



Photo by Allison Birt

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Schmeekle Says "Goodbye" to First Director

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The first Director of Schmeekle, Ron Zimmerman, is retiring at age 66 after 37 years in the position. His time with the reserve has been marked with the progress and struggle of turning a piece of land into a self-sustaining economic entity.

Zimmerman shared his experience at Stevens Point as the people he knew

became the names of buildings and what he called, "becoming one of the old guys."

When he first stepped onto campus as a student in 1967, the College of Natural Resources was in its infancy and formally named the Dept. of Conservation. Zimmerman became the Assistant Director and eventually Director of CWES, Central Wisconsin Environmental Station, in 1975. Along the way, he befriended notable campus names such as Lee Dreyfus and Daniel Trainer before

accepting the position of the first Director of Schmeekle in 1979.

Zimmerman was given the task of transforming an abandoned farm into a natural area that could be accessible to everyone. While learning to understand the reserve's personality, he kept in mind the reserve's priorities of maintaining native communities found within the central Wisconsin area, allowing education and research, and availability for recreation.

The first hurdle for the reserve was

funding. The university's budget only provided one paid position, a Director, but with the help of work-study money, Zimmerman assembled a group of students capable of changing the reserve.

They purchased a wood router, bought some wood, and began putting up signs to explain the use of the land to the community. At that time, the visitor center was only a house that was purchased by Schmeekle Reserve. Slowly, addition after addition, the house became the building it is today.

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With Zimmerman's efforts, Schmeeckle Reserve eventually expanded as the group began making signs for various buyers; county parks, national parks, even residential properties. Zimmerman also increased profits of the reserve by offering interpretation consulting from local to international scenic areas. As a professor of Nature Interpretation for thirty-five years, Ron was able to develop a successful team of coworkers around him.

One of those coworkers, Mike Gross, first worked with Ron at CWES thirty-eight years ago. Together, they developed the university's Environmental Education and Interpretation program.

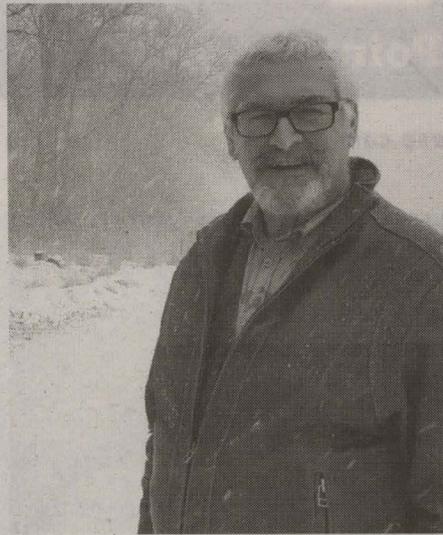
"Ron is a gifted speaker, teacher, and entrepreneur," Gross said, "Schmeeckle Reserve wouldn't be what it is today without him."

As the community and university embraced the reserve, its use and wear increased.

"There was an emphasis of transforming the reserve into a place where the public and community can interact with nature. The downside is that an area can be loved to death, creating a desire to add land" Zimmerman said.

When a small budget limited the ability to maintain staff and purchase land, Zimmerman approached the Student Government to survey students' interest in paying a student fee for the benefit of the reserve. The response was positive and, decades later, the reserve is 280 acres with more prospective growth.

After working with the university for forty years, Zimmerman is retiring but looks forward to the future of Schmeeckle. The recently established "Friends of Schmeeckle" group allows for further fundraising beyond the university's budget. He hopes the reserve can obtain more of the Moses Creek wa-



Ron Zimmermann
Photo by The Pointer Newsroom

tershed to further protect the wetlands, his favorite spot within Schmeeckle.

Jim Buchholz, Assistant Director of Schmeeckle for the past fifteen years, was appointed Interim Director until someone for a permanent position is decided.

Buchholz explained that Zimmerman was a "mentor and visionary" to him throughout his undergraduate and graduate work at Stevens Point. He hopes to continue Zimmerman's ability to unite groups with the reserve, such as the Green Circle Trail and the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame.

While living at home near Sunset Lake, Zimmerman anticipates working with "Friends of Schmeeckle."

Zimmerman's parting word to students is "Dream big. We all tend to limit ourselves... When I had to stick my neck out and do something that nobody had ever done before, I was amazed by the number of people who would come to my aid, the funding available out there, and the things that you never would see accomplished."

PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPORT

Sunday, Jan. 24

A mother called to ask about whether there was any procedure for a student studying abroad in Europe who was currently sick on a train ride.

Monday, Jan. 25

An officer observed a truck doing doughnuts in the circle by Neale Hall. The truck then pulled into Lot V, where the officer made contact with the driver.

Tuesday, Jan. 26

Protective Services received a call from the Watson elevator phone with two students being stuck in the elevator. Facility Services was then called to assist.

Wednesday, Jan. 27

A staff member called base saying that the rug outside her office was missing. She had contacted custodians in the area but the lost rug was nowhere to be found.

Thursday, Jan. 28

A staff member from Hansen Hall contacted PS in regards of marijuana use in a room.

Friday, Jan. 29

An officer was at the intersection of Portage and Isadore when a group of individuals was spotted with open intoxicants.

THE POINTER

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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.

EDITORIAL Life's Catching Up

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How did I get here?

As I sit here, trying to find something extremely witty and charming to say, the only thought blaring in my mind like a bright red, blinking neon sign is- How did I get here?

As a freshman coming into Stevens Point two years ago, I would never have been able to tell you that I would be here writing my first editorial today. Honestly, my only concern then was finding friends and getting involved.

I was nervous, but it was the good type of nervous: the nervousness that makes everything bright and shiny, causing you to see the world as this beautiful and miraculous thing.

When faced with major decisions, I remember thinking, "that sounds cool" or "that sounds fun." As ditz

as I'm making myself out to be, it was those decisions that brought me here today.

Two years later, by being involved and doing what I enjoy doing, I am able to write to you today. I can tell you about how shocked everyone was when Grace Ebert, our previous Editor-in-Chief, decided to graduate a semester early. I can tell you about the wonderful staff that fills our office and the old carpet that is held together by duct tape on our floor. But most importantly, I can tell you that I have the privilege of being more involved in the Pointer community with all of you.

I see The Pointer as this amazing organization that thrives off student involvement, both through coverage of the events on campus and through our student reporters. What we can do at this paper relies heavily on all of you. We need you all to be involved, to make things happen

in our community.

Going into this semester I am extremely hopeful for The Pointer. We just came back from competing in the Associate Collegiate Press Best of the Midwest Convention and our website placed fourth in the whole conference. In fact, it is normal for us to place highly in these conferences. This is only possible because of all the hard work and dedication that our staff puts into releasing the best paper possible.

I'm extremely excited to continue The Pointer legacy of putting out a fantastic issue every week for all of you to read.

So go out and make your own decisions, Pointers. Whether it's going on a run, picking up an issue of the Pointer, or volunteering in the community, do what is fun and interesting for you and eventually life will catch up.

