Dietche retires from UWSP after teaching in China, Africa

Julie Phelps Dietche has enjoyed challenges during her 26 years as a professor of English at the UWSP, from teaching around the world and serving in the Peace Corps to facing first-year students in her classroom campus.

She has faced a new challenge—retirement.

A native of Greenwich, Conn., Dietche took her first teaching job at UWSP in 1976. A specialist in 20th Century British, American, and African literature, she says she especially enjoyed teaching and working closely with students in her freshman English classes.

"One of my greatest challenges over the years was how do I get literature students to study and teach about the classics," she said.

"I would attempt to write and explain the material. I would always encourage students to read it. I was very fortunate," she said. "It was a wonderful opportunity to teach and travel the country by train. The Chinese students were excited about learning new materials, since China was opening up to the world again after the repressive years of the Cultural Revolution."

"I have experienced there led her to look for other ways to teach in other countries. In 1984, Dietche took two-year leave of absence from UWSP to become a Peace Corps volunteer, one of the few UWSP faculty members to do so. Her first assignment was in Senegal, where she trained teachers of English in an isolated city. The second year she spent as a visiting professor at the University of Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso (formerly Upper Volta) in West Africa. Her students there were brilliant, hard working and kept her on her toes, she said.

When she returned to UWSP, she integrated African literature into her freshman classes then created a Survey of African Literature course. She also developed a graduate course, African American and African Women Writers, and attended conferences to make presentations on the subject.

The spent part of a 1991 sabbatical in Ibadan and Calabar, Nigeria, attending two international conferences and during the summer of 1993 she spent two weeks in Ghana, West Africa, for a National Council for Black Studies International Conference. Dietche also served as a visiting lec­

UWSP loses professor to tragedy

Founder of Point's "Sister City" loses life after heart attack

By Amy Zepnick

Distinguished UW-Stevens Point Russian professor Robert Price died June 5 of a heart attack in Rochester, Minn. following a successful kidney transplant.

"This was a tragedy," said Chancellor Thomas George. "We are keeping fresh about it, we raised a black flag in front of Old Main and many faculty members, including myself, attended both funeral services. We lost an outstanding human being."

Born and raised in Detroit, Mich., he joined the Army after high school and graduated in 1955 from the Army Language School (Monterey, Calif.) He served in Germany. After being discharged, he enrolled at Manchester College (North Manchester, Ind.) and graduated in 1961.

He became a reference librarian at the Library of Congress in the Slavic area and because of his research in Yugoslavia, received a Fulbright Fellowship. He taught Slavic Languages at the University of Colorado-Boulder and before receiving his doctorate from Indiana University in 1970.

In 1972, Price joined UWSP teaching Russian and Polish until his death.

Price also originated Stevens Point's Sister City program with Rostov-Veliky and, in 1985, led a group of Russian students to the Soviet Union to the city.

"Bob was a great innovator, especially with the Soviet Union," said George. "He established interactions with the municipalities, universities and schools in Rostov-Veliky. He did a lot to cement relationships with us and those overseas."

According to George, Price taught the Russian language not just to students from UWSP, but also to other universities via distance learning. He also interpret­

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UWSP posts grades on the Internet

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point stands to save about $10,000 per year by posting student grades on the Internet. As of last semester, UWSP students no longer received grade reports in the mail unless a special request was made and included a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

"Since UWSP printed and mailed more than 9,000 grade reports last year, we expected to print and mail as many as 400 reports this spring, but we actually processed about 100. Needless to say, this change should represent savings for UWSP," said Associate Registrar Larry Sipioriski.

"Grades posted on a password protected Web site provide quicker, easier access for students and can be printed from the site as well," he continued. "Students have been able to look up their grades on the Web for several years and for many, accessing the Internet is the preferred way to get information. Other campuses that have done this report their students had few problems adapting."

"Students without access to computers during the summer who have expressed concerns can go to most public libraries in the country and use the Web for no charge," Sipioriski said.

In general, students have been supportive, he reported. "They were informed of the change, one replied, "I think this sounds like an absolutely wonderful idea! Thanks for saving our trees and money and many other resources."

