



POINTER

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University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

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Taverns open their doors to 18 to 20 year olds



Photo by L. Zancanaro

The Keg located at 200 Isadore St.

New city ordinance allows 18 to 20 year olds into bars with alcohol-free rooms

By Carol Seavey
NEWS REPORTER

A new city ordinance will go into affect tomorrow, allowing The Keg and other taverns to host underage socializing.

"I'm hoping there can be a place where people can go to play pool, dance and have fun without worrying about alcohol," said Alderman Jo Seiser.

The ordinance, which The Keg's owner and operator, Carol Garski has been pushing for over two months, will per-

mit 18 to 20 year olds into bars as long as they are in a separate room in which no alcoholic beverages are being served. There must be separate restrooms and entrances for the drinking and non-drinking patrons. In addition, there cannot be any advertisements or paraphernalia pertaining to alcohol or fermented malt beverages in the non-alcoholic area.

The topic arose when Garski received numerous requests from underage adults to come see the bands that frequently play at The Keg.

"This way we can have the bands come play in the basement, serving no alcohol, and it serves its purpose and gives

them [18 to 20 year olds] what they want, too", said Garski.

According to the new ordinance, anyone 18 years-old and up will be able to go in the non-alcoholic area. However, this does not mean drinkers can intermingle with the non-drinking patrons. Once someone starts drinking they cannot re-enter the non-alcoholic area.

"It was a compromise," said City Attorney Moleski. "The taverns can still operate and sell liquor, because the underage people are in a different area," he said.

Garski hopes to have the basement open as a non-alcoholic area Tuesdays through Thursdays. There is pool, foos-

ball, darts and other games to play, in addition to music and frequent live bands. Aside from a little redecorating, The Keg is prepared for its underage guests.

However, Garski has to apply for a permit under the new ordinance, at the discretion of the Stevens Point Police Department. A tavern must follow all of the rules, and the health, welfare and safety of the underage person and others must not be endangered. A new permit is required for each day they want to allow 18 to 20 year olds in the bar.

"As long as the propri-

See TAVERNS on Page 2

Global warming explored

By Lindsay Heiser
NEWS REPORTER

Scientists have recorded hundreds of changes in our world due to global warming, including the melting of glaciers and sea ice and the extinction of many plants that cannot tolerate rising temperatures.

Last weekend, 13 UW-Stevens Point students traveled to Michigan State University in

"The students planned together to reduce greenhouse gases," said student Kyle Brown-Kwaiser. "We held a theme, 'Kyoto Now!' which related back to the Kyoto Protocol-a treaty signed in 1997."

President George W. Bush's withdrawal from the Kyoto Protocol was a major issue addressed at the conference. The Kyoto Protocol, a treaty signed

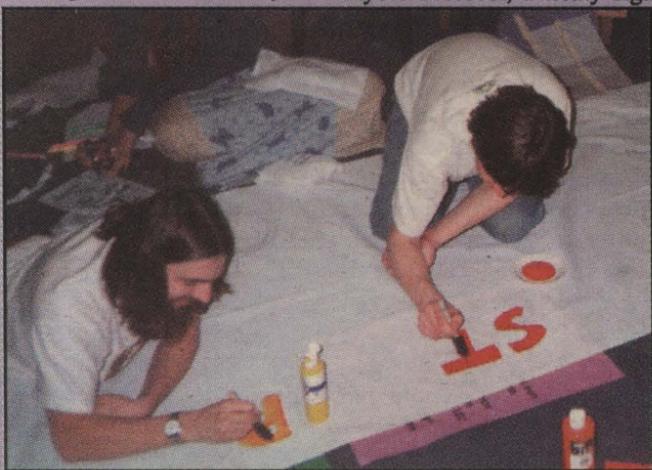


Photo submitted by R. Hillestad

Students make signs to promote global awareness.

East Lansing to attend "Turn Down the Heat: Students Creating a Cure for Climate Change," where they heard speakers, participated in panel discussions and learned grassroots organizing skills. Returning to campus, the students wanted to implement plans for the fight against global warming.

by over 170 nations, was meant to serve as an agreement between the industrialized nations of the world to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by a certain percentage over time. Although the U.S. signed the treaty in 1997, it was not ratified by Congress and was therefore not legally binding. The

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Soul Food serves up diversity

Annual event teaches culture through food and Muntu dance

By Mollie Mlodzik
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The Black Student Union (BSU) celebrated its annual Soul Food Dinner Sunday in the UC Alumni Room.

The audience enjoyed a mix of food, culture and dance, with the meal beginning at 6:30 p.m. and the Muntu Dance Theatre of Chicago performing 7:30 p.m.

"This has been the best Soul Food Dinner that I have participated in since I have been at this university," said BSU president Quianna Monroe.

The dinner sold out and

served over 250 people, ranging from students and professors to community members.

The menu included fried chicken, collard greens, catfish, red beans and rice, jambalaya, baked macaroni and cheese, candied yams, corn bread, Kool-Aid and peach cobbler for dessert.

Food preparation for the event was a group effort.

"BSU members and their friends as well as community members helped to prepare the food. The recipes were a

combination of the Master Chef's [Bill Write], and each member's



Photo courtesy of the Stevens Point Journal

See SOUL FOOD on Page 2

Campaign to balance tuition and aid

By Mollie Mlodzik
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Proposed UW System budget cuts and tuition increases have forced the Student Government Association (SGA) into action.

Currently, SGA is campaigning with 23 other UW System campuses to pass Senate Bill 79/ Assembly Bill 194 (SB-79/AB 194).

The bill would call for equal increases in financial aid and tuition. Currently, as tuition increases, financial aid does not

increase equally.

"Our slogan is," SGA legislative issues director Kaitlyn Julius said, "the fight for tomorrow's economy starts with financial aid today."

According to the United Council, 30 years ago, grants made up 70% of all financial aid, while loans made up the other 30%. Today things have reversed, with loans making up 70% of financial aid.

The United Council is the oldest and largest state student association, representing 140,000

students on 23 UW campuses.

Another point that the United Council makes is that the average UW System student has \$1,585 of unmet financial needs, and the average student in the UW System in 2000 graduated \$15,314 in debt.

SGA has joined in a postcard campaign to help pass the bill.

"We're doing a postcard campaign all throughout campus, and with 23 other campuses as well," said Julius.

The postcards addressed to

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Taverns

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etors follow the basic rules they won't get turned down," said Stevens Point Police Department Chief Carpenter. "It's great," he said, "it gives those who

don't want to go to the bars, try to get a fake, or break the law, something to do."

As for Garski's concern about underage drinking, she said, "I don't think it's going to be an issue because there won't be any alcohol down there."



Photos by L. Zancanaro

*Snow finally blankets Stevens Point.***Soul Food**

Continued from Page 1

knowledge of how to prepare the food," said Monroe.

David Rand, a retired schoolteacher, saw the Soul Food Dinner flyer while working on an audit with a UWSP professor.

"I like to explore different cultures, and I saw a flyer and thought it might be something I would enjoy," said Rand. "The food was excellent, and you get a lot for your money," he added.

In past years, a guest speaker would follow the dinner. This year, the Muntu Dancers took the stage.

The Muntu Dance Theatre of Chicago performed a variety of authentic and progressive interpretations of ancient African and African-American dances. The dances were set to a variety of drumbeats played by members of the Muntu Dance Theatre.

"We travel all over the

world and people still think Africa and their music is backwards and barbaric. We're here to tell you it's not," said Muntu Musical Director Clifton Robinson.

The group performed dances dealing with initiation, strength and rites of passage.

Between dances, the moderator explained the historical and cultural significance of the dances.

The Lambah was one of the many dances performed.

"The Lambah is done by men, women and children. It is done by the sane, the insane and by the challenged. We look at this now as a dance that has gone from the cradle to the grave. You are never too young, and you are never too old," said the Muntu moderator.

The Lambah is a dance done in the king's court, showing rites of passage for men, women and children. It originated in the West African countries of Mali, Guinea and Senegal.

**South Hall**

Wednesday, Feb. 13 11:26 p.m.

A drunk male broke a window in Room 106.

Communication Arts Center

Thursday, Feb. 14 9:49 a.m.

A professor reported that a camcorder, battery and battery charger had disappeared from his office. The property was later recovered.

Pray Hall

Thursday, Feb. 14 9:00 p.m.

A student reported his calculator was stolen from the third floor study lounge. It was later recovered.

Watson Hall

Thursday, Feb. 14 9:39 p.m.

A student reported three CDs were taken from her room.

Hansen Hall

Saturday, Feb. 16 4:40 p.m.

A fire alarm was pulled in the west wing.

Roach Hall

Monday, Feb. 18 4:46 p.m.

A student reported that an unknown person had broken off the radio antenna and damaged the windshield of her car.

The Muntu dancers brought the audience members to their feet in an impromptu dance session.

Members from the audience were pulled up front and shown how to do three of the Muntu dance moves and given a chance to dance with the Muntu dancers.

"The audience participation was a complete surprise to everyone. It was great, and if anyone was feeling tired after that wonderful dinner, they were soon awakened by the Muntu dancers," Monroe said.

The Muntu Dance Theatre is celebrating its 30th anniversary with Kennedy King College this year and has received critical acclaim in the United States and abroad.

Student Jeff LaPlant said, "I thought the dancers and the music was incredible. The beat I felt was just really cool. It was great to see the whole audience involved and I just wanted to go up there and dance."

Research funded

The family of the late James "Jay" Harvey, an alumnus of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and ecological specialist in the field of natural resources, has established a fund to encourage academic research by undergraduates in the College of Natural Resources.

His widow, Jessica (Lourey) Harvey, his parents, Harold and Gwen Harvey, and his brother and sister-in-law, Scott and Becky Harvey, have given \$10,000 to the UWSP Foundation to generate a \$500 annual grant to qualified students toward the completion of scholarly research projects.

Student grant applications will be judged by the CNR Undergraduate Research Symposium Committee and the winner will be announced at the annual spring CNR Rendezvous Awards Program. The criteria will include quality and concept of the research and its relevance

to sustainability plus overall academic performance and extracurricular involvement of the student. Preference will be given to applicants whose research has been accepted for publication on the UWSP Online Student Research Journal.

Harvey died on Sept. 11, 2001, in Fergus Falls, Minn. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a stepdaughter and a child due next month.

A Minnesota native, he held bachelor's ('87) and master's degrees ('91) from UWSP. From 1990 to 1992, he worked as a fisheries biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Illinois Natural History Survey documenting the decline of the Illinois River and its importance to the downstream health of the Mississippi.

Since 1992 Harvey worked as a research biologist for the Minnesota DNR in its Ecological Services Division.

Global

Continued from Page 1

Protocol would have forced our country to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 7% below 1990 levels from 2008-2012, but in 2001, Bush decided to withdraw our country's commitment, even though our country has the technology necessary to cut emissions.

"The US is the most powerful country, so we have to be leaders," said student Lauren McGrath. "If our country signed onto the Protocol, we would be at the forefront and provide an example for other countries to follow. They really don't have an incentive to participate if the US is not involved, because our country leads the world in the production of greenhouse gasses. If the US signed on, we would provide momentum behind the sustainable movement and progress toward a green economy."

Because the US's commitment to the Kyoto Protocol is so essential, the students attending the conference formed a coalition with several other colleges to implement plans for support of the treaty on a university level.

One request would be that the university must sign on to the Kyoto Protocol standard, meaning that from 2008-2012, UWSP would reduce its emissions to 7% below 1990 levels. As soon as possible, UWSP should commit itself to an environmental audit, wherein the university as a whole would be audited for its greenhouse gas emissions. Finally, the univer-

sity should make a public statement urging Bush to sign on to the Kyoto Protocol.

"The United States needs to step up and do its part to reduce green house gases even without the support of our president," said student Lars Higdon. "George W. Bush may have rejected the Kyoto Protocol on a national scale but we can do our part on this campus to help stop this environmental crisis."

Julia Butterfly Hill, who presented at UWSP last spring, also spoke at the conference. She wanted to encourage students to appreciate and protect biodiversity by preventing further global warming.

During the two years she spent living in a tree to protect a California redwood, she attracted much attention and promoted awareness of the plight of our forests. She subsequently founded the Circle of Life Foundation.

The trip to Michigan, which was organized by Environmental Council and partially funded by SGA, proved to be a beneficial experience for all those involved.

"We hope to take what we learned last weekend and use it to guide our college towards environmental stewardship," Brown-Kwaiser stated.

Students are advised to watch for flamingoes and other "Kyoto Now!" awareness messages that will be appearing on campus in the near future and to attend the Earth Week activities April 22-26 for further information regarding global warming and other environmental issues.



Photo submitted by R. Hillestad

Bill

Continued from Page 1

Gov. Scott McCallum, Sen. Shibilski and Rep. Lassa are urging the political leaders to support SB-79/AB-194.

"We have boxes in all of the residence halls, and we have a booth in the UC with the postcards available to students," Julius said.

SGA plans to meet with the other UW System schools and hand deliver the postcards to Gov. McCallum sometime within the next two weeks.

Julius added, "Our goal was 1000 postcards and we have around 1500 right now, so we have already met our goal."

The current state budget situation is also causing alarm. Gov. McCallum proposed Monday February 18, that the UW System budget be reduced by \$51 million in the next two years, and that a 10% tuition increase be added.

The Joint Committee on Finance met on Monday February 18 to discuss the governor's bill to cut \$1.2 billion out of the state budget.

The United Council, and two students testified against a 10% tuition increase in the UW System.

