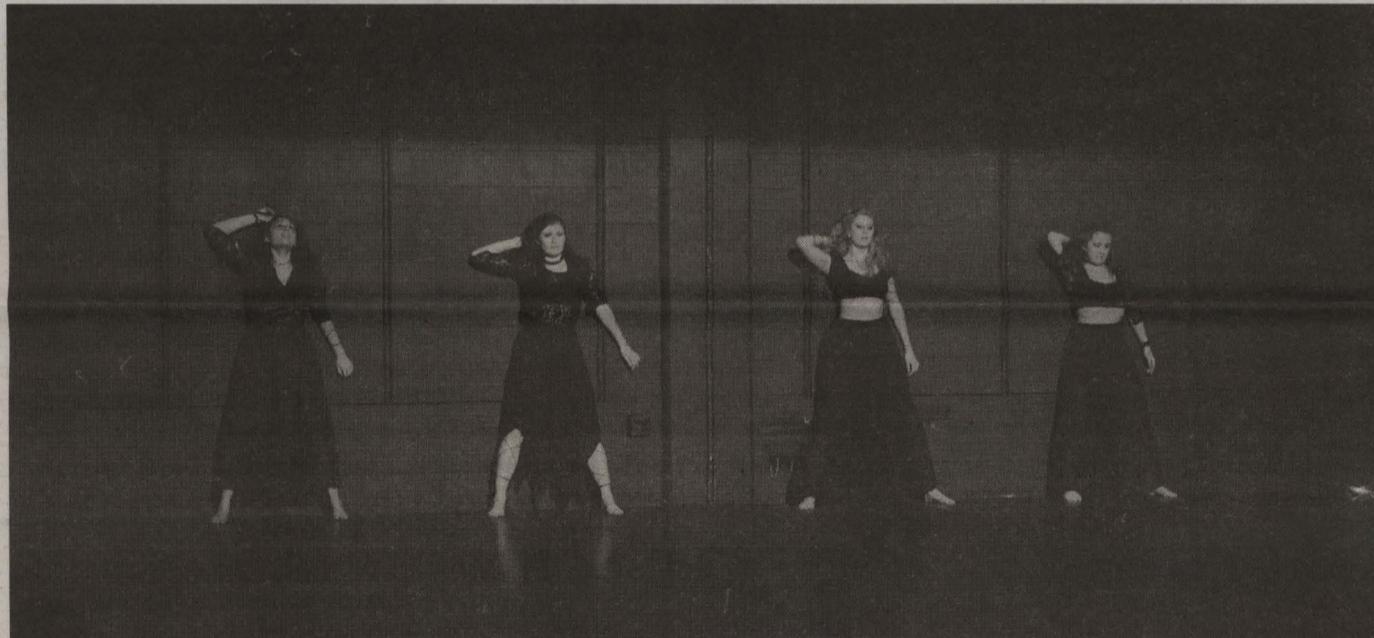
"It's like another audition, but with the piece that's already choreographed," Berube said.

Over the course of a two weekend run, hundreds of people come to see the students perform their creations. Friday and Saturday night each saw almost every seat of the Studio Theater filled.

UWSP student Dana Carlson was in attendance on Saturday night.

"I'm really impressed. I think it must take a lot of outside dedication work," Carlson said.

Afterimages will be running next weekend, Dec. 11-13, at 7:30 p.m. in the studio Theater of the Noel Fine Arts Center.



Photos by Emily Hoffmann

(Top) Maggie Zoeller, Jennifer Hancock, and Constance Williams rehearse "Woman in Red" choreographed by Maggie Zoeller.
 (Middle) Stella Taylor, Alyssa Berube, Madelyn Mickelsen, and Alyssa Albers rehearse "We (Insist)" choreographed by Madelyn Mickelsen.
 (Bottom) Celia Sweet rehearses "Unveiled" choreographed by Ashlyn Cianciolo.



