

# the pointer

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

November 11, 2015

thepointeruwsp.com

Volume 60 | Issue 11



Photo by Allison Birt

## College of Natural Resources Receives \$2 Million Endowment

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The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has received a \$2 million endowment to expand and improve waterfowl and wetlands programs and research.

The endowment will create the Kennedy-Grohne Chair in Waterfowl and Wetlands Conservation in the College of Natural Resources, a full-time faculty

position paid for by the university. A nation-wide search is underway to fill the position by summer 2016.

Dr. Christine Thomas, dean of the College of Natural Resources, said the money will be invested by the UWSP Foundation, and the interest generated will be used to support the activities of the professor, which may include graduate assistantships, travel, undergraduate research fellowships, as well as matching funds for grants and related equipment.

The Douglas R. Stephens Chair in Wildlife is the only other endowed chair in the university's history and was filled over a year ago by Scott Hygnstrom.

The position was also accompanied by a \$2 million investment, paid by Gerald and Helen Stephens to support wildlife research, outreach and projects. The chair was named in memory of their son Doug, a 1991 UWSP graduate who died unexpectedly shortly after graduation.

"This is the second one of these we have received in 18 months," Thomas

said. "Students in the CNR have already had an opportunity to benefit in meaningful ways from the first one."

The first chair established Hygnstrom as the inaugural director of the Wisconsin Center for Wildlife, which has hosted professional lectures on topics like wolf management in Wisconsin.

Thomas said the donors had no ties to the university other than those through the greater conservation community. Individuals associated with the organization Ducks Unlimited intro-

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# A Class in the Caribbean: UWSP Offers Four-Week Trip to Cuba

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Students and members of the community at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point will be traveling to Cuba for a four-week class this summer.

Jennifer Collins, associate professor of political science, said the class offers three credits each in political science and history. Collins will be one of two professors serving as a chaperone on the trip.

Although Cuba maintains a position of prominence in Latin America, Americans typically know about it through a narrow, Cold War perspective, Collins said.

"It's a country most Americans know very little about," she said. "It's an opportunity for students and members of the community to be immersed."

During the trip, the group will be based in the capital city of Havana. From there, members will travel to locations of historical, political, economic and cultural significance throughout the country, including an art museum, the Mariel Port and the newly re-opened U.S. Embassy.

For Anju Reejhsinghani, assistant professor of history, the trip is nothing new.

First traveling to Cuba in 2001, Reejhsinghani created the program and led a two-week trip to Cuba in winter 2013 and again in 2014. After receiving feedback from students, she adjusted the trip to four weeks in summer.

Reejhsinghani said many students initially raised concerns about crime and freedom of speech on the trip. Despite this conception, Cuba boasts some of the lowest crime rates in Latin America and the group.

Students were also concerned about

inconveniences, she said.

"There were some - they don't have ATMs that we can use, for example - but that's largely to do with our government's policies and not the Cuban government's policies," she said. "In the end, I think mild inconveniences aside they got a lot out of the trip."

One of the students planning to go with the group this summer is Amanda Baxter, senior political science, history, international studies and Spanish major. Having previously traveled to Spain, Baxter said she is quite comfortable with international travel and excited to do more.

"It's a great opportunity because Cuba has been closed from any American influence for the past 50-60 years," she said. "Going there is a unique experience that not many Americans are going to be able to have."

She said she is most looking forward to seeing the 1950s cars common on the streets of Cuba. She also said she looks forward to comparing the country's art museums with those she saw in Spain.

The trip is the first since the U.S. restored diplomatic relations with Cuba in July 2015. Relations between the two countries initially ended in 1961 in the aftermath of the Cuban Revolution, which resulted in a communist government led by Fidel Castro. Since then, Cuba has been subject to a U.S. embargo preventing the exchange of most goods between the two countries. The U.S. has also placed heavy limitations on travels for most of its citizens; travel to Cuba strictly for tourism is considered illegal.

Any wishing to apply for the trip must do so by Dec. 1 to guarantee consideration. Application costs \$50, and the trip costs \$7,100 to \$7,600, which includes tuition, airfare and all other non-personal expenditures.

## PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPORT

### Sunday, Nov. 1

A Neale Hall CA notified Protective Services about a party, which had been broken up in the dorm. Several of the individuals had been drinking and were underage. An officer was asked to assist with the situation.

An individual called PS about a suspicious looking male who was pouring liquid in a circular shape around the dumpster behind May Roach Hall.

### Monday, Nov. 2

Per Mar Security notified PS about a burglary alarm, which had gone off at the Carlston Art Gallery.

PS received a direct transmission call from the Stevens Point Police Department about a faculty's car being keyed.

### Tuesday, Nov. 3

Per Mar Security contacted PS about an alarm sounding at the Carlston Art Gallery. This occurred three times in two days.

### Wednesday, Nov. 4

A Yik Yak social media post claimed there to be cameras set up in the all gender bathroom in Steiner Hall. PS and maintenance met to inspect the bathroom.

### Thursday, Nov. 5

A Science Building staff member called PS to notify them of an open door, which appeared to be a crawl space in the northwest stairwell in the D Wing. The individual said he noticed a student in the room.

A Knutzen Hall CA contacted PS concerning two individuals smoking marijuana in front of the Allen Center.

### Friday, Nov. 6

PS responded to several suspicious looking male individuals hiding behind Debot.

### Saturday, Nov. 7

A female individual reported seeing a pile of broken glass during the day in Lot Q. A report was logged to Ground Services to tend to on Monday.

### Correction:

In "Pilates Teaching Certification Attracts Variety of Individuals" published in the Oct. 21 issue, the training center, is the UWSP Balanced Body training center and Molly Jo Anderson is a former student and current UWSP Balanced Body Instructor.

## THE POINTER

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The Pointer is printed Thursdays during the academic year with a circulation of 3,000 copies. The paper is free to all tuition-paying students. Non-student subscription price is \$10 per academic year.

Letters to the editor can be mailed or delivered to The Pointer, 104 CAC, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI 54481, or sent by e-mail to pointer@uwsp.edu. We reserve the right to deny publication 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.