Craig Trost, the legislative affairs director of the United Council of UW students urges students to get involved.

"I strongly encourage a personalized letter writing campaign to the members of the Joint Committee on Finance letting them know how you students feel about tuition increases, and why they could be harmful to your education," said Trost.

A date has yet to be set to vote on the bill, which will affect many students across the state.

To get more information or to get involved contact the SGA office at 346-3723.

Parking solutions brainstormed

Due to the parking crunch, university officials consider solutions

By Geoff Fife and Amy Zepnick

NEWS REPORTER & NEWS EDITOR

The current parking problems around UW-Stevens Point have prompted officials to consider either prohibiting freshmen from having cars on campus or building a ramp.

Residents living near the school, say they have difficulty finding places to park because of the large number of cars on the street.

"I live on the last block of Briggs Street," said neighbor John Mosey. "There is excessive traffic, excessive speed, violations of parking and people are blocking driveways and not parking in their designated parking zones. Everyone wants to get close to the front door, and they don't care how they get there."

According to Anita Godin, director of revenue, liability and parking in Parking Services, there are over 500 people on the waiting list for parking permits.

"Permits are on a first come-first served basis," she said. "Usually upperclassmen don't make up their mind whether they want a permit. By the time freshmen orientation is over, most of the permits are gone. That is why most permit holders are freshmen and sophomores."



Photo by L. Zancanaro

Relief may be near for cramped UWSP parking lots.

To resolve the parking problems, the university's ideas range from supplying parking permits to residents who live near campus to building a parking structure and charging students to park there. This last idea could prove expensive for students.

According to Greg Diemer, assistant chancellor of business affairs, if a parking ramp was built on campus, it would cost about \$10,000 per space.

"This is about ten times the cost for surface parking," he said. "Permit rates would be adjusted for all parking lots. It would be about \$425 per year. The ramp would be funded through permit fees because the state and tuition does not subsidize parking."

Removing soil medians from Lot Q may be another considerable option.

"If we were able to make modifications to maximize parking spaces, we'd add about 160 additional spaces," said Diemer. "We would also have to remove islands, relocate light poles and enlarge the southeast

corner. The cost for this would be around \$150,000."

Students without cars are not without options. Bicycles, the campus shuttles and roller blades are good alternatives.

"Unfortunately, not a lot of students or staff use public transportation," said Diemer. "It does provide fairly good coverage, and I believe students get a reduced rate."

For more information on parking propositions, an open meeting with the University Affairs committee will be held at 4 p.m. on Monday in the University Center.

Want to write for The Pointer?

Call Amy 346-2249 or e-mail azeppn842@uwsp.edu

Please Give Blood!

American Red Cross UWSP Blood Drive

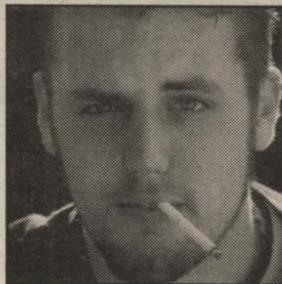
Tuesday, March 12 • 11 am – 5 pm
 Wednesday, March 13 • 11 am – 5 pm
 Laird Room

Sponsored by ACT

Sign Up Online at www.uwsp.edu/centers/blooddrive

This is the traditional UWSP Blood Drive. The drive you might have noticed advertised for February 26th and 27th is not affiliated with the American Red Cross or ACT. There needs to be 56 days between blood donations, so please mark our dates on your calendar today!

Words of Wisdom From the Editor



EVERYBODY must get loans.

By Josh Goller
EDITOR IN CHIEF

They'll loan t'ya when your grades aren't so good. They'll loan t'ya just like they said they would. They'll loan t'ya when you can't pay for your home. They'll loan t'ya so you can call Miss Cleo on the phone.

Okay, so I may not possess a Dylan-esque lyrical prowess, but I think the underlying message is still easy enough to interpret. So you should not feel so all alone. Everybody must get loans.

I've avoided the dreaded "L-word" through 2.5 years of college. Surviving on a few scholarships and the cash I busted my butt for, I'd successfully avoided incurring much debt. This semester, as my bank account dwindled and I resolved to rise above whoring myself to manual labor for that extra few bucks an hour, I've garnered my first ever financial aid refund check.

While I'd always winced at the idea of accumulating thousands of dollars of debt by the end of college, receiving that check last Saturday put a whole new spin on things. Instead of feeling like I'm now five grand in debt, I've decided to delve deep into an irreversible state of denial. From now on ... it's not a student loan ... it's an inheritance from my Great Uncle Bursar. Sure he was a little crazy (always hanging out in the base-

ment of some kind of student service building) and was always nagging me for the cash that I owed him through the first few years here at UWSP, but now he's spreading his wealth to me and countless others in grand fashion.

Thanks to Uncle Bursie, as I now so affectionately call him now (instead of "those Bursar office bastards"), I don't have to worry about financing my spring break trip, can pay off the debts I owe to my parents, sister, girlfriend and credit card and can even start buying groceries again. For those of you who haven't owed money to your family members and significant other at the same time, I suggest you try it.

Now I realize that not all college students are forced to go the loan (er... great uncle) route. Some are blessed with college funds from their parents or a heap of scholarships. However, many of these fortunate ones I know have also managed to rack up monstrous credit card bills and face a debt similar to all the "loanees" out there. Some may need extra cash for that new car, snowmobile or breast augmentation.

To all those in need, I'll repeat the mantra that I've made into my creed. They'll loan t'ya when you just can't make a buck. They'll loan t'ya and then they'll say "you're f***ed." You know the rest.

WCU actions motivated by bigotry not religious virtue

When I started to read the recent headlining article concerning the latest clash of the titans in the ongoing Wisconsin Christians United vs. the Gay Straight Alliance conflict, I assumed it would be pretty much like all the others I've ever read, and for the most part it was. But a certain line caught my eye and compelled me to treat this one differently from past reports, compelled me to state my own opinions and ideas, for this kind of activity is in need of close scrutinization. That line concerns the desire for a quoted member of the WCU to remain anonymous. Does anyone realize what such a gesture implies?

Could these so-called "saved Christian souls" possibly be afraid, even ashamed of what people will think of them for launching such attacks on an autonomous and open-minded group of people? I can't possibly see what else there is to be afraid of. They are, after all, doing the "Lord's Work." This brings me to an important point. Perhaps it is time to examine the Bible, and re-evaluate

which precepts and commandments are still relevant to modern-day society. Numerous commandments have been discarded in favor of more up-to-date ways of thinking that mesh more easily with current ways of life. For example, who is the last person you met who remains kosher or offers weekly burnt offerings at their local altar?

These practices are both based on solid, unambiguous Biblical commandments which have since been set by the way-side for reasons I have yet to be enlightened to. Similarly, the rhythm method, the only form of birth control the Pope espouses, is explicitly forbidden in the book of Leviticus. The abolishment of homosexuality is a related commandment, for it expresses the early biblical sentiment "be fruitful and multiply."

Many commandments, particularly those dealing with sexuality, were intended to populate the earth sufficiently enough to ensure the extended survival of the human species (since homosexuality yields no

offspring, it is naturally forbidden by this sentiment). But the human population has recently surpassed the six billion mark. I doubt anyone can truly envision the scope of such a figure. There are even countries today whose governments impose strict sanctions on the number of children per family. Is this a time in which we still have to worry about the survival of the human species? You tell me.

Furthermore I must repeat, and I know I'm beating a dead horse here, the manner of protest performed by the WCU is simply distasteful and offensive, obviously motivated less by Christian virtue than narrow-minded bigotry, hate and xenophobia. To the anti-homosexual demonstrators of the WCU I say this: You are unwelcome on this campus. I know of no one who speaks highly of these protests or individuals. Examine your beliefs, your attitudes and your biases and decide whether you really understand yourselves and what you are trying to say.

Aaron Marx

Clarification needed in waterski *Pointer* article

The Wisconsin Intercollegiate Water-Ski Team Association (WIWTA), in fact, owns the Malibu Response LX boat that was mentioned in the *Pointer* article. The boat was not bought nor is it owned by the Water Ski Club of UWSP. The boat is contracted from the WIWTA only for the clubs usage during tournaments so that members can compete as Pointers.

In order to do this, however, Pat Orr, the campus risk manager will need a certificate of insurance for \$1M/\$2M general liability naming the Board of Regents as additional insured from the owner of the boat that will be used in the tournament. Also, she will need proof of liability insurance from the WIWTA for the members of the organization participating in any water ski tournaments.

Everything else, besides this participation in the tournaments, including practices, is to be done as members of the WIWTA which is not affiliated with UW-Stevens Point, UW System, nor as members of the Water Ski Club of UWSP.

Ben Dieck
President
UWSP Water Ski Club

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Stevens Point, WI 54481

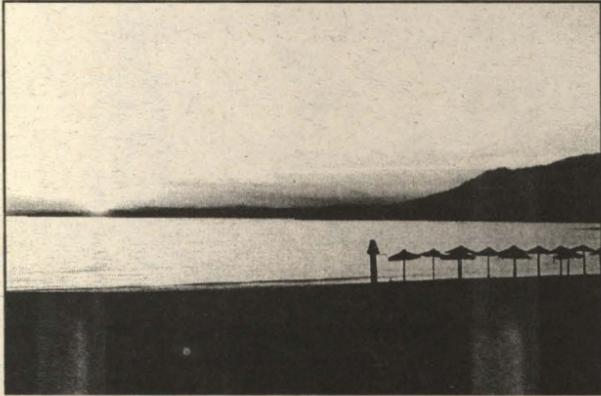
The Pointer
pointer@uwsp.edu

Phone: (715) 346-2249
Advertising Phone: (715) 346-3707
Fax: (715) 346-4712

Spain trip proves to be cultural experience

So, I have been in Spain for almost two months now and things are going well. I figure instead of writing little bits of what I am up to to each person, I would write one big letter with pictures to update everyone.

The first week I was in Madrid and then I went back to Madrid a couple of weekends ago. The first weekend in Spain we stayed at a hostel (cheap hotel/motel) called Hostal Matute. I stayed with Reid as he was the only other guy on the trip. We got to sample lots of different food while we were in Madrid, not to mention the vino (wine...it's very good here)! At the Museo del Vino, I even got to try Paella which is a very big Spanish dish. I have been here in Valladolid every Sunday. On one of the first nights in Madrid we went to a Flamenco show which



started at midnight. As you probably know already, Spaniards start and stay out very late.

When we went back to Madrid a couple of weeks ago, we went on a little tour and saw statues of don Quijote and Cervantes, la Plaza Mayor, and some of us also got to go to the Prado (art museum) and el Centro del Arte, Reina Sofia where we got to see works by Picasso, Goya, Rembrandt and Greco. It was very, very guay

(cool).

In Valladolid we were introduced to our host families...Reid and I got played with a very nice, older woman, kind of like a grandma. We have to walk about 20 minutes to the university every morning but it really isn't that bad. For those of you in Point, I don't want to hear you complaining about how you have to walk all the way over to the communication building for class.

We usually eat a soup, or some first course and then have a second course consisting of some kind of meat usually, salad and then fruit at the end. Of course you eat about 3 pieces of bread with all of that, too, so it is a very filling meal, but that is a good thing since we don't eat lunch until 2:30 p.m. or so, and supper at 9:00 p.m. Going to classes is very much like a high school situation with the size of everything, but that works out fine. Classes, I have to say, are pretty easy but everything is in Spanish so that makes up for it. I have gramatica, historia, conversacion, geografia, literatura, cultura and arte every week. The schedules are different from day to day but I usually have class from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. each day. The second day in Valladolid, we had a dinner at a very nice restaurant to welcome us. They served a lot of little fingerfoods, I would call them like fried calimare (squid), shrimp and lots of bread.

This past weekend, we took a trip down to Marbella and the Rock of Gibraltar on the southern tip of Spain since we had a four day weekend. It was truly a magnificent trip. The temperature was in the middle 70s to 80s during the day, and on Friday and Sunday all we did was sit at the beach and get a base tan; we need one because this upcoming weekend we are going to the Canary Islands for Carnival for five days! On Saturday, we went to Gibraltar and were fortunate enough to get a very nice tour guide who drove us all over the place and told us



about the huge history of Gibraltar. Gibraltar has been a British Colony for almost 300 years now, so I was able to get my Visa stamped for going into another country! (to us it was a big thing J) On top of "The Rock," you can see across the Strait over to the coast of Africa which is only 15 miles away. From Gibraltar you can see three different countries - Gibraltar, Morocco and Spain. There are also some monkeys that live there, so we got to feed them and try not to get peed on when they would sit on us. Jen, a girl in our group, wasn't so lucky and a big one peed on her. In Marbella, we stayed at a very nice British-run Hostel, Hostal de Pilar. Mike, the owner, had sent some guys up to help us find our way to the hostel at 1:00 in the morning when we got there. It was Elisa's birthday (a girl in our group) and he opened a bottle of champagne for us to celebrate it then since she had spent her whole birthday riding on a bus (nine hours to get from Valladolid to Marbella).

I will leave you with a picture of the sun setting over the Mediterranean Sea, which by the way is still pretty cold. I went swimming in it on Sunday. I hope everything is going well with everyone and I will try my best to keep in touch and let everyone know the fun things I am up to here.

Drew Schoeneck
UWSP Student

A Different Perspective

Homosexuality protestors need to reevaluate their intentions.

By Ben Steele

CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST

In light of the recent clashes between the "all-knowing" Christians and the detested homosexuals, many new articles and views have been popping up all over. Just to add a rhyme to the reason (or maybe a reason for the rhyme), I have decided to present a few thoughts of my own...and hope I won't get beaten up.

