Smoking becomes burning issue in UW-SP's residence halls

By Emily Engen

In September of 1996, the Resident Housing Association (RHA) instated a new, "official" definition of a non-smoker as a person who does not smoke — ever. "A non-smoker is, quite simply, someone who never smokes — whether it's outside, in a bar, or...in their residence hall room," stated Kelly Kehlbeck, Neale Hall Director.

"There was not a prior definition to what a smoker was or wasn't," said Julie Zsido, Assistant Director of Student Development at UW-Stevens Point. "The easiest way to clarify this was to make it as black and white as possible."

"We tossed around many definitions, and this was the only one that held any water," said Scott Wertel, current Neale Hall Community Advisor, former president of RHA, and chairperson of the Policies and Facilities Committee that got the policy off the ground last year.

With the installation of the new rule, some changes were made in the halls, such as designating third and fourth floors as "choice" floors campus-wide, with the exception of Roach and Watson Halls, which are completely tobacco-free.

"Before this, I don't think the smoking policy really considered the non-smoker," said Andrea Yanacheck, current director of student development. ""Smoking police."" "It's usually left up to the other community members or the smoker's roommate to bring up to their Hall Director, and then they will discuss their options," said Wertel.

Joint Finance Committee suggests state budget plans

Tuition hikes may force students to fund faculty salary increases

On May 27 the Wisconsin Legislature's Joint Finance Committee set their recommendations for the UW-System in the 1997-99 biennial budget.

Under this proposal, students could face tuition increases of more than 10 percent over the next two years, the majority of that increase paying for faculty salary increases.

"Forcing students to fund the majority of the faculty salary increase is bad policy," said Jamie S. Kuhn, President of United Council of UW Students.

"The UW Board of Regents in its Study of the UW-System in the 21st Century have found this [practice] damages affordability."

Currently, funds for the increases are calculated through a formula that has students pay approximately one third of the cost and the state funding the remaining portion.

The proposal would alter that by forcing students to fully fund faculty salary increases.

According to Steve Perala, Legislative Affairs Director for United Council, "This will pit students against faculty; neither party involved will benefit."

Many faculty members echo this message, stating that the legislature needs to make a commitment to pay increases through state revenue.

In a twist that confused many observers, the Joint Finance Committee voted 11-5 to use tuition revenue, rather than general tax revenue, to pay for financial aid increases.

"If anything, I see the policy being more strict in the future," said Cathy Reck, UW-SP Assignments Coordinator, in charge of allocating every residence hall room each semester. "But it's really just an issue of balance. Whatever does happen in the future, we want to provide options for both the smoker and the non-smoker."
Schmeeckle Reserve: anyone’s haven

By Nick Kzmzmarek
Editor-in-Chief

Imagine walking down a crowded street, with cars whizzing by you at breakneck speeds. You hear the sounds of the city, you smell the odors of exhaust, and you see rivers of concrete on all sides. Then you take two steps to the left, and all of a sudden you are swallowed by nature in all of its glory. There is such a place where the odors of exhaust, and you see rivers of concrete on all sides. The reserve is home to abundant flora and fauna. The songbird population is incredible, and if you stand still long enough in the right place at the right time, you may see a deer walk nonchalantly through the the woods. There is an amazing variety of growth, ranging from hardwood stands to pine groves to marshland. There are many forms of recreation that one may indulge in while at the reserve as well. You can bike, hike, read, look, listen, feel, smell, and just generally immerse yourself in an environment that is used to profile the wants, needs, and goals of new students, 76.7 percent replied that developing surviving friendships is very important. My mother once told me, “You stay close to some friends from high school, but you stay close to most friends from college.” Whenever I talk to my mother, I thank her for the advice, because over the last three years, she’s been right.

Branching to success

By Kris Wagner
Contributor

As a new sapling in the college domain, every new student must stretch out their limbs into the wide open sky. They must plant their roots through different layers of strata in order to support the tree of success.

Limiting oneself stunts personal growth

By Chris Keller
Editor-in-Chief

College gives us all of an important opportunity to experience personal growth. By spending four years of our lives at school, we not only grow mentally, but also spiritually. By spiritually, I mean shedding old stereotypes and ignoring new ones. I feel this is achieved by meeting and associating with a large group of people.

In high school, everyone wanted to join the ranks of the popular, athletic, or "cool group." For some reason we figured if we got in with one of those groups, we’d be set for life. Little did we know that all we were doing was excluding ourselves from a lot of possible friends.

