

the. pointer

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

February 7, 2013

pointeronline.uwsp.edu

Volume 57 | Issue 16



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NEWS

Tar Sands Lecture Informs Eco-Friendly Pointers

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The Students for a Democratic Society sponsored a lecture about the Tar Sands Project on Feb. 1 in the DUC Alumni Room.

The lecture's speaker was Kyle Schulz, a Milwaukee native and activist against the Tar Sands Project. He participated in a tree-sit in East Texas in order to halt construction of the Keystone XL pipeline.

"It was not as fun as one might think," Schulz said.

Conditions for the tree-sit were not ideal. The Texas heat and the use of buckets as toilets were some of the challenges the activists faced. The main form of communication was a series of walkways they made to connect people stationed at various trees to each other.

The Tar Sands Project concerns the extraction and refinement of thick, tar-like oil from the soil that coincides with the Keystone XL pipeline. At its completion, the pipeline will stretch from Alberta, Canada, to the Gulf Coast in Texas.

Kate Carson, a member of SDS, said the Tar Sands Project marks a drastic change in our environment.

"This seals the deal on climate change. It will keep us reliant on fossil fuels. This is huge. We're talking about an alteration of our atmosphere," Carson said.

The use of the tar sands oil not only poses negative effects for the environment, but may also drive up America's gas prices. The intended

exportation of the oil will not save Americans money at the gas pumps.

"One of the myths about Tar Sands is 'It's gonna make oil cheaper.' None of the oil in the Tar Sands will be used in the U.S." Schulz said.

The project also requires the removal of families from their land, Carson said.

"They aren't just environmental issues," Carson said. "We aren't looking at these big issues and looking at root causes. Capitalism is driven by profits. Profits are being placed above life itself. Our representatives are not representing everyday people. I feel that it's time that people start looking for other ways to be effective."

The end of the lecture left several members of the audience full of questions and opinions. Many people stayed in the Alumni Room afterward in order to share their questions and opinions.

It was just the right reaction, Schulz said.

"I wanted them to leave with more knowledge and inspiration," he said.

Currently, plans for the pipeline's completion have been stalled due to legislation. President Obama will ultimately make the final decision to begin construction on the Northern leg, the section of the pipeline that connects Oklahoma to Canada.

Though many activist efforts have taken place since the pipeline's initial construction in August, Schultz admits a potential outcome.

"I think the Northern leg will be approved," Schultz said.



Photo by Sam Feld

Zines were shared with event goers, as they awaited the arrival of the activist speakers.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPORT

February 2nd

6:28 p.m. - Staff from Thompson hall called to report that two residents had witnessed a car accident on the circle.

2:30 p.m. - Schmeekle employee reported a man to Protective Services for suspicious behavior and was making her feel uncomfortable.

12:31 a.m. - Prey Sims staff member called PS and reported an uncooperative intoxicated male individual who left the building lobby with three females. He was wearing red pants, red shirt, and had gauged earrings.

February 1st

11:48 a.m. - The Stevens Point Police Department reported over the radio that a girl in the 1st floor bathrooms of the CPS was throwing up. They dispatched an ambulance.

January 31st

12:41 a.m. - DUC staff member reported to PS that there has been an on-going issue with a man who hangs out and works on a wireless computer in room 201. She said that PS is aware of the problem and requested an officer to escort him out of the building.

January 30th

12:24 a.m. Staff from parking services called and said that the received complaints about bikes being locked to the hand rails of the CCC.

9:40 a.m. - DUC staff member called PS with a student who was receiving harassing phone calls from an ex-boyfriend. After confirming she felt safe to do so, PS told her to come into their office and fill out a report.

January 29th

8:34 p.m. - Staff member of Knutzen hall called to report the smell of marijuana coming from an unspecified room.

5:02 p.m. - A hit and run occurred in parking Lot T, the driver's door was dented between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by an unknown vehicle.

January 28th

3:05 a.m. - St. Michaels Hospital staff called to inform PS that a student previously given a ride to the hospital was ready to go home. An officer was dispatched to give him a lift home.

THE POINTER

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

The Pointer is printed Thursdays during the academic year with a circulation of 2,500 copies. The paper is free to all tuition-paying students. Non-student subscription price is \$10 per academic year.

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

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

Where Are the Student Activists?

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The modern American student activism movement began in the 1930s, when the American Student Union was created. During its peak years, over 500,000 students were mobilized to stage one-hour strikes against war and to raise awareness on issues such as federal education aid and collective bargaining rights.

In the 1960s, students filled university squares, as protests in support of racial equality ignited across America while student commons of Berkeley, Madison, and schools across the country fostered a developing counter-culture.

Ten years later, students staged sit-ins and fought against the draft and the Vietnam War. Freedom of speech, freedom of information, and gender inequality were evaluated because American students organized and committed to changing them.

Most recently, the Occupy Wall Street protests inspired thousands across the country to stand against wealth disparity. One of the biggest differences in modern protests compared to movements of previous generations is their longevity. In September of 2011, thousands marched in Manhattan's financial district. In 2012, only a few hundred did.

Today, it seems the energy and commitment to change, especially on college campuses, is gone.

Katherine Carson, a University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point wildlife ecology senior, believes current students are faced with other issues than previous generations.

"It's hard being a student, especially with how tuition keeps rising and everything is getting more expensive while wages aren't going up, and so a lot of students are struggling to go to school and pay

rent and eat," said Carson, president of both the UWSP College Feminists and Students for a Democratic Society.

Carson also said that the proximity to an issue can hinder students' involvement in working for change on issues.

"I think for a lot of students living in Stevens Point—a lot of issues don't show themselves here. It's not right in your face. You can't really see people starving here. A lot of these issues just aren't visible unless you are actively searching out information," Carson said. "I think a lot of people just don't know."

Discouragement can also play a factor in a student's lack of activity. In February of 2011, thousands protested Wisconsin governor Scott Walker's proposed bill to alter collective bargaining rights for public employees. In Madison, protests continued into the summer but subsided after the budget legislation was passed.

Defeat and the disillusionment that comes with it were realized in the capital protestors.

"People see that Walker won everything big that he asked for, and despite all the great activism, we don't have anything to show for it," said Matthew Rothschild, editor of The Progressive magazine in a June 17, 2011 article.

Carson said that, despite this outcome, political activism is still important.

"I'm active because the world's messed up, and I can't handle just sitting around and being okay with that. Sitting around being sad about it doesn't do anything," Carson said. "I don't have these grand illusions that I'm changing the system, but I'm at least not sitting around and accepting it because just sitting around and doing nothing and not talking about it is equivalent to being okay with

and supporting the way things are."

Carson also said that students looking to get involved on campus should pay attention to the Student Messages of the Day, keep an eye out for posters from student organizations and engage with people tabling in the university center.