"Another student said, "I think this is great ... It is about time people start realizing the net was meant to save paper, not create more of a hassle. Good luck with it.""

Other UW System campuses that recently switched to electronic grade reporting include Eau Claire, La Crosse, Madison, Oshkosh, River Falls, Superior, and Whitewater.

Summertime in Point

The summer months have brought a bust to campus, which now hosts only summertime students and orientation for incoming freshman. For more summer sights, see pages 6 and 7.

Photo by Luke Zenencar
**Divison of Student Affairs personnel reorganize at UWSP**

A reorganization of the Division of Student Affairs at UWSP has given additional responsibilities to positions in Admissions, Career Services and Financial Aid.

According to Bob Tomlinson, assistant chancellor for Student Affairs, a reassignment of duties was made due to a retirement in the division as well as proposed reductions in the 2002-03 state budget.

"We anticipate we will have budget reductions in Student Affairs as well as in the university as a whole," said Tomlinson. "This reorganization will allow us to meet those expectations while still providing the needed services for students and their families. Those with the added responsibilities were chosen for their skills and many years of experience at UWSP."

The duties of Dennis Tierney, who retired last year as executive director of Student Services, director of Career Services and fundraising liaison for Student Affairs, have been reassigned to other staff members.

"Dennis has been an incredible asset to UWSP over the many years that he has served here," Chancellor Tom George said. "Whether it was in the areas of finding scholarships for worthy students, assisting our athletics program, developing the co-op program for student employment and training or enhancing the United Way Campaign, Dennis has always looked for creative means of serving our students."

"Those professionals assuming his former duties have benefited greatly from their work with Dennis," continued George. "As a result, Enrollment Services, Career Services and Financial Aid will continue to serve as models for the rest of the UW System."

Tierney came to UWSP in 1968, serving in career counseling and placement and as an assistant professor of psychology. He became director of Placement Services in 1971 and executive director of Student Services in 1983. Active within the Wisconsin Career Planning and Placement Association and Midwest College Placement Association, he has authored publications and essays on career placement issues. Tierney holds degrees from UW-Madison and UW-Oshkosh.

Eckholm, who came to UWSP in 1968 as assistant registrar, has served as registrar since 1979 and director of Admissions since 1996. In addition to involvement with both the American and Wisconsin Associations of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, Eckholm has served on working groups and committees for the UW System. He has been active in the community on the boards of charitable organizations and served on the Portage County Board of Supervisors and the Stevens Point Board of Water and Sewage Commissioners. He holds both bachelor's and master's degrees from UWSP.

In August, Philip George, director of Financial Aid, will take on the additional responsibility of coordinating fund raising efforts between Student Affairs and the UWSP Foundation.

George has served as director of Financial Aid since 1970, overseeing more than $30 million in aid to approximately 6,000 students annually. Over the years he has worked on UW and Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board task forces and working groups. He has served as president of the Wisconsin Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators and has made several trips to Washington D.C. to educate Wisconsin's representatives on student financial aid programs and needs. He earned degrees from Marietta College and the State University of New York-Albany.

**Ann Carlson retires after 36 years at UWSP**

After 36 years at UWSP and 41 years in the classroom, Assistant Professor Ann Carlson feels she's been lucky.

"I've had such wonderful students," she said. "I've always felt that every student should leave my classroom experiencing a sense of accomplishment and knowing that I really cared about them." Carlson first came to UWSP in 1965 as a business education teacher, but moved into the Department of Mathematics and Computing in 1985 when business education was phased out. As technology developed, so did her expertise as she taught herself different applications. She credits her success to hard work and her colleagues' willingness to help.

"I had to grow and change with technology," she said. "I kept up with how my students felt by putting myself in their roles."

One of the highlights of her career at UWSP happened in 1996 when she received the Excellence in Teaching Award. Her students wrote many letters of recommendation to the award committee, which touched her deeply, she said.

A native of Green Bay, Carlson taught business education in high schools in Pulaski and New Berlin. She holds a bachelor's degree from UW-Whitewater, a master's degree from the University of Northern Iowa and has earned over 100 post-master credit hours.