Photo by Allison Birr

# Students Share Thoughts on Needs for Advising

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The following are the responses of ten students who were asked about their opinions and experiences with advising on campus:

"I find adviser meetings to be helpful. When I switched my major, my adviser was really helpful in helping me pick out different classes for my degree. I think they're necessary. I can't be the only kid that is lost, and they are a good resource for people who don't know what they are doing."

- Ethan Heinecke, sophomore forest management major

"For me, I find an adviser to be incredibly helpful and very necessary. It's nice to have someone that understands to talk to about classes and about your future. I know not everybody has had the best experience with advisers, and that's kind of sad, but most of the people I know have had good experiences. I absolutely love my adviser. I think she's awesome and very helpful."

- Klayton Fritz, junior psychology major

"I feel like advisers give you a lot of helpful information when you need help, but I also feel like it can be difficult to get an appointment to see them. I know some of the general advisers have too many students. I've seen students packed outside of the hallways waiting for their advisers. I feel like having the requirement to go see an adviser can be more time consuming than helpful."

- Julia Trzebiatowski, senior biology major

"I think that having an adviser is helpful to offer guidance in academic advising. I have had student advisers

in the past that were not good. Faculty advisers are definitely more helpful than student advisers because they actually know what they are doing."

- Jacob Richmond, senior dietetics major

"Historically people have liked CNR advisers. I think they've been helpful. I think being required to meet with advisers gives me a lot of information that I wouldn't know otherwise. There are certain classes that I have taken that are only offered in the spring or fall, and it's helpful to have an adviser help me figure my schedule out."

- Kelley Harkins, sophomore wild land fire science and forest restoration management major

"My experience with my advisers have been really positive because they have been able to direct me in the right path and alleviate some of my stress. My adviser really helped me figure out what major I wanted to be in, I switched from dietetics to health promotion. If I didn't have an adviser I had to meet with I'd probably mess something up or be here for an extra year."

- Stephanie Carey, senior health promotion major

"I actually feel like, for the most part, advisers are very helpful because figuring out DPR's can be confusing. I want to graduate in four years, and advisers tell me what to do and what classes to take in order to graduate on time. There was one time that I had a bad experience with my adviser because I felt that my adviser did not want to be there helping me. Overall I do think they are helpful, but I don't think some of the professors want to do it sometimes."

- Sarah Burkard, junior communication major

duced them to UWSP.

"Ducks Unlimited and their members and staff played a large role in this," Thomas said.

The endowment will bring an expertise to the university that is important in the international community, Thomas said, and it will link the college to researchers working on related projects from the arctic to the south of Mexico.

"Our professor will have research dollars available to bring to the table for

partnerships. There will be opportunities that students would not have had otherwise," Thomas said.

Nate Kueffer, senior wildlife and biology, was impressed by the news but knows how important waterfowl and wetlands are in the central Wisconsin area. He said Kevin Russell, associate professor of wildlife ecology, is an expert and emphasized their importance during class.

"A lot of waterfowl come through



Ava Barr

"Peer advisers are not helpful. Peer advisers never helped me look into minors or look into stuff that could have helped me at school. I think, in general, that advisers can be helpful because they are supportive, but in my experience they haven't necessarily advised me. My current adviser is more helpful than ones that I have had in the past."

- Ava Barr, junior health promotion major



Alyssa Bethke

"I just had my adviser meeting two weeks ago, and my adviser helped me figure out everything. Every single question that I had she had an answer to. Being in the biology major, there are so many requirements, and I think it's super helpful to be able to talk to my adviser."

- Alyssa Bethke, freshman pre-mortuary biology major



Sam Cook

"I am completely clueless when it comes to what I need to take and how I am going to fit it all into a semester. It's helpful to have someone give me tips, and my adviser has been really good with helping me with internships. Depending on what you need help with, a peer adviser can be helpful too."

- Sam Cook, sophomore business major

Photos by Caroline Chalk

## ENVIRONMENT

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here," Kueffer said. "We talked about it a lot. We have a lot of species-rich ecosystems."

Kueffer said as communities continue to develop, the conservation of water resources will become more critical, and he is glad the university can make a commitment toward improving the situation.

"It's important. Wetlands are being degraded and drained," Kueffer said. "That's pretty cool that we've been cho-

sen for this."

Thomas believes the gesture tells the world UWSP is competitive with the best universities in the country and said similar gifts will soon follow in other parts of the institution.

"It tells donors to the other colleges and the rest of the campus that we are the kind of place that warrants investments of this magnitude," he said.

# Hockey Teams Sweep; Football, Volleyball Come Up Short

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## Volleyball Falls in WIAC Championship

After making a run as a fifth seed, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point volleyball team lost to UW-Whitewater in a 3-0 sweep during the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship. It was the fifth straight WIAC championship game for UWSP and third straight game against UW-Whitewater.

The Pointers' offense was stifled, and they recorded a season-low attack percentage of .019. Senior middle blocker Emma Brunkhorst led UWSP with eight kills, freshman setter Brittany Laffin had 23 assists and senior defensive specialist Hannah Picel added 23 digs.

## Football Loses Late Again

After coming back from a 17-point deficit to a four-point lead, the UWSP football team gave up a late touchdown and fell to UW-Stout 34-31.

Down 27-10 in the second half,

the Pointers had three straight scoring drives to go ahead 31-27. Junior quarterback Kyle Larson threw a six-yard touchdown pass to senior wide receiver Matt Sosinsky. Freshman quarterback Cooper Kerner followed that drive with a three-yard touchdown to junior wide receiver Jared Pankow, and running back De'Juan Wright scored with a nine-yard touchdown run.

With 2:17 left on the clock, UWSP was in the lead. The Blue Devils responded with an 80-yard drive in five plays to score the game-winning touchdown with 25 seconds remaining.

UWSP was led by Larson in passing. He threw 21 of 36 for 253 yards with one touchdown and interception. Pankow led in receiving with a career-high of 10 receptions for 84 yards. Wright led the ground game with 119 yards on 21 carries with two touchdowns. UWSP ran for 223 yards total.