"If it's something you don't agree with, go talk to those people. College is supposed to introduce you

to ideas, and we're all supposed to be exchanging ideas and growing our minds. I don't know if it's just this campus, but people won't really talk to each other. Maybe it's intimidating for them. The way that schooling is structured, debate is not really encouraged," Carson said. "You might get called out, and your views might be challenged, but that's okay. That's part of the process."

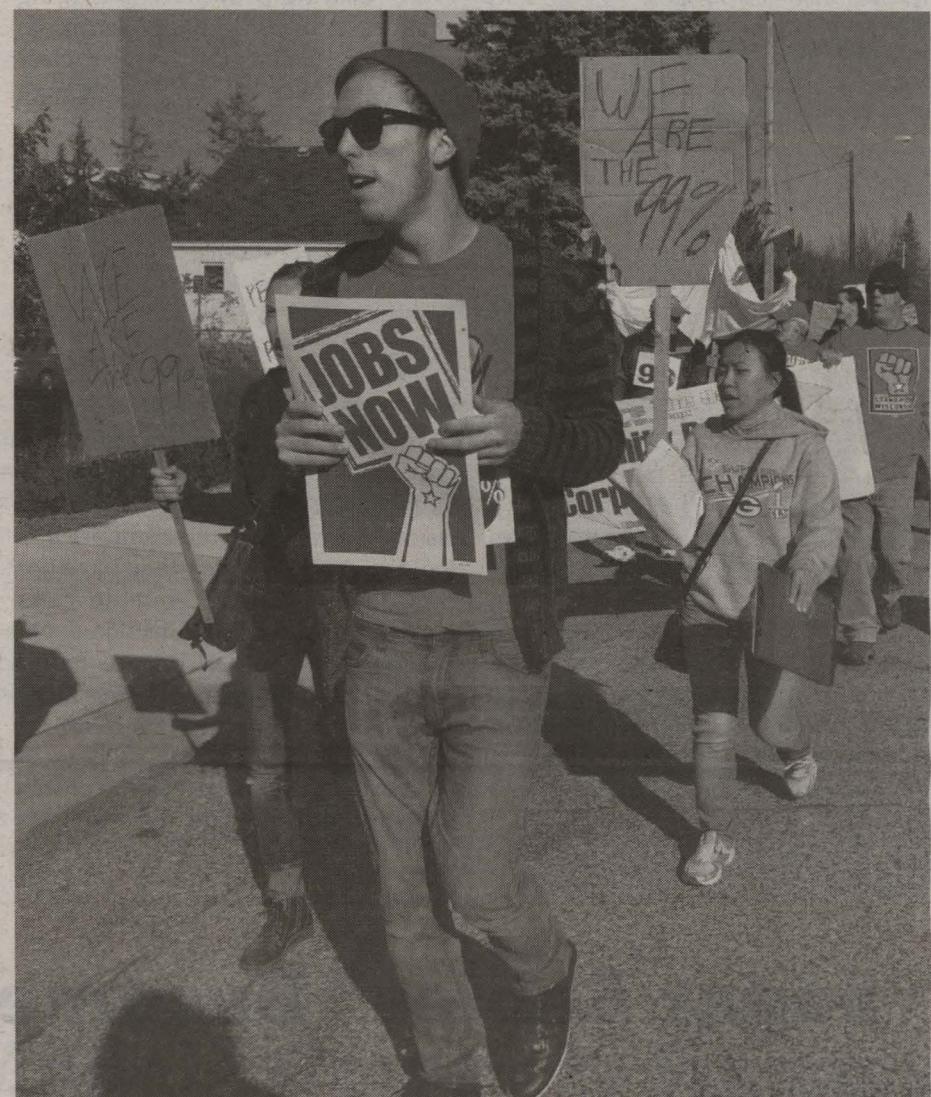


Photo by Sam Feld

Student protestor at UWSP were very active with the Occupy movement throughout 2011 and into 2012.

Controversy over Combat

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With the media buzzing about women being allowed in combat, there has been much talk about whether women will be able to handle the job or even pass the physical fitness tests currently required.

Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta is lifting the ban and opening up new opportunities for women in the military. Women have been prohibited from serving in any combat arms position, including all Infantry and Special Warfare roles. Although women have not been officially allowed to serve in any of these roles, they have been heading overseas to war zones, where being part of the fray is quite possible for males and females alike.

For example, women were

barred from going through training to become an Army Ranger. Army Rangers are an elite light infantry unit, which is a direct combat force.

Rangers must be able to complete 49 push-ups in two minutes, 59 sit-ups in two minutes, six pull-ups, a two-mile run in 13 minutes, a five-mile run in under 40 minutes, a 16-mile hike with a 65-pound pack in 5 hours and 20 minutes, and a 15-meter swim with their gear.

And those are the bare minimum scores needed to pass. The recommended scores are 80 push-ups and sit-ups, 12 pull-ups and completing the runs and hike in less time. These charts can be found at www.military.com/military-fitness/army-special-operations/army-ranger-pft.

Tabitha Starjnski, who served in the Army Reserves and did two tours

in Kuwait and Qatar, believes that women are more than physically and mentally capable of meeting these demands.

"There are stats that say we are not as strong, we're not as fast, but then there's the few that totally debunk that. It's all on an individual basis. It really is. You can't mass lump all women," Starjnski said.

Starjnski said she thinks allowing women in combat could be beneficial, but it should be on a volunteer basis.

"It's all based on the individual," Starjnski said. "We have our physical training tests. We have all these different tests we have to take, mentally and physically. I think that would probably be the best way to determine whether or not they really can do this. I wanted to be a sniper growing up. Obviously, that changed. I never really looked into it, but I

loved shooting. I just assumed it was out of my reach."

The military does have varying standards for physical requirements based on age and sex. For example, a male under the age of 30 in the Air Force would have to complete a minimum of 33 push-ups in under a minute, while a woman must be able to do 18 push-ups in under a minute. The requirements vary for sit-ups and run times as well. As both males and females age, the requirements decrease.

The question everyone seems to be asking is, "Will women be able to live up to the current requirements without having the standard lowered for them?" Starjnski believes some will, stating that she has known women who have passed those PT tests.

Scheduling Solutions

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As any student on campus can testify, one of the major issues with working out a class schedule is being able to get into all the necessary classes. The students, however, are not the only ones aware of this problem.

"We are putting together an ad-hoc committee to look at scheduling in the widest possible way," said the Associate Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management Jim Barrett. We recently had a report done, a firm that was brought in by the University of Wisconsin system, and they did an analysis of scheduling and classroom capacity and the efficacy related to them. In looking at it, many of the issues there were things that we felt if we set our minds to them, we could work on them and start solving these problems."

Problems scheduling classes can be a hassle not only for students, but for professors as well.

"It does often happen that we have to schedule a class other than when we thought we would schedule it," said Mary Bowman, an English professor at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. "I think it is much more of an issue for students who get closed out of courses that they need or that they want. I've certainly heard of students having to stick around another semester."