University Adjusts to Faculty Leaving

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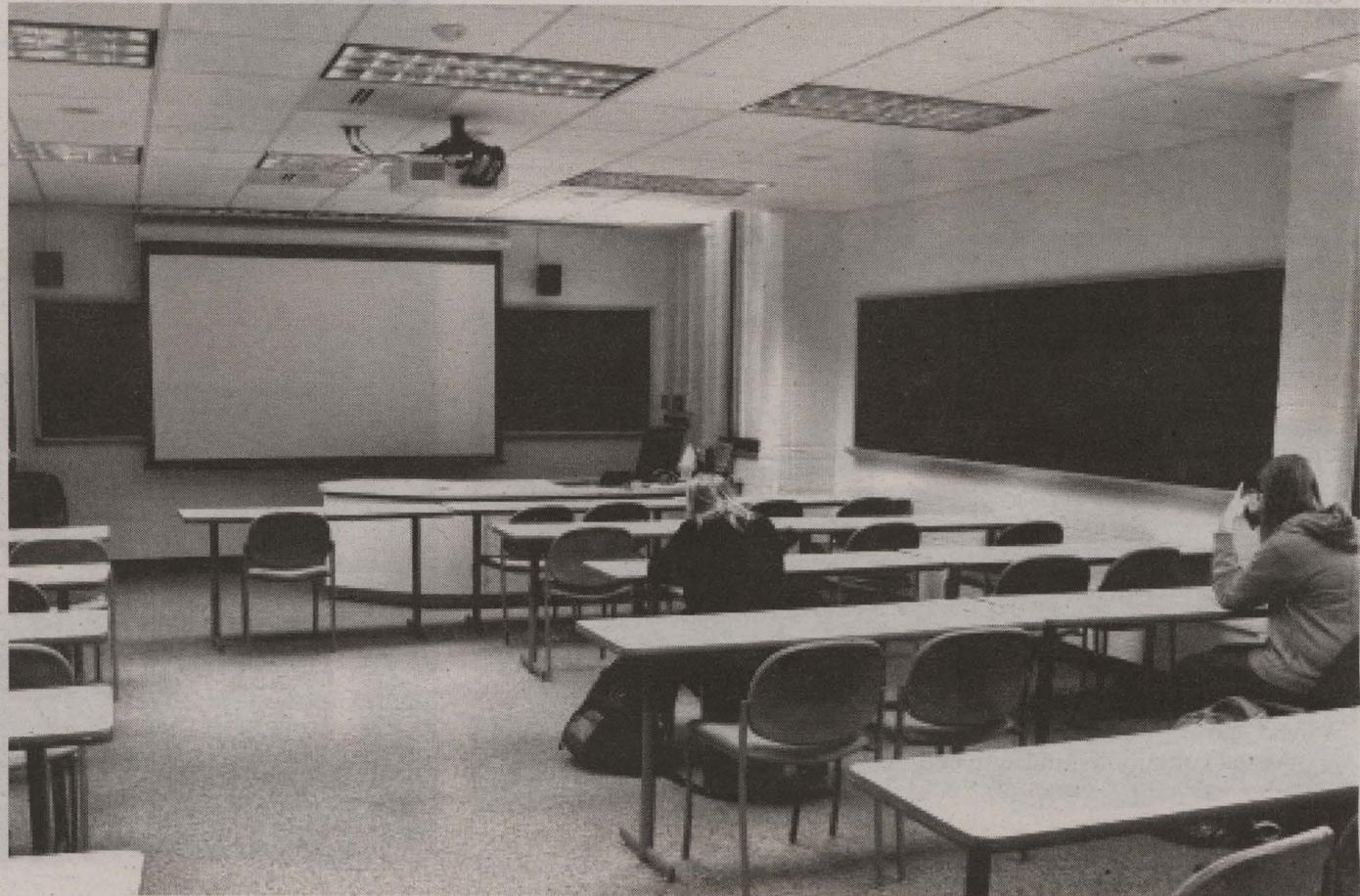
The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has been experiencing a recent influx in faculty members that have been retiring or leaving campus.

Greg Summers is the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs at UWSP. Summers credits some of the recent influx to the university's budget reductions.

"Faculty have been anxious about the budget reductions, and the change across the state. It is certainly the case that those concerns have prompted people to look for other positions," Summers said. "Any time you have turnover in any position, it can be disruptive."

According to Summers the university has been working hard to promptly replace the faculty that has left the university. However, the task has proved itself to be challenging.

"In some cases, we have a fair number of searches to hire new faculty, and some of those searches have been successful and some have not. There are concerns about salary,



It's an empty campus with faculty and staff leaving UWSP.

which makes it more difficult to hire people," Summers said.

Summers hopes that the situation will become more stable in the future.

"We have begun to talk with our department chairs, about extra efforts that we can make to recruit the best faculty that we can, and diversify out faculty. We are trying to be proactive, and to think of new ideas, new strategies and approaches to recruit faculty," Summers said.

Danny Wetland, senior mathematics major, does not feel that he will be

affected by the recent loss of faculty.

"If you look at it from a student perspective it's not good that these professors are just getting up and leaving," Wetland said. "However, when it comes down to it a person has to take care of themselves first. It's not a selfish move it's just the way it goes."

Noble Rundman, junior communications major, feels that the increase in faculty leaving campus will hurt the future of the university.

"We have really good professors

here, and if the departments are being downsized I think we are going to run into problems," Rundman said.

Rundman is also concerned that the amount of sections per class will decrease if professors continue to leave.

"I guess I can see where some of the professors are coming from, some of them have been here for a while," Rundman said. "There is less money and it changes things, so I can understand why some faculty members might be retiring early."

Students Stay Safe During Hazardous Conditions

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As the cold weather and snow persist throughout the upcoming months, it is important for students to make safe choices on and around campus.

Corinna Neeb is the emergency management specialist at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Neeb wants to emphasize to both students and faculty members the importance of safe habits throughout the winter season.

"Every November, I always send out a series of messages about winter weather awareness, but this year was unusual because the weather wasn't so bad in November. Once it got colder, I sent out more winter driving tips. We proceeded throughout the winter with additional reminders," Neeb said.

According to Neeb, the most frequent winter accidents that occur often involve tripping or falling.

"It's all about keeping the whole campus community safe, and that's what we want to do. We want to keep our entire community safe, so we want to keep reminding individuals what steps they can take to ensure their safety on campus," Neeb said.

Neeb also recommends that stu-

dents living off campus have their furnaces and wood stoves checked for carbon monoxide.

"Carbon monoxide can be deadly, so we remind individuals to be careful of what they use for heating," Neeb said.

Kaylee Bast, junior communications and business major, feels that driving is most concerning during the winter.

"You have to be a defensive driver in the winter against other people, and their stupidity as well as unsuspecting threats while driving," Bast said.

Bast also chooses to drive on main roads, because they are usually salted. In addition, she avoids walking on unsalted sidewalks or roads.

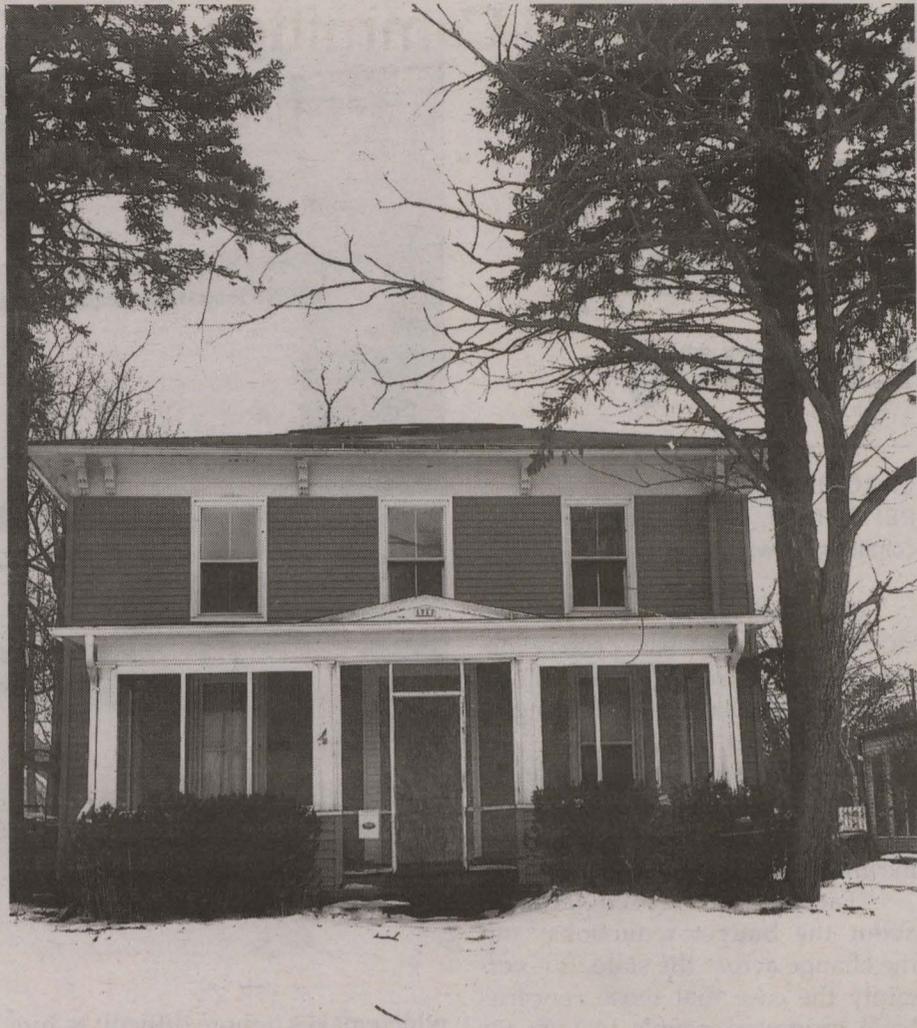
"When I slip it's usually because I'm in some sort of rush and not walking where it is salted. It's important to look in front of you when you are walking and take the time to pay attention," Bast said.

Jack Duffy, junior chemical engineering and paper science major, considers slipping on ice to be his biggest winter concern. He is also extremely cautious when driving in the winter.

"I have multiple friends who have totaled their vehicles in slippery conditions because of fast driving, so I make sure to be careful and prepared when driving," Duffy said.



Photo by Lily Dettle
Snow leaves the ground wet and slippery.



Photos by Allison Birt

Two houses damaged by a fire.

Even with Displacement, Students Persevere

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The Stevens Point Fire Department was notified of a fire reported by a neighbor on Sunday, Jan. 24, a day before the first day of the Spring semester. Nine University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students awakened and found their house ablaze at 2301 Main Street.

