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Photo courtesy of Dr. Todd Huspeni

Students thrive on Hawaii field experience.

Students Flourish with Field Experience on Hawaii Trip

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While most students were battling the cold January winter, 16 students experienced the diverse terrestrial and marine ecosystems on the Big Island of Hawaii.

Through a field biology course offered from Jan. 6 through Jan. 20, students traveled through volcanoes, organic farms, national parks and

coral reefs to experience one of the most isolated islands in the world.

One of the largest opportunities the trip offered was hands-on field experience for students wanting a future in natural resources.

Field experience in Hawaii differs from other opportunities because its habitat, below 2000 feet in elevation, is completely invasive. This means nothing in the lower elevated habitats are native to Hawaii.

Dr. Todd Huspeni, the parasitolo-

gist and marine biologist professor on the trip, said this was "our opportunity to give back to one of the most invaded and beleaguered habitats on Earth."

Exploring ecosystems with so many invasive species allows students to learn how to maintain invasive species in environments beyond Wisconsin.

Between hikes, students worked on organic farms and sprayed herbicides on Himalayan ginger, which is an invasive plant destroying the native Hawaiian habitat.

Tara Buehler, junior wildlife ecology and biology major, said, "spraying was the part of the trip that was closest to what I might do in the future."

For Buehler, this trip increased her love for wanting to put her natural resource majors to use there. Helping to reduce these particular plants gives eager students insight into natural resource jobs after graduation.

"Their invasive species make you think about all the different as-

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EDITORIAL

Students Losing Connection through Addiction to Constant Connection

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Silence flows through most classrooms when students wait for class to start at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. There is a lack of sound, eye contact and human interaction while the clock ticks away.

Instead of interacting with fellow classmates, students decide to do the one thing that now comes naturally. They pull out their phones.

A recent study by Pew Research Center says that 21 percent of Americans are online "almost constantly."

Sadly, this can be true for the girl I saw walking to class on the corner of Isadore Street and Fourth Avenue.

She was texting, and without a glance up from her phone, continued to advance across the street. Car horns blared and onlookers yelled. She was nearly hit, but she never glanced up from her phone. Not once.

Do we value texts more than life itself?

My job at The Pointer requires me to constantly check my phone. And yet, there is a time and a place to check your phone, and that is not while crossing the street.

Not surprisingly, people utilize their phones for more than calls and texts. There is the constant pull of social media: Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, etc.

Informate Mobile Intelligence collected information regarding smartphone usage and found an average American will spend nearly five hours on their phone every day.

Five hours may not seem shock-

ing, but when put into perspective, that takes up at least a third of your waking time.

Imagine what you could do with five extra hours in your day. You could work out, watch a movie, or maybe even catch up with the friend you are so interested in connecting with on social media.

Unfortunately, those five hours are mostly devoted to scrolling through social media feeds.

Social media is a fantastically invaluable tool for getting in touch with people. On the other hand, using social media to scroll through selfies and political propaganda is an incredible misuse of that tool.

By trying to be hip and up to date on pop culture, we are depriving ourselves of what is beautiful about being human: the wonderful means of communication. When we use our phones as tools to avoid face-to-face interaction, we have a problem.

We have an incredible addiction on our hands.

Instead of freaking out because your hundredth Snapchat of "working out" at the gym didn't send, take this as a sign that you need to change something about your lifestyle.

We need to focus on the people who are immediately around us, on strengthening our relationships with friends, and trying to strike up friendly conversations with people we don't know.

As students, most of us came here for the "college experience:" to meet friends, network, and make memories. We will not be able to achieve this while staring at glass screens.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES
REPORT

Sunday, Jan. 31

At 11:25 a.m. a student filed a complaint of someone coming into her room earlier that morning and peeing on her bean bag chair.

Monday, Feb. 1

At 2:55 p.m. PS received an elevator call from the third floor Science Building. An individual was stuck and couldn't get out, even when multiple people tried to pry the doors open.

Tuesday, Feb. 2

At 4:28 p.m. a staff member from Pray Sims called to inform PS that whilst cleaning out an abandoned room they found what appeared to be drugs. They were in fact drugs and an officer responded to remove them from the premises.

Wednesday, Feb. 3

At 10:30 a.m. a staff member in the library called to report that a female, conscious and breathing had somehow passed out near the study area.

Thursday, Feb. 4

At 2:45 p.m. a fire alarm went off in the Student Services Center. It was a smoke detector. They believe popcorn was the culprit.

Friday, Feb. 5

At 7:38 p.m. a male came into PS to report 100 dollars cash stolen out of his wallet near the HEC. Male did not want to file a report, but did want to look at the security cameras. Male was not authorized to do so.

Saturday, Feb. 6

At 10:53 p.m. a woman reported that her purse, which held a pair of glasses and expensive makeup, was stolen from Arts Bash earlier that day. Luckily, her belongings were found the following day.

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.

Student Government Hoping for Active Election

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As a new semester begins for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, a new chapter is also beginning for the Student Government Association.

The SGA is getting ready to elect a new president and vice president, along with accepting applications for Senate. However, they are hoping not to do it on their own and want as much student participation as possible.

All students will be able to vote through their UWSP email account March 14 to 16.

Elizabeth Metzger, UWSP student, expressed what she would like to see

the next president and vice president achieve, "additional access to staff when it comes to deciding on a major. Especially for incoming freshmen."

Students looking for a way to get involved on campus and to have a voice in the student body are encouraged to apply for a seat in the senate. Senators provide their opinion at open forums and are able to join special committees.

Ronald Strege serves as director of Diversity and College Access as well as an adviser to the SGA.

"SGA is not just for political science majors. It's a real opportunity to make a real difference on this campus," Strege said. "The senate is in charge of roughly 14 million dollars that it distributes around campus."

Senators have the opportunity to participate in a dialogue that promotes where they deem that money be best allocated.

SGA communications and public relations director Alexander Tews said, "We are always welcoming students to join senate. You have an active voice on campus. If you want to be involved you should join senate."

Students considering applying to senate are welcome to attend their open meetings to have an understanding of what being a part of senate entails. Meetings are held Thursdays at 6:15 p.m. in the DUC Legacy Room.

Applications for executive and Senate positions are due Feb. 19.

Collage Showcase Presents Opportunity for All Artists

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Centertainment Productions searched far and wide to find a plethora of artists to contribute to this semester's Collage Showcase.