Carlson now hopes to slow down her pace and "take time to smell the roses." She also plans to spend more time on the farm where she lives with her husband, Stan, a professor of mathematics at UWSP, as well as painting, walking, traveling and tracking "her Green Bay Packers."

**Conrad Kelley receives state-wide awards**

A producer/director with the Department of University Telecommunications at UWSP received two video awards from a statewide communication organization.

Conrad J. Kelley was recognized at the Greater Wisconsin Media Communications Association International Awards Festival held recently in Marshfield. He received silver awards in the Sales and Marketing Category and in Video Graphics Category. His entry, "Discover the Real America," is in a recruitment video in the Japanese language. UWSP's first "high-level" media effort to recruit international students in their native language. Kelley says the video is enjoyable to watch even if you don't understand Japanese. Images of UWSP, Stevens Point and Wisconsin were taped over a two-year period.

He believes sales and marketing is the toughest category because "you're up against the biggest guns of advertising." This year there were 45 entries in the category with only three awards given.

**Dietche continued from page 1**

July.

In addition, she hopes to teach occasional adult education courses as a year as well as continue her travels around the world and to Texas to visit her son and his family.

Dietche holds a bachelor's degree from Vassar College, a master's degree from New York University and a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina. She has presented lectures and published many papers on her experiences and, while at UWSP, served on the Faculty Senate and university and English Department committe.
Do the dog days of summer have you down and out? Here are a few helpful hints for keeping yourself cool in the sweltering heat.

By Steve Seamandel

Sure enough, every day at around 4 o'clock, I find myself sweating it out in my apartment. In the late afternoon, the hottest time of the day, but it's also the time that the sun comes directly into my room, shooting through four large west-facing windows. With three fans in operation and the shades pulled, it still gets hot.

By simple experimentation, I've learned a bit about science this summer, and how to control the temps in your house without the convenience of an AC.

One of the most important aspects is air flow. The more flow you have in your house, but don't have a fridge, and hope that hot air will circulate through your house. A closed, stagnant house usually isn't the best way to go during the summer. The best way to get movement through your house is to open all of the windows and place some fans in strategic spots. For smaller upstairs areas, try to blow air from one side of the house to the other. Window fans can be used to suck outside air into the house or to exhaust hot air from the house, depending on which way they're facing of course.

If you're law on fans, it's good to think about what kind of area you're trying to cool off before running to the store and buying a fan that won't do you much good. Oscillating fans are good for blowing on at least three fans in operation.

Besides fans and air movement, there are a few other ways to keep cool. For starters, it helps to close the shades when the sun is high in the sky. Sometimes, the humidity and heat are so overwhelming that nothing will do the trick. In cases like this, it's good to remember that in Wisconsin we rarely see unbearable heat for extended periods of time. And, the snow, ice and mush that we all live in is only another four months away.

Stop sweating and learn to beat the summer heat!

UWSP Room, shooting through four large west-facing windows. With three fans in operation and the shades pulled, it still gets hot.

Stop sweating and learn to beat the summer heat!

Three students receive ROTC scholarships

With the recent economic slump and the rising cost of tuition on all students' minds, at least three of the incoming freshmen for the class of 2006 at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point can breathe easier. In an unprecedented event, the UWSP Department of Military Science and Leadership announced that they anticipate three incoming freshmen scholarship winners to attend classes next fall.

Two outstanding young women and one man have each accepted an offer by the United States Military Academy to participate in the Army ROTC program at UWSP. This year's Army ROTC scholarship winners are: Jamie Wehman from Naperville, IL, Jessica Heubach from Hersey, MN, and John Wagenaar II from Peshtigo, WI.

These three students competed with tens of thousands of high school students from across the United States for the Army ROTC scholarship. These scholarships are given out based upon past performance in high school academic, athletic, and leadership activities. These scholarships are very competitive, and the standards for even qualifying are very high.

Each student will major in the study of their chosen minor in Military Science while attending UWSP. With the completion of their studies, the Army will pay for their tuition and lab fees. As freshmen, the students will also receive a monthly stipend of $250 per month as well as a tax-free check of $300 per semester to pay for books and supplies. The financial incentives do not end there because each student upon graduation will receive a guarantee of an officer in the Army with a starting salary of $38,000 with benefits.