The ad-hoc committee will be working to improve class scheduling and will begin meeting this month. It is made up of various faculty members, department assistants and staff from Registration and Records. Dan Kellogg, the registrar, will be chairing the committee.

There are many facets that may complicate the improvement of the scheduling process. Some of the issues that the University is fighting against include: lack of classroom space, confliction of scheduled class times, and even maintaining enough faculty to run the classes.

"We have had a lot of retirements," Barrett said. "It's a national phenomenon that the baby boomers are retiring. A number of faculty here have retired. We are in a competitive hiring environment and in some majors that has been an issue."

The goal is to meet the needs of the students by offering enough sections of every class so that students are able to fulfill their requirements in a timely manner. To solve the capacity issues, Barrett said the committee is looking at times of day they have not considered before. 60-minute class periods are also being considered. On a larger scale, a new science building will be built soon, offering more classroom space as well as room for new laboratories.

Part of the issue also lies in ensuring that students are able to pass

their classes and will not have to retake them. In order to help, Barrett said the committee took a close look at the classes that had a high fail or withdraw rate. As a result, additional funding was given to the Tutoring and Learning Center to help tutor students in the problem areas, especially in the sciences where many seem to be struggling.

Advising is another part of the plan to fix scheduling issues. An advisor has been hired specifically for the biology department, which seems to have the most overloaded classes.

To help advisors, students, and faculty know what classes will be in demand, a new Degree Progress Report program will soon be implemented. The new DPR program will make it easier for students to see what classes they need and will allow faculty to gather data on how many students will need certain classes.

"It is a complex problem when you look at the demand issues that are there," Barrett said. "It didn't happen overnight, and it's going to take us a little bit of time to fix it, but we are working on it pretty diligently."

Barrett also mentioned that the degree audit improvement is likely to happen a year from now.

SGA UPDATES

After canceling the 2013 Beer Tour last Wednesday for mere hours, SGA swooped in to save the day. After much miscommunication between advertisement and professional staff the Beer Tour was called off. Several SGA staff members stepped in to help alleviate the situation and with thumbs-up from Al Thompson the Brew Tour is now back in full swing.

Feb 20th at 6:00pm in the DUC Encore SGA will be hosting our first open forum focused around campus sustainability called "FRESH! New Ideas, Growth, and Energy." Like UW-Stevens Point Student Government Association on Facebook for more information.

Student Government
Election applications for the 2013-2014 academic year are now available. Hard copies of completed applications are due to the SGA office at 052 DUC by Friday, February 15th at 5:00 PM. No exceptions! E-mail SGA@uwsp.edu with any questions or concerns.

"Sugar Babies" Become New Trend

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As tuition costs sprint past the national inflation rate, some college-bound women are finding alternative means to pay for their education.

Since 2008 when the recession hit, funding for public education has declined by 14.6 percent, and funding per pupil at state universities has fallen by 21 percent from 2000 to 2010, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

One website, Seeking Arrangement.com, has seen its popularity increase over the past few years. Many college-aged women turn to the service for financial assistance. The website offers women, or "sugar babies," the chance to meet older men with disposable income, or "sugar daddies."

According to the website's description, Seeking Arrangement

helps with "what you are seeking, whether it is love, companionship, friendship or some financial help, and whether it will be for a short-term, long-term or life-long arrangement."

In January, Seeking Arrangement

"Maybe society should look inwards to see why young people are doing this." -Michelle Nieuwenhuis, theatre and English major

released a list of the fastest growing "sugar baby colleges," the universities with the fastest growing populations of women seeking men able to assist with college tuition in return for "companionship." The fastest

growing college on the website was Georgia State University.

College student membership increased 58 percent overall from December 2011 to December 2012.

Peter Munck, a history and broad field social science major, believes that nothing is wrong with the interaction.

"This all comes down to my libertarianism. I am for personal liberty. I am for people making contracts and other financial decisions without government interference," Munck said. "This includes business transactions that happen to involve sexual services like prostitution or, in this case, marriage, or sugar daddies, or however you want to call it for tuition. It really doesn't concern me, so I'm not going to get bothered by it."

Michelle Nieuwenhuis, a theatre

and English major, had a different take on the issue.

"I am sure there are people doing it for the wrong reasons, which upsets me only because these women are denying themselves actual love. The economy is down, and it seems as though in order to get a good paying job, some people find it necessary to fake relationships in order to be successful," Nieuwenhuis said. "Maybe society should look inwards to see why young people are doing this."

Nieuwenhuis and Munck also felt it should be acknowledged that men could also be on the reverse end of the relationship.

"I just wish older women did the same," Munck said.

Seeking Arrangement has it covered, with the option to browse for "sugar mommies."

CORRECTION

In last week's article "Guns, Proposals and Postulations" the term "clip" made in reference to an ammunition magazine was incorrect. A clip is a tool used for loading ammunition into the magazine.

Also, the "assault weapons" being discussed in congress are semi-automatic firearms only. Fully automatic and burst fire weapons are already illegal.

Dance Team Prepares for Nationals



Photo courtesy of Molley Farley

The UWSP dance team at the State Dance Championship this past Saturday in LaCrosse.

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is fortunate enough to have an athletic program that annually competes at a high level across the board. From volleyball to basketball, baseball to track, each team continually builds upon the tradition of excellence that

began decades ago.

The dance team is no different. Each year you see the girls showcase their routine during halftime of Pointer football and basketball games. That's just the tune up.

Besides performing in front of the home crowd, the UWSP Dance team has competed twice this season; at the Universal Dance Association competition

in Milwaukee and at the Ashwaubenon Invite, taking first place in both.

"All of the competitions were wonderful experiences and have really helped us grow as a team," said third year dancer Molly Farley.

Building a relationship as a team was a high priority coming into the season.

"This year could have been seen as a building year, since we took on 8 new members with only 7 returning members. Most years, the team only takes about 4 new girls and usually has about 10 or 12 returning girls, so it's easy to see that our ratio was a bit skewed," said Farley.

With over half of the team comprised of first year dancers, growing pains are almost a certainty. But this team has been able to come together and perform at the level UWSP is accustomed to.

"It's amazing to see the progress everyone is going through throughout the year, and we are only pushing ourselves to improve upon what we are now," said third year dancer and team captain, Tianna Hamland.

Last Saturday, the girls performed at the State High School Dance Championships in La Crosse. While collegiate teams are not judged and scored on their routine, the teams do consider State to be an important event.

"It is an opportunity for collegiate teams to showcase their individual styles and recruit

dancers for upcoming years. I myself remember watching UW-Stevens Point in high school at state and dreaming to have the opportunity to be on a team as powerful as they were," said senior Kirsten Phillips.

The state competition is also the final step for teams before competing in Nationals. The Dance Xtreme AmeriCup National Competition is held annually in Minneapolis, Minn. This year the Pointers will compete against teams from across the nation in two categories; pom and jazz.