Like each tree, every new UW-Stevens Point student must find solid ground where they want to survive. The forest can be dense at times, but keeping optimistic should lead to that ultimate goal - whatever it might be.

In order to flourish, a young plant must receive rich nutrients. Students feeding on those life-essential minerals have a choice on how much they engulf: a bare minimum, just enough get by, or a plethora, allowing them to flourish in the spotlight. Everyone at school from professors to Community Advisors to student government leaders offer many options while in college. A prosperous, curious tree will probe until they reach the goldmine of needed minerals.

To finally become an adult tree, a sapling must extend its limbs from the main trunk of studies. Soaking up rays of opportunity scattered throughout the forest will give the young tree a head start. Volunteer work, internships, and jobs help the undergraduate sprout into a well-rounded successful adulthood.

If you are interested in working for The Pointer, writing, editing, advertising, or in business, stop by the office, located at room 104 in the Communication building.

The Pointer (USPS-698240)

Correspondence

Letters to the editor will be accepted only if they are typed, signed and under 250 words. Names will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate reason is given. The Pointer reserves the right to edit, shorten, or withhold the publication of letters. Deadline for letters is Tuesday at 5:00 p.m.

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A pronghorn antelope runs through a field of "little blue stem" grass up to its shoulders in the Western grasslands. A mule deer rests amidst sand, rocks and vegetation in southwestern Arizona.

While this may be happening in reality, students from Stevens Point and surrounding communities can see life-size depictions of these animals in their surroundings at the Museum of Natural History at UW-Stevens Point.

Taxidermy specimens from a collection donated by Michael Okray are featured in new exhibits in the museum, housed in the Learning Resources Center on Reserve Street. A native of Stevens Point, Okray is the owner of "Hunts West," a hunting and fishing consulting business that takes him on hunting trips around the world.

Ed Marks, curator of education at the museum, is creating more than a dozen settings of habitats and ecosystems using animals from the Okray collection. Marks includes mounts of as many species from each ecosystem as he can as he builds the exhibits. He hopes that visitors to the museum will get the message that biodiversity is important. "In every ecosystem, each species in its niche interacts with many other animals," he said.

The Sonoran Desert setting includes a mule deer donated by Okray, in addition to a peregrine falcon and a Gila monster that were already in the museum. It features an interactive question and answer mechanism about the underground life of the desert. The strategy of going underground helps a wider variety of species survive the wide variation of temperatures experienced in a desert, said Marks.

Okray donated the pronghorn antelope featured in the grassland exhibit. In this habitat, migrating birds are attracted to water-filled potholes formed by glaciers. Marks has included familiar species such as the Eastern meadowlark and the black billed plover as well as more unusual birds, like the white pelican, in the exhibit. Other specimens which help depict diversity include a badger, a 13-lined ground squirrel and a turkey vulture.

Still in progress is an exhibit called a snow glade. An existing display containing a grizzly bear has been extended so that a mountain goat donated by Okray can be included. Marks has created displays that are moveable and flexible while maintaining security for the sometimes rare specimens.

Okray said he began looking for a museum to take some of his animals because "the living room will never leave home," he says. "They will stay right here in Stevens Point where I can see them and someday take my grandchildren to see them."

Marks encourages school groups to use the museum for field trips. An information sheet is available to help teachers plan a field trip to fit their curriculum. Teachers should make reservations so that the museum staff will be prepared to help them. Student interpreters offer presentations on weekdays during the academic year.

Admission to the museum is $1.50 for adults, and 75 cents for children in kindergarten through grade 12 and their teachers and chaperones. Pre-kindergarten children and their teachers and chaperones and students with a UW-SP ID are admitted free of charge. The museum store carries a wide variety of educational and nature-related items and souvenirs. All profits from the admission fee and the store support museum programs.

Museum hours vary during breaks in the academic year and during summer sessions at the university. An updated schedule is always available by calling 346-2858.
Point captures WSUC All Sports Award

By Nick Brielowski
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

As the UW-Stevens Point men's athletic teams look back on their performances during the 1996-97 school year, they can do so with pride.

With the aid of eight top-three finishes, the Pointer men were able to capture their first WSUC All Sports Award since 1992. "This means the coaches have done a good job and the athletes have done a good job," said UW-SP athletic director Frank O'Brien.

Stevens Point collected the most conference titles in the WSUC last year, with championships coming in cross country, hockey, swimming and diving, and wrestling.

The Pointers also received runner-up finishes in indoor track and field, baseball, and outdoor track and field.

UW-SP added a third place finish in basketball and a fourth place in football.