"For as long as anyone in the Department can remember, we have never had this many scholarship winners in UWSP history," stated Doug Ferrell, Assistant Professor of Military Science. "We've had years with two winners, but never three. We are very excited about this event. I think it speaks a lot about the incoming class and their sense of selfless service to the nation."

Each of these students, once they graduate from UWSP, will be the leaders of the future for the Army. They, will be some of our future generals and millions of dollars worth of equipment. That is a heavy responsibility, but one that we feel each and every one of the students who graduate from UWSP's ROTC program are more than capable of accomplishing. We are always looking for college students who are not satisfied with the norm. We need students who excel in all aspects of student life—academics, athletics, and leadership—to be the future officers of the Army. I know that all of those three new students are ready to rise to the challenge."

Any student interested in learning more about what Army ROTC has to offer can either contact Doug Ferrell at (715)346-3821, or can check out the website at www.armyrotc.com.

Mentoring program seeks volunteers to help local youth

Volunteer opportunities

Program matches area youth with trained mentor to help foster positive growth

By Michelle Fitch

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Mentoring program seeks volunteers to help local youth

Program matches area youth with trained mentor to help foster positive growth

By Michelle Fitch

Think back to your youth and the people that influenced you as a young person. Did you have a favorite teacher, basketball coach, neighbor, boss or older person in your life? Consider the impact you could have on another young person today. The Portage County Mentoring Program (PCMP) helps pair trained adult mentors with youth at-risk in Portage County and is currently looking for volunteers. We work with youth ages 7-16 years of age.

A year and a half ago, PCMP created a program where at-risk youth worked with mentors to help build life skills, improve grades, increase school attendance, build self-esteem, and work on healthy relationships. The program is presently working with several matches and growing each month.

The PCMP's mission is dedicated to providing positive mentoring relationships for youth at risk of offending. Through trained community mentors, youth are given friendship, guidance, and encouragement toward constructive attitudes, behaviors, and practical life skills. The mentored youth will experience a reduction in juvenile offenses, use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs while school performance is improved.

Mentors go through an application process and background check, and then are matched with a youth that has similar interests and goals. The mentor and mentee form a relationship with the guidance of the program, and usually meet anywhere from two to 10 hours per week. We ask that the mentor work with the youth for a year, however a nine-month contract is available to students if they so choose.

The program plans group activities every few months where all the mentors, mentees, and mentoring families participate in the activities. In the past, activities included horseback riding, tubing, a trip to Wisconsin Dells, and volunteerizing at the Salvation Army Hope Center for the homeless, etc. Basically, the mentor and mentee form a friendship and mentoring relationship.

The mentoring program is a great opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to become more involved in our community and help shape the lives of the youth in Portage County. We are currently looking for individuals that want to donate two hours of their time a week to spending time with a youth. This is not a huge time commitment, but a tremendous impact for the youth. All types of majors/minors and interest areas are acceptable for our program; all we are looking for are enthusiastic people that want to "hang out with a kid!"

If you are interested, or know someone who would like more information, please contact Michelle Fitch at (715) 345-5876 or program coordinator Barb Hunt at (715) 345-5868. Michelle can be contacted by e-mail at fitchm@co.portage.wi.us and Barb at huntb@co.portage.wi.us

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Baseball reaps rewards of outstanding season

Molitor and Verbrick both receive national recognition for record setting years

By Dan Mirman
SPORTS EDITOR

When a team has the most wins in the history of men's sports at UWSP, accolades are bound to follow. It's no surprise the UWSP baseball team picked up some post-season awards after posting a 37-10 record.

Pitcher Bill Verbrick was the big winner as he was named the Midwest Region Pitcher of the year. Verbrick had a monster senior season as he set WIAC single season records in both innings pitched (102), as well as strikeouts (113).

He also set a UWSP single season record by recording ten victories. Verbrick also became the perfect game, which he completed against UW-River Falls April 6.