"Every semester since I've started working for Centertainment I've done a Collage Showcase," said Lee St. Martin, Centertainment centercase for art coordinator. "It's an opportunity for more than one person to be shown, for more people to have their art displayed at once and it also gives me the chance to meet artists that I can later offer solo showcases."

The showcase is located right outside the Laird Room in the Dreyfus University Center. This year it will be hosting a variety of artwork of all mediums from Feb. 6 to Feb. 27.

St. Martin said that all artists are welcome to display their work in the collage showcases regardless of whether the student is an art major or not. As long as the piece is not offensive or discriminatory, it will most likely have a place in the collage.

"When I was hired it was one of my personal goals to include as many people as possible," said St. Martin. "I wanted volume because I think it's a great chance for students to boost their resume and to work one-on-one with a

gallery person."

Timothy Zeszutek, senior 2D graphic design major, is once again being featured in this year's collage showcase and explains why he recommends other artists do the same.

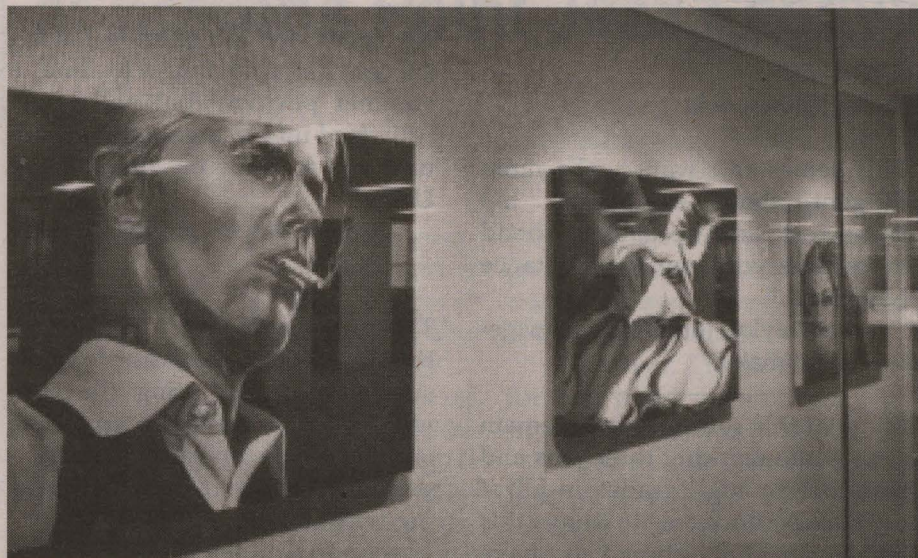
"Anything you can do to get your work out there helps, even little things like this. I've had many opportunities grow off of this so I would definitely suggest it to other students- plus it's free," said Zeszutek.

Zeszutek explained that in order to be featured in most art exhibits there is often a fee, which for many students can be hard to pull off.

St. Martin was particularly impressed with Zeszutek's work in the collage showcase, so much in fact that he reached out later on to offer Zeszutek an even larger opportunity.

"I'm different from other programmers. Most will have their semester planned out ahead of time, while I have empty dates - I'm just a lot more fluid in how I do things," St. Martin said. "Sometimes it will be two or three weeks before I'm supposed to do a show, and I have nothing, so I'll just grab my list full of previous artists to reach out to and say, 'Hey I really liked your work and I'd like to offer you your own showcase.'"

Brooke Newman, senior 2D focus major, said that the Centertainment showcase was her first experience exhibiting her work and describes how this



The Collage Showcase is a snapshot of artistic life at UWSP.

one opportunity has impacted her career as an artist.

"I was grateful for the opportunity. Because of this first 'exhibit,' I was given many more opportunities to show my work in other venues. Two people that saw my work exhibited there called me and asked me to show my work with them as well. That is a very lucky break!" said Newman.

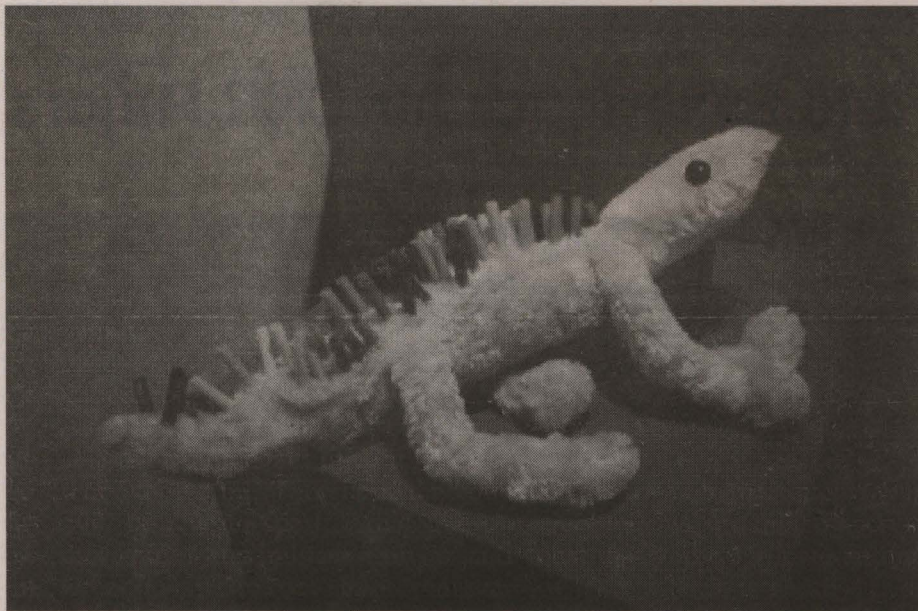
Newman described the showcase as a great opportunity to get noticed by the entire Stevens Point community.

"I took my entire painting class on a field-trip to see my show. That gave my peers a chance to think about how they

would show their work," said Newman. "I know that many UWSP students saw my work- many students that would not normally see it."

Not only did Newman get her name out there, but she was also able to sell numerous pieces.

"I had all sorts of students and local people interested in my paintings. I learned, in that period, that doing artwork can be lucrative and it gave me faith in my talent," Newman said. "Often artists don't believe that their work is important to others. This opportunity opened my eyes to my value."



Photos by Lily Dettle

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pects of management that we need to look into," Buehler said.

