Taverns open their doors to 18 to 20 year olds

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

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, darts 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 permit 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 rest-rooms 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 base-ment, 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 to 20 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 Molski. "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, foo­ball, darts and other games to play, in addition to music and frequent live bands. Aside from a little re-dooring, The Keg is prepared for its under-age 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 propri­eters..." See TAVERNS on Page 2

Global warming explored
By Lindsay Heiser

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 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.

Soul Food serves up diversity
Annual event teaches culture through food and Muntu dance
By Mollie Mlodzik

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 Wirtz], and each member's..." See SOUL FOOD on Page 2

Campaign to balance tuition and aid

By Mollie Mlodzik

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 with $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... See BILL on Page 3
Continued from Page 1

The Muntu Dancers took the stage. "The audience participated 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 dancers," Monroe said.

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 dances 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."

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.

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.

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.

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Parking solutions brainstormed

Due to the parking crunch, university officials consider solutions

By Geoff Fife and Amy Zepnick

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 freshman orientation is over, most of the permits are gone. That is why most permit holders are freshmen and sophomores."}

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 azepn842@uwsp.edu

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UWSP Blood Drive

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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 'ya when your grades aren't so good. They'll loan 'ya just like they said they would. They'll loan 'ya when you can't pay for your home. They'll loan '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. To 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 hustled my butt for, I've 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 basement of the main building) but I think the underlying message is still easy enough to interpret. To you should not feel so all alone. Everybody must get loans.

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.
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 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 just to see works by Picasso, Goya, Rembrandt and Greco. It was very, very gauy (cool).

In Valladolid we were introduced to our host families...Reid and I got played with a very nice, older women, 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 finger foods, I would call them like fried calamare (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 Carbnaval 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.) 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 Hostal, 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
**FEATURES**

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

By Barret Steenrod

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 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.

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**A Greek tragedy will be performed this weekend**

By Peter Graening

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." Linda 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 are 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 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 really don't 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.

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 would 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 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 Yoga-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 united.

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 good 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 (348-4771) or stop by the Yoga Studio. You can also check out Richard Hittleman's YOGA: 28 Day Exercise Plan, Yoga Journal, Yoga Studio, 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.
Breathe at the pace of your bending movements, where you feel the stretch and your emotions.

Questions for the Health Advocate? E-mail her at kluke680@uwsp.edu.

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KRakow, Poland

FALL SEMESTERS

History is currently being made in East-Central Europe—experience it! Realize: the little known and fabulous cultures, the reality of a state's planned economy in transformation to a market economy, the tragic sweep of history in crossroads of East and West, contrasting social and economic systems, the spirit and gallantry of the Polish people.

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The Pointer through time

February 26, 1925

By Baret Stenrod

Features Editor

This week’s issue comes from Feb. 26, 1925. Prior to this issue, more of a newspaper than a magazine before regressing into old form for two or three 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 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 lovely 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 times 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 were still retained. 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 Welsh Attends Meeting in Madison and Clint Coppes Addresses Assembly." The sports news of the issue was how Point defeated Northland College 28-23 in basketball on Friday Feb. 13, but we 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 Whitewater and "yell, yell, YELL!!!!".

In a fine example of how times 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 shouldn’t have failed.

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 annually-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 Annual. 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.

Hmong conference on cultural values and religion scheduled

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

Hoa 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 Traditions.”

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.

Hoa 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 Hoa as “an exemplar of commitment to educational excellence through diversity.” Two years later, Hoa and her husband, Young Moua, received the Thomas and Charlotte Pointer 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.

The 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 clang@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 just in their second year of existence.

"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 entire contest as the Pointers scored four times in the first, four times in the second and then tallied a goal a piece in the game.

"It was extremely hard, it's just something she does all the time," said Idalski. "The only difference was tonight she was 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 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 matchup, which will be held immediately after the first semi-final game.

Pointer track continues to impress early on

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

By Craig Mandll
Sports Editor

Sure, there may be half a foot of snow on the ground, but that's not 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 sopho- more Chris Pfaffneroth 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 Steffeck 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 Knaemer won the 200-meter run in 27.17 seconds.

Young wrestlers finish strong at championships

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

By Craig Mandll
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 heavyweight 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.

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Sports

Men’s hoops pull off conference three-peat

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 walked 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 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 Kahlen 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 halftime. "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. Tamiris Reiferford 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. Reiferford 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.

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SENOR ON THE SPOT

NICK DE VOS - BASKETBALL

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.

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 a 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 and 15 rebounds, 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

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

By Craig Mandli

Over the last few months, I've noticed a 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.

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 we are argue! I watched Michelle Kwan skate, instead of the words "hot" and "nice ass" coming to mind, words such as "graceful" and "refined" entered 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 look. Ehh, probably not. GO POINTERS.

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

By Dan Mirman

As a preusurer to my usual drive this week, I would just like to say that I have no problem with anybody because they happen to be foreign. In fact I think diversity is a good 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 uniform 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, the 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 so into 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. It is the classic good-versus-evil story. It sounds like the entrance music for the premiere 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 heard it yet, then watch the movie Rocky IV. It sounds like the entrance music for the dragon fight.

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

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**STANDINGS FROM WEEK #2 AS OF 2-7-02**

**Floor Hockey**

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

**Volleyball D1**

Madhops
Yahzee
Not Quite non-trads
Shammie Salmon
Bathbub Virgins
Sickness

**Badminton**

Phi Sig Pigs
Shuttlecock Envy
Long Fing Fingers
Team Longboards
Nathan Wilton
Mike and the FIB
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 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 adventurous 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 abundant during the winter season. The Mojave 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.

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

By Steve Seemandel

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 ave rage fi s herman need in order to have a the big one . But what exactly does the jigh e a ~.

The following five items are what I think are the necessities for any average line and sinkers.

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 go to way 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 fringe 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

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 bunting 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-

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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 time, scoring with just over three minutes left in regulation. Brolsma capped things off minutes left in regulation.

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."
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-anonymous

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 "things" 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 your 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 snugglesbunnies 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 the time 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-sumphitch, (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.

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 yourselfs as a package deal. You'd be virtuually 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. Approse him by sending E-mail to profi@wsunix.wsu.edu.
Movie Review

By Colleen Courtney

At the world underbelly, a man 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. Harrel (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 amusement.

The creators of this fine musical accomplishment have clearly 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 landmark treasure. The record starts out with some bluegrass from the past with Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs on track two and begins going "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 popular favorite on track nine in "Little Maggie" sung superbly by the legend Ralph Stanley. Other highlights of disc one include "Fonx on the Run" by the up-and-coming Bill Emerson and Cindy Waldon, and a lovely one by Allison Kraus and the Union Station entitled, "Two Trains." 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 Ossborn 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-wrenching love to the charms of simple country life.

This CD delivers on every facet from the very start to finish with a super production for everyone from the occasional bluegrass listener to the avid fan of this interesting and lack-adysial style of music. With 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 Darius' 70's or Romantic TV Theme Songs hands down.

I got a chance to listen to this CD on 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 seasonal bluegrass fun - "Zack"

Time Life Music Presents:

The Treasury of Bluegrass

By Adam M. Mella

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UWSP THE POINTER
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