Looking back at our country's history, I have realized there is quite a startling correlation occurring. Back before the Civil War when the north wanted to abolish slavery, they used many excuses to keep the African Americans under whips and chains, many of which have never been uttered before and even more that never were again. One particular argument the south used was that it was God's word. Later in our history, we dealt with a little craze called the holocaust. Hitler's reasoning? It was God's word. I don't mean to mention this more than it has to be, but our dear old friend Osama has used that same rationale many times over. Even if we go all the way back to the days of Hammurabi (the eye-for-an-eye guy), we would see that that new-fangled righteous community also used God's word for slavery, war and controlling the 'unholy'

masses.

People need to realize the underlying implications of this display. If for scores, or merely a small number, of instances when we needed counsel and decided to follow His plan, many more lives would be misled by the beliefs of mankind.

Now most of you are probably saying, "Well, he's just an atheist." Well, that's true. I'm far from being religious. But I could never see myself as a homosexual, either. I'm only writing this to aide people in becoming aware of what is actually happening, a "deeper meaning," if you will.

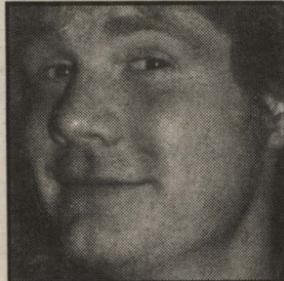
As far as what the homosexuals are carrying out: Right on, brother! Yes, right on to the sisters, too. It doesn't seem to me that these people need to be loved by 'honorable' Christians, so it seems in the popular eye. There is nothing wrong or immoral about being a homosexual. It isn't sinful, it's just different. If the world flipped upside down and 90% of the world believed in evolution and shunned religion... just think about it.

End product? Christians should stick to fighting their own cause, whatever it may be, and homosexuals can keep doing what they have been doing, with no backlash from above.

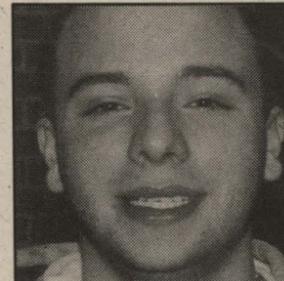
Pointer Poll

Photos by Lyndsay Rice

If you were granted one wish, what would it be?



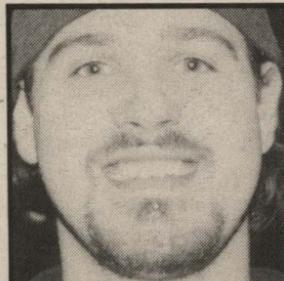
Alyosha McClain, Sr. Pre-Law
A sensible national drug policy.



Norman Cyman, Sr. Communication
A long healthy life.



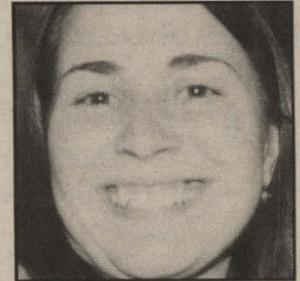
Angelica Alger, Fr. Art & Psych.
To be able to have psychic powers.



Aaron O'Neil, Jr. Business
I wish I had money for spring break.



Molly Hayes, Sr. Psychology
I wish I could quit smoking.



Megan Pfeifer, Jr. Health & Wellness
I wish I had a 34 inch pike on the line.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

The Poetry of Point

*Love, though I've not known it before
Has hit me like the seas on the shore
It's beauty always finds me in awe
Yet the fierceness forces me to crawl.*

*As we glide along the waters of life
Our forces cross and intertwine.
With much love and some strife
These waves majestically combine.*

By Scott Vanderwarf

*On a naked finger the week before
it sits and shines and makes my hand lazy.
The rock, away from its home,
symbolizes nothing but your love
and our commitment a year from now.*

*I won't be able to go out
you'll call me every night
while you're away-working late.*

*I'll have to wake up alone
and warm a bottle to silence.*

*I wait for the phone to ring.
Sooner or later,
you won't call.*

*I'll wait at the table,
hovering over mixed vegetables
and poorly cooked steak.*

The champagne goes flat.

I'll get fat.

You'll get fatter.

*And fifty years ahead
I'll stare at my rock, away from its home,
and wonder if it means what it meant
when you gave it to me last week.*

*I slip it on and off
and notice my finger is green.*

By Amy Zepnick

To submit your own poetry for print, email it to bstee561@uwsp.edu

UWSP's laser physics is on the cutting edge of materials research

By Barrett Steenrod
FEATURES EDITOR

What do you get when you cross Lance Armstrong with a laser physicist? The answer: Dr. Greg Taft, a UWSP physics professor who can often be picked out riding his bike to work to not only brighten the minds of UWSP students, but also to shed light on the properties of many of the materials that we take for granted on a daily basis.

Taft, a professor here at Point for the last five years is in the beginning stages of a research project that could possibly span years and also help pioneer a greater understanding of many of the old, and some of the new materials that are created each year.

Taft is utilizing a five Watt Argon laser, which is the same kind of laser used to destroy arterial plaque and put on a laser light show, to "pump" a Titanium-doped sapphire (solid-state) laser. This sapphire laser is aimed at a target material and the beam is split into two. One beam is directed right at the target while the other beam is "delayed" ever so slightly and strikes the target in the same place as the first beam, but slightly later.

The reason for firing high energy lasers at random substances like this is due to a property of materials to slightly alter their molecular/atomic structure when exposed to large amounts of energy. This change in structure is very brief and nearly impossible to measure, however, it is measurable.

By splitting the laser into two alternating beams, one beam strikes the material and excites the atoms while the other beam strikes immediately afterward and reflects off the atoms while they are still in their excited, reorganized state. A computer is used simultaneously to measure the type and degree of reflectance of the laser light off of the excited material. Through this process, a better understanding of material structure can be gained.

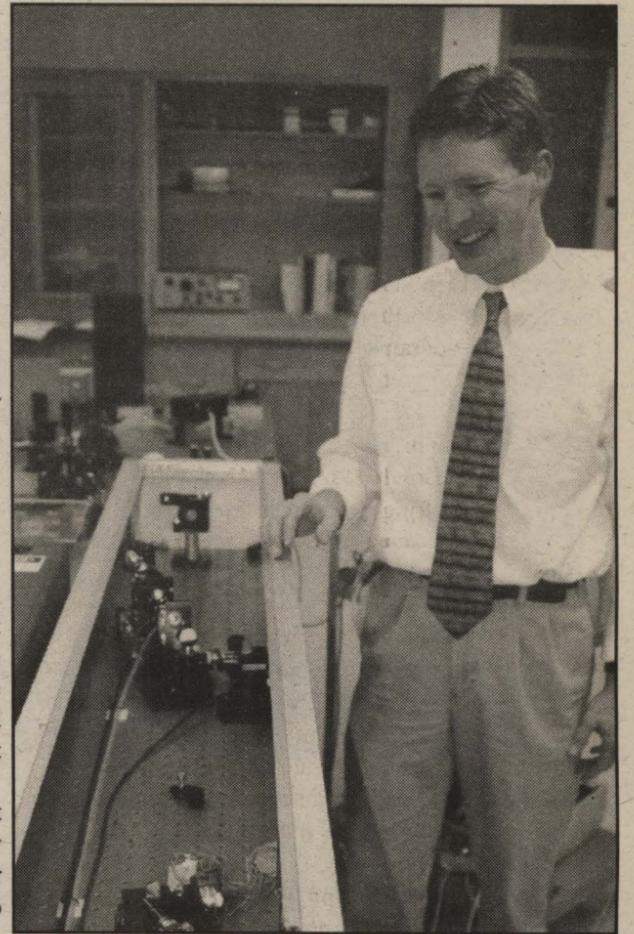


Photo by L. Zancanaro
Dr. Greg Taft demonstrates the laser that he is using for his research on material reflectance.

One aspect of this entire process is the sheer magnitude of smallness with which this process works. The laser that is used is roughly 5000 times as powerful as a conventional laser pointer, and the pulses of light are very short, on the order of 10 femtoseconds. A femtosecond is 0.000000000000001 of a second. To illustrate the

See LASER on page 15

A Greek tragedy will be performed this weekend

By Peter Graening
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

Greek tragedy is presented with a different face in UWSP's production of Medea, presented by the department of theatre and dance. This production has many unique features, including its modern-day Middle Eastern setting.

"I've set it in the contemporary Middle East to enhance one of the play's themes - the oppression of women," says director Stephen Trovillion Smith. A story about a woman who murders her children when her husband leaves her, Medea "becomes more contemporary every day," according to Smith, drawing parallels to modern events, such as the recent Andrea Yates case in Texas.

Many elements contributed to the enhancement of the play's setting. It features a Greek chorus dressed in traditional burqas, characters dressed in both Middle Eastern and Western clothes and an amazing set that takes many cues from Middle Eastern design, featuring a stage-wide staircase and a reflecting pool.

Another special aspect of Medea is its inclusion of choreography. "The movement is driven by the script and the director's concept - Steve had a vision of what he wanted to see, and I translated his ideas," explains choreographer Susan Gingrasso. "I didn't view it as dance, but more like dramatic movement." Along with choreographing Medea, Gingrasso also assisted the actors in warming up and preparing for their performances.

Both Gingrasso and Smith feel that studying

and performing classical theatre is extremely important in a theatre student's education. "The students learned an immeasurable amount doing classical theatre. You can use the skills learned - the heightened language, emotions and the skills required to present them - in any form of drama," Smith comments. "It's not about scenery but more about issues. I believe that the classics teach students so much about life, acting skills, embodying characters - to understand the words and the ideas conveyed through them - and the struggle to find the character," adds Gingrasso.

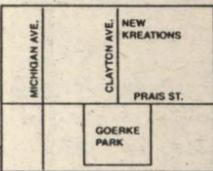
How does the cast of Medea feel about their work? "It's a double-whammy," says Jenn Schneck, who is a member of the chorus, "taking a Greek tragedy and setting it in the Middle East." Lindsay Verstegen, who plays the title role, agrees. "I like the fact that we're going into what some would call dangerous ground with a play that's so well-known. It was an extraordinary learning experience."

The play will open in Jenkins Theatre of the Fine Arts Center at 8 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 22. Additional performances are at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 23-24, Thurs., Feb. 28, Friday, March 1 and Saturday, March 2 with a matinee at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 24. Tickets are available at the Arts and Athletics Ticket Office in Quandt Fieldhouse or by calling 346-4100. Tickets also may be available at the door if performances are not sold out in advance.

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Television POINT OF VIEW

Has American television broadcasting crossed the line?

By Laura Daugherty
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

With all of the wonderful innovations in television, I am once again amazed by the FOX network's contribution. These were the people who brought us such classics as "Who Wants to Marry a Millionaire" and "Who Wants to Be a Princess." As if we haven't been smothered to death with reality TV programs, FOX will grace audiences with yet another television masterpiece.

FOX's new brainchild of a TV special, "Glutton Bowl 2002," features 40 competitors stuffing their faces for two

Yes, TV is out of control

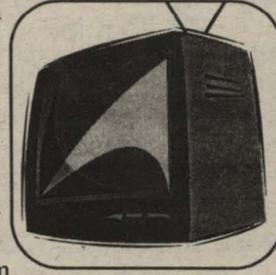
hours with things such as mayonnaise, beef tongue, sticks of butter and any other repulsive items available for consumption. The winner is awarded with a cash prize, food (naturally), and a deep sense of pride that comes from knowing that you've just consumed more calories in one sitting than most people allow for one week.

I don't really care what people do with their free time, but broadcasting and celebrating this kind of unhealthy behavior on national TV is something that I do not agree with.

Only in America, a land where most people have too much as it is, would a program like this ever exist. People are dying all over the world because they do not have the proper nourishment to survive, and here we are cheering on these gluttonous beasts and probably helping them into an early grave in the process. This is a kick in the face to the less fortunate. Our media does not make it particularly acceptable to be overweight in society,

and for some people obesity is a serious problem that is very difficult to overcome. I'm sure that anyone who has battled with their weight would not find this program amusing.

It's an interesting paradox. Our media tells us that being rail-thin is beautiful, and so many people are dying in order to attain this ideal, yet images of gluttony and overindulgence are celebrated as well. Who knows what FOX will come up with next... the possibilities are endless!



ANONYMOUS CONTRIBUTOR

No, TV is just entertainment

Television is about keeping people entertained, and there are always critics. Reality TV has become so popular in recent years because people enjoy watching ordinary people, like themselves, doing stupid things and making fools of themselves.

The Glutton Bowl is no different. Who wouldn't be amazed by a man who can eat twice his own weight in chicken wings? This show was created by FOX to compete with the 2002 Olympic Games. This is a good way to gain viewers because this is a totally original and wacky idea unlike any other show, not to mention that it sparks controversy, which in itself will attract viewers.

As for Americans, we have always been known to live in excess and let's face it, we're not

famous for being the healthiest in the world. We might as well make fun of ourselves, and if these people are comfortable enough with themselves to go on TV and stuff their faces, more power to them. As for the starving people of the world, although an unfortunate reality, how many people do you know who have 30 pairs of shoes and a closet full of clothes with the tags still on? People in this country spend money frivolously all of the time and don't blink an eye.

The fact of the matter is that people with money are going to spend it carelessly regardless if there are starving people in the world or not. That is why we should not take this program too seriously. FOX is just trying to stay competitive, and it's all good clean fun!