"We consider ourselves to be very fortunate to be able to compete at the national level. This team has created a name for ourselves and the expectations seem to get higher every year," said Phillips.

The National competition is a three day event, starting February 22nd and ending the 24th. The Pointers look to continue the success they have achieved all season and bring a little more hardware back to school.

"Last year we took first in our Open division, second in our pom division and second in our Jazz Division. The team is working really hard to keep our national standings and bring UWSP more trophies home," said Hamland.

Phillips said this team strives every year to fill the footsteps of the dancers that came before them.. With so much youth and talent, the legacy appears to be in good hands.

Women's Basketball Pointed in Right Direction

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After starting the season 5-3, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's basketball team seems to have found their stride by winning 12 of their last 14 games.

"We kind of fell into a slump, which a lot of teams do," said junior guard Josi Schultz. "After the slump, we refocused and remembered the goals we have in place."

The Pointers now stand at 18-5, with a conference record of 10-4. They are only a half-game behind the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater for the top spot in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC).

Whitewater has been the biggest challenge for the Pointers this season, defeating them in both regular season matchups.

The Pointers know they can beat the Warhawks if they play their best game. "We beat ourselves in those

games," said senior guard, Sam Barber.

"We had them down at their place, and we let them back in," Schultz said. "We became complacent and didn't hit crucial free throws when we needed to. If and when we play them again, we will be ready."

The Pointers still want that sixth straight WIAC regular season championship, and they will need a little help to win the regular season title. "We are hoping that Whitewater stabs their toe and that we can continue to get the wins," Barber said.

Even as a team that has only lost once in the past month and half, some things can still be fine-tuned to make the team better.

"We haven't been the best defensively this year, but we are working on it," Schultz said. "Limiting second chance opportunities for our opponent is key."

"We need to improve on overall just playing well together," Barber said. "We proved a couple times this year that if we play to our individual

strengths, but as a team, then we can be unstoppable."

Barber stressed the message of playing together, saying that if they all try individually to beat a team it won't work, but if they all work together, they can accomplish anything.

"It all has to do with playing as a team," Barber said.

After beating the University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse this weekend, and losing to the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Wednesday, the Pointers only have two games left until the WIAC tournament, starting on February 20th.

While the Pointers preach team play, Barber certainly has earned the right for some individual recognition for her play this season.

Voted by d3hoops.com as a pre-season All-American in Division III, Barber has played up to her billing.

Barber averages 18.7 points per game, which isn't only the top scoring mark on the team but the 32nd highest in all of Division III

women's basketball.

The Pointers senior has also shown that she is one of the best scorers from beyond the arc in the country, with the 12th highest three-point percentage in Division III, hitting on almost 43% of her three-point attempts.

Barber also leads the team with 7.2 rebounds per game and 37 steals on the season, and she is second on the team with 23 blocks.

With the team playing so well so late in the season, it isn't implausible to believe that they could have a nice run in the National Collegiate Athlete Association tournament.

"We have all the tools we need, but we just need to put them together and keep them together for the rest of the time being," Barber said.

Schultz made a good point when she said that the team can't worry about that. They need to focus on the conference title. "One game at a time," Schultz said.

Local Students Experience Curling Success

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Juniors Ryan Kernosky and Evan Brauer participated in this year's Junior National Curling Championships.

The championships were held in Boston. 10 of the best men's and women's teams from around the country gathered to crown the champion in their respective divisions.

Joining Kernosky and Brauer in Boston were Jeremy Stubbe of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Andy Summers of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Caleb DeMille from Wausau West High School.

Kernosky, Brauer and the rest of the team and coaching staff drove to Chicago, then flew to Boston, where they started play on the 26th of January and finished last Friday.

The team then flew back and Kernosky and Brauer returned to the classroom this week, having sacrificed a full week of school for the sport they love.

The team started the tournament strong, at one point holding second place in the men's division. However, the team faltered down the stretch.

"We lost some really tough



Photo courtesy of Brooms Stones Curling Club

Ryan Kernosky, Evan Brauer, and Andy Summers curling at the Junior National Championship where the team finished in the top 5 nationally.

games," Kernosky said. The team would fall into a tie for fourth place and lost the tiebreaker game, ending

their shot at a Junior National Curling title.

The team finished with a respectable 5-5 record and ended up in fifth place, a great accomplishment for five unsponsored students from Wausau, Wis.

It was the last time the team will be able to compete at the junior level, and they are still very proud of their finish in the championships.

"It was just a great overall experience," Kernosky said.

"Getting to curl with a lot of good people is a very humbling experience," Brauer said.

It was impressive just getting to

the tournaments for Kernosky and Brauer, since to qualify they had to beat last year's Junior Nationals representative from Wisconsin.

"It was a really great game to even get to Nationals," Kernosky said. Kernosky and Brauer's team won a nail biter, 13-12, to qualify.

While it may not have ended well for the team, they built some great relationships that they will never forget.

"One of the best parts of the experience was the fact that we met some really good curlers who we will probably compete with for the rest of our lives," Kernosky said.

Brauer even explained that they made such strong connections that some of them are coming to Wisconsin to compete again. "We convinced one team to come to compete with us in Green Bay," Brauer said.

Besides having a good time on the ice, the team decided to take in a little bit of sight-seeing while in Boston.

The team visited the Harvard campus, went to Harvard's Natural History Museum, saw the graves of famous patriots Samuel Adams and Paul Revere and visited Salem, Mass. "Sadly we didn't find any witches," Brauer said.

So now that Junior Nationals are over, what is next for Kernosky and Brauer?

"We might try for the college nationals, which has qualifying in three weekends from now," said Kernosky.

"We have a couple of tournaments left this year that we hope to compete in," Brauer said.

Winter is here, but it will be gone soon enough. Don't forget to register for your study abroad program for summer 2013 by February 15 - because the world is calling!

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Photo courtesy of Brooms Stones Curling Club

ABOVE: Evan Brauer and Ryan Kernosky representing Team Wisconsin at the Junior National Championship.

BELOW: Team Wisconsin accepts its title within the top five.



Battle of the Workloads

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A fundamental concern for many students is the amount of work they must do within their chosen field of study. There is a definite idea that some majors may be easier than others in terms of the amount of work distributed to students.

So what is the overall opinion of other majors from students who view them from the outside? There is a possibility students are envious of other majors and the amount of work that they do.

Biology professor Dr. Todd Huspeni discusses the views of the professors on the subject.

"In the context of faculty conversations, the subject of workloads has not come up as a problem," Huspeni said. "As a faculty member, it is unclear to me what the out-of-class number of hours expectation is for students. There is no sense of agreement to what an acceptable number of hours would be deemed too much or too little."

Huspeni explained that it is necessary to be precise in what is meant by the workload. Is it the

number of course credits required for the major or the amount of work the instructor requires of their students?