The Pointers next play at home against UW-River Falls in the season finale on Nov. 14.

## Men's Hockey Remains Unbeaten

Playing its first two home games of the season, the UWSP men's hockey team remained unbeaten defeating Gustavus Adolphus 5-1 and Bethel 4-3 in overtime. Against Gustavus Adolphus, UWSP registered five goals from four different players, and the team maintains

a balanced scoring attack. Junior forward Kyle Sharkey scored two goals, while juniors Jacob Barber, Nathan Harris and senior Joe Kalisz each scored a goal. Sophomore goaltender Max Milosek won his second game of

**continued on page 5**



Photo by Jack McLaughlin

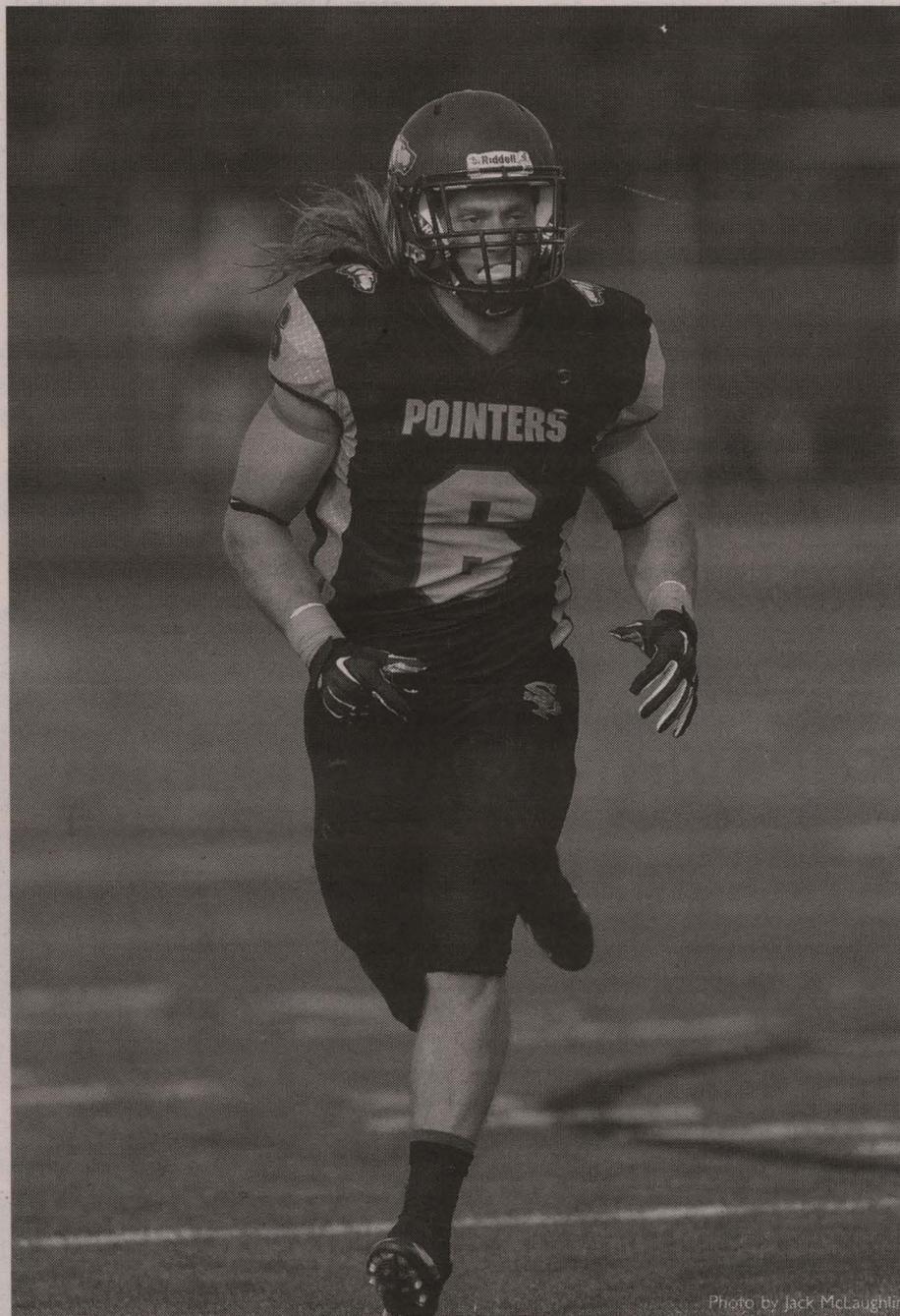


Photo by Jack McLaughlin



Photo by Allison Birt

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the year making 15 saves.

The next night, UWSP needed overtime to defeat Bethel, and senior forward Logan Lemirande scored on the power play with 42 seconds remaining. UWSP jumped out early with a 2-0 lead with goals from senior forwards Nick D'Avolio and Alex Kromm. In net, sophomore Jesse Gordichuk made 19 saves for his second win of the season.

UWSP next plays at Cocor-

dia-Moorhead on Nov. 13. The swim teams next compete at home on Nov. 14.

**Women's Hockey Sweeps Concordia-Moorhead**

In a weekend series against Concordia-Moorhead, UWSP women's hockey team swept the Cobbers with two 5-4 wins.

In the first game, the Pointers trailed 3-2 but scored three goals in

the third period for the win. Forwards Ali Biagini and Shauna Bollinger each scored two goals, while sophomore forward Maddie Schlossmacher scored her first goal of the season to tie the game at three. In net, sophomore goaltender Lisa Fowle won her second game of the season making 23 saves.

In the next game, freshman forward Cara Lemirande's first career goal in overtime propelled UWSP

to another 5-4 win. UWSP received scoring from senior forwards Rachel Reynard, Emily Lester, who had two goals, and senior defenseman Betsy Anderson, who also recorded an assist. Freshman goaltender Sydney Conley won her second game of the year with 31 saves.