Starting approximately at 9 a.m., the fire at the two story-home located on the corner of Main Street and Illi-

nois Avenue displaced the inhabitants.

Earlier in the same week, another fire occurred at 1717 Main street, displacing three individuals, two of whom are current University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students and the other a recent graduate.

Fortunately, for all involved and affected, there were no casualties or fatalities. However, there was a large amount of damage done to the property and most possessions were destroyed. There was not much that was salvageable making the loss of the belongings hard for the affected students.

Once the fires were put out, the investigators began the process of identifying the origins and causes of each of them.

Mark Schoeberle, Stevens Point Fire Lt., ruled and designated the fires as electrical fires caused by remodeling and the older wiring in the homes. The fires started in the attic of the homes.

In both instances the fires were deemed accidental by investigators.

"In regards to fire safety, you should always make sure to have working fire detectors," Schoeberle said, "it actually prevented fatalities in one of the houses. The tenants and

the landlords are not responsible," he added.

Community members, faculty and fellow students were shocked by the scenes.

"I saw the second fire on Sunday at the house on Main St. while I was walking to work. There were at least 3 fire trucks and the street was completely blocked," said one of the onlookers, Melissa Lemens, a senior art student. "I was surprised because it had been pretty quiet all winterim before that," she continued.

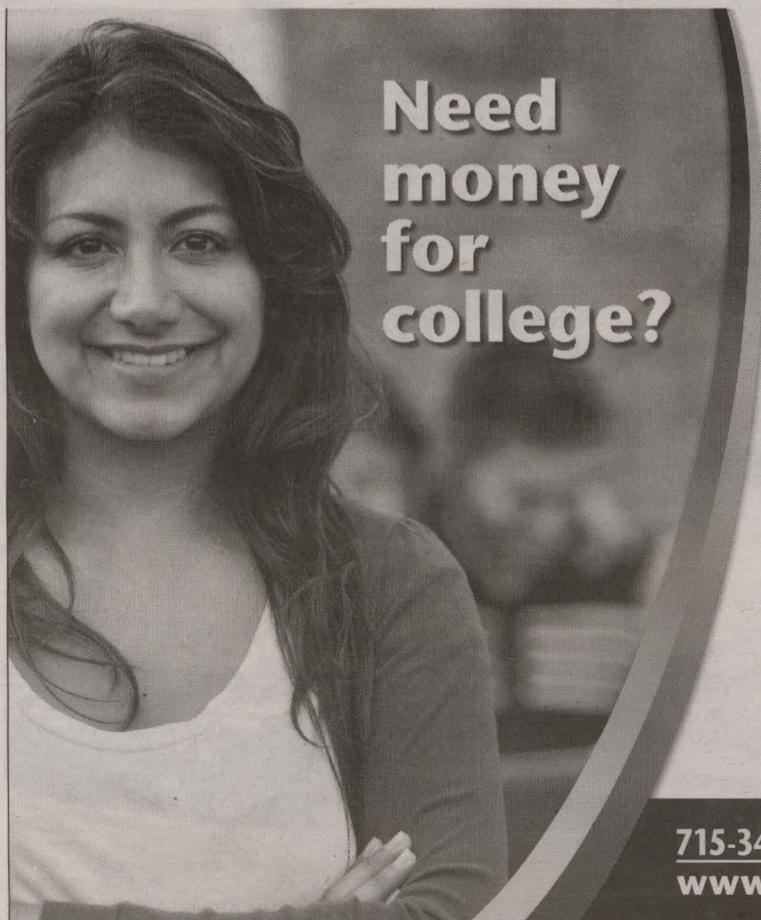
In the following days since the fires, the tenants received ample support from the student body and the surrounding Stevens Point community.

"It's odd that two fires happened in the same week," Another student, Hayley Nelson, sophomore international studies major, commented. "I hope the students can put the incident behind them and move on."

The community and university have banded together to ensure that the student's lives and education are disrupted as little as possible since the fires occurred a week before the Spring semester was due to start.

The displaced students were offered on-campus housing by the university and the offer was accepted by one of the students whilst the others found housing with friends and families near-by according to the Stevens Point Journal Newspaper.

To minimize these instances from occurring, renting students should always ensure to follow fire safety rules and regulations that are already in place. Knowing what steps to follow and where the exits are in case a fire does break out in one's home is key.



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Environmental Committee Campaigns Continue on Campus

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Student Government's Environmental & Sustainable Issues Committee (ESIC) is working to put forth campaigns encouraging sustainable practices on campus. Alex Thomas, affairs director for ESIC, stated that his goal in joining the committee is "lessening the environmental impact of campus, and educating students."

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has prided itself on being a green campus and is recognized nationally for its sustainability enterprises.

ESIC is moving forward with their plan to get composting bins in all academic buildings. Currently, the only composting in academic buildings is located in the Health Enhancement Center (HEC) and, with work from SGA, there will be composting accessible in all academic facilities on campus.

There is also an effort to provide a campus-wide discount for students who utilize reusable mugs. "Disposable cups create a lot of waste and we're incentivizing

good behavior with the discount," Justin Seis, a member of ESIC, said.

Reusable mugs offer a more sustainable alternative to compostable cups since they require less energy to produce, ship and dispose. With a reusable cup each step of production is only done once, as opposed to using disposable cups in which the process is repeated each time a person buys a drink.

Student Government is also attempting to acquire a Fair Trade Certification for UWSP. Fair Trade encourages economic arrangements that support agricultural workers, keeping farmers out of poverty.

Robby Abrahamian, a member of the committee, said that "having the qualification for that will improve the university's sustainable credibility... and it looks good to current and prospective students."

Bringing a farmers market to campus is in the works as well.

"Students could get fresh produce from local farmers," Thomas said.

Joining the local food movement can have a huge impact on one's environmental footprint, as it reduces the need to transport food from far away locations. This would cut down on the burning of fossil



The ESIC is trying to bring farmers markets to campus.

fuels involved in the transportation of goods.

In addition to all of the previous efforts, ESIC has new campaigns for the spring semester.

One of these initiatives involves teaming up with the Coalition of Organizational Leadership (COOL) in the TNR to bring in a speaker during Earth Week. The committee is also working with The Sustainability

Office in presenting a series of documentaries focusing on environmental issues coming up in February.

The Environmental & Sustainability Issues Committee meets on Fridays at 1pm in the Brewhaus conference room. Meetings are open to the student body, and those who would like to participate in the campaigns are encouraged to attend.

Sustainable Film Series Tests Viewer's 'Comfort Zone'

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The Sustainability Office and Student Government have teamed up for a third year presenting a film series focusing on environmental issues in the upcoming weeks on campus.

Featured films will be "Comfort Zone," "Jumbo Wild" and "This Changes Everything." Dave Barbier, sustainability coordinator, hopes that the film series will "both engage and educate" those who attend.

"Comfort Zone," an independent film created with donated funds from indogogo.com, brings the concerns of climate change into a relatable context by following the stories of three New York residents and how the issues of climate change impact their daily lives.

"Jumbo Wild" is presented by Patagonia. This documentary covers the story of a battle over the protection of Jumbo Valley located in British Columbia. One group wants to place a large-scale ski resort in the valley, another group formed in opposition to the ski resort with the aim of leaving Jumbo Valley permanently protected from development and untrammelled by human impact.