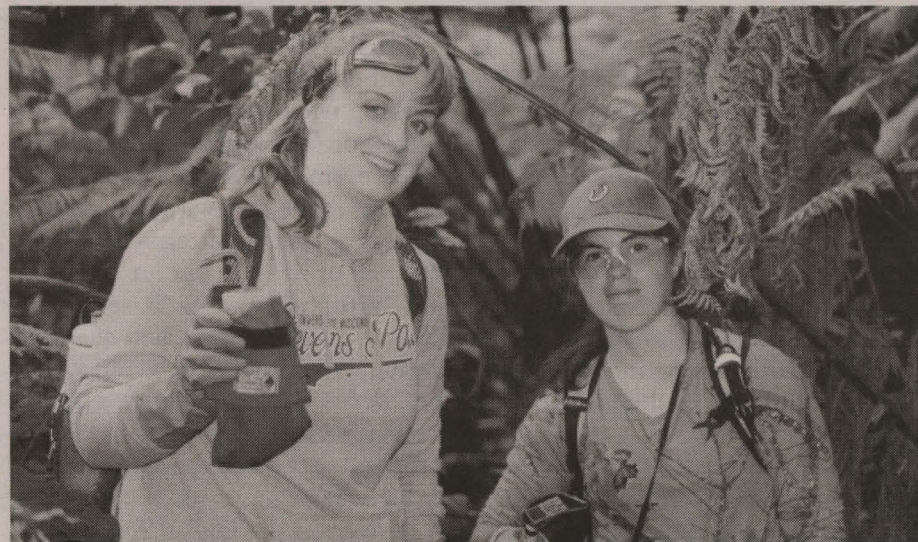
Not only are plants affected with the introduction of foreign species like Himalayan ginger, but insects such as mosquitoes eradicate many bird species through the spread of malaria.

Since Hawaii has a great concentration of particular species, learning about how an environment can drastically change in a focused area is a biologist's dream.

Adam Kamal, junior biology major, said that "seeing Hawaii get absolutely colonized by plants from other places is crazy, so all the Ha-

waii you picture in your head is invasive, not native." Kamal said this trip was beneficial because "I was always interested in being a biologist so this reaffirmed that it was something that I should do."

Experiencing such a diverse environment ensures that students will gain knowledge for their future in natural resource fields. Huspeni said, "this is the reason why CNR still maintains its field experience requirement - because of the fundamental importance of those experiences and outcomes to their majors."



BIOL 309 Winterim 2016 students Briana Wojcik and Tara Buehler prepare for Himalayan Ginger control.

Photo courtesy of Dr. Todd Huspeni

Students Share Their Aspirations for the Semester

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"This semester I want to be more diligent about completing my homework and be able to spend more time with my long-distance boyfriend."

- Kat Taylor, junior arts management major

"My goal this semester is to remain sane while working three jobs and maintaining high grades in all of my classes. I'm going to Kenya this summer to study abroad so I have to work as many hours as possible to pay for the trip."

- Mara Braun, junior wildlife ecology major

"I want to pass my classes this semester with decent grades and continue to work out. I also want to work on my relationship with my brother, especially because we have had recent altercations."

- Ryan Larson, junior health promotion and wellness major

"My goals are to continue having success in academics, to find a summer position that will hopefully feed into a career after I graduate and to enjoy my time here at UWSP."

- Caleb Meyer, junior biology major

"This semester I want to get a 3.0 for the first time. I also want to make sure that I am hitting the gym more often, continue to enjoy the job that I have on campus and expand my social circles by networking with peers."

- Andrew Schneyer, sophomore natural resources major

"My semester goal is to stay on the correct path towards graduate school. Either next fall or spring I plan on graduating. I want to continue working on my goal of going to graduate school to become a high school guidance counselor."

- Drew Brusoe, senior psychology and sociology major



"First off this semester I want to better my overall GPA, in order to prepare myself for graduate school. I also want to try and reduce my stress and hopefully be able to be more active. I would really love to work out more and do outdoor activities such as ice skating."

- Amanda Wallis, junior communicative sciences and disorders major

Photo by Caroline Chalk

"This semester I am hoping to get straight A's in all my classes, and also be a good TA for my Psychology 300 class. It's my first time being a TA and I really want to be do well."

- Darcey Aronson, junior psychology and Spanish major

"This semester my goal is to keep my GPA around the same as it is now by studying hard and really applying myself in my classes. I hope to do as well as I did last semester."

- Kendra Kruzicki, freshman clinical laboratory science-medical technologist major

ENVIRONMENT

Kenya Believe it? New Summer Field Experience for CNR Majors

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As of this year, the College of Natural Resources (CNR) is offering a trip to Kenya which fulfills the required summer field experience for all CNR majors. Previously, the CNR required students to fulfil a summer session in natural resources by attending either Treehaven in Tomahawk Wisconsin, or by going abroad to Germany, Iceland, and Poland to study European resource management.

Kenya became an option for summer field experience due to the large quantity of CNR students who must complete their summer field work. With the choice between going to Europe or Treehaven, both programs were getting full rather quickly. Offering the summer field experience in Kenya provided an alternative for more students to go abroad while still earning the required credit for the CNR.

The trip offers an alternative to those who want to study abroad while staying out of the large cities of Europe.

Amelia Fass, one of the students selected for the Kenyan trip this summer, said she chose Kenya as an abroad option over Europe because "I felt that I could travel to Europe

much easier, and that Kenya is an opportunity that is hard to come by."

The Kenya trip has been offered through the Study Abroad Office since 2011 for summer credit. The trip will be led by Dr. Holly Petrillo, professor of forestry, entomology and pathology. Some of the curriculum will be changed now that the course is part of the summer field experience but Petrillo said, "the course isn't going to change a whole lot."

Brewster Johnson, who attended the trip in the summer of 2014, said that he went to Kenya because he is "interested in sustainable design, and I've been interested in Integrated Ag."

Students on the trip will be working with small communities in Kenya on an agricultural practice called permaculture, which involves farming crops in a way that mimics natural growth patterns of crops with the utilization of crop layers.

The trip will work with tea and coffee farmers in three dryland sites and one highly-productive highland site.

"Permaculture is very applied and hands on," Petrillo said, therefore students can expect to do a lot of tactical work with the farmers in Kenya. At the end of the course, students will receive a permaculture design certificate.



Photo courtesy of Matthew Blake
Map of Kenya in Africa.