UWSP next plays WIAC rival UW-River Falls in a weekend series starting Nov. 13.

# Vallafskey Contributes to UWSP Football Program

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Just twelve months ago Zach Vallafskey was suited up and playing on Saturdays for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

He is now on the other side of the lines helping out football head coach Tom Journell as the defensive backs coach this season.

Vallafskey was asked to join the staff in week two of the season while he has been finishing out his final semester here at UWSP. He returned to UWSP this fall after going through rookie mini camp with the Minnesota Vikings over the summer. He took some of what he had learned from the Vikings and carried it over to Pointers this year.

"Getting coached at the highest level opened my eyes to specific technique stuff that I not only passed on to the players here but the coaches as well to just, you know, see their thoughts on it," Vallafskey said.

Vallafskey was a three year starter for UWSP in the secondary, so he said he relates to the position very well. His connection with some of the players in the program right now has been beneficial to his adjustment into the coaching ranks.

"The guys are comfortable coming to me and asking me questions about what they are seeing on the field, and it keeps me around the game and keeps me around them. It is definitely fun for not only me but them as well," Vallafskey said.

The adjustment from being a guy who has played football since



he was in Pop Warner to not being able to immediately help on the field has been an adjustment that has gone a little bit harder than expected, he said.

"It is tough. I don't even know how to put it into words to be honest. It is cool to be on the other side, but it definitely sucks not being able to go out there myself and make an impact," Vallafskey said.

Vallafskey said he was somewhat caught off guard when he was contacted by coach Journell, but he is taking notes on how his former coach used to get him going and car-

ry it over to his own philosophy.

"He really is a great coach. You know he doesn't just make us better players, but he emphasizes being better men. We learn a lot of life lessons from him that I can learn from and use," Vallafskey said.

Although Vallafskey did not make the Vikings squad, he used the opportunity to get better individually and has not given up the dream of playing at some of the highest levels.

"I am still trying to play football, I have try outs for some teams coming up here so I am just taking it

day by day and soaking up anything about the game that I can from all angles," Vallafskey said.

If that does not work out, Vallafskey has coaching in mind. He is a guy who just loves to be around football and isn't ready to give up the joy of the game just yet.

"With coaching it is obviously different than playing, but just being a part of a team on game day is special, along with the all week preparation, and you know you can only play for so long so coaching allows you to stay around the game," Vallafskey said.

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

| WOMEN'S BASKETBALL              | VOLLEYBALL                                                   | MEN'S HOCKEY                                                                 | WOMEN'S HOCKEY                                                                  | WRESTLING                                          | SWIMMING                                                                      | FOOTBALL                                           |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Nov. 14, 1 p.m.<br>vs Finlandia | Nov. 12, 5:30 p.m.<br>No. 17 Elmhurst<br>in Grand Rapids, MI | Nov. 13, 8 p.m.<br>at Concordia-Moorhead<br>Nov. 14, 7 p.m.<br>at St. John's | Nov. 13, 7 p.m.<br>vs UW-River Falls<br>Nov. 14, 2:30 p.m.<br>vs UW-River Falls | Nov. 14, 9 a.m.<br>vs Dan Gable<br>Open in Oshkosh | Nov. 14, 1 p.m.<br>vs Tri Dual<br>(Northern Michigan & Minnesota St.-Mankato) | Nov. 14, 2 p.m.<br>vs UW-River Falls<br>Senior Day |

## Carlsten Gallery Exhibits Over Two Decades of the Pointer Press

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A retrospective exhibit of collaborative student and professional artist printmaking pieces are on display in the Edna Carlsten Art Gallery in "A Look Back: Bob Erickson and the Pointer Press."

The exhibit features over 60 different prints created at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point by printmaking

artists who have visited the campus over the past 25 years. The featured printmakers are from different places around the world. Some are as close as Milwaukee while others are as far away as Korea.

Each print on display is unique and the exhibit features many different types of printmaking including lithography, intaglio, monotype and woodblock prints. Some pieces incorporate other elements of art such as letterpress and screen-printing.

A reception for the exhibit took place Nov. 9 at 4 p.m. in the gallery. Featured artists, faculty and students attended, getting the initial peek of the variety of prints on display.

"I thought it was really unique how the only tying in factor is that it is all printmaking, but at the same time there were so many different visiting artists that were able to work with the students, that you really get many different styles and techniques," said Rachel Klima, junior graphic design major who attended the exhibit's opening reception.

Members of the university's art faculty created some of the prints that are on display including a print by foundation professor Jinman Jo and a piece by painting pro-

fessor Rob Stolzer.

Pointer Press is an undergraduate printmaking press that brings in professional printmakers to UWSP and the Stevens Point Community. Bob Erickson, professor of art and design, started the press in 1990 when he was hired to teach printmaking in the department.

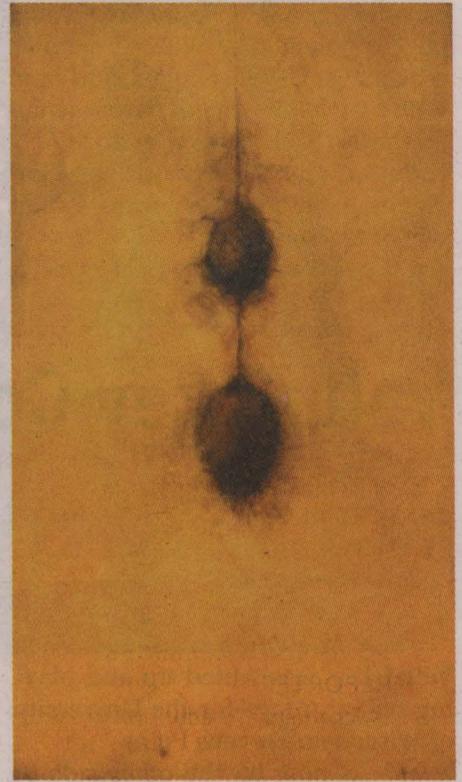
"Because Stevens Point is relatively provincial, it is important to bring the world here. So I thought it was important to bring these artists here," Erickson said.