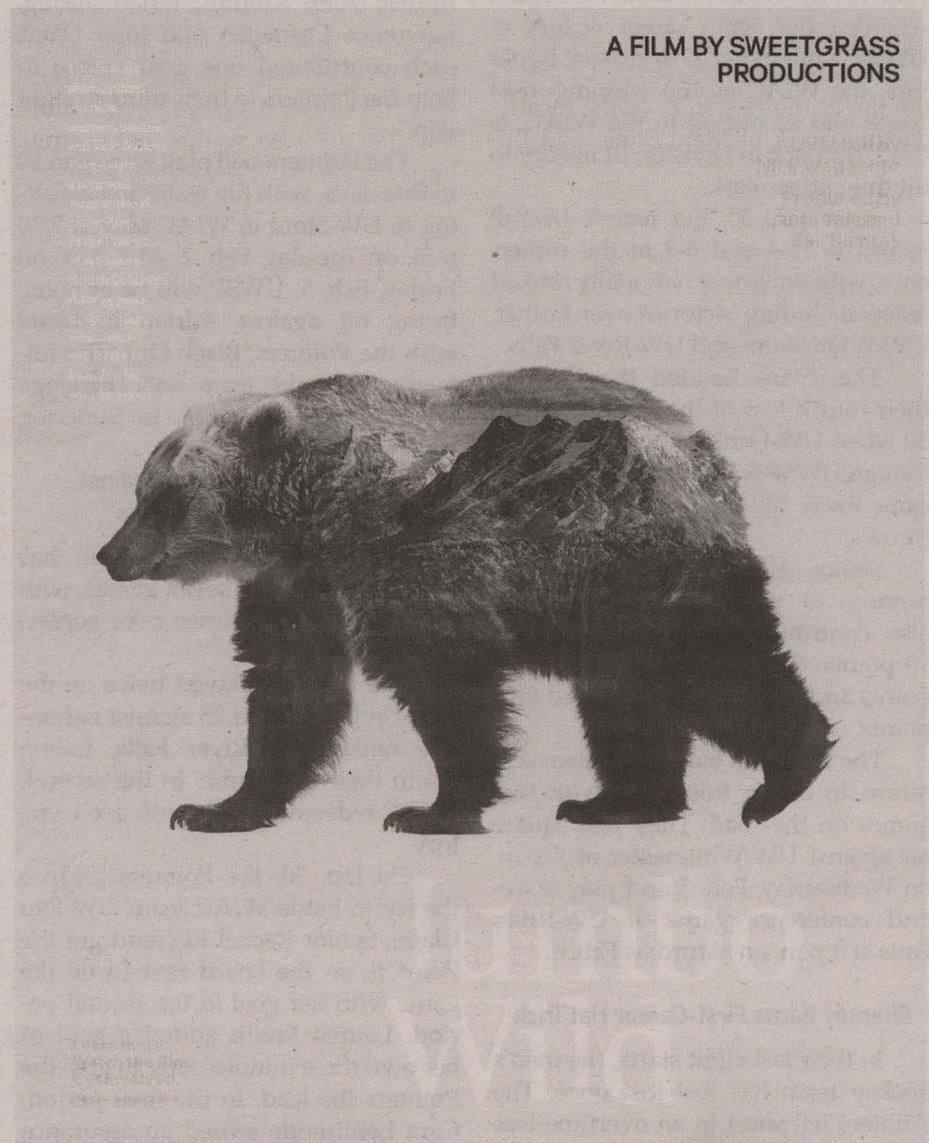
"This Changes Everything" inspired by the book written by Naomi Kline, looks into developed countries'

use of capitalism and how that economic approach impacts the natural world. This film also explains the unique concept that climate change may not be a crisis, it may be the proper push to shift the paradigm of humanity for a higher appreciation of the planet.

Selected for the series, these films bring awareness to the problems surrounding climate change. Ellie Corbin the Events Outreach Coordinator, said "the films turn to celebrate and inspire the viewers to become a part of a movement that can change the world." In addition, recent documentaries were chosen to provide new, interesting takes on the climate crisis. The series is also meant to shine a light on the different approaches to what sustainability looks like, "as aspects of sustainability often get missed" Barbier said.

Kaira Kamke, natural resources major, expressed her interest in the films saying, "All of the movies seem exciting because they are so diverse and I'm glad they are making them available to students."

"Comfort Zone" will be shown Feb. 3, "Jumbo Wild" is being presented Feb. 10 and "This Changes Everything" can be seen on Feb 17. All of the documentaries will be at 6:30 pm in the Dreyfus University Center Theater. There will be free root beer from Point Brewery and popcorn offered for those who attend.



A FILM BY SWEETGRASS PRODUCTIONS

Head Women's Basketball Coach Earns 500th Career Victory, Pointer Hurdler Sets New School Indoor 60-Meter Record

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Men's Basketball Moves to 4-4 in WIAC Play

After a short break for the holidays, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point men's basketball team returned to action earning a pair of wins at the Arizona Shootout in Phoenix, Ariz. The Pointers posted a 65-56 win against Keene State and followed up with a 61-43 victory over Hamilton.

Since returning home, UWSP has faced eight Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference opponents, with wins against UW-Platteville, current WIAC leaders, UW-La Crosse, UW-Stout and UW-Oshkosh. The Pointers recorded losses against UW-Eau Claire, UW-Whitewater, UW-Oshkosh and UW-River Falls.

On Jan. 30, senior Stephen Pelkofer led UWSP with a game-high of 23 points, earning the win against the Titans—the teams' third straight victory against a WIAC opponent. Zack Goedeke added 11 points, while Ethan Bublitz had 10 points.

UWSP will play host to two conference challengers, starting with a game against UW-Whitewater at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 3 and then against UW-River Falls at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 6.

Egner Records 500th Win as Head Coach

On Jan. 13, Shirley Egner, the head coach of the women's basketball team, recorded her 500th career victory at UWSP. Now in her 27th season, Egner tops the WIAC as the winning-most coach and according to the WIAC, is the 27th coach in Division III history to hit this career mark.

Since Jan. 30, her team's overall record is 15-4 and 6-2 in the conference, with wins over nationally ranked teams including victories over Luther, UW-Whitewater and UW-River Falls.

The Titans handed the Pointers their fourth loss of the season on Jan. 30 when UW-Oshkosh won 61-59. Although UWSP was not victorious, they came away hitting 19 of their 21 free throws.

Senior Allie Miceli led the way scoring 13 points. Lauren Anklam also contributed double digits with 10 points. Sarah Gamillo scored nine points and Mickey Roland added four points.

The women's basketball team will return to action this week with two games on the road. They will square off against UW-Whitewater at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 3 and play a second conference game at UW-River Falls at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 6.

Sharkey Earns First-Career Hat Trick

In their last eight starts, the men's hockey team has lost just once. The Pointers fell short in an overtime loss

of 4-5 to the nationally ranked UW-Eau Claire team. Their next game saw action against nationally ranked UW-River Falls. This time, the Pointers were able to pull through with a 4-3 win.

A recent pair of games against Lake Forest both proved victorious, as UWSP won on the road 3-1 and three days later on home ice with a 9-2 win.

Junior Kyle Sharkey earned his first-career hat trick and also earned an assist that night. Alex Brooks, Mark

goal to give UWSP the win.

The women's team will be back in action at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 6 when they play host to UW-Eau Claire.

Men's Swimming and Diving Undefeated in the New Year

After some swimmers spent part of their winter break training in sunny Puerto Rico, the team came home to snowy Stevens Point, posting two victories at home.

At the two-day Point Invite,

top the WIAC leaderboards in the 200 free, 500 free and 1,650 free.

The women's swimming and diving team will also travel to compete the Minnesota Invitational on Friday, Feb. 5 and Saturday, Feb. 6 in Minneapolis, Minn.

Ward Breaks School Record for Indoor Hurdles

The men's track and field team begins their indoor season being ranked No. 11 in the country after sending



Photo by Steve Frommell

Bittner, Alex Kromm, Ethan Strong, Lawrence Cornellier and Jono Davis each contributed one goal apiece to help the Pointers to their third straight win.

The Pointers will play three games in five days, with the team first traveling to UW-Stout in WIAC play at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 2. At 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 5, UWSP will be at home facing off against Adrian in Skate with the Pointers/Black Out. The following day, the team will challenge UW-Superior at 7 p.m. in Superior.

Women's Hockey Hot Against Conference Opponents

The women's hockey team has won six of their last seven games, with their last three victories over conference teams.

The Pointers played twice on the road on Jan. 22 and 23 against nationally ranked UW-River Falls, falling 3-4 in their first game. In the second, UWSP redeemed itself with a 2-1 victory.

On Jan. 30, the Pointers took to the ice to battle WIAC team UW-Eau Claire. Senior Rachel Reynard got the Pointers on the board first to tie the game with her goal in the second period. Lauren Smith added a goal of her own three minutes later to give the Pointers the lead. In the final period, Cara Lemirande scored an assurance

UWSP came away with the win in big part due to seven swimming event titles. The team's second win came one week later in a WIAC duel meet against UW-La Crosse.

The Pointers currently have six swimmers atop the WIAC event leaderboards, with Sam Jekel in the 100 free and 100 fly, Garrett Richetto in the 200 free, Caleb Miller in the 1,000 free, Nathaniel Somers in the 1,650 free, Ethan Bott in the 200 back and Joseph Hollman in the 200 IM.

UWSP leads the 200 Free Relay, 400 free relay and the 200 medley relay.

UWSP will compete next at the Minnesota Invitational on Friday, Feb. 5 and Saturday, Feb. 6 in Minneapolis, Minn.

Women's Swimming and Diving Finishes Second in UWL Duel

So far in 2016, as a whole, the UWSP's women's swimming and diving team has struggled to come up with a win as a team, but has come away with multiple individual swimming and diving titles and relay wins.

At the WIAC UW-La Crosse duel, senior Amanda Walker was champion in the 500 and 1,000 freestyles and diver Jackie Braun was the one-meter winner with a score of 266.95.

Walker is the sole Pointer at the

eight individuals and two relay teams to nationals last year.

The team started their season off hosting the Pointer Alumni and Quad meet and went on to compete at a tri-meet at UW-Eau Claire, finishing with various event titles, and the Squig Converse Invite and Multi in White-water where the Pointers finished fourth overall.

At the Squig Invite, sophomore hurdler Darin Ward set a new school record in the indoor 60-meter hurdles. He posted a time of 8.27 seconds in the finals. Ward's time is currently the ninth fastest time in the country so far this season.