Men's Track and Field Team Look to Build Off Individual Success

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As the snow begins to melt and the temperature goes up, the outdoor track and field season is right around the corner.

Coming off a successful outdoor season last year, returning talent on the men's side is looking to repeat and improve on previous success. Three athletes in particular, junior jumper Jerry Williams, senior jumper Jordan Richards and sophomore thrower Logan Heil are trying to return to the pinnacle of their sport, Nationals.

For Richards and Heil, experiencing an event of that magnitude has opened their eyes to just how hard it is to get to that level.

"We both finished just off of being All-American's, so we switched up our weightlifting routines this summer to challenge ourselves a little bit more and try to take that next step of becoming an All-American," Richards said.

Williams has made a routine of going to Nationals as he has qualified in both of his first two years on campus. He said it is not just about being there anymore.

"I'm trying to get there and win it and be a National Champion, and I think I have made strides with my workouts and eating habits to be able to accomplish that," Williams said.

Head coach Brett Witt said he believes that being around the best of the best can only enhance the level of success for his group if they are willing to put the work in.

"Being able to experience something like Nationals for the first time is very different from anything



Photo by Jack McLaughlin

they've done at this level. You have security taking you to even go to the bathroom. It just has a completely different feel, and I have confidence those guys are going to lead by example with their work ethic, and have the rest of the team see well if this guy is willing to sacrifice this then I should too," Witt said.

How these athletes approach the team aspect of track and field

has changed with the experience of last spring.

"I really am going to try and lead by my work and results. I know personally I have to still do well to hopefully enhance the level of play for the rest of the team. One of my main goals is to hopefully be a big part in getting the team into the top three of the WIAC," Heil said.

Richards said he is looking to

switch up his style of leadership from years past.

"Last year I would be so worried about everybody else and what they're doing on top of myself, so I think this year it will be better for everybody for me to just take a step back, worry about myself and have the whole team fall into place because they are working hard to be at the top of their game as well," Richards said.

On top of these three returnees, Witt said he believes there are guys on the team who are ready to take that next step and join their teammates at Nationals in the spring.

"Sophomore Darin Ward is in a little different situation, he was with me at my old school and transferred here, but had qualified for Nationals as a freshman there so we are looking for him to duplicate that," Witt said. "Junior Neil Pederson and sophomore Brent Reiersen are a couple others we are looking to make that jump this year as they were close last year and as always we have some seniors who have made a significant jump to try to make it in their last year."

Each of these players and their individual success contributes to the overall team score, something the whole program is hoping can excel just a bit more despite individual accolades.

"You know it would really be great to get the team into that top three and that's something that we continue to make a strong point of trying to accomplish," Heil said.

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Men's Hockey Upsets No. 1 Adrian, Two Career-High Point Totals Posted by Women's Basketball Team, Wrestling Comes Up Short

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Pelkofer Leads UWSP with Career-High 30 Points in Loss Against UW-River Falls

Senior Stephen Pelkofer posted a career-high 30 points on Saturday night at home against the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Although Pelkofer hit this career milestone, the UW-Stevens Point men's basketball team came up just short against the Falcons, who earned the 81-79 overtime win.

In the final minutes of the game, the Pointers and Falcons battled back and forth to top the scoreboard.

With around two minutes left in regulation, UW-River Falls' Devin Buckley put his team up 64-62 after making a three pointer. Pelkofer responded with a three of his own, assuring the Pointers were up by one point.

With a little under a minute to go, freshman Ethan Bublitz hit both of his free throws and Pelkofer made a jump shot, pushing UWSP into overtime. In the end, the Pointers fell 81-79 to UW-River Falls, currently ranked No. 3 in the WIAC.

Pelkofer led the Pointers with 30 points, and Bublitz posted a career-high with 21 points of his own. Senior Sean McGann chipped in 17 points while sophomore Zack Goedeke added seven points.

UW-Stout will host the Pointers (11-10, 4-6 WIAC) at 7 p.m. on Feb. 10.



Photo by Jack McLaughlin

Douglas Earns Career-High 21 Points Against Falcon

Regardless of junior Taylor Douglas scoring a career-high of 21 points, No. 16 UWSP women's basketball team fell to No. 18 UW-River Falls, 77-67.

Douglas passed her previous record of 13 points in just the first half.

The Pointers led the Falcons by

double digits twice during the third quarter, but dropped back to a one-point lead late in the third.

In the final quarter of the game, UWSP charged ahead with six minutes to go in the game. During the final minutes, UW-River Falls pulled ahead by nine points, and in the end, the Pointers lost by 10 points.

Douglas netted the team-high 21 points, with junior Lauren Anklaam adding 11 points. Senior Allie Miceli contributed seven points and sophomore Mickey Roland added five points.

On Feb. 3, Anklaam upped her previous 27-point record to a career-high 28 points with a win over the nationally ranked UW-Whitewater team.

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Swim Teams Mix Business with Pleasure in Puerto Rico

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Winter Break in Wisconsin can almost guarantee cold and snowy conditions. Unless you are a part of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point swimming and diving team, who brought about half of their team across borders to the warmth of Puerto Rico for a week.

Going away for a team vacation is nothing new to UWSP swimmers and divers under the regime of head coach Al Boelk. He said he has brought his teams to other places such as Hawaii, where they stayed near the historic Pearl Harbor.

"We're at the back half of our season and we can't be taking off weeks and then try to come back and compete at the highest level, so it is pretty common for the sport as a whole to continue being active and training during the break. It's an extra treat to be able to go somewhere else to do so," Boelk said.

For some of the student-athletes, training trips give them a chance to see parts of the world they would not otherwise see throughout their four years of eligibility.

"You know, it's pretty cool to just interact with some of the different cultures of these places. We get plenty of free time to venture around and do some of the things we want, but we know we're still there to train," senior Joe Hollman said.

This being his fourth trip, Hollman said he has gotten to see a variety of different areas during his time at UWSP. Others though are taking their first crack at a training trip.

"It was a lot of fun, I had heard about how great these were so I was excited to go, and hopefully a trip like this propels us into the end of the season to do well at the conference events," freshman Reilly Donnellan said.

There were as many as 20 college teams in the Puerto Rico area during the break at various times. UWSP was there at the back end of their time off

and only got to see a fraction of those teams.