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Stay Classy, Stevens Point

KYLE FLORENCE

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As this will be the last issue of The Pointer that I ever write for, I want to reflect upon my experiences here at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

This should be easy. I have written commentaries before, I am a half-pot of coffee deep and I am just narcissistic enough to write a couple-hundred words about myself. However, as I am sitting here staring at my laptop on this frigid December morning, I find myself at a standstill.

It is not that I did not live out "the college experience" because I did quite the opposite. I saw it all: the dorms, the house parties, the library and the square. I saw the excitement and annoyance of living off campus and the constant struggle that is D2L.

I played a collegiate sport, pulled all-nighters, and skipped class. Debot has ravaged my insides more times than I care to recall and I have acquired multiple parking tickets in the circle.

And yes, I too bought Nickled and Dimed for my freshman English class and literally have never opened it once in the last four and a half years

(save the \$12).

I guess it is not so much that I have nothing to write about, but rather an excess of things I want to say. These last few years have been nothing short of a whirlwind and, quite frankly, how am I expected to convey all the knowledge I have garnered into a single article?

I would probably start by saying that the most vital component to success in college is steadfast time management. As long as you allot a reasonable amount of time to get your work done, I promise, there will be more than enough time for play.

I would also add that if you are going to "play," in any way, shape or form, plan accordingly. Nothing ruins a day better than a violent hangover.

I would also advise you to get involved. Join a club sports team, write for the school paper, or join one of our hundreds of student organizations. Not only will the experience be rewarding, but there is a good chance that you will cross paths with some of the most well-rounded and genuine people you will ever meet—I know I did. Plus, employers (don't forget, the end-goal is to find a career) don't want to hire futon potatoes.

In the same vein, experiment.

This brief window will likely be the only point in your life when you are completely able to come and go as you please, so make the most of that freedom. Try new things and consider doing the things your parents told you not to. You will never know what you truly enjoy if you dwell within your comfort zone.

Still, don't be an idiot. If someone hands you a crack pipe at a house party, I hope you are smart enough to stick to Busch Light. If you then want to leave, don't drive, regardless of how "fine" you think you are. Plain and simple, you could kill yourself or someone else, and trust me, that is one funeral you never want to attend.

Stock your closet with winter clothing. When I first came to this school, no one warned me about the difference between a Stevens Point winter and a Milwaukee winter.

And for the love of God, if you live in the residence halls, empty your fridge before you go on break.

Go see some sort of fine arts production. Those guys and gals are talented and their efforts are overlooked by far too many students and faculty members.

Stop procrastinating. I am a hypocrite for saying this, but I assure you it is as exasperating senior year

as it is freshman, sophomore, or any other year. Quit while you are ahead.

Start drinking coffee, floss regularly, and invest in two-ply toilet paper. These things aren't necessarily related, but they are all vital.

Try not to sweat the little things. I guarantee you are the only one who notices that whitehead on your cheek.

In all aspects of your life, be honest with your intentions. It is not fair to those around you and you are better than that. Honesty is always the best policy.

Okay, this is getting long-winded and preachy. I can actually feel my journalism professor rolling his eyes.

At the end of the day college is what you make of it and I was lucky enough to realize that before my time here had expired.

If there is one thing you take away from this, have it be this: College, like all good things, eventually ends, so make the most of your time here. They don't call them "the best years of your life" for nothing.

Thanks to all the amazing individuals I have met over the past few years that have made this wild ride worth it, you all rule, and I hope you stay in touch. In the meantime, you stay classy, Stevens Point.