Long jumper Jordan Richards won the long jump title in 7.21 meters at 23'8", which is good for the second longest jump in the nation.

The men's track and field team will host their first of three consecutive home meets, with the Pointer Invite starting at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 6.

Women's Track and Field Places Fourth at Warhawk Classic

Three individuals from the women's track and field team qualified for the national championships last season and also started off their indoor season with strong showings at meets.

continued on page 7

Montgomery Takes Saint Anselm Job, Leaves Strong Legacy

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Daron Montgomery lead the athletic department at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point for almost half a decade. That was more than enough time for him to make an immense impact at the university.

He was at the helm for numerous changes and accomplishments at UWSP including a complete overhaul of the school's logo, hosting the 2014 Division III Women's Basketball National Championship, 15 WIAC Conference Championships and a 70 percent increase in gifts given to UWSP athletics and sports funds.

While his record speaks for itself, when asking Montgomery's peers, they believe he made his largest impact through the relationships he built.

"His big thing was energy. He was always filled with a ton of energy. How he communicated with us was never in a negative way. He was always looking at things with the glass half full," Kelly Romano, UWSP Executive Athletics Assistant, said.

Montgomery first took over at UWSP four and a half years ago when he replaced Frank O'Brien, who Montgomery credits for making the job an

easy transition.

"I had the foundation for success laid out for me by my predecessor, Frank O'Brien," Montgomery said. "He brought in a lot of successful staff and coaches who knew what it took to run a good program."

Montgomery also created the Purple and Gold Club that gave not only donors, but the entire community the ability to give gifts to the athletic department. He was also a part in receiving a 100 thousand sponsorship gift from a donor, which was the largest amount ever in the athletic department.

"When it came to the donors, I always tried to do what was best for them, because they are giving back a lot to this university and I was always immensely grateful for that," Montgomery said.

In the fall of 2012, Montgomery launched a complete make over of the university's logo. He conducted questionnaires and surveys with the staff and student body in order to get a grasp of what not only he, but the entire campus, wanted to see. The final product was one of the more gratifying accomplishments of his tenure.

"I felt it was important to give this university a brand identity, and that obviously starts with the logo. I think that in part got the university excited and

gave us a chance to grow that brand," Montgomery said.

When some of his colleagues were asked what project or accomplishment they thought Montgomery was most proud of, the logo was the unanimous answer.

"Him and I went through a ton of pictures and objects to figure out what is UW-Stevens Point, and tried to portray it through the logo and also the motto," Mitch Capelle, Assistant Athletic Director for Media Relations, said.

That motto, "One Point," can be seen on banners across the athletic facilities on campus today and embodies the mentality of Montgomery.

"He really pushed for this whole university to be together, one point, and that sometimes doesn't get mentioned how big that motto is to our brand as well," Capelle said.

For many of the staff and student-athletes, it was Montgomery's ability to connect with as many people as he could and separate business from personal life that stands out the most about him.

"He always is asking about our families, how our kids are doing, what the students wanted to do 10 years down the road. I got very close with his entire family and he wasn't like that with just me, but everybody," Romano

said. "We had 550 student-athletes, give or take, and I don't know how he did it, but he made sure he knew the name and story to almost all of them."

With all the success and accomplishments Montgomery achieved while at the university, he said he felt like now was a good time to take on a new challenge.

"I have nothing but great things to say about my time at Stevens Point and I will miss it a lot, this job here at Saint Anselm was just another good fit for not only me, but my family, and that is very important to me," Montgomery said.

While Montgomery is moving on, UWSP won't ever be far from his mind and his impact will continue to be felt for years to come.

"What makes college athletics and higher education so great are the people and relationships you build over time, which also makes it the hardest part about leaving and starting somewhere, but hopefully I left the university in a better spot than where it was when I came," Montgomery said.

Frank O'Brien will return to his spot as the Athletic Director of UWSP on an interim basis. He held the spot for 20 years, prior to Montgomery's tenure.

continued from page 6

The team competed at UW-Whitewater's Warhawk Classic Invitational and Multi and they finished fourth overall out of 11 teams.

Senior Shannon Burke won the pole vault champion clearing 3.55 meters at 11'7.75". Kadie Flynn was the shot put champion with a throw of 13.00 meters at 42'8".

The women's team will compete at home for their next three meets. The Pointer Invite will start at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 6.

Men's Wrestling Wins Invitational in Illinois

Since the start of 2016, the men's wrestling team has posted one win and another fifth place finish.

UWSP traveled to Elmhurst, Ill. and competed at the Al Hanke Invitational, where four Pointers came away as in-

dividual champions.

Sophomore Ben Vosters, Joe Crook, Bo Seibel and Dan Squires all won their weightclasses, while Boone Roycraft, Jared Kust and Logan Hermesen all placed second.

On Jan. 30, UWSP was back in Ill. at the "Pete Willson" Wheaton Invitational where combined team efforts helped the Pointers to a fifth place finish.

Hermesen was runner-up at 165-pound bracket after his performances, Kust was third in the 141-pound bracket and Vosters also cracked the top four, placing fourth in the 125-pound bracket.

UWSP had 98 points and placed fifth overall out of a 32-team field.

The Pointers will be back in action at home at 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 5 for a WIAC duel against UW-La Crosse.



Photo courtesy of UW-Stevens Point Sports Information

SPORTS SCHEDULE

WRESTLING	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	MEN'S BASKETBALL	MEN'S HOCKEY	WOMEN'S HOCKEY	SWIMMING AND DIVING
Feb. 5, 7 p.m. vs. UW-La Crosse	Feb. 3, 7p.m. at UW-Whitewater	Feb. 3, 7 p.m. vs UW-Whitewater	Feb. 5, 7 p.m. vs Adrian	Feb. 6, 2:30 p.m. vs. UW-Eau Claire	Feb. 5&6 12pm Minnesota Invitational in Minneapolis MN
Feb. 9, 7 p.m. at UW-Eau Claire	Feb. 6, 3p.m. at UW-River-Falls	Feb. 6, 7p.m. vs. UW-River Falls (Alumni Day)	(Skate with the Pointers/Black Out)		
			Feb. 6, 7p.m. at UW-Superior		

Review: 'Sanctuary Bay' Dangerous to Start

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Meet Sarah: she's a foster child, saw her mother die before her eyes and heard her father get shot. She is poor, has basically no luck at all except her hyperthymesia, a perfect memory which isn't exactly a blessing.

Then she gets a scholarship to an elite private school off the coast of Maine with a total immersion program—meaning they don't leave until they graduate. When Sarah arrives she is welcomed with banners surrounded by friendly, pretty and rich people. The girls were identified by their perfect skin and the guys by their grin or lips.

When I read the first 20 percent of "Sanctuary Bay" by Laura J. Burns and Melinda Metz, a feeling of dread overcame me, I did not want to read some clichéd book about magic children or anything of the sort. However, I figured I would give it more of a chance since I was only 20% in and a couple chapters later there was a major uncovering and I was hooked.

To be honest, I'm glad this had a slightly clichéd beginning, it made the rest of the book that much better. Sure this may be due to the fact your standards are lower, but if you stick with it you'll be surprised by how it ends.

This book's Goodreads summary promised it to be genre-bending and I was a little disappointed in how little it seemed to bend genres. To me it

seemed to start off as realistic fiction, maybe a little mystery; but she doesn't try to investigate it at all. Toward the end it was more science fiction. When I think of a genre-bending book I think of time-traveling, magic, murder mystery books. I do not think of books based around an elite private school where strange things happen, that is basically a genre within itself.

With all this said, "Sanctuary Bay" quickly turned into one of my favorite books this year; I read it in two days.

There were twists and turns as soon as I thought I understood it all and, because of the nature of the secret, some characters would turn around and do something completely unexpected—like jump off Suicide's Cliff.

The characters are so perfect, after the initial impression Sarah gives to each of them, they leap off the page and stay with you. Each is unique, lovable and full of life which is exactly what a teenager should be.

In so many young adult novels the teachers are mentioned in passing. In this novel Sarah forms a close bond with one of the teachers, he becomes a confidant and someone she can look up to, yet he pushes her to be her best at the same time. It shows what a healthy relationship with an adult figure should be like instead of the normal absent adult-figure that is normally portrayed.

With all of the wonderful pieces of this book it would be a shame to give it less than an eight out of 10.