"We're not really doing any competing, but the kids can mingle with some of the other teams at certain times and it gives them a chance to talk and make friends or learn some things," Boelk said.

A trip like this might seem like it is meant to improve performance in a different element, but Boelk said that it is almost to the contrary.

"You know, I don't really think this necessarily helps with how well these guys perform when we get back from the trip, cause we got the other half of the team who couldn't go here working and training as well with less distractions, which helps a lot, but the trip is more so giving the guys and girls a chance to experience something that they wouldn't otherwise have gotten to do," Boelk said.

Boelk said he drew from his own college swimming career to see the benefits of a trip like this.

"I went on four of these things while I was at the University of Minne-

sota, and each time I was going somewhere that I know I wouldn't have gone to otherwise," Boelk said. "So for the kids that go, it is an opportunity for them to go out and expand the things they're able to see."

Despite the fun and games that come with a voyage to Puerto Rico, as the swimmers arrive back in the states, it is business as usual.

"We work all season to peak at the end of the season. We don't really have a win-loss record, so to say. It's all about the results in the conference meet and so on to see if we can extend our season, so hopefully our guys and girls are ready for the challenge," Boelk said.

The sentiment was felt throughout the team.

"This is my last chance to compete at a WIAC Championship, so I am looking to do very well there and finish my career strong with a trip to nationals," Hollman said.

UWSP will compete in the WIAC Championships Feb. 18 to Feb. 20 in Brown Deer, Wis.

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The women's basketball team (16-5, 7-3 WIAC) will return to action at 7 p.m. on Feb. 10, hosting UW-Stout.

Men's Hockey Defeats No. 1 Adrian. Now First in WIAC Standings

After trailing by two points in the first period, the No. 5/6 men's hockey team flipped their momentum, grabbing the 6-4 win against top-ranked Bulldogs.

Six different Pointers scored goals throughout the game, putting the UWSP ahead.

With Adrian already ahead 2-0 in the first period, junior Lawrence Cornellier scored the Pointer's first goal of the evening with assists from juniors Jacob Barber and Kyle Sharkey. At the beginning of the second period, junior Jono Davis added a goal of his own to make the score 2-2.

UWSP took the lead with goals from senior Joe Kalisz and junior Eliot Grauer in the second.

In the third period, senior Nick D'Avolio knocked one in, putting the Pointers up by two. UWSP's last goal came from junior Kyle Sharkey during the fourth minute of the final period.

The men's hockey team tallied another win over the weekend with a 9-1 victory against UW-Superior on Saturday night.

Barber and Davis led the team with two goals apiece.

With this conference win, UWSP rises to first place in the WIAC.

The Pointers (18-4-1, 4-2 WIAC) will host a pair of games in the coming weekend, first with UW-Stout at 7 p.m. on Feb. 12 and then UW-Eau Claire at 7 p.m. on Feb. 13.

**Conley Posts Third Shutout
Game of the Season**

The only goal of the game proved victorious as UWSP rallied against UW-Eau Claire for their fifth WIAC win of the season.

Senior Shauna Bollinger knocked in the Pointers' lone goal of the game during the third period, while the Pointers tallied 35 shots to the Blugolds 29.

Freshman Sydney Conley picked up her third shutout game of the season after making 29 saves against UW-Eau Claire.

This win over the Blugolds moves

the Pointers' overall record against the team to 26-0-2 in program history.

UWSP (13-7-2, 5-3-2 WIAC) will face off against UW-Superior in two on-the-road games this weekend. The first is at 7 p.m. on Feb. 12 and the last at 2 p.m. on Feb. 13.

Somers Places First Among Division I Swimmers at Minnesota Challenge

Between the men's and women's swimming and diving teams, freshman Nate Somers was the sole Pointer to

the women's swimming and diving team at the WIAC Championships held Feb. 18 to Feb. 20 in Brown Deer, Wis.

Women's Track and Field Team First at Pointer Invite, Men's Team Second

The women's track and field team placed first with 157 points at the Pointer Invite, with a pair of Pointers winning individual event titles.

Senior thrower Kadie Flynn won the shot put with a 13.38 meter throw and senior Shannon Burke won the

Travis Wollenberg, Connor Schultz and Benjamin Jurenec won the title with a time of 10:39.80.

Both track and field teams will host the Pointer Quad beginning at 10:30 a.m. on Feb. 13.

**Pointer Wrestling Team Drops
Conference Matchup**

UW-La Crosse handed the Pointer men's wrestling team their first conference loss of the season with a final score of 24-12.



Photo by Jack McLaughlin

leave the Minnesota Challenge with an individual win over the weekend.

Somers won the 1,650 freestyle event title in 16:15.32 and earned a runner-up finish in the 400 IM in 4:13.51.

On the women's side, junior Katelynn Homeyer finished seventh in the 200 breaststroke with a time of 2:32.88. She also placed 11th in the 100 breaststroke in 1:10.03.

The No. 9 men's swimming and diving team will compete for its 17th consecutive conference title along with

pole vault with 3.58 meters.

The men's team was runner-up out of seven teams with 174 total points.

Sophomore distance runner Alex Richardson won the 3,000-meter run with a time of 9:06.12. Freshman mid distance runner Cole Fitzgerald won the 800-meter run in 1:57.81. Sophomore Darin Ward won the 60-meter hurdles in 8.36 seconds. Senior Alex Dix placed first in the triple jump with a 13.89 meter jump and the distance medley relay made up of Ryan Spahn,

Although UWSP was dealt the loss, three wrestlers had individual wins.

Juniors Boone Roycraft and Logan Hermesen earned their wins with 6-3 and 8-4 wins, respectively. Senior Bo Seibel also picked up an individual win.

The Pointers (5-6, 3-1 WIAC) will travel to UW-Eau Claire for a WIAC matchup at 7 p.m. on Feb. 9 and will host the WIAC Championships starting at 9 a.m. on Feb. 14.

| SPORTS SCHEDULE | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| WRESTLING | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | MEN'S BASKETBALL | MEN'S HOCKEY | WOMEN'S HOCKEY | TRACK AND FIELD |
| Feb. 14, 9 a.m. WIAC Championships at UWSP | Feb. 10, 7p.m. vs. UW-Stout Feb. 13, 7p.m. at UW-Eau Claire | Feb. 10, 7 p.m. at UW-Stout Feb. 13, 7p.m. vs. UW-Stout (Senior Night) | Feb. 12, 7 p.m. vs. UW-Stout (TV Giveaway) Feb. 13, 7p.m. vs. UW-Eau Claire (Senior Night) | Feb. 12, 7 p.m. at UW-Superior Feb. 13, 7 p.m. at UW-Superior | Feb. 13 10:30 a.m. Pointer Quad at UWSP |



STORIES OF AN *American Scouser*

MARY KNIGHT
REPORTER
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As I began my college search in high school, I knew studying abroad was an experience I needed to have. Having traveled to many locations around the United States during my childhood, I felt ready to conquer another country.