The Health and Wellness Spot

Dear Health Advocate:

The other day I saw some people doing yoga on TV and it looked so cool! They were super flexible and could stand on their heads. How can I start?

Wanna-be-Yogi

Dear Yogi to be:

Yoga is over a 1000 years old and is a great spiritual and physical exercise. It is one of the six fundamental Indian philosophies and many of its roots and basic principles are in the Hindu religion. The word "yoga" has many meanings, but it is translated as "union" or "yolk," as the mind and body are uniting.

Though there are several different types of yoga, the most common type practiced in the United States is Hatha Yoga. Hatha Yoga is comprised of breathing, meditation and movement and postures, called asanas.

Yoga is a holistic system of reaching a personal goal. This could be anything from becoming more flexible to enhancing focus to self-awareness. Yoga has a plethora of benefits, including increased circulation, lowered blood pressure, increased concentration and reduced stress.

People have spent lifetimes studying yoga, but if you are interested, it's great to explore and let your studies unfold. If you are looking for a place to begin, you may want to consider taking Health Promotion/Wellness 143: Focusing your Mind, taking classes at the cardio center (346-4711) or stop by the Yoga Studio. You can also check out Richard Hittleman's YOGA: 28 Day Exercise Plan, Yoga Journal, <http://www.yogasite.com> <http://www.yogadirectory.com> for help.

Here are some tips to follow when beginning yoga:

- Wait 30 minutes after eating.
- Do each asana or posture symmetrically.
- Practice the same time each day with a meaningful ritual.
- Hold each asana to the point of slight discomfort.
- Be aware of your breathing, your movements, where you feel the stretch and your emotions.

Questions for the Health Advocate? E-mail her at kbuch680@uwsp.edu.

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The Pointer through time...

February 26, 1925

By Barrett Steenrod

FEATURES EDITOR

This week's issue comes from Feb. 26, 1925. Prior to this issue, and since the issue spotlighted last week, *The Pointer* evolved briefly into a publication that resembled more of a newspaper than a magazine before regressing into old form for two and half years. It was finally rescued from this format on Dec. 4, 1924, and permanently made the transformation from the magazine format to official newspaper format.

The reason for changing *The Pointer*? In the editor's own words from 1925:

The Pointer has changed in all but name and location. Since a great deal of trouble has been caused in past years by a misunderstanding of the nature of the paper, we wish to inform our readers of the organization and purpose of the present day publication.

The Pointer is now being undertaken as a class project by the Literature 18 class the first semester and the Composition 19 class the second semester. In addition to members of the class, the staff consists of one representative and two assistants from each department in school. This form of representative staff implies that the will of the majority of students will be carried out. That is exactly what we want. A lively interest in the paper resulting in constructive criticism will be one of the great aids in perfecting our publication. Further, we want *The Pointer* to be, not a

postmortem, a perfunctory statement of past events, but a narration of items of interest, which runs right along with the present and keeps us posted on things worthy of note.

The "new" *Pointer* was reduced to four pages from the previous 10-14 pages and its spread was increased by 50%. It became a bimonthly publication and underwent a significant change in sections. News was still the staple of the paper; in fact, it became more so, but some of the other sections

One unfortunate change with the new *Pointer* was that sports, as a separate section, was relegated to obscurity as it was moved to be a subset of the news section.

In this particular issue, 77 years ago this month, the headlines read; "Extemporaneous Speaker Chosen, Miss Welch Attends Meeting in Madison and Clint Copps Addresses Assembly." The sports news of the issue was how Point defeated Northland College 28-23 in basketball on Friday Feb. 13, but

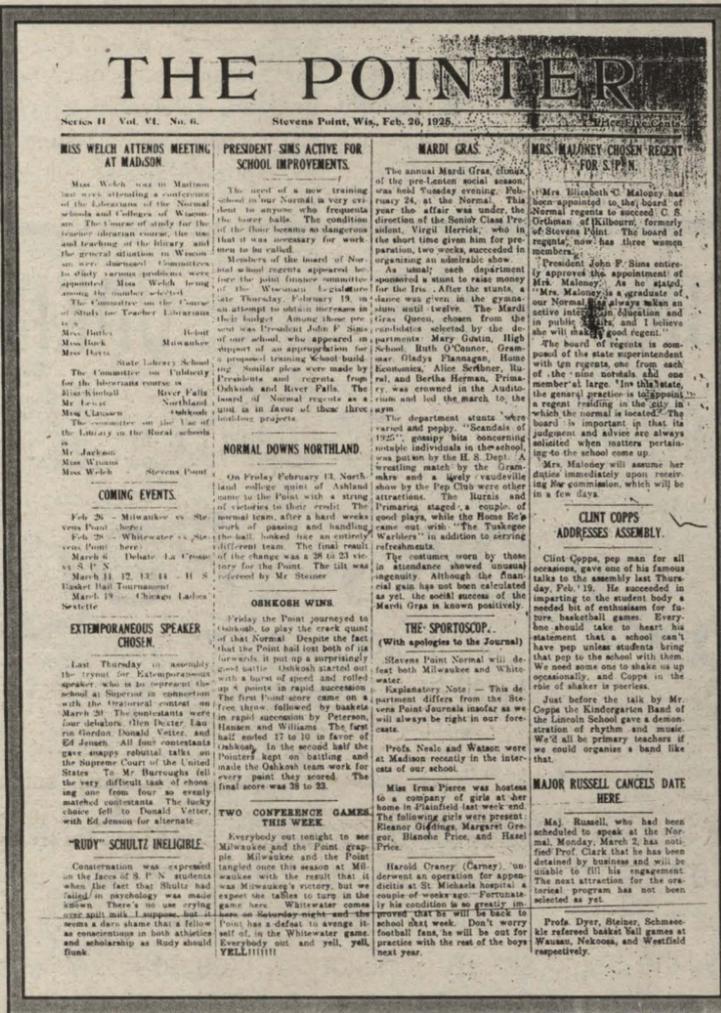
went on to lose to Oshkosh at Oshkosh 38-23 on Feb. 20. *Pointer* students were also encouraged to attend both home games scheduled for that weekend against Milwaukee and Whitewater and "yell, yell, YELL!!!!!!!"

In a fine example of how times do change, there was one small article which gave the account of how "Rudy" Schultz failed his psychology class. The writer expressed how it's "a darn shame that a fellow as conscientious in both athletics and scholarship as Rudy should flunk."

One other article of note that made its way onto the front page and had also been highlighted in previous *Pointer* issues was Mardi Gras.

Apparently, this had become an annual pre-Lenten social event. In this social gathering, each department of the college put on its own stunt (skit) to raise money for something known as the Iris. Refreshments were served to all of the guests, who came dressed up in costume, and it all concluded in a dance that lasted until midnight.

Thanks again to the folks in the University Archives on the 5th floor of the LRC for their help in digging up the past.



appearing include Home Economics, High School, Grammar, Rural and Primary. Some of these sections, Rural, Home Economics and Primary for example, were easy to find in the paper. The sections dealing with High School and Grammar were not specifically found, although there were other headings as they related to various student organizations and even room for various jokes and riff-raff.

Hmong conference on cultural values and religion scheduled

The UW - Stevens Point's (UWSP) Hmong and Southeast Asian American Club (HaSEAAC) annual regional conference offers an excellent opportunity for all of Central Wisconsin to learn about Hmong culture, history, customs and religion.

Houa Vue Moua, a bilingual/bicultural interpreter now living in Eau Claire, as well as co-author of the book, *Trail Through the Mists*, will lead the day-long conference entitled, "Hmong Religion and Cultural Values."

The conference will take place on Saturday, Feb. 23, from 8:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m., in the Laird Room and is open to both the campus community and the public at large. Admission is free and lunch will be provided. Those wanting to attend the conference can either register in advance or at the door. Those who wish to register in advance are asked to call 345-0280 or 346-3820.

Houa arrived in Eau Claire from Southeast Asia in 1976. She has given countless presentations since her arrival to the United States in order to help cross-cultural understanding between the Hmong and Wisconsin's many different cultures. In 1988, the University of Wisconsin System's Women's Studies Consortium and Multicultural Affairs Office recognized Houa as "an exemplar of commitment to educational excellence through diversity." Two years later, Houa and her husband, Yong Kay Moua, were presented the Thousand Points of Light Award by President George Bush, recognizing their ongoing community service work.

The conference is funded by student fees and UWSP's Multicultural Affairs office.

32nd Annual International Dinner to bring together UWSP's international students

Bringing together members of the community and students from nations across the globe, the 32nd Annual International Dinner will be held at UWSP on Saturday, March 9, under the theme "Diversity in Harmony."

Members of UWSP's International Club will host the event in the Laird Room of the University Center, beginning with a social hour and hors d'oeuvres at 5 p.m. in the adjacent LaFollette Lounge. A silent auction of cultural artifacts will take place, with proceeds benefiting the Foreign Student Program.

Dinner will begin at 6 p.m. and may include dishes from Indonesia, China, Korea, Japan, Germany and Africa. Entertainment will follow, with singing, dancing and demonstrations from various world cultures. The Parade of Nations, featuring students in their native costumes, closes the evening.

All seats are reserved for \$15 per person and are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Guests who would like to sit together must place their orders at the same time. Ticket order forms are available at the Foreign Student Office in Nelson Hall, at the Information Desk in the University Center, by calling 346-3844 or e-mailing cfang@uwsp.edu.

One of the largest and most active student organizations on campus, the International Club is made up of both foreign and American students. The group promotes and encourages cultural exchange with opportunities for friendship, understanding and social interests. In addition to planning and hosting the International Dinner, the club is involved in the Portage County Cultural Festival, the Host Family Program, International Olympics and other events.

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Womens hockey claims first conference crown

Schmitt goes off for six goals in two games as Pointers roll to conference championship

By Dan Mirman
SPORTS EDITOR

The UW-Stevens Point women's hockey team (24-1, 15-1) is not just heading into the playoffs on a roll, they are on absolute fire. After slaughtering UW-Eau Claire 7-1 and 10-2, their winning streak now is extended to 13 games and counting.

The two weekend victories gave UWSP the NCHA conference championship in just their second year of existence.

Saturday's 10-2 drubbing of Eau Claire saw seven different players score goals for UWSP, who had been in a little bit of a scoring slump going into the weekend.

"Lately we had been struggling a little bit to score some goals," said Coach Brian Idalski. "So it was really nice to see our team finally put the puck in the net. It's important to see some results and feel good about the way we are playing heading into the playoffs and we're doing that."

UWSP did not waste any time lighting up the scoreboard as freshman Jackie Schmitt, who had six goals on the weekend, scored just 24 seconds into the game. Schmitt's early goal would set the tone for the whole contest as the Pointers scored four times in the first, four times in the second and then tacked on two more in the third.

Schmitt would add another first period goal to give her two for the con-

test. Team point leader Ann Ninnemann scored the other two first period goals to help UWSP to an early advantage. Liz Goergen also managed to pick up a pair of goals to add to the offensive onslaught. Emily Teachout, Ashley Howe, Alison St. Peter and Jen Dorff all tallied a goal a piece in the game.

The first game of the double header on Friday night as well have been called the Ashley Howe to Jackie Schmitt show. Schmitt scored four goals, with at least one in every period and three of them came on assists from Howe in a 7-1 victory.

"Jackie is always playing extremely hard, it's just something she does all the time," said Idalski. "The only difference was tonight her shots were finding the back of the net. It was definitely nice to see her get the bounces."

Teachout, St. Peter and Connie Cameron also scored goals for the UWSP victory.

Then after setting up goals all game, Howe finished the scoring with a goal of her own in the third period.

UWSP will play Eau Claire again this Saturday. This time it will be in Stevens Point, as they kick off post-season play with the first of two semi-final matchups.

"Anytime you play a team three times in a row it is going to be difficult, because they get to know your tendencies," said Idalski. "The kids are also aware that to stay in the national picture, we have to win. They have known that since day one and so far they have handled it accordingly."

With a victory UWSP will advance to the championship. They will host the winner of the Superior-River Falls match-up, which will be held immediately after the first semi-final game.



Schmitt

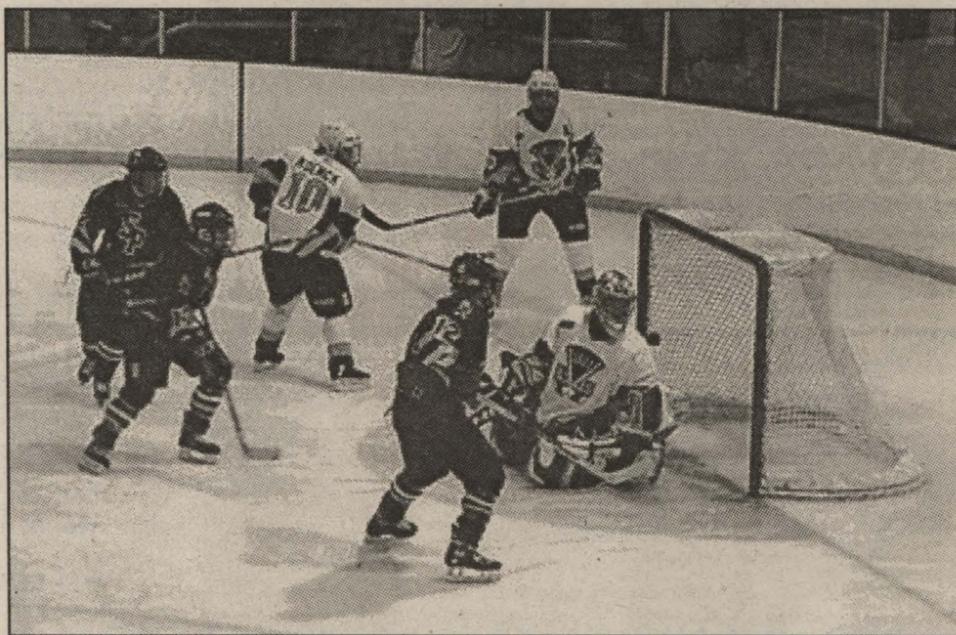


Photo submitted by T. Teachout

Pointer forward Emily Teachout (#12) takes a shot against Eau Claire on Saturday.