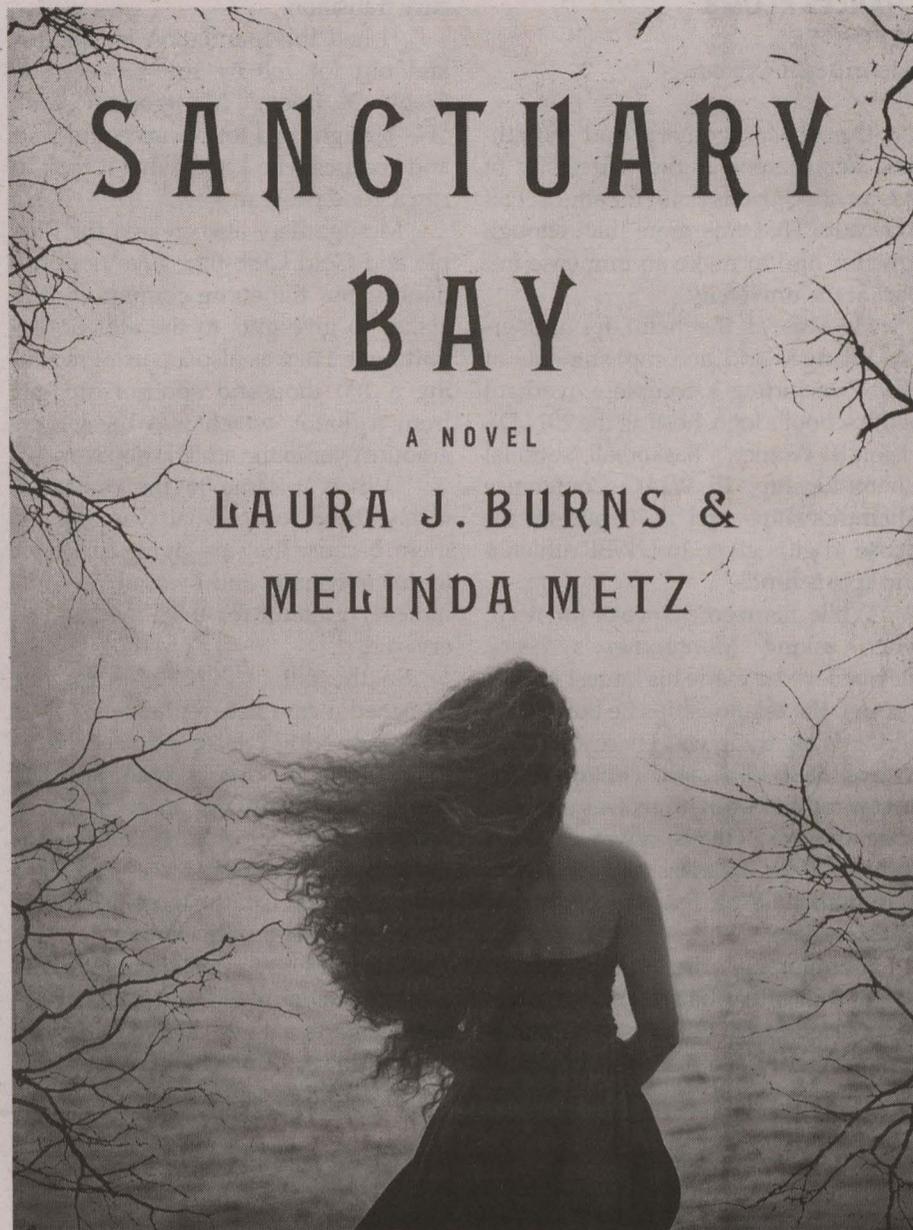


Photo courtesy of bookbriefs.net

Innovation Causes Struggle in 'Assassin's Creed Syndicate'

PAUL GROSSKOPF
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Since the release of the first game in the franchise back in 2007, I have been a big fan of Assassin's Creed.

I was blown away by the originality of its design, both in terms of mechanics like its trademark free-running system, along with its beautiful visual style and the clever meta-fictional qualities of its split narrative, which tasks the player with playing as a character in the present, who is playing the life of another character in the past.

As a result of my acquired super-fandom, I've played through to the conclusion of every major installment that the series has had to offer since the first game, though in that time Ubisoft has been rather inconsistent in their craftsmanship. While I had a blast with games like "Assassin's Creed 2" and "Assassin's Creed: Black Flag," I've also slogged my way through bloated and broken messes like "Assassin's Creed: Revelations" and last year's "Assassin's Creed Unity."

In this regard, I consider my experience with this year's entry in the franchise, "Assassin's Creed Syndicate," to

land somewhere between my best and worst encounters with the series.

This new chapter takes the player to the streets of Victorian London, where they follow the adventures of assassins Evie and Jacob Frye as they battle the oppressive regime of a secret Illuminati-esque society referred to as "the Templars."

In many ways, I felt like the game made some interesting changes and improvements to the well-established formula that has defined the series up until this point.

Until now, Assassin's Creed has almost exclusively featured male protagonists. The few times Ubisoft has deviated from this pattern has been unmemorable, both because of their decision to do so outside of the major console releases and the general blandness in their treatment of their female leads. However, "Assassin's Creed Syndicate" provides a long-awaited break from this trend, with the player being able to play through the story as either Evie or Jacob, both of whom are very well designed and are excellent additions to the roster of assassins in the series so far.

There are also some great new additions made to the mechanics of

the game as well. The introduction of a grappling gun makes movement throughout the environment significantly more fluid, while still incorporating the traditional free-running system that the series is known for.

The introduction of two protagonists also provides interesting opportunities for character customization, with the player being able to develop Evie and Jacob's skill trees and load-outs for diverse mission types, which in turn further encourages swapping between the two of them on a regular basis throughout one's play through.

However, while there are many things to enjoy in "Assassin's Creed Syndicate," my overall experience felt somewhat stale.

As much as I enjoyed the introduction of Evie and Jacob into the world of Assassin's Creed, the story that these two characters are placed in doesn't share the same originality and craftsmanship that went into making them so interesting.

While for the most part this series has never been known for its villains, after playing eight games in the last ten years I've grown rather tired of being pitted against two-dimensional antagonists whose motives begin and end

at the acquisition of power for its own sake, and thus become little more than caricatures of tyranny or corruption. Unfortunately, this game does nothing to break this trend, and thus the story falls into the worn out formula of tasking our heroes with ending the reign of such a corrupt figure as means of restoring liberty and justice to the world that they would oppress.

Also, while there have been many new additions to the mechanics of the game, there is also a great deal of gameplay that continues to be recycled from earlier entries in the series, such as the gang building system and economy simulator which have both been around since the second and third games in the franchise.

Ultimately, while I love Assassin's Creed and the traditional formula that has come to define it, what attracted me to the series in the first place was its originality of design, both in narrative and mechanics.

While I still enjoyed "Assassin's Creed Syndicate," I'm holding out hope that this series will return to its roots by leaving some of them behind.

Oscar Diversity Issue Not so Black and White

BRADY SIMENSON
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It is hard enough as it is to take hashtag activism seriously, but many of the #OscarsSoWhite crowd are making it even harder.

Now this isn't going to be some piece about how the Oscars are fine as they are and how actors of color simply need to work harder if they want to earn nominations. Hollywood absolutely has a critical problem with diversity and having exclusively white nominees for the second year in a row is an embarrassment to the entire community.

The problem though is with the mismanaged argument most activists have been making about the issue. Most people are focusing on the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences itself, attacking their voting process for neglecting to nominate performers of color. What many of them are too nervous or naïve to say is that the pickings really were slim this past year.

When pressed to name actors of

color who did deserve nominations, many of these supposedly activist writers mention names like Will Smith for "Concussion" or Michael B. Jordan for "Creed." Some of them even drop John Boyega's name for "Star Wars: The Force Awakens," the type of light-hearted, comedic role that rarely gets nominations for anyone.

Is it so horrible to suggest that those performances are a bit of a stretch as far as deserving awards? None of those parts were written with a lot of potential for actors of any color, and activists are shooting themselves in the foot to champion merely above-average performances as among the best of the year.

The activist writers who have focused more on actors like Idris Elba for "Beasts of No Nation" or Kitana Kiki Rodriguez for "Tangerine" are at least getting behind genuinely award-worthy performances, but can you really blame the Academy for overlooking those? Were any of you clamoring over those obscure roles either before all of this uproar? Were any of the writers who now gleefully slam the Academy

getting behind these smaller performances before it became fashionable to do so?

Of course not, because like the Academy, like Hollywood itself, most of those writers who are now on their pedestals don't care about small films outside of the big, mainstream system.

Small system roles, that few people ever see, are often the only genuinely great parts that actors of color can get. When they do make it into the bigger system, they are relegated to second-tier leading roles like "Concussion" and "Creed," neither of which were pushed particularly hard by their studios for award consideration.

Now, none of this is to say that the Academy itself doesn't have a big problem with racism. The point is about how frustratingly poor the argument has been made against that racism. Article after article has brushed aside the bigger problem of actors of color being kept away from the best roles every year. Instead these articles focus on trying to convince the Academy to nominate actors of color for the mediocre roles they get stuck with instead.

This problem is far deeper than the Academy. Forcing them to make changes while allowing the Hollywood casting process to stay the same is like attacking a symptom and ignoring the disease that caused it.