Verbrick was also named a second team All-American for his outstanding season.

Fellow Senior Paul Molitor became the first Pointer ever to be named a first team All-American. Molitor played every single inning in all 47 games for UWSP and set a WIAC season record with 210 at-bats. He also tied for the league lead with 57 runs scored and led the WIAC with 58 RBI while belting 13 home runs.

In addition to these national honors UWSP also had the WIAC coach of the year in Brian Nelson and six all-conference selections.

However, the accolades do not end there, as Point also landed an amazing seven players on the all region squad.

Verbrick and Molitor were joined on the first team by another Senior, centerfielder Randy Reed. Catcher Joe Waksomonski was named to the second team along with first baseman Ryan Jones.

Rightfielder Ryan Ivy and pitcher Jeff Pieper were both third team selections for UWSP.

UWSP won both the regular season WIAC title and also were victorious in the conference tournament. Point then advanced to the regional championship game, but they had their season come to an end when Chris Thousand of UW-Lakeland hit a home run in the bottom of the 10th inning to advance to the Division III world series.

Once again, Pointer sports is the class of the conference

Sears Cup finish for the second consecutive season

By Dan Mirman
SPORTS EDITOR

UWSP placed 6 out of 413 Division III schools in the Sears Directors Cup standings. UWSP totalled 656.5 points which was over 100 more than last year which was the previous high at 538.

The standings measure the top overall athletic programs in the NCAA Division III. UWSP was the highest placing school from the WIAC conference and was the top rated non-East Coast school.

Points for the cup are awarded based on finishes in NCAA tournament competition.

UWSP had a banner year as they qualified for tournament play in 13 of it's 20 sports. The year's highlight came from the basketball court where a senior led women's squad took home the national title. Other sports that helped UWSP was outdoor track where the men took fourth. UWSP also fell just a game short of national quarterfinals in football, soccer and baseball.

Williams (Mass.) won its fourth straight cup title as they totalled an amazing 969 points. UWSP also took home their fifth WIAC men's All-Sports Award in six years. The Pointers were amazing as they had a top three finish in every single men's sport, including four conference championships.

The conference titles were won in football, basketball, swimming and baseball, respectively.

In the combined All-Sports Award, UWSP finished just a point and a half behind UW-La Crosse to take second place.

On the women's side, UWSP finished fourth at UW-Oshkosh was the champion.

The awards capped an amazing year in UWSP athletics that saw 17 of 20 sports finish in the top half of the conference standings. Also 16 teams were nationally ranked at the end of the season.

Of course one simply needs to remember that this is Milwaukee, the baseball version of Death Valley. Sure, I cheer for the Brew Crew, but in the back of your mind you know they're gonna choke.

Let's recall last year when they were in the thick of the pen-nant race at the break. They promptly followed up the break by going on a ridiculous losing streak to put them out of contention.

However, hope springs eternal and we were all sure that a healthy Brewer squad could compete for a possible pennant if there was consistency on the mound and the injuries held off.

Unfortunately, the Brewers had other plans as they got off to one of their worst starts in recent memory, and hold claim to the worst record in the national league.

This completely explains the All-Star game. It was a micro-cosm for the Brewers. Everything looked like it was going all right, and just as things were looking up, worst ending ever.

A tie? C'mon, that's like kissing your sister. One of the great things about sports is that there is a winner and a loser. I just tip my hat to the fans that no post-game destruction occurred in a town known for drinking.

I'm sure the Milwaukee fans will shrug it off, just chalk it up as more disappointment in what has been a tough season to swallow. Not only have the Brewers embarrassed themselves, but the Bucks have had their share as well.

Remember when they were supposed to be the best team in the Eastern Conference, only to miss the playoffs completely. Between the two Milwaukee pro teams, an All-Star game almost had to be expected by Wisconsin fans.

But don't count out Wisconsin sports just yet. Remember football season is just around the corner and the Packers seem to be able to make everyone forget about those other sports.

View from a Pointer: Leave it to Milwaukee to end the All-Star game in a tie

By Dan Mirman
SPORTS EDITOR

Maybe it is just me, but you had a sense that something was going to go wrong at the midsummer classic. It was kind of like watching a movie when you know there is no way a plan can work out.

