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Photo by Grace Ebert

Gift Gallery Showcases Community Work

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Last Friday night, the Riverfront Arts Center held an opening reception for its annual Gift Gallery.

The Riverfront Arts Center has been hosting this event for the last 15 years to give community members the opportunity to feature and sell their original works during the holiday season.

artists, including University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students, are showcasing their work, ranging from dramatic watercolors, to beautifully crafted pottery, to local fiber works, such as knitted scarves and fleecelined baby booties.

Nancy Thorson, director of the Riverfront Arts Center, says this is the center's biggest fundraiser of the vear

"It supports the ongoing efforts This year, close to 85 local of the Riverfront Arts Center for

exhibits, classes and educational programs, and the general operations of the gallery," Thorson said.

According to Thorson, the center accepts two or three UWSP student interns, usually arts management or graphic design majors, each semester. This experience gives students an opportunity to gain experience in the business while receiving credit towards their major area of study.

UWSP junior Emily Hoffman is an intern at the center this year.

"It's definitely something I'd recommend to other students. You get a taste for what it's like to work in a local gallery setting," Hoffman said.

Hoffman has been given a variety of duties at the center including basic bookkeeping and correspondence, making sales, setting up the current exhibits, and greeting visitors and answering any questions they may have.

In addition to interning, a few UWSP students are displaying their

Continued on page 8





SPORTS Men's Basketball preview p. 6



POINTLIFE Campus rumors debunked p. 9







Budget Cuts to Plague Campus

KYLE FLORENCE kflor654@uwsp.edu

Due to a lack of federal backing, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point budget will suffer a \$2.6 million cut.

"The budget cuts that we have this year resulted from action in the legislature and were approved in the budget by the governor," said Greg Diemer, the vice chancellor of Business Affairs. "The UW-System is taking a \$66 million cut to the budget. The consequence for our campus will be that our budget will be reduced by \$2.6 million on the state appropriation side."

According to Diemer, the university is exploring many different options in an effort to lessen the severity and reach of these impending cuts.

"We'll try to use some of the enrollment growth that we've experienced in the last few years to offset a portion of that \$2.6 million. We're also looking at modifying the way we treat summer session, so we put summer session on a selfbudget approach rather than being supported by state appropriation," Diemer said.

Campus officials also hope that a continued increase in student enrollment will make up for the cutbacks.

"The final thing that were looking at and hoping to do is increase our student body somewhat over the next couple of years and the additional income will help to offset the loss for

the budget reduction," Diemer said.

According to Gary Mullins, the associate dean and head of the School of Business and Economics, a lack of educational support by Wisconsin voters can be attributed to these budget cuts.

"It would appear that the voters in the state of Wisconsin have decided public education is not something they really need to support," Mullins said. "People talk about the cost of higher education, whereas really what they're talking about is the cost of tuition. The cost of providing an hour of instruction really hasn't changed that much, but the reason tuition has gone up is because state support has declined."

Mullins explained that students in one form or another would likely feel these reductions.

"If UWSP's budget is cut, then the choices are either to cut programs or raise tuition, both of which effect students," Mullins said.

Currently, UWSP is the only university in the UW-System that has not cut programs in the face of budget constraints.

Diemer is adamant that any decision the university makes will be done with the student body's best interests in mind.

"We're going through various approaches to see what would be the best way to do it with the least amount of impact on instructional programs," Diemer said. "Final decisions have not been made and we'll continue to talk about this for the next couple months until we make a final decision."



Photo courtesy of flickr.com

The UW System faces a multi-million dollar budget cut which will also impact UWSP.



Sunday, Nov. 10

Received a call reporting vandalism of car in Lot X during Phillip Phillips concert.

Monday, Nov. 11

Smoke alarms were triggered in Neale Hall. Individual had burned toast which triggered alarm.

Call received about an odor of marijuana from a room in Steiner Hall.

Wednesday, Nov. 13

A phone call was made by a male with concerns that there may be someone sleeping in a tent just outside the NFAC. Responding officers investigated and said it appeared to be an art project.

Staff member called stating that a female was displaying odd behavior and was walking in and out of traffic at the corner of Isadore and 4th Avenue.

Thursday, Nov. 14

Protective Services received a call from a male who reported three suspicious males stuffing two bikes into the back of their white, Volkswagen vehicle.

Friday, Nov. 15

City police department reqested help from Protective Services at Lot Q. A white male in a yellow jacket was seen breaking into cars in Lot Q.

Female called stating she lost her dog and requested help searching for it. It is a black coon hound mix and disappeared by 4th Avenue and Stanley Street.

A dead deer was discovered in the heart of Schmeeckle Reserve with an arrow through it. It is unknown at this time if the deer was shot on the reserve or wandered onto the property.

Saturday, Nov. 16

Protective Services officers reported a silver hatchback with fogged up windows in the parking lot of the Schmeeckle Reserve. The officers went to respond and found a shirtless male inside. The vehicle drove away.

A Protective Services officer observed suspects with what appeared to be a stolen sign. Suspects fled but left the sign.

THE POINTER Editorial

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

NEWS

Bookstore Promotes Student Involvement

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The campus bookstore has been making big impacts on campus since the beginning of the semester by working with faculty and students to be more involved with the community and other student organizations.

The intended goal of these efforts is to promote the ideas and spread awareness of the organizations and events that are happening on campus. Collected donations are contributed to certain groups or events on campus by the bookstore as well.

At the beginning of the semester, Shelly Auer, the interim University Store and Text Rental manager, along with her team, sparked the idea to help promote and assist students. It has grown and received recognition from groups and coordinators on campus.

"People need to know what the students are thinking, and what their organizations do on campus," Auer said. "Many of them have great ideas that could use a little promotional help. We can help the campus tell its story, and better serve the students by expanding recognition."

Auer explained that through fundraising, they have been able to contribute to organizations on campus such as the Cupboard, the Performing Arts Center and most recently, the Change for Change Jar.