Pointer Press gives art students the opportunity to work one-on-one with experienced printmakers from around the globe. While on campus, the guest artists do print workshops, create pieces with students and give public lectures about their work.

The interaction with professional printmakers made the experience more personal for students. They had time to talk with the guest artists and learn about their background and career path, according to Erickson.

This exhibit is incredibly special because it shows Erickson's history as an art professor and what he has brought to the campus before he leaves, said Leslie Walfish, curator for the Edna Carlsten Gallery.

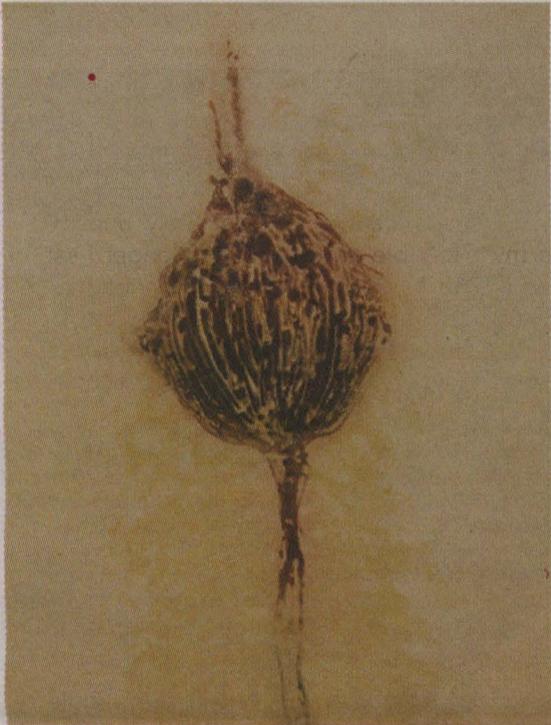
"This really shows all of the artists he brought in over those 25 years. It shows he has brought in such a high quality group of artists and artists that have worked with students and had



this great partnership with working, individual artists and students here at UW-Stevens Point," Walfish said.

"A Look Back: Bob Erickson and the Pointer Press" will be on display Nov. 8 - Dec. 3 in the Edna Carlsten Gallery located inside the Noel Fine Arts Center. The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 1-4 p.m.

Photos and Artwork by Robert Erickson





# FROM TOURIST *to traveler*

**SOPHIE STICKELMAIER**  
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As a kid, I remember listening feverishly to my dad tell stories of when he hitch hiked around the United States.

After graduating high school at 17, he left home and went all the way from Indiana

highway with my dad's leather messenger bag strapped across one shoulder, flowers in my hair... my daydream was immediately put to a halt.

"No, no, no. People don't do that anymore... besides you're a girl. It's not safe."

It is these things that people, especially women, are repeatedly told that make us feel as if we can't experience the world on our own. In my opinion, if people are well prepared and

get jealous.

Upon arrival, I checked into my hostel, the Black Swan, and immediately met a lovely Canadian girl who invited me to head to the beach with her and some friends. However, I was really excited to explore Barcelona on my own, so I politely declined and said I'd see her back at the hostel.

I loved every inch of Barcelona. Laundry hung out every window, and palm trees made me feel like I was in paradise. Day slowly turned to night, and I began to feel something I rarely encounter... loneliness. Normally, when travelling in groups, I like to break off and explore on my own for a bit, however this time I didn't have a bunch of friends to go home to.

When I got back to my hostel, my room was still empty and after sulking on my bed for a minute, I thought about my dad's stories. The man trekked across the country by himself. Not only that, but he would take himself to movies no one else wanted to see and when on business trips, he would take himself out for delectable steak dinners.

There is nothing more admirable than someone who is confident and comfortable, someone who does exactly what makes them happy with no regard of what people may think.

After this subtle wakeup call, I quickly threw on the only semi-nice outfit I had and took myself out for a skillet of veggie paella with fresh sangria.

Sitting alone in the dimly-lit

restaurant, I was definitely uncomfortable at first, but the longer I sat there the more I enjoyed not having to tend to anyone else's needs. I could order another plate of paella or simply leave the moment I felt like it. I relished that freedom.

I spent the next two days meeting the most wonderful, inspiring people. I met a woman in her late 20's who had recently ditched her job as a well-paid bio-chemist because she thought that doing the same exact thing every day for years would kill her.

Another girl, left in the middle of her college career because her restlessness was causing her studies to suffer. She figured she'd just take some time off and get it out of her system.

Knowing people would judge, scoff and shake their furrowed brows at them, these women made this grand decision to do something for the sole purpose that it would make them happy. And they did it on their own. So as far as advice goes, that would be it. Do what you want and don't let society's preconceived notions of 'acceptable behavior' defer you or else you'll never have any stories to tell.

In addition, when traveling on your own do not by any means go on a pub crawl the night before your 5 a.m. flight, drink loads of sangria and end up as that sweaty, crazy-eyed person running through the airport. That's not acceptable behavior.



Photos by Sophie Stickelmaier



to California, thanks to the kindness of strangers. Well, most of them were kind. Regardless, when I heard his stories of broken down cars and nights on strangers' couches, I was exceedingly intrigued.

"I want to do that!" I said, imagining myself trekking along a busy

conscious of their surroundings, there is no reason they shouldn't travel on their own.

So ensued my solo journey to Barcelona. I made the very mature decision that it would be best to wait until AFTER my trip to tell the old man - didn't want the poor guy to



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# SPECTRE

## 007

### 'Spectre' Solidifies Craig's Bond with Greatness

Photo courtesy of myvideolibrary.com

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The safest thing to do is to always just stick with the original.

As far as James Bond is concerned, it's easiest to say that Sean Connery has played the role better than anyone, so let's just do that. Despite the lack of nuance or humor from Connery that you can find from later actors, you can never go wrong erring on the side of nostalgia, right? Who needs substance when you can

mug for the camera and talk with a cool accent?

If you are one of those crazy people who needs someone to do more than simply be the first to do something, you probably prefer Daniel Craig. Craig is that rare kind of monster who has the nerve to not only be a better actor than his predecessor but to also do it with a different hair color.