If the Academy starts giving token nominations to so-so performances from people of color, we're only going to end up with more racial resentment in Hollywood than there already is.

We need to do this the right way. We need to pressure Hollywood itself, not just the Academy, harder than ever to provide greater diversity in the top roles being offered every year. We need to make this a demand not for dubious recognition but for increased opportunity.

Don't demand golden trophies to appease in the short term. That's like asking for crumbs from the table anyway. Demand that everyone gets to sit at the table in the first place. Demand real, systematic change. Demand that performers of color be given real chances to earn prestigious awards because they are more than capable of doing so.

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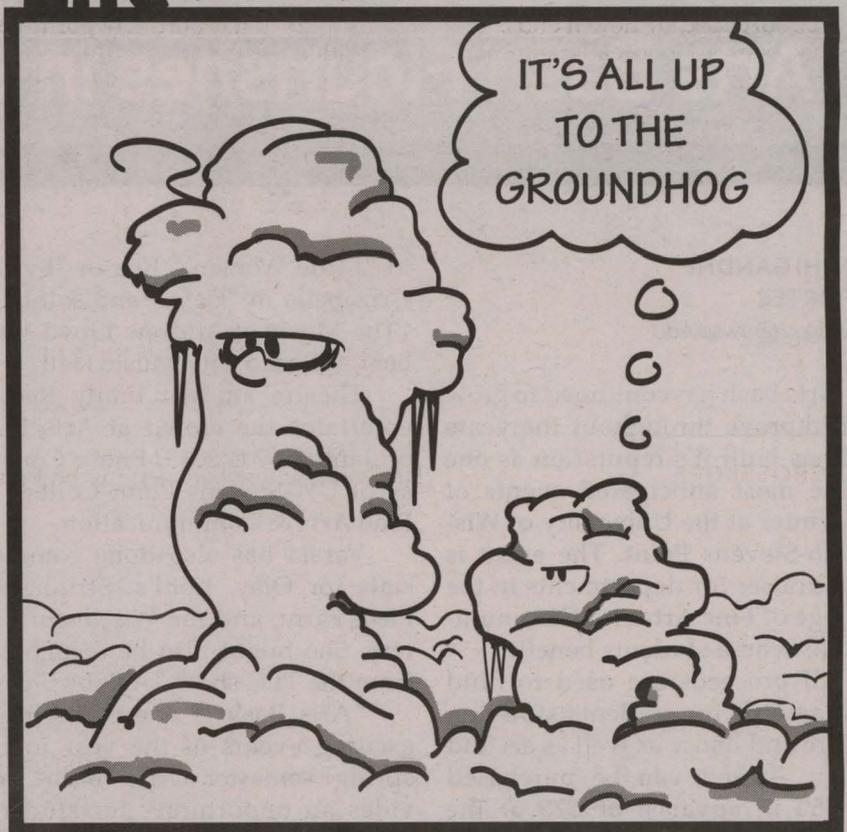
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Arts Bash Flourishes in Winter Weather

RIDDHI GANDHI
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Arts Bash has continued to grow and improve throughout the years and has built its reputation as one of the most anticipated events of the winter at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. The event is a fundraiser for departments in the College of Fine Arts and Communications where students benefit.

All proceeds are used to fund scholarships for students studying theatre and dance as well as art and design. Tickets can be purchased for \$50 in advance or \$75 at the door for community members and \$25 for students and faculty.

The event consists of an art sale from 7 to 10 p.m., with various dance and theatre performances by students starting at 7:30 p.m.

"I like to do a little bit of everything in life, and having my artwork displayed, as well as the chance for someone to buy it and hang it on their wall, is exciting," said Steven Macherey, communication major. "It's a real honor to be a part of this event because it's not just the student artists giving it their best, but the community too."

Susan Spencer Varela, UWSP alumna, will emcee for Arts Bash this year. She has performed on Broadway and national tours. Some of her work includes portraying Fantine in "Les Miserables," Jo March

in "Little Women," Eva in "Evita," Grizabella in "Cats," and soloist in "The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber" at Radio City Music Hall.

Theatre student Emily Reeves entertains the crowd at Arts Bash on January 31, 2015. Photo Courtesy of UW-Stevens Point College of Fine Arts & Communication.

Varela has also done commercials for Olay, Kohl's, Strinshafels, Fleet Farm, and the Wisconsin Lottery. She might also be recognized from the TLC show "A Baby Story."

"Arts Bash is one of the most exciting events of the year in the spring semester. Arts Bash provides an opportunity for students to showcase their work as well as that the event is great because it raises scholarship funds for Theatre and Dance, and art students," said Elaine Stone, dance major. "This support helps to nurture the growing talent and artist expression of the students."

Various food vendors will be sponsoring food for attendees to enjoy. This year's food and drink sponsors include Emy J's, Café Espresso, Polito's Pizza, Father Fats, Sugar Doll, O'so Brewing Co, Great Northern Distilling, and The Central Waters Brewing Company.

"I went to Arts Bash last year. It's such a great event. The performances are amazing and the food is to die for, so why not, ya know?" said Jaya White, acting major. "I'd kill for Father Fats mini grilled



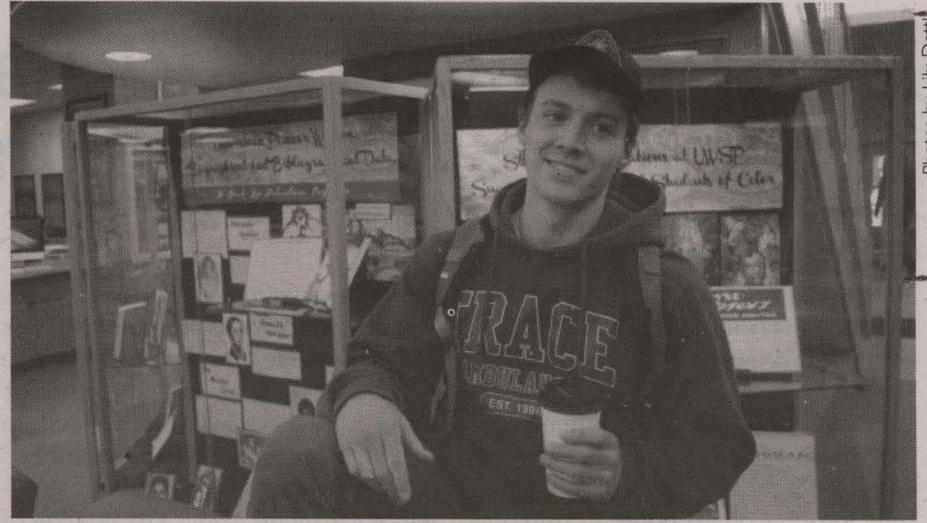
cheese right about now!"

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres, desserts and beverage samples will be available to those in attendance. A cash bar will also be available. To end the evening, a dance party is organized for the attendees starting at 9:30 p.m.

Formal attire is encouraged for those who attend. To add a whimsical aspect to the night, a photo booth will be present to capture moments with friends and family.

Arts Bash will be taking place on Feb. 6 from 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the Noel Fine Arts Center.

Photos Courtesy of UW-Stevens Point College of Fine Arts & Communication



Photos by Lily Dettle

ZOE ZI WEI THOMPSON-EAGAN

Zoe Zi Wei Thompson-Eagan is a senior history major

SPOTTED AT: First floor of the library

Do you prefer snowy or rainy days more and why?

"Rainy days because, as I always say, 'they're cuddly and cozy days.'"

How do you pass the time in winter?

"I'm a huge reader and we have a wood stove, so I would read by that. And also playing outside with my dog and stuff."

What is your favorite winter memory?

"Probably when you're a kid and you wake up and it's a snow day."

What was the best day you had over winter break?

"Getting done with finals and then going home because you can relax and catch up with friends."

What is something you've done that terrified you?

"When I went to China it was the first time I've been out of the country, or on an airplane, since I was eight months old. Plus, with my medical conditions, if something breaks, I have to have backups."

Would you rather: Wrestle a gorilla or an alligator?

"An alligator. I heard if you can manage to hold their mouth shut that's where all their strength is."

ANDREW SPRUTTA

Andrew Sprutta is a senior natural research management and conservation biologist.

SPOTTED AT: The library

Do you prefer snowy or rainy days more and why?

"Snow, to go skiing."

How do you pass the time in winter?

"Skiing, downhill, cross country and spilling coffee on myself."

What is your favorite winter memory?

"Winter camping in Slovenia."

What was the best day you had over winter break?

"We went ice climbing at Pictured Rocks and it was good."

What is something you've done that terrified you?

"Getting on a black diamond last year-- it was sad and scary."

Would you rather: Wrestle a gorilla or an alligator?

"An alligator, I plan on doing that one day."