"We are currently looking forward to implementing newly created initiatives and partnerships, as seen with our efforts and promotion of Veterans Day and our Change for Change campaigns, with the spring 2014 semester," Auer said. The Change Jar was unintentionally started by simply having a cup of pennies on the counter for customers to use. There ended up being too much unused spare change just sitting there, so the workers at the bookstore decided to collect it and donate the money to a good cause. The collection is given to someone, or an organization, that the employees choose.

The first Change Jar donation was \$116, which went to the Veterans Emergency Relief Fund, sponsored by the American Legion Post 6. The second collection added up to be \$93, and it was given to the Family Crisis Center.

The bookstore used the Change for Change jar to collect money for veterans during Veterans Day.

Justin Westover, Erica Clintworth and Morgan Schwartz are on the bookstore's promotional team. They have been using social media to spread the word as to what the bookstore has been up to. The store now has a Facebook page, Twitter, Instagram and a Pinterest board. Some of the videos on Facebook give tutorials on certain things involving the store, such as the process of renting books.

There is a form to join the store's

Discount Club. By joining the club, students are eligible to receive special in-store discounts and notifications via mail and or email. Right now in Discount Club, students get a 35 percent off coupon.

Photo by: Emily Hoffmann

"Since the ideas and promotions being spread by the students on campus, it makes more of a positive impact," said Justin Westover, team graphic designer.

"The store is about more than what we're selling. We want to support the students on this campus," Auer said.

Meet UWSP's New Outreach Coordinator

CASSIE SCOTT cscot852@uwsp.edu

The Gender and Sexuality Alliance has a new outreach coordinator who will mentor and guide students as well as help facilitate events and programming on campus.

"Gender and Sexuality outreach and education are my forte. My career goals and personal mission in life are to spread knowledge and equality in regard to gender and sexuality issues," said GSA's newest staff member Alyssa Oltmanns.

As the coordinator of Gender and Sexuality Outreach Services, Illinois native Alyssa Oltmanns will work with GSA, the Women's Resource Center, Student Government Association and PAVE which stands for Promoting Awareness, Victim Empowerment. In addition to working with all of these organizations, she will also be available to assist faculty, staff and community members.

While working with individuals

from all around campus, she plans to positively influence policies at the university to make them serve all genders and sexualities more effectively.

"I supervise practicum students. I work with Safe Zone Training. I serve on the Faculty-Staff Gay-Straight Alliance and Housing committees. I am attending a conference in Washington D.C. on bystander intervention and that's just after two weeks on the job. More is guaranteed to come," Oltmanns said.

Busy, but prepared for the job, Oltmanns has many qualifications that helped her attain the position.

"As an undergraduate student at the University of Illinois at Chicago, I really started my academic career in gender and sexuality. My research focus, as an English major, was gender and sexuality issues and I filled my time with gender and women's studies courses," Oltmanns said.

When she was an undergraduate, she worked for the Department of

Gender and Women's Studies on her campus. At her first post-college job, she started the LGBTQ organization at Ashford University in Clinton, Iowa.

"There I also obtained my master of arts in education, emphasis in higher education, research focus in LGBTQ students as at-risk populations, their inclusion and their retention on college campuses," Oltmanns said.

Oltmanns spent years as an academic administrator in the field of LGBTQ studies and advocacy. In those years, her work revolved around formal study, research and publication and volunteer work.

"It's a natural compulsion of mine to educate and create awareness, to never stop advocating," Oltmanns said. "I plan to be innovative and relentless. I want to work with everyone on campus to make everything in existence even better."

Oltmanns said she is very impressed with awareness UWSP has

to a number of issues. She likes the fact that anyone from any background or social group has mentors and resources to go to, including athletes and students with disabilities.

"The campus is already a great, inclusive atmosphere, but with someone dedicated full-time to this role, it can only grow as a nurturing, supportive home to LGBTQ students and all students in general," Oltmanns said.

With Oltmanns serving as UWSP's new gender and sexuality outreach coordinator, students should feel comfortable having her as an informed resource.

Oltmanns said that after a full day of interviewing for the position, she knew if she did not get to come back and work with everyone full-time she would have been heartbroken.

"Seeing this position open up was nothing short of finding my dream job and I'm proud to finally be a Wisconsinite," Oltmanns said.

NEWS

Ambitious Plans for Campus Health Centers

RACHEL PUKALL rpuka198@uwsp.edu

A plan for the new Total Health Care Center has been presented, offering a new Health and Wellness Center building as well as the construction of a separate childcare building in the summer of 2018.

"This is a building project that would enhance many aspects of student life on campus," said Jen Sorenson, the administrative director of Student Health Services. "It would positively impact intramural sports through increasing both indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities. It would also create collaborative opportunities in health and wellness for students, provide a well-designed and more efficient medical facility and improve the athletic fields on campus."

In 2011, a committee was asked to visit the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point to assess what recreational needs the university has.

The committee's first recommendation was to add additional recreational space to the Allen Center. There were also talks of integrating facilities available at Delzell Hall with those at the Allen Center.

Over the years, the number of students that the Allen Center caters to through Cardio Center membership and through free group fitness classes has increased significantly.

"Our free group fitness classes are filled to maximum capacity and the ability to have larger studios available in this new facility would allow us to have more students participate in our classes," said Beth Northuis, the health and fitness specialist in the Allen Center.

"This campus, if you really look at it, is fantastic because everyone loves to participate in clubs, sports and intramurals," said Jeff Piette, an architect for the project. "It's a very active campus which is great, and a very active campus means that during winter activities lead to being inside. So when you're looking for space, everyone wants space at the same time."

The committee did a study of what space is being used and at what time of day in each of the facilities.

"Some of the clubs and intramural sports were going past 1 a.m., and when you're thinking about it, really you're here to study and be a student first and foremost, so going until 1 or 2 in the morning is just unacceptable," Piette said. "For recreational purposes, it was about needing space."