It just seems like baseball is digging itself a deeper and deeper hole and right now, nobody can figure out how to get out. Tuesday's all-star game was an opportunity to showcase why people love the sport in the first place. Instead they got a reason to tune out the sport even more, when the game, one of the best All-Star games in recent memories, was called a tie after 11 innings.

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All photos by L. Zancanaro
All photos by L. Zancanaro
Deer feeding and baiting prohibited to help control CWD

Effective July 3, 2002, it will be illegal to feed or bait deer in Wisconsin. The prohibition is a part of the efforts to control Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) and reduces the chance that CWD will become established in new areas of Wisconsin, state wildlife officials say.

"This restriction is viewed by CWD experts to be critical to controlling this fatal, contagious disease of deer," said Bill Vander Zouwen, chief of Department of Natural Resources wildlife and landscape ecology section.

The restriction that concentrates deer includes baiting and feeding, Vander Zouwen said, is "likely to increase the spread of CWD." An abnormal protein called a prion causes the disease, which has been found in deer in western Dane and eastern Iowa counties. This disease can spread from deer to deer directly and through a contaminated environment created by concentrating diseased deer.

Under the rule, bear hunters and dog trainers can continue to use bait, but the bait must be placed in a hole in the ground, a stump, or a hollow log and covered by a rock or logs so that deer cannot access the bait. Bait placed for this purpose can only be up to 2 gallons or less in all other areas of the state; it is banned in 50 yards of homes or work places in feeding devices or structures that make the feed unavailable to deer either by design or height above the ground. Michigan prohibits feeders that distribute feed to the ground are prohibited, as are supplements such as mineral or salt blocks or protein or similar supplements placed solely for purposes of feeding deer.

Farmers can continue to care for their animals in the same manner and with the same practices they've always used.

"In a study in Michigan, found that 5 gallons of bait actually had more nose-to-

nose contacts among deer than larger piles of bait," Vander Zouwen said. "And even a small amount of feed can attract many deer. For example, one Wisconsin resident recently reported observing 35 different deer coming regularly to a 2 gallon feeding site near his house." Vander Zouwen noted the baiting and feeding was supported by the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Executive Council, Whitetails Unlimited, Wisconsin Bowhunters Association, Wisconsin Deer Hunters Coalition, Wisconsin Deer Hunters Association, and the Quality Deer Management Association.

In addition to the feeding and baiting ban, officials are taking other steps to control the spread of CWD. Through a series of special hunts and special hunting regulations, officials hope to reduce the deer herd in the infected area to as close to zero as possible in an attempt to eliminate the disease. Deer population goals in an area outside the zero population zone and up to approximately 40 miles from the center of that zone are 10 per square mile of deer range to reduce the chance of disease transmission to these areas.

New Natural Areas proposed on existing state lands

Wisconsin will have an additional 50 State Natural Areas this year under proposed modifications to the master plans of numerous state-owned programs. The state Department of Natural Resources is proposing the master plan modifications in order to create the 50 new State Natural Areas as part of the 50th Anniversary of the State Natural Areas Program. The public has an opportunity to comment on the master plan modifications through April 15.

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How to use the internet to dive into the underworld of independent films

By Josh Goller
Arts & Review Editor

In today's profit-based film industry, major motion picture blockbusters dominate the movie scene. With nearly everyone in America rushing out to see the same handful of films that grace almost every commercial theater in the nation, independent filmmakers suffer the long, arduous process of getting the public to view their pictures. Occasionally an independent filmmaker will strike it big when Hollywood studios notice their talent. However, occasionally an independent filmmaker will get his or her film into a major independent film festival and strike it big when Hollywood studios notice their talent. However, the fact remains that few people see the majority of films produced in America.

In today's society it becomes even more difficult for a director to get a short film into the mainstream. Once a staple of early moviemaking, the short film has almost become a lost art in the industry for the simple fact that there's rarely a substantial profit. However, with the inception of the Internet, filmmakers were given a new medium through which to distribute their creations.