Students often define workload as the amount of time spent studying. Huspeni argues differently.

"Aspects of the workload definition are certainly dependent on student values," Huspeni said. "Students with strong impressions might be making judgments of value of the course, more than evaluating the workload and what the professor is asking them to do."

As an example, a science major may not think that two hours of work to complete a lab report is reasonable, whereas an art major might not consider 6 hours of work to complete a project unreasonable.

There is an understanding that some degree programs require many more credits than others. Senior art major Rachel Sieber, explains there is more than what meets the eye looking from the outside into a different major.

"Our workload is fairly large. We are expected to do a lot of hands-on work that may typically take longer than other individual's homework," Siebers said. "There is more of a thought process than what people

give us credit for, and it takes a significant amount of pre-planning before we jump into a project."

A science major and an art major may argue that they have more work than an English or an education major, or vice versa. Some students go as far to say that some majors are even easier than others.

The communication major has been criticized as being easy. Communication major Nick Boehm disagrees that the major is easier than others.

"We don't have less work to do, but we do have different work," Boehm said. "In communication you don't have the same type of work as other majors, but you do have the same amount of it, in my opinion."

Perhaps there is a misunderstanding between the different majors about what is being accomplished within each degree.

Students on the outside may criticize other majors, such as communication, because the nature of the work in general is different than what science, art and all other majors do.

Of course the amount of work between majors is going to differ, but

it depends on the student as well. Even the nature of the work within the major will differ based on what the student wants to do with the degree.

"If we lack toughness in our coursework, we make up for it in practicality," Boehm said. "I might not be able to solve a calculus equation, but I don't want to do that anyway. The things we do in comm are easier to apply to real work problems and will help us after graduation."

At the end of the day, though, most professors will agree that the workload boils down to one thing. Every major and department on campus bases their work around the curriculum. Professors are dedicated to teaching a curriculum that meets the essential learning outcomes that they want students to meet.

"We want students to come out of their programs with a certain set of skills," Huspeni said. "The question is not how many hours it takes to do that, but did the students meet the objectives and take something away from their program."

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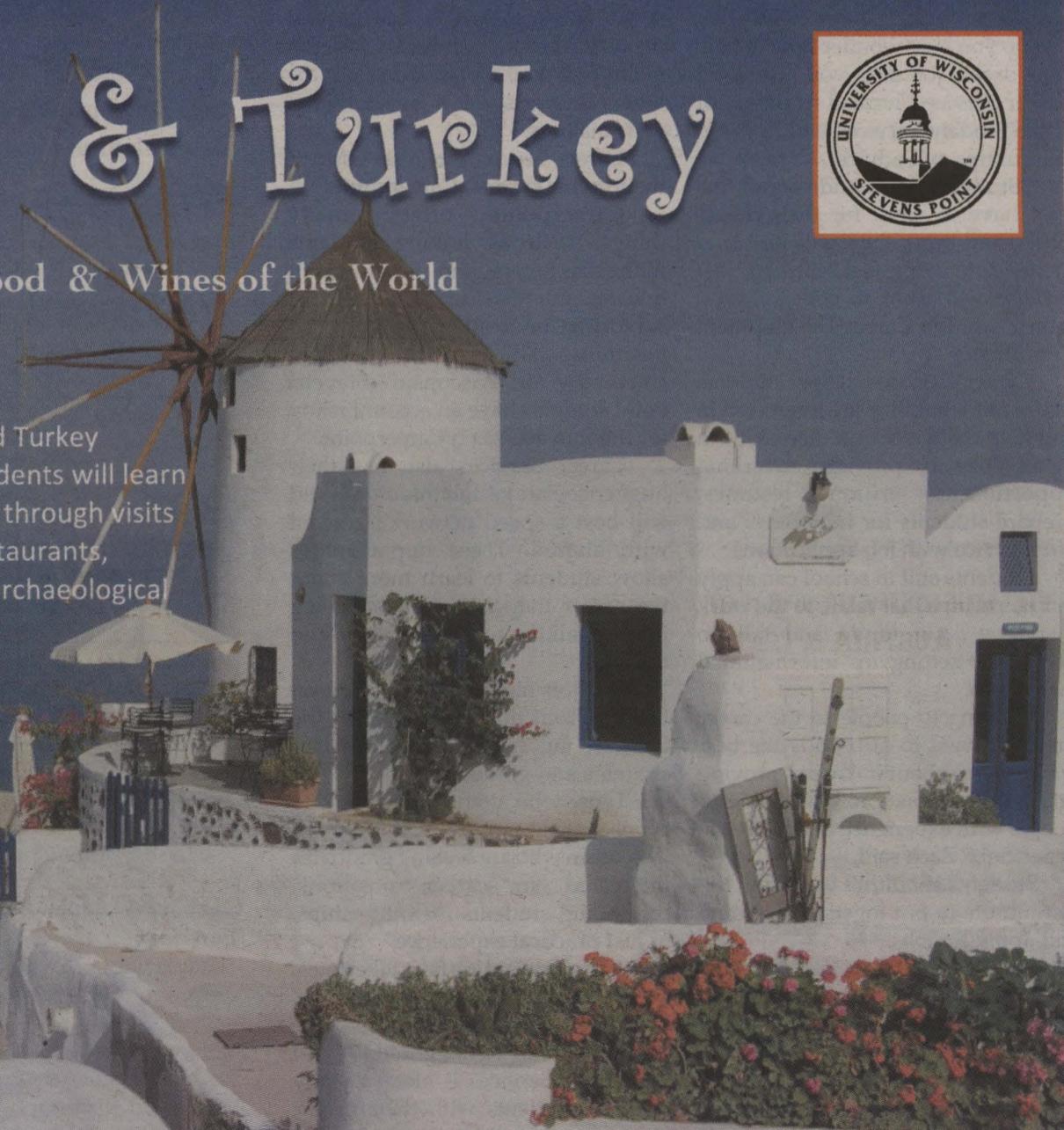
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Residence Halls Making the Most of Compost

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In recent months, Residential Living has joined forces with the Green Advocates to implement a campus-wide composting program throughout the residence halls.

"The Green Advocates and this campus are trying to move in a more sustainable direction, and the first step is limiting our waste," said Chelsey Ehlers, who is both a regular composter and the Green Advocate of Steiner Hall.

By maintaining this position in her hall government, it is Ehlers' responsibility to implicate green initiatives within her residence hall and make the residents aware of them.

"This program basically provides residents with the information and materials they need to start composting," explained Ehlers.

Cindy VonGnechten, Residential Living Facility Designer and supervisor of the Green Advocates, shared a similar outlook.

"The initial goal of this program is to educate the students

on various environmental efforts that they can do that impact not just themselves and what they're doing, but that can also help campus as well," VonGnechten said.

Though not officially put into action until this previous October, according to VonGnechten, the composting initiative was originally prompted much earlier per student request.