The original idea to build onto the Allen Center, however, became a problem when the project started to become too large. It began to get in the way of the residence halls in the area.

"We looked at a number of sites and a number of ways to put this building together and went through a number of iterations and came to the conclusion to look at the existing soccer field as a site for this building," Piette said.

Because the new Health and Wellness building would be about 127,000 square feet, the soccer field would have to be relocated.

"We thought it could go to the back of the building and become a synthetic turf soccer field," Piette said. "Last spring it was horrible outside and you couldn't play on a natural grass field because it was too wet."

Piette said that synthetic turf is gaining popularity in the Midwest because it makes the field more playable and useable, not only for soccer but other sports as well. The university plans to eventually transition to synthetic turf on the football fields so players can practice later into the year.

"The current soccer field was deemed the best location for a variety of reasons," Sorenson said. "It creates a direct east-west walking route from the Debot Center and is close to the residence halls. It will also bring an enhanced campus presence to an area that was not visibly demarcated as campus previously."

Since the soccer field will be moved, the recreational fields would replace the Coleman track.

"There are no track meets and very little athletic practices there," Piette said. "It's only used occasionally for recreational fitness, so the thought was to take the track area and put it around the soccer field, as a 400 meter track with indoor turf."

As for the new childcare center, the building planners have decided to create a separate building with entrances and exits on all sides.

"The childcare center is currently located in Delzell hall, but it's in the basement and that's just a poor building layout," Piette said. "With security issues, you can imagine, childcare is one of those things that really does need to be secure. You need accessibility, and anyone with disabilities can't really get there."

Confidentiality is also an issue with the health center's current layout.

"The childcare center would go up on the corner Maria Drive and Illinois Avenue. By putting childcare there, softball would be moved to the center of campus, which would really create a central core of recreation," Piette said.

The childcare staff expressed interest in the inclusion of a welcoming entry for childcare drop off. The building would also incorporate natural light, outdoor play areas and have the drop off area right off Illinois Avenue.

"Stevens Point is nationally recognized for its wellness program. It's got a connection to wellness, and it's always had that national connection," Piette said.

The project is currently under review by the Student Government Association. If the project moves to a referendum vote in the spring of 2014, and students vote to proceed with the project, then it should be finalized in the summer of 2018.

"I see this as a project that will add value to campus and create a physical environment that projects and promotes the focus on wellness that has been present on this campus for many years," Sorenson said.

City Bus Doubles as Office Space

SARAH MCQUEEN

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Representative Katrina Shankland and Senator Julie Lassa held their office hours on Stevens Point City busses this week, giving them a chance to interact with local residents they might not normally get to speak with.

The two politicians were invited to ride the busses by Susan Lempke, the transit manager for the City of Stevens Point.

"We wanted to offer something different for the community," Lempke said. "I thought it would be a fun opportunity for bus riders to have the chance to speak with legislators who work to continue supporting the funding for the transit program. And in addition to that it provided an opportunity those who are wishing to communicate with Senator Lassa or Representative Shankland."

Lassa and Shankland travelled along two different bus routes, the Rice Street and Dixon Street Route and the Campus Connection Route. They rode each route for 30 minutes. "There were quite a few people on the bus and they had the opportunity to speak with their representatives," Lempke said. "Everyone had a good time and it was a successful event."

Though few people were there to explicitly speak with Lassa and Shankland, everyone took an interest in their presence.

"People are surprised to see us but mostly seem really happy that we are on the bus," Lassa said. "Even if they have no specific topic to discuss they are just happy to talk to us."

Riding the different routes gave the legislators a chance to hear the questions and comments from not only the long time community members, but also from the students who use the Campus Connection bus.

"They can really hear a student's perspective better," said Brandon Loging, a junior at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. "It's nice to see them interacting with us and trying to get our opinions."

Shankland and Lassa interacted with the students riding the bus, asking them what they were going to school for, how they were managing to pay for tuition, and what they could do to make things easier on students.

Lassa mentioned the Higher Ed, Lower Debt Act that would allow students refinance to student loans. It is currently being considered by the state and she asked students if

they thought this would helpful.

"I know a lot of people are in debt and this would be an easier transition for them," said Zack Lentz, a UWSP student.

Lassa and Shankland hope to come to UWSP in the near future to have discussion about the bill that will allow students to refinance their student loans.

Lassa mentioned that office hours are normally held in libraries, universities or other public places,



A city bus headed to Dixon Street.

but the bus ride office hours were a first.

"I thought this sounded like a really unique opportunity. It has been a really good experience," Lassa said. She mentioned that she would like to do it again sometime.

"It's something that we did years ago and that was successful as well so I decided to try it again," Lemkpe said. "It is something that I would like to revisit in the future."

SPORTS

Hall Of Fame Spotlight: Abby Richter

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After a very impressive career as a Pointer, Abby Richter has now made it into the Pointers Hall of Fame.

As a goalkeeper for the women's soccer team, Richter was a major contributor to the Pointers' success from 1997-2000, helping the team to four NCAA Tournaments throughout her career.

Not only does Richter hold the record for the most wins as a goalkeeper at 20, but she also boasts an impressive 945 consecutive scoreless minutes as a goalkeeper.

Richter recalls a few fond memories from her time at UWSP.

"Playing in the NCAA Final Four in Boston is a top memory. Also winning the conference championship, especially my senior year as well," Richter said.

The Pointers went to the Final Four in Boston in 2000, facing off against Tufts University. The game ended in overtime, with a lone goal being the deciding factor for the Pointers 1-0 loss. Despite losing in the Final Four, the Pointers concluded the 2000 season with a record of 22-5. UWSP also had the longest winning streak in the nation at 16, before the loss to Tufts.

Richter has also been named both a First Team Regional All-American and First Team All-Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

With these impressive statistics and records, Richter noted the support she received during her college years.

"My parents always supported me and were my biggest fans. My coaches, Sheila Miech and Larry Leton, made me believe in myself and in my team," Richter said.