Stevens Point racked up 61 total points to defeat second place UW-La Crosse, who finished with 49.5.

The 11.5 point margin of victory is the largest in the history of the award.

O'Brien feels that winning the award will have a positive effect on the current and future athletes.

"When you have success, coaches encourage prospects to look at that and look at the commitment the department has to being competitive."

In the race for the WWIAC title, the Pointer women were able to record a fourth place finish, amassing 45.5 total points.

UW-Eau Claire placed first with 60 points, narrowly edging out UW-Oshkosh who had 58.5. UW-La Crosse finished third (49).

The Pointers' highest finishes were seconds in soccer and softball.

Thirds were recorded in tennis, outdoor track, and indoor/outdoor track average.

First-year coaches achieve early success

By Mike Kemmeter
SPORTS EDITOR

Some coaches go their entire careers without ever making it to the postseason.

That makes the accomplishments of UW-Stevens Point first-year coaches Jack Bennett and Scott Pritchard seem even more remarkable.

Bennett and Pritchard not only took their teams into the postseason, but both saw their teams advance deep into the NCAA play-offs.

Bennett’s men’s basketball team came within seconds of the NCAA Division III Final Four after advancing to the 64-team tournament for the first time ever. Pritchard’s squad also ended a 21-year absence from the top of the WSUC Southern Division, winning the title for the first time since 1976.

To reach the success that both did, they made changes in their respective systems which the players accepted quickly.

Bennett brought a whole new style of play to UW-SP and as the season went on and the wins mounted up, his players began to believe in it more and more.

"You can preach to kids and tell them they should be confident, but they’ve gotta have some proof."

"Coach Foster brought a different mentality and he’s somebody that had been successful at the professional level," said Pritchard.

Pritchard’s other big move was the hiring of former major league pitcher Steve Foster as the team’s pitching coach.

"Coach Foster was a different person, he was able to do things in a different way and we were able to benefit from that," said Bennett.

Neither Bennett nor Pritchard expected to be in the NCAA playoffs in their first year, but if they can get their teams to build on their already high level, the rest of the nation better watch out.

Pritchard, who had seven years of experience in the Pointer baseball program (three as an assistant and four as a player at UW-SP) knew what he had to do.

"I always felt that we were too laid back, I think they accepted what they had to do, but they had to do it differently," said Pritchard.

"The guys before we’d had an average team by wins and losses this year, the guys wanted to be successful," said Pritchard.

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Sports

Pointers put together one of their most successful years ever
Sport-by-sport breakdown of 1996-97 seasons shows UW-SP's national prominence

Women's Tennis

Under WWIAC Coach of the Year Nancy Page, the Pointers finished a strong third in the conference. UW-SP found themselves just one point from second after Tammy Byrne (93 singles), Amy Oswald (85 singles), and Jenny Baker and Byrne (83 doubles) won individual WWIAC titles. The Pointers hope to follow up on last year's success after recording a 6-3 mark in dual meets.

Women's Volleyball

UW-SP continued their rebuilding from six consecutive last place finishes in the WWIAC from 1989-94. The Pointers concluded their season with a 18-16 record. Point will miss senior leaders Heidi Stephens and Chris Schmidt, but a more experienced team next year should continue the Pointer climb to the top of the conference.

Women's Cross Country

The Pointers are looking forward to next season with another year of experience under their belts. UW-SP finished fifth in the WWIAC Championships and placed eighth in the Midwest Regional. Point was led by freshman Lisa Pica, but will miss seniors Sara Drake, Amanda Livingston, and Tonisl Milburn.

Women's Golf

The Pointers completed their inaugural season in the UW-SP athletic program with a fourth place finish in the conference. Coach Scott Frazier built the young team with only one golfer with collegiate experience into a consistent squad.

All-WWIA member Jill Kristof returns next season as the Pointers hope to continue their improvement on the course.

Men's Swim and Diving

Talk about going out on top. In his final year as the coach of the Pointers, Red Blair returned to the top of the WSUC, ending UW-Eau Claire's 19-year run as conference champion. UW-SP finished seventh at the NCAA Division III national meet with great team depth and an individual winner. Freshman Jeremy Francioli won a national title in the 200 backstroke.

Hockey

After a disappointing 1995-96 season (11-14-2), NCHA Coach of the Year Joe Baldarotta revived the Pointer program to a 17-8-2 record. The UW-SP season came to an untimely end in the NCAA playoffs with a mini-game sudden death overtime loss to UW-Superior. Following the series defeat to Superior, the NCHA denied Stevens Point a bid to the Division III tournament, ending the careers of five Pointer seniors. However, with NCHA Player of the Year Forrest Gore and Goalie of the Year Bobby Gorman back, look for another exciting year of Pointer hockey.