"It is something that students have been interested in and asking for maybe the past five years or so," VonGnechten said. "As the interest grew among residents, we began to realize that we needed to do something a little bit bigger."

Currently, participating residents separately collect their organic food waste in their rooms and deposit it in a centralized composting bin located in their residence hall. The collected compost is taken by Residential Living-Building Services to the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point Waste Education Center. There, it is composted by Waste Education Center staff and students into a nutrient-rich soil which is used across campus by Buildings and Grounds.

"The part of this program that I think is so amazing is that the compost that they are helping make is compost that's used all across campus," VonGnechten said. "It's a nice collaborative effort between Residential Living, the Waste Education Center, and Buildings and Grounds."

Ehlers agrees, advocating that this is one of the main draws of the program.

"I like the fact that I know it's actually being re-used on campus, as opposed to sitting and rotting in a landfill somewhere" Ehlers said. "It's not that hard, and it's nice knowing that you are making a difference."

VonGnechten went on to elaborate that this sense of accomplishment should be an incentive for all students living within the residence halls to get involved with this program.

"Students should realize that there are all kinds of environmental things that you can do to enhance not only your immediate environment, but also your environment on a more global scale," VonGnechten explained. "It also makes them feel good about themselves through the whole cycle

of participating and realizing that you are doing good in all aspects of your life."

Warren Nordgren, a waste education major, is a strong advocate of composting on campus, as it reduces the amount of waste in landfills.

"If your waste goes to a landfill, it sits with all types of waste. Since a lot of those wastes aren't going to be organic, it'll take longer for those that are organic to break down," said Nordgren. "By composting, we make room for other types of non-organic waste."

Apart from less landfill mass, composting also brings with it a number of other benefits, including healthier plants and gardens, richer, more balanced soil, and even an improved diet.

For more information on the UWSP Residence Halls' Composting Program and other green initiatives taking place on campus, students can contact their residence hall's Green Advocate or Hall Director or get in touch with Residential Living-Building Services.

Land Your Dream Job

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Do you ever wonder how to land your dream job after you graduate? Career Services, located in room 201 of the Student Services building, has helpful tips and advice.

"Students don't understand that they have to work for their dream jobs. They think they will just land them. You can't feel entitled just because you went to college," said John Zach, the Career Development Coordinator.

Career Services helps students figure out what they are interested in and help them work on their skills in detail. They also provide networking opportunities, critique resumes, prepare students for interviews and offer advice with job applications.

Students still in school can apply for internships that relate to the work that they want to do and talk to people by setting up informational interviews.

"Talking to people in the career that you want to go into is the best way to learn about it. We can provide you with information, but talking to people with experience in that area is beneficial," Zach said.

Students shouldn't wait until the last minute to put together a resume and apply for jobs.

Angela Kellogg, the Director at Career Services, recommends attending job fairs already as a freshman.

"It's never too early. You have to know your timeline because every industry is different," Kellogg said. "Networking is a great way to meet

people in the field that you are interested in and to gain experience. A lot of people go to college and major in the same thing as you. It's what sets you apart from all the others that gets you a job, not what your major is."

Career Services' biggest asset is their online system, Careerpoint.

Careerpoint offers many things, such as linking students with employers and employment information, whether they are just exploring or ready to apply for positions. All currently enrolled University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students have an account ready for them to access on Careerpoint.

Career Services also has their huge collegiate job fair this month and will host a speed networking event with alumni. These opportunities allow students to learn more about the career that they plan on going into by talking to people already in the field.

The job fair will take place on Feb. 26 from noon to 4 p.m. in the Laird room. Admission is free for students and graduates.

Those who attend will be able to connect with employers throughout Wisconsin who are seeking graduates interested in career positions, continuing students for internships, or just practical experience.

"Employers at job fairs take notes, even if you are only a freshman. They will remember you if you make an impression," Kellogg said.

Career Services is always ready to assist students with their needs, from choosing a major to linking them to career options.

Freeze Fest

Freeze Fest 2013 is a week-long extravaganza full of amazing daily events. Prizes will be given out at each event! You are welcome to any or all events!

Day	Date	Event	Location
Monday	11	Snowman Building Contest 3 pm Ultimate Frisbee Tournament 4 pm	Various Halls Debot Field
Tuesday	12	Cookie Decorating Contest 6:30 pm	DUC Encore
Wednesday	13	Human Dog Sled Race 6:30 pm Winter Bonfire	South Side of Allen Center Allen Center Fire Pit
Thursday	14	Mug Decorating 8 pm Ice Skating 10:30 pm - 12:30 pm	DUC Encore Room Willet Arena
Friday	15	Filligar Concert in 9 pm	Lower Debot Commons

More information can be found at:

<http://stuorgs.uwsp.edu/rha/pages/home.aspx>



Celebrating a Community of Artists: Arts Bash 2013

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Along with being the only night where you can see someone covered in blood and guts thanks to the make-up artists in the theatre department, or wearing a handmade costume made entirely of feathers created by sculpture students, Arts Bash is a night where theatre, dance, and art students emerge from their respective caves and come together to share their skills with the community.

Serving as a testament to the power of the arts to connect a community, Arts Bash is the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point's largest student scholarship fundraising event. All proceeds benefit student scholarships.

When event-goers made it through the front doors of the Noel Fine Arts Center Saturday night, a video piece by Karolina Romanowska greeted them. The viewers experienced their identities pulled away as the performers' faces were stripped of white powder.

Opening the evening's performances, sculpture students exhibited their work in reinterpreting cardboard into functional chairs.

Although there was no official wearable runway show this year, students still created wearable art pieces and wore them to the event.

Eva Hathaway thinks of Arts

Bash as "Halloween but weirder" and created a collar out of book paper, similar to the piece she made at last year's Arts Bash event.

Hathaway made her first paper collar three years ago and fell in love with the way paper looks when you fold it into the flower like forms.

Jessica Kruse's look was inspired by a group of vines she saw near her work. Kruse became interested in wearable art over the past couple of years and recently completed an independent study in the art form.

She came to wearable art because "It's newer. Not many people are doing it, which means there is a lot more freedom to do things and not feel like you are copying."

On the night of Arts Bash, the second floor of the NFAC became the storefront of almost every restaurant in the area, offering samples of their iconic dishes, drinks or bakery treats.

The Main Grain Bakery offered some varieties of their breads, as well as their beloved cupcakes. Zest shared chocolate covered bacon. @1800 made Blackberry spritzers.

Whether it was drawing and painting students creating portraits of event-goers, theatre and dance students putting on a performance, or art students selling their work in the gallery, Arts Bash was an event for students and community members to mingle and relish the creative energy that fills the Noel Fine Arts Center.



Photos by Samantha Feld

TOP: Art students drew portraits of other students as well as Stevens Point community members at the Arts Bash event.

ABOVE: Along with being an evening of celebrating art, Arts Bash is a night to celebrate food as many local restaurants bring some of their dishes to share at the event.