Richter also mentioned how the success of the Pointers was shown through the team's strong mindset.

"We believed we were capable of winning every game on any day," Richter said.

Induction into the Hall of Fame is a fitting culmination of a career for Richter.

"I was very excited and honored when I found out I was being inducted. I am very humbled by the recognition," Richter said.

Are you Graduating?

If you have any questions about Commencement on December 14, 2013, visit the Commencement website at www.uwsp.edu/commencement.

RSVP online to walk at the ceremony by December 6.

Purchase caps, gowns and tassels at the University Store December 2-6. Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.–7 p.m., Friday 8 a.m.–4 p.m. If you are out of the Stevens Point area, call 715-346-3431 to mail order your cap and gown package to be shipped December 2-6.

Reserve and/or claim your six general admission tickets for the ceremony. Tickets will be available December 2-6 at the UW-Stevens Point Information and Tickets Office in the Dreyfus University Center. Additional tickets, if extras remain, will be available December 13. Each graduate will be allotted one additional ticket until extras are gone. Hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Monday-Friday. A student ID is required



IMPORTANT!

If you are unable to pick up your tickets between December 2-6, please call the UW-Stevens Point Information and Tickets Office at 715-346-4100 or 800-838-3378 to RESERVE them. If you do not, tickets may not be available for your guests.



THIS WEEK IN POINTERS SPORTS

Thursday, Nov. 21

Women's Basketball vs. St. Thomas College at 7 p.m.

Volleyball NCAA National Quarterfinal at Hope College at 7 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 22

Wrestling at Concordia (Wis.) Open at 9 a.m.

Swim Team at La Crosse Relays at 12 p.m.

Women's Hockey vs. UW-Superior at 2:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball at Illinois Wesleyan University at 4 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. Hope College at 7 p.m.

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

Women's and Men's Cross Country at NCAA Championships

LAST WEEK IN POINTERS SPORTS

Wednesday, Nov. 13

Wrestling defeated Concordia (Wis.) 34-8

Thursday, Nov. 14

Vartburg College 3-. Friday, Nov. 15

Volleyball defeated

Volleyball defeated Saint Benedict 3-1

Women's Hockey defeated UW-River Falls 2-1

Men's Hockey defeated St. Thomas College 3-0

Women's Basketball defeated Lake Forest Colleg 64-61

Saturday Nov. 16

Swim Team finished 3rd in Border Battle

ootball defeated UW-Stout 19-14

Women's Hockey defeated UW-River Falls 5-4 in Overtime

Women's Basketball defeated Martin Luther College 81-48

Men's Basketball defeated awrence University 99-73

Volleyball defeated St. Thomas 3-1

Men's Hockey defeated St Mary's 6-4

Women's Cross Country finished 4th of 39 teams at NCAA Regional Championships

Men's Cross Country finished 11th of 39 teams at NCAA Regional Championships

Monday, Nov. 18

Men's Basketball defeated Edgewood College 80-45

Tuesday, Nov. 26

Wrestling at UW-Oshkosh at 7 p.m.

Women's Basketball at Marian University at 7 p.m. SPORTS

Pointers Sports By the Numbers

The number of NCAA Regional Championships the Volleyball team had won in team history before defeating the defending National Champions, St. Thomas College, on Saturday.



Current Division III national rank for the Men's Hockey team this week. The team has started the season 6-0, outscoring their opponents 42-10.

New Season, Higher Expectations

WILL ROSSMILLER wross460@uwsp.edu

The college basketball season is finally here and with a new season underway the Pointers men's basketball team is set for another year of lofty expectations.

The Pointers lost in the second round of the NCAA tournament last season, but returned with the majority of their players, including eight of their top ten scorers.

This year, they started the season as the fourth ranked team in Division III, but players are trying to pay no mind to the high expectations.

"We try not to think about preseason expectations. Instead, just focus on the task at hand one game at a time," said senior Tyler Tillema. "We like the challenge."

"I don't think the team really thinks too much about what we are ranked," said senior Clayton Heuer. "We just need to go out and prove with our record how good we are."

Pointers assistant coach Kent Dernbach agreed with his players.

"We haven't had a group of seniors like this in a while, so with that might come higher expectations from the fans, but we have the same goals of playing good basketball, to be in the hunt for the conference title, and be able to knock on the door of a National Championship," Dernbach

said.

Dernbach cited upperclassmen leadership as a reason for the high expectations from fans and that it was one of the team's greatest strengths this season. However, they also have depth on their side.

"We have seven upperclassmen, and a lot of depth, which is really going to help us this season," Dernbach said.

"We are very deep overall, esecially at the guard position, which allows us to run the floor on teams and score in bunches," Tillema said.

The three seniors on the team, Tillema, Heuer and Trevor Hass, are pushing the team to be better this season, according to Dernbach.

"Our seniors are expecting us to be really good this season," Dernbach said. "They want to make sure that we're playing our best basketball at the end of the season and that everyone is getting better every day in practice."

According to Dernbach, offense will not be a problem for the Pointers this season. It will be the team's defense that will make a difference.

"We have enough guys that can put the ball in the hole on the offensive end, but we need to have a defensive mindset," Dernbach said. "There are going to be games that we're going to have to win with our

defense rather than offense."

The Pointers won their home opener last Saturday against Lawrence University with a final score of 99-73. The home crowd was out in force. That presence of fans at home is something that both Heuer and Tillema appreciate.

"We love the atmosphere we get at home games, it really gets us fired up and we try to feed off the energy the crowd provides," Tillema said.

"The crowd is amazing here at Stevens Point," Heuer said. "It makes the team fired up and allows for a great atmosphere to play in."

The team certainly has the home crowd backing them for another season, but the question remains: how good can this team be?

"I think the team has a great shot to do something special the season," Heuer said. "We just need to stay healthy and not have injuries like last season."

"Realistically I believe the sky is the limit and we have enough depth and experience to take us all the way to the National Title," Tillema said.