London was the dream location, of course, mostly because of my infatuation with the monarchy and Harry Potter. However, running some numbers made me realize "The Big Smoke" would break my bank – significantly.

I didn't have an enormous amount of experience in any foreign language, except for a few French classes back in high school. My leftover knowledge of colors, food and a handful of numbers would not get me far in a crowd of Parisians.

United Kingdom it was then. Besides London, the other program available was a semester studying at

Liverpool Hope University.

A vibrant city on the northwest coast of England, Liverpool is known for its plethora of museums and galleries, two professional football teams, exciting nightlife and home of Britain's most famous rock group; The Beatles. Not to mention, only a three-hour train ride from London.

Sounds like a fantastic alternative.

In the months and weeks leading up to my departure, I prepped every aspect of my travels thoroughly. However, many people told me I could never be fully prepared to study abroad.

This became apparent to me less than 24 hours into my journey across the pond. The first leg of my flight from Chicago to London went without a hitch. So naturally, the travel gods decided they needed to bother me a bit.

My travel mates and I had an hour and a half layover in London until our connecting flight to Manchester departed. More than enough

time to get through customs and security, right?

We seemed to get stuck waiting in every line – or queue as the British would say – that one could possibly get trapped in at an airport. The customs officer asked me at least 15 questions about my entrance into the country and carefully studied every official document in my possession.

Finally, we were allowed to pass and jogged to the line for security. We had less than 30 minutes until our flight would depart. I hurriedly took off my shoes and jacket and put my carry-on and personal items in bins. Then I watched as a security woman grabbed my carry-on bag off the line for a random search.

Why? Why my bag?

She carefully began taking each item out and inspecting them. I could not help being slightly annoyed. I nervously looked at my phone, checking the time. Only 10 minutes until departure.

As you probably guessed, we

did miss our connector, but fortunately secured a new flight – departing 7 hours later. Ahhh!

So a day later than planned, we finally made it to our home for the semester in Liverpool. I have never been happier to see a bed and shower in my life.

As I experienced, nothing can truly prepare you for the unexpected surprises that occur when traveling. However, I have found that this is the most exciting part of studying abroad.

In the few weeks I have been here, I have met and befriended some incredible people. Students like myself who have goals and an appetite for adventure.

I have been lucky to view breathtaking sunsets along the River Mersey and awe at the historic architecture of Pier Head. I am beyond excited for all I will experience in the coming months and how it will shape me.

Bring on the unexpected surprises, Britain. I'm ready.



Photos by Mary Knight

'Pride and Prejudice and Zombies' is Plain Jane Without a Brain

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"Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" was a fresh idea once, I swear.

When Seth Grahame-Smith released the novel in 2009, it was coming at a perfect time when the zombie fad was at its peak. It was still considered by most to be a clever, subservice counterculture and had yet to be exposed as a lazy, ironic byproduct of the hipster craze.

Now that most of the world seems to have grown out of this temporary obsession, the film "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" looks more like an embarrassing relic from a bygone era. It is the cinematic equivalent of looking through old, cringe-worthy Facebook pictures.

There has to be an audience for this regrettable teenage haircut of a movie though, right?

High school students who hated being forced to read Jane Austen and adults with arrested development are the likely targets, I suppose. The movie

has little else to offer to those looking for more than the cheap premise.

Real Austen fans won't be impressed by the hollow romantic scenes, and horror fans won't be impressed by the watered-down, PG-13 zombies.

It ends up being the worst of both worlds instead of the best.

The only appealing aspect of the movie is the young cast that play this ridiculous scenario with admirable sincerity.

Lily James is a fierce and charming Elizabeth Bennett and Matt Smith takes a hilarious turn here as Parson Collins. It is baffling that Smith has not been featured more in the advertising as he is the best part of the movie and at least some of his "Doctor Who" fanbase would have shown up for him.

The film missed out on that opportunity just like it missed out on taking advantage of the original fad that spawned it.

"Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" is an appropriately dead figure that is somehow coming at us anyway. It shambles to nothing more than 5 "sensible sea monsters" out of 10.



Photo courtesy of followingthenerd.com

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Students Learn from the Best at Stevens Point Jazz Festival

STUART BENJAMIN
CONTRIBUTOR

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Jazz Festival hosted high school and middle school jazz ensembles from around Wisconsin as well as jazz trio The Bad Plus.

The jazz ensemble consists of Ethan Iverson on Piano, Reid Anderson on bass, and David King on drums. Based in New York, they have been recording together for the last fifteen years, combining complex rhythms and intricate melodies, as well as integrating popular music over the years into the world of jazz.

Students were given the opportunity to perform in front of their peers and receive feedback. Insight from the music professionals was also given in hour-long master classes for rhythm, trombone, trumpet and saxophone sections.

Janesville Craig's Jazz ensemble of tenth through twelfth graders performed for the second year in a row, under the direction of Ryan Caloud, who is in his third year of working with Craig.

"Getting to hear the same comments that they might hear from me, resonates a bit more when they hear it from someone who's been in the profession longer and might

have some insight that I might not have" Caloud said.

In addition to this, he feels that getting to see professionals perform gives students an idea of how they should present themselves and go about their business.

This year, The Bad Plus visited for two performances and a question and answer session.

During the answer session, Iverson mentioned that listening to not only professionals but also fellow peers is important for young musicians. He also mentioned that students should be looking for how the performers are presenting their music and thinking about how they, themselves, would present it; to basically become "professional listeners."

The band also expressed their passion for progressive rock and how it influenced their rhythmic style growing up as well as give the group a basis of integrating that into a group performance setting.