Football

After starting out the season with a four game winning streak, the Pointers lost their last three strong against WSUC powerhouse to finish the season with a 6-3 record. In the five game win streak, UW-SP outscored their opponents 222-36. However, the Pointer offense could muster only 47 points in their three losses to UW-La Crosse, UW-Whitewater, and UW-River Falls.

Departing starters from the Pointers' 1996 lineup include quarterback Tom Fitzgerald, leading receiver Jon Dandurand, line­rusher Nathan Harms, and second-team All-WSUC line­backer Nathan Van Zeeland. Second-team All-WSUC members Shane Konop (DL), Clint Kriewaldt (LB), Ryan Krcmar (DB), Joel Hornby (C), and Fred Galecka (K) will return to lead UW-SP.

Men's Basketball

First year coach Jack Bennett never could have imagined what his team actually accomplished last season.

Not only did the Pointers make their first-ever trip to the 64­team NCAA Division III Tournament, but the team came within seconds of the Final Four.

However, UW-SP did it all on the road, including a win at UW-Platteville. The upset of the Pioneers was only their third loss in 75 games at home. The Pointers then went on to break Mt. Union's 16 game winning streak to advance to the Elite Eight with a last second Russ Austrian point in overtime.

Unfortunately, UW-SP's luck ran out against Nebraska Wesleyan. The home team's Mitch Mosser made an off-balanced three with just 1.3 seconds left, ending the Pointers' run.

Returning starters Dan Denniston, Dave Grzesk, Russ Austerman, and Derek Westrum should help offset the losses of seniors Mike Paynter and Jim Danielson next season.

Wednesday Night Lights

Men's Track and Field

The Pointer program proved to be one of the best in the nation last year behind a fourth place finish at the NCAA Division III Championships. UW-SP scored 21 points in the four-day meet to attain the highest finish in school history.

The Pointers were led by third place finishes by junior Brett Witt (800 meters), Shawn Morett (100 m dash), and the 1600 relay team of Matt Hayes, Mike Warta, Craig Anderson, and Witt. With added experience to this group, Stevens Point could make a run for a national title next year.

Fastpitch Softball

The Pointers finished in second place in the WWIAC tournament, but were snubbed by the NCAA for postseason play.

On their spring break trip in California, UW-SP was sung by the injury bug. Junior-two time all-WWIA catcher Dena Zajdel suffered a shoulder injury that ended her season.

However, the Pointers battled back, winning the conference's Eastern Division.

Behind Zajdel's return and junior first team All-WWIA members Charity Czappa and Kari Rowekamp, Point could reclaim the conference's top spot.

Women's Track and Field

The Pointers finished a strong third at the WWIAC outdoor meet with great team depth.

UW-SP won one event, the 800 m sprint medley, but had five seconds and a trio of thirds.

With only four seniors leaving, Point's future looks bright.
Q & A With Chancellor Tom

Ed. Note—Q & A with Chancellor Tom is a weekly column giving students or faculty the opportunity to ask questions of Chancellor Thomas George. If you have questions for the chancellor, e-mail The Pointer at ckell569@uwsp.edu.

What advice would you give to incoming freshman who are undecided on a major?

Though it is not necessary to have a major decided in the first year, everyone is encouraged to talk to advisors and faculty and students already decided on their major in order to make the best decision for themselves. In order to finish a baccalaureate degree in four to five years in many disciplines which have more prerequisites (such as the sciences), one should make an early decision on the choice of major.

What do you think most freshmen have the toughest time adjusting to?

The experience of living away from home and having to make a new set of friends often causes anxiety, but it is comforting to know that everyone is “in the same boat.” The first-year class is made up of the better performers in high school, and the competition in courses is keener than in high school; consequently, first-year students often find that more time and effort is necessary to achieve good grades.

How much time should a college newcomer plan on studying during a typical week in the semester?

Two hours of study for each hour spent in class is generally suggested as a formula (this number tends to be less for laboratory courses). Hence for a full-time course load of 15 hours per week, a first-year student should expect to devote up to 30 hours of studying per week in addition to actual class or lab time.

Where should freshmen experiencing problems go for assistance?

For academic assistance, students can go to the Academic Advising Center in the Students Services Center (Room 103) and/or the Tutoring-Learning Center located in the Learning Resources Center (Room 018). They can also approach a department directly if they have already chosen their major. For problems more of a personal nature, a student can turn to the residence hall director or community advisor, or the Counseling Center directly if they have already chosen their major. For problems more of a personal nature, a student can turn to the residence hall director or community advisor, or the Counseling Center located on the third floor of Detzel Hall.