"With the right mindset, and a little luck, there is no reason that the goals the seniors have made can't be reached," Dernbach said.

The Pointers will return home on Saturday to take on Hope College at 7 p.m.



2-0

The win loss record of Pointers

athletic teams this past week.

Guard- #4 Sr. Tyler Tillema

Guard- #3 Jr. Austin Ryf

Guard/Forward- #23 Sr. Trevor Hass

Guard/Forward- #32 Jr. Joe Ritchay

Center- #55 Sr. Clayton Heuer

Key Players Coming off the Bench

6th Man: Forward- #34 Jr. Alex Richard

Guard- #12 So. Stephen Pelkofer

> Forward- #5 [r. Jordan Lutz

Forward- #10 Jr. Tyler Forsythe

Guard/Forward- #2 So. Sean McGann

Pointers Men's Basketball Home Schedule

2013

Nov. 23 Hope College Nov. 27 St. Olaf College Dec. 11 UW-Whitewater Dec. 21 St. Thomas College **2014** Jan. 4 UW-La Crosse Jan. 15 UW-Oshkosh Jan. 18 UW-River Falls Jan. 29 UW-Eau Claire Feb. 1 UW-Superior Feb. 12 UW-Platteville

Feb. 22 UW-Stout

Photo by Jack McLaughlin. Joe Ritchay puts up a shot in the Pointers' season opener.

POINTLIFE

Local Author Helps Fund Farmshed

Photo by Erin McConnell Paul, Storm and Rothfuss perform on stage.

NATHANIEL DALTON ndalt398@uwsp.edu COMMENTARY

Last week, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point alumnus and New York Times bestselling author Patrick Rothfuss hosted a Geek Carnival, in Stevens Point featuring beer, brats, and a bouncy house with all proceeds dedicated to support the local non-profit organization, The Farmshed.

Rothfuss was not the only celebrity in attendance. He brought with him the musical comedy duo Paul and Storm, whose music has been featured in "Despicable Me 2."

Recently, Rothfuss has been touring the country with Paul and Storm, filling in the space between their sets by reading from his renowned body of work, which includes a few articles from his time as a writer for the UWSP student newspaper, The Pointer.

The trio was going to do a show in Madison, but there was bad luck with securing a venue.

"Well, you know, there's kind of a cool place in Stevens Point if you want do something in central Wisconsin," Rothfuss said.

The show was held downtown at what was formerly the Sorenson's Garden Center next to Highrise. The Farmshed has been working for the past couple years to restore the facility and turn it into a food production greenhouse, community kitchen and gathering space for the Stevens Point community.

Zest Coffeehouse and Bakery and Central Waters Brewery donated food and beer to the event, with all sales going to aid The Farmshed. The Internet Cafe and the Tech Lounge were also there to set up a gaming area where people could hang out and play "Mario Kart" and other video games.

The performances that night were excellent all around. From Paul and Storm leading the crowd in a fake Irish drinking song complete with improvised beer bottle panflutes, to Rothfuss reading and musing about his wickedly dark children's book The Adventures of the Princess and Mister Whiffle: The Thing Beneath the Bed.

Halfway through Paul and Storm's first set, they made an announcement that a fan from the audience had won a raffle to come on stage and say whatever he wanted into the microphone. The fan timidly approached, and, after a pause, looked to his girlfriend in the front row and proposed to her on the spot. She said yes, and the room exploded in applause, followed by some hearty congratulations and light teasing from Paul and Storm.

When it came time to read one of his old Pointer articles, even Rothfuss was surprised at what he'd pulled from his archives. "Good Girls Don't Lick Doorknobs,' I don't remember this one," Rothfuss said, reading aloud the title of one of his advice columns.

The night ended with all three performers on stage together singing The Captain's Wife's Lament, a piratethemed ballad which Paul and Storm have become infamous for dragging out ad nauseum. That night's rendition lasted over 16 minutes and included much improvisational comedy, crowd participation and seamen jokes.

The night's livery was certainly worth the price of entry, and doubly so when you realize all the proceeds went to an especially good cause.

"When I asked Paul and Storm 'hey, are you guys interested in doing something in Stevens Point and

supporting the local food community?' they were like 'yeah, that sounds cool,' and there was no hesitation. And that's something that I really love about the geek community," Rothfuss said. "Geeks are smart, and these are smart charities. You get an incredible value for your dollar. Something like Farmshed, it really improves the community, and that continues to develop and grow."

Though the event is over, there are still ways that students can contribute to Farmshed.

'Can you stud a wall? Can you paint? Are you good at driving nails? Because there's work to be done to get the facility finished, and after that there's work for eager hands, that's part of what Farmshed does. Come on over, learn how to grow some plants while you're helping the greenhouse grow," Rothfuss said.

"It's a true community project, everybody from electricians to plumbers to woodworkers have contributed, even farmers like myself," said Maria Davis, a board member at the Farmshed and the Director of Rothfuss' own charity organization, Worldbuilders.

I Won't Be Home for the Holidays

EMILY MARGESON emarg634@uwsp.edu

Students living off campus or in the suites have the opportunity to stay in their living quarters during breaks throughout the school year. This can be especially helpful for students who live far away from Stevens Point.

Being able to stay oncampus can be very beneficial for students that need some time to relax. With going home for the holidays, many students get to spend time with family, but for those who cannot, being able to relax and catch up on homework can be the silver lining.

Teachers tend to assign projects or bigger assignments during breaks. With Thanksgiving break being so close to the end of the semester, you can bet this is bound to happen for many students.

Beyond catching up on homework, students can spend their extra time on things they enjoy that they do not normally have time for, like catching up on a television series or reading a book.

However, staying on campus means students may be missing out on a family Thanksgiving dinner. Something students can do is create a meal of their own.

Since dinning services will close at 1 p.m. the Wednesday before Thanksgiving until Sunday dinner hours, students have the opportunity to eat what they like and decide on the meals that suite them best.