Young wrestlers finish strong at championships

White takes title at 197 lbs, named meet's top wrestler

By Craig Mandli
SPORTS EDITOR

The UWSP wrestling team may be young, but they can no longer be considered inexperienced. After a slow start to their season, the team came on late, capping their season with a third place finish at the WIAC Championships last weekend at UW-River Falls.

The Pointers accumulated 110 points, to trail UW-La Crosse (147 points) and UW-Platteville (117 points).

"The finish to the meet was a little disappointing, but I think overall we wrestled pretty well as a team," said Coach Johnny Johnson.

Sophomore Yan White had won both his matches to claim the conference title at 197 pounds. White defeated Eau Claire's Adam Kolo 9-1 in the title match on Saturday, and was named the John Peterson Wrestler of the Meet. White is also the only Pointer to qualify for the NCAA III Championships.

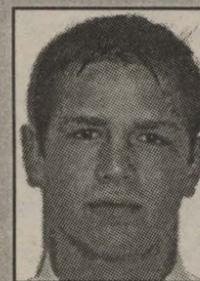
"I really believe that Yan has a chance to go to nationals and win it all. He's that good," said Johnson.

Freshman Cody Koenig at 165 pounds, and senior Mark Burger in the heavy-weight class came home with second place finishes for the Pointers. Koenig was also named an alternate for the national meet. White travels

this weekend to Wilkes-Barre, Penn. for the NCAA Division III championships.



White



Koenig

Pointer track continues to impress early on

Distance runners stand out for men's team, jumpers for women

By Craig Mandli
SPORTS EDITOR

Sure, there may be half a foot of snow on the ground, but that isn't stopping the UWSP track teams from competing.

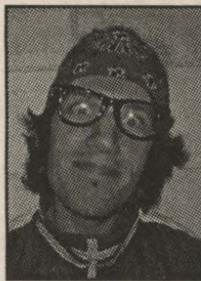
The Pointer men and women both feasted on home cooking as both teams won the team titles at the first Pointer Open Invitational this past weekend. The men were the best of 10 teams, while the women were first out of six.

Senior Jesse LaLonde and sophomore Chris Pfaffenroth paced first and second in the mile run, with LaLonde winning in 4:31.29. Ryan Shepard won the high jump, clearing 1.90 meters, and the triple jump covering 12.64

meters. Paul Steffek won the shot put with a toss of 15.46 meters, and Noah Eschenbauch claimed the weight throw with a mark of 17.23 meters. Tom Rutkowski was first in the pole vault clearing 4.45 meters, and Cory Lesperance won the long jump with a leap of 6.71 meters.

On the women's side, the Pointers swept the top four spots in the long jump, with junior Lisa Brownie claiming the title at 5.17 meters. Brownie also won the triple jump, going 10.65 meters.

Senior Megan Lundahl won the weight throw with a toss of 14.99 meters. Sophomore Becky Clarke was first in the 55-meter hurdles in a time of 8.87 seconds, while senior Becky Lebak won the 3,000 meter run in 10:24.07. Junior Jenny Todd won the 55-meter dash in a time of 7.56 seconds, and Junior Missy Kraemer won the 200-meter run in 27.17 seconds.



J. LaLonde



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Men's hoops pull off conference three-peat

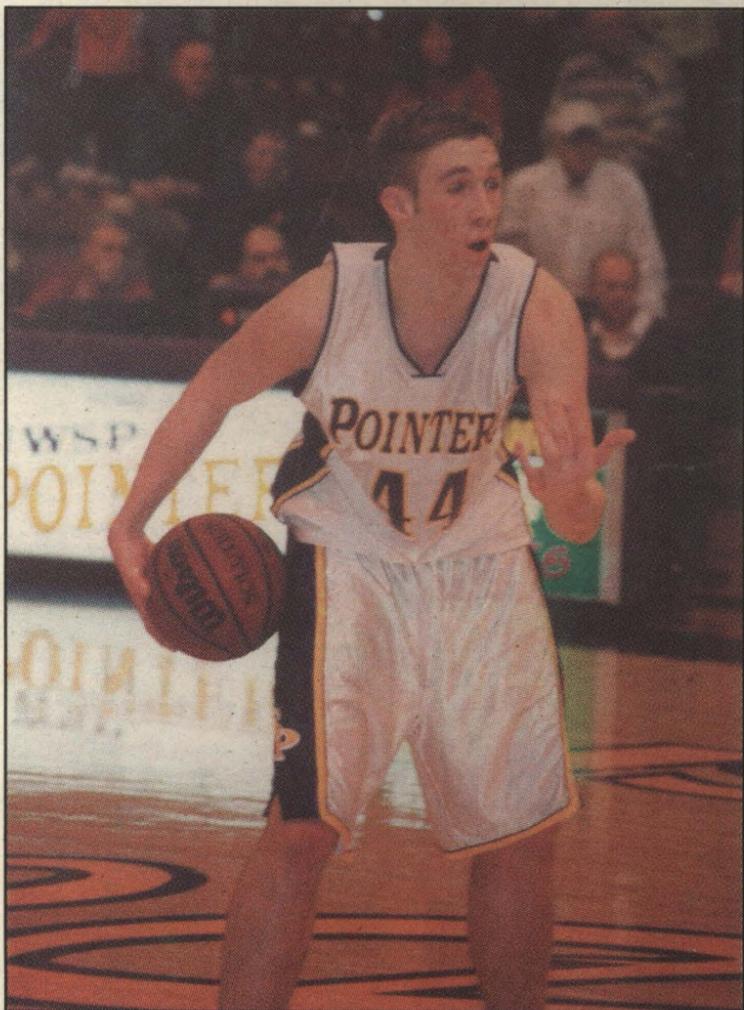


Photo by L. Zancanaro

Freshman Jason Kalsow calls for some help against UW-Platteville.

By Dan Mirman
SPORTS EDITOR

Starting the first college playoff game of his career, Neil Krajnik came up with a monster game to lead the UW-Stevens Point men's basketball team to a 72-57 quarterfinal victory over the Pioneers of UW-Platteville Wednesday night and secure their third straight conference crown.

Krajnik scored a career high 21 points, with 14 of them coming in the second half, to lead a balanced scoring attack.

"There was no doubt in my mind that the game ball goes to Neil Krajnik, he was just all over the court tonight," said Coach Jack Bennett. "These are good teams that we are playing, and there is no let up in their effort. But you have got to give our guys credit for the way they finished up the game."

UWSP held the lead from start to finish jumping out to an early 24-8 lead in the first seven minutes. Platteville fought back, closing the gap to four at one point and were trailing by six at the half. In the second half, the Pioneers could get no closer than five, as three's by Krajnik and Ron Nolting stopped two different Platteville runs. UWSP closed out the game by knocking down 14 straight free-throws.

In addition to his career best in points, Krajnik also grabbed five rebounds and had six steals. Josh Iserloth, Jason Kalsow and Kalonji Kadima also scored in double digits, notching 15, 12 and 11 points respectively.

Saturday night, UWSP claimed an amazing third consecutive WIAC championship by dominating UW-Superior 83-56.

UWSP had 12 different players score a least one basket en route to their blowout win. Up by eight at the

half, Iserloth opened the second half on fire for UWSP. He scored the team's first nine points of the half as UWSP pulled away.

"When we started off the conference 0-2 many people thought that this was going to be a re-grouping year. We just stayed with the system and it is just really a testimony to this team's toughness and staying with the system," said Bennett.

A big turning point for the team came as the first half was winding down. Freshman Kalsow knocked down a rainbow three with a man in his face as time expired to stretch the UWSP lead to eight and give them the momentum going into half time. "That big basket by Kalsow took on a value beyond just the scoring element," said Bennett. "It really propelled us into the second half."

The Pointers had an outstanding game from behind the arc, shooting a staggering 65 percent as a team. Tamaris Relerford and Ron Nolting combined to

shoot seven for eight on three pointers to lead the hot shooting. Nolting also led the team in scoring along with Iserloth as they both tossed in 13. Relerford and Kadima also reached double figures in the contest with 12 and 11 points a piece.

UWSP now moves on to the conference tournament semi-finals where they will host UW-Whitewater Thursday night at 7 p.m. The Pointers split their season series with Whitewater as both teams won on the other's home court.

"We had two beautiful games with that team, and I am expecting another great basketball game," said Bennett. "I also think win or lose, that we have earned our way into the playoffs. We have 21 wins in the toughest league in the nation."

A UWSP win combined with a UW-Oshkosh loss in the other semi-final game would allow The Pointers to host the championship game on Saturday.



Krajnik

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SENIOR ON THE SPOT NICK DE VOS- BASKETBALL



DeVos

UWSP Career Highlights

- Named team's Most Improved Player after 2000-2001 season.
- Dropped career-high 17 points on Lawrence last season.
- Honorable-mention all-state during senior year at DePere.

Major - Business Administration

Hometown - DePere, Wis.

Nickname - "Devo"

Most memorable moment - Making it to the Elite 8 in 2000.

Who was your idol growing up? - (UWSP football player) Steve Jones. He's just a great guy.

What are your plans after graduation? - I want to find a job in business or play in a band somewhere.

Do you plan on playing basketball after graduation? - Just in bar leagues for fun.

What is your favorite aspect of basketball? - Getting all the free shoes you want.

Most embarrassing moment - I would say being the only guy on the team with blazing red hair is enough.

If you could be anyone for a day, who would you choose?

- Steve Jones. It would be great to be that guy for a day.

If you were going to be stranded on a desert island and could choose only three things to bring with you, what would you choose?

1. My guitar
2. A boat
3. Steve Jones

What will you remember most about playing basketball at UWSP? - All the "jersey-chasers" I have come in contact with.

Women's cagers dominate in playoff opener

Women score big victory over River Falls, then succumb to UW-Oshkosh

By Andy Bloeser
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

"It's a great rivalry, and it's going to be a very intense game," said Coach Shirley Egner before Wednesday night's WIAC Tournament Confrontation against UW-Oshkosh.

Her words clearly reflected the mentality the Pointer women would bring into this match-up. Egner was adamant that her team approach this game with an added sense of poise. Despite having swept the Titans on the season for the first time in over a decade, it was obvious even before the tip-off that this game would be the most crucial battle between the conference rivals in recent memory.

Wednesday night's match-up

lived up to all the hype. Unfortunately, UWSP came up just a little short in a great game that UW-Oshkosh won 76-65.

About halfway through the second half, Oshkosh went on 17-4 run for a 17 point advantage, but UWSP did not go away. They followed up the Titan run with one of their own cutting the lead to six, but Oshkosh was money from the free throw line, nailing 9 of 11 down the stretch to seal the win.

Sophomore Andrea Kraemer led UWSP in scoring and assists with 15 and 7. Kari Groshek also put together a solid effort with 13 points and 8 boards. Cassandra Heuer and Amie Schultz also found double figures in points with 11 and 10 each.

The Pointers began the WIAC Tournament on a strong note, downing the River Falls Falcons by convincing margin of 78-34. Though the women started off slowly, trailing by as

many as nine points in the early minutes after a succession of three-pointers were drained by River Falls, the team was quick to regain its poise, embarking on a 17-0 run that would drastically change the momentum of the game.

Andrea Kraemer led all scorers with 16 points in a continuing series of explosive performances that began in the final games of the regular season.

"Kraemer is the total package. She delivers wherever the rest of the team is lacking on any particular night," said Egner.

Groshek and freshman standout Amanda Nechuta also put up big numbers offensively, scoring 15 and 14 respectively. In spite of the offensive dominance displayed by her players, Egner insists the key to this victory rested instead in the defensive prowess that her team has

See Basketball on Page 15

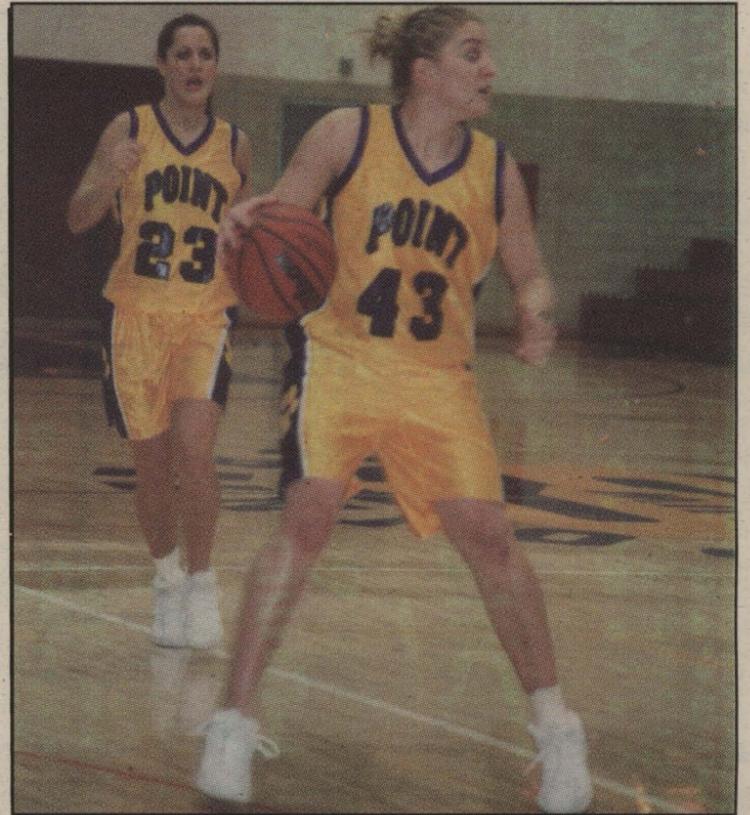


Photo by L. Rice

Andrea Kramer handles the ball against UW-Oshkosh Wednesday.