The newest Bond film, "Spectre" is reportedly the last for the blond menace. Craig leaves in his horrific golden-haired wake a series of well-reviewed films with record-breaking

box office for the series. "Spectre" follows in this unfortunate tradition of Craig's by being an exciting, multifaceted film where Bond is portrayed as more than a stylish sex-maniac with a gun. What a train wreck.

Does Daniel Craig deserve to be considered the best James Bond ever? Statistical reasoning and good taste would say "yes," but in certain other regards, "Spectre" is just another confirmation that Craig still is not the first person to arbitrarily play the role, and thus, he is still a failure before the undying light of Sean Connery. Praise

be his name.

"Spectre" also offers genuine things to criticize like its overly long running time and its under utilization of an amazing actor like Christoph Waltz, but since those pale in comparison to the fact that this film dares to be the 24th Bond film instead of the first one, they should be disregarded as nonsense.

"Spectre" earns 8 "sharks with laser-beams attached to their heads" out of 10.

## OPINIONS & EDITORIALS

### Letter to the Editor: Perspective from an Out of State Student

**CHANDLER JADE MELLON**

The amount of times I have had to explain where I'm from and why I'm here is incredible.

The typical introductions when I meet new people include, "Where are you from?" and "What's your major?" When I respond I'm from New York, their immediate thought is that I'm from New York City.

False. I'm from Camden, New York, a small town with a population of 3000, 2 stoplights and a whole lot of Friday night light attitudes. I have to explain this and still their response is "WHAT?? Why are you in Wisconsin? It's so boring here."

I then go into how I was a wild-life major, and of course they understand immediately why I'm at Stevens Point because as we all know UWSP is known for its natural resources program. If I had a dollar for every time I've had to answer that question, I'd be able to pay an entire semester tuition. I should've just made a business card with the reasoning as to why I'm here on it and handed them out when someone exclaimed "Why are you in Wisconsin?"

Now of course everyone has obstacles in their lives. It's just some of us ma-

ture faster and are more responsible than others.

I will fully admit I am not as independent as I would like to be, but moving away from home was probably the best decision I have ever made. In high school, like any 18 year old, I thought all I wanted was to get away from my hometown and everything that had to do with it, which meant that friend I had ever made and my entire family.

The first semester of school was great. I had no parents, no curfew (not that I had one to begin with), endless options as to what to eat, no mom yelling at me to wake up, no parents telling me to go to sleep and no parents yelling at me to do my homework, but all these things also meant that I was responsible for myself. I had to wake up on time, I had to eat a good diet, I was responsible for setting time aside to study and going to sleep at a decent hour.

It wasn't until the second semester that I realized I was about as big of a homebody as there can be. I found it was necessary to talk to my family every day. Skype became an everyday occurrence.

Everyone gets homesick once and awhile. It is just a part of growing up. But most people who are at school

have the ability to go home whenever they feel like they need a weekend at home. Even for those who live in Minnesota or Illinois, home is just a few hours away. For me, though, I don't have that choice; unless of course I feel like driving 20 hours.

I was talking to a friend from home, and she lives just two hours away from her house. Last week she felt like she wanted to sleep in her own bed so she drove home and spent two days at home, then went back to school right after. I was so jealous because some days I would do anything to just go home and spend a day with my family. But instead I rarely go home at all.

I have gone home a total of 10 times since the beginning of my freshman year, and I'm a super senior.

I never knew how big of a homebody I was till I moved 965 miles away. It has certainly showed me how great of a family I have and how much they mean to me. My parents have come to visit me at least two times each, and I know that there are not a lot of parents who would give up their time and money just to come see their daughter. I am so grateful to have them in my life.

I know my decision to go to school

so far away has been hard for them especially with my tendency to be a klutz and the many accidents I have had since coming to school, some of these including three concussions, extensive ankle sprains and bouts with a boot and crutches and the unfortunate occurrence of losing my front teeth and many hospital visits.

Living far away, homesick or not, has allowed me to grow and become a stronger person so it has been for the better. To be honest, Stevens Point has indeed brought many challenges into my life that maybe would not have been there if I stayed in New York for college. However, I know that all these challenges have made me a stronger person.

I know I am not the only person who is from out of state and had homesickness in college. If you are going through it, or know someone who is experiencing it, just be strong because at the end of the road there is light and hopefully all the struggles you go through in college will help you form into a better person.

So keep that chin up, buttercup. I love Stevens Point and whether you're 965 miles away from home like me or 20 miles away, I hope it has as great an effect on you as it did me.

# Grammy-nominated Jazz Pianist Visits UWSP

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Jim McNeely left his mark on campus during his recent visit when he worked with jazz musicians.

McNeely is a well-known jazz pianist and composer and current graduate program professor at the Manhattan School of Music and William Paterson University.

The guest artist instructed several master classes with music students during his visit. Workshops with him covered many topics including improvisation, composition, jazz piano, jazz combinations, music business and career development.

McNeely's visit was completely funded and coordinated by the Jazz Society of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Members of the organization coordinated the business arrangements and itinerary for the musician's residency.

Mathew Buchman, professor of music and director of jazz studies, advises the organization. He believes

exposing the music students to professionals in their field is crucial to helping graduates become successful performers.

"I think it's one thing for them to hear their teachers tell them things day after day after day. It's another thing for a guest artist from the outside to come in," Buchman said. "Hearing that from someone else besides the people that they see everyday and from someone who has incomparable professional credentials is beyond words in terms of importance."

Buchman said giving music students the opportunity to interact with such a highly respected musician allows them to put themselves in the musician's shoes. It gave students a clearer image of the process of becoming a successful and professional artist.

Jacob Opperman, a society member, is a junior jazz studies performance and instrumental music education major.

"The experience of getting to meet and play with these players has been the highlight of every semester of mine, and it's an experience I look forward to



Photo courtesy of jim-mcneely.com

every chance we get. I'm really thankful we get this opportunity here because not many people get the chance to meet professionals in their field," he said.