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS

FEB. 3

6:30 P.M.
Sustainable film Series:
"Comfort Zone"
DUC, Theatre

5:30 P.M.
Oboe Master class
featuring Dr. Laura
Medisky
Michelsen Hall

FEB. 4

8 P.M.
Chase Huglin with
Natalie Trumm
DUC, Encore

FEB. 5

4-6 P.M.
Quit-n-Time with
Tyler Deaver
Basement Brewhus

7:30 P.M.
UWSP Jazz Festival:
featuring The Bad Plus
Michelsen Hall

8 P.M.
Cookie Decorating and
Hot Chocolate
DUC, Encore

FEB. 6

7:30 P.M.
UWSP String Festival
Michelsen Hall

7-10:30 P.M.
Arts Bash
NFAC courtyard

8 P.M.
The Blackberry Bushes
Stringband
with American Folk
DUC, Encore

UWSP Graduate's Kickstarter Aims to Merge Prose and Biology with Innovative Graphic Novels

MICHAEL SCHNELL
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With only a few days remaining on his Kickstarter campaign, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point alumnus Joseph Collard hopes to bring his story to life.

For as long as he can remember, Collard has held a love of writing and comics. Although he graduated from UWSP with a degree in Forestry Management, he pursued his passion of writing by working as a writing consultant in the Tutoring and Learning Center. By assisting others, Collard was able to sharpen his own writing abilities, providing him with the skills to bring his ideas to life.

Collard's latest project is titled "Solon" and combines the storytelling elements of prose with the dynamic visuals graphic novels provide. The final product will feature 300 pages of prose and at least 35 full pages of original artwork.

This hybrid graphic novel follows Carolyn Solon, a microbiologist who uncovers a hidden virus locked away within the human genome. By reconstructing and manipulating the virus, Solon unlocks the ability to achieve fiery, superhuman energy. The story follows Solon as she discovers the many mysteries hidden away in deserted areas of the world.

During his time at UWSP, Col-

lard was inspired by his passion for writing and comics to create a work of his own. He also developed a love of biology from his botany professor, Professor Robert Bell, which ended up playing a large part in Solon's story.

"I'm very passionate about storytelling," Collard said. "The heroine of my story is a very passionate person... it comes through in her science, the manifestation of her fiery superpowers, and her strong sense of ethics."

While the story contains elements of magic, fantasy and science fiction, the foundations of the story are based on many different aspects of microbiology and genetic engineering. Collard spent many hours researching topics such as cell biology and gene splicing to add factual accuracy to the plot.

Collard's aim has been to create a thought-provoking story which will allow audiences to be entertained and also learn about real scientific concepts. To engage readers even further, the illustrations will contain many Easter eggs and mysteries that readers can solve. Collard says that it will take multiple times rereading it to uncover all of the secrets and interpretations that the story has to offer.

"I want the reader to feel they can read this, look at the pictures several times and still notice something new each time," Collard says.

The prose portion of the book is complete as well as the storyboarding for the illustrations. Since Collard's

skills lie primarily in writing, he has commissioned Brian Bridgeforth of Bridgeforth Design Studio to digitally paint the graphic novel portion of "Solon."

With a successful funding of his Kickstarter campaign, Collard will be able to commission the professional art necessary to bring the novel to life.

By contributing \$30 or more, backers will receive a signed hard copy book as well as an ebook version. There are also various other tiers of rewards for contributing amounts to the project.

To learn more about "Solon" and to contribute to the Kickstarter campaign, visit www.solonexperiment.com.

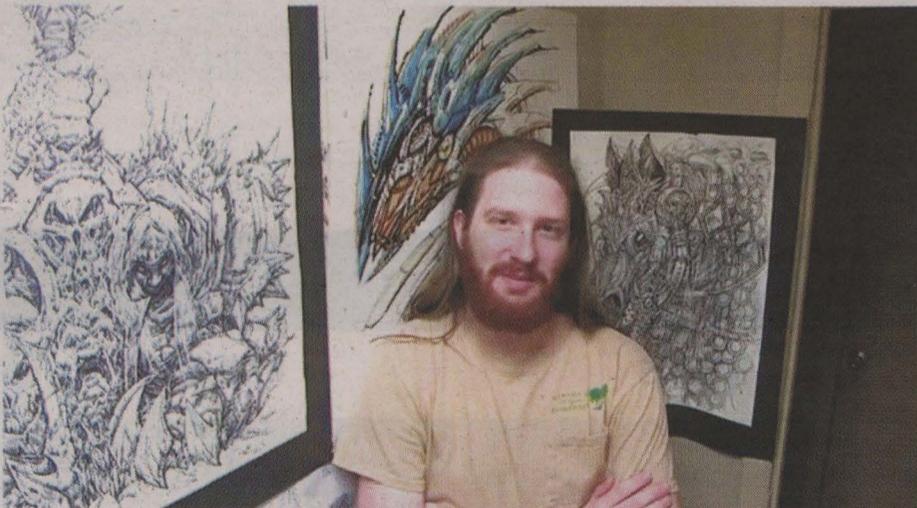


Photo courtesy of Joey Collard.

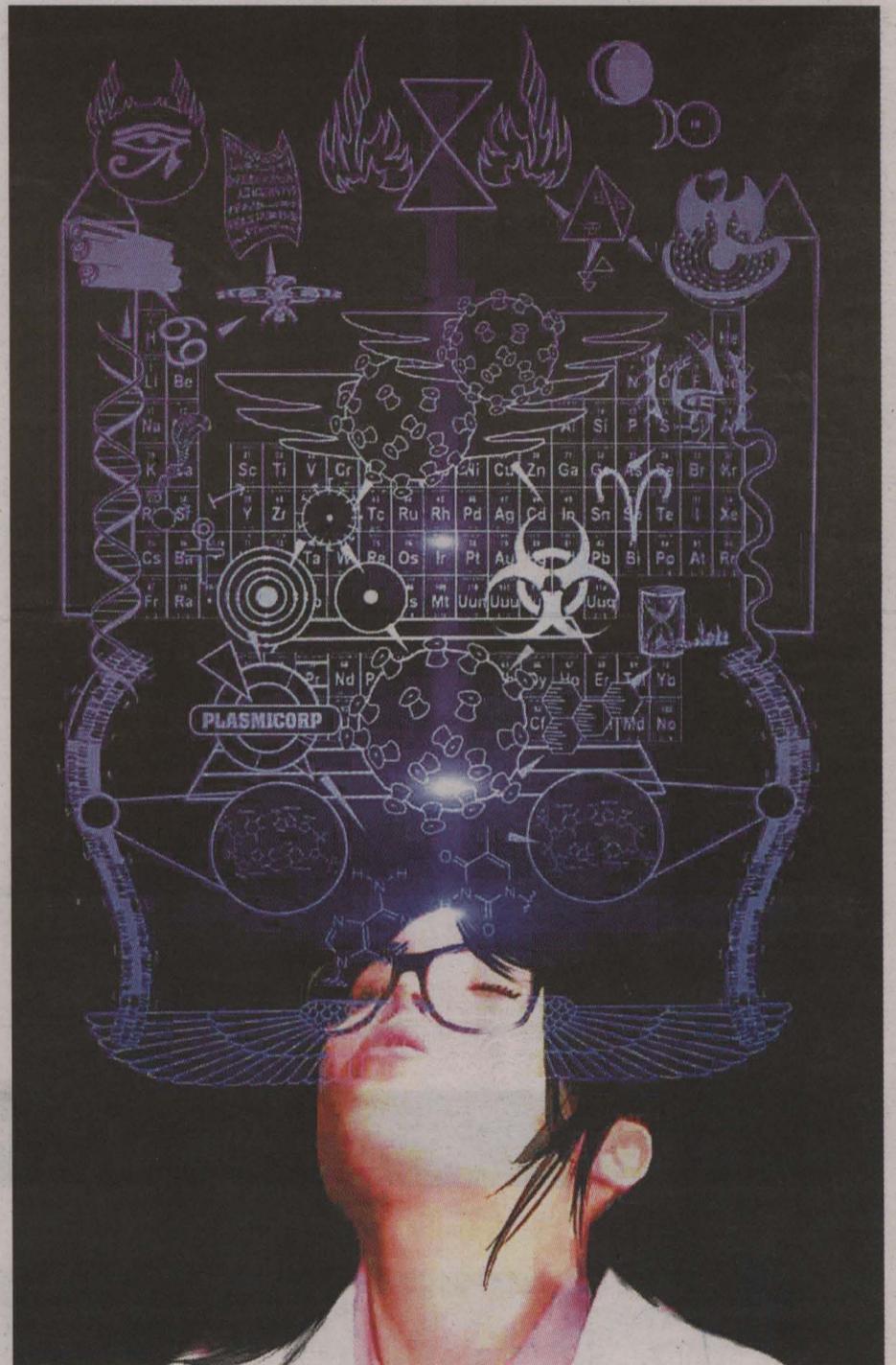


Image created by Brian Bridgeforth.



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