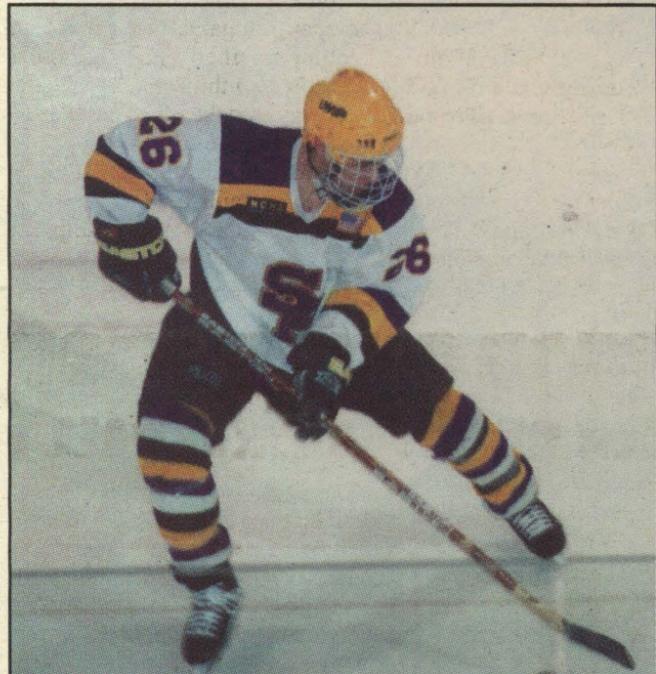


Photo by L. Rice

David Lee handles the puck during a playoff bout with Stout.

Men's hockey scores playoff win over Stout

By Lucas Meyer
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

The UW-Stevens Point men's hockey team extended their playoff winning streak to eight this past weekend with two wins against UW-Stout, 5-2 and 7-5.

The Pointers head to Ashwaubenon March 1 to play UW-Superior in an NCHA semifinal game. The winner of the game will play the winner of St. Norbert and UW-River Falls for the championship on March 2.

Bryan Fricke led the Pointers in Friday night's exciting match-up, scoring his seventh and eighth goals of the season. However, the Pointers had a tough time early in the contest, falling behind Stout 2-1 late in the second period.

With an assist by UWSP's Adam Kostichka, Fricke found the back of the net evening things up 2-2. Stout's goalie Nathan Anderson's windmill acrobatics didn't last much longer. The Pointers took control.

UWSP smashed Stout with three more unanswered goals in the third period. Scores from Mike Brotsma and Joel Marshall along with an empty-net goal from Fricke were all Stout could handle. With the win Friday night, the Pointers needed a win or a tie the next night to advance in the NCHA playoffs.

In the opening eight minutes Saturday night, Stout and
See Hockey on Page 15

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THE BACK PAGE

The Man's Take: Getting in touch with my feminine side, or the downfall of the alpha male

By Craig Mandli
SPORTS EDITOR

Over the last few months, I've noticed a rather large change. I'm becoming more feminine. AHHHHHHH! This can't be happening! I'm about as male as they come. I hunt, fish, drink beer, belch and watch figure skating.

Well, before you begin to make your own assumptions, let me set the record straight. It was not MY choice to partake in the ballet on ice. I was conned into it by my girlfriend's puppy-dog eyes (which I am no match for) and pleading. Then it happened. The scandal that shook Salt Lake, rekindled the Cold War and made everyone watching the competition "Honorary Canadians." A judge admitted she was pressured to award a gold medal to an unworthy team. Whoa! This was way better than

anything Mark Chmura or Mike Tyson could think (well, "think" is a relative term) up. From then on, I was hooked.

It didn't end there, though! I flipped on the TV the next day to catch Sportcenter and was quickly slapped in the face by the Division II National Cheerleading Competition. Before I could switch stations, the puppy-dog eyes again inflicted me. I couldn't get out of it.

Now, it would seem that a cheerleading competition couldn't be all bad. I mean, there were a lot of pretty college girls bouncing around in their little uniforms. However, as the competition wore on, I found myself making critiques of the routines with my girlfriend (who is an ex-cheerleader at UWSP), and even catching the subtle mistakes that

wouldn't normally be caught by the typical alpha-male eye. For example, when one of the male cheerleaders dropped one of his female counterparts, I inexplicably noticed his poor hand placement, rather than the girl's top flying up. WHAT IS HAPPENING TO ME!?!?

I'm seeing it everywhere now. I made supper for my girlfriend tonight and wore an apron! When I watch Michelle Kwan skate, instead of the words "hot" and "nice ass" coming to mind, words such as "graceful" and "refined" enter my vocabulary. For Crimeny's sake, I even bought AIR FRESHENER!

Is there any hope for me? I just don't know what I can do anymore. If any of you have any ideas for me, please let me know. In the meantime, I'm going to Bath & Body Works to get exfoliated, and I'll probably hit up the grocery store for some iced tea and a new loofa. Eh, probably not. GO POINTERS.



The Sports Guy's Opinion: From Russia, with NO love

By Dan Mirman
SPORTS EDITOR

As a precursor to my usual drivel this week, I would just like to state that I have no problem with anybody because they happen to be foreign. In fact I think diversity is a great thing and I believe that everyone should experience different cultures.

That being said, when it comes to the Olympics, man, do I hate the Russians. I always have and I always will. Even though the blood red uniforms and yellow lettering has been replaced with a softer design, they are all still evil.

Coming into this year's winter Olympics on U.S. soil, I thought it was going to be a love-fest, a celebration of everything that is good, and I was even prepared to look at the Communist, I mean Russian athletes as allies instead of the enemy.

But then the news broke that the Ruskies cheated again, this time by pressuring a defenseless French judge to vote for their figure skaters over the much more deserving Canadian squad.

I could picture the scene, a dark haired brooding man named Nikolai cornering a five-foot nothing skinny little judge in a bathroom stall and then in a heavy accent telling her if the Russians are not victorious she and her family will be hearing from the Russian mafia.

This event totally renewed my interest in the Olympic games. Sure it's fun to cheer and chant U-S-A, but you need someone to hate. I mean where would baseball be if you couldn't hate the Yankees? Or football without the Ravens?

Yes, there definitely needs to

be someone you're cheering against, and the Russians have suddenly been transformed back to the nuclear-bomb holding Communists who used to threaten our way of life.

Nowhere was this more evident than in hockey, with the USA-Russia showdown on Saturday night. I surprised myself by how much I was pulling for the US to win the game. I wasn't alone either, a large majority of the bar that I was in was living and dying on the contest. Every goal and near miss was drawing huge reactions from the bar. Everyone was cheering, from the sober folks, to the guys who were to the point that they had trouble putting the statement "Go U-S-A" together.

By the end of the game we were pretty much all in agreement that the Russian mafia was once again running the country, and they needed to be stopped. We were also in agreement that our hockey team was just the folks for the job. Unfortunately, no one even won the game, as the two teams battled to a 2-2 tie.

Only the Russians could cause two gold medals to be given out to the same sport. I even watched the ceremony where the extra set of gold medals were awarded to the Canadians. It was horrible. They actually played the Russian national anthem again for a team that should have never heard it the first time. Speaking of the national anthem, if you haven't ever heard it, then watch the movie Rocky IV. It sounds like the entrance music the devil might use.

It is the classic good-versus-evil, and I would not have it any other way.



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INTRAMURAL BLOCK #3

STANDINGS FROM WEEK #2 AS OF 2-20-02

D1 Basketball

Midwest Carriers
Mullet Holler
RPB
Turbo Team
Pigeon's Flock

Floor Hockey

North Stars
Let's Fight
Hansen Bro's
Team Baldwin
Team TKE

D2 Basketball

Croonies
Midgits 4 Sale
Greatest Show on Earth
1428
Fishin 4 Two

Volleyball D1

Madhops
Yahtzee
Not Quite non-trads
Slammin Salmon
Bathtub Virgins
Sickness

Womens Basketball

Soccer Dawgs
T-Bone Playas
All Stars
Bawls

Badminton

Phi Sig Pigs
Shuttlecock Envy
Long Five Fong
Team Longbeards
Nathan Wilson
Mike and the FIB

Soccer

Everton AFC
Bum Rush
Cash Money

Winterim offered sand as an alternative to break

By Leigh Ann Ruddy
ASSISTANT OUTDOORS EDITOR

Traveling by bus 3,700 miles across the United States, you arrive late at night in Northeastern Arizona's wintertime. You've realized you have to camp in extreme temperatures, but setting up your tent in 18 inches of snow wasn't what you were thinking of.

The Desert Ecological Research field course (DesRes) students celebrated New Year's Eve 2002, camping in Navajo National Monument, Arizona just like this.

A fairly new winterim class, DesRes, or Biology 498, has explored the desert's rich eco-diversity during school breaks for the past four years. Dr. Douglas Post and Dr. Robert Bell, both of the biology department, co-conspired their efforts in order to lead students on a new and unique approach to the desert's distinctive ecosystem.

"I suspect the student's jaws start to drop on the first day in the desert," says Bell, "and they just develop calluses on the



Photo by P. Gasque

One of the many new forms of wildlife seen on the winterim trip to Arizona.

bottom of their jaws as each day reveals another amazing place or biotic community to learn about."

According to Bell, DesRes students research plant and animal communities, their distributions and their associations. Participants conduct daily surveys to determine plant abundance and distribution in each desert. Night hikes are often scheduled in search of amphibians and reptiles. Before dawn many birds and animals can be studied. Meetings twice daily allow for the exchange of discoveries and information between group members.

"An introductory biology course, an open mind and an adventuresome spirit are the only prerequisites," Bell says.

The itinerary of the DesRes trip guided students to explore the four deserts of North America. The Great Basin Desert, Mojave Desert, Sonoran Desert and Chihuahuan Desert, which coat much of Arizona. These deserts provide valuable and rare knowledge about an extremely fragile ecosystem for biology students.

"I frequently return to the area to continue various aspects of my research and know the area fairly well," Bell says, "Post and I have led all four trips."

The Great Basin Desert is the largest desert in the United States, covering 190,000 square miles. As a result of the Northern latitude of the Great Basin Desert and higher elevations, it is known as a "cold desert." The Great Basin Desert receives approximately 7-12 inches of precipitation each year. Snow is regular and



Photo by P. Gasque

Camping in the desert means no showers, little cover and plenty of wildlife.

abundant during the winter season. The Great Basin Desert is also home to Petrified Forest National Park.

Petrified forests developed over 225 million years ago, when trees were buried by sediment and water due to flooding which prevented decay. Over time, water that contained dissolved minerals leached into the wood and replaced organic cells with stone sediment. Red, black, yellow and white bands are common colors found in the woods of Petrified Forest National Park.

The DesRes trip then takes students west, leaving Arizona behind for a while to Southeastern Nevada, heading to Grand Canyon National Park and on to the

Mojave Desert. Temperatures in Death Valley National Park, near the Mojave, can reach 124 degrees Fahrenheit in early summer, with a night temperature of 107 degrees.

Heading further west, the DesRes students stopped in Southeastern California. Joshua Tree National Park is known to be one of the best winter rock-climbing places in the U.S. Naturally, the park is home to forests of the spiky, crooked Joshua tree and also nurtures trees and shrubs such as; creosote bush, cholla cactus and spidery ocotillo.

Coming back east, the students traveled southbound to the Sonoran Desert.

See SAND, Page 15

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How to ensure yourself a wall-hanger with the bare essentials

By Steve Seamandel
OUTDOORS EDITOR

Even though fishing season won't be here for awhile, I can't help but think about launching the boat on a gorgeous summer morning, the whirr of the trolling motor and the sound of the first cast landing on the glassy surface of the lake.

I'm always thinking of new places to fish and what new things I can try to land the big one. But what exactly does the average fisherman need in order to have a successful day? Most people can waltz through the fishing aisles in Fleet Farm and pick out the most colorful lures or ones that are "guaranteed" to catch more fish, but skip right through the bare essentials. The following five items are what I think are the necessities for any average fisherman besides the obvious like hooks, line and sinkers.

One of the most versatile weapons that I keep in my tackle box are colored jigheads. They come in a lot of different

weights, ranging from 1/4 ounce to 1/64 ounce. I prefer either 1/16 ounce or 1/32, depending on what I'm fishing for. Smaller sized jigheads will work great for panfish and finicky walleyes; heavier jigs will produce more bass and walleyes. My favorite combo to fish with is a jighead tipped with a crappie minnow or leach while drifting over 12-15 feet deep weed beds.

The next must for any fisherman is a Rapala lure. Any one will do, but it's best to think ahead before purchasing one. A shallow shad rap works great for bass, walleye and northern around bays and thick weed edges. While there are way too many varieties to mention in one article, it's best to peruse the store's stock and put a little thought into your purchase. Some of the newer Rapala models look so realistic it'll be hard not to walk out of the store with a few of them.