Opperman said McNeely emphasized the importance of keeping a balance between staying true to one's unique style as a musician and simultaneously being versatile and adaptable

to working with different musicians.

Kory Peterson, senior music and arts management major, is vice president of the society and found the improvisation and composition workshops incredibly beneficial since he is a jazz composer himself.

McNeely's visit to the university concluded with a concert in Michelsen Hall Tuesday evening featuring both the UWSP Jazz Band and Jazz Ensemble. Each group included pieces featuring McNeely's music talent.

The Jazz Ensemble performed five works, all composed or arranged by McNeely. The pianist soloed on two of his most well-known pieces, "Seiltänzer" and "In This Moment."

"I just really enjoyed how human he was. In the jazz world, he is a pretty big star, and he has played with the biggest names in recent jazz history. To be around him in general just was amazing. For the jazz world, it is kind of like meeting a pop star and finding out they are actually really cool people and do not really hold any of that status," Peterson said.

# Student Uses Study Abroad to Grow in Self, Craft

ANNA SCHUTTENHELM  
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Many musical theatre and acting majors embarked on a study abroad adventure this summer to study theatre in London.

After learning more about theatre history and seeing numerous live shows, the students made their way back home to the United States.

But not Sam Skalbeck.

Skalbeck decided to extend his adventure by partaking in a dance intensive in Barcelona. He spent a total of eight weeks abroad, molding his craft through these experiences while also learning more about himself and people as a whole.

Skalbeck is a senior musical theatre major with a minor in dance. These experiences were perfect in helping him focus and grow in each of his areas of interest, he said.

"It was nice to be able to just focus

on one art form at a time," Skalbeck said. "Sometimes, here at school, we do not realize our growth because we feel like we are spreading ourselves too thin between music, acting, dance and our other general classes. This summer allowed me to be disciplined, and I saw the benefits of how rapidly I grew from such a narrow focus."

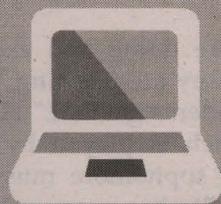
Studying abroad allows students to learn about their interests while also learning new cultures and the people that are living in those cultures, through

learning their stories and living alongside them. These experiences allowed Skalbeck to discover more about himself and learn more about how share the stories of others through the arts.

"Theatre and dance has the power to bring people together in one space to transport them to another through storytelling on a stage," Skalbeck said.

"The more you learn about history and people's experiences, the better you can give life to the characters you portray on stage."

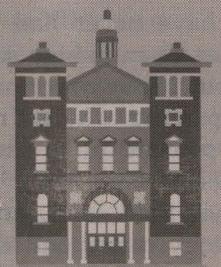
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# 'Cock' to Challenge Audience Members at UWSP

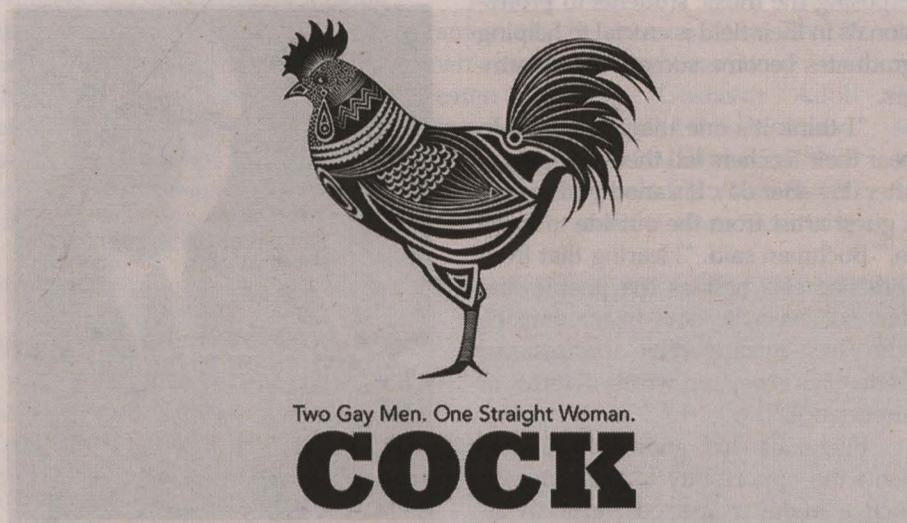
ANNA SCHUTTENHELM  
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Many people tend to giggle when they hear the title of the play written by British playwright Mike Bartlett.

"Cock" is a play that explores identity, sexuality and the difficulties that arise when people realize they have a choice, all while taking a playful but real approach to the matter.

"Cock" is about a man named John who has been in a stable relationship with his boyfriend for many years and has always labeled himself as gay. After John and his boyfriend decide to take a break, John meets a girl who he believes may be the girl of his dreams. John is faced with this struggle of sexuality and has to decide who he truly is.

Joe Tufte, senior acting major, has been waiting to bring this show to life at UWSP for two years. Tufte was



first introduced to "Cock" when he was a sophomore and he performed a monologue from the show in a scene study class. Since then, he has been hooked.

"I fell in love with this show right away," Tufte said. "The themes that

it expresses really relate to my life. It also challenges me to think outside the box."

Audience members may laugh when they see the title, but Tufte wants his audiences to be a little uncomfortable.

"I think people tend to think of sexuality as something that is black and white," Tufte said. "I want the audiences to be challenged and come to a new conclusion of what sexuality means to them after the end of the show."

Tufte hopes that audiences can have a better understanding of the complexities of sexuality. He also hopes that audiences will reflect on their own identities.

"It's okay to not know who you are," Tufte said. "You do not have to say what you are. You just need to be you."

Tufte will be directing the play as a part of his senior project. He will also play the part of John in the production.

"Cock" is a UWSP Players sponsored performance. It runs from Nov. 20 to 21 at 7:30 p.m. in Jenkins Theater of the Noel Fine Arts Center.