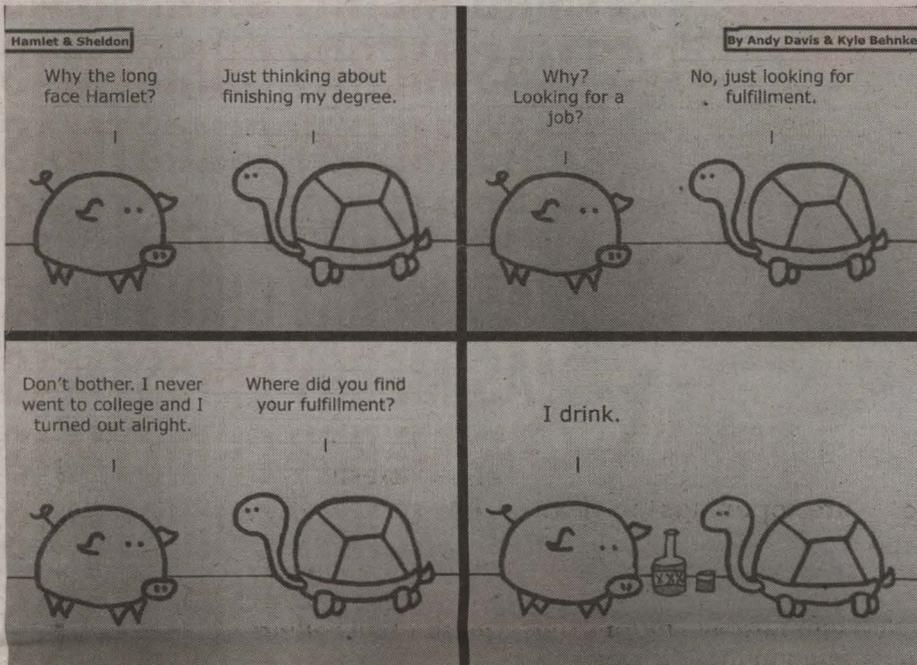
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NEED-TO-KNOW TUNES

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Too often in our society, beautiful art, which has the potential to change lives, sculpt individuals, and alter the ways in which we think, goes unnoticed. This is especially true in regards to music, whose more thoughtful messengers are often overshadowed by a maelstrom of cookie-cutter acts all strumming the same four-chord progression. For this reason, we at The Pointer present you with Need-To-Know Tunes, a weekly column dedicated to highlighting not necessarily the newest releases, but rather the totally awesome one's that, for one reason or another, you may have missed:

The Blackest Beautiful
Letlive

For Fan's of:

Unforgiving, edgy, politically-fueled punk rock--seriously, these guys make their own sound.

The Scoop:

Formed in 2002, Letlive toured extensively and underwent multiple lineup changes early on, before eventually signing with At One Records. The outfit stuck with

the label for two full-lengths, but would later join forces with Epitaph to release *The Blackest Beautiful* this past July, which has since garnered a staggering amount of acclaim from both fans and critics. And rightfully so, as it rules.

Why It Rules:

Personally, I think the reason I enjoy this album so much is the fact that it is completely unlike anything I've ever heard before. The songwriting is diverse, and isn't bound by genre stereotypes; some of these tunes are heavy and reckless, some are elegant and borderline progressive, but all of them are glorious, strengthened by Jason Aalon Butlers savage delivery and stimulating lyrics.

The album's first single "Banshee (Ghost Fame)" is gritty yet put-together, and preaches of corporate greed, while "Virgin Soil" is reclosed and brooding. "White America's Beautiful Black Market" serves as an aggressive combatant to the often underpublicized topic of racism in America, only to be followed by the heartrenching "Dreamers Disease." Additionally, the album's second single, "Younger," though not as in-your-face as "Banshee," is no less infectious, and will almost certainly have your head bobbing with enjoyment.

90 FM ALBUM REVIEW

DANIEL WATERMAN
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When I was introduced to the band Arcade Fire I was under the pretense that the lead singer had run away from home at a young age, joined the circus, married a fellow carny and started the band. As tantalizing as that tale would be, it turns out that they were just Canadian.

It took years of extensive touring and a few clever placements of their music in movie soundtracks to get noticed, but they got noticed enough to win Album of the Year and perform at the 2011 Grammy Awards.