Another one of my favorite lures to use is a Kelley Worm. These can be a tad difficult to find, but if and when you do,

stock up if you're a bass fisherman. They're a regular-looking soft plastic worm with three single hooks through the top, middle and bottom of the worm. Apparently, there's a scent on the worm that "bass can't refuse." At first, I was skeptical but was a firm believer by my fifth cast with it. I've caught more largemouth bass with Kelley Worms than anything else. I've caught bass with them on the stagnant dog-days of summer, and I've caught bass with them when they wouldn't touch anything else I threw in the water. By far, they're the most productive bass lure I've ever used.

If you're one of those who goes straight past the bluegill nonsense and straight to northern and muskie, then you'll surely need a Buchertail. Invented by avid Wisconsin fisherman Joe Bucher, Buchertails are quickly becoming a classic for northern and muskies. Buchertails are widely available in northern Wisconsin tackle shops and come in a gamut of sizes and colors.

The last essential item isn't really for the tackle box, but important nevertheless. Live bait can make or break your day out on the lake. It's essential to take care of whatever bait you're using. Obviously, bait needs to be kept cold and out of the sun. But even day-old minnows can hurt your chances unless you've got a bait bucket aerator. It may sound a bit odd, but fresh juicy worms, leeches and minnows are the only way to go as for live bait. The more your live bait sits in the boat, or even the fridge, the more they lose their "freshness" and liveliness. Think of it as going through your fridge and having to pick from a sealed frozen pizza or last week's leftover mystery stew. You'd probably take the pizza too.

No matter what you're fishing for, there are some surefire lures that will always give you a fighting chance to land something worth bragging about.

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Deer hunting: a sport for all seasons

By Joe Shead
OUTDOORS REPORTER

If you think deer hunting season only happens in the fall, you're wrong. Some of the best hunting takes place right now. And you don't even need a gun or bow.

I'm not actually referring to killing deer. Instead, this is the time of the year to head out in search of antlers, which bucks are currently shedding.

Bucks lose their antlers at this time of the year as the testosterone levels in their bodies drop. They usually begin to grow new antlers in April.

Shed hunting likely became popularized as a means for hunters to find out which bucks survived the hunting season and to determine late-winter hunting patterns, but you don't have to be a deer hunter to enjoy shed hunting. This pastime allows you to get outside on a late-winter day and enjoy the scenery, and maybe even come home with a fascinating piece of nature.

Most hunters like to search their own hunting areas for antlers in order to learn more about the deer they hunt, but if your goal is to find an antler, you may be better off concentrating your efforts on an area that isn't hunted. Unhunted areas with high deer populations, like those found on the fringes of many urban areas, are goldmines for shed hunt-

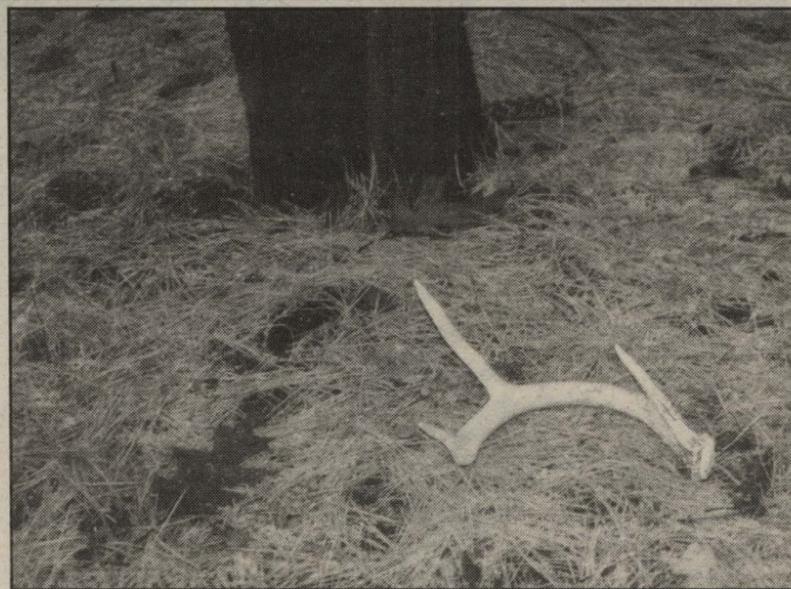


Photo by L. Zancanaro

The ultimate reward while shed hunting is finding an antler from a large buck.

ing. Just be sure if the land is privately owned that you obtain permission from the landowner before searching it.

The key to finding antlers is to locate areas that are being heavily used by deer in late January and February. Look for deer trails with fresh tracks, deer beds and droppings. Trails leading between bedding and feeding areas are likely spots to find antlers. A particularly good place to look is anywhere that a buck may jar its body, which might knock an antler loose. Such places include fence crossings or logs across trails, which deer must jump over or crawl under.

Antlers can be difficult to spot, so concentrate on what you're doing. They will usually be white this time of year and stand out a little from the surrounding groundcover, but they still look an awful lot like every other stick on the ground.

Antlers are where you find them, and no matter how promising an area may look, most often you'll come up empty-handed, and the antlers you do find may come from an area with few signs of deer. But these quirks in the shed-hunting system just make the activity more intriguing.

Hockey

Continued from Page 11

The Pointers combined for five goals in the first period, pushing the score in UWSP's favor 3-2.

UWSP wasn't about to let Stout's goalie off with an easy night. The Pointers combined to nail 16 shots in the second period. Brolsma and Randy Enders each tacked a goal on bringing the score to 5-2.

Going into the third period with a rather comfortable lead, UWSP's night soon became uneasy. In a blink of an eye, Stout rallied to score three unanswered goals to tie the game 5-5.

With help from Mike Brolsma and Adam Kirchhoff, Enders (men's Player of the Week) kept the game out of overtime, scoring with just over three minutes left in regulation. Brolsma capped things off recording his third goal of the night on an empty net with under a minute left. Stout's bus ride home was imminent.

UWSP looks to take home the Peter's Cup in two weeks. With a championship win, UWSP will obtain an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Basketball

continued from Page 11

come to pride itself on.

"Our defense has been our staple all season and it will continue to be our staple. This team has a lot of depth. We have a very solid nucleus of defenders who are very versatile and very hungry," said Egner. That mentality was clearly illustrated as the team held the Falcons to a meager 29% field goal percentage on the game, allowing no more than five field goals in either half.

The women were also successful in putting an exclamation point on one of the most triumphant regular season campaigns in recent memory, winning their final game of the season in blowout fashion. The Pointers emerged with the statistical honor of being recognized as the best defensive team in the conference, holding their opposition to an average output of 57.4 points per game, due in part to a 86-46 victory over Superior this past Saturday.

Kraemer led all scorers with 18 points in addition to being credited with five assists. Groshek also came up big with 16 points, as did Heuer, who scored 13 points in just 15 minutes of action.

UWSP will not know if their season continues until this Sunday. They are still alive for an at large berth into the NCAA division three tournament.

Laser

Continued from Page 6

degree of smallness, if you were to multiply one femtosecond by the amount of seconds that have passed since the universe began, your answer would be about one second.

When asked about why this would matter to the average person, Taft explained, "So many of the devices that people have in their dorm rooms and apartments are based on advances in physics.

"Computers, television, the internet, communication technology, optics and materials are all possible because of physicists really wanting to understand matter on these really small scales.

"In order to do more and get more out of our technology, we have to have a better understanding of the properties of the materials we use."

Taft feels that his work could be one very small part of understanding materials better.

Of course, one might wonder how on earth Taft ever got into this. Much of it stems from simply getting involved with research and projects when he was an undergraduate. He encourages all students, especially physics majors, that are interested in getting involved in this kind of research or any of the other research in the dept.

"There are lots of opportunities. I'd say that each professor in the department is always looking for interested students to get involved."

Sand

Continued from Page 13

Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument offers the only location to view the uncommon organ pipe cactus. The organ pipe is the famously shaped cactus many people associate with the desert. Blossoms of the organ pipe, along with many other flowers and animals, come out near dusk. After the sun's heat dies down and sunset befalls this desert, the wildlife abounds, ready for research and exploration.

Nearing the end of the trip, the DesRes students traveled to the Chihuahuan Desert in New Mexico. The Chihuahuan Desert encompasses portions of far west Texas and south central New Mexico. The Chihuahuan Desert hosts grassland vegetation and desert shrub, which give way to pine woodlands at higher elevations.

White Sands National Park, near the Chihuahuan, holds the world's largest gypsum sand dune field. Only a few species of plants and animals

have managed to live in the dunes. Due to wind and harsh conditions many plants and animals cannot survive.

A short distance away the Carlsbad Caverns National Park lies beneath the desert. Above ground, the terra is not much different from any southwest expanse but below lies a maze of ancient fossil reefs, which are known as caverns.

"To me, the desert is an amazing contrast of big and little. That sums it all up for me," says Bell.

Needless to say, experiences like these are easily acquired while in college. The cost of the trip is fairly cheap; \$500 for travel and accommodations, along with a tuition fee for three credits.

The knowledge and experience clearly outweighs the price students must pay. Unique opportunities in field research enrich student's lives and generate worldly scientists who have a vast understanding of the Earth's various ecosystems and changing environment.



after this, the corporate ladder will be a piece of **[cake]**.

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Letters From the Edge of the World

High Road and Apology.

By Pat "Dibs" Rothfuss

LITTLE LOVE LOW

Dear Pat,

I read your love column last week. And, having nowhere else to turn, I've decided to come to you for some advice. I've changed the names, so you can print them.

My friend, Julie, has been hanging around with a guy for about two months. Right now they're "just friends," but I know she really likes him and hopes that he'll put the moves on her soon.

Here's the problem. I really like him too. Even worse, I think he likes me. He's been stopping by our place more and more often, and when Julie isn't around he still hangs around and talks, sometimes for hours.

Is it wrong for me to make a move on him? It wouldn't really be stealing, as he's not really hers. Besides, "all's fair in love and war," right?

Carefully Ann-onomous

Wrong.

I don't mean to trivialize your question by giving it a simple answer, CA, but when you're wrong, you're wrong. "All's fair in love and war" is the sort of thing people say to themselves so that they can feel good about doing bad things. Unfortunately for you, your friend has dibs on this guy. You have to

respect that.

Already I can hear you spluttering, "but, but, but ..." I know you've got a dozen reasons why it seems OK. Trust me, it's really not. Still, if it will make things easier, let's look at some of the "buts."

"But he likes me more."

It's still wrong.

"But I'd be way better for him."

Wrong.

"But what if he puts the moves on me?"

That makes it easy (to be wrong).

Now, I don't want to come across as being holier-than-thou. I know that it's wrong because I've been there myself. Twice.

The first time I had the opportunity to steal this incredible girl away from her guy. She was great. Better yet, she thought I was great. Best of all, I hardly knew the guy. But after a lot of soul searching, I took the high road because I knew it wasn't right. It wasn't fair, and it wasn't polite.

That didn't make it easy. I moped around for months deciding to take the high road. The high road usually sucks.

But it's better than the low road. I took that once too. It was years and years ago, when a friend of mine, Dale, invited me to a party. Now, I'm not a real punctual person, so by the time I finally

showed up, the party was in full swing and Dale was in the process of laying down some of his best moves on a lovely young thing we'll refer to as Trixie. (And by "thing" I mean a girl. And by "girl" I mean woman).

Now it's true that Dale's moves were mostly games like, "I've hidden a nickel somewhere on my body. You find it. You keep it." and "Watch me whistle through my nose." Regardless, they did the trick, and he was on the couch playing snugglebunnies with Trixie by the time I showed up.

I immediately started throwing down my best moves too. I wasn't trying for Trixie, mind you, I was just playing the room. Unfortunately, at that point in my life, my best moves involved bitching and moaning about my lonely and depressing life, while at the same time complaining about how unappealing I was to women. Next to me Dale must have looked like a cross between Casanova, Wilt Chamberlain and Steven Tyler.

But something truly odd happened. Trixie's roommate tried to set me up on a date with Trixie. Right there in the middle of the party, while Dale and Trixie were laying on the couch together. Stranger still, Trixie agreed to the date, and so did I. The whole thing was utterly surreal.

Now at the time, I thought it was funny as hell. Besides, I was lonely, and Trixie was pretty and seemed nice, and I really hadn't done anything, and all's fair in love and war, right?

Wrong. It was a jerky thing to do, and I've regretted it for a long time. Dale was one of the first friends I made in Stevens Point, and for a year we were really, really close. We never forgot about Trixie, he never accused me of being a girl-stealing-sumbitch, (which I was) and we're still friends. But we're not really close friends, like we used to be. I'm not going to blame it on that one incident, but you can bet your ass that it didn't help.

So, my advice in a nutshell: take the high road. It's always better in the long run.

Emergency back-up advice: If you really, really can't stay away from him, at least talk to your friend first. If you can't decide who has the better claim to him, you could team up and offer yourselves as a package deal. You'd be virtually guaranteed to win the guy over. Besides, you're in college, live a little, try something new.

Pat Rothfuss wants funny letters so that he can go back to writing funny columns. Appease him by sending E-mail to proth@wsuunix.wsu.edu.

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Movie Review

O
 By Colleen Courtney
 WWSP MUSIC DIRECTOR

Okay, call me an English major, but *Othello* is by far my favorite Shakespearian play. More obscure than *Romeo and Juliet* and less political than *Macbeth*, *Othello* has all the elements for crowd-pleasing drama. Murder. Sex. Alleged infidelities. Betrayal. Unfortunately, the recent modernized film adaptation trivialized the clever plot into an exaggerated teen movie.