## Tony-Award Winning Musical Takes Center Stage at UWSP

Photo by Lily Dettle

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A comedy that has won numerous Tony Awards and the 1962 Pulitzer Prize for best drama has come to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" is based on Shepherd Mead's satirical, self-help book which was originally published in the 1950s. Mark Hanson, assistant professor of theater, is directing the show.

"The show does not really have a plot. You kind of know what is going to happen right at the beginning of the show. It is more about how it happens. That is the fun part of it," Hanson said.

The main character in the musi-

cal, J. Pierrepont Finch, is a young window washer who begins reading the book and decides he is going to try to succeed in business. Finch uses the book to climb the corporate ladder at the World Wide Wickets, the company where he is employed.

The show has a similar feel to the 1960s-set television drama "Mad Men" but with a much more lighthearted and funny spirit. Frank Loesser, a lyricist most famous for his 1950s Broadway musical "Guys and Dolls," wrote the show's score, which has a jazzy, swing energy to it.

The show has 25 cast members in total.

"I really enjoy the students, and I have a terrific group of colleagues in the department and in the colleges in general. I feel like every professor I meet is really into what

they are doing and excited about what they are teaching, and I think the students get that," Hanson said.

Finch is played by Drew Swenson, sophomore musical theater major. He has previously appeared in University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point productions of "On the Twentieth Century" and "Radium Girls."

Swenson is excited for the challenge this lead role brings and the opportunity to learn and grow as an actor.

"I have never had a role this big, ever. Even in high school, I had leads but I have never had a role so encompassing where I'm on stage for 90 percent of the show," Swenson says.

Ellen Reid is a junior design technology major and the lighting designer for the show. She enjoys the variety of productions she has

been a part of including "Next to Normal," "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" and "Anti-gone."

"It's a small enough program where I get my hands on everything. I have been able to do a lot of different things here rather than if I were to have gone to a private school or conservatory. I have been able to take classes in a lot of things," Reid said.

"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" will be performed Nov. 6 to 7 and Nov. 11 to 14 at 7:30 p.m. as well as Nov. 8 at 2 p.m. All shows will take place in Jenkins Theatre.

Tickets can be purchased at the UWSP Ticket Office located in the Dreyfus University Center or by visiting the UWSP Box Office website.

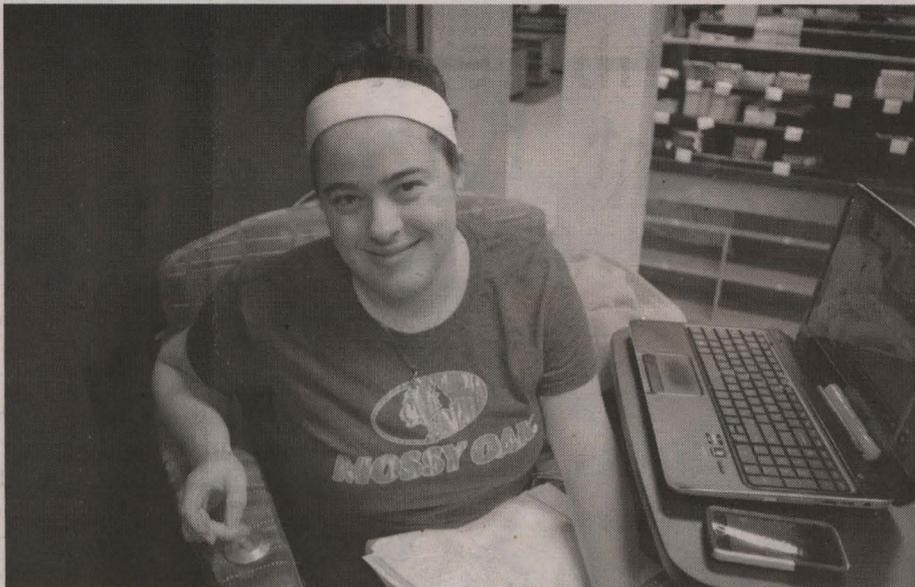


Photo by Lily Dettle

**KALA JENSEN SPOTTED AT: DUC**

Kala Jensen is a senior English major.

**What would you name your autobiography?**

"How I survived going insane slowly."

**What is your jam song?**

"Ex's and Oh's by Elle King."

**What's your favorite quote?**

"Well behaved women rarely make history."

**What is your biggest pet peeve?**

"People who say 'like' all the time."

**If you could move anywhere, without language barriers, where would you move? Why?**

"Germany. My grandpa was stationed there for four years. I've always wanted to go, but it's really expensive to travel internationally."

**If there was a day between Saturday and Sunday, what would you do with it?**

"Sleep and watch Netflix."



**TOP 10 ALBUMS**

Nov. 8 to 14

- |                                                                            |                                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> Cold Fronts<br>"Forever Whatever"                                 | <b>6</b> The Moonlandingz<br>"Expanded EP"              |
| <b>2</b> Deerhunter<br>"Fading Frontier"                                   | <b>7</b> Shadow in the Cracks<br>"Shadow in the Cracks" |
| <b>3</b> Made of Oak<br>"Penumbra"                                         | <b>8</b> Foxing<br>"Dealer"                             |
| <b>4</b> Joanna Newsom<br>"Divers"                                         | <b>9</b> Sun Club<br>"The Dongo Durango"                |
| <b>5</b> King Gizzard and the Lizard Wizard<br>"Paper Mâché Dream Balloon" | <b>10</b> Half Moon Run<br>"Sun Leads Me On"            |

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**NOV.11**

7:30 P.M.  
Clarinet Studio  
Recital  
Michelsen Hall

**NOV. 12**

7:30 P.M.  
Horn Choir and  
Low Brass Choirs  
Concert  
Michelsen Hall

**NOV. 13**

8 P.M.  
Chris Canoe &  
The Paddle Boys  
DUC, Encore

**NOV. 14**

6 PM  
Suzuki Music of  
the Masters  
NFAC Courtyard

8 P.M.  
Ildakar  
DUC, Encore

3:30 P.M.  
Horn Fest & Brass  
Day Concert  
Michelsen Hall

**"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" 7:30 p.m. Jenkins Theatre**

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