Thanksgiving dinner is ordering spirit with lights, garland, and a dessert from the student bakers. personalized Christmas tree. Getting From the dining services, students can order an apple, pecan, cherry, pumpkin or blueberry pie by emailing Suzette Conley (sconley@uwsp.edu), assistant director of business for dining services. Pies are \$9 each and need to be ordered by Nov. 21 and can be arranged to be picked up.

After securing a pie, students can cook their own dinner. Feeling confident? Scour the web and look for exciting new meal plans from Pinterest or seek family for recipes.

If all else fails, students can always order their favorite pizza from Toppers or a sub from Jimmy Johns.

Once the Thanksgiving meal

One place to start with is finished, get into the Christmas a head start on decorating and candy making can save time in the long run.

Being away from family can be a real downer while on break, so Skype and Facetime are options to stay in contact.

Keeping in touch with family and being surrounded with food and entertainment that feel like home can help make break amazing. Being able to keep up on homework and have time to relax will allow students to go into the last few weeks of school refreshed and ready to conquer final exams.

Photo by Grace Ebert

POINTLIFE

Continued from page 1

original works.

UWSP junior Justin Behm is exhibiting a life-size ceramic piece at the gallery this year. The piece depicts his interpretation of a classic bust.

"I am very happy that they took an interest in my work," Behm said. It is his first year participating and also his first time collaborating with the center.

There are a variety of ways, such as interning and volunteering, for UWSP students to become involved with the center's work.

"I am the only employee. We are able to keep the doors open six days per week with the help of wonderful dedicated volunteers. They are the lifeblood of our operation and we always appreciate more help," Thorson said.

Thorson also encourages all students interested in the arts to become familiar with the work done at the Center, as there are many opportunities available to showcase their own work and view the work of others.

Riverfront Arts Center's Gift Gallery is now open for public viewing Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., through Dec. 22.



The Gift Gallery at the Riverfront Arts Center is selling local art as gifts for the holiday season.

Local Churches Organize Community Thanksgiving Dinner

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To ensure that everyone enjoys good company and a warm meal this Thanksgiving, various Stevens Point churches have joined forces to host the 30th Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner.

"It's neat. It makes you feel really good about the community," said Al Moen, senior pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Plover. The tradition began in 1984 and three other area churches later joined to accommodate the event's growing popularity.

"It started here, but it outgrew this space easily," Moen said. "After it was here for a short period of time, they asked to use a municipal building, so they used that, but as they became more involved with a variety of turkeys, they realized that was too small, too. So then St. Brons steps in and this thing really takes off."

Today, St. Bronislava Catholic Church both sponsor and host the event with the support of The Spring United Methodist Church, Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, and Good Shepherd. Moen described the partnership between the four churches as a wonderful endeavor.

Last year, the Community



Thanksgiving Dinner catered to over 500 attendees, cooking 35 20-pound turkeys and over 100 pounds of ham.

The event is also responsible for delivering over 200 meals to local residents throughout the community. According to Moen, this is an especially helpful service to those who regularly rely on the national organization Meals On Wheels to supply them with food.

"Meals On Wheels closes for Thanksgiving, so we have a notice that goes out to those people who are often receiving that that says, for this particular day, call Good Shepherd, and we'll make reservations and get the meal to you," Moen said.

Mary Mahr, head of the Stevens Point branch of Meals on Wheels, appreciates the gesture.

"We do not deliver on major holidays so we have established a great relationship with the community churches that do the Thanksgiving dinner. Some call us and we make the referral for them, others call for themselves," Mahr said.

Aside from providing individuals with food, Mahr said the service also serves an additional purpose: providing company.

"We find a majority of the people that get Meals on Wheels say they like the visit from the drivers more than anything else," Mahr said.

Moen also feels the event meets a need in the community.

"It ended up being seen as something that truly spoke to a variety of different needs; from those who were connected to Meals on Wheels, to any individuals who were hard on their luck, to people who just wanted to be with a larger group," said Moen. "It's been great. People can come and have a great meal, and don't need to reserve a place."

Photos by Emily Hoffmann

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is one of the places in town that is holding a Thanksgiving meal.

POINTLIFE

Four Infamous Campus Rumors

CASSIE SCOTT

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From campus to campus, students talk, whisper and giggle about rumors they believe to be true.

Everyone has probably heard of a few classic rumors circling around hundreds of campuses across the country. They create buzz and excitement in college student's minds.

The most well-known legends, such as if a student dies, their roommate gets straight A's or if a student gets hit by a campus vehicle they get free tuition, are nothing more than false rumors.

John Taylor, assistant director of Protective Services, has been hearing many spinoffs of the rumors in his 20 years at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

"Rumors are human nature. Everyone adds or subtracts to a story they hear to make it more interesting for the next person they tell it to," Taylor said.

The origin of these UWSP rumors is shrouded in mystery, and once they are spoken, they spread like wildfire.

"Legend of the 4.0"

This legend states that if a student's roommate dies, then they will receive straight A's for the academic semester. The straight A's would result in a solid 4.0.

"I don't think it is real and if it is, that is a dumb reason to get good grades," said senior Molly Cobb who believes the rumor to be false and unfair.

UWSP Registrar Dan Kellogg has worked in higher education for 22 years and has been at Point for eight. He confesses he has heard the legend of the 4.0, but is confident it is only a rumor.

"It has been around for many years at most universities and I think it is mentioned in a movie," Kellogg said.

This, however, is true. The movie Dead man on Campus was released in 1998 and revolves around two college roommates going to parties and having their grades suffer because of it. They hear the 4.0 rumor and search for a depressed student to move in with them. The fiction-based plot is probably the foundation for the rumor. Although widely known, there isn't any evidence that supports the legend on any campus.

"The university does not grant good grades or any academic privileges to any student," Kellogg said. "Grades received are based on the grades earned."

Kellogg enforces academic policies at the university and explained that if there is a death of a student the university provides services to help other students, faculty, and staff to cope.