RIGHT: Inspired by a group of intertwining vines, Jessica Kruse created a wearable art piece out of vines.

"America's Next Top Model" Comes to Wausau

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The "America's Next Top Model" casting crew was recently in Wausau hosting auditions for the show at The Patriot Center. Many people tried out, including some from Stevens Point.

Abigail Wadzinski, who lives in Stevens Point and is very close to finishing her criminal justice degree, was one of the contestants.

"It was kind of a last-minute decision. I doubted myself only being 5'4" when it was listed that the height to audition needed to be at least 5'7". A woman working the audition told me they made exceptions and encouraged me to get up and go for it, so I did," Wadzinski said.

The casting crew set up a conference room with a stage in the middle

and chairs on both the left and right of it. There was a microphone at the end of the stage and a panel set up for the judges.

Before the auditions started, each contestant went through a series of booths where people from The CW television station helped to prepare each individual envelope that was mailed in for the chance to compete on America's Next Top Model.

Inside each envelope was a packet of interview questions, photos of the contestant and basic information.

"I was extremely nervous, but while I sat and waited for my number to be called, I met a lot of awesome people who did nothing but cheer and encourage each other. It was great to see everyone being so supportive, and it also took a lot of the nervous feelings that I think a lot of us were

experiencing away," Wadzinski said.

As each contestant took the stage, the crew took note as each contestant walked up and down the stage, struck a pose and answered the questions asked by the judges.

"I'm terrible in heels, so I was super nervous for the walk. I just kept reminding myself that confidence is key. This was my time to shine. When I was finished, I felt really good and glad I had the courage to do it," Wadzinski said.

This season of "America's Next Top Model" also has a twist because it is the first co-ed edition.

"It would be awesome to be a part of a season where both males and females compete against one another," Wadzinski said. "I think this idea is really a beneficial one. Different viewpoints from both men

and women will bring some excellent critiquing and tips. I would take everything I learn and apply it to my modeling career and life in general. It would be an excellent opportunity that I would take full advantage of."

Envelopes with photos, information, and videos of interview questions have been mailed in, so now contestants are waiting to hear who will be competing on the show from The CW and "America's Next Top Model."

"If I were to be chosen for the show, I would be extremely proud of myself and anxious to get started. I would give it my all and make each day a challenge to myself to do my best," Wadzinski said. "I would be thrilled to be meeting so many people sharing a common passion and goal all in a new environment."

10 OPINIONS

The Last Dance

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COMMENTARY

"We get one opportunity in life, one chance at life to do whatever you're going to do, and lay your foundation and make whatever mark you're going to make. Whatever legacy you're going to leave—leave your legacy!"

These are the words of Ray Lewis, who after 17 years of sacking quarterbacks, laying hard hits on running backs and motivating his teammates, has decided to hang it up.

Lewis had his last dance, capping off a prestigious career in the NFL with a Super Bowl victory over the San Francisco 49ers last Sunday, the second Super Bowl title of his career.

Most will remember Lewis for his outstanding play-making ability, but many will never forget some of the alleged mishaps he has had off the field.

I'm here to say that regardless of the opinions others have of his actions off the field, he should be remembered for what he has done on it.

Lewis finishes his career as possibly the greatest middle linebacker in NFL history. I'm hard-pressed to think of anyone that has played at such a high level for so long.

Basically every single accolade that a defensive player in the NFL can receive has been awarded to Ray Lewis at least once. He played in 13 pro bowls, been named to 10 All-Pro teams, and received the NFL Defensive Player of the Year award twice.

Lewis holds career totals of 1,336 tackles, 41.5 sacks, and 31 interceptions. His achievements on the field speak for themselves, but his ability to inspire those that play with him is Lewis's true talent.

"When I say he's the best—really, in my experience in the

National Football League, I've never seen a person better than him at those three layers: preparation, leadership and play," said Lewis's former teammate, Trent Dilfer.

Testaments to Lewis' leadership are the teams that he has led over his long career. In 2000, when he won his first Super Bowl ring, his defense was viewed as one of the greatest of all time.

Look at some of the players that Lewis has tutored over the years and inspired to greatness. Ed Reed, Terrell Suggs and Haloti Ngata wouldn't be where they are today without the guidance of Lewis.

"Leadership isn't given, it's earned. Ray Lewis absolutely earned leadership, in a way that caused the coaches, staff members, teammates and everyone around him to say, 'Oh my God,'" said Lorenzo Neal, another former teammate of Lewis.

While many will still despise Lewis for the questionable character

of his younger years, I know that I will remember the charisma and enthusiasm he brought to the field each Sunday.

We will never get to see another big hit from 52. We will never again get to see that intimidating glare through his black helmet shield.

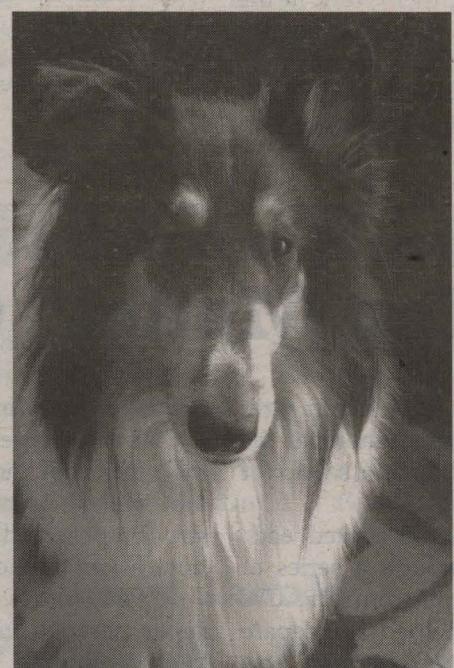
But I will most miss the dance he did when introduced at home games in the great city of Baltimore.

The quotes from Lewis that will stick with me the most are those on leaving a legacy.

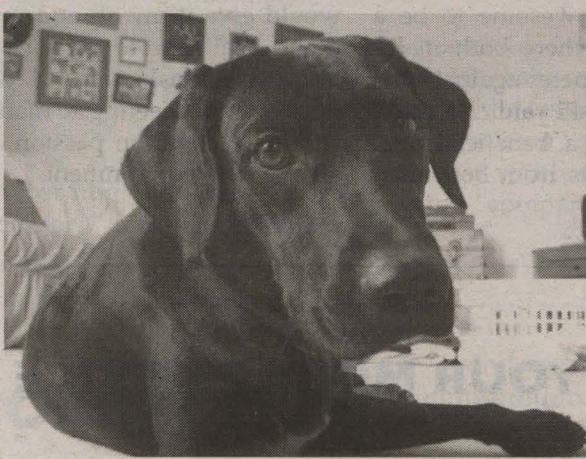
"Do whatever you've got to do to make sure you chase your legacy every second of your life. Will you be remembered? How will you be remembered? Why wouldn't you fight for the greatest achievement ever? Leave your mark to endure forever."