Middle school, high school and college music students all had the rare opportunity to learn and study The Bad Plus. They certainly walked away with a plethora of knowledge to carry with them for the rest of their semester and music careers.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS

| FEB. 10 | FEB. 11 | FEB. 12 | FEB. 13 |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>6-8 P.M.</p> <p>Coffee and Culture DUC, Alumni Room</p> <p>6:30 P.M.</p> <p>Jumbo Wild DUC, Theatre</p> | <p>8 P.M.</p> <p>Dakaboom DUC, Encore</p> <p>7 AND 9 P.M.</p> <p>The Good Dinosaur DUC, Theatre</p> | <p>7:30 P.M.</p> <p>Faculty Recital: Stijn De Cock, Piano Michelsen Hall</p> <p>7:30-9 P.M.</p> <p>Lynda Barry DUC, Laird Room</p> <p>10 P.M.</p> <p>Make your own Ice Cream Sundae DUC, Alumni Room</p> | <p>7 P.M.</p> <p>Live DJs: NOH LIFE Tons of Friends Winter Tour DUC, Encore</p> <p>7 AND 9 P.M.</p> <p>The Good Dinosaur DUC, Theatre</p> |
| FEB. 14 | FEB. 15 | | |
| <p>1-4 P.M.</p> <p>108 Rounds of Love DUC, Alumni Room</p> <p>2 P.M.</p> <p>Faculty Recital: Susan Bender, Soprano Michelsen Hall</p> | <p>8-10 P.M.</p> <p>Open Mic Night Brewhaus</p> | | |

Student Veterans Share Stories in "See Me For Who I Am"

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Although society praises the men and women who have served in our military, we often neglect the stories they have to share.

According to the United States Census Bureau, in 2014 there were 19.3 million military veterans living in the US with roughly 1.7 million under the age of 35. Out of those 1.7 million veterans, many choose to enroll in secondary education once their military service has ended. At the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point there are approximately 325 student veterans enrolled as full time students.

Many of these students face significant challenges reintegrating into the society they have been away from for so long.

Most civilians derive their image of veterans from the media which often focuses on stereotypes—the lone, battle-hardened war hero, the broken and scarred individual who remains a shell of their former selves or the dangerous ticking time-bomb waiting to explode.

In hopes of breaking down these stereotypes, David Chrisinger, a Communication Specialist and Veteran Transition expert along with twenty UWSP student veterans have come together to publish a book of their stories from their military service.

While never serving in the military himself, Chrisinger grew up surrounded by family members who had served. His father and uncle were both in the service during the Vietnam War, and his grandfather saw combat during World War II in the Battle of Okinawa. When Chrisinger's grandfather returned from the war, alcoholism followed him home and cast a large shadow over his family.

Chrisinger not only saw the effects of war on his family, but also on his longtime high school friend. Late one night after his friend returned home from his second combat deployment with the Marine Corps, Chrisinger's friend opened up about some of the issues he had been facing since arriving back home.

Chrisinger advised his friend that writing down his memories may be

a healthy and therapeutic way to address some of the issues he was going through.

This conversation led to the creation of their website focusing on giving veterans a place to share their story and read the stories of others. The site also raises money for various nonprofit organizations that support veterans transitioning back to civilian life.

With the success Chrisinger and his friend had with their project, UWSP brought in the duo to give a presentation. After the presentation was over, Chrisinger was asked if he would be interested in teaching a class for incoming student veterans.

Chrisinger's first year seminar class at UWSP called "Back from the Front: Transitioning from the Military to Civilian Life," aims to assist students in making the difficult transition back to civilian life by providing ways of handling the daily issues they may face. The class helped facilitate interaction between the students and allowed them to realize they were all facing similar challenges.

The lack of structure, discipline and sense of purpose which had been so familiar and comforting in the military caused many of the students to feel lost in a society where these rules did not apply.

Chrisinger said there were two other subjects that frequently came up during class discussions. The first was that most civilians do not truly understand what veterans have been through, and the second was that the image the media presents of veterans always relies on the same stereotypes.

It was this discussion within the class which gave Chrisinger the idea for each student to write an essay about something they wished civilians understood about war, serving in the military, coming home or any other topic they wanted to share.

The class compiled the essays into a single volume and titled it "See Me For Who I Am." They hope the book will be able to spark a dialogue on how life in the military truly is, and what it is like to come back from war only to feel farther away from home than ever before.

"What I found interesting about the writing is that there are twenty

contributors and [their stories] are all different," Chrisinger said, "You can't even really compare any of [the essays] because they are so different. I think that is the big takeaway for the

saying, "Here are my words, where are yours?"

"I think people are going to connect with [the book] for that reason—that it's not trying to persuade any-

SEE ME FOR WHO I AM

Edited by DAVID CHRISINGER

Foreword by
BRIAN CASTNER, *THE LONG WALK*

Student Veterans' Stories
of War and Coming Home

Photo courtesy of hudsonwhitman.com

civilian reader that might not know very much about military service. It's just that you can't have an image of what a veteran is because it doesn't exist, every single one is different."

Even family members of the students learned something new when they read the veteran's essay. Chrisinger said he had parents emailing him that their son never talked about certain topics and were thankful they can now read his essay and begin to understand what he went through.

It is this type of dialogue the essays create which Chrisinger said is key towards helping the students reconnect with their families, friends and people from their hometown.

Brian Castner, a well-known veteran author, wrote the forward and includes a line which Chrisinger believes perfectly sums up what they are trying to accomplish. Castner writes that although the stories in the book are not written by polished writers, it is the student standing up and

one, it's just saying here's who I am if you want to know," Chrisinger said.

Chrisinger wants to help people figure out how to handle these transitions. While doing so, he hopes to give them the tools to connect to others to create a support system they can trust and rely on. He believes whether you are a veteran or civilian, knowing your story and taking ownership over the narrative can help anyone grow as an individual and find peace in their lives.

"The real goal was to help people feel like somebody cared and that somebody wanted them to be successful," Chrisinger explains. "I think that in a lot of cases that's all it takes... it's just making people feel like they belong."