Depending on the situation, accommodations may be made for a student so they can perform to the best of their abilities. It is possible for a student to take an incomplete grade and finish their studies at a further time.

Regardless, a high GPA comes from doing the work and there is no easy way out.

"Run-over results in Free Tuition"

This typical rumor is that if a student gets hit by bus or campus vehicle they receive free tuition as compensation.

"If an individual is struck, they have to make a claim and that claim could result in money awarded, but a student's tuition is not automatically paid," said Jeff Karcher, director of risk management.

Others part of the UW-System Administration Risk Management department agreed that the tuition being paid rumor is not a practice.

The myth was probably established from a misunderstanding. It is possible that a college student sued a driver who hit them and won the case, and then proceeded to use that money for tuition, but it is not possible for a student to simply be granted financial compensation without going through the legal system first.

Even so, if a student was struck by any vehicle, anywhere, they would have to go through the same process as a regular citizen.

"Anyone has the right to file a claim," Karcher said. Although the situation depends on if the claim is

approved and damages are awarded.

Don't go jumping in front of any vehicles because money will not be placed in your hands without the courts getting involved. Any accident can put a person at a risk of getting seriously injured and chances are, if money is awarded, it wouldn't be enough to cover the cost of tuition.

"Nelson Hall is Haunted"

It has been said that Nelson Hall is haunted and some believe this because it is an older building that holds a lot of history.

Thousands of people have passed through the doors of Nelson Hall having lived and studied there. Due to the buildings age, it is almost given that some of the residents have passed away since then.

"There may have been some unfinished business and it is possible that at times their presence was felt or believed to be near," said Joe Konopacky, first shift custodial supervisor for Facilities Services.

"I do not believe it is haunted because I have had no experience personally here. I work here early in the morning and late at night and never had any supernatural encounter," Konopacky said.

Since the building is old, many individuals have preconceived notions about possible hauntings.

"Like all older buildings and institutional settings, it seems as if human nature needs to have some stories, myths, and tales about what goes on in these spaces. People like to have stories and even may lie to experience a fright or encounter," Konopacky said.

Stevens Point has lost many historical and original buildings. Being both old and historical, Nelson Hall is connected to the past and seems to welcome stories and ideas of hauntings.

"I haven't seen anything personally and I'm a bit of a skeptic, but a lot of reasonable, fully-intheir-senses people truly believe it's haunted, and I trust them. So I'm open to possibility," said junior Jordan Straight.

Some people believe in the notion of ghosts and supernatural activity, but aside from a few personal experiences and stories, there is no way to confirm the rumor but to decide on your own.

"The best way to dispel the myth would be to encourage people to just go explore Nelson," Straight said.

"The Mosaic Mural has a single Red Tile"

Specific to UWSP and heard mainly in the College of Natural Resources building, this rumor again proves to be false.

There are 286,200 tiny tiles in the mural and all of them are colored in shades of brown, tan and off-white.

A staff member in the Natural Resources building thinks the rumor may have stemmed from a tile resembling a vest to represent Chancellor Lee S. Dreyfus.

Dreyfus was recognized as always wearing a red vest. Even though the tile represents a vest in honor of Dreyfus, the tile is brown and tan.

The mural was cleaned in the summer of 2012 and Stacey Allen-Bannach, the public relations coordinator for the department of natural resources, asked the contractors cleaning the mural to check for a red tile. Contractors stated they did not see one, even near the top.

Whether the rumor is an undocumented case of a student receiving money or being awarded good grades, an unseen ghost in Nelson Hall, or a non-existent red mural tile, each of the four rumor s above have been dispelled.

Rumors may start from all different reasons, such as media, stories, unexplained incidents, but all rumors grow because of one reason... conversation.

"People are social creatures and they like to talk. That's how rumors start," Taylor said.

One last thing, it has been said that if a student kisses another student while church bells are ringing, the two lip-lockers will eventually get married. No evidence supports the theory, but if you are looking to get wed, pucker-up and wait to smooch on the hour.

PHRASE OF THE WEEK:

"You ugly"

In regular English, this could be highly offensive. In Ebonics, otherwise known as African-American English, it means "you're funny or you're goofy."

Example: your friend says something that was meant to be sarcastic. Instead of saying, "haha you're funny," you could say "you ugly." It is usually used in sarcastic circumstances or wherever there's light-hearted humor.

¹⁰ CLASSIFIEDS AND COMICS

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Dear Pointer Business Manager,

DINO IRONBODY Connoisseur of Business

"My relationship is getting stale. What should I do?"

It seems that you are currently suffering a shift in your product demand curve. But, do not worry! It is most likely that your aggregate demand, and demand for substitute goods, has stayed constant, or even increased!

What I recommend is a paradigm shift to retailor your supply to penetrate other market segments. This could always be done with a merger, but remember, a merger always requires a great supply of liquid capital, and can get pretty sticky for both parties. What I recommend is product testing with focus groups. Groups of four or five people testing your product at the same time in a relaxed environment with no product commitment can help you with your product development.

Remember: we want to achieve a product that is at least 80 percent developed before market penetration. Once you have penetrated these new market segments with a firm, robust product you should find your problems of diminishing returns resolved. of your Toaster. Gently slide your new Emerson T120 from its protective covering. With the naked toaster in your supple hands, find a location

"Following a rough break-up last month, I find that I now have a strong urge to write romantic poetry. What is the best way to pour my heart out?"

Everyone goes through this phase in life. It's something so human that even the most strenuous employee evaluation will forgive it. But just remember, no one these days pays for bad poetry when Facebook provides so much of it for free.