Lewis has left his mark, and he will never be forgotten.

PHOTOS OF THE WEEK



Puppies of The Pointer



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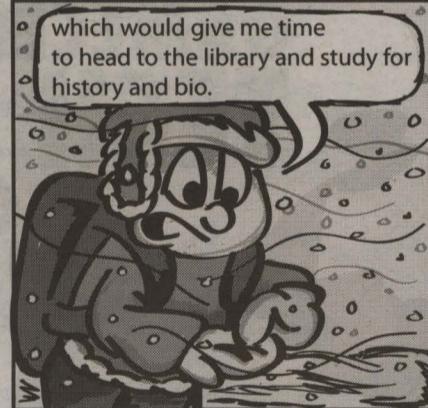
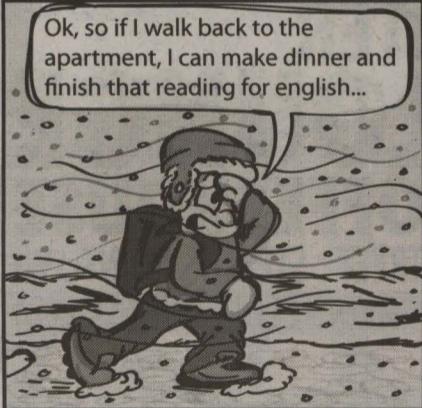
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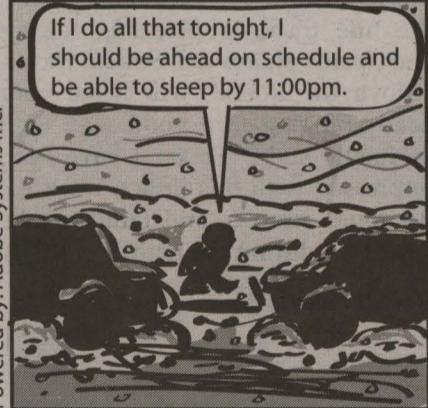
COMICS

DADAIST RELIEF PRESENTS: THE MOUNTAIN AND THE CLOUD

BY DEE JENERIT

**Life**

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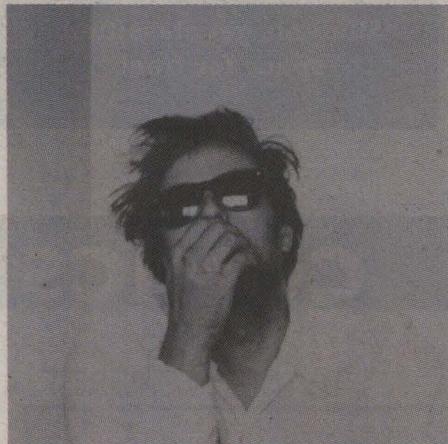
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**Cy Dune – No Recognize**

MITCHELL SLUZEWSKI
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90FM ALBUM REVIEW

Some of you may know the name Seth Olinsky from his work as guitarist for the band Akron/Family, well he has started a new band named Cy Dune. The creation of this band has a pretty neat story. During his time with Akron/Family Seth put together a 100 songs into one book, finished and demoed in 2010. In 2011 Seth moved to Arizona where he was looking to record a "primitivist-blues-old-New-Weird-America", working only with an acoustic guitar and a recorder. He didn't feel any of it was recordable until Christmas 2011, when he rediscovered rock 'n'

roll in an Patti Smith album he had just received. He then plugged in his electric guitar and the "songs ripped themselves into being, bursting out as sheets of guitar-shredding sound like explosions written on the wall."

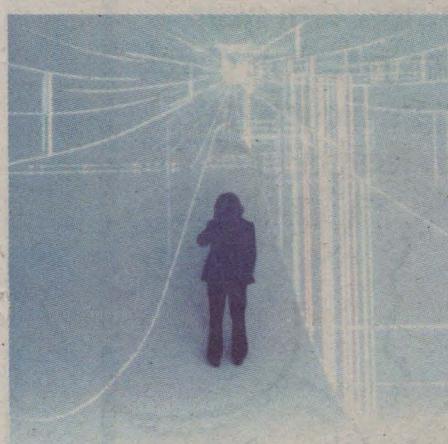
Cy Dune definitely accomplishes Seth's goal of a "primitivist-blues-old-New-Weird-America," but definitely not in the acoustic way. Imagine if punk and blues made a baby and Cy Dune is what you would get. This band is gritty, discordant, and produces solid walls of sound that will bring out the punk in all of us. The influence from Blues really shows through. This is especially true in the guitar licks and in the howling of the vocals. Tracks to look out for are "Where the Wild Things", "No Recognize", and "Move the Room". "Where the Wild Things" is the opening track to the album and right away it slams you in the face. Once you get over the trauma you begin to hear the blues guitar doing impressive riffs. "No Recognize", the title track, is plodding, heavy, and really shows off Seth's vocals. "Move the Room" will leave your head spinning in a good way with its hooky style. So far I have been impressed with this little 6 track EP. It's loud, strange, and familiar, like your Dad during the Fourth of July.



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Jim James – Regions of Light and Sound of God

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90FM ALBUM REVIEW

It's been almost two years since My Morning Jacket released Circuital. Jim James (Front man of "My Morning Jacket" and "Monsters of folk") has managed to put together an incredibly well-rounded solo album. He did so while maintaining one of the most extensive touring schedules in rock and roll.

"Regions of Light and Sound of God" which was released February 5th by ATO records is a folky, soulful, and downright intriguing compilation of songs. Listening to one or two tracks doesn't do the record justice. To fully understand the intricacies Jim James worked into the songs, one must listen to the album in its entirety. Smooth transitions coalesce into making the

album seem like one cohesive unit of reverb drenched bliss.

Those familiar with Jim James' previous works will undoubtedly be surprised by how funky the songs feel. However, upon close listening it's quickly realized that the songs hold true to Jim James' folky roots which got him to where he's at today.

"A New Life" is a shining example of this. Beginning with James on a guitar, he sings, "Hey... Open the door, I want a new life, and here's what's more, I want a new life"

The song quickly picks up steam. A rhythm section infiltrates the chorus, followed by a vibraphone, slide guitar and eventually a horn section. It's a sensible crescendo executed with grace.

The music video for the first single "Know 'til Now" is Bold (with a capitol B). It's shot from an old black and white camera. Jim James is clad in a white suit. He stands with his back to the camera for the entirety of the video. At this point in his career, James doesn't have to do much to impress people.

The only decent analogy I can come up with for "Regions of Light and Sound of God" is if Marvin Gaye worked out an album with fleet foxes. Aspects of the album, which discern "Regions of Light and Sound of God" from anything else around, is undoubtedly the instrumentation and the vocals. This album is a great addition to what is sure to be a delightful year of music.