The album *The Suburbs* was brilliantly put together. I had the pleasure of seeing Arcade Fire at Bonnaroo later that year. Although I had been frying in the Tennessee sun all day, the 12-piece live Arcade Fire ensemble was so cool.

Two years later they've teamed up with LCD Soundsystem's front man James Murphy who produced Arcade Fire's newest album, *Reflektor*. The 2-disc release is definitely the most danceable Arcade Fire project they have ever put out.

The album begins with the title track and first single aptly named "Reflektor". The music video will surely tickle anybody's fancy who appreciates quality paper Mache work.

Within the first several songs it's clear that there's definitely some

Dub, not Dub-step, and Jamaican influences being thrown around. The song "Flashbulb Fires" has a thick Reggae line that holds together echoing instruments and vocals which would otherwise wash into one another.

The track "Here Comes the Night" serves to introduce a dark and whimsical twist to the album which seems to culminate with the song "Normal Person". It features a shredding guitar lick reminiscent of something Jack White would do.

As was a theme in *Suburbs*, Arcade Fire front man Edwin Butler reflects on the societal norms and challenging traditional belief systems. You could say he's a Rock and Roll romantic, but people would probably look at you funny.

The only drawback of *Reflektor* is its mere length. It runs about 70 minutes from start to finish. Releasing the album as a 2-disc set was a good move by Merge Records. The second disc has distinct qualities reminiscent of an 80's space movie. Perhaps it was Arcade Fire's way of promoting the upcoming movie "Her," which features music from Arcade Fire and is directed by Spike Jonze.

Overall, *Reflektor* is a solid record that could possibly get your grandmother to bob her head. It's just a shame you won't be able to tell her that the lead singer was a runaway circus boy. It would have made such nice conversation.

EDITORIAL STAFF CHRISTMAS WISH LIST



When to Look for the Blockbuster

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With the end of the 2013 calendar drawing closer, I thought I would take a moment to talk about a different calendar. No not the Mayan calendar, the Hollywood movie calendar.

In the movie realm there is a typical calendar that generally divides when certain types of movies will be released.

The biggest chunk of the calendar falls in the summer months. This is dedicated to blockbusters and moneymakers such as "Marvel's Avengers," "Star Trek," "Fast and the Furious" and "The Hangover" to name a few.

Another big piece of the calendar

is dedicated to family orientated movies that release around the end of year holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas. These movies range anywhere from animated movies like "Frozen" to dramas such as "Saving Mr. Banks."

Alex Ingersoll, assistant professor of media studies at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, says that this calendar started in the late 70's with movies such as "Jaws" and "Star Wars."

"I see it as two things, the rise of popcorn-based summer blockbuster films starting in the 70's and the market influence of the Academy Awards in the winter," Ingersoll said. "You have studios positioning their films in winter so it is fresh in voters'

minds for the Academy Awards."

The Hollywood movie calendar does not matter in Ingersoll's opinion.

"I go all year round, I love the theater and I love good movies," Ingersoll said.

A few students have particular times of year they sit in those ever so comfy movie bucket seats.

"I see myself going to the movies more in the winter time," said Justin Prince, UWSP alumni. "Since there's less to do outside I find that I go more in the cold months."

Although some prefer to avoid the cold weather by staying inside to watch a good movie, many still enjoy spending the warm weather inside the theater.

"I like going in the summer

because of the cool blast of the air conditioners," said Max Culp, UWSP senior.

Not only do students have certain seasons where they prefer to attend movies, certain genres are preferred as well.

"I like fantasy adventure like The Hobbits or sci-fi like Avatar," said Bethanee Dix. "Cartoon movies like Frozen are good too!"

"I like to go see comedies for the most part, but I also have enjoyed many of the superhero movies lately," Culp said.

"Weather" or not you follow the Hollywood movie calendar, your movie preferences could dictate your attendance at the theater.