What you need to do is apply your skills to the burgeoning market of technical marketing. Nobody wants to hear about your broken heart; what they want to hear about is how to fix their broken toaster. Imagine yourself at a solid corporate job, pouring your passion out in four different languages, along with tasteful illustrations of intertwined parts. With passages like: "Placement of your Toaster. Gently slide your new Emerson T120 from its protective covering. With the naked toaster in your supple hands, find a location in your kitchen where you can lay down the sleek naked chassis of your new toaster. Grasp the plug firmly in your hands, and jam it in the nearest electrical receptacle. Be careful not to butter your bread before you insert it in either of the two slots available on the Emerson T120, lest it ignite from the flames of passion." Or picture yourself at LG, in a sea of cubicles, writing the following: "Turning on your LGTV609 – Gently slide your hand down the inside of the bezel, until your fingertips glide over the sensitive button at the top. Flick the button until your unit has been turned on."

Not only will you save yourself from embarrassment in 20 years' time, but you will also find yourself gainfully employed!



Photo courtesy of tineye.com

ALBUM REVIEW





Deap Vally Sistrionix

ADAM NICKS anick725@uwsp.edu

Sistrionix is the first studio album by American Rock duo Deap Vally. The group consists of Lindsey Troy on guitar and vocals with Julie Edwards playing drums and backup vocals. The album features heavy rock riffs any musician would be proud of, and Lindsey belts out lyrics about cheating lovers and humanity's lack of love.

The song "End of the World" depicts a world that collapses on the back of hatred. If there was a robot army they would march to the electronic distortion guitar of Lindsey Troy on this track. There are sections on the album where the guitar playing breaks into this Tom Morello-like technical screeching that this reviewer enjoys.

The album features simplistic but powerful lyrics. The song "Walk of Shame" describes Saturday mornings in Stevens Point, but features a strong and powerful woman who does care about her one-night stand and wants to get on with her day. The lyrics switch from "I am going to take a walk of shame" to "I am going to take a walk of pride. I got sunshine in my stride."

This album embodies strong women who can really jam. *Sistrionix* has a bit of an over-produced DIY sound, which adds to Deap Vally's uniqueness. The overall album has strong feminist lyrics but the music is very heavy. Deap Vally's sounds could be described as masculine but only because many other all-female bands have fallen short of great rock beats and riffs.

If you listened to this album without lyrics, there is a strong chance you would image men with rough war-torn faces and full tattoo sleeves jamming on the guitar and drums.

I would rate this album a 7 out of 10 and would encourage you listen to a few tracks on the album. I expect much to come from this band in the future. Currently they are on a European tour with SKATERS. You can catch them on tour in the states in late December.

¹² ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT 'Thor: The Dark World' Review

MARY MARVIN mmarv339@uwsp.edu

Fans of the Marvel movie universe were pleased this weekend with the release of "Thor: The Dark World," the second installment in the Thor series.

The movie introduces a new race of aliens as the main antagonists: the Dark Elves. The leader of the Dark Elves is called Malekith, played by "Doctor Who's" Christopher Eccleston. It must be in his contract somewhere that he can't film anywhere other than space or London, because that is where the movie is set, ending with a battle in Greenwich.

The movie picks up right where "The Avengers" left off, with Loki facing his father, Odin, in Asgard. Loki continues to be cheeky, Odin yells, and Thor's hair waves majestically in the breeze. Frigga, Thor and Loki's mother, has a much bigger role in this sequel. She shows off her fighting prowess as a warrior queen and gained some fans of her own.

For Chris Hemsworth fans, this movie is a must-see, even just to watch his luscious hair flow or his muscles glisten in the lamplight. There's also Natalie Portman and Jaimie Alexander's gorgeousness to appreciate. Not to mention Kat Dennings, Tom Hiddleston and Idris Elba. Everybody will be pleased, guaranteed.

The soundtrack to this movie was just beautiful. The heroic horns and pounding drums gave scenes a warrior-like feel, and battle sequences were lushly orchestrated. When sad things happened that cannot be mentioned for fear of spoilers, the strings and vocals were so gorgeous, heartstrings were pulled and deep breaths had to be taken. Composer Brian Tyler, who also did the music for "Iron Man 3" and "Assassin's Creed: Black Flag," did a marvelous job with Thor.

Don't forget to stay through the amazingly animated credits for a bonus scene. Marvel has caught on that people don't like sitting through credits, so they have a shorter version with main cast and crew, then a bonus scene possibly relating to the upcoming feature "Guardians of the Galaxy." After this, however, there is a second bonus scene. I recommend staying for both. Totally worth it.



Photo courtesy of blogspot.com

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Sponsored by Photography Club



NEED-TO-KNOW TUNES

KYLE FLORENCE kflor654@uwsp.edu

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 regard to music, whose more thoughtful messengers are often overshadowed by a maelstrom of cookie-cutter acts all strumming the same fourchord 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 ones that, for one reason or another, you may have missed:

Death Chorus Polar Bear Club

For Fan's of:

Title Fight's "Anaconda Sniper," Misser's "The Waits," and Such Gold's "Two Year Plan"

The Scoop:

Polar Bear Club was formed in the summer of 2005, from the ashes of several upstate New Yorkbased punk and indie bands. Shortly thereafter, the five-piece released a slew of EPs before debuting its first full-length, Sometimes Things Just Disappear, which eventually landed them a record deal with Bridge Nine Records. The group has since gone on to release three more full-lengths under the label, including their most recent effort, Death Chorus, which dropped earlier this week. And guess what? It rules.

Why It Rules:

Personally, I enjoy Polar Bear Club for their ability to take a genre that many people have trouble getting behind, hardcore and punk-infused hardcore, and reimagining it in a way that appeals to the masses. This especially true now, as with this most recent release lead vocalist Jimmy Stadt has drastically altered his vocal styling's, resulting in a beautiful contrast between his new wispy croon and the rest of the band's gritty yet poignant instrumentation.

The album opener "Blood Balloon" hits home with toe-tapping melodies and relatable subject matter, while "So I Buy" and "Graph Paper Glory Days" are nothing short of infectious, and likely candidates for singles. "WLWYCD" starts modestly but builds to a triumphant climax, all the while with Stadt wondering, "Why live when you can die?" Additionally, my personal favorite, "When We Were College Kids" will almost certainly strike a chord with all those swiftly approaching adulthood.