AtomFilms, a branch of shockwave.com, is one of the many short film sources to turn to in search of quality film shorts. With a wide range of genres, from animation to thrillers, AtomFilms provides the public with access to short films of varying lengths. While some films run under two minutes, others span over a half hour in length. Not everything at AtomFilms is quality filmmaking (some doesn't even try to be) but it all boils down to a film viewing experience that can be different than anything seen before.

Sometimes an AtomFilms virgin needs a bit of guidance in order to discover quality films on the web site. AtomFilms includes user reviews and rankings to ease this process as well as a search engine to allow users the ability to search for topics that interest them. I've stumbled across many a fine film through this process but am going to make it even easier for those interested by reviewing several films I enjoyed.

The Date, an Australian short film, revolves around the premise of a young man running all over town in search of a specific condom to replace one his girlfriend snatched from her parents' room while they were out of the country. It may seem like a pretty basic plot, but this six minute dark comedy takes a momentous turn in the closing seconds that makes it a great short film.

In Reflexus, an eight-minute thriller, a murder witness suddenly becomes swept into the heart of the crime. Filmed with very little dialogue, Reflexus challenges the viewer's perception of reality as well as raises questions similar to Back to the Future's time-space continuum. This is one of the most interesting short films I've discovered at AtomFilms.

For those who enjoy crude comedy, the Bikini Bandits series provides an opportunity to indulge. With nearly a dozen episodes to choose from, this series is what its title says and centers around a foursome of attractive bikini-clad criminals. It may not be for the easily offended, but Bikini Bandits can provide some hearty laughs to the select audience who appreciates its wacky brand of humor.

All in all, AtomFilms gives the short film fan the chance to view free films that are unlike anything produced in Hollywood these days. They may not all be gems, but digging through this website in search of the good films is half the fun.

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Alpine's Terrapin Station nearly Dead on arrival

Grateful Dead reunion shows sold out, then cancelled, now back on. Is the drama over?

By Steve Seamandel
Editor In Chief

What do you get when you combine two already sold-out Grateful Dead reunion shows, Walworth County and a backlash of upset Deadheads? We found out earlier this summer; a big horrible mess.

In early June, all four remaining Dead members, Mickey Hart, Bill Kreutzmann, Phil Lesh and Bob Weir announced their first-ever onstage reunion entitled “Terrapin Station”. The shows are scheduled to take place at Alpine Valley on August 3-4. The shows would have been the first time that the four remaining Dead members have taken the stage together since the Dead’s last show with Jerry Garcia on July 9, 1995 at Soldier Field in Chicago. All of the members’ side projects will be performing (Mickey Hart and Berme Orida, Phil Lesh and Friends, and Bill Kreutzmann’s Tricohomes) in addition to many other opening bands, including The Disco Biscuits, Donna the Buffalo, Karl Denson’s Tiny Universe, Robert Hunter and Robert Randolph and the Family Band.

As expected, tickets sold out for both shows in less than an hour. As a matter of fact, the event was already through the roof until the Walworth County Highway Committee denied Clear Channel Entertainment, the shows’ promoter, a license to hold the shows at Alpine Valley. It is being reported that Clear Channel sold tickets to the event before they even secured a license to hold what will undoubtedly be one of the biggest concerts of the year.

The shows were recently reconsidered by the Walworth County Board after Clear Channel and its lawyers showed up threatening with lawsuits. Add to the fact that local businesses will see a boom in revenue that weekend, and officials were eager to reconsider.

The band has issued a statement requesting that any ticketless fans not come to Alpine Valley for the shows, which should be the first step taken by the band to ensure that these shows run smoothly. The band and Alpine Valley have both issued statements regarding the shows, which is the presence of drugs at the shows. However, truth be told, there is rampant drug use at many concerts that Alpine Valley welcomes every year.

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Hooliganism and hijinx was out in full force at this year's graduation ceremonies as a live chicken was released early in the procession. The chicken was captured, humanely, and taken into custody. Despite the antics of the chicken, all went well and students, staff, family and friends were treated to a memorable graduation ceremony. Good luck to UWSP's class of 2002!

All photos by Tom Charlesworth