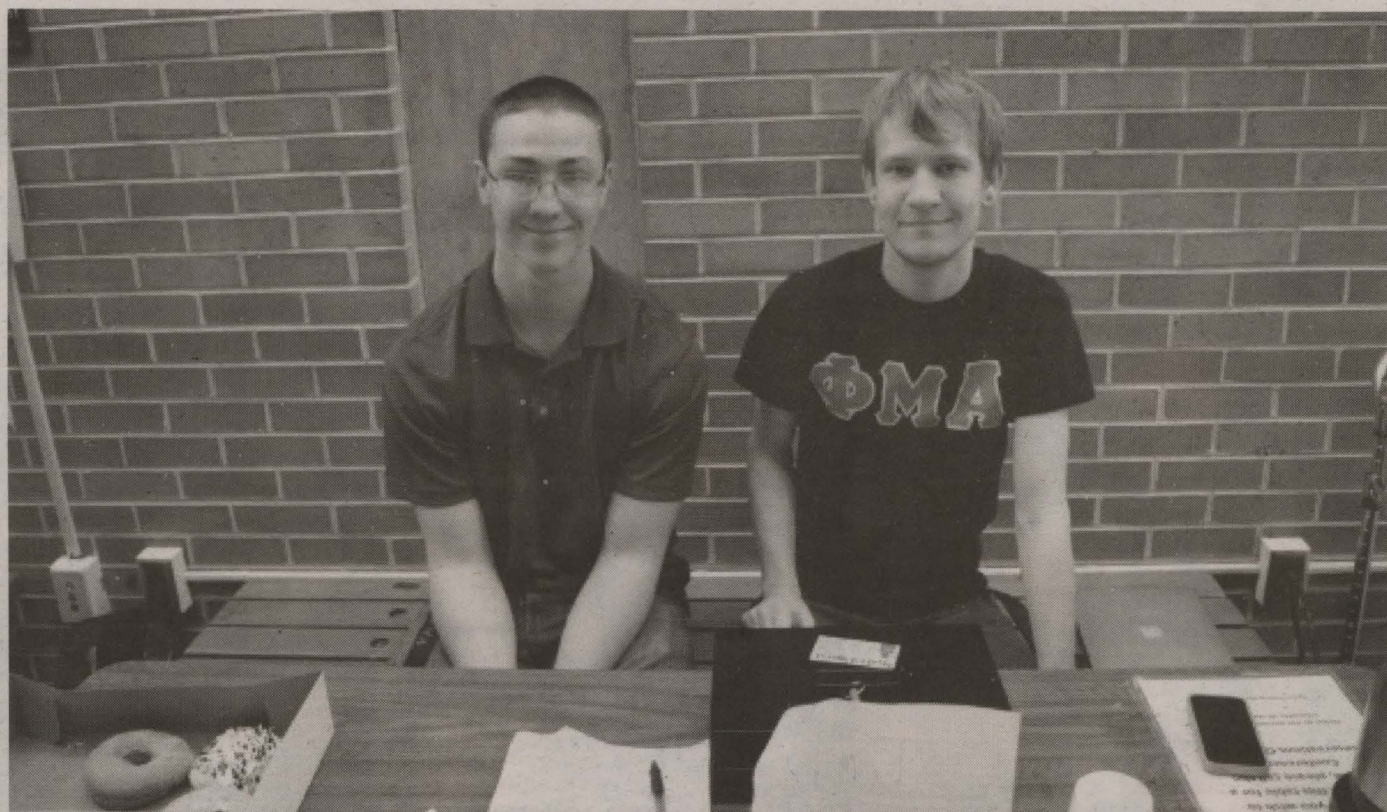
"See Me For Who I Am" is available to purchase on Feb. 15 and can be found on Amazon. The book release will be Feb. 17 in the Encore from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.



Photo by Lily Dettle

HUMANS OF POINT

Introducing you to one student at a time.



JAMES KUZMIC

James Kuzmic is a freshman music performance and education major. He plays the tuba and trombone.

SPOTTED AT: NFAC Courtyard

ETHAN ENGLUND

Ethan England is a sophomore jazz studies and performance major.

SPOTTED AT: NFAC Courtyard

If you could name a star, what would you name it?

"Rats because that's star backwards."

What would be your dream job?

"Playing in the Chicago orchestra."

If you could name a star, what would you name it?

"I'd probably name it something really lame or scientific like DR 42."

What would be your dream job?

"Saxophone professor."

How did you survive the snowstorm?

"Staying in the building."

Who is your role model?

"David Hanke."

How did you survive the snowstorm?

"Staying inside, avoiding it."

Who is your role model?

"David Hastings."

Would you rather spend your day on the beach or the woods? Why?

"Woods, more relaxing and less people around probably."

What is a cause you strongly believe in?

"Medical research for down syndrome."

Would you rather spend your day on the beach or the woods? Why?

"Probably in the woods, more a solitude person."

What is a cause you strongly believe in?

"Medicinal drug research, like studying marijuana for medicinal purposes."

Life By Jonathan Seymour



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Women's Resource Center Instills Body Acceptance

Photo by Angela Stahl

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The Women's Resource Center helps promote body acceptance throughout the year. This week, their promotion takes the form of a photo shoot.

While last year the Women's Rugby Football Club donned sports bras and shorts, participants are encouraged to wear whatever makes them feel confident.

"Athletes already have a good rep as far as body positivity in media, so I thought even though rugby provides a wide variety of body types, we weren't doing the best we could. So I decided to open it up to more than just athletes," said Angela Stahl, junior psychology and Spanish major.

As the Promotions Coordinator in the Women's Resource Center, she is able to get the word out about this campaign.

During the week of Feb. 7-13,

students will gather in the Noel Fine Arts Center's courtyard to be photographed. The photographers and helpers are aware not everyone will be comfortable and hope to make them feel more confident.

"We will have more people there than just the photographers. We are also potentially having someone do some videoing too. Just to talk to people so they can talk about what makes them feel confident, what inspired them to come to the event," Stahl said.

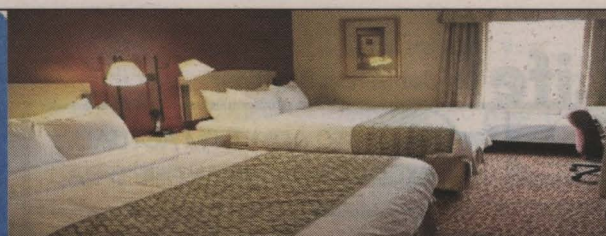
Since the main goal is body acceptance, the pictures are only altered to increase or decrease the brightness.

"I want to show everyone that no matter who you are you can love yourself for you and there's nothing wrong with that," said Ethan Cates, a junior philosophy major who plans to go Wednesday.

These photos will be displayed as posters and Facebook posts during the week of March 7 to 11.



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