Poetry contest open to residents, students

The United States National Library of Poetry has announced that $48,000 in prizes will be awarded this year in the North American Open Poetry Contest. Poets from the Stevens Point area, particularly beginners, are welcome to try to win their share of 250 prizes.

The deadline for the current contest is June 30, 1997, with another contest beginning on July 1. The contest is open to everyone and entry is free.

Every poem entered has a chance to be published in a deluxe, hardbound anthology, regardless of winning status.

To enter, send one original poem, any subject and any style, to: The National Library of Poetry, Suite 19812, 1 Poetry Plaza, Owings Mills, MD 21177-6282 or go to www.poetry.com.

The poem should be no more than 20 lines, and the poet’s name and address should appear on the top of the page. Entries must be postmarked or sent via the Internet by June 30. After that date, check the web site for further information on the new contest.

Ed. Note—Poetry is the language of the soul. Explore yours—maybe you could win money, too.

DEL MONTE FOODS

Del Monte Foods in Plover is now hiring for seasonal sanitation employment. Employees are responsible to assist in cleaning the Green Bean equipment, use of high pressure water hoses and diluted chemicals. All personal protective equipment is provided. Physical requirements include: minimal lifting, flexibility to move around equipment, including working from heights, use of upper extremities for scrubbing equipment and use of hose.

Hours: 4:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., six (6) days a week. Competitive wages are offered.

For more information, call Personnel at (715) 344-3170.

The solution is to know about this up front, make a schedule that includes classes, study time and free time right away, and stick to it. Students need to commit to studying when they have study time scheduled, just like they go to classes when they have them scheduled. It requires self-discipline, but it sure makes the beginning of the college experience more pleasant.

Bill Kirby
Professor of Education

• Meet with your professors once in a while.
• Try to keep in mind that there is value in the subjects you study.
• Extracurricular and social activities are very important but so are studies, which may seem much less exciting.
• Get to know how to use email and the World Wide Web and use them regularly.
• Join at least a couple of campus organizations.
• Get to know the folks in the Counseling Center and in Career Services.
• Read through the college catalog and know it.

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Teens relax on hay bales to pass the day near Interstate 39. (Photo by Nathan Wallin)
Con Air fails to meet expectations

By Mike Beacom
ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE

Last summer, Nicolas Cage was at the top of the film industry. After winning an Oscar for "Leaving Las Vegas," Cage followed up on his success with the box office smash, "The Rock." One year later, Cage heads a cast of marquee names to gross $150 million this summer.

"Con Air" is destined to be the summer's biggest crash. Very few movies in the history of the Academy Awards have the distinction of winning "the big five:" picture, director, actor, actress and screenplay. 1975's "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" is one of those films.

Jack Nicholson plays Randle McMurphy, a prison inmate who is sent to a state mental institute for an evaluation. The head doctor feels McMurphy may be faking his mental illness to get out of prison work detail.

McMurphy becomes a leader to the others at the hospital, but his actions are not appreciated by the hospital staff, especially the head nurse (Louise Fletcher). By the end of the movie it is clear that the 'mentally sick' inmates are in many ways as normal as people on the outside.

-Rental-

Thomas' adventures appeal to broad audience

The book follows Thomas' development as a person and as an outdoorswoman, interspersing moments of revelation and maturation with humor, both in situation and dialogue.

"Of special note is the story "The Aqua Velva Man" and a man that she calls "The Jerk" in a story entitled "Dirt is our Friend." Of course one can paint pictures with words. Thomas has that ability.

If you've been down at the rodeo again, haven't you?

Well, as a kid I was in a bush fire and had to have a lot of skin grafts.

"I think that boy's running with the wrong crowd.

"Quiting lying to me, Jed. You've been down at the rodeo again, haven't you?"

-Crossword America-

-Advertistar Reoresentive-

"I'm on my way home to see my wife and daughter when he plane, Cage becomes the hero and saves the day.

There is nothing special about "Con Air" or its cast. Buscemi may have been the one bright spot of the film. Even Cage's performance is weak; his accent is both inconsistent and annoying.

"Con Air" is nothing new and is destined to be the summer's biggest crash.

-Rating (Four Possible):

Well, as a kid I was in a bush fire and had to have a lot of skin grafts.

"Well, as a kid I was in a bush fire and had to have a lot of skin grafts."
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