O follows the bare skeleton of the original play. We meet the modern Othello, an African-American basketball player named Odin James (Mekhi Phifer), who is named Most Valuable Player at Palmetto Grove Prep High School. Like Othello, Odin is involved with a white woman named Desi (Julia Stiles). In *Othello*, Desdemona's father is a senator; in *O*, he is the school's dean. Hugo (Josh Hartnett) is also on the basketball team, and he is jealous of Odin's success, mainly because his father, the basketball coach, adores Odin and ignores Hugo. Like Iago, the villain in *Othello*, Hugo plots to break up Odin and Desi for his own merriment.

O lacks the cunning charm of *Othello*, mainly because none of the original Shakespearian dialogue is preserved. Instead of com-

ing across as a cunning villain, Hugo is a spoiled brat who abuses steroids and cocaine. Odin's few nicety scenes with Desi are overshadowed by his defense of his race, of which no character was insulting in the first place. Desi, with Stiles' help, is a bit more assertive than her Desdemona counterpart, but nowhere near as wonderful as Stiles' portrayal of Ophelia in a recent version of *Hamlet*.

At a party where the audience is first introduced to these characters, the atmosphere is artificial, and even Stiles, fresh off the set of *Save the Last Dance*, cannot bust a decent move. All of the characters seem bored, contrived and not in the least bit authentic. The movie's soundtrack consists of nothing but pulsating rap, which does not mesh with all of the scenes. And the jokes are even worse. When asked by an English teacher to name one Shakespearian sonnet, Hugo offers, "I thought he only wrote movies?"

Certainly not in this case. Leave *O* on the shelf and check out *Romeo and Juliet* with Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes, or *Hamlet* with Ethan Hawke, Stiles and Bill Murray. If you're in the mood for something lighter, check out *10 Things I Hate About You*, a modern version of *The Taming of the Shrew*.

CD Review

Time Life Music Presents:
The Treasury of Bluegrass
 By Adam M. Mella

ARTS & REVIEW CONTRIBUTOR

Anyone who turns on their television these days is bound to observe countless advertisements for products ranging from robots and horse-racing equipment, to weaponry and even compact discs and tapes.

How many times has a person made a purchase and came away from the transaction feeling unhappy and cheated by the erroneous advertising schemes used to make that sale. It happens every day. However, there is a new product on the market today from the people at Time Life Music that can be rated as one of the finest compilations to come out of the studio this year. You might be surprised or even reserved to give *The Treasury of Bluegrass* a try based on its title. Nonetheless, once the play button has been pushed, this compact disc delivers non-stop in all areas by which a quality musical experience can be judged. This journey through the Appalachian Mountain range sweeps you away on the very first track, and like any good album, keeps the listener in constant wonderment throughout the entire thirty-song voyage of pure audible enjoyment.

The creators of this fine musical accomplishment have truly covered the entire range,

culture and history of the bluegrass movement with a wide variety of gifted artists from both the old-time and modern styles that will make the listener slap leather, tap their boot and give a holler of pure pleasure for this harmonious treasure. The record starts out with some bluegrass stars from the past with Lester Flatts and Earl Scruggs on track two with the easy going song "Foggy Mountain Breakdown," which really sets the mood for the rest of the Album. *The Treasury of Bluegrass* doesn't let up from there on out with a personal favorite on track nine in "Little Maggie" sung superbly by the legend Ralph Stanley. Other highlights of disc one include "Fox on the Run" by the up-and-coming Bill Emerson and Cliff Waldron, and a lovely number by Allison Kraus and the Union Station entitled, "Two Highways."

Disc two is equally impressive and gets off on the right foot swiftly with the exhilarating tune "The New Mule Skinner Blues" by Bill Monroe, which is followed immediately by "Nine Pound Hammer" done by the brother duo known simply as Jim and Jesse. The other highlights of the second installment



include the national hit "Rocky Top" by the Osborn Brothers, and track thirty, which is arguably the most splendid song on the entire compilation, by J.D. Crowe and The New South with "Old Home Place," a heart-warming look at the charms of simple country life.

This CD delivers on every facet from the very start to finish and would be a superb purchase for everyone from the occasional bluegrass listener to the avid fan of this interesting and lackadaisical style of music. With well over a seventy minute running time and a fact filled booklet on the bluegrass stars who changed and influenced the genre, this compact disc or cassette is the perfect addition to anyone's personal collection, and trust me, it beats *Dreamin' 70's* or *Romantic TV Theme Songs* hands down.

I got a chance to listen to this CD over Christmas break and I agree with Adam. This is a good introduction for anyone who is remotely interested in the history and roots of American music as well as an enjoyable listen for the seasoned bluegrass fan. -Zack

CD Review

Gorillaz
G Sides

By Colleen Courtney
 WWSP MUSIC DIRECTOR



Gorillaz burst onto the alternative scene in spring 2001, and as the success of the first album, *Gorillaz*, grew with the hit single "Clint Eastwood," so did curiosity about the band. But what happens when the band is fictional?

Cartoonist Jamie Hewlett created four cartoon characters to "perform" the songs. In reality, Gorillaz was formed by Blur's Damon Albarn, Dan "The Automator" Nakamura and Hewlett. Albarn wrote most of the music and performs vocals on the CD. Other contributors include Del the Funky Homosapien, Talking Head's Tina Weymouth and Chris Frantz, Kid Koala and Cibo Matto's Miho Hatori.

G Sides, Gorillaz's follow-up, offers a remixed version of "Clint Eastwood," as well as two versions of "19-2000." The music is an eclectic mix of electronic and hip hop, and the remixes offer heavier rap vocals on some of the tracks. Since most of the band's popularity spins from the cartoonish videos, *G Sides* offers two multimedia tracks: videos for

"Tomorrow Comes Today" and "Rock the House."

My favorite track is the "Soul Child Remix" of "19-2000." Its pop feel perfectly accents the playfulness of the group, and is an accessible track for fans of Moby and Fatboy Slim. But while Moby and Fatboy Slim mix primarily older vocal tracks, "19-2000" is a bit fresher. The house remix of "19-2000" is a little more dressed up, while the "Latin Simone" remix shines of Albarn and the melodramatic instrumentals of Blur. "Clint Eastwood" is grittier and hip-hop influenced, and the lyrics are reworked, emerging barely recognizable to the original. "Ghost Train" sassily rings like an old R&B tune. The album is a perfect blend of remixes, rarities and all-around fun.

Gorillaz are currently touring and will release *G Sides* on Feb. 26. It is a safe bet for venturers outside of the mainstream, but will appeal to anyone looking to add a little funk to their music collection. Check out one of Britian's top acts of 2001.

Waylon Jennings

1937-2002

By Zack Holder
 ARTS & REVIEW EDITOR

I was truly shocked and saddened when I went home last Wednesday night and heard of the death of Waylon Jennings after a long fight with diabetes. Now, I know many of you will quit reading at this point, thinking, "Big deal, some old country singer died." See, that's what bothers me about a lot of people. Waylon was bigger than country music. His career as a musician spanned over 40 years. He was the bass player in the Crickets, Buddy Holly's backing band (he gave up his seat to the Big Bopper on the airplane the "day the music died") and then put out over 60 solo albums. Waylon also made contributions on numerous albums of artists ranging from Neil Diamond to Willie Nelson and Widespread Panic. He was also the narrator on *The Dukes of Hazzard*.

I don't have the space to say everything about the man, his legacy or what he meant to myself and millions of others. He was making records outside of the studio system before most indie acts of today were born and refused to compromise his vision with anyone. This was true to his last days. When he was

elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame he didn't even go to the ceremony, the result of a long standing feud with the Country Music Association. This attitude and his reputation, along with guys like Johnny Cash, Merle Haggard and Nelson, helped start the movement known as "out-law country." Some saw it as admirable, others saw it as a threat to the establishment. In the end though, once you strip down the image, you get what matters most, lyrics and music that touch listeners somewhere deep down in the pockets of their soul.

The one lyric that has stuck out at me since his death was from the song "Highwaymen" from the collaboration with Cash, Nelson and Kris Kristofferson. True, Cash sings it in the song, but right now, it's all Waylon's. "I'll fly a starship across the Universe divide/ And when I reach the other side/ I'll find a place to rest my spirit if I can/ Perhaps I may become a highwayman again/ Or I may simply be a single drop of rain/ but I will remain/ And I'll be back again." We can only hope so. I miss you already, Hoss. Rest in peace, friend.



Want to write for the Arts & Review section of The Pointer? If so, send any and all submissions to zhold695@uwsp.edu or pointer@uwsp.edu.

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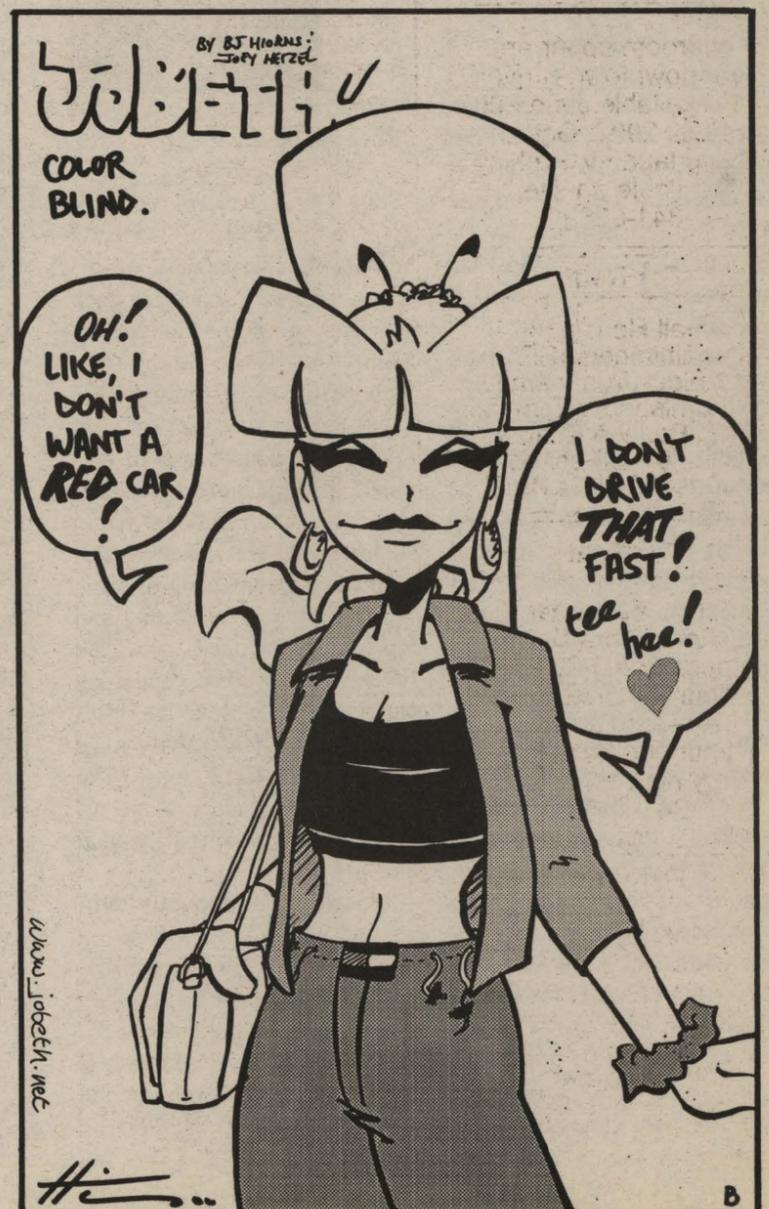
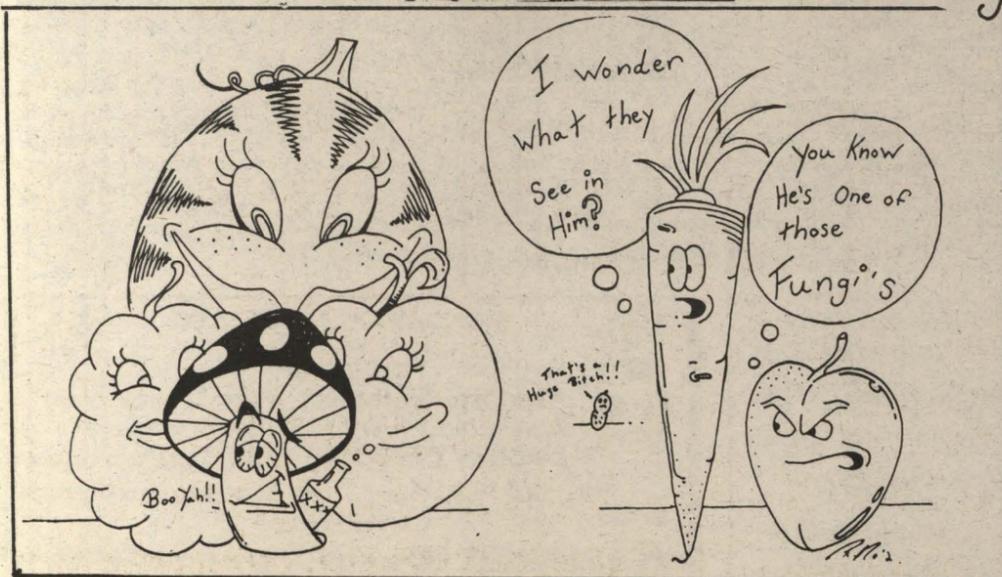
off the mark

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Sparkit....

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